

Penndel Borough Council Meeting Minutes

July 7, 2025

Councilman Mark Moffa called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at the Meeting

- Council President John Stratz - absent
- Council Vice President Barbara Heffelfinger
- Councilman Mark Moffa
- Councilwoman Robin Valentis
- Councilman Gary Nickerson - absent
- Councilman Bud Murphy
- Councilman Bob Winkler
- Mayor Tom Sodano

Also present at the meeting

- Barbara Kirk, Hill Wallack
- Carol Schuehler, Borough Engineer
- Geoff Thompson, Manager
- Chief Sean Perry
- Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer

Public Comment

Miranda Winkler, commented on complaints from the previous meeting regarding previous and current volunteer work in the borough.

Jeff Jones, asked about his donation offer of a Christmas tree at borough hall.

Joe Dudash, spoke on behalf of a disabled neighbor at 22 Oak and her fence survey dispute after a permit was issued and the current fence ordinance. He also reported that no residential inspection was done at 20 Oak Ave.

Consent Items

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JUNE 2, 2025 COUNCIL MEETING AND TO PAY THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF JUNE 2025:

General Fund	\$47,770.52
Refuse Fund	\$24,097.50
Sewer Fund	\$45,789.62
Capital Reserve Fund	\$ 5,429.50
Liquid Fuels	\$ 2,802.97
Sewer Capital Fund	\$14,726.25
Escrow Fund	\$ 1,994.00
Payroll Fund	\$ 1,375.03
Police Pension Fund	\$ 75.00
Employees' Pension Fund	\$ 75.00

Payroll

General Fund	\$35,294.08
Sewer Fund	\$ 3,638.06
Total	\$38,932.14

Escrow Bills

Land of Children SWM:

Value Engineering \$ 61.00

Land of Children ZH Escrow

Hill Watack LLP: \$ 120.00

Tatyana Volkov \$ 1,020.00 (ZH Escrow release)

201 W. Lincoln Hwy:

Value Engineering \$ 793.00

SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. The vote was 4-0-1 (Bob Winkler abstained).

Reports:**Manager's Report**

Geoff Thompson read the report which is on file in the secretary's office.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Sodano read his report, which is attached.

Police Dept. Report

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

Engineer's Report

Carol Schuehler read her report, which is attached.

New Business

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

Brown & Brown of Lehigh Valley Invoice #20747097 dated 6/2/25 in the amount of \$6,073.00 for commercial package installment.

Comcast invoice dated 5/28/25 in the amount of \$241.59 for internet and voice services at 300 Bellevue Avenue

K & S Landscaping Invoice #2035 dated 5/15/25 in the amount of \$825.00 for May lawn service

Leck Waste Service Invoice #560951 in the amount of \$23,660.56 for June trash service

The Hartford Invoice #357527709008 in the amount of \$876.90 for life insurance installment

Bucks County Law Library invoice dated 6/5/24 in the amount of \$10.00 for registration of Ordinance #2025-5

Comcast invoice dated 5/26/25 in the amount of \$255.31 for internet and voice services at 37 W. Woodland Ave.

Comcast Invoice #242755537 in the amount of \$407.48 for Business Voice Edge Service

Encova Insurance Invoice #37019954 dated 6/1/25 in the amount of \$3,841.00 for workers' compensation insurance premium installment.

Gettysburg Benefit Administrators invoice dated 5/30/25 in the amount of \$201.93 for dental insurance premium installment.

Comcast invoice dated 6/2/2025 in the amount of \$364.85 for internet at 790 Neshaminy Street

Verizon Wireless Invoice #6114927001 in the amount of \$25.02 for M2M Account Share 1 GB

Independence Blue Cross Invoice #582510329171 dated 6/6/25 in the amount of \$5,263.48 for medical insurance premium installment.

SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BOB WINKLER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-8 AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING THE INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH NESHAMINY SCHOOL DISTRICT CONCERNING AUTOMATED ENFORCEMENT OF FAILURE TO STOP FOR SCHOOL BUS WITH FLASHING RED LIGHTS. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BOB WINKLER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-9 SUPPORTING HOUSE BILL 1152 REQUIRING INSURANCE COMPANIES TO DIRECTLY REIMBURSE EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS FOR SERVICES RENDERED TO COMMONWEALTH RESIDENTS. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BUD MURPHY TO TABLE SENDING A LETTER TO SENATOR FRANK FARRY IN SUPPORT OF SENATE BILL 194 TO ALLOW PUBLIC NOTICES ON MUNICIPAL WEBSITES AND PROVIDE LOCAL GOVERNMENTS WITH FLEXIBLE MENU OF PRINT AND ELECTRONIC OPTIONS FOR ADVERTISING PUBLIC NOTICES. SECONDED BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BUD MURPHY TO AUTHORIZE BOROUGH ENGINEER TO ISSUE THE REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND PRICE PROPOSAL TO SEND TO CONTRACTORS THAT DO TRAFFIC SIGNAL DESIGN WORK FOR THE ARLE GRANT MODERNIZATION OF TRAFFIC SIGNAL AT LINCOLN HWY. AND DURHAM RD. SECONDED BY BOB WINKLER. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BUD MURPHY TO AUTHORIZE ADVERTISEMENT FOR A PUBLIC HEARING REGARDING VERIZON CABLE FRANCHISE RENEWAL INVITING CITIZEN COMMENT ON PAST PRACTICES OF THE CABLE OPERATOR AND THE FUTURE CABLE RELATED NEEDS OF THE MUNICIPALITY. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION OF PATROLMAN RICHARD TUCKER EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2025. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO HIRE MICHAEL MOTZ AS A PART-TIME PATROL OFFICER, CONTINGENT UPON PASSING BACKGROUND AND MPOETC REQUIREMENTS. SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY ROBIN VALENTIS TO ADOPT ORDINANCE #2025-5 AMENDING THE BOROUGH'S CODE OF ORDINANCES FOR EVENTS AND BLOCK PARTIES TO ESTABLISH ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES AND ESTABLISH FEES AND PENALTIES FOR NON-COMPLIANCE. SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE CHANGE ORDER #1 REVISING THE START DATE FOR THE NOELAND AVENUE SIDEWALKS PROJECT FROM AUGUST 1, 2025 TO SEPTEMBER 1, 2025. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

MOTION BY BOB WINKLER TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF \$48,210.88 TO HARRIS BLACKTOPPING, INC. FOR PAVEMENT REPAIR WORK COMPLETED ON BOROUGH STREETS, CONTINGENT UPON RECEIPT OF FINAL DOCUMENTS. SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, motion carried.

Council Members to be Heard

Barbara Heffelfinger asked the mayor about notice in the upcoming newsletter about National Night Out, along with some Community Day events.

Mayor Sodano asked Mark Moffa if there will be a response regarding the fence disputes discussed, since we have been told this is a civil matter and if GIS can be used for permitting. Mark said he will speak with the manager and see if there is anything the borough can do.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFLEFINGER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 8:20 P.M. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

Submitted by:



Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer

Mayor's Report for June 2025

In June I attended the Borough Council meeting.

I attended a ceremony at Borough Hall with Senator Farry to mark the 2023/24 DCED grants.

I attended the Penndel Borough Planning Zoning hearing.

During the course of the month there were multiple meetings with The Chief, the Fire Marshall, and the Borough Manager regarding storm related issues. Special thanks to the many Borough residents who incurred, tree downings and endured the extended power outages.

The Penndel Community Day and Borough-wide yard sale on Saturday, June 14th was cancelled due to weather. We will be combining some of the community day festivities with National Night Out on Tuesday, August 5th. Please join us at the Penndel Memorial Field pavilion from 5pm to 9pm.

Fourth of July celebrations often include fireworks, and this past weekend was no exception. There were many instances of fireworks in the Borough. There was frightening news of a fire in Falls Township caused by fireworks. Fortunately, there were no injuries, but a family lost their home. If you choose to have fireworks, please be careful and keep them at least 150 feet from any structure.

Summer pool season is here. Make sure your safety equipment is handy and in good order. Make sure your electrical equipment is up to safety codes. It's worth the time, as it only takes a moment for a catastrophe.

And remember, never leave your vehicle running and unattended!

July 7, 2025 Engineers Report
Penndel Borough, Bucks County

➤ **ARLE Grant**

Penndel has been awarded a \$350,990 ARLE grant from PennDOT for modernization of the traffic signal at Lincoln Highway and Durham Road. The Borough will need to select a qualified traffic engineering firm for the signal design and permitting. We have drafted a REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATIONS AND FEE PROPOSAL. Upon authorization by Council, we will send the request to three or more firms who do this type of work. The responses will be provided to Borough Council in August so Council may select an engineering firm for this work at either the August workshop meeting or the September regular meeting.

➤ **Noeland Avenue Sidewalks**

As requested by Council, we have prepared a change order to delay the Borough contractors start date for sidewalk work by one month. Associated Paving has agreed and has executed the change order. It is presented this evening for your consideration. If approved, the Borough may then inform residents on Noeland Avenue they have an additional month to complete the work.

➤ **Pavement Repairs**

Harris Blacktopping has completed select pavement repairs in recent weeks. Their invoice is presented this evening for payment.

Daycare

Plans to manage stormwater runoff from the daycare on Highland Avenue have been submitted and are currently under review.

Signal Repairs: Lincoln Highway and Bellevue Avenue

Armour and Sons have initiated the signal repair work at the intersection of Lincoln and Bellevue funded by an RDA grant.