

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COMMITTEE MEETING
December 3, 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

Police Chief:

Joe Gura

Finance Director:

Joe Berardi

Public Works Director:

Dan Gilbert

Electric Superintendent:

Harold Stone

Park and Recreation Director:

Josh Aniskevich

Borough Solicitor:

Nathan Fox

Press Representatives:

News Herald

Borough Council President Matt Aigeldinger convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Mr. Hollenbach gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Andy Rumbold, 502 S. 8th Street, made some comments on the 2013 preliminary budget and 2013 wage resolution.

Ms. Rebecca Militec, 254 N. 4rd Street, also made some comments related to the preliminary budget.

George James, 315 N. 5th Street, asked Borough Council for help removing five trees near Borough power lines on his property. He had been trying to reach someone in the Electric Department with no success. Borough Manager Daniel P. Olpere told Mr. James that he would have the Superintendent contact him.

Donna Craven, 412 S. 6th Street, stated that she would like Council to review the decision made by the Zoning Hearing Board (ZHB) at their last meeting. The ZHB granted a variance to ABH Builders for 408 S. 6th Street for lot size, lot width, and setbacks. She believes that the ZHB made the wrong decision is deciding in favor of the applicant, and that the variances should have been denied.

Wendy Detweiler, 608 W. Park Avenue, was also in attendance to ask Council to reverse the decision made by the ZHB in granting the variances for ABH Builders. She believes that the house is too big for the neighborhood.

Todd Guinther, 411 S. 6th Street, stated that he believes the ZHB is not protecting the citizens of the Borough. He based his statement on their decision to grant all of the requested variances for 408 S. 6th Street.

REPORT FROM PLANNING COMMISSION

The next meeting of the Planning Commission to continue the revision of the Borough Comprehensive Plan will be on Wednesday, December 12th at 7:00 pm at Borough Hall.

POLICE REPORT

Mayor John Hollenbach stated that the report from the Police Chief's review of protocol and procedures would be available after the meeting and on the Borough's website. The related press release would also be available.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Committee Chair Jim Purcell thanked the staff for getting the skate park up and going.

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's Report for November 2012.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Utility Superintendent's Report for November 2012.

Other Business

Council President Matt Aigeldinger asked the Borough Manager to contact Mr. James (who spoke during public comment) about his tree issue.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Code Enforcement Officer Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report for November 2012.

Other Business

Council Member Justin Stottlar told the other members of Borough Council that he had received three e-mails from Borough residents about the ZHB ruling related to 408 S. 6th Street. Council

President Matt Aigeldinger suggested that the staff get background information so that it can be discussed at the December 17, 2012 meeting.

Council member Steve Algeo asked the Borough's Solicitor what options were available to Borough Council. Mr. Fox explained that anyone who had requested "party status", including the Borough because the Borough automatically has party status, has 30 days after receiving the written decision to take action. Ms. Kracitz then asked if the Borough can deny what the ZHB has done, and Mr. Fox explained that the ZHB is a separate body from the Borough. He went on to say that the Borough, or anyone that had sought party status at the hearing, can file an appeal in the court of common pleas in Doylestown. They cannot file an appeal until the written decision is received.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Other Business

Committee chair Florence Frei thanked the Borough staff and Perkasio Olde Towne Association for the excellent job they did on this year's Christmas tree lighting event.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Resolution #2012-15, Establish 2013 Council Meeting Dates

There was some discussion on the draft schedule for meeting dates. Council agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at their December 17th public meeting.

Resolution #2012-16 Wage and Salary Schedule for 2013

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Appointments to Boards and Commissions

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Resolution 2012-19 Non Uniform Pension Contribution

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Information Technology (IT) Services Contract for 2013

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Prescription Drug Drop Box – Consider Support

Committee chair Barbara Krantz explained that Council had heard a presentation by Lee Rush at the

last meeting. She suggested that Council vote on this item at the meeting so that the collection box could be ordered and the drop-off location would be printed in the 2013 brochure of collection sites. A motion was made by Ms. Krantz, and seconded by Mr. Purcell in favor of the new prescription drug drop-off box. Member of Council unanimously approved the motion.

Pension- Excess Interest

The Committee agreed with Finance Director Joe Berardi's recommendation for distributing the excess interest amongst the members of the plan. Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Other Business

None at this time.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Appointment of Auditor for 2012 Budget Year

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Consider Increase in Real Estate Tax Collector Fees

Committee chair Steve Algeo explained the memo that was received from the Borough's Finance Director, Joe Berardi. The memo detailed a request by the Borough's municipal real estate tax collector to increase the amount that is paid to her. The last time the amount was increased was in 2001 when the fee was increased from \$2.50 per parcel collected or lien to \$3.00 per parcel collected or lien.

Council member Suzanne Kravitz asked if the Borough has a choice, and it was said that the Borough does set the rate. Ms. Frei, referencing a chart comparing amounts paid to tax collectors in nearby municipalities, asked why there is such a disparity between what municipalities pay. Tax collector Judy Patton explained her request for an increase in the tax collector fees. Ms. Patton stated that some municipalities pay per parcel collected or lien while others pay a percentage of the amount collected or lien.

Her request to increase the fee from \$2.50 to \$4.50 was based on data from years ago when the tax collector received a regular increase. There was more discussion on how an increase in millage would affect the tax collectors pay. She also answered questions related to how the postage was handled for the bills and the fees for tax certificates.

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Resolution #2012-17, 2013 Consolidated Fee Schedule

The 2013 Consolidated Fee Schedule was considered by the Committee. It was explained that most fees remain unchanged, but the notable changes are the inclusion of the pole attachment fees for

cable companies to connect to the Borough facilities and a minor adjustment in fees for Engineering Services. The Engineering Services fees are often passed through to developers during the land development and review process.

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Tax Ordinance #960

Manager Dan Olpere explained that the Borough Council is required to approve the real estate tax by ordinance each year. The draft this year is unchanged from last year.

Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Resolution #2012-18, Adoption of Final Budget

The final budget is scheduled to be adopted on December 17th. Members of the Committee agreed to put this resolution on the agenda for a vote by Borough Council at the December 17th public meeting.

Other Business

None at this time.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

None at this time.

CONSTITUENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Committee chair Jim Ryder announced that the next meeting would be held on January 16th.

OTHER BUSINESS

Council President Matt Aigeldinger announced the appointment of Steve Algeo, Justin Stottlar, and Suzanne Kravitz to the new Quality of Life Task Force. He also appointed resident Lee Rush to the committee and asked the Task Force to schedule their first meeting in January. Mr. Rush, 128 Ridge Ave., works for a small non-profit group called Just Community based out of St Luke's in Quakertown.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Susan Green, 624 E. Walnut Street, stated that the tree lighting was wonderful and asked when Mr. Barth would be coming back to Borough Council with a plan for economic development?

Ms. Rebecca Militec, 254 N. 4th Street, thanked Borough Council for reaching out to Penridge FISH to help them find a new home in the Borough. And she congratulated the Borough on getting a prescription drug box.

PRESS FORUM

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

An executive session was held to discuss a personnel matter regarding the Police Department. Under Section 8(1) an executive session can be held:

"to discuss any matter involving the employment, appointment, termination of employment, terms and conditions of employment, evaluation of performance, promotion or disciplining of any specific prospective public officer or employee or current public officer or employee employed or appointed by the agency, or former public officer or employee, provided, however, that the individual employees or appointees whose rights could be adversely affected may request, in writing, that the matter or matters be discussed at an open meeting. The agency's decision to discuss such matters in executive session shall not serve to adversely affect the due process rights granted by law, including those granted by Title 2 (relating to administrative law and procedure). The provisions of this paragraph shall not apply to any meeting involving the appointment or selection of any person to fill a vacancy in any elected office."

(2) To hold information, strategy and negotiation sessions related to the negotiation or arbitration of a collective bargaining agreement or, in the absence of a collective bargaining unit, related to labor relations and arbitration.

Mr. Fox announced that the meeting would not be reconvened after the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:58 pm.

Daniel Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary