

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 20, 2014**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Matt Aigeldinger
Chuck Brooks
Florence Frei (absent)
Barbara Krantz
Suzanne Kravitz
Steve Pizzollo
Jim Purcell
Jim Ryder
Justin Stottlar
John Hollenbach
Andrea Coaxum
Joe Berardi
Steve Hillias
Dan Gilbert (absent)
Harold Stone (absent)
Carolyn Hanel
Nate Fox
Daily Intelligencer

Mayor:

Interim Borough Manager:

Finance Director:

Police Chief:

Public Works Director:

Electric Superintendent:

Interim Parks and Recreation Director:

Borough Solicitor:

Press Representatives:

Borough Council President Jim Ryder convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Mayor Hollenbach gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Solicitor Nate Fox announced Council had held an executive session prior to the Council meeting to discuss personnel which is permitted under §708(a)(1) of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law which allows Executive Sessions.

PUBLIC FORUM

Andy Rumbold of 502 S. 8th Street stated he was glad to see the fire siren at 8th Street and Park Avenue on the Council agenda for discussion later on in the meeting.

**ADMINISTER OATH OF OFFICE TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION MEMBER
BILL BENO**

Mayor Hollenbach administered the Oath of Office to newly appointed Civil Service Commission member Bill Beno.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

President Jim Ryder stated that being newly elected Council President, he wanted to thank everyone for taking time out of their day to come to this meeting. He said he was honored

to be chosen as Council President. He also thanked previous Council President Matt Aigeldinger who has had such a strong voice of reason in the community. Further, he stated last year there had been a lot of significant events and changes and the Borough has learned a lot more from the experiences.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the December 2, 2013 Committee meeting minutes.

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously approved the December 16, 2013 Council meeting minutes.

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the January 6, 2014 Reorganization meeting minutes.

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the January 6, 2014 Committee meeting minutes.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

Mayor's Report

The Mayor updated Council on the status of obtaining a police dog for the Police Department.

Taxes Collected

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the report of taxes collected for December 2013.

Budget Status

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously accepted the budget status report for December 2013.

Engineer's Report

Upon motion by Aigeldinger, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the engineer's monthly report. Barbara Krantz asked several questions on the report.

Planning Commission Report

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Pizzollo, Council unanimously accepted the report from the Perkasio Planning Commission.

Zoning Hearing Board Report

Upon motion by Aigeldinger, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the December 2013 monthly report.

Police Report

Upon motion by Pizzollo, seconded by Stottlar, Council unanimously accepted the Police Department's monthly report.

Chief Hillias gave an update on the fundraising status for the police dog. He stated that Rockhill Veterinary Associates has agreed to donate preventative care for the dog. The Police Department hopes to bring the dog into service by July.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Jim Purcell thanked the Public Works Department for salting the roads so quickly after a recent snow storm.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Fire Siren Update 8th and Park Avenue

Jim Ryder reported that the Borough was looking into the long term use of the Perkasio Fire Department's audible siren located at 8th Street and Park Avenue. Until late last week, the sirens were used by the Borough's Fire Department during the hours 6:00AM and 9:00PM and were silenced at night. Borough staff has discussed silencing the sirens for fire calls and, after conferring with the Fire Chief, had the alarms turned off. Borough Council will recommend to the Borough's Emergency Management Agency that they discuss and make recommendations for the long-term use of the audible sirens. It was further recommended there could still be a need for audible sirens if a catastrophic event would occur that requires the notification of the masses. The Emergency Management Committee (EMA) will meet sometime in the next month or two. At that time the EMA will discuss the future of the sirens in the Borough and make a recommendation at that time to Borough Council on how to proceed.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Consider Temporary Reduction in Subdivision, Land Development and Building Permit Fees

Council reviewed a memo prepared by Interim Borough Manager Andrea Coaxum regarding a temporary reduction of subdivision, land development and building permit fees as suggested by Councilman Aigeldinger to encourage economic development in Perkasio.

Upon motion by Aigeldinger, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2014-2 adopted the revised 2014 fees schedule to reduce subdivision, land development and building permit fees by 50% until the end of 2014.

Moulton Builders-Constitution Square Development

Interim Borough Manager Andrea Coaxum updated Council on the status of the Moulton Builders project that was approved at Constitution Square. The developers have an approved plan for the site, but have expressed an interest in a new plan without the age-restriction. This

was discussed in the past with the developer and a response was given by the Borough's Planning Commission and the Bucks County Planning Commission. A new plan has not been submitted to the Borough. If the developer does not want to proceed with the approved plans, then they must either submit a new plan that is consistent with the existing zoning on the site or apply for a zoning change to an existing district or a zoning amendment creating a new district. Staff will keep Council advised.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Consider Changes in Menlo Aquatic Center Membership Fees

Councilmembers reviewed a memo from the Interim Parks and Recreation Director Carolyn Hanel recommending changes to the 2014 Menlo Aquatic Center membership fees. It was agreed further discussion on the membership fees could be done at a future meeting.

Consider Resident Rate for Pool Membership for Perkasié Business Owners

Upon motion by Aigeldinger, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved classifying the owner of businesses within the Borough to qualify to pay the residential rate for membership at the Menlo Aquatic Center. Proof of operations within the Borough will be required and it will be limited to one membership per business location, regardless of the number of actual owners or employees.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Consider Approval of Police Officers Request for Vacation Carryover

Borough Council approval is necessary for Perkasié Police Officers to carry over any unused vacation time per their contract.

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Stottlar, Council unanimously approved the following request from Police Officers to carry over any used vacation time from 2013 to 2014.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Authorization to Pay Bills

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

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

No business at this time.

CONSTITUENT OUTREACH COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Constituent Outreach Committee will be on February 11, 2014 at 7:00 PM at Borough Hall.

QUALITY OF LIFE COMMITTEE

The next meeting of the Quality of Life Committee will be on January 27, 2014 at 6:00 PM at Borough Hall.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

None at this time.

PUBLIC FORUM

Present was Luther Chontofalsky of 270 Parkridge Drive who asked questions about the “No dogs allowed” signs in Menlo Park.

Bob Wisneski of 500 South 8th Street was present and told Council that the fire siren at 8th and Park Avenue is obnoxiously loud and asked if it could be disconnected.

Wendy Aughe of 9th and Park Avenue stated that Silverdale Borough has not used their fire siren for the last three years.

PRESS FORUM

None at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Solicitor Fox announced that Council was going into executive session to discuss personnel which is permitted under §708(a)(1) of the Pennsylvania Sunshine Law which allows Executive Sessions and would not reopen the meeting thereafter.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:50PM.

Andrea Coaxum
Interim Borough Manager