

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH  
COUNCIL MEETING  
APRIL 16, 2012**

620 West Chestnut Street  
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Matt Aigeldinger

Stephen Algeo

Florence Frei

Barbara Krantz

Suzanne Kravitz

Steve Pizzollo

Jim Purcell

Jim Ryder

Justin Stottlar

Youth Councilor:

Amanda Brooks

Mayor:

John Hollenbach

Borough Manager:

Daniel P. Olpere

Assistant Manager:

Andrea Coaxum

Finance Director:

Joe Berardi

Police Chief:

Joe Gura

Public Works Director:

Dan Gilbert

Electric Superintendent:

Harold Stone (absent)

Parks and Recreation Director:

Josh Aniskevich

Borough Solicitor:

Nathan Fox

Press Representatives:

News Herald

Daily Intelligencer

Perkasie Borough Council President Matt Aigeldinger convened the meeting at 7:00 P.M. Mayor Hollenbach asked for a moment of silence in memory of Emily Morris a news editor for the Perkasie News Herald who recently was killed in a car accident. He then gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

President Matt Aigeldinger read a statement regarding an executive session held by Borough Council on March 5, 2012 that was considered inappropriate under the Pennsylvania Open Meetings-Sunshine Act. Mr. Aigeldinger stated in the future, the reason for calling an executive session will be explained to the public. The Solicitor will then ask all Council members whether an issue warrants an executive session. Council agreed to take the District Attorney's offer to provide training on the Sunshine Law and its various issues. He stated the board will make changes so the violation won't happen again. Mr. Aigeldinger further stated the entire affair cost the Borough thousands of dollars in outside lawyer's fees.

The Solicitor made additional comments regarding violation of the Sunshine Act pertaining to an executive session held by Borough Council on March 5, 2012.

Solicitor Fox made a statement reminding all present the policy on public forum that is on the back of the Council agenda.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Present was Andy Rumbold of 502 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Rumbold expressed concern about the closed –door executive session held at the March 5, 2012 Council meeting that resulted in Borough Council violating the state’s Sunshine Law.

Present was Judy Patton of 356 Kent Lane who told Council she had written letters to each Councilmember a year ago regarding the inequitable taxation the borough places on its residents from selling electricity. She stated she had not received a response from anyone to date and felt her letter was dismissed as unimportant.

Present was Luther Chontofalsky of 270 Parkridge Drive. Mr. Chontofalsky reported an incident that occurred in his neighborhood with adolescents throwing stones at each other and neighborhood cars.

### **PRESIDENT'S REMARKS**

None at this time.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the amended minutes of the Council Committee meeting of April 2, 2012.

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the March 19, 2012 Borough Council meeting minutes.

### **CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS**

#### Mayor's Report

Mayor John Hollenbach said Perkasio is a unique and wonderful town. He said Council should not get bogged down with unintentional things that have been mentioned at tonight’s meeting. There was nothing done with ill will or malice. The Borough needs open dialogue and business development. He further stated he defends the right of people to disagree with ideas that are proposed but said those who disagree should “do it respectfully and do it with solutions in mind that will benefit the community”.

#### Taxes Collected

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously accepted the report of taxes collected for March 2012.

#### Budget Status

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the budget status report for March 2012.

#### Engineer's Report

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Kravitz, Council unanimously accepted the engineer’s monthly report.

#### Planning Commission Report

There were no recent meetings of the Perkasio Planning Commission.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

### PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

#### Leaf Machine Repair

Upon motion by Frei, seconded by Kravitz, Council unanimously authorized the Borough Manager to arrange for the repair of one of the Borough's leaf machines at a cost not to exceed \$12,000.

#### Trash Bag Bid

Upon motion by Kravitz, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously approved the bid for large trash bags from Fordian Packaging at a unit price of \$.236 per bag for 100,000 bag order and \$.2425 cost for a supplemental order of 20,000 bags.

### PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

#### Sunesys Pole Attachment Agreement

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Krantz, Council considered approving the Pole Attachment Agreement by and between the Borough of Perkasio and Sunesys, LLC, to allow Sunesys to attach telecommunication cable to utility poles within the Borough of Perkasio. All Councilmembers voted in favor of the motion with the exception of Matt Aigeldinger who abstained from voting.

### PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

#### ABH Settlement Agreement

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously approved the Stipulation and Settlement Agreement by and between the parties to this appeal, appellant ABH Builders Inc., and intervenor Perkasio Borough by and through the Perkasio Borough Council and its solicitor and to settle litigation regarding a zoning appeal to a property on South 5<sup>th</sup> Street.

### PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

#### Pennridge Community Day Approval

Upon motion by Krantz, seconded by Kravitz, Council unanimously approved a request from Pennridge Community Day to hold its annual event in Lenape Park on Sunday, July 8, 2012 with a raindate of Sunday, July 15, 2012.

#### Approval of Perkasio Police and Emergency Services for Pennridge Community Day

Upon motion by Kravitz, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously authorized the support of the Perkasio Borough Police Department and emergency services for Community Day and the following fireworks demonstration on July 8, 2012 at Lake Lenape Park with a raindate of July 15, 2012.

#### Request from Blooming Glen Mennonite Church

Upon motion by Frei, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the use of Kulp Park by the Blooming Glen Mennonite Church for an outdoor church services and baptism in the creek on Sunday, June 24, 2012 from 9:00 AM to 1:00 PM.

#### Consideration of Kick-A-Thon Fundraiser by Tsunami Karate

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Krantz, Council unanimously approved a Kick-A-Thon event for Tsunami Karate and to allow the closing of the Borough parking lot next to 516 West Walnut Street from 9:00 AM to 3:00 PM on April 28, 2012.

Indian Valley Soap Box Association Derby-May 19, 2012 and October 6 & 7, 2012

Upon motion Kravitz, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously granted permission to the Indian Valley Soap Box Association to hold a rally on 9<sup>th</sup> Street in Perkasio on May 19, 2012 from 8:30 AM to 3:30 PM and October 6 and 7, 2012 from 6:00 AM to 5:00 PM. Permission to close 9<sup>th</sup> Street near the Police Station is also approved.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Consider Approval for Mutual Aid on Southeastern Pennsylvania Regional Task Force Fighting Subgroup by the Perkasio Fire Company.

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Pizzollo, Council agreed to allow the Perkasio Fire Company as a recognized emergency service provider in Bucks County to attend and participate in the Southeast Pennsylvania Regional Task Force Firefighting Subgroup on Sunday, May 6, 2012 at the Montgomery County Public Safety Training Facility. This authorization extends through the fire company and its officers.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Authorization to Pay Bills

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

There was no business to come before this committee.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Councilman Jim Ryder said he'd like to have town hall meetings to give a chance for more dialogue and Council response than at council meetings where people can comment but get no reply.

Council President Aigeldinger said he would like to see the borough move the skate park back into its original area.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Amy Nees of 512 Spring Court asked about the thousands of dollars spent on outside legal fees. The Council President said the fees were for hiring attorneys provided for the Borough Manager for the grand jury investigation.

Andy Rumbold, 502 South 8<sup>th</sup> Street stated he thought the Sunshine Law was clearly violated at the March 5, 2012 Council meeting and nobody was held responsible. He asked about the accountability.

Nick Demao, owner of State Farm Insurance on West Market Street asked how Council could

consider giving one business different rates on electricity. The manager gave a brief response and noted that the intent was to offer a discount to any business that would qualify.

Judy Patton, 356 Kent Lane said she has previously raised concerns that the majority of Perkasio's income comes from selling electricity to the residents and businesses in the Borough, not from taxes. She stated the hidden tax structure is unfair. It needs to change.

Roger Styles had questions regarding the Borough's intentions of leasing the train station where he has his business.

#### **PRESS FORUM**

Questions from the press were received and answered.

#### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mr. Aigeldinger announced that Council would not be going into executive session.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:05 PM.

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Daniel P. Olpere  
Borough Manager/Secretary