

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
February 4, 2020

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, February 4, 2020 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Styer, Bryant J. Glick and Michael Kurtz. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Solicitor Bradford J. Harris, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief William Leighty and reporter Carole Deck. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of Becker Engineering, Fire Chief of Garden Spot Fire Rescue Darryl Keiser and residents Bill Kassinger, David Lutz, Rebecca Brown, Ray Haddon and Josh Haddon.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of Council's various meetings in January.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that the Minutes of Council's Organizational meeting of January 7, 2020 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Terry Mohler made the motion that the Minutes of Council's regular meeting of January 7, 2020 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

Bryant Glick made the motion that the Minutes of Council's Workshop meeting of January 29, 2020, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as proposed. This was seconded by Terry Mohler and passed.

Fire Chief Darryl Keiser of Garden Spot Fire Rescue (GSFR) then reviewed its 2019 Activities Report. The format is different from past years due to using a statewide consistent format. This also assists in allowing more detail on particular areas to be compiled more quickly. There were fewer incidents in 2019: 428, over 2018: 490. There were some unexpected officer changes during the year. Stefan Kuenzli is now Deputy Chief. Two longtime Life members and one younger active member passed away last year. Member training continues to be a priority of the organization. The loss of the former training structure a few years ago made

this more challenging but a new location is now able to be utilized—the former reservoir water treatment building in East Earl Township, owned by Jake King. Other area Fire Companies are also planning to use the facility. The structure is to be renovated inside into three main interior areas; one is the style of a residential building, the middle like a commercial or industrial type situation and the third used for various types of confined space elements. They have a Volunteers Youth Day Camp scheduled for students aged 12-14, June 22-26, at the training structure. There is also an Open House scheduled at the Main Station on March 24th, 6:30-8:30 p.m. in another effort to encourage and possibly obtain new members. Development Director of Garden Spot Fire Rescue, Darryl Groff, continues to reach out to area businesses for additional support. Of the ones he has contacted, 80 percent did not contribute to the Fire Company. His position has been provided for by twelve local businesses. A couple of the major non-fire events last year involved a wind-shear impact at local business AFP; another involved a leak of Anhydrous Ammonia at the Tyson plant. This resulted in a shelter-in-place situation versus a potential evacuation of the nearby residences in the Borough and Earl Township. Their plans for emergency evacuation are kept updated. Two major challenges during 2020 are: the current pagers are to no longer be supported by the county after December 21, 2020. This replacement expense is over \$50,000. The second is the plan to order three new replacement engines of the same type, and identifying the funding sources for these; with delivery expected in the spring of 2021. Again, the goal remains to sustain volunteers and be able to respond to any emergency.

Mayor Bender inquired if the other Companies planning to utilize the training structure are going to pay something towards the maintenance of it; and what is the reason for buying three new engines at one time when at least one is only 15 years old.

Chief Keiser stated that the activities related to the practice structure and the other Companies' use involves various processes, such as Garden Spot refilling the air tanks of numerous other Companies and their returning such services with other types of donations. The reasoning for the three similar vehicles at the same time is that one of the engines is not used anymore because it is a foam applying system and this foam is no longer used. They are also seeking conformity and some redundancy in drivers and training. It is also easier and more efficient to train for a number of vehicles, on one vehicle, if they are the same.

Resident Bill Kassinger inquired if many of the calls turn out to be false alarms.

Chief Keiser said he would estimate that around 90 percent of the calls are false alarms; many such as 146 East Franklin Street involving smoke from burnt foods, turn out to be nothing but could be.

President Herrington thanked Chief Keiser for the information, noting that there is recognition and appreciation by Council for the service of the organization.

Police Chief Leighty then briefly reviewed his monthly summary Report of Activities. There was a total of 339 incidents. There were 12 total arrests; 9 of which were felonies or misdemeanors. Of the nine crashes, six were reportable. There were 47 citations and 9 warnings. Of the 12 juvenile contacts, 10 were referred to District Court. Page four of the Report indicated the community activities participated in by himself and officers.

