

# Borough of Northumberland

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**Borough of Northumberland**  
**175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**March 7, 2017**

President Paul Ruane called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Len Zboray offered an Invocation.

### **Roll Call**

Council members present were Paul Boyer, Ralph Cianflone, Ellie Rees, Paul Ruane, Ty Sees, James Troup, and Harry Wynn. Others present were Mayor Zboray; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; C.L. Kriner, Police Chief; Jeremy Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent; Brian Probst, Street Supervisor; MaryKay Clark, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

### **PennDOT Update**

Mr. Chris Neidig stated that PennDOT is currently advertising for bids which will be opened on April 20<sup>th</sup>. UGI will begin their work on March 20<sup>th</sup>, mainly in one lane of the roadway beginning at Eighth Street. PennDOT will begin construction in July after Pineknotters' Days. PPL will start after PennDOT; the contractor for PennDOT will also do the work for the sewer and water construction.

PennDOT was planning to remove the south bound sidewalk; they are taking test bores and have not yet determined what will be done. Mr. Neidig recommended that residents go to [www.pennDOT.gov/Dukestreet](http://www.pennDOT.gov/Dukestreet) for the latest information. Mr. Neidig stated that the contractor will be required to hold a public meeting prior to starting work.

Mr. Tira explained that the Borough had requested that PennDOT reimburse the Borough 100% for the relocation cost of the sewer line on Duke Street. Mr. Tira and Ann August have worked together to obtain proof that the sewer lines were installed in Duke Street before the street was taken over by PennDOT. PennDOT has responded that the information provided is insufficient. Additional information is available in Harrisburg at the state archives, but would require Ann to go to there to obtain the documentation. PennDOT became involved with Duke Street in the 1920's. The sewer lines had been installed in the early 1900's to 1919. Mr. Tira added that it feels it would be best for council to authorize Ann to go to Harrisburg if that is the consensus.

Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve Ann August going to Harrisburg to pursue the sewer timeline. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

### **Public Comment**

Six visitors introduced themselves.

**Fire Police**

Fire Police Captain Jon Apple requested that the council approve Anthony Dean Kratzer as a member of the Fire Police. He is a member of the No. 1's and lives on Hanover Street. His background check was cleared. Mrs. Rees so moved. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

**Council Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion by Mr. Boyer, seconded by Mr. Wynn, council voted 6-0-1 to approve the council meeting minutes of February 7, 2017. Mr. Sees abstained.

**Northumberland Sewer Department**

Mr. Ruane informed council that there was a sewer main break on King and Front Streets. A resident in that area had a problem and called Roto-Rooter who discovered that his line was not blocked. The problem was in the sewer main. He has requested that the council pay the bill which is \$195. Mr. Ruane noted that he currently owes the Sewer Department \$644.43 and suggested that his account be credited for the \$195. Mr. Wynn made a motion to credit the Berard's account the \$195. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Mr. Troup made a motion to table the vote on the motion. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. Mr. Deitrick stated that the amount owed is \$644.43, plus additional fees since the last due date. Mr. Boyer made a motion that upon payment within thirty days of the \$644.43 plus any additional fees, the Sewer Department would reimburse the \$195 for the Roto-Rooter bill. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

**Hazen and Sawyer**

Mr. Mark Strahota, Hazen and Sawyer, informed the council that the construction for the general contractor and electrical contractor is substantially completed. He requested the council approve the Substantial Completion Certificates for Contract 14-1G (General): Jay Fulkroad and Sons, Inc. as of December 20, 2016, and Contract 14-3E (Electrical): Lecce Electric, Inc. as of January 31, 2017. Mr. Boyer so moved; Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Mr. Strahota noted that this is when the Borough took ownership of the new plant and started operating the wastewater treatment from here. Mr. Ruane noted that this is when the one year guarantee starts. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Strahota stated that the HVAC contractor, Myco Mechanical, has been non-responsive to requests for updates. The last correspondence from them was that the ship date of the equipment was expected to be February 3, 2017. It has still not arrived. Mr. Tira will send a letter to Myco Mechanical requesting information.

