

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING
JANUARY 9, 2006**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Eadie Burke
James Boyer
Ray Conville
Bill Delaney
Joan Handy
Richard Hendricks
William Hettel
Harry McGonigal
C. Lee Metzger, Jr. (absent)
Justin Minnion (arrived 7:30PM)
J. Robert Hunsicker
Daniel P. Olpere
Joe Gura
Phil Ivins
Ann Weiss
Mark Eisold
News Herald
Daily Intelligencer
Morning Call

Youth Councilors:

Mayor:

Borough Manager:

Police Chief:

Public Facilities Director:

Borough Solicitor:

Borough Engineer:

Press Representatives:

Borough Council Vice-President Jim Boyer convened the meeting at 7:00 PM.

PUBLIC FORUM

Present was Michael Cooper of 504 Hunters Run who voiced concerns about a neighbor in his development burning trash which he had brought to Council at an earlier meeting. He asked Council reopen the subject since it is causing safety concerns to the children and residents in the neighborhood.

Dan West of 501 S. 5th Street was present reiterating Mr. Cooper's concerns. He also asked Council to do something on the neighborhoods behalf.

Dr. James Eppers of 510 Vine Street was present. Mr. Eppers thanked the Mayor for vetoing the Perkasie Borough Authority acquisition. He also asked why Councilman Metzger was not relieved of his duties since he does not attend meetings and also had questions on the 2006 budget.

Present was Steve McBride of 500 Hunters Run. Mr. McBride stated he felt the open burning issue in his development needed immediate attention since residents are being exposed to the noxious fumes emitted from the burning of trash in the Hunters Run development. He asked Council to pass an ordinance prohibiting this burning.

Present was Luther Chontofalsky of 270 Parkridge Drive. Mr. Chontofalsky stated he did not like his tax money being spent on expenditures related to the acquisition of the Perkasie Borough Authority.

REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

Manager Olpere reported that at the December 14 meeting of the Planning Commission that the Zavitsanos subdivision and MJE Builders were discussed. The commissioners also reviewed a change to the zoning ordinances regarding definition of two family dwellings.

ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENT TO BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES

President Burke made the following appointments to the Borough Council Committees:

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Harry McGonigal, Chair
Rich Hendricks
Joan Handy
Bill Delaney

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Harry McGonigal, Chair
Jim Boyer
Rich Hendricks
Bill Delaney

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Jim Boyer, Chair
Eadie Burke
Lee Metzger
Bill Delaney

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE

Joan Handy, Chair
Eadie Burke
Rich Hendricks
Ray Conville

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Bill Hettel, Chair
Eadie Burke
Harry McGonigal
Lee Metzger

CABLE/BROADBAND COMMITTEE

Rich Hendricks, Chair
Eadie Burke
Joan Handy
Ray Conville

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Bill Hettel, Chair
Eadie Burke
Harry McGonigal
Jim Boyer

HEALTH CARE AD HOC COMMITTEE

Joan Handy, Chair
Jim Boyer
Bill Hettel
Rich Hendricks

ANNOUNCE APPOINTMENT OF BOROUGH COUNCIL LIASIONS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

President Burke made the following Borough Council liaisons to various boards and commissions:

Perkasie Borough Authority: Bill Hettel
Zoning Hearing Board: Joan Handy
Perkasie Planning Commission: Richard Hendricks
Park and Recreation: Jim Boyer
Pennridge Senior Center: Ray Conville
Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee: Ray Conville
Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority: Eadie Burke

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Utility Superintendent's Report for December 2005.

Other Business

None at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's Report for December 2005.

MJE Builders

Bob Jordan of Woodrow Associates was present as well as Attorney Bernadette Kearny. Mr. Jordan reviewed the plan of MJE Builders on 317 E. Walnut Street. He stated that at the December Planning Commission meeting that the commission would prefer single homes over the proposed twin homes even though twin homes are permitted by right. Councilmembers Hettel, McGonigal and Hendricks stated they would also prefer single homes. The matter would be placed on the January 25 Planning Commission agenda for recommendation.

Hillside Estates Access Road

Borough engineer Mark Eisold was present to discuss his recommendation to pave the access road in the Hillside Estates subdivision. It was the consensus of Council that the road should be paved and abutting residents notified. The Manager was asked to prepare a letter for approval at the February committees meeting.

Ordinance to Establish Speed Limit in Neighbors Way

The Committee reviewed an ordinance establishing the speed limit at 25 MPH on Neighbors Way and agreed to recommend it for approval at the February 20 Council meeting.

Two-Family Dwellings-Ordinance Amendment

The Committee reviewed the Planning Commission's proposed amendment to the zoning ordinance to re-establish a definition of two-family dwellings. Committee members agreed to recommend adoption of the ordinance at the February 20 Council meeting.

Request from Good Time Motorvators

The Committee reviewed a request from the Goodtime Motorvators car club to move the car show from Sellersville to the Perkasio Lenape park area at the foot bridge on May 21, 2006. Committee members questioned the date of the event and it coinciding with the Perkasio Olde Towne Day celebration on May 20, 2006. The Manager was asked to clarify the date of the event and the matter was put on the January 16 Council meeting agenda.

