

MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING
PERKASIE BOROUGH COUNCIL
JANUARY 21, 2008

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Marty Gahman
Eadie Burke
Ray Conville
Bill Delaney
Richard Hendricks
Harry McGonigal (arrived 8:35 PM)
Chris Nicolosi
Jim Purcell
Maria Slowik
J. Robert Hunsicker
Daniel P. Olpere
Kate Harper
News Herald
Daily Intelligencer
Morning Call
Bucks County Herald

Mayor:

Borough Manager:

Borough Solicitor:

Press Representatives:

Perkasie Borough Council President Marty Gahman convened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Mr. Hendricks gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Benjamin Marston, 509 W. Chestnut Street , asked Council if the bells at Trinity Lutheran Church could be silenced at night instead of ringing through the night.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Gahman encouraged residents to attend Borough Council meeting and get involved in the community.

Mr. Gahman made the following appointments to the Council Committees:

BOROUGH COUNCIL COMMITTEES 2008

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Ray Conville, Chair
Jim Purcell
Maria Slowik
Eadie Burke

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
COMMITTEE

Chris Nicolosi, Chair
Maria Slowik
Bill Delaney
Rich Hendricks

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Jim Purcell, Chair
Bill Delaney
Marty Gahman
Ray Conville

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Rich Hendricks, Chair
Harry McGonigal
Ray Conville
Chris Nicolosi

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Marty Gahman, Chair
Jim Purcell
Maria Slowik
Rich Hendricks

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Ray Conville, Chair
Bill Delaney
Marty Gahman
Chris Nicolosi

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Maria Slowik, Chair
Jim Purcell
Rich Hendricks
Chris Nicolosi

BOROUGH COUNCIL LIASIONS

PBA: Jim Purcell
Zoning Hearing Board: Eadie Burke
Perkasie Planning Commission: Richard Hendricks
Park and Recreation: Ray Conville

President Gahman further stated that Council had received from the Borough Manager a proposed list of expectations for staff and Council and expectations Council will place on the Manager and the expectations that Manager and staff may have of Council. Mr. Gahman asked Councilmembers to review the information and make recommendations at the February Committee meeting.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Nicolosi, Council unanimously approved the Council meeting minutes of December 17, 2007.

Upon motion by Hendricks, seconded by Conville, Council unanimously approved the Council Committees meeting minutes of January 7, 2008.

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Hendricks, Council unanimously approved the Special Finance meeting minutes of January 12, 2008.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

Mayor's Report

The Mayor had nothing to report.

Taxes Collected

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Hendricks, Council unanimously accepted the report of taxes collected for December 2007.

Budget Status

Upon motion by Hendricks, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the budget status report for December 2007.

Engineer's Report

Upon motion by Nicolosi, seconded by Hendricks, the engineer's monthly report was unanimously accepted.

Planning Commission Report

There was no Perkasi Planning Commission meeting since the last Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Pennridge Little League Paving

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Nicolosi, Council unanimously approved assistance from the Borough as well as East Rockhill Township to provide labor for the newly proposed expansion of the paved area in Lenape Park for the Pennridge Little League. The motion also included that the Borough would provide materials in an amount not to exceed \$8,000. Upon motion by Nicolosi, seconded by Purcell, Council also unanimously approved assistance with internal wiring and materials in amount not to exceed \$2,000.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Update to Employee Work Rules

Upon motion by Hendricks, seconded by Conville, Council unanimously approved changes to the employee work rules to reflect a change to the health care benefits plan to change the co-pays and premium share.

Personnel Action

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Slowik, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2008-1 regarding disability payments for employee Debbie Traubel.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

2008 Budget

Councilmembers discussed a plan to cut costs in the 2008 budget to accommodate the electric rate increase in 2009. The Borough Manager reviewed cuts from the parks and recreation, public works, and electric department's budgets. Upon motion by Nicolosi, seconded by Hendricks, the Manager was directed to revise the budget with the recommended changes, advertise it for public review, and Council would consider adoption at the February 4 Council Committees meeting.

Eadie Burke supplied information in regards to a \$4 million surplus from 1999. Information showed the money was earmarked for 1) \$500,000 reconstruction of East Spruce Street; 2) New Borough Hall; 3) Renovation of old Borough Hall for new police station, 4) Pay off \$2.2 million bond for electric substation on Ridge Road. She also questioned if the Borough really has a current \$2 million reserve since 2009 shows \$2 million capital projects.

Discuss/Approve Tax Rate

Upon motion by Conville, seconded by Delaney, Council unanimously agreed not to raise the tax millage for 2008.

Authorization to Pay Bills

Upon a motion by Purcell, seconded by Nicolosi, Council unanimously accepted payment of the bills as presented.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

The Committee had no business to conduct at this time.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Eadie Burke asked if the park bathrooms could be unlocked during the day when children are in school. The Manager said he would check into the matter.

PRESS FORUM

Questions from the press were received and answered.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:47PM.

Daniel P. Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary