

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
January 7, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, January 7, 2025 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Bryant J. Glick, William Clisham, Harry M. Klinger, D. Michael Ireland and John M. Taylor. President Patrick K. Morgan was absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief William Leighty, Detective Josh Bitner, Detective Heather Halstead and reporter Megan Glockley. Others in attendance included Jeff Bologna, of Becker Engineering, the Borough's water consultant, Stephen Halstead, residents Anthony Rudderow, Arden Thackray, Bill Kassinger and Lino Vescovich, and Alan Tshudy of Lancaster city.

Vice-President Kurtz opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of the prior meeting.

Bryant Glick made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of December 3, 2024, be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Harry Klinger 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 then reviewed the monthly Summary Report of Department activities. There was a total of 295 total incidents, with 10 arrests of which 4 were felonies or misdemeanors, 4 non-traffic summaries and 2 DUIs. There were 19 reportable accidents and 8 citations. There was one juvenile contact which was referred to Juvenile court. Included in the Report is the usual page of training and activities of the staff.

Member Glick stated it was good to see officers with active duty results and would the Chief let them know the effort is appreciated.

Mayor Bender reported that there is a special brief activity this evening related to a recent positive event in the Police Department. After review of best qualified individuals for consideration of appointment of a second Detective in the Department, officer Heather Halstead was selected by the Chief for the position;

which he agrees with, effective January 1, 2025. He then presented Detective Halstead with a Detective badge.

Vice-President Kurtz stated he takes this opportunity on behalf of Council to express its appreciation to long-time, part-time officer Gerry Weaver, who retired from continuing this service as of mid-December. Mr. Weaver assisted the Borough for over 12 years in this capacity.

Harry Klinger then made the motion that Resolution #565, which identifies that 5 percent of police officers' salary is the agreed amount by contract to be paid into the Police Pension Plan for 2025, be approved. This was seconded by Bill Clisham and passed.

There were no Finance, Property, Personnel, Water or Wastewater action items presented.

Streets Chairman Glick stated he wished to express his appreciation to Street Supervisor Petersheim and those who help with salting and snow clearing with the recent storm for a good job. They began extra early as usual to proceed with the work.

Chairman Glick then made the motion that the request of the New Holland Band to use and close East Jackson Street between South Kinzer Avenue and Park Avenue on Sunday, July 13, 2025 from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. for its Antique Car Show be approved. He noted the requesting organization is responsible for obtaining required traffic control. This was seconded by Bill Clisham and passed.

Chairman Glick next made the motion that the request of the New Holland Business Association for the use and closing of the streets needed for its 2025 Christmas on Main, on Saturday, November 29, 2025, which includes the closing of South Roberts Avenue from 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. as well as the closing of Main Street, from Railroad Avenue, west to Custer Avenue, and North Roberts north to Towne Centre Lane, from noon to 7 p.m. be approved. This was seconded by Mike Ireland and passed.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as: \$712.23 from the District Justice's office; \$225 from accident reports; \$75 from fingerprinting; \$50 from parking fines; \$281 from Right-to-Know requests; and \$90 from solicitation fees. In adding a few comments, he also states his appreciation to former part-time officer Gerry Weaver who was well

known in the community and was a good community relations officer. On another note on the appointment of Detective Halstead, he commends the Chief for his standards of performance and experience in consideration of this action.

Manager Fulcher reported that the final year end Financial Report summary page for 2024 is available as usual after December 31 for anyone who would like the updated page. This minor update reflects the small timeframe between the necessary administrative date of closeout before the 31st and the minor adjustments in each fund for that interim period which includes the addition of some interest as well as the small cost of direct deposit.

Lee Vescovich then reported for the Eastern Lancaster County Library. Some of the highlights for the month include that there are Genealogy and Local History special events coming up at the Library. These events are free. He reminded those present that Library members now have free access to My Heritage Library Edition. This site contains comprehensive records and history. There is also a Winter Play and Learn series, which carries over one week into February. In January also under the theme of Music and Movement reading, is a series about musical instruments. These and many other items of interest are able to be found on the Library's website.

Alan Tshudy of Lancaster stated he is a member of the ODD Fellows and is interested in communicating with someone about local community interests.

Manager Fulcher stated he is involved with local service clubs and community activities and will be in contact with him about this.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was recessed at 7:24 p.m. to Thursday, January 16, 2025, 6 p.m.

January 7, 2025
Recessed to
January 16, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in recessed session from January 7, 2025, on Thursday, January 16 at 6 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 and police officer candidate Roberto Lopez.

President Morgan opened the reconvened meeting, introducing police officer candidate Roberto Lopez. He noted that the Civil Service Commission has interviewed candidate Lopez and referred him onto Council's Police Committee. The Committee interviewed him a few days ago. He was invited this evening to meet those Council members who have not met him.

Mr. Lopez outlined his past police and related experiences and positions held. After serving in the Air Force, he spent 36 years working for the City of Lancaster in the Police Department.

President Morgan then reported that consideration of Mr. Lopez's appointment as a probationary officer for the Borough is planned for Council's February meeting. Mr. Lopez then left the meeting.

The meeting was then convened into Executive Session for police personnel matters. Council, the Manager and Mayor attended the Executive Session.

After reconvening from the Executive Session, member Mike Kurtz made the motion to approve the Consulting Services Agreement between the Borough and Mark T. Bentzel to serve as Interim Police Chief as well as possibly providing additional consulting assistance. This was seconded by John Taylor. President Morgan asked for a roll call. The roll was:

Mike Kurtz—Yes

John Taylor—Yes

Bill Clisham—Yes

Mike Ireland—Yes

Harry Klinger—Yes

Bryant Glick—Yes

Patrick Morgan—Yes

The motion passed.

Bryant Glick noted that in light of the upcoming retirement of Police Chief Leighty from police services and leaving as Police Chief in early February, with his last day at work to be February 7, 2025, and the ending of numerous police service related contracts this year, Council will be proceeding to perform its due diligence for the taxpayers as to moving forward with considering police service alternatives.

He then made the motion that the President be authorized to request proposals for the possible future utilization of contracted police services from some of the other municipalities with police departments, for consideration by Council. This was seconded by Harry Klinger. President Morgan asked for a roll call. The roll was:

Mike Ireland—Yes
Harry Klinger—Yes
Bryant Glick—Yes
Mike Kurtz—Yes

John Taylor—Yes
Bill Clisham—Yes
Patrick Morgan—Yes

The motion passed.

Mike Ireland made the motion that the February meeting of Council be postponed by one day, to Wednesday, February 5, 2025, 7 p.m. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

There being no public comment or other advertised business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:07 p.m.

February 5, 2025
Date Approved