

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
February 5, 2019

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 5, 2019 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, James S. Bailey, Terry S. Mohler and Abby L. Keiser. Members absent were Patrick K. Morgan and John A. Styer. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor M. Timothy Bender and Police Chief William D. Leighty. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering, planning consultant Darrell Becker of ARRO Consulting, Chief of the Garden Spot Fire Rescue organization Darryl Keiser, Dave King, Chief of Station 3 at Blue Ball, Darryl Groff, Director of Business Development for GSFR and residents Mike Kurtz, Bill Kassinger, Ken Wright, David Lutz, Carl Hess, Don Reed and Mike Ireland.

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

Todd Burkhart made the motion that the Minutes of Council's Workshop of January 30, 2019, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Fire Chief Keiser then reviewed the 2018 Report of Emergency Activities of Garden Spot Fire Rescue, for 2018. He noted that since copies of the Report have been previously distributed he will not reread the numbers to them, just point out a few elements. He will then mention some other non-Report items. He welcomes any requests or suggestions for other things Council may wish to see on the annual Report. There was a total of 11 structural fire calls in the Borough, 9 in Earl Township and 8 in their territory in East Earl Township. Earl Township also had two brush fires. The busiest day was August 21st. For 2018, there was an average of 11.6 fire personnel on a call. Back in 2013, the average was 15.8 personnel on a call; so the trend of volunteer fire companies continuing to go down in volunteers is also true in this area. A total of 3,842 man-hours was spent in training. Some things of general interest not included in the activities Report are based on information as provided by the federal Occupational Health and Safety Administration which is in the U.S. Department of Labor. It reports that 69 percent of the fire companies in the U.S. are volunteer. It indicates the annual value of these companies at \$139.8 billion to the states as a whole. One county example of a partially paid fire company approach is Manheim Township, which

pays for four fire fighters at three stations at \$16.50 per hour, for a total annual cost of \$578,000. The municipalities covered by GSFR do not pay any such personnel costs. He did note that the thanks of residents and officials is something the fire personnel do appreciate. He then pointed out new Chief of Station 3 Dan King and Darryl Groff Director of Business Development for GSFR.

Mr. Groff commented that he can see that even since he moved out of the area in 2013 and is now in this position talking with the local businesses, he feels he recognizes a difference in perspective from many of them as to realizing what all the fire company does.

Council member Mohler inquired if the Chief thought there was anything the municipalities could do to reduce the high number of automatic fire alarms that are false alarms.

Chief Keiser noted that there are increasing penalties for this as it occurs at the same location and a number of different reasons why it may occur, mechanical, smoke but no fire affecting a system and so on. Some of these things are hard to eliminate.

Council member Burkhart stated that years ago the old business sprinkler system alarms would go off when the Borough water pressure dropped. We do not have that issue today. He is also aware that with those many false alarms there is always a risk that one could be real thus the need for a normal response when they come in.

Chief Keiser responded that is the response protocol they perform.

Council member Keiser noted that as the Chief stated earlier, the members do appreciate the thanks of the public and officials but that the spouses of those fire fighters should also be thanked when you see them. Fire fighting time cuts into family time. She further stated she would like to see more details related to the item: "Children and Fire" (page 2) and what activities relate to teaching children to be aware of the hazards of fire on the Report.

Resident Bill Kassinger stated his personal thanks for the services of the Fire Company. He greatly appreciates it.

President Herrington stated that on behalf of Council and the community he thanks Chief Keiser for the Report; and the service and time of all the members is sincerely appreciated.

Police Chief Leighty then briefly reviewed the Department's monthly Report of Activities for January. There were 10 arrests, 6 felonies or misdemeanors; 4 summary offences; 1 DUI. Of the 137 traffic stops, 25 were warnings. There were five Juvenile contacts of which one was referred to Juvenile court; the other four to District court. The monthly meeting activities are listed on page three and the 2018 Activity by Officer is on the last page.

Council member Keiser stated she thanks the Chief for the time spent at attending the numerous meetings throughout the community by him and his officers. She feels this is an important effort in relating to community policing concerns.

There were no Finance, Personnel or Property action items reported.

Water/Wastewater Chairperson Keiser reported there were no action items for presentation however with the new Belt Filter Press recently being put into place and working through its initial trials, she thought some pictures of it might be of interest to those in attendance this evening. She then distributed pictures of the new press and conveyor to those in attendance. Though there are still some issues with the conveyor system, the new press is much smaller and more efficient than the old one.