Mr. Strahota requested approval for Change Order No. 2 for the 14-3E Contract (Lecce Electric) to cover several changes during construction. The total cost increase is \$59,541.00. Dr. Cianflone made the motion to approve Change Order No. 2. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mrs. Rees asked what it means on the last page of the change order that Lecce is going to get an additional 210 days. Mr. Strahota explained that Lecce was delayed by the general contractor. The additional time brings the Substantial Completion date to January 31, 2017.

The current credit due to the Borough from Fulkroad is \$51,389.34. It is anticipated that this amount will change.

Mr. Strahota recommended payment of Application for Payment No. 19 for \$311,869.22 for Contract 14-1G (Fulkroad). Mr. Boyer so moved; Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Strahota recommended payment of Application for Payment No. 18 for \$83,638.33 for Contract 14-3E (Lecce). The paperwork is not yet completed; but is anticipated. Mr. Boyer so moved; Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Strahota informed council that since January, Hazen has not had an inspector on site. There is at least \$20,000 remaining in the current construction phase services budget and they believe that this amount will be sufficient to cover any additional costs for the remainder of the construction phase.

#### **RETTEW**

Mr. Steve Siegfried, RETTEW, informed council that the Chapter 94 Report will be finalized and submitted to DEP by March 31, 2017.

#### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Zboray thanked MaryKay Clark for handling several complaints that he received from residents.

The Memorial Day Parade will be held on May 29<sup>th</sup>. It will form at King Street Park at 10:00 a.m., move at 10:30 a.m., with the annual ceremony at Riverview Cemetery at 11:00 a.m. Mayor Zboray extended his thanks to the American Legion Post 44 for their dedication for this event.

The annual Northumberland Pineknott Alumni banquet will be held on May 27<sup>th</sup> at Front Street Station beginning at 6:15 p.m. Anyone who attended school in Northumberland is welcomed to attend.

#### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

MaryKay Clark reported on the activity of the Code Enforcement Office for the month of February. One building permit was issued; one zoning permit was issued; there was one zoning meeting; ten complaints; two code violations, one street cut permit, twenty-four rental inspections, and one re-inspection. Inspection fees totaled \$840 and re-inspection fees were \$15. Mileage was 28 miles.

#### **Street Supervisor's Report**

Brian Probst informed council that the strut has been fixed on the 2004 Ford F550. However, it was discovered that it has a bad head gasket. Repairs would cost about \$5,800 to \$6,000. Mr. Wynn suggested council may be able to find a used truck that they could retrofit the snow plow that they already have. He felt a newer used truck with a maintenance record would cost about \$35,000. Mr. Tira advised that it would be necessary to advertise for bids. Discussion ensued. Council recommended that other garages be contacted for price estimates to repair the 2004 Ford.

Mr. Boyer asked if the bucket truck has been inspected. Mr. Probst responded that the company is waiting to have additional inspections in the area to reduce the cost for the mileage.

## **Committee Reports**

### Community Development

- Dr. Cianflone reported that the gym is being painted.
- Dr. Cianflone said that he spoke with the manager at Lowe's about fencing for Pineknott Park baseball field.
- Letters are being sent to local businesses for donations for equipment for the pool.
- The Shikellamy athletic director is being contacted about the possibility of holding some varsity baseball games at Pineknott Park.

Finance – no report

### Personnel

Mrs. Rees reported that Angela Klinger, the pool manager, went to the seminar in Harrisburg in order to be certified to inspect the Bowl Slide. She noted that to attend the classes, Ms. Klinger had to take two days off work from her employment with the C.S.I.U. without pay. Mrs. Rees made a motion that Ms. Klinger be paid \$364.00 for the two days. The classes ran from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. The rate was computed at 26 hours, to include travel time, at \$14.00 per hour. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Council voted 4-3 to approve. Mr. Ruane, Mr. Boyer, Dr. Cianflone, and Mrs. Rees voted yes; Mr. Sees, Mr. Troup, and Mr. Wynn voted no.

