

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING
MAY 6, 2024**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:	Scott Bomboy Chuck Brooks Kelly Laustsen Steve Rose Jim Ryder Robin Schilling Jeremy Wano Dave Weaver Dave Worthington
Youth Councilor:	Logan Wilcox
Mayor:	Jeff Hollenbach
Borough Manager:	Andrea L. Coaxum
Assistant Borough Manager:	Linda Reid
Finance Director:	Rebecca Deemer (Absent)
Parks and Recreation Director:	Lauren Moll
Police Chief:	Robert Schurr
Electric Superintendent:	Harold Stone
Public Works Director:	Jeff Tulone
Borough Solicitor:	Jeff Garton, Esq.
Borough Engineer:	Doug Rossino, P.E.

Borough Council Vice-President Brooks convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. Mayor Hollenbach then gave an invocation, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing at this time.

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

Council President Ryder thanked the local business community for continuing to support the Borough, and vice versa, adding that the working relationship that the Borough Manager and Assistant Borough Manager have with the local businesses is fantastic; Mr. Ryder commented that the First Friday event was held last Friday and that the Farmers Market will be starting on June 1st, and he thanked everyone for the cooperation that the Borough always gets at these events.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

The Public Works Director informed Council that the Lenape Park pedestrian bridge by the Little League fields is open.

Consider Authorization to Sell 1996 ODB Leaf Vacuum

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Ryder, Council unanimously authorized the Public Works Director to place the 1996 ODB Leaf Vacuum for sale on Municibid.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Perkasie Wholesale Power Cost Summary

The Committee reviewed Perkasie’s March 2024 Wholesale Power Cost Summary report provided by GDS Associates. Councilman Weaver reported that he and some of the Borough staff had a call with GDS today and based on some of the weather we’ve been having lately, our revenue is a bit lower than what the Borough budgeted, so it’s something we’re keeping an eye on. He also informed Council that the Borough received a commendation for Excellence in Reliability from the American Public Power Association.

The Electric Department Superintendent reported that, in addition to the award the Borough received from APPA, we also received recognition from AMP because of the 99.4% reliability we’ve accomplished, which the Department is proud of. Mr. Stone also provided an update on the Little League field lighting project.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Discuss Updating Chapter 101 of Code of Ordinances – Transient Retail Businesses

The Assistant Borough Manager gave an overview of the current ordinance that pertains to transient retail businesses. Ms. Reid then provided an update on the recent level of activity in the Borough that has required transient retail licenses, and also provided some recommendations for updating the ordinance. Councilman Wano asked for clarification on Borough events and Borough-partnered events; Ms. Reid explained that the tree lighting and Fall Fest are Borough events, and an example of a Borough-partnered event would be Community Day. Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously authorized the Solicitor to draft an ordinance amending the chapter of the Borough’s Code of Ordinances that pertains to transient retail business, as discussed.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Consider Reservation Request – Guth Elementary School

Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the reservation request from Guth Elementary Home & School Association to use Menlo Pavilions 1 & 2 for their annual fall festival on Friday, September 20, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Consider Event Application – Run for Hope 5k

Upon a motion by Ryder, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved the event application from Bold Hope for their Run for Hope 5K in Lenape Park on Saturday, September 7, 2024 from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm.

Mayor Hollenbach thanked the Parks & Recreation Director, the Public Works Director and others for all of their cooperation with Pennridge Little League to update their field lighting.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Consider Hiring of Two Full-Time Replacement Police Officers

Civil Service Commission Chairman Dale Haring gave an overview of the hiring process for the two full-time replacement officers. The Police Chief then gave a detailed overview of the top 2 candidates. Council Vice-President Brooks thanked Chief Schurr and the Civil Service Commission for all of their efforts in the process. Upon a motion by Ryder, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the hiring of Justin Nyce and Mark Compas as full-time police officers for Perkasio Borough, conditioned upon the successful completion of the required medical and psychological examinations, with a start date of June 10, 2024. Chief Schurr thanked all of the volunteers with Civil Service for all of their help with this process, the Mayor for sitting in, and the support of Council as well.

Consider Hiring of Seasonal Staff for Menlo Aquatics Center

The Parks & Recreation Director provided an update on the current hiring and interviewing process for seasonal staff. Council Vice-President Brooks thanked Ms. Moll for her hard work and all of her efforts. Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously authorized the hiring of returning or new staff members at Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2024 season, contingent upon completing all of the necessary paperwork, background clearances and certification courses, at the hourly rates listed in the updated 2024 Fee Schedule.

Consider Appointment of Voting Delegate for 2024 PSAB Conference

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Ryder, Council unanimously appointed Scott Bomboy as the Perkasio Borough Voting Delegate for the 2024 PSAB Conference.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Consider Resolution #2024-23 – Pennridge Airport Business Park – Lot 2 – Escrow Release #9

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Bomboy, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-23, a resolution of the Perkasio Borough Council authorizing a reduction in the escrow for the Pennridge Airport Business Park – Lot 2 Project as approved by Gilmore & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$110,317.85 to reduce the total escrow to \$141,401.81 and authorizing the signature of the Borough Manager on the escrow reduction.

Consider Resolution #2024-24 – 208 Ridge Avenue – 18-Month Maintenance Bond Release

Upon a motion by Ryder, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-24, a resolution of the Perkasio Borough Council authorizing the return of the 18-month maintenance bond in the amount of \$2,425.00 minus the amount of any outstanding or forthcoming legal and engineering invoices for site improvements for the 208 Ridge Avenue project located at 253 Ridge Road (Lot #1) and 208 & 210 Ridge Avenue (Lots 2 & 3).

Consider Resolution #2024-25 – 50 S. 7th Street, LLC – Liquor License Transfer Final Escrow Release

Upon a motion by Laustsen, seconded by Bomboy, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-25, a resolution of the Perkasio Borough Council authorizing the return of the escrow account in the amount of \$432.00 for the 50 South 7th Street liquor license transfer, and authorizing the signature of the Borough Manager on the escrow release and close out of the account.

Consider Resolution #2024-26 – PACAZ Realty, LLC/Mavis Tire – Escrow Release

Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Wano, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-26, a resolution of the Perkasio Borough Council authorizing a reduction in the professional services escrow for the PACAZ Realty, LLC project as approved by Gilmore & Associates, Inc., in the amount of \$17,926.29 to reduce the total escrow to \$2,000.00 and authorizing the signature of the Borough Manager on the escrow reduction.

Consider Donation Request – Quakertown Rotary Club

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Wano, Council unanimously approved the donation of four daily passes to the Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2024 season to the Quakertown Rotary Club for their fundraiser on May 10, 2024.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Consider Special Event Application – Ragtops & Roadsters Open House

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved the special event application from Ragtops & Roadsters for their annual open house on Saturday, May 11, 2024 from 8:30 am to 2:30 pm. This approval included the requested road closures.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Councilman Jeremy Wano gave a recap of the April 19th Public Safety Committee meeting, where the final application from Perkasio PorchFest was reviewed. The application included 2 headline acts, fire or flow dancers and food trucks at the amphitheater on May 11th.

- The Committee discussed the estimated costs for the Police Department, which were for 4-6 officers during the daytime depending on crowd size, and 10 or more for the larger scale event at the amphitheater. The initial application estimated 7,000 attendees, but was later scaled down to somewhere between 5,000 to 7,000 people.
- The Committee also discussed additional costs for the Public Works Department for trash removal, parking and port-a-potties at the amphitheater and in the downtown, in addition to managing what floating road closures may have been needed in town near the participating porches.
- The Borough consulted with their insurance company about the application, and was informed that one of the biggest indicators of risk for an event is the event's history, so based on the documentation from previous PorchFest events that was reviewed, and the issues that the

Borough had at these events, the insurance agency strongly recommended that the Borough purchase an additional policy for this specific event, but did warn the Borough that it was unlikely they would be able to obtain this additional coverage because of the documentation from the previous events.

- The Committee also discussed the current Borough ordinances that are in place, which currently do not permit rentals of the amphitheater, fires in the park, or vendors or food trucks in the park.
- There was also previously-planned construction for the removal of the skate park equipment, which could be in the Lenape Park parking lot on the day of the event.
- Upon listening to public feedback and following groups on social media, it was the Committee's perspective that the residents were hoping to see a porch festival on May 11th with local musicians playing on local porches; a large event at the amphitheater featuring one, two or three acts would not really satisfy the desire of the residents, local musicians & businesses to have a day in the Borough where musicians could play on porches.

After reviewing all of that information, the Committee felt it best to release a statement, so the Mayor released a statement to the Community on the Borough's website and Facebook page outlining the Borough's concerns as well as showing support of an informal event with local porches that would encourage visitors to support local businesses.

Council President Ryder thanked Councilman Wano for his comments and stated that the Borough will soon need to determine if we want to rent out the amphitheater to commercial businesses, because we currently do not have a mechanism in place to do so; the Borough would need to figure out insurance plans, fee schedules and rules before we can rent it out. He added that it does sit empty a lot and could be used a little more, so this is something that we can look at in the future. Councilman Bomboy added that one caveat to that is that once we rent to someone, it has to be content neutral; we can place time and manner restrictions in place, but the Borough can't deny any groups from using it. Mr. Ryder added that there is a lot of housing in that area, so sound could be an issue as well.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Councilman Bomboy complimented Councilwoman Laustsen on the grand opening of her new store and shared some of the history of the building.

REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCILOR

Youth Councilor Logan Wilcox reported that the annual April Showers fundraiser hosted by the Pennridge Unified Club recently took place at the High School and raised approximately \$10,000 for the Special Olympics. He also provided an overview of the increases that are currently proposed for the 2024-2025 School District budget.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing at this time.

PRESS FORUM

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:46 PM.



Andrea L. Coaxum
Borough Manager/Secretary