

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough Council  
June 3, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, June 3, 2025 at 7 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, Harry M. Klinger and Charles F. Kidhardt. Also present were Manager/ Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender, Police Chief Mark Bentzel and reporter Megan Gockley. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologa of Becker Engineering, Chief of Garden Spot Fire Rescue Darryl Keiser; residents Bill Kassinger, Dennis Summers, Doris Summers, Ken Wright, Ray Harnish, Brendon Harnish, Neal Martin, Joy Dlugosz of the ELANCO Library and Earl Township resident Daniel Lapp.

President Morgan 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 May 6, 2025 be approved as presented. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

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

Police Chief Bentzel then reviewed the Department's monthly Summary Report. There was a total of 405 incidents of which 17 involved arrests consisting of 11 felonies or misdemeanors, 4 summary offences and 2 DUIs. Of the eight total accidents, five were reportable. There were 41 citations and 24 warnings. There was a total of four juvenile contacts of which one went to Juvenile Court, three to District Court. Thirteen alarms were responded to. Three of the suspects in the unlocked vehicle thefts in the Borough as reported in April were apprehended by Detective Halstead. In mid-month officer Reifsnyder presented a DUI case before District Judge Hartman (retired) who was hearing the case. The Chief received a note from Justice Hartman expressing that officer Reifsnyder did a good job with this case.

Member Glick inquired how the intended redistribution of the second Detective to assist the Lieutenant/Detective was working out; and how are preparations coming with a Police Night Out for this year.

Chief Bentzel explained that Detective Halstead is doing a majority of investigations and the Lieutenant/Detective is about 50/50 between administrative activities and

investigations. As to a National Night Out activity, the first meeting was held a week or so ago.

Member John Taylor reported on behalf of the Property Committee that the Board of the Community Memorial Park Association is holding a formal Welcome/Appreciation ceremony at the new Butterfly Garden this Saturday at 10 a.m.

Water Chairman Kidhardt requested Borough water consultant Bologna to provide a report on the recommended updates to the Borough's Water and Sewer Developer Specifications; as well as the reasons behind the additional roadway basin work on the Locust Street project.

Consultant Bologna explained that over the past year or more he has been working with the Water and Wastewater Supervisors and Manager to review and update the Borough's Developer Specifications for water and sewer elements, materials, the review process and so on. Everything was reviewed as to its current applicability. This has been completed as to all of the elements and is recommended for approval. The current ones are from 2017 and much has changed since then. These were also combined into one document instead of two.

Charles Kidhardt then made the motion that the recommended updates to the Borough's Water and Sewer regulations and specifications be approved as prepared by the engineers and staff. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

Consultant Bologna next reported that during the on-going Locust Street water project with its partial street reconstruction, he has identified a number of areas to date below where the sub-grade begins. In order to properly support those areas prior to rebuilding, it is in his engineers' recommendation to add to the scope of work by having this excavated and the proper stone be brought in to sustain the road subbase long term. This type of unknown factor was not bid as an open ended part of the bid where a contractor would then normally prepare their bid for something that may not even occur or otherwise be much higher than the project amount added. They have obtained the additional contract cost from the contractor of \$53/cubic yard for this work. This includes the needed excavating, backfilling, stone and compaction. He feels this is a very reasonable cost for this situation. They do not yet have the result of the complete inspection so the needed Change Order total is not yet available. In response to a few questions, he noted that the locations identified so far vary in size and that there is no evidence of any sinkhole type of concern with this. It probably relates to the underlying clay.

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

Mayor Bender reported the revenues received through the Police Department the past month as: from District Court: \$345.71; Accident Reports: \$360; Fingerprinting: \$50; Alarm Fees: \$2,200; Solicitor fees: \$400; and County Court fees: \$91.66. He also wants to note the good work of Detective Halstead with the vehicle thefts and officer Reifsnnyder for his DUI activity. As a member of the Butterfly Garden Project Committee for the Park Board, he also expresses his invitation for all those who can attend this Saturday's Welcome/Appreciation Ceremony at 10 a.m.

Manager Fulcher reported that just recently it was determined that the disability lift at the pool cannot be repaired and needs replaced. The cost will be around \$6,500. He also reminded members that the County Commissioners are holding one of their 2025 outreach regular meetings on Wednesday, June 11, at 7 p.m. Everyone is invited. Former Mayor Wilbur Horning has agreed to provide an over-view of the history of New Holland at the meeting; a request of the Commission.

Joy Dlugosz, representing the ELANCO Library, distributed the monthly Newsletter. She noted it included the list of activities planned for the summer. There are two major capital cost situations they are facing. One is replacing all of the HVAC units; the second is that their elevator is having mechanical issues.

Neal Martin of 17 South Whisper Lane, inquired about the status of the process to possibly hire a new police chief.

President Morgan stated this is in the hands of the recruiting consultant. He understands nine persons put in applications.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting recessed into Executive Session to discuss police personnel matters.

Upon reconvening back into regular session, there was no public comment. The meeting adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

July 1, 2025  
Date Approved