

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
October 1, 2024

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 1, 2024 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Bryant J. Glick, William Clisham, Harry M. Klinger, D. Michael Ireland and John S. Taylor. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief William Leighty and reporter Carole Deck. Others in attendance included residents Bill Kassinger, Ken Wright, Lee Vescovich, also a representative of the Eastern Lancaster County Library, Susan Burke, President of the Library, and Ann Rejrat of Lancaster Newspapers.

President Morgan opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of the prior meeting.

Harry Klinger made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of September 3, 2024, be approved as presented. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Bill Clisham made the motion that the monthly Financial Report be accepted and the bills paid as prepared. This was seconded by Mike Ireland and passed.

Police Chief Leighty reviewed his monthly summary Report. There was a total of 317 total incidents; of which there were nine felonies or misdemeanors, three summary offences and one DUI. There was a total of 13 accidents of which 9 were reportable, 21 citations and 12 warnings. There were 11 incidents involving juveniles; 2 went to Juvenile Court; 9 to District Court. With school back in, you will notice a higher number of juvenile related incident contacts. As many may have read recently, there has been much social media activity and threats to schools and students. He attempts to keep the Department ahead of these potential activities. He is a member of the Community Anti-Threats Organization (CATO) which focuses on these types of activities and threats and they communicate them to police agencies. The monthly Report also includes the numerous community activities which involved the Department the past month. He feels this year's Coffee with a Cop was a successful event.

Wastewater Chairman Taylor explained that there is a proposed action related to the organization in town known as CrossNet which is planning extensive updates

to its large facility on the south side of East Franklin Street. The plans however are to include the existing kitchen with grease traps in the same pre-existing location. These would otherwise have to be placed in a location accessible to the Borough staff to monitor as to the proper handling and removal of grease before wastewater is sent into the Borough's collection system. The Borough's engineer and Manager have reviewed the existing situation and are comfortable with it remaining at its existing location as long as the owner properly monitors and keeps records of its grease removal activities, as well as allowing the Borough the right to the premises if it feels the handling is not being done properly by the owner. The Borough Solicitor has prepared an Easement Agreement for Council consideration to allow this to proceed. The owner has agreed to it also.

Chairman Taylor then made the motion that the Easement Agreement between the Borough and CrossNet providing an easement to the Borough for access to CrossNet's grease trap area as well as outlining a number of monitoring and reporting requirements, be approved. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

Chairman Taylor next made the motion that Council approve the ordering of a 2023 replacement maintenance truck with crane equipment for the Wastewater Department, to replace the current 2001 in use. This is an F-350, 4x4, available through the state's Co-Stars purchasing program from the New Holland Auto Group. This is to be paid for after the January 7, 2025 Council meeting under the 2025 budget; at a projected cost of \$98,179. The motion was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Streets Chairman Glick made the motion that Council approve Trick-or-Treat night in the Borough for Thursday, October 31, 2024 from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m. This was seconded by Bill Clisham and passed.

Chairman Glick next made the motion that Resolution #562, which is a requirement of the PennDOT Permit process and authorizes the Borough Manager to submit the required Traffic Signal Maintenance Agreement for a flashing amber Warning device to be located on the east side of Brimmer Avenue, south of the intersection with East Jackson Street be approved. This was seconded by Mike Kurtz and passed.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as: \$1,483.57 for the District Justice's office; \$150 from copies of Accident reports; and \$25 from fingerprinting. He noted he would like to point out

what he believes is a special moment with this evening's meeting, and that is with the presence of long-time local reporter for Lancaster Newspapers, Carole Deck. She has a long, varied and impressive career in her reporting and other writing history. This meeting is to be her last prior to her retirement from Lancaster Newspapers. He thanks her for the good job and wishes her well.

President Morgan noted he will take this moment to also recognize Reporter Deck on behalf of Council. He then read the following letter on behalf of Council, as presented to Ms. Deck:

We express our sincere appreciation to you for the many years of your professional manner and personable approach as you served as our local reporter with Lancaster Newspapers. While recognizing your many feature articles from throughout the community, your ability to serve as a neutral but knowledgeable reporter with our municipal happenings is to be commended.

We will miss your official presence as a reporter, but as an interested resident you remain welcome to spend your evenings at our meetings with us!

We wish you continued success with your future endeavors and activities.
On Behalf of Council,
Patrick K. Morgan, President

Lee Vescovich reported on behalf of the Eastern Lancaster County Library that with the recently completed remodeling of the Children's Library area, it required \$28,000 from the Reserve Fund of the Library. The Board is making an extra effort to let people know and consider any possible additional donations to replenish it. There is a Home Schooling presentation on October 10th at 6:30 p.m. and the annual fundraising Bingo is scheduled for November 30th at the American Legion. Other happenings are mentioned in the Library's Newsletter.

Library President Burke stated everyone is welcome to attend the annual fundraising Bingo. It is a fun event and tickets are limited.

Member Glick stated he has received a request from residents of the Sycamore Lane cul-de-sac in Ashlea Village for Council to approve the closing of the cul-de-sac for a block party on October 20th. He noted he would like it added to the posting of the items for the planned recessed meeting.

Council then convened into Executive Session for police personnel matters.

After reconvening back into regular session, there being no public comment, member Kurtz made the motion that today's meeting be recessed to Wednesday, October 16, 5 p.m. and that the item of the request to close Sycamore Lane for a block party be noted on the Agenda. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

The meeting then recessed at 9:40 p.m.

October 1, 2024
Recessed To
October 16, 2024

New Holland Borough Council met in a reconvened session from October 1, 2024 on Wednesday, October 16, 2024 at 5 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Bryant J. Glick, Harry M. Klinger, D. Michael Ireland and John S. Taylor. Member William Clisham was absent. Others in attendance were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief William Leighty, Lieutenant/Detective Joshua Bitner and reporter Carole Deck.

President Morgan opened the meeting, noting there are three items of action consideration, then the continued Executive session on police personnel matters.

Police Chief Leighty reported that as outlined in his recent letter to Council, he recommends probationary officer Halstead be hired as a regular full-time officer. Her probationary status ends October 31, 2024.

A number of members noted their interactions or observations of officer Halstead. Member Klinger stated he has heard positive comments about officer Halstead and she should be an asset to the Department. Member Glick noted being aware of an interaction event involving officer Halstead and a mother and daughter, which was handled very well. President Morgan is also aware of an incident during the 2023 New Holland Fair which involved officer Halstead and a sexual predator. He knew the people involved and they were very grateful. Mayor Bender reported he has had positive comments about the officer and feels officer Halstead's experience will be good for the Department.

Mike Kurtz made the motion that probationary officer Heather Halstead be hired as a regular full-time officer at the end of her probationary period, November 1, 2024

based on her job performance and the recommendation of Police Chief Leighty. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

Mike Kurtz made the motion that the request for relief of the grievance as reviewed at the hearing heard by Council in Executive Session on October 1, 2024 be denied. This was seconded by Mike Ireland and passed. Member Taylor voted nay to the motion.

Bryant Glick made the motion that the request of residents of Sycamore Lane to allow closure of the Sycamore Lane Cul de Sac be closed on Sunday, October 20, from noon until 5 p.m. contingent upon the providing to the Borough of a one-day insurance policy covering the event with the Borough listed as additional insured on the policy. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

The Manager then reviewed a draft 2025 Borough budget with the members. No real estate tax is projected though an increase in the service cost for trash and recycling is included as part of it. The planned major Locust Street water line replacement and partial street widening project remains a major goal for next year; if necessary some paving work could wait for 2026. The Inter-municipal Funding Committees for GSFR has not yet met to recommend final planned support for next year.

In reviewing allowed donations to community organizations, it was the consensus of the members that the donation to the Eastern Lancaster County Library be set at \$20,000 for 2025.

Manager Fulcher noted he will follow the usual process of adjusting to comments and reviewing year-to-date numbers at the end of October in preparing the full Preliminary 2025 Budget; which will be included in packets and provided for the November meeting.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was then convened into Executive Session for a discussion of police personnel matters.

Upon reconvening back into regular session, there being no public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

Date Approved

J. Richard Fulcher, Secretary