

Borough of Northumberland

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Northumberland Borough Council Council Minutes for January 3, 2023

Council President Paul Ruane called the meeting to order at 6:31pm. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Mayor Daniel Berard offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Mr. Paul Ruane, Mr. Timothy Botts, Dr. Denise Guilbault, Mr. Frank Wetzel, and Mr. Charles Stroup. Others present were Mayor Daniel Berard, Mr. Jason Kelso and Ms. Rebekah Kline, Assistant Secretary/Treasurer.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Daniel Berard read the Police Report for the month of December 2022. The police issued 54 traffic and 3 non-traffic citations, and 124 parking tickets. They responded to 213 calls for service, made 22 court appearances and had 65 hours of training. Several people were arrested for the crimes of: Retail Theft, Prohibited Acts, DUI, and endangering the welfare of a child. The police responded to 32 assist calls for the month; 7 to Point Township, 15 to Sunbury and 10 to other agencies. The Concini Toy Program was a success, with 75 children receiving gifts.

Mayor Berard thanked former Fire Chief Brian Ginck for all his years of service as Fire Chief and presented him with the Mayoral Certificate of Appreciation. Deputy Fire Chief Steven Swineford was sworn in as Fire Chief, and former Fire Chief Brian Ginck was sworn in as Deputy Fire Chief for the Northumberland Fire Department.

Sewer Department Report

Jeremy Dietrick noted there was nothing to report.

Street Department Report

Mr. Ruane made note that Christmas Tree pick up will begin the week of January 9th, 2023, the hours of the recycling center will now be from 9:00am until 1:00pm, and brush pick up will be during the months of April thru October. Updates will be made to the website and posted on Facebook.

NEIC Report

Mr. Ruane read the Code Office report from NEIC and reported three (3) building permits were issued, for \$1,135.58 in fees, along with two (2) code violations and one (1) complaint.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Dr. Denise Guilbault read the Community Development report. The December meeting was held in the Second Street Community Center Gymnasium. They set two (2) goals of obtaining three (3) phone quotes for the purchase and installation of a commercial vertical lift platform, and clear and rehome the items that are currently taking up space. Three (3) companies were contacted with quotes being requested for the lift. One quote was received from AmeriGlide, and we are still waiting for quotes from Butler Mobility Products and 101 Mobility. The quotes will be reviewed at the January 9th meeting and will be voted on at the next Council meeting.

The January 9th Community Development meeting will be held at 6:30pm at the Borough Building.

Finance

Mr. Timothy Botts reported that Rebekah Kline has been added as an authorized signer for the Borough's accounts.

Mr. Botts noted that direct deposit for payroll is going to be discussed in the future.

Personnel

Mr. Ruane reported that no one has been hired for the part-time position in the office, and no additional applications have been received for the Laborer position with the Sewer Department.

Public Safety

There is nothing to report.

Rules

Dr. Denise Guilbault reported that the Rules Committee met in December and all reviewed documents are with the Solicitor for review and approval.

The proposed policy for firearms on Borough property will be discussed at the next Rules Committee meeting.

Streets

A meeting is going to be scheduled for some time this week with LIVIC Civil, who is the engineer for the Queen Street stormwater project.

Old Business

Mr. Ruane noted that more information is needed regarding vacating a portion of 8th Street, and that discussion will be tabled until Ms. Ann Zartman, Borough Manager is in attendance.

New Business

Mayor Berard informed Council that the Anselmo Fund provided funding for the new Santa House, as well as a new roof for the old Santa House. The Borough is not currently using the new Santa House, and the money that was received from the Anselmo Fund needs to be returned to the fund. Mr. Ruane

stated Ms. Zartman will determine how much we received for the new Santa House and will return that amount to the Anselmo Fund. The council will then decide what is to be done with the new Santa House. Mr. Deitrick noted that the Sewer Department might be interested in purchasing the shed, as they are looking into options for more storage.

Mayor Berard also noted that council was not notified that 17857.org was going to be applying for the Santa House funding, and he questioned if this is a requirement by council. Mr. Ruane agreed that council is to be notified when any group affiliated with the Borough is going to be applying for funding, and what they plan on doing with the money.

Mayor Berard made council aware that Pineknott's Days 50th anniversary is coming up, and to expect a celebration this summer.

Public Comment

No public comment

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:57pm.