



BOROUGH OF AMBLER

COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

**All matters that are deliberated could result in
a vote to take official action.**

October 15, 2024

7:00 p.m.

**Minutes for Consideration:
September 17, 2024**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FINANCE & PLANNING
PUBLIC SAFETY
PUBLIC UTILITIES
PARKS & RECREATION
SALARY & PERSONNEL

An executive session is scheduled for 6:30

Finance & Planning Committee

The Committee meeting was held on October 1, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: – Elizabeth Iovine - Chair, Karen Sheedy, Lisa Auerbach . Absent - Elizabeth Iovine and Amy Huges.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. That the September bills be paid in the amount of \$1,590,841.69.

#	Fund	Sept 1st Run	Sept 2nd Run	TOTALS
1	GENERAL	\$540,657.66	\$ 158,923.37	\$699,581.03
2	STREET LGTS		\$3,909.53	\$3,909.53
3	FIRE	\$48,702.95		\$48,702.95
4	REFUSE	\$50,620.14	\$9,663.61	\$60,283.75
5	PARKS & REC	\$952.53	\$3,923.15	\$4,875.68
6	WATER	\$124,383.96	\$274,103.11	\$398,487.07
8	SEWER	\$13,010.60	\$18,935.82	\$31,946.42
9	WWTP	\$133,376.07	\$208,496.67	\$341,872.74
35	LIQUID FUELS	\$1,182.52		\$1,182.52
30	WATER CAPITAL			\$0.00
TOTALS		\$912,886.43	\$677,955.26	\$1,590,841.69
VOID CHECKS				\$0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$912,886.43	\$ 677,955.26	\$1,590,841.69

2. The Planning Commission request's permission to explore incorporating revisions similar to the recent Transit Oriented Development Ordinance in the Downtown Commercial and Commercial districts including aesthetics, architectural elements, and reduction of maximum height in Downtown Commercial and Commercial Zoning Districts. **(attached)**

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. Joe Duda and Scott Repke from Bernstein will be at the November 6, meeting to discuss the Borough Pension plans.
3. The plans for the 2025 Farmers' Market Management were discussed.
4. Municipal Opportunities for Retrofits and Energy Efficiency (MORE) Program - The Borough is applying for grant assistance to cover costs for facility-level energy management for municipal operations including but not limited to Borough Hall and Borough Sewer Plant. This funding would cover costs associated with a SSHRAE level 2 energy audit as well as possible assistance for scoping and design of energy conservation measure.

Recommendations:

1. That the September bills be paid in the amount of \$ 1,590,841.69.
2. The Planning Commission request's permission to explore incorporating revisions similar to the recent Transit Oriented Development Ordinance in the Downtown Commercial and Commercial districts including aesthetics, architectural elements, and reduction of maximum height in Downtown Commercial and Commercial Zoning Districts.

Borough Of Ambler

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September 25, 2024

Mary Aversa, Borough Manager
Borough of Ambler
131 Rosemary Avenue
Ambler, PA 19002

Re: DC- Downtown Commercial / C-Commercial revisions request regarding adding building design, aesthetics, height changes, and architectural

Dear Ms. Aversa:

At the September 24, 2024 Planning Commission meeting the Planning Commission voted to request from Council to allow the Commission to explore the following zoning ordinance revisions:

- Incorporate building design requirement from the attached Section 27-2703.E.4.c from the recently adopted redevelopment overlay district ordinance into both the C-Commercial District and Downtown Commercial for such things as aesthetics, architectural elements, and streetscaping requirements.
- Explore reducing the maximum height in the DC-Downtown Commercial and C-Commercial zoning districts (currently DC and C districts maximum height is listed as 40ft OR up to 70ft if approved by the Zoning hearing Board).

The vote taken was unanimous in favor of the recommendation to Borough Council to allow the Planning Commission to explore these recommendations further. Unlike the redevelopment overlay district discussions, these revisions would focus on preserving the existing charm of the downtown commercial and commercial district on Butler Avenue and surrounding blocks rather than encouraging redevelopment.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact our Chairman, John Oswald.

Very truly yours,

Carol Ann DiPietro
Secretary
Ambler Borough Planning Commission

PART 28

DC DOWNTOWN COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

§27-2801. Statement of Intent.

It is the intent of this District to:

- A. Provide for the orderly development of a major business and commerce area of the Borough, consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
- B. Allow for residential uses that are compatible with the "Main Street" character.
- C. Encourage a uniformity of design to ensure the orderly arrangement of land uses and buildings.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996; as added by Ord. 972, 3/18/2003, §2800)

§27-2802. Use Regulations.

1. Permitted Uses.

- A. Retail establishment for the sale of dry goods, variety and general merchandise, clothing, food, drugs, plants, furnishings or other household supplies, sale and repair of jewelry, watches, clocks, optical goods or musical, professional or scientific instruments.
- B. Business or professional office or studio, bank or other financial institution, municipal use excluding dump, telephone central office, telegraph or other public utility office, passenger station for public transportation
- C. Office buildings.
- D. Restaurant, bar, tearoom, retail baker, confectionery or ice cream shops or places serving food or beverages.
- E. Personal service shop, including tailor, barber, beauty salon, shoe repair, dressmaking or other similar service.
- F. Indoor theater or bowling alley.
- G. Newspaper publishing, job printing.
- H. Hotel or motel.

ZONING

- I. parking lot, in accordance with §27-2804.
 - J. Accessory use as customarily incidental to the permitted use by special exception.
2. Special Exception Uses.
- A. Laundry or drycleaning establishment.
 - B. Other places of indoor amusement or recreation.
 - C. Outdoor storage facilities.
 - D. Residences, in accordance with the following:
 - (1) No basement or first floor dwelling units shall be permitted in combination with a commercial use.
 - (2) Each unit shall have a minimum of 600 square feet of floor area, plus 100 square feet additional for each bedroom.
 - (3) The lot area per family shall be 2,000 square feet for each unit. This shall be deemed to include the entire area within the lot, including buildings and structures committed to commercial use.
 - (4) Two off-street parking spaces shall be provided for each unit, exclusive of interior driveways and driveways connecting the garage or parking space with the street or alley.
 - (5) There shall be a minimum rear yard of 15 feet.
 - (6) Each unit shall have two means of egress, both of which shall terminate in a public way or a court space leading to a public way.
 - E. Any use of the same general character as any of the uses specifically permitted in this Section without requirement of a special exception.
3. Conditional Uses. In accordance with the regulations of §§27-2805 and 27-413 (Conditional Uses), the following may be permitted as a conditional use:
- A. Gasoline station with or without automobile servicing and/or mini-market.
 - B. Light assembly/repair of ceramics, clothing, plastics, electrical goods, furniture, hardware, professional and scientific instruments, jewelry, time pieces, optical goods, musical instruments, toys and electronic parts.
 - C. Live or recorded entertainment, such as a performing arts facility.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996; as added by Ord. 972, 3/18/2003, §2801)

§27-2803. Dimensional Requirements.

1. Minimum Lot Area (permitted and special exception uses). One thousand five hundred square feet.
2. Maximum Building Area. Eighty percent.
3. Height Regulations. Forty feet, except that the Zoning Hearing Board may approve an increase to a maximum of 70 feet provided the Board determines that any building that exceeds 40 feet will not be detrimental to the light, air, privacy or architectural scheme of any other structure or use currently existing or anticipated and that for every foot of height in excess of 40 feet an additional one foot shall be added to each yard setback.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996; as added by Ord. 972, 3/18/2003, §2802)

§27-2804. Parking Requirements.

All parking facilities may be provided in accordance with the general provisions of Part 21 of this Chapter. In addition, the following regulations shall apply to commercial uses:

- A. Off-street parking facilities may be provided on the periphery of the commercial district.
- B. Off-street parking facilities are subject to the following provisions:
 - (1) Off-street parking spaces may be grouped in facilities serving more than one lot or establishment.
 - (2) Parking garages may be above or below ground. Above ground garages shall be in the rear yard and architecturally compatible with other improvements developed on the site and immediate area.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996; as added by Ord. 972, 3/18/2003, §2803)

§27-2805. Conditional Use Standards.

The following requirements shall be met for the applicable use permitted by §27-2802(3):

- A. Gasoline stations with or without automobile servicing and/or mini-market.
 - (1) Minimum Lot Area. One-half acre.

ZONING

- (2) All servicing and parts storage shall take place in an enclosed building.
 - (3) All required parking shall be provided on the premises.
 - (4) No unregistered or unlicensed vehicles are permitted on the premises.
 - (5) No vehicle sales or rentals are permitted.
 - (6) Vehicles awaiting repair shall not be stored outdoors for more than one week.
- B. Light assembly/repair of ceramics, clothing, plastics, electrical goods, furniture, hardware, professional and scientific instruments, jewelry, time pieces, optical goods, musical instruments, toys and electronic parts.
- (1) Minimum Lot Area. Ten thousand square feet.
 - (2) The requirements of §§27-1504 (Development Regulations) and 27-1505 (Performance Standards) shall be met.
 - (3) All assembly/repair work shall take place within an enclosed building.
 - (4) No outdoor storage is permitted.
- C. Live or Recorded Entertainment.
- (1) Shall not be less than 500 feet from another live or recorded musical entertainment use.
 - (2) All activities shall take place indoors.
 - (3) Hours of Operation. 9:00 a.m. – 2:00 a.m.
 - (4) A maximum of four coin-operated entertainment devices or machines are permitted (such as a video game or pinball machine).

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996; as added by Ord. 972, 3/18/2003, §2804)

§ 27-2806. Limitations on Lots Abutting Residential Districts.

