

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
August 4, 2020

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, August 4, 2020 at 5:30 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 H. Kurtz. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender and reporter Carole Deck. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering, Chief of the New Holland Ambulance Association Darrell Fisher, Chairman of the Borough's Water and Sewer Authority Robert Johnson and residents Lori Burkhart, Morgan Burkhart and Matthew Burkhart.

President Herrington opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of Council's prior meeting of July 7, 2020.

Terry Mohler made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting July 7, 2020, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Patrick Morgan made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as prepared. This was seconded by Mike Kurtz and passed. Members Todd Burkhart and John Styer abstained to avoid any appearance of conflict with any business they may own.

Chief of the New Holland Ambulance Association Darrell Fisher then reviewed the annual Report of activities of the Ambulance Association for its operational year of July 1, 2019 through June 30, 2020.

Chief Fisher first expressed the Association's appreciation for Council's recent donation of a former police vehicle to the Association. This has been a great assistance particularly since the recent merger with the Leola Ambulance Association. The Association currently has 113 volunteers. Of the recent graduation class of EMTs of 21 persons, 15 became part of the Association. The three or so months of the Coronavirus slow-down had a reduction in calls of almost one-half during that period. The group had 53,500 volunteer hours in the station while on-call. The members of the Association have been very fortunate to date as there have been no known cases of COVID-19 affecting any of them so far. Both Council members Burkhart and Glick reached out during that period to check in on the operation. Along with the call detail information in the Report, a color map is

included as the last page indicating the various EMS response times. New Holland's is 93 seconds to en-route, since initially getting the page.

Vice-President Burkhart stated he believes the Service does a very good job and it is appreciated.

President Herrington echoed Mr. Burkhart's appreciation and recognition and noted thanks from all of Council.

Mayor Bender stated that not only is it a great service to the community but he is sure all agree that the Association leadership is also a good part of the organization's success.

Police Chairman Burkhart reporting for the Police Chief, briefly reviewed the Chief's monthly Report. The main elements included a total of 10 arrests, 7 of which were felonies, 3 of which were non-traffic summary offenses. There were eight accidents; five of which were reportable. There were 30 traffic citations and 5 warnings. It was interesting to note that the Department only received 12 complaints about fireworks in the area on the Fourth of July. It was otherwise relatively quiet, even with the high fireworks traffic. Of the six DUI's, all were for other substance abuse, non-alcoholic. In response to a question, he reported that the graph of certain activities briefly tried by the Chief in the Report provided to be causing confusion as to various activities so it is no longer to be included.

Property/Personnel Chairperson Styer reported he had no action items but noted there was a major replacement needed for one of the four HVAC units serving the Borough building. This was able to be accomplished at a good price of \$5,307 under the municipal cooperative purchasing program Co-Stars. The next lowest cost was \$12,969. A second information item is that there is a local group of volunteers approved to replace the backstops and poles on the main basketball area of Community Memorial Park. New Holland native Todd O'Brien who plays basketball in the European League is leading the effort. Usner Excavating is donating equipment support and another New Holland native and long-time pool staffer Darren Hackenberg who now works at the Spooky Nook Sports Complex, has volunteered to repaint the line striping. The Borough has committed to replacing the blacktop removed during the project if needed. This will take place in the evenings and over the weekends as needed.

Water Chairperson Kurtz reported that the Borough Authority has opened bids on the planned new well at Groff Park. The engineers are currently reviewing and

working through some of the elements, for a projected total cost of approximately \$2.5 million. It is hoped some financial assistance will be provided under a grant application filed by the Manager. The Authority has been able to hold about \$1.55 million for use with the project but in order to proceed is requesting Council financial support to meet the remaining cost. As most are aware, this has been a six or seven-year project with a Borough investment already of probably over \$750,000. Borough funds needed based on the current bid numbers would be from the water reserve fund and if necessary loaned from sewer reserve funds. He supports and recommends Council provide the additional support needed to complete this important priority project.

Chairman Kurtz then made the motion that Council support the Borough Authority by providing the additional funds needed for the Authority to proceed with the new well project; utilizing available water and wastewater reserve funds as needed. This was seconded by Patrick Morgan. Member Morgan noted that as Finance Chair he also analyzed the support funding request and Council has the funds to provide the support to the Authority. The motion then passed.

Chairman Kurtz then introduced resident Robert Johnson, who is current Chairman of the Authority.

Chairman Johnson stated on behalf of the Authority, he expresses appreciation for Council approving the additional support for this project.

President Herrington expressed Council's appreciation of the Authority members' dedication and concern with these Borough needs now and for the future.

Mayor Bender reported the monies recorded through the Police Department the past month as: \$1,355.60 from the District Justice's office; \$125 from accident reports; and \$25 from fingerprinting. He noted that if the volunteer group led by Todd O'Brien needs additional volunteers, he is willing to help. As an update from last month's meeting, he spoke with the local dentist, Dr. West, who spoke at last month's meeting. He indicated that his idea for various organization activities downtown in the fall did not generate the support and volunteers needed.

Manager Fulcher reported that former longtime resident Eleanor Hart, one of the founders along with some of her family of the Summer Arts Program, recently passed away. The Hart Pavilion at Community Memorial Park is named in memory of her volunteerism with the Arts Program.

Council member Glick stated he was not aware of the local group of volunteers' plan to replace the basketball poles and hoops, and asked Property Chair Styer about it.

Property Chair Styer noted that though this was fairly recent, the information was included in the Manager's end of month Report. The exact dates of the planned work have not been provided due to it needing to be on weekends or evenings but it is being coordinated with Park worker Leo Ward and Streets, Parks, Maintenance Supervisor Bob Buzzard.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 5:54 p.m.

September 1, 2020

Date Approved