New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 1, 2014 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President William Clisham, Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, C. Stephen Good and Terry S. Mohler. Member James S. Bailey was absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor Wilbur G. Horning, Police Chief Donald L. Bowers, Jr. and reporter Carole C. Deck. Others in attendance included Borough auditor Patrick Carr of Weinhold, Nickel & Co., Darrell Becker, of ARRO Consulting, Allison Cuthie, representing the Eastern Lancaster County Library, Bill Kassinger, Chairman of the Borough’s Planning Commission, and resident Diana Morgan.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Stephen Good made the motion that the Minutes of Council’s prior meeting of March 4, 2014 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Bill Clisham made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as prepared. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

Auditor Pat Carr of Weinhold, Nickel & Co. then reviewed the 2013 Borough Audit. He noted that 2013 was a strong financial year for the Borough. Tax revenues were up 3 percent. The interest total of the Pension Plans indicated on page 4 includes both Pension Plans. This is actually investment income or sometimes called unrealized gains. Expenditures in the police department were up only 2 percent. Overall costs were held down. Unfortunately, it was a bad year for pool revenues due to a bad weather season. The Borough had a good year as to health claim costs, with a savings of over $100,000. This however can vary greatly year to year and should continue to be planned for accordingly. Another good element was the paying off of the remaining outstanding water and sewer loans as of February 2013. The operational process and oversight continues to be good. It also remains a good practice to have the Council President’s signature on checks. Council members should also continue their awareness of financial activities. The required Report to the PA DCED has been filed. The Audit follows the DCED format. This is an independent Audit Report which accurately reflects the financial
operations of the Borough. There were no irregularities found. He also provides financial coding and other assistance when questions arise during the year. It was a good financial year for the Borough; which has a knowledgeable and experienced staff, and uses good internal controls.

Finance Chairman Clisham thanked Auditor Carr, then made the motion that Council accept the 2013 Audit Report of the Borough, as prepared by Weinhold, Nickel & Co. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Chairman Clisham next made the motion that Council approve payment of the first half year tax contribution of $6,750 as budgeted for the ELANCO Library. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

Chairman Clisham made the motion that the Investment Policy Statement for the Borough’s Defined Benefit Police Pension Plan be approved. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Chairman Clisham then made the motion that the Investment Policy Statement for the Borough’s Define Contribution Plan, which is the Plan for the non-uniformed employees, be approved. This was seconded by Stephen Good and passed.

Chairman Clisham next made the motion that probationary police officer Josh Bitner, who has served a successful 12 month probationary period, be hired as a regular full time officer, as of March 16th. This is recommended by Mayor Horning, Chief Bowers, himself and Committee member Burkhart. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Chief Bowers then reviewed his monthly summary Report of Department activities. Similar to the prior Report, overall activities were down. He believes that the continued inclement weather does have an effect on this. He noted that there was unfortunately a fatal traffic accident this past weekend, which is not included in this Report, which is through March 28. Some of the training sessions through the month included an on-line training concerning the discharge of firearms, another on utilizing handcuffs, and the Chief attended a labor relations conference in State College. The Borough’s Workers’ Compensation insurance carrier paid the expenses for this. Officer Custer was active with SERT activities and Officer Fritz received Crisis Intervention Training. Officer Young gave an Officer Friendly talk to one of the schools. Officer Hughes again showed his experience and professionalism during a confrontation with an emotionally disturbed person. This was similar to a situation he also handled successfully.
without anyone getting hurt a short time back. Officer Fritz assisted with a DUI checkpoint in Columbia on the 18\textsuperscript{th}. Though it is not in this Report, of the five separate accidents in Earl Township this past weekend, on Sunday evening the 30\textsuperscript{th}, as he noted earlier, one involved the death of an 11 year old. The Chief then distributed copies of a memorandum from him to the officers involved, Officers Metzler, Bitner, as well as Sergeant Willwerth; with Detective Heisse and himself arriving on scene later. In the memorandum he noted that the officers demonstrated professionalism, teamwork and selflessness throughout the situations. They were appropriately commended.

Councilman Mohler indicated he was informed by personnel at one of the receiving hospitals which had one of the injured sent to it, that had the patient been delayed even a few minutes longer it could have been the difference in life or death; so he commends all those involved with the situation.

There were no Personnel, Property, Water or Wastewater action items.

Streets Chairman Burkhart made the motion that the low bid of Burkholder Paving in the amount of $58,753.77 for the Borough’s scheduled street overlay work, be accepted. He reported that five bids had been received. This was seconded by Bill Clisham and passed.

President Herrington then noted that even though we are in public session, the formal public hearing for the proposed amendments dealing with possible public street boulevard and traffic circles, is now re-opened; asking the Solicitor to comment.

Solicitor Harris reported that there are differing opinions/ideas on the definitions about traffic circles and round-a-bouts. The county planning staff’s comments also noted this. To keep this proposed ordinance simple, the reference to round-a-bouts where it existed was deleted. These can be addressed later with the upcoming proposed subdivision amendments.

Member Terry Mohler asked if this ordinance was time sensitive for this evening as he did not have a chance to look over the newly changed one.

Manager Fulcher noted that it is not time sensitive for this evening and can be handled with other things at a later time.
Councilman Burkhart stated he also did not have a chance to look over the recent changes made by the Solicitor and would appreciate more time so he can look over things better before he is asked to vote on it. He then made the motion that the proposed ordinance be tabled. This was seconded by Terry Mohler, and passed. Patrick Morgan abstained.

Mayor Horning reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as $1,974.39 from the District Justice’s office; $225 in meter revenue, $70 in parking fines; and $20 from fingerprinting charges. He then noted on some community related matters that there seems to be a lot of chatter around town concerning changes that have taken place in town over the years, even going back as far as the sale and demolition of the former New Holland High School. Other things involved the recent sale of the former Ritz Theater, the change in business from a former long time eatery, and the demolition plans of the former Rubinson building. The New Holland Visions group has become involved with a planned community meeting scheduled for May 5 at Our Lady of Lourdes Church in Earl Township at 7 p.m. Allison Cuthie, who is here representing the ELANCO Library, has spear-headed that effort. She has also recently joined the Visions group. The members on the Visions committee are himself, residents Don Reed, Bob Weaver, Steve Loewen, Stacey Wessel, Mrs. Cuthie and Deb Reichart, President of the Business Association.

Mrs. Cuthie noted that by the Visions group involving itself with the planned meeting they have helped formalize it. They just want to let people be heard as to their concerns or opinions about how to improve the community.

Bill Kassinger, Chairman of the Borough’s Planning Commission, asked if the speaking process is going to be monitored. Many times these types of things are simply to allow people to complain about things they do not like about what other people do with their property, like the appearance of the Health Food store in town. He feels someone with the group should explain the things that government does not have the power to control.

Mayor Horning stated he hopes to keep it friendly with the discussions to be general ideas and questions, not get out of hand.

Council member Morgan stated it can be good to have constructive criticism but people have to be made aware of what the Planning Commission and Council are limited as to controlling things that occur at properties in the Borough.
Mrs. Cuthie, speaking as representative of the ELANCO Library, thanked Council for its action in approving the financial support this evening as well as the other things done throughout the year. She is a new member to the Library Board. There were some new things done the past month such as the used prom dress sale as well as a Yard Sale. She just wants to take a minute to quickly note some of the major activities going on at the Library. They are again working to update their Strategic Plan. They envision the Library becoming more of a community center in the future. There is an activity underway called EDGE, which does not stand for anything with the individual letters. It relates to an effort involving new technology and digital based activities. A survey related to this is currently being done. National Library Week is the 14th through 19th. People can reduce any fines they may have outstanding during this week by bringing in canned foods for the Food Bank, up to $5. The annual fundraiser benefit called the Spring Fling is scheduled for this Friday. She again thanked Council for its support and allowing her to speak.

There being no further business or public comment, Council convened into Executive Session with the Solicitor at 7:45 p.m. to review legal questions related to zoning and subdivision items.

Upon reconvening into regular session, the meeting was adjourned.

May 6, 2014
Date Approved