

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
August 2, 2016

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 2, 2016 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, James S. Bailey, John A. Armbrust and John A. Styer. Member Terry S. Mohler was absent. Also present were: Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor Wilbur G. Horning and Police Chief Donald L. Bowers, Jr. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, Keith Good, Architect from Calabrese and Good, and residents Diana Morgan, Larry Smith, Patricia Smith and Bryant Glick, and reporter Dave LeFever.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of Council's past meeting.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of July 5, 2016 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

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

Police Chief Bowers then reviewed his monthly summary Report of Department activities. He noted the extra efforts by many residents of the area served to send notes of appreciation for the service of the Department, often times dropping off various baked goods also. These activities are in response to the many emotion packed actions involving police departments and their communities which have caused a tense relationship in many cases.

Mayor Horning stated he has been contacted by some in the community who inquired about doing more to show appreciation, some thought maybe even a gathering event with the officers. He reviewed this with the Chief and a Sergeant and it was felt the officers would not prefer such an event. He has simply asked those folks to send them notes of appreciation for their service.

Police Chairman Burkhart noted that much of the support expressed is due to the job the officers do for the community.

Chief Bowers then continued, reporting that summer intern Aaron Eckman finished up his time with the Department. The survey project he developed was distributed. He will compile the answers and comments and provide a report. Officer Beideman received a Thank you letter from the owner of a lost dog he found and returned to the owner. Officer Zimmerman received a similar Thanks for his assistance with a lifting involved at an EMS call. Officer Metzler received a Thank you from a family for his patient and attentive behavior related to a deceased member of a local family. Lieutenant Heisse provided three Active Shooter Trainings at three local businesses.

Finance Committee Chairman Morgan reported for information purposes that CNH (New Holland Agriculture) has honored its pledge of \$10,000 toward the Borough's cost of replacing a traffic signal pole on the southwest corner of West Main Street and the private Delp Road. This was the unexpected and unbudgeted expense of approximately \$28,600 where Penn DOT required the Borough to replace one of the signal poles for that intersection to be included in the upcoming new signal control system by Penn DOT. Council appreciates the support of CNH with this project.

Property Chairman Bailey then introduced Architect Keith Good of Calabrese/Good, who is here this evening to review the basics of the possible expansion of the Police Department on the west side of the Borough Hall.

Mr. Good reviewed the site plan of the possible addition, noting that the new exterior is intended to match the existing brick exterior on the front of the building. He plans to allow for some possible use of block as an alternate. There are some minor wall removals and modifications in the existing office area. The new addition consists of 3,818 square feet. The main elements consist of two new holding cells, a new office work area, two interview rooms, additional evidence storage and a relocated ammo closet with a blow-out wall; and a six vehicle garage. Normal procedure would have officers bring the temporary prisoners directly through the garage to the holding cells.

In response to a number of questions, he noted that the note of "Capacity" on a drawing page related to the number of individuals allowed in that section of the structure. There is a handicap ramp for emergency exit from the new area. The existing roof is able to handle the snow drift load. If started in March or April next year, the work should be substantially complete by late summer or early fall. Under state law, separate bids have to be obtained for the general, HVAC, electrical, plumbing contractors, etc.

Councilman Morgan stated he hoped local contractors are able to be utilized for a good part of the work and everyone should encourage their interest.

Councilman Bailey asked if there was an alternative to the plans as to possibly saving the neighboring apartment structure owned by the Borough.

Mr. Good replied that this could be approached by flipping the planned office areas, however this would involve a small pump station for the holding cells and two or three garage spaces would be lost. Some other approach could be considered to cover those police vehicles affected. This can be looked at if the bids come in unreasonably high as initially proposed.

Resident Bryant Glick asked if this plan allowed for future growth of the Department.

Chief Bowers explained that the Department is about the right size for the Borough and the Township; with the Borough having little area for much future growth and the Township's slow growth plan. The addition is intended to focus on office safety concerns first related to prisoner related activity, separating such activities from easy access to public or employee areas, to provide more up to date interview rooms and to allow for police vehicle security.

President Herrington briefly explained that the plans will continue into next year's budget discussions in October and the steps will then follow the normal process.

Councilman Morgan agreed with President Herrington, noting that Council is not trying to rush this as it considers things, tax payer concerns and other such due diligence elements before any final actions are taken to proceed.

Property Chairman Bailey next reported that there is much evening pedestrian participation related to the current electronic game Pokémon Go, at Groff Memorial Park; and from what he understands also at Community Memorial Park. His concern is that similar to that which happened to him while driving the other evening, two kids playing the game, focused on their phones, stepped right into the street in front of him. Fortunately, he had spotted them and was able to stop. He hopes these people realize the hazards they can cause for themselves.

There were no Personnel, Water, Wastewater or Street action items presented.

Mayor Horning reported the fines received through the Police Department the past month as: \$792.05 from the District Justice's office; \$120 in Accident Reports; \$40 from fingerprinting; and \$10 in parking fines. He noted that the Welsh Mountain Health Center is holding its second Community Health Fair at Community Memorial Park, this Saturday, August 6th, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. There was an article in the Sunday Lancaster newspaper, which included the New Holland pool, about the financial challenges being faced by the smaller municipalities and maintaining their pools in the future. It was an informative article as to this discussion and concern being faced by so many. He also noted that the Historical Society is working with the ELANCO School District to create some video, film clips and other related instructional materials that teachers can use in the classroom. Councilman Styer who works in the tech services of the District is assisting with this project.

Councilman Bailey stated that in relation to the postponement of the repaving of the 300 block of West Conestoga Street this year to allow UGI to install gas throughout the block, he has been asked if the Borough uses a period after a repaving when, other than an emergency, the Borough does not allow a street to be cut open.

Manager Fulcher replied that the Borough's goal is five years, but has allowed such work in the fourth year after the work.

Councilman Morgan stated that Towne Centre Lane was included in this year's repaving and a great job was done on it and from what he understands, the work on the other street areas was also done well.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

September 6, 2016
Date Signed