

PENNDDEL BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

December 1, 2025

Council President John Stratz called the meeting to order at 7:31 p.m.

Present at the meeting

John Stratz, President
 Barbara Heffelfinger, VP
 Robin Valentis-via telecommunications
 Bud Murphy
 Bob Winkler
 Gary Nickerson
 Ryan Sorensen
 Tom Sodano, Mayor

Also present at the meeting

Barbara Kirk, Hill Wallack
 Geoff Thompson, Manager
 Chief Sean Perry
 Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer

COUNCIL OR BOROUGH ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Borough meetings are recorded for the purpose of preparing the minutes.
- All comments must be made at the microphone and be kept at three minutes.
- There was an Executive Session this evening from 7:05 p.m. to 7:31 p.m. to discuss pending litigation and real estate.
- The Activities' Committee is having their Tree Lighting on 12/6/25 at 6:30 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENT – On Agenda Items and Non-Agenda Items (3-minute time limit)

- Dave Cahill reminded Council about the toxic materials that enter the borough through the railroad lines before they vote on the hazardous materials ordinance.

CONSENT ITEMS

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE THE MEETING MINUTES OF THE NOVEMBER 17, 2025 WORKSHOP MEETING. SECONDED BY GARY NICKERSON. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF NOVEMBER 2025:

General Fund	\$21,604.64
Fire Tax Fund	\$ 243.14
Refuse Fund	\$ 38.23
Sewer Fund	\$28,973.76
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 4,900.20
Sewer Capital Fund	\$ 3,119.00
Liquid Fuels' Fund	\$ 4,636.05
Escrow Fund	\$ 3,000.00
Payroll Fund	\$ 1,497.78

Payroll

General Fund	\$42,670.15
Sewer Fund	<u>\$ 3,417.19</u>
Total	\$46,087.34

SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

REPORTS:

President's Report

Since 2018, our streetlights were all converted to LED to lower the borough's electric bill. We have made many upgrades to our Memorial Field. All new lighting for the entire field, a new basketball court, new restrooms, new fencing, new bleachers, all of these were expensive upgrades, but we pursued and won grants for all of this to save our residents as much money as possible. Our hope for next year is to put in an exercise/walking trail around the entire Memorial Field. We have done street repairs, and we want to keep the momentum and continue our road program next year.

Borough Manager's Report – Geoff Thompson read his report, which is on file in the secretary's office.

Mayor's Report – Mayor Sodano read his report, which is attached.

Chief's Report – Chief Perry read his report, which is on file in the secretary's office.

Solicitor's Report – No report.

Engineer's Report

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE PAYMENT TO ASPHALT MAINTENANCE SOLUTIONS LLC IN THE AMOUNT OF \$100,610.41 FOR THE ULTRA-THIN WEARING COURSE WORK COMPLETED ON CRESCENT STREET, HIGHLAND AVENUE AND MANOR AVENUE. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

New Business

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO RATIFY APPROVAL OF THE FOLLOWING MID-CYCLE INVOICES:

- Bucks County Law Library** invoice dated 11/6/25 in the amount of \$20.00 for registration of Ordinance #2025-6 and Ordinance #2025-7
- Cohen Law Group** Invoice #3 in the amount of \$2,266.66 for Verizon Franchise Renewal and audit services
- Comcast** invoice dated 10/26/25 in the amount of \$274.06 for internet and voice service at 300 Bellevue Avenue
- Gettysburg Benefit Administrators, Inc.** invoice dated 10/31/25 for dental insurance premium
- Independence Blue Cross** Invoice #582517440612 in the amount of \$5,263.48 for medical insurance premium
- Leck Waste Services** Invoice #606111 in the amount of \$23,660.56 for November trash services
- State Workers' Insurance Fund** in the amount of \$1,643.00 fire department's workers' compensation insurance
- PA UC Fund** invoice dated 11/3/25 in the amount of \$1,302.26 for 2026 solvency fee for relief from charges
- Verizon Wireless** Invoice #6127414420 in the amount of \$25.02 for M2M Account Share 1GB
- BCW&SA** invoice dated 11/7/25 in the amount of \$23,691.77 for September

wholesale sewer

Comcast invoice dated 11/2/25 in the amount of \$364.85 for internet at 790 Neshaminy Street

Comcast Invoice #255350065 in the amount of \$409.48 for business voice edge service

Independence Blue Cross Invoice #5825153733412 in the amount of \$5,263.48 for medical insurance premium

DeLage Landen Financial Services, Inc. Invoice #593216541 in the amount of \$108.00 for copier lease payment

Locality Media, Inc. Invoice #6969 in the amount of \$1,000.00 for investigations module and training

PECO invoice dated 11/19/25 in the amount of \$1,635.37 for streetlights' electric

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO APPROVE THE LAND DEVELOPMENT APPLICATION OF JOSHUA COHEN LIVING REVOKABLE TRUST FOR THE PLAN TITLED NESHAMINY COLLISION DATED 8/25/2025 TAX PARCEL #32-005-130. SECONDED BY BOB WINKLER. All ayes, motion carried.

