

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough Council Workshop  
January 25, 2017

New Holland Borough Council met in regular Workshop session on Wednesday, January 25, 2017 at 7 p.m. in Council chambers. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, James S. Bailey, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler and John A. Armbrust. Member John A. Styer was absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor Wilbur G. Horning. Others in attendance were Borough stormwater consultant Mark Harmon of ARRO Consulting, water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering and Borough resident John Taylor.

President Herrington opened the meeting. Manager Fulcher introduced Borough stormwater consultant Mark Harmon of ARRO Consulting, noting that the members had recently received a copy of a PennDOT Technical Information Sheet (#180) which provided a good general overview of the permit requirements for Small Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems or what is referred to as MS-4. Each municipality is now required to be a NPDES (National Pollution Discharge Elimination System) Permit holder.

Mr. Harmon noted that the Borough is already a Permittee under the requirements. He has been working with the Manager and Streets Department Supervisor over the past few years to stay ahead of the regulations and where they are headed as to the Borough's responsibilities under the law. The Borough files an annual report to PA DEP every April. The next Permit renewal is prior to March 16, 2018. The updated increasing regulations under that Permit are the ones that will involve additional interaction with property owners and further enforcement activities of various types by the Borough. More formal actions for things such as the emptying of swimming pools, washing vehicles on driveways where the water runs to the street, continuing monitoring of the private detention basins and possibly requiring owners to take corrective actions will be involved. The Borough has already removed the washing of vehicles on site, provides for the street sweeping process as to proper handling by the contractor from start to end, and so on. This is all derived from the federal Clean Water Act, carried through by the federal EPA and PA DEP. In this area of the east coast, the Chesapeake Bay Commission is also an involved organization. As most may be aware, Pennsylvania falls under those regulations and is significantly behind on its required reduction goals. As these things come more and more into serious play, there is a long term educational process involved with the public for those aspects for which private property

owners also have to be aware of and practice. The Borough already has an on-going system in place where things such as basin monitoring, discharge testing and even contacting involved persons relative to identifying spills or flows onto streets, and responding to them, identifying and proper reporting. These can often involve some other entity like Fleur de Lait or Tyson, where it is reported and recorded by the Borough and DEP then works directly with the private entity.

Vice President Burkhart inquired if there is a brochure available for owners that indicate the things that may impact them. It appears the Borough needs to continue to get this information out-there to the residents.

Manager Fulcher noted there are numerous types of brochures and the Borough's quarterly Newsletter has been including this type of information for the past few years as part of the public educational process. Mr. Harmon said he will continue to provide updated information sheets and brochures to the Manager for this effort.

As related to a general concern about Borough staff formally enforcing individual property owner actions, Mr. Harmon noted that the Manager and Street employees already do this in a low key manner as to identifying the source of a problem and reviewing it with the owner. There are also door hangers which can be left at a property if someone is not at home. If there is a deliberate issue being ignored by an owner, a Cease and Desist order can be given if it has to be taken to a higher enforcement step.

Manager Fulcher reminded that individual property owners have also been affected by the requirement that every new additional impervious area added to a property is reviewed to meet applicable stormwater requirements and is to be maintained as a permanent record of the property. That is what many of the rural townships are confronting when an on-site farm business wants to add another barn or birdhouse, warehouse, etc. It becomes much more expensive for owners when they wish to expand.

Councilman Bailey asked about all the chemicals placed on yards.

Mr. Harmon stated that the regulations are attempting to address these concerns, particularly from trying to avoid over-application of the chemicals used, as this is an example of not only the applied chemicals but natural runoff elements in many areas such as nitrates. There is also the general movement when possible to go to organic chemicals, soaps and so on.

Mr. Harmon closed noting that the Borough is ahead of most similar sized municipalities and is prepared to address many of the upcoming concerns as we know through today. The Borough contacts him with any unusual or new type concerns so it can be processed, responded to, corrected and recorded properly. The new Permit will have parameters and limits similar to those used for a wastewater treatment plant. This will also be audited on a regular basis.

Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, Borough and Borough Authority water consultant then presented an over-view of the Borough's water supply system and the states of the major elements involved with the planned Groff Park well. He displayed a drawing of the Borough with the locations of the Borough's four existing wells and the planned new well.

The Borough is defined under the law as a Public Non-Transient Water System. Public wells below 100,000 gallons per day are only overseen by PA DEP, for wells or systems over 100,000 gpd, they are controlled by both PA DEP and the Susquehanna River Basin Commission (SRBC). In general, the SRBC following its procedural and permitting requirements, grants the approval for use of a well up to a certain maximum withdrawal limit. This amount is based on what they call a drought year basis with the supply being able to produce 60 percent of the approved capacity during a drought. The Borough's current four wells, identified as 1, 2, 3, 4 have their maximum withdraw levels at well 1: 391,000 gpd, well 2: 400,000 gpd, well 3 (Philip/S. Custer well): 790,000 gpd, well 4 (Community Memorial Park): 720,000 gpd. The North Hoover wells 1 and 2 are generally considered as using the same source, with a mutual approved capacity of 522,000 gpd. The system has an approved 30 day average cap of 1.65 mgd. The system generally averages about one million gallons per day but can occasionally jump to around 1.3m or be as low as 850,000 gpd. They are hoping for approval of .7 mgd for the new well. The Borough is still waiting to receive authorization to proceed with the formal draw-down testing which involves a number of nearby private wells to the north of the new site. Also related to the Borough's system on the storage and pressure side are the two water storage tanks on the system, the older .5 mg tank near Garden Spot High School, the other along Diller Avenue with 1.2 mg. These are set at the same height levels and help retain a more consistent water pressure throughout the system. In reviewing reports for new supplies, the SRBC looks at the area's watersheds and its sub-watersheds as to amounts they approve to be withdrawn. The location of the Borough's existing wells as well as with Groff Park are situated in good locations for this. Other than the general concern for nitrates in this area and the always monitored concern for things such as TCE (Tetrachloroethylene), the wells do not have a bacteria concern. The water from

the wells does have to be softened. The above permitted limit of TCE at the North Hoover wells was the reason for the recent addition of the Air Stripper system added to the treatment building.

In response to a number of questions, Mr. Bologna noted that the system is rather large for the region, but not compared to something like Lancaster city. Ephrata Borough served by the Ephrata Area Joint Authority uses about 2.1 mgd. As far as the overall situation of the system, it is in good position and ahead of the curve as to meeting the for-seeable needs of the Borough and its current customer base including projected growth in Earl Township. The reason for being prepared when possible with additional supply locations is so on a regular basis, wells in use can be rotated, in drought years the supply should be more reliable and especially since so many different things can unexpectedly impact the ability to use one or more of the wells. It was not too long ago while the North Hoover wells were shut down for the TCE treatment system project that well 4 at Community Park also had to be shut down for about four months due to a soil upset below surface causing mud in the water. This actually occurs rather frequently in Pennsylvania. On the question related to a concern that the Borough is a water hog due to usage, it is not. This can be seen on the Borough's traditionally low percentage of estimated loss through system leakage, which is usually around 8 percent. This is a better than normal average. The Borough also does a system wide leak check when use seems to be consistently high compared to metered supply and there is no easily identified leak location. The regular amounts used seem to be right for the customers without wasted use; which would be an additional cost to a customer.

Manager Fulcher commenting on an inquiry related to the piping distribution system, reported that new service areas require up to date pipes but pipeline age and monitoring of other areas is an on-going process. They are considered prior to each street overlay, a fairly good record of leak areas is maintained and other often major replacement projects are completed also as frequently as we can. Some of the major areas for example, going back to the '99 complete replacement and enlargement of the water main under Main Street from Kinzer west to the west Borough line, the replacement and enlargement of the water main under Brimmer Avenue, a similar change made to the main from Ranck, east to the Borough line. There has also been improvements in system loop connectivity so most areas are supplied by more than one service line though there are a few areas where this still needs to be addressed after the new well is in.

Mr. Bologna noted that overall the Borough's water system is in very good shape and continuing to be progressive in maintaining a good supply, treatment, storage

and distribution system. This has always been a high priority of the Authority also and the Department Supervisor continues to maintain good records and reacts to issues properly.

Manager Fulcher reported that in updated discussions with Alouette concerning its stormwater improvement project on West Jackson, just east of South Custer, they and UGI have requested that the street remained closed through February. The Alouette contractor is planning on installing new curbing, as requested by the Borough and UGI is to install a portion of a gas main, east from South Custer. The time could be shorter (or longer) depending on the weather. The Borough is discussing a cost proposal from Alouette's contractor to possibly include new overlay work on the south side of the project area, which was not part of the drainage work which took place on the north side for about 400'.

In other discussion, Police Committee Chairman Burkhart reported that the officer currently serving on the county's drug task force will be returning to the Borough's force around August 16, 2017. At this time there are no plans to send anyone else. Lt. Det. Heisse has indicated he intends to run for the position of District Justice. Should he run and win, he would be leaving by the end of the year. There are no plans to appoint a Lieutenant after he leaves, at this time. Chief Bowers is leaving at the end of 2018, so discussion of the need for a Lieutenant would be part of discussions with the next Chief.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

February 6, 2017

Date Approved