

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH  
SPECIAL PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING  
AUGUST 25, 2014**

620 West Chestnut Street  
Perkasie, Pennsylvania 18944

**ATTENDANCE:**

Council Members:

Matt Aigeldinger  
Flo Frei  
Barbara Krantz  
Jim Purcell  
Jim Ryder  
Justin Stottlar

Mayor:

John Hollenbach

Borough Manager:

Andrea L. Coaxum

Electric Superintendent:

Harold Stone

Finance Director:

Joe Berardi

Perkasie Borough Chair of the Public Utility Committee Jim Purcell convened the meeting at 6:00 P.M. The Mayor led the prayer and Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC FORUM**

None

**NEW BUSINESS**

Harold Stone provided some information on our electric meters. The current electric meters are Auto Meter Reading (AMR) devices and were installed around 1994. Approximately 2% of the meters are going bad each year. The new meters are called Advanced Meter Infrastructure (AMI) devices and contain new technology that provides two way communications that helps to remotely manage the electrical system on a real time basis.

Mr. Purcell introduced the representatives from Elster Solutions who presented their Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) solutions and the capabilities of their metering devices.

Mr. Purcell then introduced the representatives from GE Digital Energy Management who presented their Advanced Metering Infrastructure (AMI) solutions and the capabilities of their metering devices.

Andrea Coaxum proposed a revision to the current policy regarding security deposits for electric customers. The proposal is for Security Deposits to be required upon opening a new account. Currently, the deposits are not due until 30 days after the customer opens a new account. The problem occurs primarily when a renter vacates a property prior to the 30 day due date for the security deposit and landlords are obligated to pay the renters electric bill. Andrea will prepare a resolution that changes the due date for the receipt of the security deposit.

Andrea Coaxum proposed the policy for the expansion of the shutoff period. Currently, electricity can be shut off from April 15 through Nov 01 which is a duration of 6.5 months. The proposed shutoff is to begin March 31 and end on Dec. 01 which is a duration of 8.0 months. This expands the shutoff period by 1.5 months and is within the guidelines established by the PUC. Andrea will put together a proposed resolution to expand the shutoff period.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

None

**PUBLIC FORUM**

Andrew Rumbold expressed his concerns with the AMI meters. He objected to the meters due to the cost involved, the fact that he read that the AMI meters do not reduce customer's electric costs and privacy concerns. Lastly, Mr. Rumbold did not think that the chairman of the committee could make an objective decision regarding the electric meters.

**PRESS FORUM**

None

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.

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Andrea L. Coaxum, Borough Manager