

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough  
October 7, 2025

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, October 7, 2025 at 7 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President Michael H. Kurtz, Bryant J. Glick, Harry M. Klinger, D. Michael Ireland, John M. Taylor and Charles F. Kidhardt. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Acting Police Chief/Consultant Mark Bentzel and Mayor M. Timothy Bender. Others in attendance included state Senator James Malone of the 36<sup>th</sup> District, which includes New Holland Borough, Andrea Gascott, Chief of Staff for Senator Malone, water consultant Jeff Bologna of HRG, Inc. and resident Bill Kassinger.

President Morgan opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of last month's meeting.

Charles Kidhardt made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of September 2, 2025 be approved as distributed. This was seconded by Bryant Glick and passed.

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

State Senator James Malone introduced himself to those present; noting he was elected to fill the unexpired term of former Senator Ryan Aument. His main local office is at 301 East Main Street, Lititz. He also utilizes a mobile office which is regularly scheduled on the second Tuesday of the month in Ephrata from 2 to 5 p.m. His office is involved with Toys for Tots. Containers will be located in his office and mobile unit. He serves on numerous committees including the Local Government Committee, Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Aging and Youth. He attended the New Holland Fair and enjoyed the Tug of War activity especially.

In response to a number of questions, he responded that his background consisted of Application Design for Architects, Engineers and Contractors. He had been serving as mayor of East Petersburg, a Borough somewhat similar to New Holland. His personal interests include fishing. His involvement with Toys for Tots is the result of a Veteran friend of his. He is originally from out west.

Member Taylor inquired about his position on Senate Bill 9, the Fairness In Women's Sports Act.

Senator Malone replied he believed such health decisions should be determined by the parents and the child's doctor. His only concern with it was that a majority of his constituency had concerns with the current wording related to adults.

President Morgan thanked Senator Malone for the information and Chief of Staff Guscott for visiting this evening.

Chief Bentzel reviewed his monthly summary Report. He noted that the high school's football season is underway and the games have been attended as usual by officers. A local church also held two after game youth gatherings at the business to the east of the high school they called the 5<sup>th</sup> Quarter Event. The annual Fair and Parade were again the highlights of the period. Things went well.

He reported the main officer activities for the month as a total of 338 incidents. There were 12 total arrests, 10 of them were felonies or misdemeanors; 2 were summary offenses. There were seven total accidents, two of which were non-reportable. There were 29 citations and 9 warnings. There were eight juvenile contacts, one of which was referred to Juvenile court; seven to District court.

President Morgan inquired how the discussion of the utilization of assets are moving along with West Earl.

Chief Bentzel responded he has been working continuously with Chief Higgins on these matters. West Earl seems likely to take 8 of the 10 vehicles. The portable radios are able to be adjusted for use by West Earl. West Earl will not be using the Axon body camera system. They will be using Motorolas. The Borough's contract with Axon has three years remaining. The contract is transferable so he hopes the Borough can find a purchaser through Municibid. The Chief in Lititz expressed interest in the fingerprinting machine. The variation of guns is an interesting challenge. Some can be returned for credit. West Earl does not use shotguns. We have a few with barrels shorter than allowed to be owned by the public. These will have to be handled differently. Things will continue to be identified with the Manager both through the end of the year and a short period after.

Member Glick inquired who is responsible for the disposal of Borough property.

President Morgan replied that Council is responsible.

Member Klinger said for information purposes, he has recently noticed a number of officers, including Achenbach, Custer and Specht at different times watching for violators at some Stop intersections in his neighborhood. As a neighborhood resident, he appreciates it.

Member Glick inquired if he felt confident in the number of police officers to serve the Borough and Earl Township through the remainder of the year. He believes there are eight patrol officers and the two detectives available for this.

Chief Bentzel noted that is kind of a loaded question. We are currently able to provide the service. A number of officers have indicated their serious interest in seeing activities completed through the end of the year. He is making do with what is available. He has already discussed the possible need for temporary state police assistance if there becomes a situation where shifts are not able to be filled, which may involve the state police covering certain hours. Both West Earl and East Earl Departments are aware of the situation for possible assistance.

Member Taylor expressed his condolences to Chief Bentzel, who as some may be aware, hired one and worked with other officers killed recently in York County while serving a warrant.

Water Chairman Kidhardt made the motion that Council approve the purchase of a replacement pickup truck for the Water Department from New Holland Auto Group under the Co-Stars state purchase program, at a cost of \$46,296. The vehicle is a 2025 Ford F150 super cab. This was seconded by Harry Klinger and passed.

Water consultant Bologna then addressed Council. He noted that he has been serving the Borough for the last 17 years through Becker Engineering. Recently the owner of his firm sold it to the firm of Herbert, Rowland and Grubic (HRG) a well-known, mid-size firm with a wide range of services. They do not have an office in Lancaster anymore and intend to keep all of the Becker Engineering staff and the office. He is staying and will remain assigned to the Borough and the Borough Authority.

Streets Chairman Glick made the motion that Council approve Trick or Treat night in the Borough for Friday, October 31, 2025, 6-8 p.m. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt and passed.

Chairman Glick next made the motion that Resolution #571, which is an updated Agreement with the county, in which the Borough agrees to continue to be a part of

the county-wide Hazard Mitigation Plan. This was seconded by Charles Kidhardt and passed.

Resident Bill Kassinger asked if the Manager could explain a little about what this entails.

Manager Fulcher explained that this involves the Borough continuing to be included in the County's Hazard Mitigation Plan, versus the independent position of having its own disaster mitigation response plan. It contains recommendations for the mitigation of hazards to help reduce future loss of life or property when disaster strikes. This meets the requirements of the federal Disaster Mitigation law of 2000. It includes things under the program such as possible grants to local governments to address what constitutes a hazard as well as possibly impacting disaster relief funds after a disaster. There is a process involved related to elements of the Plan if needed to be utilized.

Mayor Bender reported the monies received through the Borough's Police department as: \$686.12 from County court fees; \$565 from District court fees; \$465 from accident reports; \$30 from fingerprinting. He thanks the Chief and Police department as well as the Borough's Streets staff for another fine job with Fair related activities.

President Morgan noted there was no representative from the Library here this evening so he encourages everyone to check its website to review the upcoming events.

There being no further business or public comment, President Morgan noted a priority matter involving police personnel matters just come up and Council will be holding an Executive Session to review it.

The Executive Session convened at 7:34 p.m. with all of Council, the Mayor, Manager and Police Chief present. The meeting reconvened at 7:53 p.m. and then adjourned.

November 5, 2025  
Date Approved