

**Pennington Borough Council
Regular Meeting – May 8, 2017**

Mayor Persichilli called the Regular Meeting of the Borough Council to order at 7:00 pm. Borough Clerk Betty Sterling called the roll with Council Members Chandler, Gnatt, Griffiths, Marciante and Mills in attendance. Mr. Lawver was absent.

Also present were Borough Administrator Eileen Heinzl, Public Works Superintendent Rick Smith, Public Safety Director Bill Meytrott, Borough Engineer Brandon Fetzer and Borough Attorney Walter Bliss.

Mayor Persichilli announced that notice of this meeting has been given to the Hopewell Valley News, Trenton Times and was posted on the bulletin board in Borough Hall and on the Borough web-site according to the regulations of the Open Public Meetings Act.

Mayor Persichilli asked everyone to stand for the flag salute.

Mayor Persichilli announced a revision to the agenda to add a closed session for the purpose of discussing pending tax appeals for Mercer Mutual and American Properties.

Open to the Public – Agenda Items Only

Mayor Persichilli read the following statement:

The meeting is now open to the public for comments on items on the agenda for which no public discussion is provided. In an effort to provide everyone interested an opportunity to address his or her comments to the Governing Body, a public comment time limit has been instituted for each speaker. **Please come forward and state your name and address for the record. Please limit comments to the Governing Body to a maximum of 3 minutes.**

There were no comments from the public.

Mayor's Business

Mayor Persichilli announced the resignation of Emily Matticoli from the Historic Preservation Commission.

Mayor's Appointments

Mayor Persichilli announced the appointment of Robert Hall as a member of the Economic Development Commission for a 1 year term expiring December 31, 2017.

Mayor Persichilli announced that Brandon Fetzer, Borough Engineer is here this evening to discuss the road project at King George Road and Park Avenue and the upcoming work on Route 31.

Approval of Minutes

Council Member Chandler made a motion to approve the minutes of the April 3, 2017 Regular Meeting, second by Council Member Mills. Mr. Marciante stated that one of the resolutions refers to him making a motion and a second. Mrs. Sterling stated that she would correct it. Upon a roll call vote all members present voted in favor with the exception of Mr. Griffiths who abstained.

Ordinances for Introduction

Mayor Persichilli read Ordinance 2017-10 by title.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
ORDINANCE NO. 2017 - 10**

**ORDINANCE AMENDING CHAPTER 98 OF THE CODE
OF THE BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON CONCERNING STANDBY FEES FOR PRIVATE FIRE-
PROTECTION SYSTEMS**

WHEREAS, Borough Council seeks to amend certain standby fees for private fire-protection systems set forth in Chapter 98 of the Code of the Borough of Pennington;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, as follows:

1. **Subsection A of Section 98-42, which establishes standby fees for private fire-protection systems, is hereby amended (with deletions bracketed and new language underlined) as follows:**

98-42. Standby fees.

Quarterly standby fees for private fire-protection systems pursuant to Section 206-2 of this Code are as follows:

A. Quarterly standby fees for private fire-protection systems regardless of the rate or quantity of that service:

Size of Private Lines (inches)	Fee (per connection)
2	\$[125]158
3	\$[300]378
4	\$[450]567
6	\$[925]1,166
8	\$[1,600]2,016

2. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage and publication as provided by law.

Council Member Chandler made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-10, second by Council Member Gnatt with all members present voting in favor.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
COUNTY OF MERCER**

ORDINANCE NO. 2017-11

**AN ORDINANCE INCREASING RATES CHARGED BY THE PENNINGTON
BOROUGH WATER AND SEWER UTILITY, AND AMENDING THE CODE OF
THE BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON**

WHEREAS, the Pennington Borough Water and Sewer Utility continues to incur increased costs;

WHEREAS, Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington has determined that as a result of these increased costs the rates charged by the Utility for water and sewer services must be increased and the rates must be further differentiated for customers based on amount of usage;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington as follows:

1. **Section 98-41 of the Code, concerning base and usage charges for water and sewer customers, is hereby amended as follows (with language in brackets deleted, new language underlined and percentage changes indicated in parenthesis):**

A. There are hereby established the following quarterly charges for water customers:

Meter Size (inches)	Base Charge 4,000 Gallons or Less [From To] (Percent Change)	First Excess Usage Block Charge 4,001-20,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons) [From To] (Percent Change)	Second Excess Usage Block Charge 20,001-60,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons) [From To] (Percent Change)	Third Excess Usage Block Charge 60,001-200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons) [From To] (Percent Change)	Fourth Excess Usage Block Charge More than 200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons) [From To] (Percent Change)
Less than 1	[\$30.40] <u>\$31.16</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.16] <u>\$7.34</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.60] <u>\$8.74</u> (+15%)	[\$8.34] <u>\$9.59</u> (+15%)	[\$9.76] <u>\$11.22</u> (+15%)
1	[\$46.41] <u>\$47.57</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.16] <u>\$7.34</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.60] <u>\$8.74</u> (+15%)	[\$8.34] <u>\$9.59</u> (+15%)	[\$9.76] <u>\$11.22</u> (+15%)
2	[\$132.59] <u>\$135.90</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.16] <u>\$7.34</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.60] <u>\$8.74</u> (+15%)	[\$8.34] <u>\$9.59</u> (+15%)	[\$9.76] <u>\$11.22</u> (+15%)
3	[\$295.78] <u>\$303.17</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.16] <u>\$7.34</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.60] <u>\$8.74</u> (+15%)	[\$8.34] <u>\$9.59</u> (+15%)	[\$9.76] <u>\$11.22</u> (+15%)
4	[\$434.69] <u>\$445.56</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.16] <u>\$7.34</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.60] <u>\$8.74</u> (+15%)	[\$8.34] <u>\$9.59</u> (+15%)	[\$9.76] <u>\$11.22</u> (+15%)
6	[\$812.24] <u>\$832.55</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.16] <u>\$7.34</u> (+2.5%)	[\$7.60] <u>\$8.74</u> (+15%)	[\$8.34] <u>\$9.59</u> (+15%)	[\$9.76] <u>\$11.22</u> (+15%)

NOTE: Usage charges are per one-thousand-gallon increments, or portion thereof.

B. There are hereby established the following quarterly charges for sewer customers:

Base Charge 4,000 Gallons or Less	First Excess Usage Block Charge 4,001-20,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons)	Second Excess Usage Block Charge 20,001-60,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons)	Third Excess Usage Block Charge 60,001-200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons)	Fourth Excess Usage Block Charge More than 200,000 Gallons (per 1,000 Gallons)
[From To] (Percent Change)	[From To] (Percent Change)	[From To] (Percent Change)	[From To] (Percent Change)	[From To] (Percent Change)
[\$34.50] \$35.36 (+[5]2.5%)	[\$7.83] <u>\$8.03</u> (+[5]2.5%)	[\$8.38] <u>\$9.64</u> (+[5]15.0%)	[\$9.00] <u>\$10.35</u> (+[5]15.0%)	[\$9.69] <u>\$11.14</u> (+[5]15.0%)

NOTE: Usage charges are per one-thousand-gallon increment, or portion thereof.

C. The minimum quarterly base charge for multiunit residential or multiunit commercial or a combination thereof serviced through a single water meter shall be determined by the product of the number of units by the minimum quarterly base charge of a one-inch meter, regardless of the size of the meter(s) that feeds the units.

D. Sewage or other wastes containing unduly high concentrations of other substances which add to the operating costs of the sewage treatment works will be subject to a surcharge to be determined by the Borough on the basis of the character and volume for such sewage and wastes. Where, in the opinion of the Borough, sewage and other wastes of a deleterious character adversely affect the treatment processes, the Borough reserves the right to require that such sewage and wastes be treated by the contributor to remove or neutralize the objectionable substances before discharge into the sewers.

E. Base and usage charges shall be due on March 1, June 1, September 1 and December 1, except in 2017 the billing date for the first quarter water/sewer bills is extended to April 3, 2017 and the due date for the first quarter water/sewer bills is extended to May 1, 2017.

F. Premises introducing water into a permanent private pool may be allowed a reduction in the charge of sewer usage in an amount equal to the volume of water introduced into the pool. This will require the installation and rental of a temporary meter in conformance with the Borough Code.

3. This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication as provided by law.

Council Member Chandler made a motion to introduce Ordinance 2017-11, second by Council Member Griffiths with all members present voting in favor.

Committee Reports

Planning & Zoning / Open Space – Mrs. Gnatt had no report.

Public Safety / Personnel – Mr. Marciante stated that the Public Safety Committee is looking into the choices for a speed tracker/trailer to find out what is the best option for Pennington. Mr. Marciante stated that this is a great idea for Pennington and he thinks that it will work well in the effort to slow people down.

Public Works/ Library / Shade Tree / Senior Advisory – No report due to Mr. Lawver’s absence.

Parks and Recreation – Mrs. Mills reported that the Adopt-a-Flag program is underway and new flags have been purchased and will be up soon. Mrs. Mills reported that the Easter Egg Hunt was very successful this year. Mrs. Mills stated that the Memorial Day Parade Committee met and they are beginning to get organized. Mrs. Mills stated that the Jack Furlong Jazz Band will perform in the evening on Memorial Day. Mrs. Mills stated that the summer concerts are scheduled for July 20th and August 17th.

Mrs. Mills reported that the Library is finalizing summer programming and many fun programs are scheduled for the kids. Mrs. Mills stated that a College Options and Strategies for the Average Student was held yesterday and a Medicare program will be held on Monday, May 15th. Mrs. Mills stated that on Thursday, May 18th a volunteer reception will take place from 5:30 to 7:30pm. Mrs. Mills reported that the Library was awarded a Pennington Day Grant in the amount of \$500 to start a World Languages Picture Book collection. Mrs. Mills stated that the Library is currently facing a shortage of weekend volunteers.

Mrs. Chandler asked if there was an official way to reserve the conference room in the Library for meetings. Mrs. Chandler stated that with the Senior Center potentially closing there are several boards and commissions that currently meet at the Senior Center that will be looking for another location. Mrs. Mills stated that she would look into it.

Finance – Mr. Griffiths stated that the Finance Committee met last Monday to discuss the utility revenue projections and the committee agreed that it is necessary to raise the water/sewer rates again. Mr. Griffiths explained that the overall problem is that utility consumption has been declining since 2010 by eight

percent in total. Mr. Griffiths stated that there is some price sensitivity in that as the rates go up the consumption goes down which stems from encouraging conservation. Mr. Griffiths stated that we looked at the projections for 2017 based on the first quarter billing and it is apparent that we are already going to miss the projected revenue for 2017 despite the 2.5% increase that was put in place. Mr. Griffiths stated that the result is the ordinance introduced earlier in the meeting. Mr. Griffiths stated that the Finance Committee feels that this increase should take us above the projected revenue for 2017. Mr. Griffiths stated that the urgency for doing this is that the State Auditor has called into question the projections from the past three years since we have not met those projections. Mr. Griffiths stated that the State has been concerned about this even though the Borough has managed the budget by cutting expenses. Mr. Griffiths stated that the State does not approve of that as a managerial option so instead of cutting expenses, we have to collect the revenue projections which forces us to be somewhat more aggressive with the rate increase. Mr. Griffiths stated that the Finance Committee thinks that we should hit these anticipated revenue projections and he will be setting up spreadsheets to forecast the numbers going forward. Mr. Griffiths stated that expenses are going to increase somewhat because of water main infrastructure work through the years 2017, 2018 and 2019 until we retire a major bond issue and at that point debt service will decline by about 5% to 10% which should take some of the pressure off of the rates. Mr. Griffiths stated that this is a capital intensive business and if we neglect the maintenance of the utility we will just increase the problem down the road.

Historic Preservation / Board of Health / Environmental / Economic Development – Mrs. Chandler reported that the new Historic District banners for downtown have been received and will be installed. Mrs. Chandler stated that the Environmental Commission received notification that their ANJEC grant application was approved.

Mrs. Chandler reported that the Board of Health did not meet and there was nothing to report for Historic Preservation.

