

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING
NOVEMBER 3, 2008**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Martin Gahman
Eadie Burke
Ray Conville
Bill Delaney
Richard Hendricks
Harry McGonigal (absent)
Chris Nicolosi
Jim Purcell (absent)
Maria Slowik
J. Robert Hunsicker (absent)
Daniel P. Olpere
Joe Gura
Andrea Coaxum
Dan Gilbert
Harold Stone
Ann Weiss
Amy Montgomery
News Herald
Morning Call
Daily Intelligencer
Bucks County Herald

Mayor:

Borough Manager:

Police Chief:

Assistant Borough Manager:

Public Works Director:

Electric Superintendent:

Borough Solicitor:

Borough Engineer:

Press Representatives:

Borough Council Vice-President Rich Hendricks convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Mr. Gahman gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Bill Hettel of 1211 W. Park Avenue was present. Mr. Hettel addressed Council on the proposed electric rate ordinance urging Council to use a portion of the fund balance to ease rate increases to residents and businesses.

REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

Mr. Hendricks reported that at the October 22, 2008 Perkasie Planning Commission meeting the Habitat for Humanity land development was discussed as well as a traffic study ordinance.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Utility Superintendent's Report for October 2008.

Other Business

There was no other business to discuss.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's Report for October 2008.

Herbicide Use

This matter was tabled until the December committees meeting.

Snow Removal Policy

The Committee reviewed a revision to the Borough's proposed snow removal policy on the west side of South 5th Street from West Market Street extending past West Walnut Street to Park Avenue. Committee members concurred with the recommendation and agreed to adopt a resolution approving the new addition.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

Other Business

Ray Conville announced there would be a Parks and Recreation meeting on November 5 at 7:00 PM.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

PBA Issues

Borough Manager Olpere reviewed several issues raised by the Perkasio Borough Authority that included extending their Articles of Incorporation, extending the life of the Authority and allowing the Authority to enforce its drought contingency plan. It was suggested that a representative of the Authority attend the next Council Committee meeting to discuss these issues.

This matter was tabled until the December Committee meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Other Business

There was no business to discuss.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Code Enforcement Officer Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report for October 2008.

Preliminary Approval-Habitat for Humanity

Present was Attorney Ed Wild, Sharon Dotts from Gilmore Associates, and Mike Fallon, Project Engineer for the Habitat for Humanity project at the old Pennridge Senior Center at 815 West Chestnut Street. Mr. Wild outlined the plan to convert the building into apartments. He stated the Perkasio Planning Commission had recommended preliminary/final approval at its meeting on October 22, 2008. The Committee agreed to put the matter on the Council agenda for consideration at the November 17, 2008 meeting.

Traffic Ordinance-Traffic Impact Study for Subdivisions

The Committee reviewed an ordinance revising the subdivision land development ordinance requiring a traffic study for major subdivisions. The Perkasio Planning Commission reviewed and recommended approval of the ordinance at their last meeting. It was agreed to put the ordinance on the November 17 Council agenda for consideration.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Electric Rate Ordinance

The Borough Manager outlined three scenarios of revenue needed for the electric fund for the years 2009 through 2013.

After discussing the options, Nicolosi made a motion to choose scenario #3 which would use \$1 million of capital reserves to off-set the rates in 2009. The electric rate increase passed along to customers would be 34.13% in the first year and 25.37% in the second year. It would be effective on November 16, 2008. Upon roll call vote, Councilmembers Gahman, Delaney, Burke, Conville, and Slowik voted against scenario #3. Councilmembers Nicolosi and Hendricks voted for it. The motion failed by a 5-2 vote.

Upon motion by Conville, seconded by Gahman, Council considered scenario #2, using \$500,000 of capital reserve funds to off-set rates in the year 2009. The increase to electric customers would be 41.64% in the first year and 17.40% in the second year. Upon roll call vote, Councilmembers Conville, Gahman, Hendricks, and Slowik voted in favor of the motion. It would also be effective on November 16, 2008. Councilmembers Nicolosi, Burke, and Delaney voted against it. The motion passed by a 4-3 vote.

The Committee agreed to advertise the ordinance with the rates of scenario #2 included in it. It was further agreed to make it available to the public and hold a special Council meeting on November 12, 2008 at 7:00PM to consider adoption

2009 Preliminary Budget

The Committee again reviewed the 2009 proposed preliminary budget. It was agreed to put it on the Council agenda November 17, 2008 for preliminary approval and public inspection.

OTHER BUSINESS

Bill Delaney commended Officer DeLia from the police department for a job well done for an incident that occurred on October 31, 2008.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one from the public requested an opportunity to speak.

PRESS FORUM

Questions from the press were received and answered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mr. Hendricks announced that Council was going into executive session to discuss personnel and would not reopen the meeting thereafter.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Daniel Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary