New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, December 3, 2019 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, James S. Bailey, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Styer and Abby L. Keiser. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief William Leighty, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris and reporter Carole C. Deck. Others present included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering, and residents Bill Kassinger, Mike Kurtz, Diana Morgan, Bryant Glick and Mike Ireland.

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

Abby Keiser made the motion that the Minutes of Council’s meeting of October 5, 2019, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Jim Bailey and passed.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that Council’s Workshop meeting of October 16, 2019 be approved as presented. This was seconded by John Styer 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.

Police Chief Leighty then reviewed his monthly summary Report of Department Activities. There was a total of 356 incidents during the month, which included 14 arrests, 3 of which were felonies; 10 summaries. There were two reportable accidents and three non-reportable; of 38 traffic citations, 8 were warnings. There were six juvenile contacts; one referred to Juvenile court; the others to District court. A new Incident Chart by officer is now included as page two. The Chief wants to publicly recognize and thank ELANCO Library Librarian Heather Smith who supported the recent annual Coffee with a Cop morning with a children’s reading presentation activity.

Police Chairman Burkhart stated he received numerous positive comments about the Coffee with a Cop event, and thanked the Chief and participating officers for a nice community event.
Council member Mohler stated he appreciates the new chart as an additional piece of operational information.

Council member Keiser noted that she was recently with the School Resource Officer at the school and during her visit she was able to observe a good number of students stop in to see him. She feels this is a good sign and believes he is doing a good job; asking the Chief to make him aware of her observations.

Member Burkhart then inquired on the status of the yard conditions at 376 East Jackson; as he has not noticed any change.

Manager Fulcher reported that a plan of action is being formulated as to unfortunately having to move forward with a direct intervention and removal approach.

President Herrington stated he wants to thank Police Chairperson Burkhart and Chief Leighty for recently attending a Supervisor’s Workshop in Earl Township to answer questions about the 2020 Police Department budget. Things went well and there was only one item which they were not clear on, which Manager Fulcher and Financial Assistant Parker were able to clarify for everyone.

Personnel Chairperson Styer reported that this is the traditional meeting whereby Council takes the opportunity to recognize those employees who have reached an employment milestone year during the year. This year’s list of employees is: 45 years, Clete Stone, Water Department Supervisor; 35 years, Janet Hagey, Police Secretary; 30 years, Kevin Hoshour; now in the Wastewater Department; 20 years, Michael Zimmerman, Police Officer; and three for 15 years: Jed Custer, Police Officer; Kevin Leed, now in the Wastewater Department; and Paula Walsh, Borough Administrative Assistant/Receptionist.

Water/Wastewater Chairperson Keiser stated she has no action items to present however for information purposes she reported that Manger Fulcher is working on a grant on behalf of the Authority, with the assistance of water consultant Bologa, to hopefully provide state funds to assist in the cost of the new well project. We can request up to 50 percent of eligible costs. She also takes this opportunity to state it has been an honor to work with Council on behalf of the Borough constituents.

Member Burkhart noted that it has been a pleasure serving with member Keiser on Council.
There were no Finance, Property or Streets action items presented.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as: $894.36 from the District Justice’s office; $150 from accident reports; $50 from fingerprinting; with no income from parking fines. He recently attended a Park Board meeting relative to initially working with the Park Board for a Borough taxpayer survey related to potential future pool possibilities as discussed by Council in late Spring. The Park Board was interested and willing to provide the initial assistance. These should be mailed to Borough taxpayers mid-month. He also takes this opportunity to express his thanks to Council member Keiser for her service on Council.

Manager Fulcher noted that the holiday wreaths are all up and the newer ones standout more strongly at night then the older ones. The Borough continues its effort to try to replace about three per year. He estimates that the remaining old ones can be replaced over three years. The Business Association again has indicated its possible contribution toward this effort.

John Styer then made the motion that Resolution #505, appointing Kenneth C. Wright to a three-year term on the Zoning Board, from January 2020 through December 2022 be approved. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that Charles F. Kidhardt and James S. Bailey be appointed to the Borough’s Planning Commission, for four-year terms, January 2020 through December 2023. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

Todd Burkhart made the motion that Jacob W. Musser and Michael H. Kurtz be appointed to the Borough Authority, for five-year terms, from January 2020 through December 2024. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

President Herrington stated thanks on behalf of Council to Council member Bailey for his years of service on Council as well as his willingness to continue to volunteer for the community by serving on the Planning Commission, as well as his continuing volunteer services at Groff Park.

