

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
July 6, 2021

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, July 6, 2021 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, Patrick K. Morgan, John A. Styer, Bryant J. Glick, Michael H. Kurtz and Harry M. Klinger. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender and Police Chief Bill Leighty. Others in attendance included residents Bill Kassinger, Ken Wright, Ha Huynh, Jonathan Brown, Rebecca Brown, Fred Kissack of Eagle Disposal and Ed Schweikert, consulting attorney.

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

Bryant Glick made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of June 1, 2021, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Harry Klinger 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 Burkhart and Styer abstained to avoid any appearance of conflict with any business they may own.

Police Chief Leighty then reviewed his monthly Report. There was a total of 427 incidents last month. There were 21 arrests involving felonies or misdemeanors; five DUIs and three non-traffic summary actions. There was a total of 10 accidents, 5 reportable and five non-reportable. There was a total of five juvenile contacts, all of which were able to be handled by the Youth Aid Panel. In response to a question, he noted that he will try to modify the Report to provide a Youth Aide panel column. The third page indicates the main events participated in or attended during the month.

Member Klinger noted that the number of DUIs is a little higher than normal and feels that some officers seem to be doing a good job with the concern.

Chief Leighty responded that more officers are also being trained on the various elements of DUI arrests.

Police Chairman Burkhart stated that unfortunately many times these days it is not alcohol related but some other illegal substances causing the impairment.

Member Glick noted that in reviewing the officer chart numbers, it appears some officers are less productive than others. He wondered some of the reasons for this.

The Chief reported that a number of officers were on vacation and others were off for various reasons.

Chairman Burkhart said there seemed to be a few more incidents of vandalism at Community Memorial Park than normal; inquiring if most of these been able to be solved?

The Chief stated that most of these have but even with the security system, a few have not been able to be identified.

Chairman Burkhart then made the motion that proposed Ordinance #593 be tabled until Council's August meeting. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

Finance Committee Chairman Morgan reported there is one item presented for action. He reported that under the federal American Rescue Act which was created to help the economy due to the results of the Covid-19 pandemic. There are limited allowed uses of these monies which are to be received by the Borough over a two year period. The total is approximately \$571,912. It is allowed to be spent on public utility services. In reviewing the Borough's most pressing needs, the new well currently under construction is a high priority. It is recommended that these funds be provided to the Borough Authority to assist in funding of the new well. This will significantly lower any need for the Water fund to temporarily borrow other in-house funds.

Chairman Morgan then made the motion that Council authorize the expenditures of the funds anticipated to be received under the American Rescue Act to be utilized by the Borough Authority towards the cost of the new well. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Property Chair Styer stated he had no action items to present but as miscellaneous updates he noted the seeding of the former hockey court area at Community Memorial Park is complete and the grass is growing in to a good extent. The pool has been busy through the recent extreme heat spell with things going well.

There were no Water or Wastewater items presented.

Streets Chair Kurtz reported there is one action item for consideration this evening. This is a request from the Borough's community trash program hauler, Eagle Disposal, for consideration of reimbursement of the temporary additional costs due to the county's transfer site repairing their truck tunnel for about three months. Eagle has provided a letter outlining the additional costs involved due to the construction, which amounts to \$124 per week. Representative of Eagle, Fred Kissack is here this evening if anyone has any questions or comments.

Member Klinger stated he recently talked with one of the Eagle employees on pickup day and they had a good brief conversation about the manpower and driver shortage Eagle is going through and realizes it as a difficult situation many others are in also.

Member Glick inquired how most other municipalities were responding to the request.

Mr. Kissack replied that most have agreed to reimbursement of the additional costs. Local municipality Terre Hill did so just recently.

Mike Kurtz then made the motion that Council approve the requested cost reimbursement to Eagle Disposal of \$124 per week, while the county's Transfer Station's tunnel is under reconstruction. This is identified as Change Order #4. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

Mayor Bender then reported the fines received through the Police Department the past month as: \$1,076.73 in fines from the District Justice's office; \$255 from accident reports; \$60 in parking fines; and \$100 from fingerprinting. He noted that recently the Police Department has been very busy and for various reasons has staffing challenges so the operations are not the ideal situation. Also, from what he is aware the recent July 4th fireworks sponsored by the Summer Arts Program just south of Community Memorial Park seemed to go well with good weather and a large crowd.

Member Burkhart stated he wants to recognize and thank Manger Fulcher for his leadership in overseeing the heavy vehicle and pedestrian traffic at and near Community Memorial Park for the fireworks. along with some Park staff.

Manger Fulcher reported it was the largest vehicle related and pedestrian attended event he had ever seen at the Park area outside of the Farmers' Fair parade night. The larger crowd was anticipated but not that early nor as overwhelming. The need for that much outside of nearby areas parking presented challenges. It also took significantly longer than normal to release vehicle traffic. The priority concern was for pedestrian safety. On another matter he stated that this week's community trash and recycling program is on its regularly scheduled pickup day, Thursday.

President Herrington noted that prior to convening into an Executive Session, he inquired if there was any additional public comment at this time. There being none, the meeting was then convened into Executive Session to discuss a police personnel matter.

The meeting reconvened at 8:33 p.m. There was no public comment. President Herrington reminded members that the August meeting is scheduled as advertised for 5:30 p.m.

Bryant Glick made the motion that this meeting be recessed and continued to Monday, July 12, 10 a.m. This was seconded by John Styer and passed.

The meeting recessed at 8:35 p.m.

July 6, 2021
Recessed to
July 12, 2021

New Holland Borough Council reconvened its meeting of July 6, 2021 on Monday, July 12, 2021 at 10 a.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Donald J. Herrington, Vice-President Todd C. Burkhart, John A. Styer, Bryant G. Glick, Michael H. Kurtz and Harry M. Klinger. Member Patrick K. Morgan was absent. Others present included Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief Bill Leighty and consulting attorney G. Edward Schweikert via phone.

President Herrington reconvened the meeting of July 6, 2021. He noted that the first item of business is any discussion related to the letter dated July 8, 2021 to Council, concerning his Recommendation of Dismissal from Police Chief Leighty concerning officer Tyler Fritz.

Mayor Bender stated he is aware of the elements involved with officer Fritz and highly supports this recommendation by the Chief.

The meeting then briefly convened into Executive Session to discuss the personnel matter.

Upon reconvening into regular session, Todd Burkhart made the motion that Council support the recommendation of dismissal of officer Tyler Fritz as presented by the Chief and supported by the Mayor. This was seconded by Bryant Glick. The roll was:

Todd Burkhart—Yes

Harry Klinger—Yes

Bryant Glick—Yes

Mike Kurtz—Yes

John Styer—Yes

Don Herrington—Yes

The motion passed.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

August 3, 2021

Date Approved