

**BOROUGH OF PENNS GROVE  
COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – 6:30 P.M.  
VIA VIDEO TELECONFERENCE (VTC)  
June 15, 2021 – MINUTES**

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

Mayor Thomas made gave 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 was also posted on the Borough of 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-19 (“Coronavirus”), this June 15, 2021 meeting is held in the courtroom of Borough Hall, 1 State Street, Penns Grove, NJ via “Zoom” online meeting platform.

Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Invocation by Municipal Clerk, Sharon R. Williams.

ROLL CALL: Carter – present, Giordano – present, Martin – present, Council President Mincey – present, Rambo – present, Scarpaci – present.

PAYMENT OF BILLS & APPROVAL OF BILL LIST: Motion to approve by Carter; Second Mincey. Roll call.

Motion to approve by Carter; second Mincey.

Scarpaci requested amending the bill list to not include the \$450.00 invoice and the \$1,035.00 invoice to the Closet until concerns are resolved; seconded by Mincey.

Roll Call. Carter-yes, Giordano-No, Martin-yes, Mincey-yes, Rambo-yes, Scarpaci-yes.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION BY CONSENT:

2021-6-78 – RENEWAL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE RETAIL LICENSES FOR THE 2021-2022 LICENSE TERM

2021-6-79 – CY2021 MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING PENNS GROVE TRANSITIONAL AID  
ADDENDUM

Motion to adopt by consent by Scarpaci; second Mincey. Roll call. All in favor.

FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S):

2021-16 – AN ORDINANCE REGULATING SECURITY FOR GASOLINE SERVICE STATIONS

Motion to adopt by title only by Carter; second Martin. Roll call. Carter-yes, Giordano-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-yes, Rambo-yes, Scarpaci-abstain.

2021-17 – ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING A PURCHASE ORDER PROCEDURE

Motion to adopt by title only by Mincey; second Giordano. Roll Call. Carter-yes, Giordano-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-yes, Rambo-yes, Scarpaci-abstain.

2021-18 – AN ORDINANCE ADDING JUNETEENTH AS A BOROUGH HOLIDAY

Motion to adopt by title only by Martin; second Carter. Roll Call. All ayes.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Buildings & Grounds (Martin, Giordano, Rambo): Councilwoman Martin stated the following: Nothing to report.

General Government/Clean Communities/JIF Fund/Finance (Scarpaci, Martin, Giordano): Councilwoman Scarpaci stated/addressed the following: Clean Communities award for calendar year 2021-2022 \$9777.25. Master Plan committee met on June 4<sup>th</sup>, and will be forwarded to the Planning Board with no amendments. Municipal Maintenance inspected the pumps. Tax Collection rate continues to improve. Estimated tax bills have been mailed; final tax bills to be mailed after State passes its’ budget.

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

Recreation/Board of Health (Carter, Mincey, Martin): Councilman Carter stated/addressed the following: Car Cruzin held on the first Wednesday in June; all future Car Cruz will also be held the first Wednesday

of the month. Juneteenth celebration to be held on June 19<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. Summer Basketball League registration is available on Facebook, also can registrar via the flyer; league runs from June 28<sup>th</sup> through to August 12<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works/Streets & Roads (Rambo, Mincey, Carter): Councilman Rambo stated/addressed the following: Business Administrator to schedule a meeting with Carney's Point Township officials to discuss the shared services agreement.

Public Safety (Mincey, Martin, Giordano): Council President Mincey stated/addressed the following: Nothing to report.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS:

Business Administrator Report: Sean Brown stated/addressed the following: Expressed appreciation to Council President Mincey, Councilwoman Martin and Councilman Giordano for assistance during the interviews for Police Officers. Ordinance No. 2021-16 requires cameras at gas stations, which will assist in vehicle thefts. 2021-17 addressed purchasing procedures. Hiring of Code Enforcement Officer. Hiring of Deputy Clerk, which is listed on Indeed and the League of Municipalities. Hiring of Custodian. Updated Policy and Procedure Manual.

Finance Officer Report: Councilwoman Scarpaci stated/addressed the following: Finance Officer, Stephen Labb is in the process of ordering new Edmonds software, which will enable the governing body and Department Heads to track spending.

Police Director Report: Richard Rivera stated/addressed the following: Continues community outreach. Assistance to homeless woman. Partnering with the State Police. Cleaning of storm drains. Hiring of five Police Officers; four are experienced and Special Officer to be sent to the academy.

Fire Chief Report: Nothing to report.

Ambulance/EMS Captain Report: Nothing to report.

Sewer Authority – Mary Kay James, Chairman, introduced herself and provided professional background. Recognized Bill Boden for his achievement.

Attorney Report: Robert Tarver, Jr. stated/addressed the following: Nothing to report.

Mayoral Comment: Mayor Thomas stated/addressed the following: Read correspondence from the State Monitor concerning additional Transitional Aid received for Barber Avenue Park and demolition of dilapidated properties. Master Plan in the process of being updated. Properties being inventoried to determine the need for demolition. Met with State Monitor to discuss Recovery Plan. Expressed appreciation to all employees. Registration for summer basketball camp to be held on June 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> from 4:15 p.m. – 5:15 p.m., further stating the need for coaches.

APPOINTMENTS:

- Nathan Dunn – Code Enforcement Officer
- Mark Reefer – Police Officer-Step III
- Christian Acevedo – Police Officer-Step III
- William Giberson – Police Officer-Step III
- Nicolas Gagliardi – Police Officer-Step III

Motion to accept appointments subject to successfully passing pre-employment requirements by Scarpaci; second Martin. Roll call. All ayes.

NEW BUSINESS:

- Organizational Chart

Motion to table until next meeting by Scarpaci; second Giordano. Roll Call. All ayes.

Councilwoman Martin announced the Juneteenth Celebration at the Riverfront.

PUBLIC PORTION:

Greg Martin, Spruce Street, Penns Grove, stated that he had been contacted regarding a summer bike club from July 6<sup>th</sup> – July 22<sup>nd</sup>, three days per week from 7:30 a.m. until 12:30 p.m., further encouraging anyone to contact him who may be interested.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

2021-6-80 – 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 regarding litigation, negotiations and Attorney-Client Privilege Pursuant to N.J.S.A. 10:4-12b(7) – Discussion regarding Veltman vs. Borough of Penns Grove.

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.

Motion to adopt by Carter; second Mincey. Roll call. All in favor.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Giordano; second Martin. All in favor.

Respectfully Submitted,

Sharon R. Williams, Municipal Clerk