

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
April 3, 2018

The New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 3, 2018 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, James S. Bailey, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Styer and Abby L. Keiser. Also present were Manager/Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief William Leighty and reporter Carole Deck. Others in attendance included representatives of the audit firm Maher-Duessel Tracey Rash and Pat Carr, Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, residents Bill Kassinger, Mike Kurtz, Diana Morgan, Keith Snowberger, Andy Herrington, Mike Ireland also representative of the ELANCO Library Board and Earl Township residents Ken Harnish and Linda Harnish.

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

Jim Bailey made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of March 6, 2018, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

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

Police Chief Leighty then briefly reviewed his monthly summary Report. There were 265 total incidents last month; 19 arrests, 12 of which were felonies; 11 accidents; 3 juvenile related incidents—all referred to District Court. Five officers attended various training updates. On the day before the Prom of Garden Spot High School, the 13th of April, 12:30 p.m., the Department is conducting a D.U.I. cause/wreck result program for the upper classes. The Life Line helicopter is to also be involved.

Council member Keiser inquired if there was anything a member could do to assist.

Chief Leighty stated that they are welcome to attend and observe and show their interest.

Council member Keiser then extended her appreciation to Chief for the good police work, of the Department.

Tracey Rash of the auditing firm Maher-Duessel then briefly reviewed the 2017 Audit of Borough funds, which her firm performed. She noted that the Audit is formatted as required by PA DCED. The Report was filed prior to the April 1 deadline, on behalf of the Borough. The Report received what in audit terms is identified as “Unqualified Opinion”, which in laymen’s terms is the highest clean audit rating. She noted that on the operational end there were some benefit related items which DCED prefers to see in functional categories rather than the prior used budget categories. These were reviewed with staff for going forward. She also wants to recognize the staff for its excellent cooperation, information and discussions throughout the audit. When there is a new audit firm, this is usually a mutual learning and adjustment period. The staff helped ease this transition.

Finance Chairman Morgan thanked Ms. Rash for the Report and noted Council is always happy to have a good Audit report. He also wants to commend the Manager and administrative staff for the conscientious and professional job they do concerning Borough finances. He then made the motion that Council accept the 2017 Audit Report as prepared by Maher Duessel. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Chairman Morgan next made the motion that Council approve the first half budgeted donation to the ELANCO Library of \$7,500. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Personnel Chairman Styer stated he has no action items but also wants to thank and commend the administrative staff and Manager for their efforts with the Borough’s finances and accountability to the public.

Property Chairman Bailey reported he had no action items but did receive a complaint from a resident who thinks the Borough could use less cinders on the streets in response to the storm event. He says he does not see as much at other places.

President Herrington noted that he travels often throughout the region and does not agree with the observation that we have so much more. On township roads the gravel washes off of the sides.

Streets Chairman Mohler stated that this person may not feel that way if they have to drive during a storm and find Borough streets slippery.

Streets Chairman Mohler then reported he has no action items but wants to note that the new Backhoe-Loader has been received and is parked outside for those who wish to look closer. The old arms with bucket are being retained because the snow plow used on it is still in very good shape and will continue to be used. It would not fit on a new bucket.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department last month were: \$595.62 from the District Justice's office; \$240 from Accident Reports; \$20 in parking fines; and \$75 from fingerprinting. He stated he was able to attend two recent community related events. The first was the annual banquet of Garden Spot Fire Rescue. There were many long-time volunteers there but there were also numerous younger members in attendance. The second was the annual banquet of the local CrossNet Ministries, which does so much to focus on youth in need in the region.

Mike Ireland, President of the ELANCO Library, expressed his appreciation to Council for the approval of the first half of this year's contribution to the Library. In response to a question, he reported that attendance and income for the annual dinner/auction was down about five percent, however local business support and donations remained good but did not make up for the full five percent.

Council member Morgan stated as an aside of regular Council business, on behalf of Martin Auctioneering and the John Miller Family he wants to let Council know that with the support of the Manager, Streets Supervisor Bob Buzzard and staff, the firm was able to successfully utilize the unopened Kutz Street area north of Conestoga Street, for its recent auction. The auction involved the property of John Miller, the family behind the donation of Groff Park.

Noting there was no other business or public comment, President Herrington stated a member had requested an Executive Session related to personnel matters. The members then convened into Executive Session, with the Solicitor, Manager, Mayor and Police Chief present, at 7:18 p.m.

The members reconvened into regular session at 7:35 p.m. There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was then adjourned.

May 1, 2018
Date Approved