

MINUTES  
New Holland Borough Council  
April 7, 2026

New Holland Borough Council met in regular session on Tuesday, April 7, 2026 at 6 p.m. in Borough Hall. All members were present: President Patrick K. Morgan, Vice-President D. Michael Ireland, Michael H. Kurtz, Anthony W. Bender, Allen B. Wessel, Kenneth C. Wright and via phone John M. Taylor. Also present were Manager/Secretary J. Richard Fulcher, Mayor Bryant J. Glick, Police Chief Eric Higgins and reporter Angel Albring. Others in attendance included Borough water consultant Jeff Bologna of HRG Assoc. and auditor Lisa Sinelli of the firm William Koch and Associates, resident Bill Kassinger, current police officers of West Earl Township, Joshua Mertz, Jeremy Serensen and Zach Crills; as well as Nicholas Smiley; who is to be sworn-in, in the next few days.

President Morgan opened the meeting, asking for action on the Minutes of the previous meeting.

Secretary Fulcher reported that a sentence including the attendance of himself, Mayor and Police Chief at the last meeting was initially missed and has been corrected.

Mike Kurtz made the motion that the Minutes of Council's meeting of March 3, 2026 be approved, noting the updated page one information as provided by the Secretary. This was seconded by Allen Wessel and passed.

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

Auditor Sinelli then reviewed the 2025 Audit Report of the Borough. She noted it continues to be in the format as required by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. The first item of importance is to state there were no Findings or identification of funds or internal control issues. She then briefly reviewed a number of the main items in the Report. She noted that page two shows the structure of funds as of December 31, 2025. It was a good year but she is aware there were significant financial commitments for early 2026 to finalize the police department closeout obligations. The upcoming Police Pension Plan Actuarial Study of the police pension plan assets and related adjustment to it with its transfer to West Earl Township are a major item in 2026. There were two grant elements that were involved during 2025. The first related to

final review of the pickleball courts installation project at Community Memorial Park and the \$125,000 state grant. The second was the \$746,508 received towards the Locust Street water and related improvement project. It was noted that on page eight, under public safety, 412.000 Ambulance, that the Borough proportional cost of the workers' compensation for the New Holland Ambulance Association for its volunteers is not clearly separately identified. This is covered in other classifications. Overall it is a good report. They appreciate the assistance and cooperation of the staff while conducting the audit.

President Morgan thanked Ms. Sinelli for her report. He also noted his appreciation to the Manager and office staff for their conscientious efforts in overseeing the Borough's financial activities.

Finance Chair Ireland made the motion that the 2025 Borough Audit as prepared by William Koch and Associates, be accepted. This was seconded by Ken Wright and passed.

Police Chief Higgins then briefly reviewed his monthly summary Report. There was a total of 396 incidents recorded for his Report, which is from February 26, 2026 through March 31, 2026. There were 117 traffic stops of which 57 resulted in citations; with 60 warnings. Medical assistance response reports occurred 39 times. There were six criminal arrests. Some of the main activities with the officers during the period included Detective Halstead attending an Advanced Homicide Course Symposium, March 9-13; and a very well attended Coffee with a Cop which took place at the New Holland Coffee Shop just west of the Borough on March 20<sup>th</sup>. Officer Wisnoski attended and the siren was used to begin the New Holland Lions Club's annual Easter Egg Hunt the Saturday before Easter. He then introduced those officers and the in-coming officer present this evening.

Member Wright stated he wants to thank the Chief and officers for the fine job they have been doing in the Borough since service started. He is glad they are here servicing the Borough.

Member Ireland noted he appreciates the service and is aware, as are others in the public; of the increased visibility throughout the community.

Member Kurtz also noted the additional visibility and effort with Stop sign safety.

President Morgan said he also continues to get comments of appreciation to Council from the public for the change in service and the job they are doing.

Sewer Committee Chairman Bender stated that this evening's discussion is to authorize the Borough Solicitor to prepare and advertise for action for Council's next meeting an increase in the Borough's sewer charges. He noted they have not been changed since 2011. Both the Manager and consultant Bologna can comment on this further or answer any questions.

Manager Fulcher explained that the current rate is \$5.50 per 1,000 gallons of water used. This is a cost of \$.055 per gallon. To date he has identified that the Borough remains the lowest cost in the county by a significant margin. If a residential use of 4,000 gallons per month is used currently, it is a cost of \$22 per month. At the approach of 5 percent each year for the next three years, for 2027 the monthly increase cost would be one dollar, ten cents (\$1.10). The updated increase is to meet the many operational and additional Permit cost requirements. Even with the projected increase, the Borough will most likely continue to be the lowest cost in the county; however, few additional customers are anticipated in the future.

Chairman Bender then made the motion that the Solicitor be authorized to prepare the necessary ordinance for Council's next meeting to increase sewer rates five percent per year to have the new rates of: \$6 per 1,000 gallons of water used, for the January 2027 billing, effective October 1, 2026; \$6.50 per 1,000 gallons of water used, effective October 1, 2027; and \$7.00 per 1,000 gallons of water used, effective October 1, 2028. This was seconded by Allen Wessel and passed.

Streets Chairman Wright made the motion that the low bidder, H & K Group, for the Borough's planned 2026 street overlay work, in the amount of \$247,231.80, be accepted. He noted there were five bids received for the work; which were properly opened on March 12<sup>th</sup>. H & K provided all required paperwork. The motion was seconded by Mike Ireland and passed.

Chairman Wright then made the motion that request of the Stan Deen Foundation for the street use and closing of East Jackson Street between South Kinzer Avenue and Park Avenue, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. on Sunday, July 12, 2026, for the Antique Car Show, be approved. This was seconded by John Taylor and passed.

Chairman Wright next made the motion that the request of the New Holland Business Association for its 2026 Christmas on Main activities, which involves 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 Avenue from Main Street, north to Towne Centre Lane, from noon to 7 p.m. on

Saturday, November 11, 2026, be approved. This was seconded by Tony Bender and passed.

Manager Fulcher noted that event sponsors are required to obtain adequate traffic control, most using the Borough's Special Event Officers or a few of the Fire Police officers.

Mayor Glick reported that this is the 45<sup>th</sup> year for the Car Show, which was originally held by the New Holland Band. He is set to provide Citations to five Scouts of Troop 48; two of which are from the Borough, Carter Ulrich and Cole Ulrich.

Manager Fulcher stated he wants to outline further the recent Wastewater Permit violations as identified by PA DEP. One was a direct result of wrongful discharge by the Fleur de Lait Pre-Treatment plant; which included a lack of communication to the Borough as to the incident happening. The second involved the Spruce Road Pump Station, which works well except for when there is an intense, consistent rain that floods East Spruce Street and the adjoining swale and fields because of the natural low elevation point. It is frustrating for the Borough operations to be in this situation. DEP holds the Borough accountable under its Permit. Fleur de Lait pays a penalty surcharge to the Borough when this occurs and again seems to recognize it needs to address the situation. The Spruce Road Pump Station operations and involved collection lines will undergo additional efforts to help further stop rainwater infiltration.

Consultant Bologna stated they are assisting the Borough in dealing with Fleur de Lait's issues. Fleur de Lait recently changed operators and this also was apparently a factor. They will also be assisting with the steps needed to complete updated infiltration steps as well as DEP approval to allow any new additional flows into the Spruce Road Pump Station.

President Morgan reported that a representative from the ELANCO Library was unable to attend this evening, so he said he will mention a few activities on its behalf. A new Director, Faith Dopriak, was hired as the new Librarian. The Spring Book Sale is taking place Friday, April 10, 3 p.m. – 6 p.m. and Saturday April 11, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. The monthly Newsletter continues to provide the list of the many other activities, many for children of different ages.

There being no further business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.

May 5, 2026  
Date Approved