1. For purposes of this Section, a lot abuts a residential zoning district when any portion of the lot boundary is shared with any portion of a lot that is zoned residential. A lot that is across the street from a residential lot does not abut the residential lot.

2. With the exception of tearooms, retail bakers, confectionery retailers, and ice cream shops, and notwithstanding any language in this Chapter to the contrary, no bar, restaurant, or other establishment selling food or beverages shall be permitted on any lot in the Downtown Commercial District that abuts the R-1 Residential District.
3. Where a lot in the Downtown Commercial District abuts a residential zoning district, the customer entrance for any permitted use shall open facing away from the residential district, and any customer entrance or the closest portion of any outdoor dining area must be at least 40 feet from the residential zoning district.

(Ord. 1015-1, 1/22/2008)

PART 13

C – COMMERCIAL DISTRICT

§27-1301. Statement of Intent.

It is the intent of this district to:

- A. Provide for the orderly development of a major business and commerce area of the Borough, consistent with the Comprehensive Plan.
- B. Reestablish South Ambler as a focal point for employment opportunities.
- C. Encourage a uniformity of design to ensure the orderly arrangement of land uses and buildings.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996, Art. XIII, §1300; as amended by Ord. 975, 3/18/2003, §1)

§27-1302. Use Regulations.

1. Permitted Uses.

- A. Retail establishment for the sale of dry goods, variety and general merchandise, clothing, food, drugs, plants, furnishings or other household supplies, sale and repair of jewelry, watches, clocks, optical goods or musical, professional or scientific instruments.
- B. Business or professional office or studio, bank or other financial institution, Borough use, excluding dump, telephone central office, telegraph or other public utility office, passenger station for public transportation.
- C. Office buildings.
- D. Restaurant, bar, tearoom, retail baker, confectionary or ice cream shop or places serving food or beverages.
- E. Personal service shop, including tailor, barber, beauty salon, shoe repair, dressmaking or other similar service.
- F. Indoor theater or bowling alley.
- G. Newspaper publishing, job printing.
- H. Hotel or motel.
- I. Parking lot in accordance with §27-1305.

ZONING

- J. Accessory uses, in accordance with §27-407 of this Chapter and provided that the presence of more than three of any combination of devices and machines permitted as a special exception under this Section shall not be considered an accessory use. Accessory use as customarily incidental to the permitted use by special exception.
- 2. Special Exception Uses.
 - A. Laundry or dry cleaning establishment.
 - B. Other places of indoor amusement or recreation.
 - C. Outdoor storage facilities.
 - D. Any use of the same general character as any of the uses specifically permitted in this Section without requirement of a special exception.
- 3. Conditional Uses. In accordance with the regulations of §27-1304 and §27-413 (Conditional Uses), the following may be permitted as a conditional use.
 - A. Gasoline station with or without automobile servicing and/or mini-market.
 - B. Light assembly/repair of ceramics, clothing, plastics, electrical goods, furniture, hardware, professional and scientific instruments, jewelry, time pieces, optical goods, musical instruments, toys and electronic parts.
 - C. Live or recorded entertainment, such as a performing arts facility.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996, Art. XIII, §1301; as amended by Ord. 941, 2/15/1999, §3; as amended by Ord. 975, 3/18/2003, §§3,4)

§27-1303. Dimensional Requirements.

- 1. Minimum lot area (permitted and special exception uses), 1,500 square feet.
- 2. Maximum building area, 80%.
- 3. Height regulations, 40 feet, except that the Zoning Hearing Board may approve an increase to a maximum of 70 feet, provided the Board determines that any excess height over 40 feet will not be detrimental to the light, air, privacy or architectural scheme of any other structure or use currently existing or anticipated and that for every foot of height in excess of 40 feet an additional one foot shall be added to each yard setback.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996, Art. XIII, §1302)

§27-1304. Conditional Use Standards.

The following requirements shall be met for the applicable use permitted by §27-1302(3):

- A. Gasoline stations with or without automobile servicing and/or mini-market.
 - (1) Minimum lot area, 1/2 acre.
 - (2) All servicing and parts storage shall take place in an enclosed building.
 - (3) All required parking shall be provided on the premises.
 - (4) No unregistered or unlicensed vehicles are permitted on the premises.
 - (5) No vehicle sales or rentals are permitted.
 - (6) Vehicles awaiting repair shall not be stored outdoors for more than one week.

- B. Light assembly/repair of ceramics, clothing, plastics, electrical goods, furniture, hardware, professional and scientific instruments, jewelry, time pieces, optical goods, musical instruments, toys and electronic parts.
 - (1) Minimum lot area, 10,000 square feet.
 - (2) The requirements of §27-1504 (Development Regulations) and §27-1505 (Performance Standards) shall be met.
 - (3) All assembly/repair work shall take place within an enclosed building.
 - (4) No outdoor storage is permitted.

- C. Live or Recorded Entertainment.
 - (1) Shall not be less than 500 feet from another live or recorded musical entertainment use.
 - (2) All activities shall take place indoors.
 - (3) Hours of operation, 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 a.m.
 - (4) A maximum of four coin-operated entertainment devices or machines are permitted (such as a video game or pinball machine).

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996, Art. XIII, §1304)

ZONING

§27-1305. Parking Requirements.

All parking facilities may be provided in accordance with the general provisions of Part 21 of this Chapter. In addition, the following regulations shall apply to commercial uses:

- A. Off-street parking facilities may be provided on the periphery of the Commercial District.
- B. Off-street parking facilities are subject to the following provisions:
 - (1) Off-street parking spaces may be grouped in facilities serving more than one lot or establishment.
 - (2) Parking garages may be above or below ground. Above ground garages shall be in the rear yard and architecturally compatible with other improvements developed on the site and immediate area.

(Ord. 922, 9/17/1996; as added by Ord. 975, 3/18/2003, §5)

- i) The following architectural features may extend up to three (3) feet beyond the build-to line: awnings or overhangs, bay or oriel windows, upper floor balconies, loggias, pergolas, and similar architectural elements.
 - ii) A gathering space, pursuant to §27-2703.E.(4)(f), may extend the full depth of a lot, provided that it does not occupy more than 25% of the property's street frontage.
- 6) Minimum Side Yard Setback: 10 feet
 - 7) Minimum Rear Yard Setback: 20 feet
 - a) Rear yards adjacent to a railroad right-of-way may be reduced by 50% to a minimum setback of 10 feet.
 - 8) Maximum building height: 65 feet
 - a) Building stepback required. The façade of any building exceeding three (3) stories or 35 feet shall be setback an additional 12 feet along street frontages. The required building stepback may be reduced to a minimum of eight feet if the front build-to line is equal to or greater than 20 feet, as provided for in subsection §27-2704.E.(4)(b)5) above.
 - 9) Minimum Building Spacing:
 - a) Corner to corner: 30 feet
 - b) Face to face: 40 feet



(c) Building Design Standards.

- 1) Overall design.
 - a) All buildings within a single TOD project shall have a unified or complementary architectural character. Developments shall create focal points with respect to avenues of approach, or other buildings, and relate open space between all existing and proposed buildings.
 - b) Blank walls shall not be permitted along any exterior wall facing a street, parking area, or walking area. Walls or portions of walls where windows are not provided shall have architectural treatments that are similar to the front facade, including materials, colors, and details.
 - c) When flat roofs are proposed, a parapet wall or projecting cornice shall be included on the front façade(s).
 - d) Convenient pedestrian connections shall be provided from all building entrances to parking areas, open space and recreational areas, and to the transit station intended to be served by the TOD.
- 2) Building materials.
 - a) All façades of new buildings visible from a public or private street, parking area, or public gathering space shall consist of quality building materials, such as brick, stone, concrete, and

glass, to create visual interest and enhance the quality of the development.

- b) The following building materials are prohibited: exterior insulation and finishing systems (EIFS); aluminum or vinyl siding or shutters; white, tan, or painted brick; concrete block; T-111 or other similar plywood siding.
- 3) Building orientation and entrances.
- a) Front facades of buildings shall be oriented toward Main Street or Butler Avenue, whichever immediately abuts the property frontage. Such entrances shall be usable and well-defined through the use of architectural features (e.g., utilizing porticos, pediments, colonnades, canopies, or overhangs).
 - b) Each façade of a building with frontage along a public or private street, parking area, or public gathering space shall feature at least one clearly-defined and highly-visible pedestrian entrance with a direct sidewalk connection to the abutting street. A building with multiple street frontages may locate a pedestrian entrance on the corner of the building where the two streets intersect to fulfill this requirement.
 - c) Storefront entrance doors shall be recessed a sufficient distance to allow doors to swing out without conflicting with pedestrian flow on the sidewalk.
- 4) Windows.
- a) The ground floor of any building along a primary street shall have a minimum clear window area of 60%, with windows providing views of display areas or the inside of the building. Window areas shall be between 12 inches and eight feet off the ground.

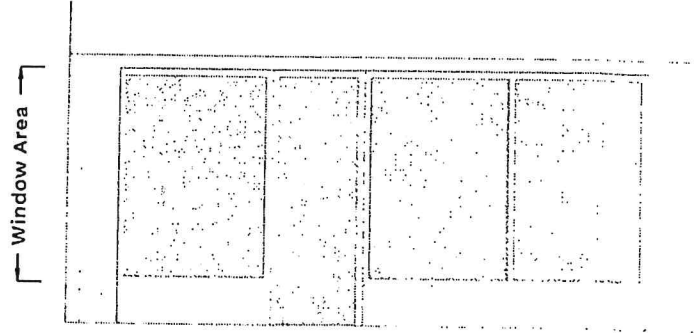


Figure 27-2703.C.1

- b) For corner buildings with multiple frontages, the ground floor primary street transparency requirement shall wrap on to the ground floor of secondary frontages for a minimum distance equal to at least 25% of the length of the building facade along the secondary frontage, as measured from the corner of the primary and secondary frontages.

- c) The upper floors of any building along a primary street shall have a minimum clear window area of 35%.
 - d) Smoked, reflective, or black glass in windows is prohibited.
- 5) Building Façade Elements. All buildings shall include a variety of architectural design elements to provide visual interest and to mitigate the apparent scale and mass of large buildings and facades. Any building façade along a public or private street, parking area, or public gathering space that is greater than 50 feet long shall be articulated with façade breaks of a minimum depth of three (3) feet for every 50 feet of building façade length. In addition to breaks in the façade, other architectural elements that provide façade articulation shall be utilized no less than every 50 feet on average:
- i) Masonry;
 - ii) Concrete or Masonry plinth at the base of walls;
 - iii) Belt courses of a different texture or color;
 - iv) Projecting or decorative cornices;
 - v) Quoins;
 - vi) Decorative tile work;
 - vii) Trellis containing planting;
 - viii) Medallions;
 - ix) Bay windows;
 - x) Oriel windows;
 - xi) Vertical articulation;
 - xii) Stylized lighting fixtures;
 - xiii) Porticos;
 - xiv) Balconies;
 - xv) Recessed entryways; and/or
 - xvi) Building extensions.
- (d) Street Furnishings Standards.
- 1) Location. Street furniture shall be located adjacent to the building façade, unless on-street parking is present, in which case street furniture may be located along the curb. Such amenities shall be maintained in perpetuity by the property owner.
 - 2) Street Furnishings Required. At minimum, two (2) benches, one (1) bicycle rack, one (1) trash receptacle, and one (1) recycling receptacle shall be provided for every 300 feet of public street frontage. This requirement shall be exclusive of the requirements set forth in §2703-E(4)(d)3) below.
 - 3) Additional Furnishings Required. In order to allow for flexibility and promote creative streetscaping design, the following options shall be provided based upon the scale of development described herein.
 - a) Building additions and new developments of 2,500 to 4,999 Gross Floor Area shall provide no less than four (4) points from either §2703-E(4)(d)4)a) or b) as set forth below.

- b) New Developments of 5,000 to 14,999 Gross Floor Area shall provide no less than one item from §2703-E(4)(d)4)a) and b), as set forth below, and shall provide no less than a cumulative total of eight (8) points.
 - c) New Developments of 15,000 Gross Floor Area and over, as well as any new building exceeding three (3) stories in height shall provide no less than one item from §2703-E(4)(d)4)a) and b), as set forth below, and shall provide no less than a cumulative total of twelve (12) points.
- 4) Street furnishing options and points. In order to allow for a flexible and adaptable streetscape design, the following options shall be allowable to fulfill the minimum requirements set forth in §2703-E(4)(d)3), above. Category A contains planting and greening elements. Category B includes street furnishings, amenities, and decorations.
- a) Category A: planting and greening options.
 - i) Hanging basket, one (1) point.
 - ii) Window box, two (2) points.
 - iii) In-ground planting area, two (2) points.
 - iv) Street planter, two (2) points
 - v) Roof garden or green roof, three (3) points.
 - vi) Green wall, three (3) points.
 - b. Category B: street furnishings, amenities, and decorations.
 - i) Bench, two (2) points.
 - ii) Bicycle rack, two (2) points.
 - iii) Trash and recycling receptacles (one of each), two (2) points.
 - iv) Public art, such as a mural or sculpture, three (3) points.
 - v) Public drinking fountain, three (3) points.
 - vi) Public restroom, three (3) points.
 - vii) Display fountain, three (3) points.
 - viii) Clock tower, three (3) points.
- (e) Parking Requirements.
- 1) Compliance with §27-2101, General Provisions, §27-2105, Handicapped Parking, and §27-2106, Off-Street Loading, shall be complied with; however, all other sections of Part 21 (§§27-2102, -2103, and -2104) shall be superseded by the regulations of this section.
 - 2) Parking requirements by land use. Due to the anticipated use of transit by residents and tenants of a TOD, a reduced parking requirement is appropriate. The minimum parking requirements based on land use are shown in Table 2703.1 below:

Land Use	Minimum Parking Requirement
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Public Safety Committee

The Committee meeting was held on October 1, at 7:00pm. Committee members: Amy Hughes – Chair, Jen Henderson, Nancy Roecker Coates and Lou Orehek. Absent - Elizabeth Iovine and Amy Huges.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. Recommend adoption of Ordinance #1142 Ordinance regulating the feeding of Feral Cats.
2. Attached is a letter from the Votta Family asking for a dedication “Street Name” sign be considered for Lindenwold Avenue.

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Police Department report is **attached**.
2. The Community Ambulance report is **attached**.
3. The Fire Department report is **attached**.
4. The Public Works and the Code Enforcement reports were received.
5. The Butler Avenue Traffic Study is complete, the Police department is reviewing the next steps.
6. A meeting was held with residents on October 13th at Borough Hall to discuss issues at Knight’s Park.
7. The Annual Octoberfest was a successful event, thank you to Liz Kunzier, Staff and all who volunteer to make the events happen.
8. Thank you to the Ambler Police Department and Officer Nick Nasobkow for the Safety Town event on October 5, it was a successful event.

Approved at The Committee Meeting

1. The recommendation to approve the advertisement of the Ordinance was approved at the Committee meeting 7-Aye.

Recommendations:

1. Recommend adoption of Ordinance #1142 Ordinance regulating the feeding of Feral Cats.
2. A recommendation is requested to approve the Votta Family request for a dedication “Street Name” sign for Lindenwold Avenue. This request will be for a set term.

THE BOROUGH OF AMBLER, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, PA

ORDINANCE NO. 1142

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 2 OF THE BOROUGH CODIFIED ORDINANCES BY ADDING A NEW PART, PART 4, "STRAY AND FERAL CATS", PROHIBITING THE FEEDING OF SUCH CATS, PROVIDING PENALTIES FOR DOING SO; PROVIDING SEVERANCE AND REPEALER CLAUSES AND AN EFFECTIVE DATE

In response to a recognized problem in the Borough with stray and feral cats, and being a problem that cannot be acted upon without first establishing the illegality of feeding such cats, Ambler Borough Council does hereby ORDAIN as follows:

There is added to the Borough codified ordinances in Chapter 2 ("Animals") a new Part 4, "Stray and Feral Cats", the text of which is as follows:

4.1. Definitions

Feral Cat

An unowned, free-roaming cat that is partially socialized or unsocialized to humans and tends to resist contact with humans.

Feral Cat Colony

A group of feral cats living in one territory and/or in close proximity, often near food sources and shelter.

Stray Cat

Any cat whose owner or keeper from time to time allows the cat to run free off of the property of the owner or keeper. Cats found running at large (off-leash) in violation of ordinance 2-201 of this chapter shall be presumed to be stray cats.

4.2 Feeding of Stray/Feral Cats Prohibited.

It shall be unlawful for any person to feed stray or feral cats. Where such feeding has resulted in the creation of a feral cat colony, such colony shall be presumed to be a public nuisance and enforceable as such pursuant to the laws of the Commonwealth as they relate to public nuisances.

4.3 Enforcement and Penalties

A. This ordinance shall be enforced by any law enforcement officer designated by the Borough, including the code enforcement officer. The Borough also reserves the right to bring an action in equity when necessary in its discretion to halt behavior that violates this chapter. The Borough's enforcement of this ordinance does not preclude a private nuisance action where appropriate.

B. A violation of this ordinance is a summary offense. Each day of continuing violation may be treated as a separate offense. Fines shall be issued on an escalating basis, as follows (costs are payable in addition to the fines set forth here):

First offense: \$50.

Second offense: \$100.

Third offense: \$200.

Fourth and subsequent offense: \$500.

C. In addition to the fines set forth herein, upon conviction for a violation of this ordinance, a defendant may also be incarcerated for up to 30 days when the facts and circumstances warrant in the determination of the sentencing magisterial district judge or judge of the Court of Common Pleas.

4.4. Miscellaneous

Should any provision of this ordinance be found invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction, then such invalid portion shall, to the extent possible, be severed from the remainder, such remainder to continue in full force and effect.

(intentionally blank)

Any portion of any existing ordinance which is inconsistent with this ordinance is, to the extent of such inconsistency, repealed.

This ordinance is effective on the earliest recognized effective date set forth in section 3301.3 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code.

SO ORDAINED this 15th day of October, 2024.

Glynnis Siskind, Borough Council President

Attest: _____
Mary Aversa, Secretary

Approved: _____
Jeanne Sorg, Mayor



EMERGENCY: DIAL 911
EMAIL: info@amblerambulance.org

BUSINESS: (215) 643-6517
FAX: (215) 643-5212

Excellence in Pre-Hospital Care
COMMUNITY AMBULANCE ASSOCIATION, AMBLER
1414 E. BUTLER PIKE
P.O. BOX 98
AMBLER, PENNSYLVANIA 19002

Ambler Borough Statistics – 2024

<u>Month</u>	<u>Calls in Borough</u>	<u>Total Calls for CAAA</u>
January	74	502
February	75	417
March	67	488
April	58	449
May	49	461
June	67	470
July	71	494
August	72	483
September	64	457
<u>YTD Totals</u>	597	4,221

*Serving Ambler Borough, Lower Gwynedd Township
Springfield Township and Portions of Upper Dublin Township*



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 September 2024 (274 days)

Township	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Ambler	18	12	18	27	24	14	26	30	15				184	39%
Conshohocken							1						1	0%
East Norriton		1											1	0%
Horsham	4			1	1	1		4	2				13	3%
Lower Gwynedd	31	15	16	19	21	23	37	33	13				208	44%
Montgomery	2		2	2	1	1	3	1					12	3%
Norristown			1			1							2	0%
Plymouth		1	1				1						3	1%
Sellersville (Bucks Co.)								1					1	0%
Springfield	1												1	0%
Upper Dublin	3			2	1		4	2					12	3%
Upper Gwynedd			1										1	0%
Whitemarsh	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	2				21	4%
Whitpain	1		2	1	3		1		3				11	2%
Worcester	1												1	0%
TOTAL	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	0	0	0	472	100%

Type of Call	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Accident Standby	2	2	1	1	2	1	1	1	1				12	3%
AFA Actual	21	7	9	13	20	12	18	14	8				122	26%
AFA False	7	4	6	9	14	12	24	29	3				108	23%
Appliance		1		1		1							3	1%
Assist EMS	1	1	1		1								4	1%
Assist Police		1					1						2	0%
Brush				2	1	1	1						5	1%
Building Investigation	4	1	1	4	1		1	1					13	3%
CO Detector	1	2		1	3		4	4	2				17	4%
Commercial Bldg	3	1	3	4	1	4	3	4	1				24	5%
Elevator Rescue	1	1	6				2	1	4				15	3%
Fast Team Assist	1	1	1						1				4	1%
Gas Odor Inside	2	1	3	4	1		3		4				18	4%
Gas Odor Outside	2	1	1	1		3	3	1	1				13	3%
Hazardous Materials			1										1	0%
Non Comm Bldg	6		2	3	4		5	2	2				24	5%
Officer Investigation	5		4	3	1	2	1	3	1				20	4%
Search		1											1	0%
Smoke in area		1				1		2	1				5	1%
Special Service						1		2	1				4	1%
Standby other fire station	1			1		1	2	1					6	1%
Traffic Unit assist	1	2	1	3			3	2					12	3%
Trash								1					1	0%
Vehicle Fire	3	1			1	1	1		1				8	2%
Vehicle Leaking fuel													0	0%
Vehicle Rescue		1	2		1		1	1	3				9	2%
Water Rescue													0	0%
Wires	2	1	2	4	2	2	3	4	1				21	4%
TOTAL	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	0	0	0	472	100%

Day of the week	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Monday	15	4	5	8	4	6	15	8	8				73	15%
Tuesday	8	7	5	6	6	10	12	9	4				67	14%
Wednesday	13	3	9	10	16	4	12	8	8				83	18%
Thursday	9	4	3	7	1	8	2	9	2				45	10%
Friday	4	3	8	8	9	6	13	15	2				68	14%
Saturday	7	4	6	11	5	6	10	12	6				67	14%
Sunday	7	6	8	4	12	2	13	12	5				69	15%
TOTAL	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	0	0	0	472	100%



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 September 2024 (274 days)

Attendance	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24	May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	Total	%
Day Calls (M to F 6AM to 6PM)	29	13	17	28	24	24	34	30	15				214	45%
Attendance at Day Calls	318	152	158	333	275	229	371	306	168				2,310	
Average Day Calls	11.0	11.7	9.3	11.9	11.5	9.5	10.9	10.2	11.2	-	-	-	10.8	
Night & Weekend Calls	34	18	27	26	29	18	43	43	20				258	55%
Attendance at N & W Calls	450	201	323	340	389	197	489	460	270				3,119	
Average Night & Weekend	13.2	11.2	12.0	13.1	13.4	10.9	11.4	10.7	13.5	-	-	-	12.1	
Total Calls	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35				472	100%
Total Attendance	768	353	481	673	664	426	860	766	438				5,429	
Average Total Calls	12.2	11.4	10.9	12.5	12.5	10.2	11.2	10.5	12.5				11.5	
Average Fire Attendance 7A	9.8	9.5	8.9	10.3	10.1	7.7	8.5	7.9	9.5				9.1	
Average Fire Attendance 7B	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.6	3.0				2.4	
Average Fire Attendance	12.2	11.4	10.9	12.5	12.5	10.2	11.2	10.5	12.5	-	-	-	11.6	
Total Drills	4	4	4	5	3	4	5	4	4				37	
Total Drill Attendance	126	133	123	148	90	109	132	98	118				1,077	
Average Drill Attendance	31.5	33.3	30.8	29.6	30.0	27.3	26.4	24.5	29.5				29.1	

Monday Trainings	Jan-24	Feb-24	Mar-24	Apr-24
Organization Recap		Haz Mat refresher Part 1	NRS ALS Water Rescue boat	Rope Rescue training
Blood Borne Pathogens		NRS ALS Water Rescue boat	Truck Inventory Check	Truck Inv. & Cleanup from fire
Equipment Check		Haz Mat refresher Part 2	Urban Water Rescue class	Hoseline advancement
Station / Truck Cleaning		Hoarding Conditions Capt Brown	SCBA Fit Testing	Search Drill - Main St
				Rope training for tool lowering
Total Hours Training	315	Total Hours Training 333	Total Hours Training 308	Total Hours Training 370
May-24	Jun-24	Jul-24	Aug-24	
Pump Operations	Equipment check	Parade Prep of trucks	Tour - St. Charles Seminary	
Vehicle Rescue	Vehicle rescue - car on side	Saw practice @ acquired house	Water Drill - Giant Foods	
Vehicle Rescue	Recap 88 Fatal Fire	High Rise training	Work Night - Clean up	
	Parade prep of vehicles	NRS rescue boat	Water Battle @ Station 88	
		Air Bags & Struts		
Total Hours Training	225	Total Hours Training 273	Total Hours Training 330	Total Hours Training 245
Sep-24	Oct-24	Nov-24	Dec-24	
Drafting Drill with Station 88				
Jansen tour - LG				
Vehicle rescue - Air bags				
Clean up for Open house				
Total Hours Training	295	Total Hours Training 0	Total Hours Training 0	Total Hours Training 0



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 September 2024 (274 days)

Count of Alarm 2024								
Hour of Day	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
0	2		3	2	1	1	4	13
1					2	1	1	4
2	1	1	2	3		1		8
3	2			1		2	1	6
4		2	1	2	2	1		8
5		1	2	1	1	3	1	9
6	2		5	1		4	2	14
7	2	4	3	3	1	2	4	19
8	1	4	2	1	1	7	1	17
9	3	7	7	5	4	3	2	31
10	4	8	2	6	2	3	3	28
11	3	7	4	4	4	2		24
12	2	7	4	4	5	3	3	28
13	5	3	3	5	2	1	4	23
14	4	6	3	5	1	5	3	27
15	2	4	2	6	2	1	4	21
16	4	2	6	1	2	4	4	23
17	4	5	3	6	3	4	5	30
18	3	3	1	6		4	3	20
19	9	2	4	4	3	4	8	34
20	6	2	2	3	1	5	3	22
21	7	4	4	9	4	5	4	37
22	1		2	2	3		6	14
23	2	1	2	3	1	2	1	12
Grand Total	69	73	67	83	45	68	67	472

Public Utilities Committee

The Committee meeting was held on October 1, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: Karen Sheedy - Chair, Amy Hughes Lou Orehek and David Hui. Absent - Elizabeth Iovine and Amy Huges.

The Committee will make no recommendation.

The following business will be discussed:

1. The WWTP Engineer's report was received.
2. The Ambler WWTP is requesting quotes for the supply and installation of VFDs (Variable Frequency Drives) for ALL 5 blowers as part of the digester conversions.
3. System flushing is underway, locations will be posted on the Borough Website.

Approved at The Committee Meeting

1. A recommendation was granted to approve the updated lease with New Cingular Wireless PCS, LLC at 634 Houston Road amendment. 7-Aye

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Committee meeting was held on October 1, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: Jen Henderson - Chair, Lisa Auerbach, Nancy Roecker-Coates and David Hui. Absent - Elizabeth Iovine and Amy Huges.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Lawn Maintenance contract expires at the end of the year. A new Bid document is being prepared.
2. Ambler Youth Alliance open gym and activities is scheduled for October 25 and November 8 from 6pm-8pm at Borough Hall.
3. Yoga in the park is scheduled for October 19th, at 10:00am till 11:00am at Knight Park.

Salary & Personnel Committee

The Committee meeting was held on October 1, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: Lisa Auerbach – Chair, Jen Henderson, Karen Sheedy and Elizabeth Iovine. Absent - Elizabeth Iovine and Amy Huges.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. A recommendation is requested to hire Christopher Cracknel for the Water Operator 1 vacancy.
2. A recommendation is requested to offer employment for the Water Operator 1 vacancy to the candidate discussed in executive session

The following business will be discussed:

1. An executive session was held at the Committee meeting on a personnel matter. An Executive session is scheuled for 6:30 this evening for a personnel matter.

Approved at The Committee Meeting

1. Resolution 2024-13 recognizing Sal Boccuti for his service to the Borough was approved 7-Aye.
2. Recommend appointing Nicholas C. Steiner to the position of interim finance director.7-Aye

Recommendations

1. A recommendation is requested to hire Christopher Cracknel for the Water Operator 1 vacancy.
2. A recommendation is requested to offer employment for the Water Operator 1 vacancy to the candidate discussed in executive session.