

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
SPECIAL FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING-DRAFT BUDGET 2018
OCT 05, 2017
620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania**

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:	Jim Ryder Jim Purcell Scott Bomboy Steve Rose
Mayor:	John Hollenbach
Borough Manager:	Andrea L Coaxum
Finance Director:	Joe Berardi
Police Chief:	Steve Hillias
Public Works Super:	Dan Gilbert

The Finance Committee meeting was opened at 6:00PM by Finance Committee Chairman Jim Ryder. Mr. Ryder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

None

DRAFT BUDGET 2018

The Borough Manager reviewed the memo highlighting the expected changes in revenue, spending, and fund balances for all of the funds. Revenue is decreasing by almost 5% and Spending is decreasing by almost 6% due to lower Capital purchases and a smaller transfer from the Electric Fund to the General and Capital Funds. Andrea discussed the excess balance in the General Fund of \$350,000 that will be utilized in 2018 and that we keep the current Fund Balance policy in place as it exists at 20% of spending. Jim Purcell inquired about the contribution from Menlo Aquatic Center. The Finance Director stated that the positive contribution shown in the Menlo Fund is before making any payments on the debt service for the Pool.

The Finance Director went through the overview of the 2018 Draft Budget including revenue, spending, headcount and wage and benefit projections. Total spending is decreasing by 5.6% due primarily to lower projected spending on Capital items in addition to a smaller transfer from the Electric Fund to the General Fund. The Finance Director also went through an overview of the Public Works and Refuse Funds and a line by line review of the Capital spending in the Capital Fund.

During the review Jim Purcell mentioned the reduced Permit Fees to Cal Atlantic (and all builders) and did not see the need to provide free Pool passes to Cal Atlantic. Steve Rose mentioned the potential price increases that could be caused by shortages in the supply chain created by the recent Hurricanes in the U.S. and Puerto Rico. Andrea responded by saying that we are reviewing the major purchases need for the developments and will react if we see significant increases or shortages. The Park & Rec Impact Fees were discussed and the desire of the Borough to spend a large portion of

the Funds on playground equipment at Menlo Park. Mary Antczak did not see the need to spend so much money on play equipment since there are swings and other things at Menlo for the kids to play on. Jim Ryder said that people complain about the desire for more things for the kids.

Dan Gilbert reviewed Public Works and Refuse departments. Dan indicated that the amount of waste being collected is increasing and indicated that we could be more efficient if we added a second trash lifter to each of the trash trucks. It was agreed that we would add \$24K (\$8K *3) to the budget for the lifters. Dan mentioned that the area behind the Public Works building is being reconfigured. Mary Antczak asked what is moving. Dan said that the location of the recycling container is moving further back in the parking lot to remove the traffic congestion created with the paper and recycling dumpsters being too close together.

Joe Berardi reviewed the Police department expense highlights and the Police Capital spending. Police Chief Hillias reviewed the highlights of the Police Budget. The chief mentioned the cold case that is being investigated by Perkasio Police and other Police departments. Due to the improvements in DNA testing over the past 50 years, there is a possibility that the case can be solved. The chief discussed the in-car and body cameras and the DVIT Grant that is available. Chief stated that the cameras are not in the current budget as proposed. Mary Antczak asked how many police officers are currently employed. The chief said there are 18 full time officers including him. Mary asked about the cost of the surveillance van that we are obtaining from the County. Chief stated that there will be no charge to the Borough; we will only have to pay for the cost to transfer the tags. Mary asked how often the van is used and the chief stated that at least 2 times per month for SWAT training. Mary asked if other departments have a van for this purpose and Chief replied no.

OTHER BUSINESS

None

PUBLIC FORUM

None

PRESS FORUM

None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:35 PM.



Andrea L. Coaxum
Borough Manager/Secretary