

Borough of Northumberland

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**Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council
Reorganization Meeting
January 2, 2018**

Mayor Daniel Berard administered the Elected Officials Oaths of Office to Council members Paul Boyer, Paul Ruane, Orlando Toro and Ellie Rees; and Joanna Rees, Tax Collector.

Mayor Berard called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Berard offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Boyer, Ellie Rees, Paul Ruane, Orlando Toro, and James Troup. Others present were Mayor Berard; Michael Collins, Acting Solicitor; C.L. Kriner, Police Chief; MaryKay Clark, Code Enforcement Officer; Brian Probst, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Ralph Cianflone and Ty Sees were absent.

Nomination and Election of Council President

Mrs. Rees nominated Paul Ruane for the position of Council President. No other nominations were offered. Council voted 4-0-1 to name Paul Ruane as Council President. Mr. Ruane abstained.

Nomination and Election of Council Vice President

Mr. Ruane nominated Paul Boyer for the position of Council Vice-President. No other nominations were offered. Council voted 4-0-1 to name Paul Boyer as Council Vice-President. Mr. Boyer abstained.

Nomination and Election of President ProTem

Mr. Ruane nominated Orlando Toro for the position of President ProTem. No other nominations were offered. Council voted 4-0-1 to name Orlando Toro as President ProTem. Mr. Toro abstained.

Penn DOT Update

Ms. Mindy Foresman reported that the utilities are still working. However, with the cold weather, they will not be working for the rest of this week. She stated that the utilities are

far enough ahead of the area where the PennDOT contractor will be working that she does not anticipate running into the problems that they had last year.

A public meeting will be held on January 31st at 6:00 p.m. at the Front Street Station. The same format will be followed as last year; a presentation followed by a question/answer session. The snow date is set for February 7th.

Plans are to set the car detour signs the second week of February and, weather permitting, begin construction on February 19th.

The work on Front Street will begin the first full week of March, beginning at W & L Subaru. The work is half-width construction and will extend down Front Street to King Street. It is scheduled to be completed by September.

Council member Ty Sees arrived at 7:12 p.m.

Public Comment

- Ms. Margaret Weirick stated that she would like to thank Paul Ruane and Josh Kurtz for helping the street crew to plow snow this weekend. She said that there is a lot of ice around the park and requested that the crew continue to salt. She noted that the library and two churches are in this area.
- Mr. Bill Gross presented a check for \$250 to Jon Apple for the communications equipment for the Fire Police.
- Ms. Fran Bogovich noted that there are several large trees that are ready to fall off the bank along Front Street. She is also concerned that they could damage the wires. She asked who owns the property. She was informed that Barry Colecott, Bob Naginey, and Louis VanGilder own the property. Mr. Ruane said that they could be sent a letter asking that they take care of the problem.

Northumberland Borough Sewer Department

Mr. Ruane read the report for December that was provided by Jeremy Deitrick, superintendent of the sewer plant. The average flow for the month of December was 400,000 gallons. High flow for December was .541 MGD on December 5th. They hauled 29 ton of cake from the belt press to the landfill in December; conducted 3 home inspections which all passed; and repaired one lateral at 454 Duke Street. They had one blockage call at 477 Wheatley Avenue.

Mr. Brian Book, engineer from RETTEW, informed council that the company has inspected the man holes on Duke Street and discovered one that was cracked. It will be repaired by the contractor.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Ms. MaryKay Clark reported on the activity of the Code Enforcement Office. One building permit was issued; four complaints received, three code violations and three

citations were issued in December. Fees for street cut permits totaled \$1,400. Thirteen rental inspections were conducted with \$455 in fees. One reinspection was done at \$15. Mileage on the car totaled 33 miles.

Street Supervisor's Report

No report

New Business

1. Mr. Ruane announced the Borough Council Committee Appointments for 2018. They are as follows:

Community Development: Ralph Cianflone, Chairman; Ellie Rees, Ty Sees

Finance: Orlando Toro, Chairman; Ralph Cianflone, Ellie Rees

Personnel: Ellie Rees; Chairperson, Paul Ruane, Orlando Toro

Public Safety: Ty Sees, Chairman, Paul Boyer, Jim Troup

Rules: Jim Troup, Chairman; Ty Sees, Orlando Toro

Streets: Paul Boyer, Chairman; Ralph Cianflone, Paul Ruane

Sewer: Paul Ruane, Chairman; Paul Boyer, Jim Troup

Northumberland County Tax Collection Committee: Paul Ruane,
representative; Paul Boyer, alternate

Central Susquehanna COG: Paul Ruane

Planning Commission representative: Paul Ruane

The meeting dates remain the same as last year, except for the Community Development Committee which will meet the 3rd Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

2. Mr. Boyer moved to reappoint the following Borough employees: C.L. Kriner, Chief of Police; Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary-Treasurer; Ann August, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer; Mindy Martin, Borough Clerk; Jeremy Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent; MaryKay Clark, Code Enforcement and Zoning Officer; and Brian Probst, Street Supervisor. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council voted 5-1 to approve with Mr. Sees voting no.
3. Mr. Toro moved to reappoint Ryan Tira as Borough Solicitor. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council voted 4-2 to approve with Mr. Troup and Mr. Sees voting no.
4. Mr. Troup moved to reappoint Northeast Inspection Consultants as the Borough's third-party Building Code Inspection Service. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council voted 5-1 to approve with Mr. Sees voting no.
5. Mr. Boyer moved to reappoint Mid-Penn Engineering Corporation as the Borough Engineer. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
6. Mr. Troup moved to reappoint Jim Sanders as Sewage Enforcement Officer and Kenneth Young as Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Mr. Sees asked what business they do. Mr. Ruane replied that there

are three or four septic systems in the Borough. They inspect any new systems that are installed. Council approved unanimously.

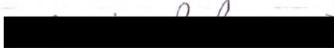
7. Mr. Boyer made a motion to advertise the Borough Council meeting dates which are the first Tuesday of each month except for July (2nd Tuesday) due to Pineknotters' Days, and November (1st Monday) due to the general election. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
8. Mr. Boyer moved to approve payment of the bills. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Sees asked if Rachel (Shear) is back to work. He was told that she comes back January 10th. Council approved payment of the bills by a vote of 4-2. Mr. Sees and Mr. Troup voted no. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$45,637.20; bills to be paid from the Parks and Recreation Fund total \$1,332.36; Liberty Splashland bills total \$168.94; and Sewer Department bills total \$84,628.56.
9. Mr. Boyer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-1. This is the Tax Levy Ordinance for 2018 which sets the millage rates for the Borough. General revenue purposes are 27 mils; debt service is 2.3 mils; fire service is 2.7 mils. There is a 2% discount if paid by April 30th and a 10% penalty if paid after June 30th. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council's vote was tied with Mr. Ruane, Mr. Boyer, and Mrs. Rees voting "yes" to approve the motion and Mr. Orlando, Mr. Troup, and Mr. Sees voting "no" to reject the motion. Mayor Berard was required to vote to break the tie and he voted yes to approve the motion 4-3.
10. Mrs. Rees made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2018-2. This ordinance increases the Borough's local service tax rate from \$40 to \$52 for individuals who work in the Borough and earn more than \$12,000. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
11. Mrs. Rees made a motion to approve Paul Ruane, Paul Boyer, Janice Bowman and Ann August as the signers on the Borough's bank accounts. Mr. Toro seconded the motion. Council approved by a vote of 5-1. Mr. Sees voted no.
12. Mr. Boyer made a motion to appoint Richard Simpson to the Planning Commission (term ending 12/31/2021), Margaret Weirick to the Shade Tree Commission (term ending 12/31/2020), and Ann Roll to the Zoning Hearing Board (term ending 12/31/2020). Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. Several vacancies exist on the Emergency Services Board.
13. Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve the list of Northumberland Fire Police events for 2018. Mr. Ruane read the following events: Northumberland, Shikellamy, Sunbury, Selinsgrove, Milton, Danville, and Watsontown events; Lewisburg Triathlon/Marathon; Freeburg's Firemen's Parade; Montandon's Memorial Day Parade; Six County Firemen's Parade, Union, Snyder,

Northumberland, Columbia, and Montour Counties; Lycoming County Events, Little League World Series Parade and Candy Kane Lane; Middleburg Firemen's Parade; Union County 4th of July Parade; Halloween Parades for Selinsgrove, Sunbury, Danville, and Catawissa; and Susquehanna Valley Mall Christmas Parade. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. Mrs. Rees voiced her appreciation to Mr. Apple for the group's volunteerism.

14. Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve a Subdivision Plan that was submitted by Leroy Hibbs for parcel 037-01-002-262. Twenty feet of the property is being sold to the neighboring property. The county and borough planning commissions have approved the plan. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Sees questioned how the taxes work. He was told that the county would reassess the properties to reflect the twenty feet of property that is being sold and twenty feet of property being purchased by the neighboring property. Council approved unanimously.
15. The Borough's energy contract with Constellation Energy expires next month. APPI, a company recommended through PSAB, has provided quotes. Co-Stars, the state's cooperative purchasing program will be bidding out electric rates in the spring and fall. Mr. Sees asked if APPI has provided a contract to review. At this time, the information provided is the rates from various energy suppliers and the length of term. However, it does not include the contract. Council decided to table the topic until more information is received.

Mr. Toro moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary