

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough Council  
September 2, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, September 2, 2025 at 7 p.m. in Council Chambers. All members were present: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Bryant J. Glick, Harry M. Klinger, D. Michael Ireland, Charles F. Kidhardt and via phone John M. Taylor. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor M. Timothy Bender and Police Chief/Consultant Mark Bentzel. Others in attendance included Borough water consultants Jeff Bologa and Casey Kerschner of Becker Engineering, Joy Dlugosz, a representative of the Eastern Lancaster County Library, Wes Weaver of Garden Spot Fire Rescue, and residents Bill Kassinger, Ken Wright, and John Chatley of Garden Spot Village's Sycamore Springs West in the Borough.

President Morgan opened the meeting, first reporting that Council held an Executive Session on Monday, August 25 to discuss police personnel matters.

Charles Kidhardt made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of August 5, 2025, be approved as presented. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

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

Chief Bentzel then reviewed his monthly Report of Department activities. He first noted that there was an unusual and unfortunate incident which occurred overnight last night which involved an individual who set a house on fire in the middle of the night. Fortunately, no one other than the individual involved was injured. The person in question remained in the house for about two and one-half to three hours, which continued to burn with limited control before the situation ended. Garden Spot Fire Rescue did a great job in controlling the burning during the standoff. The house later turned into a total loss. The police officers evacuated a few of the neighbors' houses immediately adjacent. The Borough officers responding included Custer, Auchenbach and Reifsnyder, Detective Halstead and Lieutenant/Detective Bitner. All of them performed in a professional manner with the situation. He will be preparing letters of commendation for each of them. As to other activities, there were a total of nine arrests, six of which were felonies or misdemeanors, two of which were DUI's and one non-traffic summary. There were 12 reportable accidents and 8 were nonreportable. There were also 27 citations and 13 warnings. All six juvenile contacts were referred to District court. There were 12 responses to alarms. This year's National Night Out went well. It had great weather and a great crowd turnout. He is going to thank those officers

who volunteered to be there and help. He also wants to recognize the time and effort put into organizing this year's event, by Angela Jones Administrative Assistant in the Department.

Member Harry Klinger then made the motion that proposed Ordinance #604 be adopted, as prepared by the Solicitor. This Ordinance dissolves the Borough's police department and involved ordinances and regulations as well as the Civil Service Commission, effective midnight 12-31-25; as part of the upcoming transition to the West Earl Police Department. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt. The roll was:

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| Mike Ireland—Yes  | Charles Kidhardt—Yes |
| Harry Klinger—Yes | John Taylor—Yes      |
| Bryant Glick—Yes  | Patrick Morgan—Yes   |
| Mike Kurtz—Yes    |                      |

The motion passed unanimously. Ordinance #604 was adopted.

Harry Klinger made the motion that the proposed Department Closeout Agreement with the New Holland Police Officers' Association be approved contingent upon receiving confirmation from the Association that any and all legal actions pending against the Borough, including the demand for Interest Arbitration for the year 2026, have been withdrawn and closed by its legal representative. This was seconded by Mike Ireland. President Morgan requested a roll call vote. The roll was:

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|-------------------|----------------------|
| Mike Ireland—Yes  | Charles Kidhardt—Yes |
| Harry Klinger—Yes | John Taylor—Yes      |
| Bryant Glick—Yes  | Patrick Morgan—Yes   |
| Mike Kurtz—Yes    |                      |

The motion passed unanimously.

Finance Chair Ireland then made the motion that the budgeted second half-year portion of this year's tax contribution to the ELANCO Library, in the amount of \$10,000 be approved. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt and passed.

Water Chairman Kidhardt reported that the closeout of the Locust Street project is before Council this evening, including the review and approval of Change Order #2, as prepared by the Borough's engineer. He then requested the consultants to review the information for Council.

Consultant Bologna reported that if Council approves recommended Change Order #2 this evening, the only remaining item is the obtaining of As-Built drawings from the contractor, MDX. He then introduced his associate Casey Kerschner, who was the main over-seer and on-site expert of the project.

Mr. Kerschner explained that Change Order #2 consists of two parts, C and D. Part C involves the cost addition of the geo-tech material included with the street overlay at a cost of \$22,664.40. Part D involves the additional curbing, sidewalk and misc. items like driveway and walkway connections to the west of Blossom Lane as reviewed with the Manager to eliminate curb elevation problems prior to next year's planned overlay of the western portion of Locust Street. This involved a cost of \$64,076.10. Prior to approval to proceed, his firm checked the proposed prices prior to approving them and found them very reasonable. The total project cost was: \$1,103,830.39. This is not adjusted for the state's partial reimbursement.

Chairman Kidhardt then made the motion that proposed Change Order #2 for the Locust Street project, as reviewed and recommended for approval by the engineers, at a cost increase of \$86,740.50, be approved. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

President Morgan thanked the consultants for doing a good job on behalf of the Borough.

Streets Chairman Glick made the motion that the stormwater facilities access Agreements required for the 12 unit Locust Street subdivision, between the Borough and owner/developer Leon Burkholder, be approved as reviewed by the Solicitor. This was seconded by Mike Ireland and passed.

Chairman Glick next made the motion that the updated Memorandum of Understanding as requested by the county's Planning Commission, be approved. He noted this basically reduces the amount of involvement by the county Planning Commission with smaller subdivisions and minor lot changes. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt and passed.

Chairman Glick then made the motion that the Manager be authorized to proceed with the advertising and other preparation elements needed to address the expected lengthy time frame for the planned 2026 widening improvement project at the southwest corner of South Custer and West Main Street. The motion was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

Borough Planning Commission member Kassinger asked Manager Fulcher how this process involving signal changes and corner improvements works when a PennDOT roadway is involved.

Manager Fulcher explained that the local municipality both owns and is responsible for the maintaining and the liability for traffic signals. PennDOT controls the state approved Permits; one goes with each signal. It includes the allowed operation process as well as signage, lines and so on. This project involves both the minor improvement to the southwest corner and also a section of work within PennDOT's Main St./Rt. 23 right-of-way, which requires a Highway Occupancy Permit from PennDOT for that area of the work. The advertising for the needed new signal pole and arm can proceed while the PennDOT process gets underway. The delivery time of these will determine when the project will be able to begin.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Police Department the past month as: \$1,028.28 from the District Justice's office; \$212 from county court fees; \$180 from accident reports, and \$50 from fingerprinting. He also wants to recognize those who assisted with National Night Out. He felt it was a well-attended event which as Chief Bentzel noted, took a good deal of planning.

Mike Ireland then made the motion that the initially advertised Council Workshop in October be cancelled. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt and passed.

ELANCO Library representative Joy Dlugosz thanked Council for approving its second half year contribution this evening. She then reported to Council that of the 1,364 registered persons in this summer's reading program, 355 of which were from the Borough, 953 successfully met the goals; 711 completed the Extra-Reading challenge. This all amounted to 16,877 hours of dedicated reading. The Library is hosting a Watercolor Workshop for adults on September 17 and 24. There is also a Constitution Celebration event on September 20 at 12:30 p.m. as well as a special mini chef program on September 24 at 10 a.m. for children aged 3 to 8 sponsored by GIANT. It involves teaching them about healthy foods and snacks. She noted in response to a question that they are losing their Children's Librarian in October. She did a great job.

President Morgan thanked Ms. Dlugosz for the report.

Wes Weaver, of Garden Spot Fire Rescue, reported that there were 53 incidents responded to last month. The busiest hours for activities is from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. One major item they were able to deal with quickly was fire from a lightning strike

which traveled from a tree to a house. On August 27, they responded to a crash involving a school bus. There were a number of truck accident responses in the Township.

President Morgan thanked Mr. Weaver for the information and the work of GSFR.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was recessed to Wednesday, September 10, at 5 p.m. The meeting recessed at 7:34 p.m.

September 2, 2025  
Recessed To  
September 10, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in recessed session of September 2, 2025 on Wednesday, September 10, at 5 p.m. in Council chambers. Members present were: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Harry M. Klinger, D. Michael Ireland, John M. Taylor and Charles F. Kidhardt. Member Bryant J. Glick was absent. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher and Mayor M. Timothy Bender. Others in attendance were Kirsten Curtis and Don Neukam of Good's Disposal, Andrea Alenovitz of Diehm's Disposal and Andrew Casey and Joseph Blosenski of A. J. Blosenski.

President Morgan reconvened the meeting, noting that the first item of business is the awarding of bids for the upcoming trash/recycling period.

Manager Fulcher reported that there were four bids received and opened as advertised on September 8, for the service. The bid cost is based on a per unit or per customer basis. This only makes up a little over half of the overall costs to the Borough. The initial bid period is four years, with three potential additional years by mutual agreement. The annual cost is adjusted according to the CPI every year. The bids received, in low bid order were:

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|--|----------|
| Goods Disposal Service (ESC Waste Services), Ephrata | \$199.08 |
| Diehm's Disposal, East Earl                          | \$224.28 |
| A. J. Blosenski, Elverson                            | \$282.00 |
| Casella, Newmanstown                                 | \$289.83 |

He noted that the required documentation was included with the low bid and properly provided. This includes weekly recycling.

Harry Klinger made the motion that the low bid of \$199.08 per unit, from Good's Disposal Service be accepted for the Borough's Trash and Recycling program as advertised. This was seconded by Mike Kurtz and passed.

Mr. Neukam of Good's Disposal Service stated his company has discussed the possible continued use of the existing trash and recycle bins that are currently owned by A. J. Blosenski. He would request that Council allow this if it works out as they are still in fairly good condition. He will let the Manager know if this discussion progresses.

Mike Kurtz then made the motion that the Grievance Settlement with the Association and an officer as negotiated and prepared by the consulting police attorney, be approved. This was seconded by Mike Ireland. President Morgan asked for a roll call vote. The vote was:

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|--|------------------|
| Mike Ireland: Aye  | John Taylor: Aye |
| Harry Klinger: Aye. Noting for the record he feels it is charitable settlement |                  |
| Charles Kidhardt: Aye  | Mike Kurtz: Aye  |
| Patrick Morgan: Aye  |                  |

The motion passed.

Manager Fulcher reported that an additional item has come before Council that does not involve finances but is a public safety concern. The homeowners along Hiester Avenue have again requested Council's approval to utilize a portion of Hiester, from Warren Street north to the dead end for a neighborhood block gathering event. This would be for Sunday, September 28 with a rain date of October 5, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. If approved, they are responsible for providing a Certificate of Insurance to the Borough for the event.

Mike Ireland made the motion that Council approve the closing of Hiester Avenue, from Warren Street, north to the end, as requested by the residents of Hiester, on Sunday, September 28 or October 5, if a rain date is needed, from 3 p.m. to 8 p.m. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt and passed.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting adjourned at 5:11 p.m.

October 7, 2025  
Date Approved