

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING
OCTOBER 7, 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
Parks and Recreation Director:	Lauren Moll (absent)
Police Chief:	Robert Schurr
Electric Superintendent:	Harold Stone
Public Works Director:	Jeff Tulone
Borough Solicitor:	Jeff Garton, Esquire
Borough Engineer:	Doug Rossino, P.E.

Council Vice-President Brooks convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. An invocation was given by Adam Mellor, the Chaplain from Re:Vivals, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PRESENTATION: KINDNESS BETWEEN FRIENDS

Mayor Hollenbach presented Chuck Ellmore with the Volunteer Appreciation Award for 2024 on behalf of Kindness Between Friends.

PROCLAMATION: HALLOWEEN

Mayor Hollenbach read a proclamation declaring October 31, 2024 as Halloween in Perkasie Borough, from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

PUBLIC FORUM

Mr. Jack Garis from 1002 Arch Street expressed concerns about the dirt alley behind his house that runs between 9th and Market Streets, where an oil-like substance has been oozing out of the ground since last year, into the storm drain and eventually to the trout stream; it is rainbow in color. A utility pole was recently replaced, and the dirt surrounding the new pole is now saturated with the

substance and has an odor to it. Vice-President Brooks asked Mr. Garis to give his contact information to the staff and said that the Borough will look into it.

PUBLIC HEARING – SPECIAL EVENTS ORDINANCE

A Public Hearing was held to consider the adoption of a Special Events ordinance that would amend the provisions of Chapter 115 of the Perkasio Borough Code of Ordinances related Parades. The ordinance was advertised appropriately and the Solicitor gave an overview of the ordinance.

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Weaver, the Public Hearing was closed.

PRESIDENT’S REMARKS

Nothing at this time.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Discuss PennDOT Winter Maintenance Services Agreement

Council reviewed a request to revise the Borough’s Winter Maintenance Services Agreement with PennDOT by adding 2 sections of state road to the Borough’s list for salting & plowing, which PennDOT would then reimburse the Borough for each year by \$3,657.46. After some discussion, it was the consensus of Council that the Borough will not revise the Agreement or add these roads to their salting & plowing responsibility.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Councilman Weaver provided an update on the monthly call with GDS Associates. Councilman Bomboy gave an overview on the potential increase in electric rates, explaining that PJM, the group that operates the grid, used new billing practices that were approved by FERC at the July 2024 power grid auction. That auction resulted in a \$14.7 billion dollar cost for stabilizing the grid during severe weather events, starting in June of 2025. In 2024, Perkasio paid \$285,712 for its PJM capacity fee, which will jump to \$1,009,913 in 2025. For Perkasio consumers, their electric bills will be higher to compensate for the PJM capacity fees, and will likely go up again in 2026 based on the forecast on the next capacity auction.

Perkasio Wholesale Power Cost Summary

The Committee reviewed Perkasio’s August 2024 Wholesale Power Cost Summary report provided by GDS Associates.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Consider Resolution #2024-57 – Stormwater Agreement for 532 W. Callowhill Street

Upon a motion by Ryder, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-57, a resolution of the Borough Council in and for the Borough of Perkasio, Bucks County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving the Grading Permit Plan and the Stormwater Controls and

Best Management Practices Operations and Maintenance Agreement for the 532 West Callowhill Street project.

Consider Resolution #2024-59 – Green Ridge Estates West Land Development Plan

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-59, a resolution of the Borough Council in and for the Borough of Perkasio, Bucks County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, approving the subdivision application submitted by Xtreme Flippers, LLC as a preliminary as final subdivision plan.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Council President Ryder remarked that the Fall Fest went tremendously, and thanked Linda Reid and the staff for a great day.

There was no business to come before the Parks & Recreation Committee.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Consider Hiring of Public Works Part-Time Permanent Laborer

Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the hiring of William Sturtevant as a part-time permanent laborer at the rate of \$19.00 per hour, conditioned upon passing a pre-employment physical and drug screening and the necessary background checks.

Consider Special Events Ordinance

Mr. Brooks thanked those who provided input throughout the process to develop a Special Events ordinance, which has been in the works since May and has gone through quite a few changes, adding that we have done our best to cover all aspects of it and put out a good product. Councilwoman Schilling asked some questions on behalf of people who were unable to attend tonight’s meeting. After some discussion, upon a motion by Ryder, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously adopted an ordinance of the Borough of Perkasio, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, amending Chapter 115 of the Perkasio Code of Ordinances pertaining to parades.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Consider Donation Request – Guth Elementary Race for Education

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Wano, Council unanimously approved a donation of six daily passes to Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2025 season to the Guth Elementary School Home & School Association’s Race for Education fundraiser.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Consider Special Event Permit Application – Annual Fire Prevention Open House

Upon a motion by Ryder, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the Perkasio Fire

Company Open House on Thursday, October 10, 2024 from 6:00 pm to 9:00 pm, and approved the requested road closures for the event.

Consider Schedule of Events for 2025

Upon a motion by Brooks, seconded by Worthington, Council unanimously approved the schedule of Perkasio Borough events for 2025.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Consider Request for Fire Police Assistance – Sellersville Borough Winterfest

Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously approved the request for fire police assistance from Sellersville Borough for their Winterfest event on Saturday, December 14, 2024 from 4:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

Mayor Hollenbach thanked the Perkasio Fire Police for everything that they do and mentioned that he recently swore in a new Fire Police member.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Consider Resolution #2024-58 – Agreement for Professional Services – Engineering & Design Consultation Services for the Rehabilitation of the South Perkasio Borough Covered Timber Bridge

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2024-58, a resolution of the Perkasio Borough Council approving the Agreement with Wood R and D Ltd., DBA Wood Research and Development, LLC, as it relates to the rehabilitation of the South Perkasio Covered Timber Bridge Project.

REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCILOR

Youth Councilor Logan Wilcox reported that there were 30 new teachers hired across all Pennridge schools. Pennridge was recognized as 1 of 28 schools in Pennsylvania for inclusiveness in unified sports, a program for special needs students to participate in sports such as bocce and track. Pennridge was also recognized for their art program, and was given the PIAA State Sportsmanship Award. The girls soccer coach, Audrey Anderson, won Pennsylvania Coach of the Year. Pennridge recently held a mental health awareness event, where more than 100 students and parents attended.

OTHER BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council entered to Executive Session at 7:46 pm to discuss a matter of personnel. The Executive Session closed at 8:01 pm. Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the Borough Manager’s employment contract for the period of January 1, 2025 to December 31, 2026.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing at this time.

PRESS FORUM

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:02 PM.



Andrea L. Coaxum
Borough Manager/Secretary