# MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING APRIL 21, 2025

620 West Chestnut Street Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Members: Scott Bomboy

Chuck Brooks
Kelly Laustsen
Steve Rose
Jim Ryder
Robin Schilling
Dave Weaver
Dave Worthington

Youth Councilors: Shiv Gandevia

Colin Moyer (absent)

Mayor: Jeff Hollenbach Borough Manager: Andrea L. Coaxum

Assistant Borough Manager: Linda Reid

Finance Director: Rebecca Deemer

Parks and Recreation Director: Lauren Moll
Police Chief: Robert Schurr

Electric Superintendent: Harold Stone
Public Works Director: Jeff Tulone

Borough Solicitor: Jeffrey Garton, Esq.
Borough Engineer: Douglas Rossino, P.E.

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.

## PRESENTATION OF APPA SAFETY AND RELIABILITY AWARDS

Councilman David Weaver presented Electric Department Superintendent Harold Stone with the American Public Power Association Safety Award of Excellence for 2024. The Borough's Electric Department is also receiving the Certificate of Excellence in Reliability from APPA for 2024.

# **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 on March 17, 2025 and minutes from the Committee meeting on April 7, 2025.

#### CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

## Mayor's Report

Mayor Hollenbach expressed his appreciation for the different Borough departments; he also recognized the Electric Department for the awards they received, and for the excellent work they did to restore power quickly after an outage occurred recently on a Saturday afternoon. Mayor Hollenbach also informed Council of the upcoming Fire Company breakfast on Sunday, May 4<sup>th</sup> and encouraged everyone to attend.

# Taxes Collected

Upon a motion by Rose, seconded by Faulkner, Council unanimously approved the Taxes Collected Report for March, 2025.

## **Budget Status**

The Finance Director noted that the Budget Status reflects some adjustments made by the auditors and reflects the year-to-date for 2025. Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously accepted the budget status report for the month of March, 2025.

## **Engineer's Report**

The Borough Engineer reported that the storm sewer has been installed in North Fifth Street; GoreCon is finishing concrete work and hopes to be out of the Borough this week. The Ultra-Thin Bonded Wearing Course project started today, and the roads included in that project are Penny Lane, Neighbor's Way and Hunters Run. The 2025 Road and Concrete programs will be going out to bid next week.

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously accepted the Engineer's monthly report for the month of March, 2025.

## **Planning Commission Report**

The Planning Commission will meet in April to discuss potential ordinance amendments pertaining to the keeping of fowl, and having a roadside stand in the Borough.

## **Zoning Hearing Board Report**

The Zoning Hearing Board will not meet in April.

# Police Report

The Police Chief reported that the Department received 568 calls for service in March. Chris

Doheny had 32 new client outreaches in March, and coordinated with ReVivals to conduct an emergency resource bag drive for those experiencing homelessness. He also coordinated the Coffee with a Cop event at McDonald's this morning.

Upon a motion by Faulkner, seconded by Brooks, Council unanimously accepted the Police Department report for the month of March, 2025. Council also received a copy of the 2024 Annual Report for the Police Department.

## Fire Department Report

Council reviewed the Fire Department reports for the month of March, 2025.

# Perkasie Regional Authority Report

Council reviewed the minutes from the Perkasie Regional Authority meeting on March 10, 2025.

## Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority Report

Council reviewed the minutes from the Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority Board meeting on February 24, 2025, and also received a copy of the PWTA Audit for 2024. Councilman Faulkner informed Council that PWTA is looking to expand their capacity and is looking at purchasing nearby acreage for a possible expansion.

### **PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE**

## Review of Superintendent's Report

The Public Works Superintendent provided an update on the work that PennDOT is doing in the Borough, and reported that the new bulk waste program started the first week in April.

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's report for the month of February, 2025.

## **PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE**

## Review of Superintendent's Report

The Electric Superintendent thanked the Public Works Superintendent and Assistant Borough Manager for helping to get the word out about the pole replacement that took place at Main and Walnut Streets on April 17<sup>th</sup>. Quakertown Borough assisted with the work, and over \$2,000,000 worth of equipment was used for the work, during which there was no loss of Borough power. The owner of the Perk was pleased since the work did not interfere with restaurant business.

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Electric Superintendent's report for March, 2025.

# Consider Request for Indicative Pricing

The Borough Manager reviewed the detailed information provided to Council from GDS regarding pricing requirements and products. Once the staff receives indicative pricing and it is reviewed with GDS, a recommendation to Council will be made at a future meeting.

## **Installed Capacity Update**

Councilman Bomboy provided an update at the meeting.

#### PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

## **Code Enforcement Administrator Report**

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Code Enforcement Administrator's monthly report for March, 2025.

# Discuss Ordinance Amending Chapters 70, 132 & 133 of Borough Code Book

Upon a motion by Faulkner, seconded by Schilling, Council unanimously approved a motion to authorize the Solicitor to advertise a public hearing to adopt an ordinance that will amend Chapter 70, Building Construction, Chapter 132, Plumbing and Chapter 133, Mechanical Code in the Borough Code Book by deleting said sections.

## Update on Construction Progress - Constitution Square

There was no new update at this time.

## PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

## Parks and Recreation Department Report

The Parks & Recreation Director invited Council to join members of the Parks & Recreation Board and Skate Park Committee for the annual park clean up in Lenape Park this Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup>. The group will meet at 9:00 am at the Lenape Park Skate Park pavilion, where a bulb drive will also be held for residents who want to donate old flowers bulbs that will be replanted in the Fall in the park system.

Ms. Moll then reported that there are now 758 Menlo memberships, which is 200 more memberships than there were at this time last year. 168 of those memberships are on payment plans, which is up from a total of 30 payment plans last year.

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Parks and Recreation Director's report for March, 2025.

# Consider Park Event Application & Fee Waiver Request - Fire Company Carnival

Paul Maven & Tom Hosgood from the Fire Company, and Paul Lorenz from Community Day, Inc. appeared before Council to talk about their decision to move Community Day to Saturday, June 28<sup>th</sup>, the last day of the Carnival, instead of having it on the Sunday after July 4<sup>th</sup>, as it has been done

every year in the past.

Discussion ensued about having the 2 events on the same day. Mr. Lorenz also explained the Community Day Committee's reasoning behind not having fireworks at Community Day this year, and also confirmed that there will not be a raindate.

Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Faulkner, Council unanimously approved the park event permit application for the Perkasie Fire Company to hold their annual carnival in Lenape Park from June 24, 2025 through June 28, 2025, with park closures starting on Sunday, June 22, 2025 and ending Sunday, June 29, 2025 for setup and take down purposes. This approval is contingent upon a safety plan being developed by the applicant, and the safety plan being reviewed and approved by the Police Chief and Police Department. Further, Council waives the fees associated with this event.

# Consider Park Event Application – Community Day

Upon a motion by Laustsen, seconded by Schilling, Council unanimously approved the 53<sup>rd</sup> annual Pennridge Community Day on Saturday, June 28, 2025. This approval includes the use of the Amphitheater, and is contingent upon a safety plan being developed by the applicant, and the safety plan being reviewed and approved by the Police Chief and Police Department. Council also waived the fees associated with this event.

# Discuss Pennridge Little League Request

Additional discussion was held regarding the Little League's request for approval and assistance with the Minor's Field lighting project. It was the consensus of Council that a motion be made at the next meeting for the Borough to approve the lighting upgrades, and to cover the costs of the labor and equipment for Public Works and Electric Departments, and the cost of the control box. Pennridge Little League will need to cover the cost of the lights, and the remaining materials needed for the project. Per the Electric Department Superintendent, the Departments should be able to complete the work by Spring of 2026, and not Fall of this year, which will allow PLL additional time for fundraising efforts.

## PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

## Consider Resolution #2025-24 – Agreement with American Red Cross

Upon a motion by Faulkner, seconded by Worthington, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2025-24, a resolution of the Council of the Borough of Perkasie approving the licensed training provider agreement between the American National Red Cross ("Red Cross") and Perkasie Borough for the purpose of licensing Red Cross training materials and curriculum to the Borough for the Borough to permit the Borough to deliver instruction in the Red Cross training courses and authorizing the Borough Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the Borough of Perkasie.

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

## **Authorization to Pay Bills**

Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Faulkner, Council unanimously authorized payment

of the bills as presented.

## Consider Resolution #2025-25 - Community Garden Agreement for Purchase

Upon a motion by Brooks, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2025-25, a resolution of the Perkasie Borough Council approving the condemnation of a certain vacant lot or tract of land identified as Tax Parcel No. 33-016-009, owned by the Jerry D. Kratz Irrevocable Trust, consisting of 0.353 acres, located in Perkasie Borough, Bucks County, Pennsylvania.

Upon a motion by Brooks, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously authorized the Council President or Borough Manager to sign the Agreement of Purchase for said parcel.

# **Consider Police Department Expenditure**

Upon a motion by Bomboy, seconded by Faulkner, Council unanimously authorized the Police Chief to purchase five new patrol rifles for the Police Department for a total of \$5,210.00.

# Consider Donation Request - RamPacks

Upon a motion by Brooks, seconded by Schilling, Council unanimously approved a donation of six daily passes to the Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2025 season to RamPacks for the raffle at their second annual Food Fest on May 4, 2025.

## Consider Donation Request - Central Middle School

Upon a motion by Laustsen, seconded by Rose, Council unanimously approved a donation of six daily passes to the Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2025 season to the school raffle at Central Middle School to support their "Fund the Fish Tank" project.

# Consider Donation Request - Faith Christian Academy

Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously approved a donation of five daily passes to the Menlo Aquatics Center for the 2025 season to Fauth Christian Academy for their online silent auction event from May 1-3, 2025.

# Consider Request for Waiver of Fees – Pennridge Aquatic Club Annual Awards & Splash Party

Upon a motion by Faulkner, seconded by Bomboy, Council unanimously approved the waiver of fees for the Pennridge Aquatic Club's Annual Awards & Splash Party at Menlo Aquatics Center on Saturday, July 19, 2025.

## **ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE**

## **Community & Economic Development Report**

The Assistant Borough Manager reported that planning continues for the Memorial Day Parade and Service on Saturday, May 24<sup>th</sup>, and the official poster and event information will be released in the next few days for the Under the Stars Car Show on Saturday, August 16<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Reid

also informed Council that the Indoor Market has closed for the season, but there will be a pop-up market on Saturday, May 17<sup>th</sup> the outdoor Farmers Market will open on Saturday, June 7<sup>th</sup>.

# Consider Recommendations for Steering Committee

Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously concurred with the recommendation of the Economic Development Committee to appoint Bruce Costa, Meghan Grever, Donte King, Alice Krier, Vicki Lilley and Joe Wade to the Perkasie Borough Steering Committee.

# Consider Commercial Block Party Application – Vita Essential Salon

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously approved the block party permit application from Vita Essential Salon for a block party on Saturday, May 10, 2025 from 1:00 pm to 6:00 pm on Sixth Street between Walnut Street and Chestnut Street, with setup to begin at 10:00 am.

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE**

There was no business to bring before the Public Safety Committee.

## HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

## Discuss Historic Preservationist for National Historic District Nomination

Councilman Bomboy spoke briefly about his request for Council to authorize an expenditure of the Borough sending out a Request for Proposal for a historic preservationist to assist with the Borough's Historic District application to the state. He reminded Council that if the Borough does not submit the application by February of 2026, the process of applying for a Historic District designation would have to start all over again. This will be considered at the next meeting.

#### **OTHER NEW BUSINESS**

Nothing at this time.

## **REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCILORS**

Youth Councilor Shiv Gandevia reported that the production of Les Miserables will take place from April 24-27 at the High School, and tickets are available for \$10.00 per ticket.

#### **PUBLIC FORUM**

Nothing at this time.

## **PRESS FORUM**

Nothing at this time.

# **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Nothing at this time.

# **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 8:30 pm.

Andrea L. Coaxum

Borough Manager/Secretary