

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council Workshop
January 31, 2018

New Holland Borough Council met in Workshop session on Wednesday, January 31, 2018 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler and James S. Bailey. Members John A. Styer and John A. Armbrust were absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Wastewater Department Supervisor Tina Myers and resident Abby Keiser.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for information items.

Manager Fulcher reported that Wastewater Supervisor Myers was here this evening to present an update on the plans to replace the original Belt Filter Press.

Supervisor Myers referred to pictures of the existing Belt Filter Press. This has been in service since 1989. It has reached the end of its useful life. This is as planned and budgeted for over the last few years but has taken awhile to get to this point. Unless by some chance there is a market for it, it will probably be disassembled for scrap. She also distributed a brochure showing one of the three systems studied for potential replacement of the old machine. The preferred one is called a Volute Dewatering Press by PW Tech available from Envirep, TLC, in Camp Hill. It utilizes a screw press. Demonstrations of this machine and the others were provided at the Borough's plant as well as visited by herself and some other staff at other plant sites. This is the one she and the engineers feel is the best overall machine. It will require less polymer, which is expensive. With the initial \$185,000 equipment cost, it also includes a section that allows for expansion of the operation if needed. This is available through a state bid. The other two alternatives, are a Prime with a fan press and a Schwing with a screw press.

In response to a question from Councilmen Morgan and Burkhart, she estimates this new machine will be operated about 20 hours per week; it takes about an hour to start up fully. The current one is run about 24 hours per week. The new one will hopefully last about 30 years. She will review the warranty with it as well as the possibility of a service agreement. The total cost involved with it could be around the estimated \$400,000. When the changeover takes place, it should only be three or four weeks, which should not be a problem.

In continuing, Supervisor Myers noted that the final product from our plant is not a completely dry product due to the need for some moisture because of the lime in the mix. Though we still pay to have some of the product hauled, there are others who

pick it up at no cost to the Borough. The new machine should fit into the existing area. The new conveyor portion will be covered reducing dust—the current one is open. She might look into the need for some additional structural covering to help during the extended extreme cold periods so it will not freeze up. Overall with what they have seen, researched and discussed with others, the PW Tech is felt to be the best option. There is about an overall six month time period once ordered.

President Herrington and the members thanked Supervisor Myers and noted Council should be able to move forward with this since it is available under state bid.

The members then held a general discussion with resident Abby Keiser and her interest in possibly serving on Borough Council due to member John Armbrust set to relocate outside the Borough. She has experience serving on various Boards and works for a social services non-profit agency. It was noted that municipalities are non-profit in a general sense, but also very different from 501C3 type organizations and operate under many different laws. There will occasionally be confidential matters under the law for which Council has responsibility and liability for. Public officials are also liable for meeting and enforcing various federal, state and local laws and regulations. The activities and finances are very public and available. The Borough has never had any open meeting “Sunshine Act” or open records, issues. The staff overall has many years of experience serving the Borough. Mrs. Keiser’s official discussion of appointment will be on Council’s Agenda February 6. If approved Mayor Bender has the swearing-in scheduled for Thursday, February 8th, 5:30 p.m. in Council room.

Manager Fulcher then reviewed a number of general personnel activities, annual audit progress and some zoning related items.

Councilman Burkhart asked if Manager Fulcher would remind the employees and Safety Committee the importance of the need to wear eye protection when using the metal saw and similar tools requiring such protection.

With no further discussion or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

February 6, 2018
Date Approved