

**BOROUGH OF PENNS GROVE  
COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING- 6:30 P.M.  
COURTROOM/ VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCE3 (VTC)  
May 3, 2022-MINUTES**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. and called to order by Mayor LaDaena D. Thomas

Mayor Thomas made the Open Public Meeting Statement: In accordance with section V of the Open Public Meetings Act, Chapter 231 P.L. 1975, Notice of this meeting was posted on the Borough of Penns Grove Municipal Bulletin Board designed for that purpose. Notice as also posted on the Borough Penns Grove website: [www.pennsgrove-nj.org](http://www.pennsgrove-nj.org) and was emailed to the official newspaper as provided by Resolution. Additionally, in response to the state of emergency in New Jersey regarding COVID 1-19 ("Coronavirus"), this May 3, 2022 meeting was held in the Courtroom of Borough Hall, 1 State Street, Penns Grove, NJ and via "Zoom" online meeting platform.

Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation by Deputy Clerk, Mandy Renner

ROLL CALL: Carter-present, Worley- present, Martin-present, Mincey-present, Scarpaci-absent, Rambo-present.

Also, present were: Madam Mayor LaDaena Thomas, Rob Tarver, Borough Solicitor, Ericka Walker, Treasurer Assistant, Sean Brown, Business Administrator, and Richard Rivera, Police Director.

PAYMENT OF BILLS & APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: Motion was moved by Councilwomen Worley, Council president Martin seconded the motion. Roll Call. Worley-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-abstain, Scarpaci-absent, Carter-yes, Rambo-yes. 4 ayes, 1 abstain. Motion passes.

**INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR COSIDERATION BY CONSENT:**

**2022-5-76** – RESOLUTION CANCELLING MUNICIPAL LIEN NO. 19-00586

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-5-76 by Martin; second Worley. Roll Call. Worley-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-abstain, Scarpaci-absent, Carter-yes, Rambo-yes. 4 ayes, 1 abstain. Motion passes

**2022-5-77** – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUND OF OVERPAYMENT TO WELLS FARGO

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-5-77 by Martin; second Worley. Roll Call. Worley-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-abstain, Scarpaci-absent, Carter-yes, Rambo-yes. 4 ayes, 1 abstain. Motion passes

**2022-5-78** – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING FINAL PAYMENT NO. 2 (RICKY SLADE CONSTRUCTION)

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-5-78 by Martin; second Worley. Roll Call. Worley-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-abstain, Scarpaci-absent, Carter-yes, Rambo-yes. 4 ayes, 1 abstain. Motion passes

FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTIOON OF ORDIANANCE(S):

2022-9 – AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE LICENSURE, PERMITTING AND STANDARDS OF MOBILE RETAIL FOOD TRUCK VENDORS THOUGHOUT THE BOROUGH

Motion to be Tabled by Mincey; second Worley. Roll call. Carter-yes, Worley-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-yes, Scarpaci-absent. Motion passes.

SECOND READING, PUBLIC HEARING AND ADOPTION ORDINANCE(S):

2022-7 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 103-1 OF THE BOROUGH CODE PROVIDING FOR HE TEMPORARY APPOINTMENT OF APPOINTED PERSONNEL

Mayor solicited public comment:  
No public member had a comment

Motion to adopt by Martin; second Worley. Roll Call. Worley-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-yes, Scarpaci-absent, Carter-yes, Rambo-yes. 5 ayes. Motion passes

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Building and Grounds (Worley, Martin, Scarpaci) Councilwoman Worley expressed thanks to Councilwomen Mincey for buying the flags as well as Councilmen Rambo for fixing the poles and putting up the flag. Councilwoman Worley also spoke about her concerns on the changes that need to be made within the community and having the task completed.

General Government (Martin, Carter, Worley) Councilwoman Martin stated/addressed the following: At this time the Borough is looking at 2 candidates for the administrative assistant position. Martin also communicated that the committee is looking into a retirement plan for the Borough employees as well as a detailed task list for all personal.

Housing/Zoning & Planning/Shade Tree (Rambo, Scarpaci, Martin) Councilman Rambo stated/addressed the following: Nothing to report.

Recreation/ Board of Health (Carter, Rambo, Mincey) Councilmen Carter stated/addressed the following: Expressed thanks to all staff that took the time out to help with the Egg hunt. The Borough plans to hold another event for Juneteenth, more information will be given at a later date. Councilmen Carter also announced that a generator has been purchased and will be available at future events.

Public Works/Streets & Roads (Scarpaci, Mincey, Rambo) Councilwoman Scarpaci stated/addressed the following: Absent. Nothing to report.

Public Safety (Mincey, Worley, Carter) Councilwoman Mincey announced that 2 new officers have been hired and will be joining the Police Department. The Police Department is also in the process of purchasing another vehicle.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Business Administrator Report Sean Brown handed out a summary of the Budget Account Status to all Council members. This report was a detailed report to see the budget for each department.

Finance Officer Report: Ericka Walker stated/addressed the following: Office receipts for January, February and March totaled \$582,138.86. Tax collection report as of 5/2/2022: 5/2/2022 collection percentage is 66.64%, collection percentage for 5/2/2021 was 63.23%. With that being said that is a 3.41% increase for the Borough of Penns Grove. Steve Labb, CFO, completed a state contract Resolution for the lease purchase of a 2022 Chevrolet Tahoe for the Police Department.

Police Director Report: Richard Rivera stated/addressed the following: Rivera announced that Patrolmen Hemple as well as the other officers will be hosting the 1<sup>st</sup> annual Fishing Derby this Saturday, May 7 at the Penns Grove Waterfront. Richard Rivera was happy to announce that the crime stats are still down.

Fire Chief Report: Nothing to report

Ambulance/EMS Captain Report: Nothing to report

Attorney Report: Nothing to report

Mayoral Comments: Mayor Thomas recognized Miss. Jennings for receiving her Boy Scout Badge. Mayor Thomas also encouraged all Council members to continue with their Committee meetings.

NEW BUSINESS:

Add-on Resolutions for Consideration by consent:

2022-5-79 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZONG AN APPLICATION FOR CHARITABLE SOLICIATION

2022-5-80 – RESOLUTION AWARDING CONTRACT FOR TECHNOLOGICAL EQUIPMENT TO STAPLES

2022-5-81 – STATE CONTRACT RESOLUTION TO PURCHASE 2022 CHEVROLET TAHOE

2022-5-82 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRE OF POLICE OFFICER (MICHAEL WATERS)

2022-5-83 – A RESOLUTION AITHORIZONG THE HIRE OF POLICE OFFICER (AHMED ABDALLA)

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-5-79- 2022-5-83 by consent Worley; second Mincey. Roll Call. All ayes.

PUBLIC SESSION:

Mayor solicited public comment.

Greg Martin, Spruce Street expressed concern regarding no trespassing sign on property that the school owns and not being put to use. Mayor Thomas advised Mr. Martin that the Borough has no say over the school property.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

2022-5-82 – RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING EXECUTIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has determined that it is necessary to go into a closed session to discuss certain matters relating to the items as permitted by N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Penns Grove will go into closed session to discuss the following, in accordance with the aforesaid provisions of the Open Public Meetings Act, after which it will reconvene in the public:

- I. Matters Relating to Attorney-Client Privilege Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7) – Discussion regarding PILOT Agreement between the Borough of Penns Grove and Silver Street.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the minutes of the closed session will be made available to the public when the need for privacy no longer exists.

Adjournment: Motion to adjourn by Mincey; second Worley.

Respectfully Submitted,

Mandy Renner  
Deputy Clerk