

**BOROUGH OF PENNS GROVE  
COUNTY OF SALEM, STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
MAYOR AND COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING – 6:30 P.M.  
March 21, 2023 – Minutes**

**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 March 21, 2023 meeting is being held via “Zoom” online meeting platform.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Mayor Thomas

**INVOCATION:** Sharon Williams, RMC

**ROLL CALL** Council President Martin, Councilman Carter, Councilwoman Marinaro, Councilman Rambo, Councilwoman Scott, Councilwoman Worley

**APPROVAL OF BILL LIST AND PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Motion to adopt: Worley      Second: Scott      Roll Call: motion passes

**RESOLUTIONS FOR CONSIDERATION AND ADOPTION:**

**2023-3-58– A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPROVAL OF PROPOSAL FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES FOR TRIAD ASSOCIATES REGARDING THE FY2024 CONGRSSIONALLY DIRECTED SPENDING- SENATORS BOOKER AND/OR MENENDEZ APPLICATION ENGINEERING FOR A COMMUNITY CENTER**

Motion to adopt Resolution No. 2023-2023-3-58: Martin Second: Scott Roll Call: motion passes

**ORDINANCE(S) FOR SECOND READING AND ADOPTION**

**2023-2 - AN ORDINANCE REGULATING THE CONSTRUCTION, RECONSTRUCTION, REPAIR OR RENOVATION OF BULKHEAD STRUCTURES**

Motion to adopt by: Carter                      second: Worley                      Roll Call: motion passes

**2023-3 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE 198 – 6, ESTABLISHING FEES FOR BOROUGH ACTION TO REMEDY PROPERTY VIOLATIONS**

Motion to adopt by: Worley      second: Scott                      Roll Call: motion passes

**OLD BUSINESS:** None

**NEW BUSINESS:** Mr. Tarver has 2 resolutions for consideration.

**2023-3-59– A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF POLICE OFFICER TARIK BRIGGS AT STEP 3.**

Motion to adopt by: carter second: Rambo Roll Call: motion passes

**2023-3-60– A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE HIRING OF POLICE OFFICER ALBERTO SOTO AT STEP 4.**

Motion to adopt by: Worley second: Carter Roll Call: motion passes

**PUBLIC SESSION:**

**Moyor discussed recent shooting and introduction of Anti-Violence Committee. Asked for Councilwoman Scott to provide information: 25 mentors to have a presence and change the negativity and drama with the youth. Has a meeting with the Superintendent to discuss program with the Penns Grove Middle School. To date there have been 15 men that have volunteered. Mayor interjected that you do not have to be a dad but dad figure can volunteer.**

**Irene Scarpaci – questioned on the anti-violence grant and Mayor advised it is in process.**

**Greg Martin – Spruce Street – seeking update on Barber Avenue Park. Mr. Tarver advised they had a meeting regarding the park, renovations were needed due to insurance. Received bid from CTX – some things were unable to be completed due to cost. Court needs more work, weather was part of the delay and asphalt unavailable until mid-April. Once asphalt completed it will need to settle for 30 days.**

**Also seeks clarity on Sewer Authority and when he moves from the Borough to a neighboring town if he is able to stay on the committee. Mr. Tarver advised there is no residency requirement. Mayor advised he will inform Council and they will advise Mr. Martin but he was unable to answer at the meeting. Mr. Martin also made a statement to Council President, Mrs. Martin, thanking her for her position and the integrity and care she has for the community.**

**Carl Washington – Pitman St – States unless the motion has been changed there is no residency requirement to be on Sewer Authority. He states he has been on the Sewer Authority for 15 years and the behaviors are causing resignations of employees and committee members. Members are being spoken to with expletives and in a condescending fashion. Mayor advised they will look it to this. Councilwoman Scott apologized that no one should be treated in that manner especially when volunteering their time. Director Rivera added if the Police presence is needed he will be sure that happens for the meetings.**

**Carol Mincey –Questioned the cost coverage for changes at the park. Stated she had requested the contract and did not receive. She wanted to know the terms of the agreement and who is handling terms outside the scope of the agreement. Mr. Tarver advised they will have a better picture once the excavation occurs and how it will be handled.**

**Stephen Labb- Comments he was late in being added to the agenda and wanted to provide an update. There is a 10,000 increase for recreation. Pension, benefits and fuel costs. 550,000 transitional aid – 126 year. 5.3 cent tax increase vs 6.4 last year. Building Surplus is due March 31, meeting requested for March 28, 2023. Mayor – Special meeting just for Budget Ordinances.**

**Adjournment Scott Seconded: Worley**

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING WILL BE APRIL 4, 2023 AT 6:30 PM**

**MINUTES ARE NOT VERBATIM**