

MINUTES
Council Workshop
October 21, 2020

New Holland Borough Council met in regular Workshop session on Wednesday, October 21, 2020. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan via phone, Terry S. Mohler, John A. Styer, Bryant Glick and Michael H. Kurtz. Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher was also present.

President Herrington opened the meeting, noting that the purpose of the evening is to review the proposed 2021 budget.

Manager Fulcher reported that the current circumstances fortunately allow a proposed budget with no real estate tax increase. Though the coronavirus has had some minor impacts on the Borough things still remain steady. He explained how the Highway Aid budget works under PennDOT regulations.

Member Kurtz noted that he lives near Mentzer Avenue, and it seems the paving work completed this past spring does not seem to be as high a quality of work as most of the work that has been completed over the past years on Conestoga Street. Also, the pedestrian button on the south side of Main at Delp Road does not seem to be working properly.

Manager Fulcher said he could not immediately identify why the result is different. He will ask the Streets Supervisor to review the circumstances; as well as the operating conditions of the pedestrian buttons.

The Manager then continued with his overview of the proposed budget. Under the services Agreement with Earl Township, their proportion of responsibility increases by 1 percent in 2021, to 46 percent. As drafted, with the police services agreement's annual formula with Earl Township there is no increase due to inflation because it is currently too low. They actually are paying less, prior to the one percent increase due in 2021. Current negotiations for a new contract with the Police Officers' Association are not resolved at this point. If the arbitration process is utilized, various adjustments in the police costs will be identified about springtime. In reviewing some details concerning the planned new dump truck through state bid, he stated he would include more information on them in the end of month report. A potential trade-in of the one to be removed from service, the

1989 International was found to be much lower than we would hope to get through public bid.

Finance Chair Morgan noted there is a very slight positive increase in overall assessed taxable property and he is pleased given the coronavirus environment that Council is able to move forward with no tax increase.

Member Glick inquired about the process of replacing a Council member.

President Herrington and the Manager noted that traditionally if there is a member on a Borough Board who is willing to serve, since they are already familiar with many phases of Borough activities, that person is usually considered first. There have been a few unusual situations over the years when someone else is considered but this is not usually as beneficial as those already involved.

Member Burkhart inquired if the Manager was still able to follow the suggestion discussed a few years ago by himself and former member Bill Clisham that no additional full-time, non-uniform employees be hired unless as a replacement.

Manager Fulcher replied he continues to use that practice. The Streets, Parks, Maintenance Department does remain one below its former total.

Manager Fulcher noted that on the November Agenda State Representative Dave Zimmerman plans to be at Council meeting to present a Proclamation recognizing the Borough for its 125th year Anniversary of Incorporation. The PennDOT area liaison recently informed us that the Department's attorneys have just revised the Snow/Ice Removal Agreement which they requested in August, and Council approved in September. Though it only involves minor changes, the state municipal rep has asked the Borough to approve the new Agreement as directed by the attorneys. This will be scheduled at Council meeting.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

November 3, 2020
Date Approved