Member Bailey replied he was grateful for the opportunity to serve and enjoyed addressing the occasional challenges which come up. He leaves Council feeling the Borough is in good hands and in good condition.
Member Keiser noted she has a couple of items she wants to mention. She has been looking over the ordinances and would like to see something done about the junk left out overnight at a number of stores downtown. These things were also seen extending into the minimum five foot of open sidewalk space. 148 East Main is an eyesore. On another matter, it appears the owner of the structure which recently had a major fire at 427 West Main Street has stopped work on the building by the firm Complete Restoration. She inquired if the Borough contacted the building owner about what his plans are. She also noted that the preliminary 2020 budget was not on the Borough’s website.

The Manager stated the sidewalk conditions with the antique stores are monitored on a regular basis and things will be looked at again tomorrow. The budget should be and will be placed on the Borough’s website.

It was the consensus of the members that the Borough check to see that the building which burned recently is secured.

Bryant Glick asked if the Mayor could expand on his comments about the Park Board and pool survey he mentioned.

Mayor Bender stated that in working with the Park Board and Manager, a letter with a brief survey included was prepared, to be sent to all Borough property owners. It basically puts in writing that when the day comes when there is a major concern for continued pool ownership and operation, an outline of potential increased taxes was used so the Borough taxpayers are aware of the potential additional expenses related to it. It looks for some feedback at this point from the taxpayers. It should also serve to better inform them of the cost to them related to it. It is planned to go out initially through the Park Board around mid-month. The letter emphasizes that there is no discussion underway related to the closing of the pool. It is planned to remain open as in the past.

Terry Mohler then made the motion that this meeting be recessed until Thursday, December 5 at noon. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed. The meeting recessed at 7:42 p.m.
Recessed to 12-5-2019

New Holland Borough Council met in recessed session on Thursday, December 5, 2019 at noon, in Borough Hall. All members were present. President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, James S. Bailey, Terry S. Mohler; present via phone communication were: Patrick K. Morgan, John A. Styer and Abby L. Keiser. Also present was Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher. President Herrington reconvened the meeting of December 5, 2019.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that proposed Ordinance #589 which adopts the 2020 Borough budget, be adopted. This was seconded by Abby Keiser. The roll was:

Abby Keiser—Yes  Todd Burk hart—Yes
Patrick Morgan—Yes  Terry Mohler—Yes
John Styer—Yes  Don Herrington—Yes
Jim Bailey—Yes

The motion passed; Ordinance 589 was adopted.

Terry Mohler made the motion that proposed Ordinance 590, which adopts and sets the tax millage rate, which for 2020 is to be 3.25 mills be adopted. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart. The roll was:

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

The motion passed; Ordinance 590 was adopted.

The members next discussed a request from a police officer to work as a part-time police officer when he is available and not needed at New Holland.

Terry Mohler made the motion that this matter be tabled until 11 a.m. Monday, December 9, 2019 and this meeting be recessed until then and the Police Chief be requested to attend for a personnel discussion. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

The meeting recessed at 12:10 p.m. until Monday, December 9, 11 a.m.
New Holland Borough Council met in recessed session of December 5, 2019, on Monday, December 9, 2019 at 11 a.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, James S. Bailey, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Styer; and Abby L. Keiser was present via phone. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher and Police Chief William Leighty.

President Herrington reconvened the meeting; noting that an Executive Session is to be held to review a police personnel matter. The meeting then went into Executive Session.

Council reconvened its regular session at 11:10 a.m.

Council member Mohler made the motion that the request of police officer Wendell Metzler to work part-time as a police officer for the Borough of Akron be granted upon the following conditions: he is to resign from West Earl Township prior to working for Akron Borough; he is to continue to follow Article 26.1(c) and Article D of the current collective bargaining agreement between the Borough and the Police Officers’ Association; not working any shift for Akron that does not allow a minimum of six hours between working at Akron and his next shift with the Borough; with such conditional approval to be agreed to and signed by Officer Metzler. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart. The roll was:

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

The motion passed.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 11:14 a.m.

January 7, 2020  
Date Approved