

# Borough of Northumberland

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**Borough of Northumberland**  
**175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**April 4, 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 Ty Sees, James Troup, Harry Wynn, Paul Boyer, Ralph Cianflone, Ellie Rees, and Paul Ruane. Others present were Mayor Zboray; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Jeremy Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent; Brian Probst, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

### **Public Comment**

- Mr. Bill Gross, volunteer with the Liberty Glass Recycling Center, requested that the Borough pay the light bill at the recycling center. He stated that the Borough used to pay the bill but stopped several years ago. The yearly amount is around \$2,500. He noted that Borough's equipment in the salt shed is using electricity. There is a meter that can measure the electricity used. He added that any help the Borough could provide would be greatly appreciated. Mr. Ruane stated that the council would have to consider the request.
- Mr. Jon Apple, Captain of the Fire Police, thanked the borough crew and Ed Cope for plowing at the Fire Police building.
- Officer Josh Dreisbach stated that he represents the Northumberland Police Officers' Association. Other officers who introduced themselves were Matt Lauver, Rachel Shear, and Edward Cope.

### **Council Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion by Mr. Boyer, seconded by Dr. Cianflone, council unanimously approved the council meeting minutes of March 7, 2017.

### **Penn DOT**

Chris Neidig, representative from PennDOT, informed the public that PennDOT is currently advertising for bids and the bids are set to be opened this month. The contractor will begin work with cutting trees along the curb line and demolition of a dwelling at King and Water Streets.

The contractor will begin work on the upper end of Duke Street, from 8<sup>th</sup> Street to CVS, shortly after Pineknotters' Days. This year, the contractor will work on the first three phases which are on Duke Street. Next year they will finish Duke Street and work on Front Street. In 2019, they will work on Water street and King Street.

Within 15 days of the awarding of the contract, the contractor is required to have a meeting with the utilities and a public meeting to provide information and answer any questions.

Mr. Deitrick asked if the contractor would be tearing the house down. Mr. Neidig replied that he would.

Mr. Neidig stated that he would be attending future Borough Council meetings. He expects that at the next meeting there would be someone from the construction unit present to explain what will happen as far as the contractor.

Mr. Neidig said that they Borough has approved a Section 4F for 147 project. There will be another Section 4F since the plans are to do a mill and overlay on Water Street under the underpass instead of a full reconstruction. They are still investigating a third lane at the underpass on the east side.

Mr. Neidig provided a website where information can be obtained. The detour routes are available. It is [www.penndot.gov/dukestreet](http://www.penndot.gov/dukestreet).

Mayor Zboray asked if traffic control would be required when the house is being demolished. Mr. Neidig replied that the house will be demolished from the rear and should not require traffic control although traffic control may be required when a large tree is removed.

Contractor is not to do any work during Pineknotters' Days. The utilities are held to the same standard. Mrs. Rees requested that PennDOT refrain from working the week before and the week of Pineknotters' Days. Mr. Neidig stated that PennDOT is working with the Pineknotters' Days Committee to ensure that work is not scheduled that would interfere. He added that he would check on the restrictions.

#### **Northumberland Sewer Department**

Mark Strahota, engineer with Hazen & Sawyer, reported that a change order has been drafted for the 14-1G Contract with Jay Fulkroad and Sons. Plans are to review the draft change order with the contractor tomorrow.

Mr. Strahota recommended payment of Application for Payment No. 20 in the amount of \$20,768.02 for Contract 14-1G (Fulkroad). Mr. Boyer so moved. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Strahota recommended payment of Application for Payment No. 18 in the amount of \$69,213.30 for the 14-2H Contract (Lecce). Mr. Boyer so moved. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Brian Book, engineer with RETTEW, informed council that BIMBO has approached Jeremy Deitrick regarding their discharge and updating their agreement. They will work on this within the next several months.

Mr. Deitrick reported that Josh Kurtz and Larry Wolbert have taken the test for operator licenses.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Wynn requested the council have an Executive Session for a personnel issue. Mr. Ruane stated that the council would go into the Executive Session at 7:16 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:39 p.m.

### **Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Zboray informed council that he received an email from Ann Roll that Suzanne Fitzgerald from the CASA (Court Appointed Special Advocates) would like to put up blue pinwheels and ribbons in King Street Park because April is Child Abuse Awareness and Prevention Month. He said that it had been done last year. Mr. Sees made a motion to approve the request. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mayor Zboray issued the oath of office to Anthony Kratzer, a new officer with the Fire Police.
- Mayor Zboray thanked Louise Latsha and Ann August for their work on the latest edition of the Pineknoller News.

### **Street Supervisor's Report – no report**

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

- Dr. Cianflone reported that applications are coming in for employment at the pool.
- Dr. Cianflone has received a request from Shikellamy to use the Pineknoller Park baseball field because their field is under water. Discussion ensued.

Dr. Cianflone made a motion to permit Shikellamy to use the Pineknoller Park baseball field with the condition that they maintain the field. They would be permitted to use the concession stand with 10% of the proceeds to be given to the Borough. Their schedule may not conflict with the other scheduled games. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

- Evan Hospital would like to set up a safety awareness for the employees at the pool. Dr. Cianflone provided them with Angela's contact information.

#### Finance

Dr. Cianflone reported that the committee met with Officer Dreisbach and talked about the police arbitration award. Dr. Cianflone stated that he wants to pay them because it is significant numbers. He asked Mr. Sees if he found anything significant. Mr. Sees stated that he thinks that there is significance in the 2015 ending balances. Officer Dreisbach stated that the police did not receive a pay increase in 2015. The payments that were made to the officers is what was awarded in the contract. The arbitration award is a 3% pay increase for both 2016 and 2017. These amounts are what was figured out in the emails. The medical deductions of \$20 were to start in 2017 which have also been figured out in the back-pay payments. Mr. Sees stated that he thinks the overall paid time off needs to be looked at and administered properly before it's paid. Dr. Cianflone stated that he wants to make a motion to pay them. Mr. Sees stated that the Borough has until April 27<sup>th</sup> and he thinks that the council should go over the award. Dr. Cianflone asked

why Mr. Sees wasn't at the meeting. Mrs. Rees stated that the committee met March 28<sup>th</sup>. Dr. Cianflone said that wants to get this behind them, adding that he thinks the numbers are head on for 2017. Mr. Sees said that he thinks that the ending balance from 2015 is significant. Mr. Ruane stated that he does not think so. Dr. Cianflone stated that the total amount of back pay for all the officers is \$17,321.16. Officer Dreisbach noted that this is the amount as of March 17<sup>th</sup>. There would be additional pay for the weeks between March 17<sup>th</sup> and now and the deduction of the officers' health insurance contribution. Dr. Cianflone made a motion to pay the police their back-pay totaling \$17,321.16 as of March 17, 2017 plus the back pay for the other March paydays. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Mr. Sees asked about the chief's pay, noting that his increase was figured at six percent. The Borough Secretary said that she figured his pay at what the council had approved as the budgeted amount for the two years. Mr. Sees noted that over the years, it's always been based on what the police as a group got. Mr. Sees stated that he feels there are significant things that need to be reviewed prior to payment because there are credits along with the payouts. He explained that the Borough paid holidays that the officers had off that they should have been paid for eight hours instead of twelve. There are also personal and vacation days. Dr. Cianflone questioned if he felt that officers would have earned more money in some instances and not as much in others. Mr. Sees said correct. Mr. Ruane said that it all evens out. Officer Dreisbach responded that because the police did not have a contract in 2016 they were working under the 2014 contract. He felt that the council couldn't put the officers in a predicament where they have time to use, but they can't use it because, by contract, they may not sell back or carry over the unused time. In 2017, in January, when the award came out, if the officers had never used any time, they would have lost it all. In the little bit that the amounts would fluctuate, he feels that it would come down to nickels and dimes. He would like to move forward in 2017 and take the hours that were awarded to them. He said that the holiday pay that was awarded is being paid correctly. Mr. Wynn asked if the police are happy with the settlement figures that were written. Officer Dreisbach replied that this is exactly what was awarded to them in the arbitration. Mr. Sees stated that it isn't, exactly. He said that he didn't see the paper, but he could tell him that it isn't correct. Officer Dreisbach said that he told the councilmembers who were present at the finance committee meeting that the police officers are not receiving the pay that they were awarded by law so they have filed the unfair labor practice against the Borough. Officer Dreisbach added that if the issue could be resolved today, they could withdraw the unfair labor practice and move forward, which is what he would like to do. Mr. Sees read from the arbitration award. He noted that the date on the award was January 25, 2017, therefore the council still has time under the ninety-day issuance to abide by the award. Mr. Tira suggested that the council go into Executive Session. Mr. Ruane stated that the motion is on the floor until council returns.

### **Executive Session**

The council went into an Executive Session at 7:58 p.m. to discuss Personnel issues. Mr. Ruane reconvened the meeting at 8:23 p.m.

Roll call vote on the motion was called. Council voted 4-3 to approve the motion. Mr. Boyer, Dr. Cianflone, Mrs. Rees, and Mr. Ruane voted yes; Mr. Troup, Mr. Wynn, and Mr. Sees voted no. Mr. Sees noted that his vote is nothing personal to any of the officers.

He added that more of the police could possibly get more money and some could get less, based on the figures that were voted upon.

