

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2013**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:	Matt Aigeldinger Stephen Algeo Florence Frei Barbara Krantz (Arrived 7:15PM) Suzanne Kravitz Steve Pizzollo Jim Purcell Jim Ryder Justin Stottlar
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
Parks and Recreation Director:	Josh Aniskevich
Borough Solicitor:	Nate Fox
Press Representatives:	News Herald Daily Intelligencer

Perkasie Borough Council President Jim Purcell convened the meeting at 7:00 P.M Councilman Matt Aigeldinger gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Susan Green 624 E. Walnut Street, asked if Economic Development Manager, Steven Barth would be coming to any meeting before he is hired.

Mr. Andy Rumbold, 502 S. 8th Street, asked why the Christmas decorations were coming down so early. He said that they should stay up a little longer so that people that are coming into town to shop can enjoy them. He also commented that it was wrong of Councilman Aigeldinger to “call out” Councilman Stottlar about his vote on the budget at the last meeting.

Planning Commission Report

Borough Manager Dan Olpere informed everyone there will be a Comprehensive Plan meeting on Tuesday January 8th at 7PM here at Borough Hall.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Hough Associates will once again be helping the Borough to put together the recycling grant application. Councilwoman Frei asked if we consulted any other firms for this matter. Assistant Borough Manager Coaxum explained how Hough gets large amounts of money by combining municipalities together.

Also discussed was the disposal of a small trailer that Public Works has, it was agreed upon that the trailer should just be sold as scrap.

Borough Manager Dan Olpere explained the Household Hazardous Waste program that is run by the County. Assistant Borough Manager Andrea Coaxum spoke about the fact that as of this month residents can no longer put out TV's, computers, or computer accessories out in the trash and that they must be recycled. The Borough will have the dates available for the Household Hazardous waste and electronics events in March.

Public Works Director Dan Gilbert had a sample of the fold down stops signs that would be used at major intersections when we have power outages. Councilman Stottlar asked about how many intersections we have that would get them and how much it would cost.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

None.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Borough Solicitor Nate Fox gave a run down on the ABH zoning appeal saying that the Zoning Hearing Board decision did follow the law and that it would not be in the best interest of the Borough to appeal this. The Solicitor also suggested that the Borough try and set up some kind of meeting with the builder, neighbors and the Borough to discuss this further if needed.

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barbara Krantz and seconded by Councilman Steve Pizzollo to authorize the Manager and Solicitor to advertise the Zoning Ordinance update as required by law and to set a hearing date of Tuesday, February 19, 2013 for consideration of the revised and updated zoning ordinance.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Borough Manager Dan Olpere spoke about Chapter 124 of the Borough Ordinance in regards to prohibiting commercial actives and services in the park saying that they are prohibited unless approved by the Borough. Park and Recreation Director Josh Aniskevich said that the Park and Recreation Board have talked about it and are in favor of the change.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

APPOINTMENTS TO BOARDS AND COMMISSIONS

1 FIVE YEAR TERM TO PERKASIE REGIONAL AUTHORITY FOR A TERM ENDING IN THE YEAR 2017

Councilman Matt Aigeldinger nominated Larry Gular which was seconded by Councilwoman Kravitz. Approved 9-0.

1 ONE YEAR TERM THRU JANUARY 2014 TO THE PERKASIE BOROUGH VACANCY BOARD

Councilman Matt Aigeldinger nominated Richard Hendricks to the Perkasio Borough Vacancy Board which was seconded by Councilman Jim Ryder. Approved 9-0.

Councilwoman Barbara Krantz gave Council President Matt Aigeldinger the summary of the Borough Mangers performance review.

Borough Council went in to Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter at 7:35PM for 15 minutes and reconvened at 7:50PM.

POLICE PERSONNEL MATTERS

Upon reconvening the Mayor announced that he had a letter of retirement from Chief Joseph V. Gura Jr. He thanked the Chief for his 32 years of service to the Borough and wished him luck.

Accept resignation letter from Chief Gura effective January 31, 2013

A motion was made by Councilman Matt Aigeldinger and seconded by Councilman Steve Pizzollo to accept the letter of intent to retire from Chief Joseph V. Gura Jr. effective January 31, 2103. Vote was 8-1 with Councilman Stottlar opposing.

Enter into a retirement agreement with Chief Gura setting forth the conditions of his retirement

A motion was made by Councilman Matt Aigeldinger and seconded by Councilman Jim Ryder to approve the retirement separation agreement between Perkasio Borough and Chief Joseph V. Gura Jr. which will specify the conditions and terms of the Chiefs retirement. Vote was 8-1 with Councilman Justin Stottlar opposing.

Appointment of Interim Chief

A motion was made by Councilman Matt Aigeldinger and seconded by Councilman Steve Pizzollo to approve the appointment of Sergeant Steven Hillias as interim (acting) Perkasio Borough Police Chief for an indefinite period beginning on February 1, 2013 and ending at such a time that a new permanent Chief is appointed by the Borough Council or at Council's discretion. Sergeant Hillias will be granted all the rights and privileges of Chief during this interim period and will be paid and additional compensation of \$1,000 per month above his regular salary for Sergeant while acting in the capacity of Chief. There will be no other compensation during this period. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Consider Ordinance # 961 to Increase Tax Collectors Fees

A motion was made by Councilwoman Barbara Krantz and seconded by Councilman Justin Stottlar to advertise Ordinance #961 for consideration at their regular meeting on January 22, 2013.

Authorization to Pay Bills

Upon a motion by Councilwoman Barbara Krantz, seconded by Councilman Steve Pizzollo, Council unanimously accepted payment of the bills as presented.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Renewal of lease for third floor tenant Fitness that Fits.

Fitness that Fits would like to renew their lease with a 6 month extension to see if they will be compatible with the new tenant on the 1st floor. Council will discuss this at their next meeting.

POTA Economic Development Manager

Perkasie Olde Towne President Joe Ferry gave Council an update on Economic Development Manager Steven Barth. Mr. Barth started January 2 and that so far they are very pleased with the progress that he has made. Business owners that he has talked to are also pleased with him so far. Mr. Ferry went on to say that they have raised \$20,000.00 and asked the Borough to release their \$20,000.00 to match their funds. He also said the funds could be paid in a lump sum or they could invoice us quarterly.

A motion was made by Councilman Matt Aigeldinger and seconded by Councilman Steve Pizzollo to release the funds quarterly to Perkasie Olde Towne Association for the Boroughs half of the funds.

CONSTITUENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

Councilman Jim Ryder informed Council and the audience that the Constituent Outreach Committee would be meeting tomorrow evening Tuesday January 8th and invited everyone to come out and attend.

QUALITY OF LIFE TASK FORCE

Councilman Matt Aigeldinger said that there will be a Quality of Life Task Force meeting on Monday January 28th at 6pm. The Drug Drop Off box had been delivered and has been installed in the lobby of the Police Department.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None.

PUBLIC FORUM

Ms. Rebecca Miletic, 254 N. 4th Street, wished Council a Happy New Year and then said that it seemed rather sudden that the Chief was retiring so soon after the shooting in June and asked what the reason was behind his decision. She also said that the Borough should look outside of the Borough for a new Chief.

Bill Delany of 250 N 3rd St, Agrees that Steve Barth will do a good job as Economic Development Manager.

Andy Rumbold of 502 S 8th St, stated he is still having a hard time hearing Council members speak and that they should really try and lean closer to the microphones so that they can be heard better. He also said that there are recycling programs out there that people can take the old unwanted computers, TV's and other unwanted electronics to and receive cash for them and that the Borough should make this information available to the public.

Dave Worthington, Chief of Perkasie Fire Department, congratulated the Chief on his retirement and said that his crew and the Police Department always worked well together. He also left the year end report form the Fire Department for Council.

PRESS FORUM

Questions from the press were received and answered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Nathan Fox, Borough Solicitor, announced that Council would be meeting in Executive Session to discuss a 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.”

The meeting would not be reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 PM.

Daniel P. Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary