

**PERKASIE BOROUGH
ORDINANCE NO. _____**

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF PERKASIE, BUCKS
COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, ESTABLISHING THE PERKASIE BOROUGH
HISTORICAL COMMITTEE**

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania Borough Code at 8 Pa.C.S.A. § 101 *et seq.*, authorizes the Borough Council of the Borough of Perkasia (“Borough Council”) to make and adopt ordinances that are consistent with the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth when necessary for the proper management, care and control of the Borough and the maintenance of peace, good government, health and welfare of the Borough and its citizens; and

WHEREAS, the Borough of Perkasia, in furtherance of the authority noted previously in this ordinance, has determined to establish the Perkasia Borough Historical Committee; and

WHEREAS, Borough Council, after due consideration of the proposed ordinance at a duly advertised public meeting, has determined that the health, safety, and general welfare of the residents of Perkasia Borough will be served by this amendment to the Perkasia Code of Ordinances.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Perkasia, Bucks County, Pennsylvania, and it is hereby enacted and ordained by the authority of same as follows:

SECTION 1. **Establishment of Historical Committee** – The Borough Council hereby establishes the Perkasia Borough Historical Committee.

SECTION 2. **General Purpose** – The purpose of establishing the Historical Committee is to promote the preservation and protection of historic resources in Perkasia Borough (“Borough”), since doing so enhances the interests of education, property values, and

the general welfare of the citizens of the Borough. The specific purposes of this Ordinance are as follows:

- A. To protect the integrity of the historic resources of Perkasio Borough;
- B. To establish a process by which proposed changes to historic resources are reviewed by Perkasio Borough;
- C. To encourage the continued, viable use of historic resources in Perkasio Borough;
- D. To discourage the unnecessary demolition of historic resources in Perkasio Borough; and
- E. To maintain the property rights of Perkasio Borough.

SECTION 3. **Membership of Perkasio Borough Historical Committee** - The Perkasio Borough Historical Committee shall consist of five (5) members, all of whom shall be residents of the Borough, or who conduct and operate a business in Perkasio Borough. The Historical Committee shall be appointed by Borough Council, and the membership of the Historical Committee shall, to the extent possible, include individuals who have an interest in history, archeology, or historic preservation. The terms of members of the Historical Committee shall be four (4) years, except that the terms of the members newly appointed at the time of the adoption of this Ordinance shall be fixed so that the first new member shall be appointed to a one (1) year term, the second new member shall be appointed to a two (2) year term, the third new member shall be appointed to a three (3) year term, and the fourth and fifth new members shall be appointed to four (4) year terms. The Mayor of Perkasio shall act as an ex officio member but shall not have voting rights. Members shall serve without compensation. Vacancies occurring

other than by the expiration of a term shall be for the unexpired term and shall be filled in the same manner as the original appointees.

SECTION 4. **Organization of Historical Committee** – Members of the Historical Committee shall elect a Chairperson and Secretary and select all necessary Officers to serve for a period of one (1) year. Perkasio Borough Council may adopt rules and regulations for the conduct of all business within the jurisdiction of the Historical Committee. The Chairperson shall help direct the activities of the Historical Committee. A majority of Members in attendance at a meeting of the Historical Committee shall constitute a quorum. The Historical Committee may make, alter, and rescind rules and forms for its procedures consistent with the Ordinances of the Borough and laws and regulations of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. To the extent necessary, the Borough Solicitor shall act as counsel to the Historical Committee. The Historical Committee shall comply, in every respect, with Pennsylvania Law, including the Sunshine Law, Open Meetings Law, Ethics Act, and the like. On an annual basis, on or before March 31st of each calendar year, the Historical Committee shall submit a report of its activities to Borough Council.

SECTION 5. **Specific Purposes** – The Historical Committee shall:

- A. Advise the Borough on the update and revision to the Comprehensive Plan, including drafting a historic preservation plan as required under the Pennsylvania Municipalities Planning Code, pursuant to Article III, Section 301(6).
- B. Advise on the nomination of significant resources to the national Register of Historic Places and any other appropriate lists or programs.

- C. Make recommendations, in writing, to Borough Council concerning revisions, updates, or corrections to a Historic Resource Map or Inventory on an annual basis or more frequently as deemed necessary by the Historical Committee. The map or inventory shall conform to standards recommended by the Pennsylvania State Historical Commission.
- D. Maintain an updated list which clearly identifies buildings, sites, structures, objects, and districts and their respective classifications on a Historic Resource Map or Inventory. The list shall conform to standards recommended by the Pennsylvania State Historical Commission.
- E. Advise the Zoning Officer and Borough Council on the issuance of demolition permits for historic resources.
- F. Review and comment, and where necessary make recommendations on subdivision or land development applications which include historic resources, in accordance with the requirements of the Perkasio Borough Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance, and the Municipalities Planning Code.
- G. Collect and disseminate data and information on matters of historic significance in Perkasio Borough.
- H. Publish pamphlets and reports designating historic sites or buildings of significant value to the history of Perkasio Borough.
- I. Cooperate with any qualified historical society in investigations of historical matters relating to Perkasio Borough.

- J. Recommend to Borough Council a suitable depository and display of historical papers, documents and relics.
- K. Advise Borough Council and/or the Zoning Hearing Board on all requests for conditional uses, special exceptions, or variances involving historic resources.
- L. Review applications for the rehabilitation, enlargement, or alteration of historic resources and advise Borough Council with respect thereto.
- M. To make recommendations to Borough Council, as permitted by law under Section 1202 of the Pennsylvania Borough Code, which respect to the appropriation of any funds of the Borough for the observation of any holidays or centennials, or other anniversaries for Borough celebrations or other civic projects or programs.
- N. Advise Borough Council on Historic Preservation awards, Historical Markers, Military Banners, and other efforts to foster awareness and appreciation of the Borough's history, including efforts to celebrate Borough's anniversaries.
- O. The Committee may utilize volunteers to assist Committee members in accomplishing the activities listed above and any other activities that the Committee undertakes.

SECTION 6. **Expenses of Historical Committee** – The Historical Committee shall not be authorized to spend any funds in the absence of approval for same by Borough Council. Furthermore, the Historical Committee shall be advisory in nature and shall have no

authority to make any decisions with respect to issues associated with the Historical Committee's directions within the Borough, as that responsibility rests solely with Borough Council.

SECTION 7. **Meetings of Historical Committee** – The Historical Committee shall hold an organizational meeting in January of each year. Officers as noted previously in this Ordinance shall be elected at the organizational meeting. All meetings of the Historical Committee shall be advertised to the public in accordance with the provisions of the Sunshine Act.

SECTION 8. **Minutes of Historical Committee** – The Historical Committee shall keep minutes of its meetings and activities and shall, on occasion, as requested, make oral and other written reports to the Borough Council, aside from the annual report noted previously. Minutes, at the minimum, shall include those persons in attendance at the meeting, Motions made by members of the Historical Committee, as well as any recommendations. The minutes shall be provided to the Borough Manager.

SECTION 9. **Liaison to Historical Committee** – Borough Council may appoint one (1) member of Borough Council as a liaison to the Historical Committee.

SECTION 10. **Authority** – Neither the Historical Committee nor any of its members shall have the authority to enter any contracts without the approval of Borough Council, to the extent same would impose any liability on the Borough.

SECTION 11. **Severability** – If any section, provision, or portion of this Ordinance shall be held invalid or unconstitutional by any Court of competent jurisdiction, such decision shall not affect any other section, clause, provision, or portion of this Ordinance so long as it remains legally enforceable minus the invalid portion. The Borough reserves the right to amend this Ordinance or any portion thereof from time to time as it shall deem advisable in the

best interests of the promotion of the purposes and intent of this Ordinance, and the effective administration thereof.

Approved by the Borough Council of the Borough of Perkasio, this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Attest:

BOROUGH OF PERKASIE

Andrea L. Coaxum, Secretary

James Ryder, Council President

Examined and approved this _____ day of _____, 2025.

Jeff Hollenbach, Mayor

**THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE
IMMEDIATELY UPON ENACTMENT AND SIGNATURE**