

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COMMITTEE MEETING
MAY 2, 2011**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:	Matt Aigeldinger Stephen Algeo Florence Frei Martin Gahman Barbara Krantz Suzanne Kravitz Chris Nicolosi Jim Purcell Maria Slowik John Hollenbach
Mayor:	Daniel P. Olpere
Borough Manager:	Andrea Coaxum
Assistant Manager:	Joe Gura
Police Chief:	Joe Berardi
Finance Director:	Dan Gilbert
Public Works Director:	Harold Stone
Electric Superintendent:	Josh Aniskevich
Park and Recreation Director:	Ann Weiss
Borough Solicitor:	Joe Nolan
Borough Engineer:	News Herald
Press Representatives:	Daily Intelligencer

Borough Council Vice-President Jim Purcell convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Mr. Aigeldinger gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Present was Andrew Rumbold of 502 S. 8th Street who spoke regarding further development of 8th Street and its condition.

ANNOUNCE EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jim Purcell announced that the Personnel and Policy Committee had held an executive session at 6:00 PM on April 23, 2011 to discuss personnel issues.

REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

No recent meeting.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's Report for April 2011.

Small Trash Bag Bid Award

The Committee reviewed the results of the bid opening for small trash bags. It was agreed to recommend the bid be awarded to the low bidder Fordian Packaging.

Handicapped Parking Request-617 Buttonwood Street

The Committee reviewed a request from the Police Chief for a handicap parking place in front of 617 Buttonwood Street. Committee members agreed to place the matter on the May 16 Council agenda for approval by resolution.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Utility Superintendent's Report for April 2011.

Electric Bill Format

The Committee reviewed a new proposed electric bill format which would give more detailed information to the customer regarding previous bills, payments, rates, penalties, etc. Committee members concurred with the suggested changes and agreed to place the matter on the May 16, 2011 Council meeting agenda.

EDI Electric Project

Councilmembers listened to a conference call with Garrett Cole of GDS Consulting who presented a project to acquire electricity from a methane gas fire generator in Ohio. The proposal would be a 10-year project that uses methane gas from three Ohio landfills to fuel a power plant. The borough's wholesale electric supplier, AMP (American Municipal Power-Ohio), and a number of AMP members are already buying power from the plant.

It was recommended that Council authorize GDS Consulting to further study this project and another alternative project for base load power.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Code Enforcement Officer Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report for April 2011.

8th Street Update

Manager Olpere explained that a memo was sent to the Perkasio Planning Commission, the Fire Company, Police Department, and Public Works Department regarding the rescinding of a resolution from 2004 on the development policy for 8th Street. The matter was tabled until June pending receipt of additional information.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Pennridge Little League

Present was Joe Suder representing the Pennridge Little League. Mr. Suder presented a proposal to move the Lenape Park driveway near the Covered Bridge and their fields out further to expand the Little League field to accommodate upcoming changing regulations of the League's organization. The Borough Engineer was asked for his input on the proposed plan. Mr. Suder stated he was hoping to fund the changes to the field through sponsorships and fundraising. The Committee stated they supported the Little League and agreed to place the matter on the May 16, 2011 Council agenda for consideration.

Skatepark Update

Chris Nicolosi updated the Committee that a recent public meeting of the Skatepark Committee had a good turnout. He further stated that the group came up with a new design layout for the skatepark. The next step for the group would be to form fundraising groups to raise money for the proposed changes.

Blooming Glen Mennonite Church Request

The Committee reviewed an annual request for use of Kulp Memorial Park by the Blooming Glen Mennonite Church for an outdoor church service and baptism in the creek on Sunday, June 26, 2011 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM. The Committee agreed to place the matter on the May 16, 2011 Council agenda for approval.

Fire Police Assistance-Quakertown Borough for May 4 Cinch de Mayo Run

The Committee agreed to approve a request from Quakertown Borough for fire police assistance at the Cinco de Mayo run on Quakertown Borough streets on May 4, 2011 from 7:00 PM to 9:00 PM.

Revised Fee Schedule-Resolution #2011-7, Private Swimming Lessons

The Committee reviewed a memo requesting changes to private pool lesson fees for members and non-members. The Committee agreed with the changes and agreed to amend the annual fee schedule resolution to reflect the changes. The resolution will be placed on the May 16, 2011 Council agenda for approval.

Request for Park Use-Healthy Hearts Foundation

The Committee reviewed a request from the Healthy Hearts Foundation requesting use of

Lenape Park for their annual 5K Race for September 25, 2011. The Committee agreed to recommend approval of the event and placed the matter on the May 16, 2011 Council meeting agenda.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

No business to come before the Committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Write Off Policy for Past Due Accounts

The Committee reviewed a memo from Finance Director Joe Berardi regarding past due electric uncollectible debts for residential and commercial customers. Several Committee members expressed interest in trying to recover some of the money by using a collection agency. It was agreed to put the matter on the May 16 Council meeting agenda for a vote.

The Committee also reviewed an "Accounts Receivable" policy which they agreed to place on the May 16, 2011 Council meeting agenda.

Refinance General Obligation Notes

The Committee reviewed a memo from Finance Director Joe Berardi regarding refinancing the long term debt for the Menlo Aquatic Center. Mr. Berardi explained how refinancing a portion of the \$4.2 million loans for the Menlo Pool could save the Borough a significant amount of money as well as protect the Borough from future interest rate increases.

Upon motion by Gahman, seconded by Slowik, Council members authorized the Finance Director to move ahead with the refinancing as long the rates were equal to or less than those provided to Council. A resolution to approve the changes would be placed on the May 16 Council agenda.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Train Station

Manager Olpere explained that the Borough is looking into leasing the Perkasio Train Station from SEPTA, which is agreeable to lease this station to the Borough. The Borough in-turn could sub-lease it either to the existing tenant or another future tenant. Mr. Olpere explained how he and Chris Nicolosi visited the Telford and Quakertown train stations in order to learn more about how the communities were able to acquire a lease from SEPTA and to renovate their respective train stations for community use in the Borough. Mr. Olpere suggested that some types of uses could enhance economic development in the downtown area to be considered.

In order to determine the degree of repair that is required, Olpere stated he had 3 architects provide price quotes to inspect and evaluate the property. Proposals were received from Althouse, Jaffe and Associates, LLC; KCBA Architects; and George J. Donovan AIA and Associates. The cost of the renovation would depend on whether the Borough seeks to only bring the building into code-compliance or if it conducts a more costly historic renovation.

Council asked if staff could explore grant options before the borough would pay an architect. However, Councilmembers agreed with the concept in general. Staff was asked to have information on grants available at the next meeting.

The current tenant of the train station, Roger Styles owner of Road Warriors Inc. and doing business as Imbues Company was present and had several suggestions for renovating and uses of the building.

PUBLIC FORUM

No one from the audience requested an opportunity to speak.

PRESS FORUM

No questions from the press.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Jim Purcell announced Council was going into executive session to discuss personnel and would not reopen the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 PM.

Daniel Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary