

**MINUTES OF PERKASIE BOROUGH
COUNCIL MEETING
JUNE 15, 2026**

620 West Chestnut Street
Perkasie, Pennsylvania

ATTENDANCE:

Council Member:

Lilli Benner
Jaclyn Cornelius
Joe Green (via telephone)
Emma Hawkins
Kelly Laustsen
Robin Schilling
Dave Weaver
Dave Worthington
Shiv Gandevia
Jeff Hollenbach
Linda Reid
Rebecca Deemer
Lauren Moll (Absent)
Robert Schurr
Harold Stone (Absent)
Jeff Tulone
Jeff Garton, Esq.
Doug Rossino, P.E.

Youth Councilor:

Mayor:

Acting Borough Manager:

Finance Director:

Parks and Recreation Director:

Police Chief:

Electric Superintendent:

Public Works Director:

Borough Solicitor:

Borough Engineer:

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

Ms. Schilling announced that Council Member Green would be participating via telephone.

PROCLAMATION: NATIONAL PARKS & RECREATION MONTH

Mayor Jeff Hollenbach read a proclamation declaring July as National Parks & Recreation month in Perkasie Borough.

PUBLIC FORUM

Adrienne & Donte King, the owners of So Fresh So Green at 1 North 7th Street, read a statement to Council to propose the installation of public bicycle racks throughout downtown Perkasie. They love it when bikers come, but stated that they have nowhere to put their bikes. They further added that people lean bicycles on their outdoor tables and up against the building, which sometimes causes damage and also blocks the entrances to the apartments and nearby businesses. Customers with bicycles have asked them what they can do to get parking for their bikes, and have commented that more bicyclists would be coming to downtown Perkasie if they had a place to safely store their bikes. Mr. & Mrs. King respectfully asked Council to explore this opportunity and to consider including bicycle parking as part of future downtown improvement initiatives.

Council President Schilling thanked Mr. and Mrs. King and stated that perhaps this is something the Parks & Recreation Board could work on with the Economic Development Committee. Council

Member Laustsen stated that perhaps she and Council Member Worthington could work with the Parks & Recreation Director to see if there are any funding opportunities available. Ms. Laustsen added that she and the Acting Borough Manager have discussed this in the past, and Ms. Laustsen has also spoken with Ms. King in the past about this, and thanked Ms. King for bringing this to Council's attention again. Mr. Worthington stated that the Parks & Recreation Board has discussed this, and that it is the cost factor, so perhaps we can find some money in the 2027 budget for this item. Council Member Hawkins stated that this is an excellent public art opportunity and remarked that part of the Economic Development Plan update is to bring more arts & culture into the Borough.

Resident Greg Martin of 320 West Market Street read a statement to Council that he read at the Public Utility Committee meeting on June 10th, and urged Council to recognize what has been positively accomplished this year, to decline to proceed with the behind-the-meter solar project at this time, and to preserve the analysis for consideration if conditions change.

PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Council President Schilling thanked Mr. Martin, everyone who came out to the Public Utility Committee meeting, and Council for all of the time, energy and hard work over the last six months, stating that with everyone's wisdom, we came to a solid analysis where everyone could agree that there's not a path that's economically viable moving forward. Ms. Schilling added that now we have great information that we can use for really good renewable energy projects. Ms. Schilling also commented on the new format of the packet, and noted that there are a lot of things happening this month like the LGBBQ and Juneteenth, adding that it is nice that we can celebrate all of these things. Ms. Schilling also reminded Council of the upcoming Fire Company Carnival and Community Day.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved the minutes from the May 26th Council meeting.

CORRESPONDENCE AND REPORTS

Mayor's Report

Mayor Hollenbach stated that he appreciates all of the work that was done to prepare for the June 10th Public Utility Committee meeting, adding that there was classy public discussion and he is proud of how it went and how people interacted. The Mayor then thanked Linda Reid for being up at the Council dais and wished her the best with filling the Acting Borough Manager role. Mayor Hollenbach spoke about attending the PSAB conference and encouraged Council to think about attending next year, adding that he heard a lot of discussions about data centers and e-bikes. The Mayor then reminded everyone about the Kulp Park ribbon cutting on Monday, June 22nd at 5:00 pm and the Community Day event with fireworks on Saturday, June 27th, and encouraged everyone to be safe.

Engineer's Report

The Engineer informed Council that the kick-off meeting for the Green-Light-Go grant, Phase 1 of the W. Park Avenue Improvements Project, was held today. A meeting was also held last week to discuss the TASA grant for the project.

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Hawkins, Council unanimously approved the Borough Engineer's monthly report.

New Business

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Public Works Superintendent's report for the month of May, 2026.

Perkasie Regional Authority Report

Council reviewed the minutes from the Perkasie Regional Authority meeting on May 11, 2026.

Pennridge Wastewater Treatment Authority Report

Nothing at this time.

Award of Bid 2026-01: 2026 Road Program

Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously awarded the 2026 Road Program to Blooming Glen Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$420,048.05 for all items under the Base Bid, which include the milling, base repair and paving of Dorchester Lane, Chelsea Court, Amherst Circle and Waltham Lane.

Award of Bid 2026-02: 2026 Concrete Program

Upon a motion by Cornelius, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously awarded the 2026 Concrete Program to T. Schiefer Contractors, Inc. in the amount of \$111,846 for all items under the Base Bid, which includes the removal and replacement of concrete curb, sidewalk, driveway aprons and curb ramps along Dorchester Lane, Chelsea Court, Amherst Circle and Waltham Lane.

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMITTEE

Review of Superintendent's Report

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Electric Superintendent's report for the month of May, 2026.

Perkasie Wholesale Power Cost Monthly Report

The Committee reviewed Perkasie's April 2026 Wholesale Power Cost Summary Report provided by GDS Associates. Council Member Weaver commented on the report and referenced Page 5, the 2026 Year to Date Summary, which shows the Borough trending in a good direction.

Installed Capacity Update

Council reviewed the latest Live Wire publication from PMEA.

Consider Behind-the-Meter Solar Project

Council Member Green stated that on June 10th, the Borough received the Behind-the-Meter Feasibility Report from GDS Associates, which was presented at the Public Utility Committee meeting that evening. After hearing feedback from the public and having detailed discussion with the Committee and Council members present, the Public Utility Committee recommended that the Borough not pursue a behind-the-meter solar project as proposed at this time. The Committee also recommended that staff develop a file and keep all of the information received for this potential project on hand for future reference.

Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Laustsen, Council accepted the recommendation of the Public Utility Committee.

Council Member Worthington asked the Finance Director to put together the final costs for what was spent on the feasibility study.

PLANNING AND ZONING COMMITTEE

Code Enforcement Administrator Report

The Committee reviewed the Code Enforcement Administrator's monthly report for the month of May, 2026.

Planning Commission Report

The Committee reviewed the Planning Commission report for the month of May, 2026. The Planning Commission will meet on June 24th to review preliminary plans for a recycling center at 505 Constitution Avenue, and to discuss draft data center regulations.

Zoning Hearing Board Report

The Zoning Hearing Board will meet in June to review three applications: a special exception at 622 Race Street, a variance setback at 1204 Jordan Lane and a special exception at 1032 North 7th Street.

Review Data Center Zoning Ordinance Amendment

Judith Stern-Goldstein from Gilmore & Associates reviewed a draft data center ordinance that was prepared by Gilmore and based in part on the design guidelines from the Montgomery County Planning Commission and Chester County Planning Commission and model ordinances from other counties in Pennsylvania and surrounding municipalities. Council Member Weaver thanked Ms. Stern-Goldstein and remarked on the wonderful job done by Cassandra Grillo with researching different ordinances and helping to prepare the draft.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

Parks and Recreation Department Report

Council Member Worthington mentioned several upcoming free events that the Department is hosting for Parks & Recreation month: Touch a Truck at Menlo Park on July 1st, A Salute to Service concert on July 1st at 7:00 pm, family friendly yoga at the amphitheater on July 9th, a magic show at Menlo Park pavilion on July 16th and Party in the Park in Kulp Park on July 21st. Mr. Worthington also remarked that camp registrations are doing great this season.

The Committee reviewed and accepted the Parks and Recreation Director's report for the month of May, 2026.

Consider Resolution #2026-38 – Fireworks Agreement for Community Day

Upon a motion by Laustsen, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2026-38, a resolution of the Council of Perkasio approving the display agreement between Celebration Fireworks, Inc. (Celebration) and Perkasio Borough for the purpose of providing a fireworks display, together with the services of a pyrotechnic operator licensed for the state of the display to be in charge of, and long with sufficient crew to safely discharge the display and authorizing the Interim Borough Manager to execute the contract on behalf of the Borough of Perkasio.

Consider Donation Request – Perkasio Fire Company Carnival

Upon a motion by Hawkins, seconded by Weaver, Council unanimously approved the donation of 6 Menlo Pool day passes to the Perkasio Fire Department for their annual fire carnival.

Consider Donation Request – Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company

Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Schlegel, Council unanimously approved the donation of 4 Menlo Pool day passes for the 2027 season to the Hilltown Township Volunteer Fire Company for their 13th Annual Wines on the Hill Festival.

Consider Park Event Application – Blooming Glen Mennonite Church

Upon a motion by Cornelius, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously approved the park event application for Blooming Glen Mennonite Church for Kulp Park on July 19, 2026 from 8:30 am to 12:30 pm.

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE

Accept Resignation of Planning Commission Member

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously accepted the resignation of Planning Commission member Kim Bartells.

Appoint New Planning Commission Member

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Schlegel, Council unanimously appointed Joe Seif to the Planning Commission for a term through the end of December, 2026.

Update on Borough Manager Search

Council Vice-President Cornelius provided an update on the Borough Manager search.

Accept Resignation of Public Works Employee

Upon a motion by Worthington, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously accepted the resignation of Kymani Dacres, effective June 9, 2026.

Accept Resignation of Council Member

Council Member Green announced his resignation from Council, effective July 6, 2026, since he is moving out of the Borough, and said that it has been a pleasure working with everyone. Vice-President Cornelius told Mr. Green that he has been wonderful to work with. Mayor Hollenbach wished Mr. Green the best and Council President Schilling thanked Mr. Green for all he did. Upon a motion by Schilling, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously accepted the resignation of Council Member Joe Green, effective July 6, 2026.

Update on Borough Council Committees

Council President Schilling announced that Council Member Dale Schlegel will chair the Planning & Zoning Committee, and she will restructure the rest of the committees after Council appoints a new Council member.

Review Minutes from May Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee Meeting

Council reviewed the minutes from the Pennridge Area Coordinating Committee meeting on May 28, 2026.

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Taxes Collected Report & Taxes Collected

Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Worthington, Council unanimously approved the Taxes Collected and the Budget Status reports for May, 2026.

Consider Payment of the Bills

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

Consider Resolution #2026-39 – Amended Salary & Wage Schedule for 2026

Upon a motion by Laustsen, seconded by Worthington, Council unanimously approved Resolution #2026-29, the amended Salary & Wage Schedule for 2026.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

Community & Economic Development Report

The Committee reviewed the Community & Economic Development Report dated June 10, 2026.

Special Events Report

The Committee reviewed the Special Events Report dated June 15, 2026.

Presentation of Economic Development Plan Update

Judith Stern-Goldstein from Gilmore & Associates presented the Economic Development Plan Update to Council, which was reviewed and recommended by the Steering Committee and Perkasio Planning Commission. Council Member Laustsen stated that if Council were to move forward with the recommendation to adopt the plan, and put a pin on the Main Street Manager Program for now, she

suggested developing an Economic Vitality Committee, similar to the Main Street focus, and include some of the Steering Committee members, and implement some short-term progress for our businesses by supporting them through strategic branding and marketing, and implementing way-finding signage. Ms. Laustsen also suggested including the Historical Committee since that goes hand in hand with the Economic Development Plan.

Upon a motion by Cornelius, seconded by Laustsen, Council unanimously adopted the Economic Development Plan Update Report as presented to Borough Council by Gilmore & Associates on June 15, 2026.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Police Report

The Police Chief reported that the Department responded to 528 incidents during the month of May; 344 were in Perkasio and 180 were in Sellersville Borough. Chief Schurr acknowledged the Coronado family for their \$2,500 donation to the Department, which was placed in the K-9 account for when the Department eventually replaces the K-9 Program. He also informed Council that Chris Doheny coordinated the Department's Pack the Trunk event today, where 176 pounds of food were collected for Pennridge FISH. Council Member Laustsen stated that she would love to have a conversation with Chris Doheny to get a plan together for next summer for ways that elementary school kids in the Borough can be fed during the summertime.

Upon a motion by Weaver, seconded by Schlegel, Council unanimously accepted the Police Department report for the month of May, 2026.

Fire Department Report

The Fire Chief reminded everyone that the Fire Company Carnival is June 23rd through June 27th and added that they are still looking for volunteers.

Council reviewed the Fire Department reports for the month of May, 2026.

Council Member Benner reported that the Public Safety Committee met today and will have some updates for the next Council meeting.

HISTORICAL COMMITTEE

Covered Bridge Rehabilitation Project Update

The Finance Director and Historical Committee Chair Scott Bomboy provided an informational update to Council about this project. Ms. Deemer will come back to Council in July with an updated status report and potential recommendations for moving the project forward.

OTHER NEW BUSINESS

Council President Schilling stated that now that the Borough has the analysis of the landfill, she thinks it's something we could consider for how to make use of that space in the future since we have a good analysis of it.

REPORT FROM YOUTH COUNCILOR

Youth Councilor Shiv Gandevia reported that graduation went very smoothly, there was great turnout from the community and there were no issues.

PUBLIC FORUM

Nothing at this time.

PRESS FORUM

Nothing at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:43 pm.



Linda J. Reid
Acting Borough Manager/Interim Secretary