Property Chair Styer stated he had no action items but did want to note that with the help of some mild January weather, the Streets/Parks/Maintenance Department was able to install an additional section of small stormwater piping on the northeast side of Community Memorial Park. This involved an area west of the new Rotary Pavilion, westward to the existing system on the west side of the asphalt drive which leads into the Bandstand. The Park Board included \$2,500 in its 2020 budget to put towards this improvement.

Water Chair Kurtz noted he has no action items but wants to note for those who are not aware, former long-time Authority member Jacob Musser has decided to complete his service on the Authority with the term that ended December 2019. Mr. Musser was a dedicated member, serving since Spring 1984 and as Chairman since 1994.

President Herrington stated a letter of Appreciation will be sent to him from Council and the Authority.

Wastewater Chair Glick reported he has no action items but did want to note that during normal operations at the wastewater plant a small pressure reading manometer broke on the 16th, with the small amount of mercury in it spilling onto the floor. This was in the small control house structure attached to the sludge holding tank. The Department Supervisor was away during that time so the Assistant Supervisor communicated with the Manager and contacted the appropriate agencies concerning it. It was properly contained with a disposal kit used and it along with all of the remaining known mercury items at the plant properly collected and disposed of by PA DEP. He wants to commend the

Wastewater staff and Manager for how this was handled. He also had the opportunity to tour the plant with the Supervisor after she returned from her trip. It was an interesting learning experience.

Streets Chair Mohler reported he has a couple of street use and closing requests for Council consideration this evening. He noted that the Borough reminds those approved for closing and using the streets for events that they are responsible for notifying the Police Chief and obtaining proper traffic control if needed. He then made the motion that the request of the Garden Spot High School Cross County Boosters to close and use East Jackson Street between South Kinzer Avenue and Ranck Road, on Saturday, April 4, 2020, between 8:15 a.m. until 10 a.m., be approved. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

Chairperson Mohler next made the motion that Council approve the request of the Garden Spot Fire Rescue organization to close and use East Main Street between Brimmer Avenue, east to Kinzer Avenue, on Saturday, June 14, 2020, from Noon until 5 p.m. for its annual Car Cruise activity. He noted that access to and from Hiester Avenue to and from the west at Main is to be kept open by the traffic control personnel. This was then seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Mayor Bender reported the fines received through the Police Department the past month as: \$543.49 from the District Justice's office; \$105 from Accident reports; and \$100 from fingerprinting. In some general community related news, he attended the recent Community Collaboration group and one of the topics was the upcoming census count to take place. There was a concern that folks do not care much about it so the counts will be off. They are urging everyone to respond. He wants to thank and commend Police Chief Leighty and Fire Chief Keiser for participating in the recent event held on a Saturday involving emergency service providers discussing mental health and stress issues which can occur with emergency activities. He also wants to mention former long-term Authority member Jacob Musser. He served with Mr. Musser on the Authority for 15 years. He was a dedicated, concerned and knowledgeable member who was Chairman when many of the quality water and wastewater facilities we have today were accomplished. On one other matter, he recently received an invitation from a regional radio station, 101.3, to participate in a small towns contest related to college basketball's March Madness period. Listeners would get to vote for their favorite small town on the station's Facebook page. The winning town gets a live station broadcast from it. There are also championship t-shirts and a trophy given to the winner. He feels that this would involve significant time and effort on the

part of many organizations and the Borough. He is not inclined to move forward with it. If any one hears of anyone interested, they can let him know.

Member Terry Mohler made the motion that resident Lino Vescovich be appointed to the Borough Authority, for a five-year term, through December 2024. This was seconded by Mike Kurtz. President Herrington noted that Mr. Vescovich, though only in the Borough since early 2019, has extensive background and experience in the water and wastewater industry and should be a good asset to the Authority. The motion then passed.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

March 3, 2020
Date Approved