Bryce McGuigan from Begley, Carlin and Mandio, property owner of 10 Lincoln Avenue, Joshua Cohen and Kristin Holmes of Holmes Cunningham Engineers explained the Land Development Project at 10 Lincoln Avenue and answered questions.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON THAT THE APPLICATION FOR NESHAMINY COLLISION LAND DEVELOPMENT PROPERTY AT 10 LINCOLN AVENUE OWNED BY THE JOSHUA COHEN IRREVOCABLE TRUST BE APPROVED SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH THE REQUIREMENTS AS SET FORTH IN THE BOROUGH ENGINEER'S LETTER DATED OCTOBER 15, 2025, SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH THE RESTRICTIONS LISTED BY THE BOROUGH'S ZONING HEARING BOARD IN ITS FINAL DECISION OF JULY 2025 WITH CONDITIONS NOT ONLY BEING ADDED AS A NOTE ON THE RECORD PLAN BUT ALSO SUBJECT TO A DECLARATION OF RESTRICTIONS TO BE DULY RECORDED IN THE BUCKS COUNTY RECORDER OF DEEDS, SUBJECT TO COMPLIANCE WITH ALL OTHER REGULATIONS OF ANY OTHER GOVERNMENTAL ENTITY HAVING JURISDICTION OR AUTHORITY OVER THIS MATTER AND APPROVAL OF THE WAIVERS AS REQUESTED SUBJECT TO THE MODIFICATIONS AS DISCUSSED AT TONIGHT'S HEARING. SECONDED BY RYAN SORENSEN. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO ADOPT ORDINANCE #2025-6 FOR THE RECOVERY AND REIMBURSEMENT TO THE BOROUGH OF COSTS AND EXPENSES INCURRED BY THE BOROUGH'S FIRE DEPARTMENT, POLICE DEPARTMENT AND/OR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/MEDICAL SERVICES IN RESPONSE TO ANY INCIDENT INVOLVING HAZARDOUS AND/OR TOXIC MATERIALS, TO ESTABLISH FEES AND PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE. SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADOPT THE 2026 BUDGET PRESENTED TO COUNCIL ON 11/3/25. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADOPT ORDINANCE #2025-7 ESTABLISHING CERTAIN REAL PROPERTY TAXES FOR THE FISCAL YEAR 2026 IN THE AMOUNT OF 18.3 MILLS FOR GENERAL BOROUGH PURPOSES, 4.0 MILLS FOR FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES, AND 2.5 MILLS FOR DEBT SERVICE, AS PROVIDED UNDER THE PA BOROUGH CODE. SECONDED BY JOHN STRATZ. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT OF THE 2026 MEETING SCHEDULE. SECONDED BY GARY NICKERSON. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-16 ESTABLISHING A FEE FOR COLLECTION OF ASHES, GARBAGE, RUBBISH AND REFUSE PURSUANT TO SECTION CHAPTER 340 – "SOLID WASTE" REPEALING PRIOR INCONSISTENT RESOLUTIONS AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE. SECONDED BY BOB WINKLER. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO AUTHORIZE THE CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION TO BEGIN THE PROCESS OF ESTABLISHING A POLICE OFFICER HIRING ELIGIBILITY LIST. SECONDED BY RYAN SORENSEN. All ayes, motion carried.

Council Members to be Heard

Robin Valentis asked if volunteers that work for the borough are covered by insurance. Borough Manager will look into that.

Barbara Heffelfinger, next year is the 250th Birthday for our country and she would like to have an event to celebrate. Robin says there will be more information in the upcoming newsletter.

MOTION BY GARY NICKERSON TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:30 P.M. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER. All ayes, carried.

Submitted by:

Marie Serota
Marie Serota, Borough Secretary/Treasurer

Mayor's Report for November 2025

Good evening, everyone. I hope you all had a Happy Thanksgiving, and I wish you a Joyous Holiday Season!

In November I attended the Borough Council meetings and attended the Executive sessions. I attended the Penn del Borough Zoning Board hearings and the Penn del Planning Commission meeting.

Turnout for the election in November was great. Thank you to all the voters who participated, and congratulations to all the candidates. The numbers indicate a virtual 50% split in voter affiliation. As elected officials we need to remain aware we represent all of them. For those of you who did not vote, please reconsider next election. Millions of people worldwide yearn to vote in free and fair elections. You can, so please do.

Thank you to both the Penn del Police Department and the Penn del Fire Company for another great year of service to the residents of Penn del.

The Borough Holiday Tree Lighting will be this Saturday, December 7th, at 7pm, here at Borough Hall.

The demolition of 51 Center Street is ongoing. As previously stated, there are temporary parking restrictions on Park Avenue and all PA Motor vehicle code parking laws on Center Street are being strictly enforced.

I continue to work with the Fire Marshal and the Chief of Police to maximize public safety and minimize any inconvenience.

A reminder to all the residents to please keep their vehicles off the Borough streets for street cleaning.

The Marazzo Companies will be sponsoring their annual Holiday Dinner for the needy on Christmas at their offices on Lincoln Avenue.

As we move into the winter weather season, in the event of a snow emergency declaration, all parking is prohibited on designated emergency routes until they are cleared. For all snow events, whether a declared emergency or not, please do not park in the streets until they are cleared. Snow will be cleared from the even numbered side of the streets first. If you lack off-street parking, please park on the odd numbered side until the even side of your street is cleared, then move your vehicle to the opposite side of the street.

Looking back at my first term in office, I am thankful to all the residents who come to Borough meetings. Regardless of politics, get engaged in your community. Together we can take

Penndel back to greatness.

And lastly, remember, never leave your vehicle running and unattended!

