

**BOROUGH OF PENNS GROVE  
COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
JUNE 21, 2022**

Meeting was called to order by Mayor LaDaena D. Thomas

Mayor Thomas 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. This JUNE 21, 2022 meeting is being held in person in the courtroom of Borough Hall, 1 State Street, Penns Grove, New Jersey. Additionally, this meeting is also being held via "Zoom" online meeting platform.

Mayor Thomas led the pledge of allegiance.

Invocation by Sharon R. Williams, Municipal Clerk

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

PAYMENT OF BILLS & APPROVAL OF BILL LIST:

Motion to adopt by Carter; seconded by Martin. Roll call. All ayes.

INTRODUCTION OF RESOLUTION(S) FOR CONSIDERATION BY CONSENT:

2022-6-104 – EMERGENCY TEMPORARY RESOLUTION N.J.S.A. 40A:4-20

2022-6-105 – RENEWAL OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE RETAIL LICENSES FOR THE 2022-2023 LICENSE TERM

2021-6-106 – RESOLUTION REQUESTING TEMPORARY CLOSURE OF COUNTY ROADS

2022-6-107 – RESOLUTION APPROVING AN APPLICATION FROM THE PENNS GROVE YOUTH FOOTBALL FOR CHARITABLE SOLICITATION

Motion to adopt the above Resolutions by consent by Martin; seconded Mincey. Roll call. All ayes.

FIRST READING AND INTRODUCTION OF ORDINANCE(S):

2022-13 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 206 OF THE BOROUGH CODE TO UPDATE THE BOROUGH'S VACANT PROPERTY REGISTRATION PROCESS

Tarver explained that the ordinance is to ensure that people with abandoned/vacant properties must register the properties and pay fee of \$500.00. \$1000.00 per day fine for those who fail to comply. Fee's will assist the Borough to maintain any issues with the property. Tarver also stated the importance of having a contact person on file in case of emergencies.

Mincey expressed concern regarding fees; stating that an Ordinance had been adopted previously, where the fee was is currently showing.

Mayor recalled amending in 2020.

Motion to table by Scarpaci; seconded by Mincey. Roll call. All ayes.

WALK-ON RESOLUTION:

Tarver stated that meeting was held with Governance Committee; advised that the governing body has been deemed the Redevelopment Agency via a 2016 resolution.

2022-6-108 - A RESOLUTION REQUIRING THE BOROUGH PLANNING BOARD TO REVIEW AND DETERMINE THAT THE ENTIRE AREA OF THE BOROUGH OF PENNS GROVE IS AN AREA IN NEED OF REHABILITATION

Rhone explained the purpose of the Resolution.

Tarver stated that there had not been input.

Motion to adopt by Carter; seconded by Rambo. Roll call. Carter-yes, Martin-yes, Mincey-yes, Rambo-yes, Scarpaci-abstain.

**WORK SESSION:**

Tarver stated/addressed the following: vehicle purchase was approved; the need to hire laborer for basic maintenance and grass cutting; the need for new machinery, such as weed whacker, blowers, etc. Tarver stated that state monitor is in favor of the proposal.

Scarpaci question riverfront cutting.

Tarver stated enforcement action is in progress.

Tarver suggested community cleanup day with two dumpsters to be put in place in the morning and picked up in the evening.

Mincey suggested allowing residents to place items in front of their homes and coordinate with DPW to pick up at no charge. Mincey stated it would make it easier for residents as well.

Mincey questioned the status of the Ordinance amending vendor fees.

Tarver advised that the matter is scheduled for the July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mincey questioned the status of the Penn Street project bid process.

Tarver stated the need to confer with the CFO, and that the matter will be on the July 5<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Scarpaci reminded all that the personnel policy had not been completed.

Tarver advised that matter will be on the July 5<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Scarpaci stated desire to award the quote for the ambulance hall.

Tarver explained matter will be prepared for next month.

Mincey questioned the budget update of the Recovery monies.

Tarver stated the need to confer with the CFO.

Scarpaci expressed concern regarding the lateness in receiving the agenda.

Tarver stated the need to hold committee meetings via zoom, further stating that it would help to prepare the agenda in a timely manner.

Carter stated the urgent need to hire grass cutters; suggested amending Ordinance from ten-day notice to only five-day notice.

Tarver stated theory on way to viable enforcement.

**PUBLIC COMMENT SESSION:**

AnJanette Scott, Railroad Avenue, expressed appreciation to Police for coverage and support during the Juneteenth event. Ms. Scott encouraged attendance and support during community events from all. Expressed appreciation to those who participated.

Mayor addressed fire on Cumberland Avenue home is on list for demolition and landscaping. Expressed appreciation to Pennsville, Gibbstown, Pedricktown, Carneys Point Fire Departments, for their aid.

Mayor encouraged all to come out and support all community events. Mayor also encouraged suggestions to celebrate all background and culture.

AnJanette Scott announced 'Oldie's Night' begins July 3, 2022, and children's events, every other Sunday.

Carter suggested police presence.

Lou Pasquale, Delaware Avenue, Penns Grove, questioned the completion of the Penn Street and Lanny Avenue projects.

Mayor advised; matter is on for July 5<sup>th</sup> meeting.

Mr. Pasquale questioned timeline for improvements to pump station.

Scarpaci stated repairs for Straughn's Lane has been scheduled, however, there is a delay with parts. No date or bids for Mill Street. Scarpaci stated Delaware Avenue needs additional repair.

Tarver stated repairs are scheduled to be made, pumps are working to capacity, and he will follow up with engineer.

Jesus Lopez, West Harmony Street, Penns Grove, questioned street sweeping.

Tarver stated he will contact DPW.

ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn by Rambo; seconded by Carter. All in favor.

Respectfully,

Sharon R. Williams, RMC  
Municipal Clerk