Mrs. Rees stated that there are personnel issues to discuss in Executive Session.

Mrs. Rees informed council that interviews for pool employees are scheduled for next week.

Public Safety – no report

Rules – no report

### Streets

- Mr. Boyer provided the list of streets to be paved this year. He explained that Barry Garverick, from PennDOT, met with Mr. Ruane and himself to determine what streets should be paved. Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve the street paving list for 2017 for bid. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Council approved by a vote of 6-1. Mr. Sees voted no.
- Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve including the parking lot next to the police station in the paving bid request. He noted that the pavement for the parking lot would be paid from the General Fund, not Liquid Fuels. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Boyer informed council that the County has requested that the Borough name two alleys in the Borough. The one is currently Cemetery Avenue and Dr. Gessner has requested that it be renamed. The street committee is recommending that it be renamed Gessner Way. It is located next to the doctor's office and connects Duke Street with

West Way, between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets. The second is currently called Orange Street Extension. It is a dead-end alley that is north of Orange Street, across from the dog park. The Street Committee recommends the name of Marshall Drive. Mr. Boyer made a motion to advertise an ordinance to rename Cemetery Avenue Gessner Way and Orange Street Extension, Marshall Drive. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

**Old Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Sees, seconded by Mr. Wynn, council voted unanimously to approve Resolution C-2016, the Police Retirement Contribution. The resolution is as follows:

"BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND  
RESOLUTION NO. C-2016

WHEREAS, Northumberland Borough, Northumberland County, by Ordinance No. 465, entered into an agreement, dated January 18, 2000, with the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board to provide a police pension plan; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 11 of said Agreement allows for the Borough to annually waive or reduce the required employee contributions; and

WHEREAS, Northumberland Borough, Northumberland County now desires to reduce the required member contributions for calendar year 2016 from five percent (5%) to one and five-tenths percent (1.5%).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2016, that in accordance with Ordinance No. 465 and the Agreement, dated January 18, 2000, the Borough agrees to reduce the required member contributions to the police pension plan for calendar year 2016 from five percent (5%) to one and five-tenths percent (1.5%); and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be filed with the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board to so indicate the Borough's intent.

DULY ADOPTED this 2<sup>nd</sup> day of February, 2016, by Northumberland Borough, Northumberland County.

TALLY OF VOTES – YEAS 7; NAYS 0

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Secretary

BY: \_\_\_\_\_  
President"

**New Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Mr. Boyer, council unanimously approved payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$61,035.17; bills to be paid from the Shade Tree Fund total \$800; bills to be paid from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center account total \$8,756.05; Liberty Splashland bills total \$277.48; Sewer Department bills total \$101,072.34 and \$2,643.89.
2. Mr. Wynn made a motion to request membership in the Service 1<sup>st</sup> Federal Credit Union. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. It was noted that membership does not require any business from the Borough but provides the Borough employees with the option to join.
3. United Way 2017 Day of Action will be held on April 21, 2017. Suggestions for the volunteers include landscaping and playground maintenance at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Playground; cleaning at Liberty Splashland; and cleaning out the concession stand at Pineknott Park ballfield.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Ruane stated that the council would adjourn 8:00 p.m. to conduct an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues.


The meeting was reconvened at 8:50 p.m.

Mr. Wynn made a motion to send a letter to Officer Shear, as discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved the motion by a vote of 4-3 with Mr. Ruane, Mr. Boyer, Dr. Cianflone, and Mrs. Rees voting yes; and Mr. Sees, Mr. Troup, and Mr. Wynn voting no.

Mr. Troup questioned if the Borough would consider a fitness program for the police department like Point Township has done. No action was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
[Redacted signature area]  
Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary