New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 1, 2019 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burk hart, James S. Bailey, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Styer and Abby L. Keiser. Member Patrick K. Morgan was absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor M. Timothy Good, Police Chief William Leighty and reporter Carole Deck. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering and residents Bill Kassinger, Mike Kurtz and David Lutz. Also present was Police Detective Josh Bitner, his spouse Regina, their children Quincy, Ella, Greyson and Scarlett and his mother Sue Bitner.

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

Terry Mohler made the motion that the Minutes of Council’s meeting of September 3, 2019 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Abby Keiser and passed.

Jim Bailey made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as prepared. This was seconded by Abby Keiser and passed.

Chief Leighty then reviewed his monthly summary Report of activities in the Department. The total number of incidents recorded was 355. There were 6 total arrests; 13 accidents of which 11 were reportable, 45 citations were written along with 9 warnings. There was only one juvenile contact which was referred to juvenile court. The list of general events attended is shown on page three.

Chief Leighty then noted that Detective Josh Bitner is present this evening with his family. Following a trial period of a number of officers possibly interested in the position, he appointed Josh Bitner as Detective effective July 15, 2019. Detective Bitner is also the Department’s evidence and processing officer.

Mayor Bender stated that it is with great pleasure he presents the official Detective badge to Detective Bitner. The Mayor noted he feels this is no small event and Detective Bitner will do a great job in the position. Council members then added their congratulations to Detective Bitner.
Police Chairperson Burkhart then made the motion that the proposed updated Employment Agreement between the Borough and Police Chief Leighty, for the period of 2020 thru 2025, with an additional one-year mutual option be approved. He noted there will be one more change based on the Solicitor’s suggestion to identify the salary of the position for the first year, 2020. This was seconded by Terry Mohler. President Herrington utilized a roll call:

- Terry Mohler—Yes
- Abby Keiser—Yes
- John Styer—Yes
- Jim Bailey—Yes
- Todd Burkhart—Yes
- Don Herrington—Yes

The motion passed; the new Agreement was approved.

Personnel Chairperson Styer reported he has one action item for consideration this evening. This is a minor amendment to the Non-Uniform Personnel Policies, to allow one bereavement day for an employee to attend the funeral of some additional family. This will make it consistent with the police policy. He then made the motion that Council approve the addition to the Non-Uniform Personnel Policies to allow one bereavement day for an employee to attend the funeral of the employee’s or their spouse’s brother-in-law, daughter-in-law, son-in-law, step-brother or step-sister. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Water Chairperson Keiser stated she has no action items for consideration but did want to report that all of the three-year lead testing locations on the Borough’s water system came back with nothing detected. This continues to show importantly that there is no lead concern in the water system.

Streets Chairperson Mohler made the motion that the Yard Waste Agreement for 2020 with West Earl Township, be approved as provided by the Township. There is no increase in cost; it is still $20 per load. He noted that the Borough appreciates the assistance provided by West Earl Township with this matter. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

Chairperson Mohler outlined the next item recommended for Council approval, the needed replacement of the 1996 Ford dump truck. This is not the oldest but is in the most worn and least reliable condition. Options of possible outright sale or trade-in of the plow and cinder spreader will be looked at prior to purchase, so the end purchase price could vary from the current projected cost of $147,818. As in the past, since these vehicles are used throughout the year for all the public works departments, the cost is split between Streets, Water and Wastewater and will be
paid under the 2020 budget. He then made the motion that Council approve the ordering of a new Peterbuilt dump truck and chassis, through the inter-municipal Co-Stars purchasing process from G. L. Sayre of Conshohocken and Lancaster Truck Bodies at a projected cost of approximately $147,818; again noting this could vary depending on trade-in adjustments, with the cost to be split between the Streets, Water and Wastewater Departments. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Chairperson Mohler next made the motion that Council approve the annual Trick-or-Treat night in the Borough for Thursday, October 31, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. This was seconded by Abby Keiser and passed.

There were no Finance, Property or Wastewater action items.

Mayor Bender reported the fines received through the month as: $1,306.89 from the District Justice’s office; $390 from Accident reports; $40 in parking fines; and $75 from fingerprinting. On other matters of general community interest, he is to address the New Holland Area Ministerium Association in a few days. In response to a question, he noted this is a group of area ministers from the New Holland region who gather through the year to communicate with each other. They were also the starting group of the former ELANCO Social Services Network, which is now the Cross-Net Ministries. The group inquired if there were any concerns on the municipal level they could possibly be of assistance or concerned with.

Member Keiser stated she felt there is the large need for affordable housing; which is a county-wide issue.

In continuing, Mayor Bender noted he also attends the Community Collaborative group which is made up of various persons from organizations in the ELANCO region, such as school administrators, social service organizations and emergency service personnel. One recent attendee from outside the area was impressed by all of the already existing organizations in the area which try to help those in need. They are also working with Garden Spot Village to continue to become a better Dementia Friendly Community. Two social gatherings called Memory Cafes have already been established to help provide a framework where people can go or take their family member for social interaction and other activities for those with this challenge. He also recently attended a meeting with the area Director of the YMCA and some other staff. The Y is to remain open through December but is under agreement of sale after that. They did indicate that if anyone located another acceptable location and wanted such a business, they would be open to running it
for them. He stated it is unfortunate the early, large community support of the New Holland Rec Center ended this way.

Manager Fulcher reported for information purposes that the rehabilitation of the old snack bar building at Community Memorial Park, being funded mainly by the Park Board, is to begin after the Farmers’ Fair.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

November 5, 2019
Date Approved