

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
April 5, 2016

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 5, 2016, at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler, James S. Bailey, John L. Styer and John A. Armbrust. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor Wilbur G. Horning, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris and Police Chief Donald L. Bowers, Jr. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, Pat Carr of the audit firm of Weinhold, Nickel & Co. and residents Bill Kassinger, Diana Morgan and Bryant Glick and reporter Dave Lefever.

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

Terry Mohler made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of March 1, 2016, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by John Armbrust and passed.

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

Police Chairman Burkhart noted that the only item this evening is the Chief's monthly Report review.

Chief Bowers then reviewed his monthly summary Report of Department activities. Criminal arrests were up somewhat for the month and vehicle accidents down. There were four domestic disputes in the Borough and one in Earl Township. Officer Bitner received a Thank you letter from a defendant in a case, who though found guilty, appreciated Officer Bitner's kindness and understanding while handling the matter. Officer Young served as "Officer Friendly" at the New Holland Early Learning Center, where there were about 40 youngsters in attendance. Officer Metzler received an "Atta Boy" from District Justice Hartman for the way he handled the alarm activation at his office; and Officer Custer also received an "Atta Boy" from a relative of a patient of a medical call with which he assisted. Officer Fritz, the Department's DRE, with himself present, did a Drug Recognition/Assessment/Narcan presentation to the school nurses of the District.

Finance Committee Chairman Morgan noted that Borough auditor Pat Carr of Weinhold, Nickel and Co. is present this evening to review the 2015 Audit of Borough finances, copies of which Council and Mayor have already received.

Mr. Carr then began noting that as usual along with the Audit report, the Management statement letters are also included with it. He noted that as in the past, the Borough operates on a modified cash basis. The DCED Report format is used for the Audit. The Report was properly submitted to the state by his firm prior to the April 1 deadline. He also reminded everyone of the differences in the type of funds. The Real Estate Transfer Tax picked up a little last year which is a good sign. The Water and Wastewater funds' income was also up a little last year. As usual, the annual costs for health coverage fluctuate year to year depending on employee needs. On page 11, under code 482.000, the \$59,768 loss indicated is derived from a change in cash position from 2014 to the end of 2015. This is not an overall deficit in the general fund. There were no instances of fraud identified and the Borough owes no debt, which is a good thing also. The Audit is provided with an Unqualified Opinion, which is the highest or cleanest rating available. In response to a question from President Herrington, he stated that from the municipalities he and his firm deal with, very few have no debt.

Mayor Horning inquired if Auditor Carr was satisfied with the tax rate or other fees as to the Borough's operational situation.

Auditor Carr replied that he believes at this time things are satisfactory. The tax increase he recommended a few years ago was implemented and seems to still be adequate, and he is aware there was a needed increase in the water rate put into place recently. He feels the Manager and Council do a good job addressing those challenges of often unexpected expenses they have no control over and maintaining a low tax rate and low fees as long as possible.

Finance Chairman Morgan thanked Mr. Carr for his presentation and noted that the adding of page numbers to the DCED Report pages made the discussion easier to follow. He then made the motion that Council accept the 2015 Audit Report as prepared by Weinhold, Nickel and Co. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Council Vice-President Burkhart stated he wants to recognize and thank the Manager and staff for the good job they do with the proper and trustworthy manner in which they do their jobs related to the Borough's finances. It is always good

when the auditor confirms things are in good order. It is also nice when Council does not have to worry too much with this, as the audit findings show.

Finance Chairman Morgan then made the motion that Council approve payment of the first half budgeted contribution to the Eastern Lancaster County Library, in the amount of \$7,000. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Personnel Chairman Styer reported that under the recent updates to the Borough Code, municipalities may allow an absent Council member to utilize acceptable electronic devices to be part of public Council meetings. A Resolution has been prepared allowing this for New Holland for the sessions of Council meetings which are public. It does not include executive sessions. He then made the motion that Resolution 484, which allows the participation by an acceptable electronic device in the sessions of Council open to the public, be approved. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

Chairman Styer next made the motion that the section (page 5) of the Non-Uniform Personnel Policies that identify the Anniversary Date Recognition Awards be updated to match the figures as developed in the new police contract. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Property Chairman Bailey reported he had no action items to present, however as a reminder he wanted to be sure other members are aware that UGI is to be installing a new gas line in the 300 block of West Conestoga Street, which was originally planned as part of this year's street overlay schedule. Since the UGI work will include many connections along with it, it could take longer then they project, and they have not yet started. This will probably postpone the overlay plans until next year.

Streets Chairman Mohler noted that Manager Fulcher and Streets, Parks, Maintenance Supervisor Buzzard are aware of this and it appears we will be postponing the overlay work until next year.

Serving in the capacity of Water/Wastewater Chairman this evening, Councilman Mohler made the motion that Council approve the purchase of a replacement pickup truck for use in the Water Department, which was budgeted for and is to be purchased under the CoStar's municipal bid program, is a 2016 GMC Canyon four wheel drive, as further specified in the Borough's specifications bid package, from Penske GMC of Shillington, at a cost of \$23,975; this includes the allowance of \$1,925 for the old vehicle currently in use, a 2002 GMC Sonoma; what he feels is

a very good trade value. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed. Member John Armbrust abstained, noting he is an employee of Penske GMC.

Serving as Streets Chairman this evening, John Armbrust made the motion that Council approve Resolution #485, which is a standard Penn DOT Resolution and is being required by them in order to proceed with the new traffic signal control system; and further identifies Manager/Secretary Fulcher as authorized to sign the Penn DOT Application form for the new system. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

Mayor Horning reported the fines received through the Police Department last month as: \$994.23 from the District Justice's office; \$135 from traffic accidents; \$60 from parking fines; and \$40 in fingerprinting. He and a group of other area residents recently returned from their visit to New Holland's Sister City, Longvic, France. He noted that the day of their arrival in Paris was the same day the terrorist bombing took place in Brussels; then there were a number of other shootings and similar events going on in that part of the world, which put a damper of sorts, over the trip. Nevertheless, they were treated graciously while there. Longvic has three other Sister Cities, one in Germany, one in Belgium and one in Senegal. These cities had representatives there also. The total group from all three cities was over 100 persons. There is a street in Longvic named after New Holland—Rue New Holland. His group will be hosting a contingent from Longvic in October 2017. Overall it was a very good and rewarding experience.

After brief further general comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:33 p.m.

May 3, 2016
Date Approved