

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
June 6, 2017

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 6, 2017 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 John A. Armbrust. Others in attendance included Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor Wilbur G. Horning and Acting Police Chief Lt. Jonathan Heisse. Others present included reporter Allison Cuthie, Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, Emily Bologna and residents Bill Kassinger, Bryant Glick, Diana Morgan, Keith Snowberger, Mike Ireland, John Taylor and Roberta Horning.

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 prior meeting of May 2, 2017 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Jim Bailey and passed.

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

Acting Police Chief Heisse then reviewed the monthly Report of Department activities. There were 22 total arrests, of which 13 were felonies, 9 were misdemeanors. There were 12 accidents of which 6 were reportable. Some of the other activity highlights included that he and Sergeant Willwerth attended a meeting with the county District Attorney on policies related to officer involved shootings. Officer Young and Department Administrative Assistant Hagey took the required computer access TAC re-certification, which is required annually to be able to use the state police program. Officer Custer obtained his Taser re-certification. He gave talks at the New Holland Lions Club and at the county Mayor's Association meeting and attended the ELANCO area community meeting. On the days and evenings of the 18th and 19th the five volunteer chaplains who work with the Police Department provided lunches and dinner for the day and evening shift officers, in recognition of National Police Week. This group currently consists of David Horst, Brian Martin, Lester Zimmerman, Steve Ritchey and until recently Charlie Garcia, company chaplain for Tyson Foods, who is now being transferred by the company.

Police Chairman Burkhart thanked the Acting Chief for the report and noted that was a nice action on the part of the volunteer chaplains; perhaps they could attend a Council meeting in the future and Council could meet them.

Chairman Burkhart then made the motion that Council approve the replacement of the 2013 Ford Police Interceptor with a 2017 Police Interceptor. The 2013 was recently seriously damaged in an accident and the insurance payment is reported to be \$14,778.24. This amount is to be utilized towards the new vehicle, which is to be purchased under the state bid program from New Holland Auto Group, at a cost of \$27,568. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed. Member John Armbrust stated he is employed by New Holland Auto Group and abstains from voting.

Chairman Burkhart next made the motion that Council approve the hiring of William Leighty as Police Chief at a starting salary of \$100,000 contingent upon final contract negotiations, and upon his meeting all other conditions of the hiring process. He noted that Mr. Leighty should be starting around July 10th if remaining elements are settled. This is to be for an initial two and one-half year contract period. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Personnel Chairman Styer made the motion that Council approve an amendment to the Non-Uniform Personnel Policies to allow a 48 month retention period on the Borough's health program for the spouse of a retired employee who has reached Medicare age, if meeting all other plan requirements. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

There were no Finance, Property, Water or Wastewater action items presented.

Mayor Horning reported the fines received through the Police Department the past month as: \$572.54 from the District Justice's office; \$165 from Accident reports; \$60 from fingerprinting; and \$50 in parking fines. Some other general matters of community interest he participated in the past month included attending an assembly at Garden Spot High School in which those entering the military as well as some other special fields were recognized. The speaker at the event is a teacher, Lee Williams, whose background is that she was the child of a mixed marriage from the Vietnam War. Her father was an American serviceman. She was able to get air-lifted out prior to the fall of the south, but her mother was not. She has an interesting personal story and is a very good speaker. He took part in the annual Memorial Day Pilgrimage at Community Memorial Park, and attended along with Councilman Bailey and Manager Fulcher the recent Ribbon cutting/Open House of Dr. Owens Eye and Ear complex at the end of the month. He is also pleased to announce that this Friday, the Historical Society will be celebrating the 5th Anniversary of the

opening of the New Holland Museum. He recalled that a grant of over \$16,000 was obtained by the Manager through a county grant in about 2011 which turned into a total of over \$175,000 in value through private donations and volunteer labor at the Museum. This really kick started the major action towards the modifications.

Around 2013 another \$10,000 was obtained by the Manager through an ATT historic mitigation program requirement due to its tower on the Authority's wastewater plant property. He and the other Society members again want to recognize and Thank Council, the Manager and other employees whom Council has allowed to support the Museum over the years.

Resident Bryant Glick said he noticed in the Council Minutes that there has been more numerous acts of vandalism at a number of facilities at Community Memorial Park this year. He inquired if the Borough had ever considered the use of security cameras for the Park.

Manager Fulcher responded that the use of cameras has been considered numerous times over the years as various streaks of vandalism have occurred. At this time, due to the availability of the former security camera control system from the old police building area, it is planned to be re-used for a system at Community Park.

Resident Bryant Glick next stated that in looking at some of the pool use statistics provided by the Borough staff recently, he noted that Borough Family memberships were up from 41 to 46 from 2015 to 2016. He is confused by why the impression is being given that pool memberships are down.

Manager Fulcher noted he does not have that particular sheet of information in front of him as to a particular item but he would review things with him sometime if he would be able to take the time to meet and go over his questions. The items he is referring to make up only a small part of the general information related to the significant drop in pool use over the years.

Mr. Glick explained that some people tell him they have heard the pool is to be closed and people ask him about it. He is just trying to help get the information out there.

President Herrington noted that has been stated publicly before, Borough Council is not closing the pool nor is it looking at alternatives for replacing a pool.

Councilman Morgan asked for the record, a question he noted he has brought up before, and that is –has Council held any meetings as to discussing replacing the pool.

President Herrington stated they have not, other than such general discussion as this evening when questions are asked. Council has been informed of the overall condition of the pool given its age. The general estimate of \$3 million to replace the pool, or the possibility of approximately \$300,000 for major repairs that have no guarantee of holding to the structure beneath have been identified as an outline of issues that maybe faced in the future. He does feel that unlike when the current pool was built in 1983, those major local companies who participated with significant donations, most of which were locally owned, are no longer in a position to be as generous towards a new pool.

Councilman Mohler identified himself as current President of the local Dolphins Swim Team and noted he has worked closely with the Borough staff each year as the pool was checked after the winter and prepared for each season opening. Anyone with questions can also ask him. He is sure when Council deals with this question in the future the members will do their due diligence.

Mr. Glick stated it would be nice if he had the costs related to preparing the pool each season then he can understand and explain things better. He realizes that some of the folks simply have a nostalgia feeling for the pool without realizing the cost.

Councilman Burkhart stated he has had discussions with more than 30 Borough residents asking about the pool, its costs and so on. None of these residents want taxes to increase due to the pool or replacing it someday.

Mayor Horning noted that maybe the current general discussion cost estimate to replace the pool of around \$3 million can be updated.

Manager Fulcher replied that the annual costs related to the pool each year are readily available and he will get them for Mr. Glick. He will also ask for an updated replacement cost for the pool, but noted that the initial capital expenditure does not account for the annual operating loss of such pools.

After brief further discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

July 3, 2017

Date Approved