

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough Council Workshop  
October 25, 2017

New Holland Borough Council met in regular Workshop session on Wednesday, October 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Armbrust and John A. Styer. Members Patrick K. Morgan and James S. Bailey were absent. Also present were Mayor Wilbur G. Horning and Manager J. Richard Fulcher.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking the Manager to review the main items of the projected 2018 Borough budget.

Manager Fulcher outlined the draft 2018 budget. Given the big factor of a reassessment year, the General Fund tax dollar amount has a tight framework as to maintaining last year's tax millage revenue. The new assessment value for the Borough has not yet been received from the county. The millage rate will go down but the particular impact to the property owner will depend on their individual updated assessment. Tax contributions to community organizations include \$15,000 to the ELANCO Library, an increase of \$500 over 2017; and \$500 to the United Veterans Council in support of its Memorial Day activities. The major items in the Police Department portion of the budget involve one new/replacement cruiser, a 2018 Dodge, which comes with a 100,000 mile warranty; and a new record-keeping system replacing the county's, which is removing itself from this activity. No increases in the sewer or community trash program are needed. The final year of the three-year, five percent yearly increase in the water rate is now in effect. It has already built up enough reserve to allow the east side loop connection from South Ranck to Runway Avenue then to connect to Windsock Way to be completed in 2018. This is planned to be approached using Borough personnel, as well as contractor support where needed.

In continuing, he noted that the Borough's portion (33 percent) of the 2018 amount to the Garden Spot Fire Rescue organization agreed to by the Inter-municipal committee is \$32,030. There is an increase in the Borough's cost to the state's Fireman's workers' compensation program to \$27,939. The remainder is then provided to the Fire Company in a direct contribution. Should the restroom renovation project go forward in 2018, monies are available in the Fire Services Reserve Fund. A new backhoe is scheduled for replacement in the Streets, Parks, Maintenance Department. Because the use of this equipment often is used with water and wastewater department activities, it is split proportionally. The old/original Turdle sludge dewatering system is to be replaced next year.

A number of budget code items involving police costs were discussed; which will be further clarified with Financial Assistant Parker. The proposed millage rate should be available for Council's next meeting information.

Manager Fulcher then outlined some general information items. The Planning Commission has followed through with the preparation of the Zoning attorney's recommended reinforcement of the Borough's Zoning ordinance indicating that short-term rentals, such as Airbnb and VROB, which are now not permitted in the Borough's Residential, nor C-1 zoning districts are stated even more clearly. These proposed improvements are outlined in the copy of the Planning Commission's meeting of October 17<sup>th</sup>, which will be in Council's end of month information packet. The ordinance amendment will be scheduled for action at Council's regular December meeting.

He then provided an update on the Board of Community Memorial Park and its Capital Campaign to raise the funds needed for the extensive project of replacing two pavilions and eliminating the locker room/restroom building—all of which are in dangerous structural conditions; and adding a smaller restroom structure. The Borough has been doing preliminary demolition activities. Two of the three pavilions available for naming privileges for which the Park Board is using a \$10,000 donation, for a minimum 20 year name, have been taken by donors. One more remains. One of the naming businesses has indicated they would also support the Board's Capital Campaign by holding a Ford vehicle test drive fundraiser with them. The New Holland Kiwanis Club has agreed to support the Campaign and co-host the test drive with the Park Board. As the Campaign is raising money to save the Borough taxpayers costs, it is thought it would be a good idea to have the event take place at Community Memorial Park; probably next spring. Even though this effort is raising money to save Borough costs, Council approval action is planned at Council's November meeting to help draw attention to it. He estimates that when the project is completed, the Park Board will have spent over \$80,000 in funds, along with the utilization of numerous area business contributions to make this needed project happen.

After brief further discussion, there being no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

November 7, 2017  
Date Approved