

MINUTES
New Holland Borough Council
Special Meeting of
June 5, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in special session on Thursday, June 5, 2025, at 6 p.m. in Borough Hall. Members present were: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Bryant J. Glick, D. Michael Ireland, John M. Taylor and Charles F. Kidhardt. Member Harry M. Klinger was absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher and Mayor M. Timothy Bender. Others in attendance were residents Steve Good, Ray Harnish, Brendon Harnish, Cole Morgan and Candice Sprecher.

President Morgan opened the meeting, noting that today's meeting was called for Council to continue to do its due diligence as to the future of police services in the Borough, considering that Earl Township may no longer wish to continue to contract with the Borough. The meeting was properly advertised and posted. The purpose of the meeting is to consider proceeding with possible police services discussions with West Earl Township by authorizing Consultant/Acting Chief Bentzel to proceed to update the initial draft proposal received from West Earl, March 10, 2025. He noted he prepared a brief statement outlining tonight's meeting purpose with any public comment to follow. It is available if anyone would like a copy.

Charles Kidhardt then made the motion that Acting Chief Bentzel be authorized to work with the Police Chief of West Earl Township and other officials to update the draft Proposal received from West Earl Township for Council's review. This was seconded by Mike Ireland. All members present voted in favor. The motion passed.

Member Glick inquired if this means the Borough is closed out with Earl Township.

President Morgan noted it does not; should Earl Township contact the Borough to discuss a new service contract.

Ray Harnish of 502 West Cedar Street inquired about the review process for the situation.

President Morgan explained that under the circumstances as they are aware, today's action is to have Acting Chief Bentzel meet with West Earl's Chief so that the initial draft Proposal received is updated for Council so Council can review future cost and service comparisons. When finalized, this information will be made public and as he has noted previously, be available at a public meeting.

Resident Steve Good stated he lives at 19 North Kinzer Avenue in the Borough. He commends Council for reviewing future police services for the Borough. He does not feel the Borough could justify trying to have its own small force. It appears the numbers would not make sense as to the cost to the taxpayers and the level of service able to be provided.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

July 1, 2025
Date Approved