Mrs. Chandler stated that at the last meeting of the Economic Development Commission they discussed the parking complaint that resulted from the Pennington School Science Fair. Mrs. Chandler stated that she found out from the Pennington School that they had remote parking in four locations for that event so people who attended the event were supposed to park in those satellite parking areas. Mrs. Chandler stated that the school never intended for people to park on the streets and so the whole conversation was unnecessary. Mrs. Chandler stated that if the person had parked in one of the designated areas they would not have gotten a ticket. Mrs. Chandler stated that the Pennington School made no request of the Borough to waive the parking regulations and the Pennington School in good faith tried to get people to park in the satellite parking areas.

Mr. Marciante stated that the location where the vehicle was parked was on the corner of Delaware Avenue and Green Street where actually parking 25 feet from the corner is illegal but we allow it. Mr. Marciante stated that everyone else parked where they were supposed to and this person parked where she shouldn't have and that is why she got a ticket.

Mayor Persichilli stated that he and Mrs. Heinzl met with the Pennington School to discuss a number of things, one of which was parking. Mayor Persichilli stated that they will have ongoing conversations about parking and the ongoing issues that are created for the Borough.

New Business

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION #2017 – 5.1**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDS

BE IT RESOLVED, that a refund be issued to Caliber Home Loans c/o CoreLogic Real Estate Tax Service, Attn: Refund Department, PO Box 961250, Fort Worth, TX 76161-9858, for refund of 2017 second quarter taxes, Block 101, Lot 3, also known as 145 West Franklin Avenue, in the amount of \$3,325.51.

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Chandler	S				Lawver				absent
Gnatt	X				Marciante	M			
Griffiths	X				Mills	X			

Council Member Marciante made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5.1, second by Council Member Chandler with all members present voting in favor.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION #2017 – 5.2**

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT OF BILLS

WHEREAS, certain bills are due and payable as per itemized claims listed on the following schedules, which are made a part of the minutes of this meeting as a supplemental record;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Mayor and Council of the Borough of Pennington that the bills be paid on audit and approval of the Mayor, the Appropriate Council Member and the Treasurer in the amount of \$ 1,615,582.09 from the following accounts:

Current	\$ 1,428,703.72
W/S Operating	\$ 143,457.74
Developers Escrow	\$ 16,741.30
Grant Fund	\$ 3,751.49
Recreation Trust	\$ 487.80
Animal Control	\$ 234.60
Other Trust Fund	\$ 8,183.75
W/S Capital	\$ 8,316.18
General Capital	\$ 5,705.51
TOTAL	\$ 1,615,582.09

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Chandler	X				Lawver				absent
Gnatt	X				Marciante	X			
Griffiths	M				Mills	S			

Council Member Griffiths made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5.2, second by Council Member Mills with all members present voting in favor.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION 2017 - 5.3**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CANCELLATION OF
OLD UNIDENTIFIABLE ESCROWS PLUS INTEREST**

WHEREAS, the Borough of Pennington has for many years maintained their Developer’s Escrow Accounts at the Bank of America; and

WHEREAS, at the end of 2016 the Borough received a letter from the Bank of America indicating that effective January 13, 2017 we must close the Developer’s Escrow Account; and

WHEREAS, the Borough has opened an account with The Bank of Princeton to handle its Developer’s Escrow Accounts; and

WHEREAS, when the funds were transferred from Bank of America to The Bank of Princeton there were funds in the amount of \$13,264.68 included that could not be identified;

WHEREAS, it is the recommendation of the Chief Financial Officer that these funds be cancelled and transferred to the Current Fund to be posted as miscellaneous revenue not anticipated;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington that unidentified escrow balance in the amount of \$13,264.68 be cancelled and transferred to the Current Fund.

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Chandler	S				Lawver				absent
Gnatt	X				Marciante	M			
Griffiths	X				Mills	X			

Council Member Marciante made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5.3, second by Council Member Chandler with all members present voting in favor.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION #2017 – 5.4**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT REQUEST NO. 1 TO
GLEN G. HALE, d.b.a. HALE BUILT FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE IMPROVEMENTS TO
KING GEORGE ROAD PROJECT**

WHEREAS, Glen G. Hale, d.b.a. Hale Built has completed work pursuant to the contract for the Improvements to King George Road Project (VNHA File #: 43325-520-52); and

WHEREAS, Van Note Harvey Associates has reviewed Hale Built’s attached application for payment and recommends payment of same pursuant to the Contractor’s Request for Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$32,935.87 less 2% retainage in the amount of \$ 658.72; and

WHEREAS, this is a partial payment under the contract; and

WHEREAS, funds are available from in Account #: G-02-44-956-000-250;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, that payment to Hale Built in the net amount of \$ 32,277.15 pursuant to payment request No.1 is hereby authorized.

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Chandler	M				Lawver				absent
Gnatt	S				Marciante	X			
Griffiths	X				Mills	X			

Council Member Chandler made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5.4, second by Council Member Gnatt with all members present voting in favor.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION #2017 – 5.5**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING PAYMENT REQUEST NO. 1 TO
GLEN G. HALE, d.b.a. HALE BUILT FOR WORK COMPLETED ON THE IMPROVEMENTS TO
PARK AVENUE**

WHEREAS, Glen G. Hale, d.b.a. Hale Built has completed work pursuant to the contract for the Improvements to Park Avenue Project (VNHA File #: 43326-520-52); and

WHEREAS, Van Note Harvey Associates has reviewed Hale Built’s attached application for payment and recommends payment of same pursuant to the Contractor’s Request for Payment No. 1 in the amount of \$17,924.62 less 2% retainage in the amount of \$ 358.49; and

WHEREAS, this is a partial payment under the contract; and

WHEREAS, funds are available from in Account #: G-02-44-959-000-250;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, that payment to Hale Built in the net amount of \$ 17,566.13 pursuant to payment request No.1 is hereby authorized.

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Chandler	M				Lawver				absent
Gnatt	X				Marciante	S			
Griffiths	X				Mills	X			

Council Member Chandler made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5.5, second by Council Member Marciante with all members present voting in favor.

**BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON
RESOLUTION #2017-5.6**

**RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING CONTRACTS BETWEEN BOROUGH OF PENNINGTON AND
STATE OF NEW JERSEY REGARDING PRELIMINARY ENGINEERING WORK BY
THE BOROUGH WATER AND SEWER UTILITY AS REQUIRED BY THE ROUTE 31
RECONSTRUCTION PROJECT**

WHEREAS, the State of New Jersey is about to undertake the Route 31 Reconstruction Project, extending from Bull Run Road, near Route I-95, to Branch of Stony Brook, near Trap Rock Industries

(“Project”);

WHEREAS, the Project may require the protection, relocation and/or adjustment of the facilities of existing water and sewer systems owned and operated by the Borough of Pennington Water and Sewer Utility;

WHEREAS, the State is obligated by law to bear the cost of relocating public utility and cable television facilities to accommodate highway construction and improvement projects, as set forth in N.J.S.A. 27:7-44.9, subject further to N.J.A.C. 16:25 and 23 CFR 645, Subpart B;

WHEREAS, the State, through the Commissioner of Transportation, proposes to enter into contracts with the Borough of Pennington regarding reimbursement of the Borough for preliminary engineering work to be required of the Borough’s Water and Sewer Utility (“Utility”) relating to identification of affected facilities and cooperation between the State and the Utility in developing plans and cost estimates for related work necessitated by the Project;

WHEREAS, copies of the proposed contracts, one for water and another for sewer, which otherwise appear to be identical (“Contracts”), are attached to this Resolution;

WHEREAS, the State has estimated the Utility’s likely engineering costs for the Project to be \$2,000 under each contract but will adjust these costs to reflect the actual costs incurred by the Utility and will issue an Agreement Modification as appropriate;

WHEREAS, the Contracts contain an indemnification clause (25) requiring the Borough to defend and indemnify the State for all claims and liabilities arising out of any act or omission by the Utility in performance of the work;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Borough Council of the Borough of Pennington, as follows:

1. The Mayor, with the attestation of the Borough Clerk, is hereby authorized to enter into each of the attached contracts on behalf of the Borough, subject to approval of the contracts as to final form by the Borough Attorney.
2. The Administrator is hereby authorized to review and approve detailed descriptions of work and budget estimates prepared by the Borough Engineer for performance of the work covered by the Contracts.

Record of Council Vote on Passage

COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.	COUNCILMAN	AYE	NAY	N.V.	A.B.
Chandler	M				Lawver				absent
Gnatt	X				Marciante	X			
Griffiths	X				Mills	S			

Council Member Chandler made a motion to approve Resolution 2017-5.6, second by Council Member Mills. Mr. Fetzer stated that as a function of the road reconstruction project the State is asking for this agreement so that in the event they damage or need to move Borough utilities they will reimburse the Borough for preliminary engineering work to provide their engineer with information needed to fix the problem. Mr. Marciante asked where this work was going to take place and Mr. Fetzer responded it spans from the other side of 295 all the way up to Stony Brook on Route 31. Mr. Fetzer stated that he has seen preliminary plans but does not know when the work is going to start. Mayor Persichilli asked Mrs. Heinzl if she has heard anything about when Mercer County will be paving Main Street and other Borough streets. Mrs. Heinzl stated that her last conversation with the County indicated that they are going to start mill and overlay on North Main Street on June 1st and after they are finished there they will move over to Voorhees, Laning and the area under the bridge on Broemel Place. Mrs. Heinzl stated that we are still waiting for an official letter from the County on the timeline. Mrs. Heinzl stated that she will be doing a letter to local residents once the letter is received from the County. Upon a roll call vote all members present voted in favor.

Council Discussion

Block Party – May 20, 2017 – North Riding/Walking Purchase – Mr. Meytrott stated that the Police Department has no issues with closing the streets other than they may not have any barricades since it is the same day as Pennington Day. Upon a roll call vote, all members present voting in favor. Mayor Persichilli stated that he has a couple of items that he would like Council Members and the Public Works Committee to consider. Mayor Persichilli stated that the Public Works Department will be losing an employee at the end of this week and a discussion took place regarding how to catch up with work that needs to be done such as filling potholes, collecting brush and so forth. Mayor Persichilli stated that the idea of once a week collection of garbage during the month of August has come up to give the Public Works Department an extra day to catch up on some of the things that need to get done. Mayor Persichilli stated that he will be bringing this to the attention of the Public Works Committee for consideration. Mayor Persichilli stated that another item that has been discussed but will need to be run by the union is the idea of contracting lawn service out on a short term basis and he will be asking the Public Works Committee to

consider that as well. Mrs. Chandler stated that people are doing more recycling and more composting which reduces the amount of garbage that needs to be picked up and she would have no problem with once a week pick up. Mrs. Chandler stated that she would ask her neighbors and friends to see if there are other issues that she is not aware of. Mr. Marciante also thought it was a good idea. Some discussion took place as to how much garbage is collected on Monday versus Thursday. Mr. Smith stated that there are other considerations but he thought it could be worked out. Mayor Persichilli stated that the Public Works Committee will discuss this and bring back a recommendation to Council.

Professional Reports

Mrs. Heinzl stated that other than her report she would like to highlight that she and Mayor Persichilli are scheduled to meet on May 11th with school representatives to see a presentation on their budget since they were unable to come to the meeting tonight. Mrs. Heinzl stated if anyone else on Council would like to attend they should let her know to ensure that there is not a quorum.

Mrs. Heinzl stated that we need to schedule a Special Meeting to adopt the two ordinances that were introduced earlier so that the rates can get entered in time for the second quarter billing at the end of May. Mrs. Heinzl asked Council Members if they would be available on May 22nd at 5:30pm.

Mrs. Heinzl stated that Excel plans to have the Preliminary Assessment of the Landfill delivered by May 12th and once that is received a meeting can be scheduled to discuss the results.

Mrs. Heinzl asked Mr. Fetzer if he would comment on the progress of the road reconstruction on King George Road and Park Avenue. Mr. Fetzer stated that the contractor has completed curbs and base pavement on King George Road. Mr. Fetzer stated that they are looking to do the same thing on Park Avenue this week. Mr. Fetzer stated that once the curbing, milling, grading and base paving are done they can proceed with clean up, aprons, fixing sidewalks, driveway patches and then they will come back through with the top course of pavement and installation of the speed tables and raised crosswalks. Mr. Fetzer stated that they anticipate having the work completed by the middle or end of June if not sooner. Mr. Fetzer stated that they have not lost much time due to weather. Mayor Persichilli stated that there were some concerns regarding runoff into the stream. Mr. Fetzer stated that it is very difficult to control the runoff due to the nature of the soil which is clay so once it gets into the road and gets wet it is hard to pick it up and so water will pick it up and carry it along. Mr. Fetzer stated that they have all of the protections in place that the can and they are doing the best they can to manage and maintain the road while preserving the ground water.

Mr. Bliss reminded Mayor and Council of the need for a Closed Session to discuss Tax Appeals.

Public Comment Period

Mayor Persichilli asked that anyone wishing to speak to Council please come forward and state your name and address for the record. Please limit comments to the Governing Body to a maximum of 3 minutes.

Mr. Carl Messick of 10 Weidel Drive stated that he is a member of the Environmental Commission and he is here tonight to ask if Borough Council is going to proceed with improvements to Curlis and Weidel water upgrades and also if there is a similar grant for roadway improvements. Mrs. Heinzl stated that the Borough has made application to the NJEIT for funding for the water main upgrades and we have received a grant from the NJDOT for the reconstruction of the road. Mrs. Heinzl stated that the water main upgrades should take place this summer and if all goes well the reconstruction of the road will take place in the spring of 2018. Mr. Messick asked if there was any way that the Borough could make temporary repairs to the road with any leftover asphalt from the King George Road and Park project. Mayor Persichilli stated that the Borough will be renting a piece of equipment to go through town and repair some of the really bad patches of road since the cold patch that was done recently is not holding. Mayor Persichilli stated that the equipment would allow the Borough to do hot patches which should be a better solution. Mr. Messick thanked Mayor and Council for their time.

Mrs. Kim Johnson of 48 Orchard Avenue in Hopewell Township came forward. Mrs. Johnson stated that she is the President of the Hopewell Valley Senior Foundation, currently a Board of eight members, five of which are seniors and they meet quarterly to raise funds to help the Hopewell Valley Senior Services Coordinator put on programs that are not covered in the budget. Mrs. Johnson stated that when they met in April, they discussed the fact that they would like to be involved in what is going on regarding the current senior center, the possibility for a new senior center and what is going to be the interim senior center if the current building needs to be shutdown. Mrs. Johnson stated that she is here tonight to encourage Borough Council to continue discussions and to participate in whatever negotiations have to take place between the three municipalities in the interest of seniors. Mrs. Johnson stated that she frequents the current senior center and she helps put on some of the programs that they hold there. Mrs. Johnson stated that the current senior center is inadequate for the programs that they would like to have and the nutrition program takes up five hours of the day. Mrs. Johnson asked the three municipalities to keep talking and keep working on a solution in the interest of the seniors. Mayor Persichilli stated that they have had several meetings and all parties were notified of the intention of closing the building at the end of this year. Mayor Persichilli stated that options for funding have been discussed as well as how to best use any grant funds that are available. Mayor Persichilli stated that he thought that they walked away from the meeting with an understanding of how to proceed, but it seems that since then other talks have taken place so now the question becomes where will the facility be and second where will the nutrition program be housed. Mayor Persichilli stated that at this point

it seems that the plan is not to fix the current senior center but Pennington Borough will continue to work with the other municipalities regarding the available grant funds from the County. Mayor Persichilli stated that these discussion have been ongoing for many years and Pennington Borough will continue with them.

Closed Session

AT, 7:35 PM, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mayor and Council shall hereby convene in closed session for the purposes of discussing a subject or subjects permitted to be discussed in closed session by the Open Public Meetings Act, to wit:

- Pending Tax Appeals - Mercer Mutual
- Pending Tax Appeal – American Properties

At, 7:42PM, Mayor and Council returned to open session.

Council Member Chandler made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Council Member Mills.

Respectfully submitted,

Elizabeth Sterling
Borough Clerk