Streets Chairman Mohler stated that as he has done on other occasions, he reminds those organizations requesting street use and closures that the organization is responsible for obtaining the necessary official traffic control personnel. If they do not use the street for the activity, the guideline for closing approval is 1,000 persons attending the event at the peak period. He then made the motion that Council approve the use and closing of East Jackson Street, from South Kinzer east to Ranck Road by the Garden Spot High School Cross Country Booster Club for its Farmers' 5K Run, on Saturday, April 13, 2019, from 8:15 a.m. to 10 a.m. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Chairman Mohler then made the motion that Council approve the start use time adjustment requested by the New Holland Business Association for its Christmas on Main activities. The street closure time for Main Street from Railroad to Custer and North Roberts from Main, north to Towne Centre Lane, from the formerly

used 3 p.m. to 7 p.m. to the new period of 1 p.m. to 6 p.m. This was seconded by Abby Keiser and passed.

Chairman Mohler next made the motion that Council approve Contract Amendment One with Eagle Disposal under the current community refuse and recycling contract. This Amendment approves the reimbursement payment of up to \$25 per ton of recyclable materials removed from the Borough and delivered to a recycling facility. It is effective February 2019. Based on past history, this new cost is estimated to cost the Borough about \$12,000 per year. This action should not cause an increase in the program rate. Everyone is aware of the significant and quickly changed recycling markets and its impact nationwide. A recycling program is still required and recycled materials at this time are still cheaper to dispose of than regular trash materials. This was then seconded by Abby Keiser and passed.

Member Mohler stated on another matter that he wants to express thanks to Pool Manager Leo Ward and Operations Administrative Assistant Walsh for their pool use information for 2018.

Mayor Bender reported the fines received through the Department the past month as: \$963.97 from the District Justice's office; \$285 from copies of Accident Reports; \$10 in parking fines; and \$75 from fingerprinting. On some other community matters, he wants to note that the Police Department had a presence at a recent School Board meeting when there was a big crowd. The officer on duty did a good job of handling one situation when a participant had to be escorted out. He also appreciates the updated pool use information provided. As everyone may recall, last year he noted that at the various community organizations or group gatherings he attends, he often discusses the pool situation, the unknown of how long it will be in good operating physical condition and particularly the challenges of annual operating losses even during a good summer. All of these relate to the future discussion of justifying replacing the pool some day. This could be \$5 million by that time. He feels the community is becoming more aware of the elements.

President Herrington noted Council's appreciation for his efforts in doing this as it is good for residents to have knowledge of the factors involved so when something major occurs structurally people are aware of the cost impacts.

President Herrington then stated that a formal public hearing will now be held prior to Council consideration of action on the updated Zoning Ordinance as prepared

and recommended for approval by the Planning Commission. It has been properly advertised and also available on the Borough's website. The Borough's Planning Commission has been working with the staff, consultants and attorneys for over a year. The comments from the county were also received. He noted that Planning Chairman Kassinger is present this evening with other members and can assist in any questions or comments. A good discussion was held between the Commission and Council at its January 31st Workshop. The Commission's meetings are also open to the public. He again wants to thank Chairman Kassinger and the other members, Manager/Zoning Officer Fulcher, Administrative Assistant Walsh and consultant Darrell Becker for all of the effort and assistance put into this update.

There was no other comment during the hearing.

Terry Mohler made the motion that Council adopt Ordinance #587, the updated zoning ordinance as prepared and recommended by the Borough Planning Commission and properly advertised and posted by the Solicitor. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart. The roll was:

Terry Mohler—Yes
Abby Keiser—Yes
Jim Bailey—Yes

Todd Burkhart—Yes
Don Herrington—Yes

The motion passed. Ordinance #587 was adopted.

Council member Keiser stated she also expresses her personal appreciation to the Commission for its extensive time and work put into this project. She believes it is a good and easy to read document.

Chairman of the Eastern Lancaster County Library Board, Mike Ireland stated that just as an information item for Council and those present this evening that the Library structure is in need of a complete roof replacement. Cost estimates so far range from \$24,000 to \$32,000. He is not requesting anything it is just to help let the residents know.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

March 5, 2019
Date Approved