

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
JULY 20, 2020**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Matt Aigeldinger (via phone)
Scott Bomboy (via phone)
Chuck Brooks (via phone)
Aaron Clark
Randy Faulkner
Steve Pizzollo (via phone)
Jim Purcell
Steve Rose
Jim Ryder
Ana McGrath (absent)
John Hollenbach
Andrea L. Coaxum
Glenn Dickerson
Jeff Garton
Doug Rossino
Jeff Tulone
Megan Prusienski
Harold Stone

Youth Delegate

Mayor:

Borough Manager:

Finance Director:

Borough Solicitor:

Borough Engineer:

Public Works Director:

Parks and Recreation Director:

Electric Superintendent:

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

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Jim Ryder thanked the Borough employees for working diligently through the coronavirus pandemic for the past couple months.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon motion by Rose, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved the Council meeting minutes of June 15, 2020.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

Mayor's Report

The Mayor thanked everyone for how they handled the Covid-19 pandemic crisis during the past couple months. He urged everyone to support the local businesses that can be open as much as they can.

Taxes Collected

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously accepted the report of taxes collected for June 2020.

Budget Status

Upon motion by Rose, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the budget status report for June 2020.

Engineer's Report

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Faulkner, Council unanimously accepted the engineer's monthly report for June 2020.

Planning Commission Report

No report.

Zoning Hearing Board Report

No report.

Police Report

Upon motion by Clark, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously accepted the Police Department report for June 2020.

NEW BUSINESS

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Committee Superintendent's report for June 2020.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Electric Superintendent's report for June 2020.

Perkasie Wholesale Power Cost Summary Report

The Committee reviewed Perkasie's May 2020 Wholesale Power Cost Summary report provided by GDS Associates.

Consider Restarting Shut-Offs on Past Due Electric Accounts

Council members discussed electric shutoffs that have been suspended since the COVID -19 disaster emergency declaration was made on March 6, 2020. In June the PA PUC put forth a motion to allow utilities to begin shutoffs again to take effect in July. As of July 10, 2020 there were 161 electric accounts that were be past due with payments to the Borough.

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Faulkner, Council considered designating the Public Utility Committee to deal with extraordinary hardships and report to Borough Council and will work together with the Solicitor, with the authority to extend the electric payments. All Councilmembers voted for the motion with the exception of Matt Aigeldinger who voted against it. Motion carried and the vote was approved 8-1.

Upon motion by Purcell, second by Rose, Council considered authorizing the Borough Manager to proceed with electric utility shutoffs with the following conditions:

1. Utility Customers who had delinquent balances on April 1st, for utility bills issued for electric used before the onset of the COVID-19 health crisis, are subject to disconnection for non-payment beginning on July 27, 2020. Payment arrangements must be made and honored on the account in order to avoid disconnect.
2. Utility Customers who did not have a delinquent account on April 1st, but have subsequently become delinquent, after the onset of the COVID-19 health crisis, will have until November 1st to pay off their balances. Payment arrangements must be made on the account in order to be in good standing.
3. The customers who will be terminated on Monday, July 27th did not make any attempts to make payment arrangements on their accounts.
4. The Borough will continue to terminate from this point forward for those customers who have not worked with the staff to make arrangements.
5. All late fees will continue to be waived on accounts past due as of Monday, July 20th, 2020 as long as payment arrangements have been made and are being honored by the customer, and the account stays in good standing going forward.
6. After Monday, July 20th, 2020, any accounts that are not paid on the due date, a late fee as previously established by Borough Council will once again be charged.

Discuss Behind the Meter Peaking Project

Council was updated on the two BTM Pennsylvania sites in Perkasie and Ephrata. PowerSecure delivered all the equipment to both sites. They have taken both sites up to where they need to start the diesel engines. Fuel has not been added to the unit yet for inspection purposes.

AMP is finalizing the contract with PPL for an interconnection agreement and is sending it out for execution. Once the documents are signed, the Borough should be able to move forward with the project.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Code Enforcement Officer Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly reports for June 2020.

Consider Second Amendment to Land Development Agreement Pennridge Development Enterprises

Upon motion by Clark, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the Second Amendment to the Land Development Agreement between the Borough of Perkasio and Pennridge Development Enterprises, Inc.

Consider Resolution #2020-19, Pennridge Airport Business Park Lot #2 RACP

Upon motion by Clark, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2020-19, a resolution of Perkasio Borough Council designating that certain lands in the Borough of Perkasio sometimes known as the Pennridge Airport Business Park property, and designated as "Lot 2" on the plan recorded with the Bucks County Recorder of Deeds instrument number 2019009974, as a "Business Park".

Sketch Plan-Shelly's Lumber Yard

Council was updated with a sketch plan on the proposed project at the old lumberyard at the Shelly's property on 8th Street by Joe Price and Peter Stampfl. Zoning relief is needed. They were not granted relief when they went to the Zoning Hearing Board earlier in the year. The developers are looking for feedback from Borough Council members on their plan.

Consider Appointing Planner

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously appointed Judy Stern Goldstein of Gilmore & Associates to the position of Planner for the Borough of Perkasio on an as needed basis effective immediately.

PARK AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Park and Recreation Director's monthly report for June 2020.

Consider First Amendment to Agreement-Rita's Wudder Ice

Upon motion by Faulkner, seconded by Clark, Council unanimously approved the first amendment to the agreement between the Borough of Perkasio and Wudder Ice Corp., and to

authorize the signature of the Borough Manager on the amendment.

Update on Menlo Aquatics Center Operations

Park and Recreation Director Megan Prusienski updated Council on the number of people who have signed up to use the Menlo Aquatic Center. The pool has been very busy due to the hot conditions. The Summer Concert Series will be held every Wednesday from 7:00PM to 9:00PM, from July 15, 2020 through August 19, 2020 in Menlo Park.

Consider Event Permit Application-Pennridge Crop Walk

This item was tabled until the next meeting pending receipt of additional information.

Consider Event Permit Application-Blooming Glen Mennonite Church

This item was tabled until the next meeting pending receipt of additional information.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

There was no business to come before this committee.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Authorization to Pay Bills

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

Consider Resolution #2020-20, 404 Chestnut Street Final Escrow Release

Upon motion by Purcell, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2020-20 to authorize the reduction in the escrow for the Virginia Manor Subdivision Lot 8, 404 East Chestnut Street, as approved by Gilmore and Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$3,309.00 and to authorize the signature on the Borough Manager on the escrow reduction.

Consider Cornice Change Order

Upon motion by Rose, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved change order number 1 between the Borough of Perkasié and Ondra-Huyett Associates, Inc. for coping removal, and repair totaling \$24,782.00, and additional power washing and painting to the “new” portion of Borough Hall facing Chestnut Street totaling \$7,101.79.

Consider Donation to the Bucks County SPCA Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals

Upon motion by Ryder, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved a one-time donation of \$250.00 to the Bucks County SPCA Society for the Prevention of Animals for stray animal services to the Borough of Perkasié in 2020.

Consider Pennridge Development Enterprises, Inc. Escrow Reduction

Upon motion by Ryder, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2020-21, a resolution 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 \$128,601.42 to reduce the total escrow to \$402,528,10 and authorizing the signature of the Borough Manager on the escrow reduction.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Community and Economic Development Director Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Community and Economic Development Directors June 2020 report.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

No business to come before this committee.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

No business to come before this committee.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Jim Purcell reported that the Banner program will start up again in November with the Perkasio Lions taking on the project.

PUBLIC FORUM

Doug Price of 319 South 3rd Street submitted a petition on behalf of the residents of the 300 block of South Third Street to Borough Council in response to an increasing safety hazard. There has been an increase in traffic and excess speed. The group is requesting a speed hump. Police Chief Schurr stated there was a speed box on Third Street. He said he would come out to the area to look at it.

Peter Hansen of 330 South 3rd Street also said a lot of people speed down South Third Street. He went on to further suggest to removing the traffic light at 5th and Walnut Street and make it a three-way stop sign to alleviate the traffic from backing up.

Monique Jones of 117 North 9th Street had a major concern that the Borough and surrounding municipalities are failing to address. She expressed incidents of racial issues in the community but never had a problem with the Police Department. She feels the Police Department and the community need to come together and address this concern.

PRESS FORUM

None.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40PM.



Andrea L. Coaxum
Borough Manager/Secretary