



BOROUGH OF AMBLER COUNCIL MEETING AGENDA

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

November 19, 2024

7:00 p.m.

**Minutes for Consideration:
October 15, 2024**

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

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

Finance & Planning Committee

The Committee meeting was held on November 6, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: – Elizabeth Iovine - Chair, Karen Sheedy. Absent - Mayor Sorg.

The Committee will consider the following recommendations.

1. That the October bills be paid in the amount of **\$1,248,359.39**

#	Fund	Oct 1st Run	Oct 2nd Run	TOTALS
1	GENERAL	\$46,280.36	\$ 183,514.25	\$229,794.61
2	STREET LGTS			\$0.00
3	FIRE			\$0.00
4	REFUSE	\$7,260.89	\$53,428.41	\$60,689.30
5	PARKS & REC	\$484.00	\$3,887.92	\$4,371.92
6	WATER	\$233,283.91	\$341,428.63	\$574,712.54
8	SEWER	\$86,997.64	\$15,781.67	\$102,779.31
9	WWTP	\$42,510.54	\$228,967.02	\$271,477.56
35	LIQUID FUELS	\$1,882.46	\$2,651.69	\$4,534.15
30	WATER CAPITAL			\$0.00
TOTALS		\$418,699.80	\$829,659.59	\$1,248,359.39
VOID CHECKS				\$0.00
GRAND TOTAL		\$418,699.80	\$ 829,659.59	\$1,248,359.39

2. A request was received to donate \$1,000.00 for a memorial bench for Salvatore Pasceri.
3. Univest is no longer managing pension payments, see **attached**. A recommendation authorizing Alliance Bernstein to provide the pension payment service is requested. A \$6.00 check processing fee will be charged per transaction

The following business will be discussed:

1. The Borough Engineer's report was received.
2. Joe Duda and Scott Repke from Bernstein were at the November 6, meeting to discuss the Borough Pension plans.
3. The draft 2025 meeting calendar is **attached**. This will be advertised in December.
4. Budget meeting dates are scheduled for December 3rd at 6:30pm , December 5th at 10:00am and December 17th at 6:30pm. The 2025 Resolution and Ordinance for the Budget will be provided.

5. The Borough will be hosting an open house regarding the comprehensive plan on Tuesday, January 28th 6pm -8pm. This event will introduce the public to the planning process of the Comprehensive Plan and request input on the current state of Ambler as well as its vision for Ambler in the next 5, 10, and 20 years. Survey and marketing materials will be distributed later this month.
6. PA State Senator Maria Collett and PA State Representative Melissa Cerrato announced on October 23rd the award of several high-profile state grants for local projects. Ambler Borough was awarded \$1,000,000 for renovations to Wissahickon Fire Company Ambler Main Station.

Approved at the Committee Meeting

1. Authorization is requested to make a loan to the sewer fund for WWTP Capital Contribution in the amount of 400K from the general fund. 8-Aye
2. Recommend adopting the Small Business Saturday Coalition Proclamation. 8-Aye

Recommendations:

1. That the October bills be paid in the amount of \$1,248,359.39.
2. A request was received to donate \$1,000.00 for a memorial bench for Salvatore Pasceri.
3. A Recommendation authorizing Alliance Bernstein to provide the pension payment service is requested.



AMBLER BOROUGH COUNCIL

MEETING CALENDAR 2025

Meetings to be held the 1st & 3rd Tuesday (unless otherwise noted) at Ambler Borough Hall at 7:00 PM

COMMITTEE MEETING – 1ST Tuesday

January 7

February 3

March 4

April 1

May 6

June 3

No Committee meeting

August 5

September 2

October 7

November 5 (held Wednesday due to General Election)

December 2

COUNCIL MEETING - 3rd Tuesday

January 21

February 17

March 19

April 15

May 20

June 17

July 15

August 19

September 16

October 21

November 18

December 16

Public Safety Committee

The Committee meeting was held on November 6, at 7:00pm. Committee members: Amy Hughes – Chair, Jen Henderson, Nancy Roecker Coates and Lou Orehek. Absent - Mayor Sorg.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

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 Borough Engineer is preparing a quote for upgrades along Butler Avenue between Race Street and Bethlehem Pike.



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
October	70	452
<u>YTD Totals</u>	667	4,673

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



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 October 2024 (305 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	13			197	36%
Conshohocken							1						1	0%
East Norriton		1											1	0%
Horsham	4			1	1	1		4	2	3			16	3%
Lower Gwynedd	31	15	16	19	21	23	37	33	13	33			241	45%
Montgomery	2		2	2	1	1	3	1		6			18	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		3			15	3%
Upper Gwynedd			1							1			2	0%
Whitemarsh	2	2	3	2	2	2	4	2	2	7			28	5%
Whitpain	1		2	1	3		1		3	3			14	3%
Worcester	1												1	0%
TOTAL	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	69	0	0	541	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	1			13	2%
AFA Actual	21	7	9	13	20	12	18	14	8	18			140	26%
AFA False	7	4	6	9	14	12	24	29	3	8			116	22%
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			7			12	2%
Building Investigation	4	1	1	4	1		1	1					13	2%
CO Detector	1	2		1	3		4	4	2	9			26	5%
Commercial Bldg	3	1	3	4	1	4	3	4	1	3			27	5%
Elevator Rescue	1	1	6				2	1	4	1			16	3%
Fast Team Assist	1	1	1						1	2			6	1%
Gas Odor Inside	2	1	3	4	1		3		4	2			20	4%
Gas Odor Outside	2	1	1	1		3	3	1	1				13	2%
Hazardous Materials			1										1	0%
Non Comm Bldg	6		2	3	4		5	2	2	4			28	5%
Officer Investigation	5		4	3	1	2	1	3	1	2			22	4%
Search		1											1	0%
Smoke in area		1				1		2	1	1			6	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		4			16	3%
Trash								1					1	0%
Vehicle Fire	3	1			1	1	1		1	4			12	2%
Unknown / Unfounded										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	1			22	4%
TOTAL	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	69	0	0	539	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	8			81	15%
Tuesday	8	7	5	6	6	10	12	9	4	10			77	14%
Wednesday	13	3	9	10	16	4	12	8	8	13			96	18%
Thursday	9	4	3	7	1	8	2	9	2	13			58	11%
Friday	4	3	8	8	9	6	13	15	2	10			78	14%
Saturday	7	4	6	11	5	6	10	12	6	11			78	14%



Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
October 2024 (305 days)

TOTAL	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	69	0	0	541	100%
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Wissahickon Fire Company
Fire Chief Report
October 2024 (305 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	41			255	47%
Attendance at Day Calls	318	152	158	333	275	229	371	306	168	412			2,722	
Average Day Calls	11.0	11.7	9.3	11.9	11.5	9.5	10.9	10.2	11.2	10.0	-	-	10.7	
Night & Weekend Calls	34	18	27	26	29	18	43	43	20	28			286	53%
Attendance at N & W Calls	450	201	323	340	389	197	489	460	270	299			3,418	
Average Night & Weekend	13.2	11.2	12.0	13.1	13.4	10.9	11.4	10.7	13.5	10.7	-	-	12.0	
Total Calls	63	31	44	54	53	42	77	73	35	69			541	100%
Total Attendance	768	353	481	673	664	426	860	766	438	711			6,140	
Average Total Calls	12.2	11.4	10.9	12.5	12.5	10.2	11.2	10.5	12.5	10.3			11.3	
Average Fire Attendance 7A	9.8	9.5	8.9	10.3	10.1	7.7	8.5	7.9	9.5	7.3			8.9	
Average Fire Attendance 7B	2.4	1.9	2.0	2.2	2.4	2.5	2.7	2.6	3.0	3.0			2.5	
Average Fire Attendance	12.2	11.4	10.9	12.5	12.5	10.2	11.2	10.5	12.5	10.3	-	-	11.4	
Total Drills	4	4	4	5	3	4	5	4	4	4			41	
Total Drill Attendance	126	133	123	148	90	109	132	98	118	87			1,164	
Average Drill Attendance	31.5	33.3	30.8	29.6	30.0	27.3	26.4	24.5	29.5	21.8			28.4	

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	Fire Prevention Open House 7A	Burn Drill - Montco		
Jansen tour - LG	Fire Prevention Open House 88A			
Vehicle rescue - Air bags	Gas/CO Meter training			
Clean up for Open house	Work Night - Tool running			
Total Hours Training	295	Total Hours Training 218	Total Hours Training 0	Total Hours Training 0



Wissahickon Fire Company
 Fire Chief Report
 October 2024 (305 days)

Count of Alarm 2024								
Hour of Day	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Total
0	2		3	2	1	3	4	15
1				1	2	1	1	5
2	1	1	2	3		1		8
3	2			1	1	2	1	7
4		3	1	2	2	1	1	10
5		1	2	1	1	3	1	9
6	2		5	1	1	5	2	16
7	2	4	4	3	1	3	4	21
8	1	5	4	1	2	7	1	21
9	3	7	7	5	5	3	2	32
10	5	8	2	6	3	5	5	34
11	3	7	8	5	4	3		30
12	2	8	4	8	6	3	3	34
13	6	6	4	6	4	1	4	31
14	4	6	3	8	3	6	4	34
15	2	4	2	6	2	1	4	21
16	4	2	6	1	3	4	5	25
17	4	5	4	6	4	5	6	34
18	5	3	2	6	1	4	4	25
19	9	2	4	5	3	4	9	36
20	6	2	2	4	1	5	4	24
21	7	5	4	10	4	6	6	42
22	1	1	2	2	3		6	15
23	2	1	2	3	1	2	1	12
Grand Total	73	81	77	96	58	78	78	541

Public Utilities Committee

The Committee meeting was held on November 6, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: Karen Sheedy - Chair, Amy Hughes Lou Orehek and David Hui. Absent - Mayor Sorg.

The Committee will consider the following recommendation.

1. Recommend adoption of Resolution 2024- 14 to apply for a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant of \$1,000,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for our Lead Service Line Replacement Program.

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.
4. On 1/1/24 the new sewer rate of \$7.50 per thousand gallons became effective. (Ordinance 1136, passed on 12/19/23, raised the rate from \$6.50 to \$7.50 per thousand gallons.) Due to a system programming issue the billing on 4/29/24 and 7/30/24 did not reflect the rate change. The current bill generated 10/30/24, has been adjusted accordingly and can be found under the "adjustment line". Any interest or penalty fees will be waived. If additional time is needed to pay it will be granted. If you need to make payment arrangements, please contact the water department.

Approved at the Committee Meeting

1. The proposal from Keystone Alliance to review the Water and Sewer EDU- Equivalent Dwelling Unit fee structure for connection fees was approved . 8-Aye

Recommendations

1. Recommend adoption of Resolution 2024- 14 to apply for a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant of \$1,000,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for our Lead Service Line Replacement Program.

Appendix I – Authorized Official Resolution

Be it RESOLVED, that the Borough of Ambler (Name of Applicant) of Montgomery County (Name of County) hereby requests a Statewide Local Share Assessment grant of \$1,000,000.00 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for Lead Service Line Replacement Program.

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Applicant does hereby designate Mary Aversa, Borough Manager (Name and Title) as the official to execute all documents and agreements between the Borough of Ambler (Name of Applicant) and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

I, Elizabeth Wahl Kunzier, duly qualified Manager’s Assistant/Secretary of the Borough of Ambler (Name of Applicant), Montgomery County (Name of County) Ambler, PA, hereby certify that the forgoing is a true and correct copy of a Resolution duly adopted by a majority vote of the Borough of Ambler (Governing Body) at a regular meeting held November 19th, 2024 (Date) and said Resolution has been recorded in the Minutes of the Borough of Ambler (Applicant) and remains in effect as of this date.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I affix my hand and attach the seal of the Borough of Ambler (Applicant), this 19th day of November, 2024.

Borough of Ambler
Name of Applicant

Montgomery County
County

Secretary Mary Aversa

Parks and Recreation Committee

The Committee meeting was held on November 6, at 7:00pm. Committee Members: Jen Henderson - Chair, Nancy Roecker-Coates and David Hui. Absent -Mayor Sorg.

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. Staff will collect quotes on repairs to the multipurpose courts at Ricciardi and to address the open area of Wahl Park that is becoming an issue. These projects will be in the 2025 budget.
3. Staff is ordering new benches for the Knight Park Pavillion and a bike rack for Borough Hall.

Salary & Personnel Committee

The Committee meeting was held on November 6, at 7:00pm. Committee Members:– Chair, Jen Henderson, Karen Sheedy and Elizabeth Iovine. Absent – Mayor Sorg.

The Committee will make no recommendations.

The following business will be discussed:

1. An executive session was held on October 29, at 7:00pm for a personnel issue.
2. **Attached** are the current volunteer positions that expire in 2024, letters of interest are being accepted.
3. A resume including a letter of interest are requested for the ward 2 vacancy until December 10.
4. A vote will be taken to fill the Vice presidnet of Council vacancy.
5. The Police Department conducted a Physical Agility Test and a Written Examination on Saturday November 2, 2024. Nine people applied to participate in the testing process. Seven of the nine showed up for the testing process. Three applicants passed the physical agility test and were eligible to take the written test. All three failed the written test. Chief Borkowski is currently researching the date for the next Montgomery County Police Consortium test that the Police Department can participate in.

Approved at The Committee Meeting

1. A recommendation to accept the resignation of Lisa Auerbach effective October 29th was approved 8- Aye.
2. A recommendation to rescind the Vote to accept the resignation of Lisa Auerbach and correct the effective date to November 6th was approved . 8-Aye.
3. A recommendation to hire Austin Mikula for the Water Operator 1 vacancy was approved.

VOLUNTEER COMMITTEE & BOARD SEATS –
RESUMES/LETTERS OF INTEREST ATTACHED

Consider appointments to several volunteer Committee & Board positions which expire at the end of the year to include:

Environmental Advisory Council (3-year term) – 2 seats

- Matt Walker (incumbent)
- VACANCY

Planning Commission (4-year term) - 1 seat

- Theresa Clement (incumbent)

Vacancy Board (1-year term)

- Vacancy

Zoning Hearing Board (3-year term) – 1 seat

- Robert Foster (incumbent)

Appeals Board (3-year term)

- VACANCY

Zoning Hearing Board Alternate (3-year term) – 2-seats

Human Relations Commission

- Trelena Adams (incumbent)
- Marilyn Frazier (incumbent)

Civil Service Commission

- Alternate (6-year term) – 1 seat
- Bernadette Dougherty Alternate (incumbent)

VACANCIES exist for the following appointed positions:

- Environmental Advisory Council (3-year term) 2-Seats
- Planning Commission (4-year term) 1 -Seat
- Vacancy Board (1-year term) 1-seat
- Zoning Hearing Board (4-year term) 1-Seat
- Appeals Board (3-year term) – 1-Seat.
- Zoning Hearing Board Alternate (3-year term) – 2 Seats
- Civil Service Commission Alternate (6-year term) – 2 Alternate Seats