

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
July 5, 2016

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 5, 2016 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhardt, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler, James S. Bailey, John A. Armbrust and John A. Styer. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor Wilbur G. Horning, Police Chief Donald L. Bowers, Jr. and reporter Dave LeFever. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, and residents Joan Delp, Bryant Glick, Diana Morgan, Patricia Smith and Andy Herrington.

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

Patrick Morgan made the motion that the Minutes of Council's previous meeting of June 7, 2016, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Todd Burkhardt and passed.

Terry Mohler made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as prepared. This was seconded by John Armbrust and passed.

Police Chief Bowers then reviewed his monthly Report of Department activities.

Property Chairman Bailey stated he read an article in Monday's Lancaster Newspaper about a section of a field near East Oregon and Kissel Hill which was planted with wildflowers by the owner of the nearby business Garber Metrology. He thought that looked real nice. He would like to see the Authority look at something like this for the additional two acres purchased related to the upcoming new well at Groff Park.

Manager Fulcher reported that the Authority and its consultants are already considering something similar, with some trails extended from Groff Park to a low maintenance, low growth area; possibly oriented to attracting Monarch butterflies or humming birds.

Water/Wastewater Chairman Armbrust reported that the replacement pickup for the Water Department was received and is in service. The color is a metallic grey.

Street Chairman Mohler made the motion that the updated Memorandum of Agreement between the Borough and the county Planning Commission be approved as requested by the county. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

President Herrington noted that since so many of the county's municipalities have adopted their own Subdivision and Land Development ordinances the county was only using its ordinance for four rural townships, which it decided was not feasible. The county's advisory process for subdivisions and major land development plans remains but with a more efficient process. That is some of the background on the updated Memorandum of Understanding.

There were no Finance, Personnel or Wastewater items presented.

Mayor Horning reported the fines received through the Police Department last month as: \$1,293 from the District Justice's office; \$240 from accident reports; \$40 from fingerprinting; and \$10 in parking fines. He noted that the Summer Arts program began its concert series on Monday, July 4th; however due to the rain it was relocated to the Fire Hall. It was still full. The New Holland Band will be holding its annual Antique Car Show this coming Sunday. He believes this is the 35th year of the Show.

Resident Joan Delp asked if anyone else has seen or spoken to the kids playing basketball near her house on East Broad Street. She noted a few were playing last evening and even though it was still light out, due to the light rain and clouds, they were hard to see. She is concerned for their safety.

Manager Fulcher stated that he has not run into an issue when he has checked the area as he is checking things around town on a fairly regular basis. He will continue to keep an eye on it during the days and some evenings.

Councilman Morgan asked Mrs. Delp if she was able to call the Police Department after hours if she sees a concern.

Mrs. Delp stated she can do this. She has the after-hours police number she needs.

Mrs. Smith asked if the Borough was aware of anything happening at the Skips Cutting property, which is behind her property on East Main Street. She talked with a nearby realtor who told her the new owners plan to tear it down and put in apartments.

No Councilman nor the Mayor had any updated information relative to a new potential owner. Manager Fulcher stated as has been noted before, the Borough understands a group of area business people are supposedly working with the involved bank to negotiate a possible purchase. There has been no discussion by such a group related to what they may like to do should they become the owner. He imagines most of the structure would be torn down but nothing has been discussed with him about zoning, plans, etc.

Police Committee Chairman Burkhart stated that as a personal note, he would like to give a public Thanks to Officer J. T. Young who assisted with a recent ambulance call for his mother-in-law, while he was away on vacation. He also gives a Shout-Out to Officer Tyler Fritz who has again been recognized by the county as a "Top Gun" for his number of DUI arrests in 2015.

Chief Bowers then briefly reviewed his monthly summary Report of Department activities. There were 22 arrests in the Borough last month, but most of these were summary offences from the usual end of school year activities of a few students at the high school. Lieutenant Heisse received Thanks from Jay Leary Auctioneers for his assistance with obtaining some non-payments; and from Alouette Cheese for his instruction related to a potential active shooter situation. Officer Bitner was recognized in a Thank you from Petra Church for his presentation at its Farm/Home Safety Day. Officer Bitner also earned his SFST Certification; this relates to being certified for DUI activities. Robert Hollister, Ph.D., Superintendent of ELANCO School District, sent a Thank you letter for the active shooter exercise held at the high school mid-month. All officers worked the exercise(----not all of them were there---). Officers Zimmerman, Specht, Bitner and Beideman all were actively involved with the investigation of burglaries at four local churches. The suspect has confessed to at least one of the four.

President Herrington thanked the Chief for his report and noted that Council also received an acknowledgment letter from Dr. Hollister recognizing the efforts of the Chief, officers and other first responders and the respect and appreciation the District has for the Chief, officers, their first responders and volunteers who assist with such activities.

There being no further discussion, President Herrington convened the meeting into Executive Session to discuss police personnel matters.

The Executive Session was attended by all of Council, the Mayor, the Solicitor and for a portion, and the Police Chief.

Following the Executive Session, the meeting was reconvened back into regular session.

There being no further discussion or action, the meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

August 2, 2016
Date Approved