Request from Penridge Community Day

The Committee reviewed a request from Tom Skiffington of Penridge Community Day to hold the annual Community Day celebration on Sunday, July 9, with a raindate of July 16 in

Lenape Park. The Committee agreed to recommend approval of the event and placed the matter on the January 16 Council meeting agenda.

Pool Repair

Manager Olpere had no new information to report. He stated he was meeting with a pool architect at the end of the week and would have an update for the January 16 Council meeting.

Curb and Sidewalk Specifications

The Committee reviewed changes to the curb and sidewalk specifications recommended by the Borough engineer. Committee members concurred with the revisions and requested the Solicitor to prepare an ordinance for consideration at the February 6 committees meeting.

Fire Siren

The Committee discussed a request from resident Carin Froelich of 1134 North 7th Street regarding the fire siren on her property she would like removed. Ms. Froelich was present to provide additional information. Mr. Hendricks suggested that the newly appointed Emergency Management Coordinator Steve Reichman and the Perkasio Fire Chief Dave Worthington attend the January 16 Council meeting to offer their input on the matter.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Code Enforcement Officer Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report for December 2005.

Borough Hall Sublet Space

The Committee reviewed a request from NOVA, the Borough's third floor tenant, to sublet a room in their office to a psychologist two days a week for related counseling. Committee members concurred that this is permitted under the lease agreement with permission from the Borough and agreed to place the matter on the January 16 Council meeting agenda.

Upper Tohickon Rivers Conservation Plan

The Committee reviewed a resolution adopting the Upper Tohickon Rivers Conservation Plan which was developed for the Upper Tohickon Creek Watershed. The purpose of the plan is so Perkasio Borough can utilize it in planning future projects and in seeking grants related to streams, watersheds, and the surrounding areas. The Committee agreed to put the resolution on the January 16 Council meeting agenda.

Emergency Management Radio Network

The Committee reviewed an agreement with the Bucks County Emergency Management Radio Network to allow Borough officials to utilize the county's emergency management frequencies. Committee members agreed to place the matter on the January 16 Council agenda for approval.

Other Business

The Committee discussed a request for three police officers to carry over 2005 vacation days to 2006. Committee members concurred with the request and placed the matter on the January 16, 2006 Council agenda.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Real Estate Tax Late Fee

The Committee reviewed a request from Norman Eng of 509 Country Pointe requesting exoneration of his late fee for real estate taxes paid. After brief discussion, it was the consensus of the Committee as well as Council to deny the request. The Manager was asked to send a letter to Mr. Eng.

Emergency Municipal Service Tax Ordinance

The Committee reviewed the Emergency Municipal Service Tax ordinance which would impose a tax in the amount of \$47.00 on every person employed in Perkasio Borough, subject to certain exemptions. The Committee agreed to place the ordinance on the January 16 Council meeting agenda for approval.

Berkheimer Collect EMST Tax

The Committee discussed entering into an agreement with Berkheimer Associates to collect the proposed Emergency Municipal Service Tax. After discussing the contracts as well as the delinquent tax collection schedule of costs to be paid by the taxpayer, it was agreed to table the matter pending additional receipt of information from Berkheimer Associates.

Mr. Hettel addressed Dr. Eppers comments regarding the Borough Manager's salary during public forum. Mr. Hettel told Dr. Eppers the employee wage schedule is available to anyone who wishes to see it. The Borough Manager was directed to call Dr. Eppers and provide him with the information he requested.

Mr. Hettel questioned whether it would be feasible to collect the EMST tax in-house.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Farmers Market Response

Manager Olpere reported that the Perkasio Farmers Market will not be returning for the 2006 season due to lack of vendors and summer help.

Consider 90 Day Extension-First Savings Bank

The Committee reviewed a request for another 90 day extension for First Savings Bank regarding the Otto property and agreed to recommend approval for the January 16 Council meeting. It was requested that Bob White from the Bucks County Redevelopment Authority attend the meeting to give Council an update on the project.

ENVIRONMENTAL COMMITTEE MEETING

Open Burning

The Committee discussed open burning brought up during public forum stating the problem has become a health hazard. Mrs. Handy proposed adoption of an ordinance that would ban all burning of household waste. Discussion occurred including allowing the burning of brush and twigs. The Solicitor was asked to prepare an ordinance for consideration at the February committees meeting.

CABLE/BROADBAND COMMITTEE MEETING

Other Business

Manager Olpere updated the Committee on the most recent meeting with Verizon regarding their Fiber to the Premises (FTTP) project and progress on achieving a franchise agreement.

HEALTH CARE AD HOC COMMITTEE MEETING

Chair Joan Handy stated the Borough should consider a way to reduce health insurance premiums to the Borough for employee health-care coverage. It was suggested that members of the committee meet with the Manager and Assistant Manager to review the Borough's current plans.

OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

PRESS FORUM

There were no press representatives present to ask questions.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 PM.

Daniel P. Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary