MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
May 5, 2020

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, May 5, 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, Bryant J. Glick, Michael Kurtz and John A. Styer, was present by phone. Others present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher and Mayor M. Timothy Bender. Others in attendance were Mike Ireland, Treasurer of the ELANCO Library and reporter Carole Deck.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of Council’s meeting of April 7th.

Bryant Glick made the motion that the Minutes of Council’s meeting of April 7, 2020 be accepted. 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 prepared. This was seconded by Terry Mohler. Member Burkhart noted that his position is a yes to other bills, but he abstains from approving any payments to any businesses he may have an association with. The motion passed.

Member Styer then connected via phone to the meeting.

Police Chair Burkhart noted that the Chief has provided his written monthly summary Report as usual for everyone’s information. Most of the incident numbers are down for the past month mainly due to the overall impacts of the coronavirus situation.

Chairman Burkhart next reported that the New Holland Ambulance Association being aware of the Borough’s plan to replace two police vehicles this year, has inquired if Council would consider donating the old Ford Explorer being removed from service to the Association. Council was provided copies of a letter from the Association outlining its desire for an additional vehicle to help support its many secondary EMS activities as well as personnel backup support.

Member Glick inquired if there were any other requirements to do this and were people aware of it.
Chairman Burkhart stated Council could sell it outright and his opinion is it may be $800 to $1,000, with related advertising costs and the replacement plan was in the paper.

President Herrington explained that the Ambulance Association is a Borough services related non-profit organization the Borough may donate it to.

Terry Mohler then made the motion that at the convenience of the Police Chief after it is out of service, Council donate the 2014 used police Ford Explorer to the New Holland Ambulance Association. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan and passed.

Finance Chair Morgan made the motion that Council approve payment of the budgeted $500 to the United Veterans’ Council, in support of its annual Memorial Day activities. He noted that they are planning on modified activities this year. This was seconded by Todd Burkhart and passed.

Property Chairman Styer then presented an outline of the current pool preparation plan underway by staff, noting it is too soon to determine if it will be able to be opened.

A Committee meeting was recently held with the Manager and Pool Manager to review the status of outdoor public pools and the current status of possible operations this season. Currently, pools are allowed to be open, working under the currently known social distancing guidelines as provided by the national Center for Disease Control and the State Health Department. The current action plan is to continue to perform the pool surface acid washing and then the painting. The paint needs seven days of sun, which do not have to be consecutive, to properly cure. The pool will then be filled. At this time, the hoped for opening date is Saturday, June 6th. Some of the planned special operating elements at this time include ongoing disinfection by staff of the restrooms, as well as the monitoring of non-family persons too close to one another. Distancing will also be monitored in the hallway and restrooms and the open space areas. Records will be maintained of these activities. Some men’s urinals will be closed off and drinking fountains covered. Should there be any identification of a person with COVID-19 who had been in any areas of the structure, those areas will be closed off and re-sanitized according to CDC guidelines. If the requirements and regulations during the month end up not being feasible, the pool will not open. If the pool attendees do not observe the rules, it can be closed for a period. He will have a status update at Council’s June 2nd meeting.
Member Mohler felt that if the county was still in the state’s Red category June 6th it could cause other issues. He is thinking of some type of compromise to get it ready but adjusting if it cannot open.

President Herrington noted that according to Mr. Styer’s report, the pool is being prepared for possible opening but much will be determined by any additional rules and regulations to be provided as well as the overall status of the virus pandemic in the county. If Council should want to proceed without knowing what the situation will be by June 6th, it could vote to not open it for the season; we will otherwise wait to see what develops.

Member Burkhart stated he wanted to be sure the pool supplies are available from the suppliers. There will also be some cost for staff preparing the pool when it may not end up opening. Is that a concern with the operation.

Chairman Styer said the conditions and mechanical concerns were reviewed and the pool consultant recommended preparing the pool and using the equipment regularly through the season even if it is not able to be opened to the public.

Member Mohler stated he is fine with wanting to see what the situation is next month. He also distributed an outline of information from the area Dolphins Swim team, which indicated they are also in a wait and see situation. They hope to have a modified season but the League is also waiting to see what will happen.

Member Morgan noted that with some other regional pools deciding to close already for various reasons, it may benefit the Borough as to available lifeguards as well as the number of people that attend if it is able to open.

Wastewater Chairman Glick reported he has no action items but reminded members that a copy of the recently prepared Report on the Wastewater System by Department Supervisor Myers for the Authority and Council was included in packets. It is a helpful reminder of the system’s operations as well as the improvements made during 2019 and the hoped for improvements in 2020. Some charts are also included.

Water Chairman Kurtz stated he had no action items to report.

Streets Chairman Mohler made the motion that proposed Resolution #515, which authorizes PennDOT to proceed on behalf of the Borough, to prepare and submit an application to the PA PUC for a possible four additional railroad crossing safety
improvements for the Borough streets of: South Hoover Avenue, Brubaker Avenue, South Custer Avenue and South Railroad Avenue, be approved. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan, and passed.

Chairman Mohler next made the motion that Council approve the request for a parade of the Seniors for the Class of 2020 of Garden Spot High School, on Friday, May 29, 2020, beginning at 11 a.m. from the west Borough line, eastward on Main Street, to North Ranck Road, where they will turn onto North Ranck, to Grandview, to the High School. He noted that though this was stopped a few years back, it is being requested by a group of parents of the students, working with the class advisors and principal and a lunch is being provided by a local insurance agency. It is being requested at this time due to the cancelation of normal end of year activities for seniors due to the Coronavirus pandemic. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan.

Member Burkhart stated his concern is that the persons driving do not drive recklessly or have kids riding dangerously. Member Glick stated he shares that concern. Manager Fulcher reported that he and the Chief informed them of that concern. The group will be reminded again. Mayor Bender stated he would hope the spectators would know to observe proper social distancing.

The motion then passed.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as: $1,326 in fines; $60 from accident reports; $10 from parking fines. There was no meter revenue collected.

Mike Ireland, Treasurer of the ELANCO Library stated he has a few updates to present. The Library remains closed under the state orders; no public is allowed in; three staff members do work in separated areas. They plan to stage restart as the state may allow. The area outside the Library is currently a Geo-ketch and Pokémon site. Garden Spot Village recently replaced the lights along the parking lot with low density LEDs. They anticipate their funding donations will be down this year. The Library is qualified and was approved for the payroll preservation program for businesses under the federal law dealing with the Coronavirus pandemic.

Member Mohler stated he plans to get together with member Styer to review possibilities for Council to consider should it feel it needs to broadcast its meetings.
There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

June 2, 2020
Date Approved