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.

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.

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. Univest is no longer managing pension payments. A Recommendation Authorizing Alliance Bernstein to provide the pension payment service is requested.

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.

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. The billing system charged the incorrect rate for the first 2 quarters. The current bill will reflect the adjusted rate and interest will not be charged. If additional time is needed to pay it will be granted. The increase will be 1.00 per thousand gallons for the last 2 quarters.

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.

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.

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 October 6th was approved . 8-Aye.
3. A recommendation to hire Austin Mikula for the Water Operator 1 vacancy was approved.