

Penndel Borough Council Meeting Minutes

September 2, 2025

Council President John Stratz called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Present at the Meeting

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

Also present at the meeting

Barbara Kirk, Hill Wallack  
Geoff Thompson, Borough Manager  
Marie Serota, Secretary/Treasurer

Annual Pension Meeting – 2026 Minimum Municipal Obligations

Police Pension Plan	\$27,623.00
Employees' Pension Plan	\$12,227.00

Announcements

John Stratz gave recognition to our secretary Karen Kondrk for applying for the 904 Recycling Grant which will qualify us to purchase recycling cans with \$4,748.39 that we will be receiving.

Public Comment

Mike Smith, recreation field lights left on very late, junk at the triangle property across from McHugh's building and behind Bertrands Auto.

Estella Kristiniak, the rec. field lights were on past 1:00 a.m. over the weekend.

Neil Berman, asked about the public comment moving to the beginning of the meeting and would like the opportunity to ask questions later.

Ryan Sorenson, asked if Council's information (documents) discussed at the meetings can be attached to the agenda.

Mike Smith, does not favor the new public comment format. He thinks residents can add their views as they come up during the meeting.

Consent Items

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO APPROVE THE AUGUST 18, 2025, MEETING MINUTES AND PAY THE FOLLOWING BILLS FOR THE MONTH OF AUGUST 2025:

General Fund	\$67,611.17
Fire Tax Fund	\$ 3,602.00
Refuse Fund	\$ 612.52

Sewer Fund	\$46,187.89
Capital Reserve Fund	\$54,244.50
Sewer Capital Fund	\$ 3,213.92
liquid Fuels Fund	\$ 68.67
Escrow Fund	\$ 579.50
Payroll Fund	\$ 1,782.94

Payroll

General Fund	\$43,013.17
Sewer Fund	\$ 4,601.14

Total \$47,614.31

Escrow Bills

Land of Children SWM:

Value Engineering	\$ 30.50
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Cattani SD:

Value Engineering	\$ 549.00
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SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. The vote was 6-0-1 abstention (Mark Moffa). Motion carried.

***Reports:***

President's Report

Election to the governing body of any Pennsylvania municipality gives a good deal of responsibility. This power is granted by various laws and codes giving specific powers to Council. Corporate powers legalize the actions of the municipality and provide elected officials the authority to act on behalf of the municipality. The Borough Code vests the corporate power of the municipality in Council and enables the Council to enact laws of governmental functions such as fire and police protection and taxation. This gives Council the capabilities needed for the benefit of the borough and its' citizens. The borough code gives council its' most important power and that is the authorization to make and adopt all ordinances, by-laws, rules and regulations necessary for the management and control of the borough to maintain good government and protect the safety and welfare of its citizens.

Manager's Report – Geoff read his report, which is attached.

After reading his report, Geoff responded to the complaint about the recreation field lights' hours of operation. The agreement with the Neshaminy Wildcats states that lights are to be out at 10 p.m.

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

The Mayor also addressed the issue of the lights at the recreation field that were left on too long. Residents need to contact the police department so there is a record of violation. The police department can't enforce something after it happens or use video footage without time record of the incident.

Chief's Report – Mayor Sodano read the report. The chief was excused from tonight's meeting.

Solicitor's Report

Barbara Kirk announced that there was an executive session from 7:05 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss an ongoing litigation matter. There will be another executive session later in the meeting.

New Business

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

**Comcast** invoice dated 7/26/25 in the amount of \$282.57 for internet & voice services at 37 W. Woodland Avenue

**Comcast** invoice dated 7/26/25 in the amount of \$270.23 for internet & voice services at 300 Bellevue Avenue

**WhentoWork** Invoice #74125968-10-12-PRO-25 in the amount of \$233.20 for a one-year subscription for online scheduling

**Apex Overhead Doors, Inc.** Invoice #23096A in the amount of \$2,495.00 for ½ of the cost for the snack stand doors' installation

**Gettysburg Benefits Administrators, Inc.** invoice dated 7/31/25 in the amount of \$201.93 for dental insurance premium

**Independence Blue Cross** Invoice #582511965190 in the amount of \$5,263.48 for medical insurance premium

**State Workers' Insurance Fund** invoice dated 8/1/25 in the amount of \$1,643.00 for fire departments' insurance premium

**Comcast** invoice dated 8/2/25 in the amount of \$364.85 for internet at 790 Neshaminy Street

**Comcast** Invoice #903759387 in the amount of \$407.81 for business voice edge service

**PECO Payment Processing** invoice dated 8/8/25 in the amount of \$48.24 for 790 Neshaminy Street

**Verizon Wireless** Invoice #6119955809 in the amount of \$25.02 for M2M Account Share 1 GB

SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. Call ayes, carried.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-10 AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS, PENNSYLVANIA FOR A PENNDEL BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL VEHICLE. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. Motion dies, handguns for the police department are also on the grant application and need to be added to the resolution.

MOTION BY MARK MOFFA TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-10 AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS, PENNSYLVANIA FOR A PENNDEL BOROUGH POLICE DEPARTMENT PATROL VEHICLE WITH AMENDMENTS AS DISCUSSED. SECONDED BY ROBIN VALENTIS. All ayes, motion carried.

Resolution #2025-11

Andrew J. Schifferli, Director of Operations at the Penn-del-Middletown Emergency Squad explained the grant application is for refurbishment of a 2017 ambulance with over 120,000 miles on it, with shared cost of \$23,000.00 from 5 municipalities. The motion needs to be amended to add that the application is for a refurbished ambulance.

MOTION BY MARK MOFFA TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2025-11 AUTHORIZING AND APPROVING A MUNICIPAL GRANT PROGRAM APPLICATION TO THE REDEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY OF THE COUNTY OF BUCKS, PENNSYLVANIA FOR THE PENNDEL-MIDDLETOWN EMERGENCY SQUAD AS AMENDED PER DISCUSSION. SECONDED BY BOB WINKLER. All ayes, carried.

MOTION BY ROBIN VALENTIS TO HIRE JEANINE PRICE AS A PART-TIME SUBSTITUTE CROSSING GUARD CONTINGENT UPON COMPLETION OF CHILD ABUSE HISTORY CLEARANCE. SECONDED BY BUD MURPHY. All ayes, motion carried.

Borough Council and the Mayor went into executive session with Barbara Kirk, Borough Solicitor at 8:15 p.m. until 9:35 p.m.

MOTION BY BARBARA HEFFELFINGER TO ADJOURN THE MEETING AT 9:35 P.M. SECONDED BY MARK MOFFA. All ayes, carried.

Submitted by:   
Marie Serota, Borough Secretary

## MANAGER'S REPORT – AUGUST 2025

To: Borough Council & Mayor

From: Geoff Thompson, Borough Manager

Date: August 29, 2025

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### Significant Meetings Attended:

Aug 18 @ 10:00AM – Mtg. w/ Keystone Construction Rep. re: backstop replacement

Aug 18 @ 11:30AM – Zoom mtg. re: TASA grant application

Aug 19 @ 10:00AM – Sen. Ferry Grants Workshop @ Middletonw Country Club

Aug 27 @ 12:00PM – Mtg. w/ Toyota of Langhorne re: TASA grant easements

Aug 28 @ 10:00AM – Zoom meeting re: ARLE grant traffic signal design

Aug 28 @ 5:00PM – Mtg. w/ reps of 201 W. Lincoln Hwy re: permitted uses of property

### Projects/Issues Addressed:

- 2026 Budget: Staff has begun the preparation of the draft 2026 Budget. Please forward Marie or myself any requests for the 2026 budget. The normal budget process is as follows;

August - September: Staff prepares the 2026 draft budget

October: The Finance Committee discusses and reviews the 2026 draft budget

November 3, 2025 Council Meeting: Council discusses and approves the proposed 2026 Preliminary Budget. If the Preliminary Budget is approved it is required to be advertised. The real estate tax ordinance is also advertised (if necessary).

December 1, 2025 Council Meeting: Council approves the 2026 Final Budget and the 2026 real estate tax ordinance (if necessary).

- Discussions with Carol Schueler regarding Boro Projects: ARLE Grant, TASA Grant and LSA Grant, street paving and crack sealing.

## Mayor's Report for August 2025

In August I attended the Borough Council meetings, and attended the Executive session.

I attended the Pennadel Borough Zoning Hearing.

On Tuesday, August 5th, Pennadel Borough held an event at the Pennadel Memorial Field pavilion combining some of the community day festivities with National Night Out. There was live music, refreshments, a bounce house for the kids and many local organizations as well as our elected State Officials, Police and EMT were well represented. It was an enjoyable evening for all. Kudos to The Pennadel PD, Councilpersons Hefflefinger and Stratz, and Borough Secretary Karen Kondrk for their help.

BCWS has started paving operations on Woodland Avenue from Fairview to Highland Avenues. Soon, further scheduled paving will commence on Borough Streets. Look at The borough's social media pages to stay informed.

As summer draws to a close, the days shorten and the shadows lengthen. Be mindful of traffic, watch for pedestrians and please drive every through our neighborhoods as if your kids live there.

And remember, never leave your vehicle running and unattended!