

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL COMMITTEES MEETING
JANUARY 7, 2008**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:	Martin Gahman Eadie Burke Ray Conville Bill Delaney Richard Hendricks Harry McGonigal Chris Nicolosi Jim Purcell Maria Slowik J. Robert Hunsicker
Mayor:	Daniel P. Olpere
Borough Manager:	Joe Gura
Police Chief:	Ann Weiss
Borough Solicitor:	News Herald Morning Call Daily Intelligencer Bucks County Herald
Press Representatives:	

Borough Council President Marty Gahman convened the meeting at 7:25 PM. Mr. Hendricks gave an invocation followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mr. Gahman noted one change to the agenda stating there would be two public forums, one at the beginning of the committees meeting and a second at the end of the meeting to give residents the opportunity to raise questions regarding items on the agenda.

PUBLIC FORUM

Present was Ben Rainear of 134 North 6th Street and member of the Perkasie Borough Authority Board who was recently reinstated to the board earlier in the meeting. Mr. Rainear noted the long history of difficulty between the PBA and Borough Council including the Council trying to takeover the authority in 2005. He asked Council to allow the board to remain intact and continue operating as it has in the past.

Luther Chontofalsky of 270 Parkridge Drive was concerned about the trash collection schedule with the recent holiday.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Utility Superintendent's Report for December 2006.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's Report for December 2006.

Penridge Little League Paving

Councilmembers reviewed a letter from the Pennridge Little League requesting assistance from the Borough to provide labor and materials for the newly proposed expansion of the paved area. Cost estimates using in-house labor and assistance from East Rockhill Township were also reviewed. It was agreed that by using Borough staff and with the help of East Rockhill Township that this project could be done cost-effectively. The matter will be placed on the January 21 Council agenda.

Resolution to Grant Preliminary/Final Approval Glen Enterprises

This matter was tabled pending receipt of revised plans.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE MEETING

Code Enforcement Officer Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Officer's monthly report for December 2006.

Update to Employee Work Rules

Manager Olpere explained that recently Council had approved a change to the health care plan to change the co-pays and premium share. The Committee reviewed a memo from the Finance Director recommending changing the work rules to reflect this action and agreed to place the matter on the January 21 Council agenda.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Assessment Appeal for Perkasio Square Shopping Center

Council discussed an assessment appeal of the Perkasio Square Shopping Center. The Manager reported that the school district board felt it would not be worth the effort and time to appeal the assessment since an addition to the shopping center is contemplated within the next two years. Upon motion by McGonigal, seconded by Hendricks, Council unanimously agreed to direct the Solicitor to withdraw the assessment appeal for the Perkasio Square Shopping Center.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

No business at this time.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

President's Remarks

Newly elected Marty Gahman made several remarks including the need to move on and make a change and address the issues of the town and Borough businesses.

2008 Budget-Consider Reopening

Upon motion by Hendricks, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously agreed to consider reopening the 2008 budget for discussion.

Upon motion by Hendricks, seconded by Conville, Council unanimously agreed to hold a special Council meeting on Saturday, January 12, 2008 at 9:30 AM to review the 2008 budget.

5-Year Capital Plan

Upon motion by Hendricks, seconded by Purcell, Council unanimously also agreed to re-open the 5 year capital plan at the January 12 Council meeting.

Staff Vacancies

Manager Olpere reviewed the current vacancies on staff which included the Public Works Director, Electric Department Superintendent and the Planning and Zoning Director. Councilmembers asked the Manager to prepare a staffing plan of what he feels is necessary to run the Borough.

Expectations (Staff and Council)

The Manager reviewed a memo from himself regarding a proposed list of expectations for staff and Council as well as expectations that Council will place on the Manager and the expectations that Manager and staff may have of Council. The Manager asked Councilmembers to review the lists and discuss it at the February Committees meeting.

Code of Conduct

The Manager also reviewed with Council some sample code of ethics and conduct acquired from other municipalities throughout the country. The Manager asked Council to review the samples and discuss it at the February Committees meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Present was Joan Handy of 200 Branford Terrace stated she still disagreed with the appointment of Ben Raineart to the Perkasio Borough Authority Board back in 2003 since it an illegal appointment.

Present was Neil Schwan, 2733 Three Mild Run Road stated Perkasio residents would like a Council that respects the public and will make the community a better place.

Lee Rush of 128 Ridge Avenue was present and suggested that the Borough get its website up and running so people can be more aware of what is happening in the community.

Present was Joan D'Aiuto of 1015 Race Street. She asked that the property of 208 Ridge Avenue continue to be a single family home and not a proposed twin residence.

Ed White of 1120 Old Post Road thanked the new Councilmembers for serving the community and asked when the Borough's website would be up and running.

Manager Olpere stated staff was reviewing the layout and design of the website and it would be up and running shortly.

Steve Reichman of 314 South 9th Street and the Borough's Emergency Management Coordinator thanked Council for serving the community and offered a prayer to those present.

Present was Bill Hettel of 1211 West Park Avenue who congratulated all the new Councilmembers as well as the Solicitor for her election as Clerk of Courts in Montgomery County. He stated he was glad this Council was willing to work together and put the past behind them.

PRESS FORUM

Questions from the press were received and answered.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Marty Gahman announced that Council was going into executive session to discuss personnel and would not reopen the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:55PM.

Daniel Olpere
Borough Manager/Secretary