Officer Dreisbach stated that the police appreciate what the council has done for them and thanked them for their support. He said that they look forward to working with the council moving forward and serving the Borough.

Officer Lauver informed council that he was approached by a gentleman who did not live in town who had difficulty locating the police station. Officer Lauver suggested that signs should be posted on Routes 11 and 147 designating where the police department is located.

#### Personnel

Mrs. Rees stated that Chief Kriner has received a request from Tyler Arbogast to serve an internship with the police department which would be completed by Fall 2017. She added that he has a 3.99 average at Penn State Altoona and will graduate in May 2018. Officer Shear noted that internships usually last four to six months. Upon motion by Mrs. Rees, seconded by Mr. Troup, council unanimously approved the internship for Tyler Arbogast.

Mrs. Rees announced that Angela Klinger has passed the test for bowl slide inspection.

Interviews were conducted for Assistant Pool Manager. Mrs. Rees made a motion to hire Nate and B.J. Heim at the previously approved wage of \$12.50 per hour for the 2017 season. She noted that this is a husband/wife team and they would like to split the hours for the position. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Mrs. Rees noted that David Mahoney, the other assistant manager, would be leaving in August for college and the Heims would be available then. David would be available in May and early June to help with opening the pool when Angela and Nate would still be in school. Council voted 6-1 to approve with Mr. Troup voting no.

The committee discussed opening from 11:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. on Mondays through Saturdays; and from Noon to 6:00 p.m. on Sundays. Council discussed keeping the pool opened later when no parties are scheduled.

Personnel has recommended that the Community Development Committee create a more formal policy about the food and drinks that are left over at the end of the season.

Personnel recommends the following "Snow Plowing Directives":

1. Ask full-time street crew first.
2. If experienced in plowing snow, ask part-time casual street employee next.
3. If experienced in plowing snow, ask sewer employees next (if they are not needed at the sewer plant).
4. Contact private business persons on a compiled and approved list of those people interested and experienced in operating a snow plow; and temporary help through WorkForce, if experienced in plowing snow.

Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve the snow plowing policy. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved by a vote of with Mr. Sees abstaining.

Council discussed who would approve the list of private business persons (Snow Plowing Directives #4.) Mrs. Rees moved to delegate the street supervisor and street committee chairperson to compile and approve the list. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Public Safety – no report

Rules – no report

Streets

Mr. Boyer made a motion to award the 2-A subbase bid to Meckley's Limestone Products and the cold mix patching bid to New Enterprise Stone and Limestone. These were the low bidders. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Troup requested that any policies be submitted to the Rules Committee to be reviewed before council votes on them. Mrs. Rees apologized, adding that she did not realize the Rules Committee was meeting. Mr. Troup stated that the committee would meet if there were policies to review. Moving forward, they will be provided to the Rules Committee.

**Old Business - none**

**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 \$55,967.75; Liberty Splashland bills total \$138.68; bills to be paid from the DEP Grant fund total \$57,812.17; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center Account bills total \$16,403.80; and Sewer Department bills total \$91,158.31.
2. Upon motion by Mr. Troup, seconded by Mr. Sees, council unanimously approved the request from the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library to use the King Street Park, waive the \$50 fee, and to block off the street surrounding the park from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. on June 10, 2017 for the annual Touch-A-Truck event.
3. Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Mr. Boyer, council unanimously approved writing a letter of support as requested by the Susquehanna Greenway Partnership for their grant application for the Lake Augusta West Shore Trail Feasibility Study.
4. Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Dr. Cianflone, council unanimously approved to close the DEP bank account and to transfer the remaining funds to the Parks & Recreation Account, designated for Riverbank Stabilization project. Mr. Sees requested that council be informed of the amount of the transfer.
5. Rep. Culver will hold a public meeting about the Shikellamy Marina & Boating Schedule on April 10 at 6:30 p.m. at the Degenstein Community Library.

6. The Teamsters' Union has requested a donation for their Egg Hunt which is for the children of their members. Mr. Boyer made a motion to donate one day pass to Liberty Splashland for each child to be distributed at the Egg Hunt. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved by a vote of 6-0-1 with Mr. Sees abstaining.

**Executive Session**


Mr. Ruane stated that the council would go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel. The council meeting was adjourned at 8:59 p.m. for the Executive Session. The meeting was reconvened at 9:36 p.m.

Mr. Wynn made a motion to install the time clocks at the Borough Office and garage. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Council approved the motion by a vote of 4-3. Mr. Troup, Mr. Wynn, Mr. Boyer, and Mr. Sees voted yes; Dr. Cianflone, Mrs. Rees, and Mr. Ruane voted no.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Tira requested to talk with the council in Executive Session. It was noted that the meeting would not be reconvened. The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary