

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
OCTOBER 21, 2024**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members:

Scott Bomboy
Chuck Brooks (via telephone)
Kelly Laustsen (absent)
Steve Rose
Jim Ryder
Robin Schilling
Jeremy Wano (absent)
Dave Weaver (via telephone)
Dave Worthington
Logan Wilcox (absent)
Jeff Hollenbach
Andrea L. Coaxum
Linda Reid
Rebecca Deemer (absent)
Lauren Moll (absent)
Robert Schurr
Harold Stone
Jeff Tulone
Jeffrey Garton, Esq.
Douglas Rossino, P.E.

Youth Councilor:

Mayor:

Borough Manager:

Assistant Borough Manager:

Finance Director:

Parks and Recreation Director:

Police Chief:

Electric Superintendent:

Public Works Director:

Borough Solicitor:

Borough Engineer:

Council President Jim Ryder convened the meeting at 7:00 PM. An invocation was given by Mayor Hollenbach, which was followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING – CONSIDER DRAFT ORDINANCE – AMEND CHAPTER 147 OF CODE OF ORDINANCES – REVISE THE GENERAL REGULATIONS ON pH STANDARD LIMITS FOR WASTEWATER AND REVISE THE INDUSTRIAL PRE-TREATMENT LIMITATIONS IN WASTEWATER

A Public Hearing was held to consider the adoption of an ordinance that would amend the provisions of Chapter 147 of the Perkasie Borough Code of Ordinances related to the general regulations on pH standard limits for wastewater and to revise the industrial pretreatment limitations in wastewater. The ordinance was advertised appropriately and the Solicitor gave an overview of the ordinance. Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Bomboy, the Public Hearing was closed.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing at this time.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Nothing at this time.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Bomboy, Council unanimously approved the minutes from the Council meeting and Special Finance Committee meeting on September 18, 2024, and the Committee meeting on October 7, 2024.

Council President Ryder reminded those present that there is a Special Finance Committee meeting to continue discussions on the 2025 budget on October 23, 2024 at 4:00 pm.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Hollenbach recognized and showed his appreciation for the Farmers Market, the Summer Concert Series, the Under the Stars Car Show, Community Day and other outdoor events in Perkasio Borough, adding what great outdoor activities there are in our Community, and he thanked everyone involved for the amazing job that they do. The Mayor also mentioned that he and Councilman Bomboy were contacted by Merit TV, who would like to set up and film near the Borough Hall voting poll on Election Day.

Taxes Collected

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously accepted the report of taxes collected for the month of September, 2024.

Budget Status

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Schilling, Council unanimously accepted the budget status report for the month of September, 2024.

Engineer's Report

The Engineer gave an update on the 532 W. Callowhill project and informed Council that the Borough's MS4 Report was prepared and submitted to DEP by the deadline of September 30, 2024. Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously accepted the Engineer's monthly report for the month of September, 2024.

Planning Commission Report

The Planning Commission did not meet in September.

Zoning Hearing Board Report

The Zoning Hearing Board did not meet in September.

Police Report

The Police Chief provided an update on the Civilian Community Relations Specialist, who conducted 19 new client outreaches in September, and added that the program has been very successful thus far. The new Co-Responder started and has been very busy; Perkasio Borough is often quite busier than other municipalities, as far as the Co-Responder program. Chief Schurr also informed Council that the Police Department and Fire Department did some joint training together in September, adding it was a great night for both agencies, and very well attended by the volunteers. Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously accepted the Police Department report for the month of September, 2024.

Fire Department Report

Council reviewed the Fire Department reports for the month of September, 2024.

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Public Works Superintendent reported that leaf collection officially started today and the new leaf vacuum is working very well. The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's report for the month of September, 2024.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Electric Department Superintendent shared some positive feedback from a customer who had reached out to the Borough Manager to thank the Electric Department for finding a solution to an issue found by the customer's HVAC provider. The Department helped to resolve the issue and saved the customer several thousand dollars.

Mr. Stone also reported that the Department attended the Open House for Fire Prevention Week, which also happened to be Public Power week, so the Fire Department, Police Department and Electric Department were all in one location, which was a great opportunity for the public to come out and meet representatives from the different public services.

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Electric Superintendent's report for September, 2024.

Installed Capacity Update

Councilman Bomboy provided an update as to the meetings and communications that have taken place since the last meeting about the potential increase in electric rates due to PJM's new billing practices.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Code Enforcement Administrator Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Administrator’s monthly report for September, 2024.

Consider Ordinance to Amend Chapter 147 of Code of Ordinances

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Worthington, Council unanimously adopted an ordinance of the Borough of Perkasio, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, amending Chapter 147 (Sewers), Article III (Sewer Use) to revise the general regulations on pH standard limits for wastewater and to revise the industrial pretreatment limitations in wastewater.

Update on Construction Progress – Constitution Square

The Borough Engineer provided a detailed update on the remaining construction items for Constitution Square.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Parks and Recreation Department Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Parks and Recreation Department’s report for the month of October, 2024.

Councilman Worthington provided a summary of the October 15th Park & Recreation Board meeting.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Consider Hiring Crossing Guard

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Worthington, Council unanimously approved the hiring of Angela Benes as a new part-time crossing guard at the rate of \$19.19 per hour, starting October 28, 2024. Chief Schurr informed Council that half of the crossing guard’s salary is reimbursed by the School District to the Borough.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Authorization to Pay Bills

Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously authorized payment of the bills as presented.

Consider Donation Request – St. Andrew’s Church Fundraising Event

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved a donation

of six daily passes to Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2025 season to St. Andrew’s Evangelical Lutheran Church for their Holiday Tea fundraiser on Saturday, December 7, 2024.

Consider Scope of Services – Keystone Communities Planning Grant

The Borough was awarded a Planning Grant in 2023 of up to \$25,000 under the Keystone Communities Program; with matching funds of up to \$25,000, the Borough will use the funds to contract with a 3rd party consultant to update the Borough’s Economic Development chapter of the Comprehensive Plan.

The Borough Manager distributed copies of the three proposals that the Borough received for these services, along with a draft scope of services, and Council President Ryder asked Council to thoroughly review all of these items so that a decision can be made at the next meeting.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Community Development Manager Report

The Assistant Borough Manager informed Council that Rise & Grind, who opened in March of 2020, will be closing due to personal reasons on October 31st. The So Fresh So Green juice company, a family business that came through the Farmers Market, will open in the same location on November 1st, and will have a grand opening & ribbon cutting next Spring. Ms. Reid also reported that the last Farmers Market will be this Saturday, and will feature a Trick-or-Treat/costume event. The indoor Farmers Market will open at the Perkasio Fire House on Saturday, December 14th.

Councilwoman Schilling asked for some clarification about the urban farming and roadside stands special ordinance, and Ms. Reid provided an explanation on both items.

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Community Development Manager’s report dated October 16, 2024.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Consider Request for Fire Police Assistance – Borough of Pennsburg

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved the request for Fire Police Assistance from the Borough of Pennsburg at the Upper Perk Downtown Halloween Parade on Sunday, October 27, 2024.

Consider Resolution #2024-60 – Appoint Fire Police

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Ryder, Council unanimously appointed Jonathan Blum as Fire Police Captain, Richard Dunbar as Fire Police Lieutenant & Borough Liaison and Nancy Gomba, Steven Long & Katrina Pettit as Fire Police for Perkasio Borough for the remainder of 2024 and 2025.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

There was no business to bring before the Historical Committee.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Nothing at this time.

REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCILOR

The Youth Councilor was not present at the meeting.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing at this time.

PRESS FORUM

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:01 PM.



Andrea L. Coaxum
Borough Manager/Secretary