

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
July 7, 2015

President James Troup called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Len Zboray offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Adam Klock, Stephen Reed, Ellie Rees, Paul Ruane, James Troup, and Harry Wynn. Others present were Mayor Zboray; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; C. L. Kriner, Police Chief; Jeremy Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Ty Sees was absent.

Public Comment

Six visitors introduced themselves.

Mr. Gary Dorman stated that he is being billed double for his sewer bill. He is billed for his residence and also for the Copy Shop business in his home. He added that the business is an email business; people just drop off and pick up items; no one uses the restroom. Mr. Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent, stated that the charges are not current bills; but are charges from the past. Mr. Klock stated that the bill was for 2014 and based on the rate schedule that was in effect at the time. Mr. Klock said that the council addressed the system and changed the billing to user fees. Mr. Dorman questioned why he is being charged twice for the bill. Mr. Deitrick stated that the rate schedule changed in February 2014 and the billing would have been charged at one e.d.u. going forward. He added that new billing was based on a case by case basis. Those residences with in-home businesses that use water were billed at 1.5 e.d.u. Residences with businesses that did not use water were not billed the additional .5 e.d.u. The bill referenced was from the first quarter of 2014 when the charge for a residence with an in-home business was at 1.5 e.d.u. Mr. Klock stated that they could check the billing detail to see if the charges were correct going forward from the second quarter of 2014. Mr. Dorman said that it should have been corrected going back. Mrs. Rees stated that she agrees with Mr. Dorman. She added that the sewer plant superintendent had said that it would affect about ten businesses; at the most, noting that it also affected her in-home business. Mr. Dorman asked if she had paid the bill and she replied that she had. Mr. Klock stated that the discussion had been held at a prior council meeting. Mr. Dorman said that it is not right and he would take it further. Mrs. Rees said that she was glad he came and that while it could be as many as ten businesses, as far as she knows, it could be just Mr. Dorman and she.

Ms. Margaret Weirick described herself as a Pineknoller and volunteer for various projects, especially the park. She said that she wants to bring to council's attention something that happened to her with Ted McCollum. She said that this is an example of the kind of thing that has been happening in the Borough and she is very upset about the kind of treatment that people

who volunteer receive. She is concerned about the pond at the end of the park adding that it is turning into a slime pool that is going to be a breeding ground for mosquitoes because the pumps no longer work. Ms. Weirick noted that she has two ponds in her backyard. If the Borough is going to have a pond like that in the park, someone should come in and look at it and get it done right. She was very concerned with how it would look at Pineknotters' Days because people put their goldfish in it and they want to look at it and it should look nice. She spoke to Ted about this and he told her that it wasn't his job and he wasn't going to do anything about it. Ms. Weirick said that she and an engineer friend of hers looked at what needed done. She wanted to make it nice for Pineknotters' Days so she got in the pond and cleaned out a lot of the irises that were growing in front of where the pond comes out. She said that it was more work than she thought it would be, but she got it done. She left the weeds in a pile and then went home and called the office and asked Jane (Ressler) to ask Ted to pick up the weeds. The next day, she saw that the weeds were still there. She called Ted to ask him if he had gotten the message from Jane. His response was that he had and he was not going to take care of it. He told her that it was not his job, she did it, she should clean it up, she was the person who wanted to get this done, and if she thinks he is going to take care of anything like that, she could just bring over the trash can and clean it up herself. She said that she does not feel that for the amount of time, effort, and money that she gives to the Borough, that she should be talk to like that. And not just her, but any person in this Borough who does work such as Pineknotters' Days people, Revitalization people, Christmas people, library people, and people at the ballpark. She said that when he first came, she made an effort to be friendly to him, went over and introduced herself. She said that he was rude and dismissive and abrupt and did not want to even acknowledge that she talked to him. She said that there was an issue last year with the Christmas decorations, the trees were crooked and it's hard to decorate trees when they are falling down. She spoke to him about it and his response was that it wasn't his job and he wasn't responsible. She feels that to have a Borough foreman or street manager, whatever his title is, with that kind of attitude toward this Borough is the wrong thing. He is being paid with her tax money and she does not need him to give her a hard time when she is doing his work and he is getting paid with her tax dollars. She thinks that when you have a foreman, the foreman sets the tone for how things are done. If you are rude, dismissive, and don't do your job, then you are giving your employees the exact freedom to act the same way because you have no leg to stand on. She feels that he is a total detriment to this Borough. She said that there are enough people in this town that need his help who do not need to have someone say to them, when they ask for something to get done, that it is not his job. She asked who is going to clean out the pond. She said that one of the people who work on the Borough crew could do this. She said that this is a different issue that has to be addressed and she would be willing to do that separately. Her concern is with Ted. She does not think he is doing his job; she doesn't think that he is capable of what he is supposed to be doing. She said that she had worked quite closely with Tom Slodysko who was very pleasant and very knowledgeable and very hard working. He put in extra time and he was nice to deal with. Ted is none of those things and she thinks that he is so proud that he is from New Jersey that we ought to make it possible for him to go back. She noted that he has screwed up the pool. Anyone who doesn't know that water freezes to ice when it stands in the winter time doesn't know much about anything. She feels that has cost the Borough about \$14,000-\$15,000 on that. She said that he doesn't know what he is doing and would guess that he doesn't have the qualifications for this job. She said that she is very concerned. She did not plant trees in the park this year because she knew he didn't know how to plant them and she didn't want to have to deal with it. She does not

feel that people who are willing to give their time, effort and money to this Borough to get things done should have to put up with someone who is as rude, inept and incompetent as he is. She stated that this is what she had to say and thanked the council.

Mrs. Fran Bogovich stated that she agreed with Margaret in more ways than one.

Mr. Jeffrey Johnstonbaum, from the Priestley-Forsyth Library, first thanked the Borough for the support of the library. He said that he is not sure if this is a feminine problem because he (Ted McCollum) seems to be addressing women with this kind of attitude. He said that twice he came into the library and was very disrespectful and rude to Kim King, the children's services director, who does a terrific job for this community. Twice he belittled her. Mr. Johnstonbaum said that he is suspicious that it is a problem he has dealing with women. Mr. Klock asked what the discussions were about. Mr. Johnstonbaum stated that the first issue was with their scaffolding at the building for the chimney. He agreed that the scaffolding shouldn't have been there; however, the contractor was trying to complete the work before winter and the weather became too cold. However, when he came into discuss the problem, Mr. Johnstonbaum said that he wasn't there and Kim was who he addressed. He was so abrupt that Kim was upset to the point where she almost left. The second time was the week before the Touch-a-Truck program. He came in and treated Kim disrespectfully, stating that he wanted to talk to the boss. Mr. Johnstonbaum said that Kim has been running the program for three years and is very competent about it. The police department and the fire police had been notified about the barriers and signs. Mr. Johnstonbaum thanked the council again for supporting the library.

Mr. Troup stated that the matter would be handled in the Personnel Committee.

Mrs. Bogovich asked if his references were checked and why he moved here from New Jersey. Mr. Klock stated that background checks are done on everybody. Mrs. Weirick said that the sad thing is, and other people have told her this, when they have met him, they do things a certain way. Most people, when they go into a new situation, they find out how people do things. People wanted to help him and tell him how they did it; but he would not listen to one thing. She said that if he can't deal with women, he has a big problem because she is not going away and she is not going to keep her mouth shut about this issue.

Mrs. Bogovich asked if anything had been done about checking into the status of the property at 510 Susquehanna Road. She said it looks worse every day. Mr. Troup agreed that it looks terrible. She stated that she asked this a month ago and asked if a letter was sent to the property owner. The Borough Secretary stated that she had told Ted who the property owner was but she does not know if a letter was sent out.

Mrs. Weirick asked who Ted reports to. Mr. Ruane stated that he reports to him, as chairman of the street committee. Mr. Ruane noted that Harry (Wynn) was chairman of the street committee and Ted came to council so they took Mr. Wynn off and put Mr. Ruane on. He is waiting to see what he does and he isn't doing very good.

Mr. Brian Crebs, the Fire Chief, said that he is here to say good things. He said that he understands that there is a status issue concerning Ann August. He said that Northumberland

Fire Department is very supportive of her position with the Borough. He added that Ann has helped with the Fire Department's grants and this year they have been exceptionally successful. He said that as volunteers, they don't have the time to keep up with watching for grants and the paperwork and Ann has helped then with this. He said that Ann is a tremendous advocate of the Fire Department and they are tremendous advocates of hers. He added that he would appreciate the council's consideration as they make their decision. Mr. Troup stated that he is not aware of anything and he is the head of personnel. The Borough Secretary stated that several months ago it was stated that Ann's status would be discussed at the end of the second quarter. Mr. Troup noted that it is the beginning of the third quarter. The Borough Secretary responded that the council did not have a quorum at the last meeting or she would have made the request then.

Mr. Klock asked if the Fire Department sends out bills. Mr. Crebs said that the department does not have the power to bill at this point. Mr. Troup stated that when he was the Fire Chief, they had a policy to bill the insurance companies. The insurance companies were not under an obligation to pay, but some did. Mr. Troup noted the policy through the Fire Board at that time was that they did not bill Borough residents. Out of town people were billed. Mr. Klock said that there is a \$1,000 allowance in his policy that the Fire Department could collect if he had something to provide his insurance company. Mr. Crebs stated that they would talk it over.

Mr. Brian Ginck, the captain of the Fire Department, added his support of Ann August that she has done a lot for the Fire Department and said that the Borough would be hurt without her.

Mr. Troup stated that the council would go into an Executive Session to discuss litigation and personnel issues. The meeting was adjourned for the Executive Session at 7:30 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:41 p.m.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Zboray reported that K & N completed the electrical in the first quadrant in the King Street Park. It worked well during Pineknotters' Days. He said that there had been a problem getting the tops off, but it has been solved.
- Mayor Zboray informed the council that there are no candidates for police officer, following the last Civil Service test. He requested that the council vote to advertise another Civil Service test. Mr. Klock so moved. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mayor Zboray informed the council that they collected over \$1,000 from the parking meters last week. He commented that Gabe DeMarco has been writing tickets and people are putting money in the meters. He noted that he thinks this amount is a record.
- Mayor Zboray thanked his wife Dee (Zboray) and Paul (Ruane) for working at the Pineknotters' Days 50/50 stand and Jane, Ann, and Jan for making the signs and getting the tickets. A profit of \$392 was realized for the gym.
- On September 6th, Memory Lane will play in King Street Park from 3:00 to 6:00 p.m.
- Mr. Wynn asked if the Chief has gotten the study back for the stop sign at Strawbridge Road and Prince Street. Chief Kriner replied that will have the study available for the next meeting. Mr. Wynn stated that he has to replace blocks and pipe because someone

bounced over the curb, hit the water pipe coming out from the curb and removed some of the blocks in his wall.

Sewer Department Report

Mr. Klock stated that the committee met earlier this evening. Ed Margel, Sewer Department Clerk, submitted the following information:

*“Borough Council Meeting July 7, 2015
Sewer Department*

Adam Klock made a motion that we approve the application for payment for Fulkroad contract 14-1G in the amount of \$ 631,671.80

No discussion

Motion seconded by Steve Reed

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock made a motion to approve the application for payment for Myco contract 14-28 in the amount of \$ 3347.64

No discussion

Motion seconded by Steve Reed

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock made a motion that we approve work change directive 2 which exceeds Jeremy's authorization, mud valve and drain lines for \$16,067.98

No discussion

Motion seconded by Harry Wynn

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock made a motion to hire Gary Benfer part-time operator at \$12.00 per hour not regularly scheduled for more than 30 hours per week.

No discussion

Motion seconded by Jim Troup

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock made a motion to advertise for the vacant full time operator position at the sewer department.

No discussion

Motion seconded by Ellie Rees

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock, I would like to make a motion regarding our records retention. Jeremy and Ed put together a list of records to be destroyed and discussed at a previous sewer committee meeting and recommended that we do not destroy bank statements but we instead keep them until further notice and that we retain all of chapter 94 reports for 10 years instead of five that we had on the retention schedule. We are not going to get rid of anything any earlier. I would like to make motion that we allow on-site Keystone Mobile Shredding, who would come on site, and authorize destruction of documents with the exception of bank statements and chapter 94 records not to exceed \$400. Jeremy noted that the prices were under \$300.

No discussion

Motion seconded by Paul Ruane

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock made a motion that we allow the sewer superintendent and sewer clerk view only access to any and all sewer accounts on line. Jeremy noted that we have access to regular checking and the money market account but not to the Pennvest account.

No discussion

Motion seconded by Ellie Rees

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock reported that one of our customers did not receive a sewer bill because the post office did not forward their mail. The postmaster stated that someone from the sewer department requested that the post office not forward mail. As a result up to 15 did not receive bills and customers received late fees.

We approached the post office to see what was happening and they said they received a request not to forward the bills. Jeremy did you write a letter to the post office?

Jeremy Deitrick – No, we will write a letter to the post office. I have no idea how they did not do it. Typically we never had a problem in the past. They always forwarded it. If they were unable to forward with the new mailing address. These came back with a notation on the bottom ‘Away’.

Adam Klock - I think the post office dropped the ball. I feel that we should wave the late fees for these customers in this instance because we know that they did not receive a bill. This is not a precedent setting decision, it is only specific to this instance where customers did not receive their bill.

Jeremy Deitrick –There are about 15 to 17 accounts.

Adam Klock made a motion to have all late fees for customers whose mail was not forwarded by the post office to be waved.

No discussion

Motion seconded by Ellie Rees

Motion passed 6-0

Adam Klock - We also got a scenario where a customer had a water shut off in the past the NSA we always verified and stopped billing and went it was restarted it was prorated. For the record I would like to note that I was charged a flat fee following my water service shutoff . I do not mind paying it but I do not think it is right. I do not think that any customer should pay a fee if the water service is shut off. If their service is shut off for two months then their bill should be prorated. We have never charged a fee in the past when water has been shut off.

Adam Klock made a motion as a matter of practice to not charge any flat fees or any other fees if water is shut off.

Ryan Tira - Is this an amendment to the rate schedule? If you want to do this I would suggest that this be part of the rate schedule. You can do it but it needs to be memorialized as an amendment to the rate schedule.

Jim Troup stated that then there should be a reconnection fee. How does that work if someone moves out temporarily say for a month.

Steve Reed - If a property is being remodeled or vacant they can't shut their service off. We have to verify their service is off and then we know that they are not using the utility. We don't have a reconnection fee, do we?

Jeremy Deitrick - No, this is a grayish area that needs at some point to be addressed and closed. Whether it's waiving of a fee or reduced fee or maintaining a service fee. I have seen it done several different ways I'm sure and you have as well.

Adam Klock – what is the most common practice.

Steve Siegfried stated that typically there is none. The argument is that there is no water going to the property doesn't mean that you don't have expenses so in situations where they have EDU billing they have established a base charge whether or not it is used.

Jeremy Deitrick – I have seen it both ways as well. If they are not using the service the utility makes them disconnect. Actually sever their line and then pay a reconnect fee.

Jim Troup - The same with electric you're paying a base rate whether using it or not

Harry Wynn - I have a base rate on gas and never used it.

Jim Troup - If you don't use it all summer long you still pay

Jan Bowman - We keep it on at the pool all winter long because it costs more to disconnect and reconnect it.

Adam Klock – to maintain a base rate \$15 of the flat fee every month is for treatment and \$10 is for collection per month. What portion of the flat fee do we want to maintain that we can justifiably keep in place?

Steve Siegfried - What is the percentages of operating expenses and debt service.

Jim Troup - Just keep a flat fee and no water useage such as the \$25

Adam Klock – part of that flat fee goes toward the treatment which is kind of for useage

Jeremy Deitrick – again that somethings different everywhere. I've seen a place that has \$80 use fee and per quarter \$25 fee

Adam Klock – We should just address it the next sewer meeting and what we have done initially since I have been involved done there 5 years ago at the NSA there was no billing whatsoever if you are going to maintain a percentage you might have some other people coming forward and questioning this and we haven't billed in the past and like I said I don't mind paying it but it needs to be clarified what we are going to do.

Harry Wynn – If you're going to have the connection in your property I think whether your using it or not I think the should be some kind of fee because you have the connection. I don't feel though it should be hooked up to your property that you're going to use it or not it's free, no. but who knows someone could be there using the sewer and just dumping water down it.

Jeremy Deitrick– there's also nothing to prevent somebody having their water shut off and turning the service back on themselves

Adam Klock – we get the water records

Jeremy Deitrick – but we wouldn't get them if they had it shut off and turned on by themselves

Jim Troup- is this something we want to discuss back in a sewer committee

A long term disconnection could pose a problem about a reconnection fee. Potentially laying dormant for five years with an upgrade at the plant in that time you would pay the tapping fee when reconnected. I don't know if that is established now or not. How long do you need to be disconnected before you required to pay the tapping fee again?

No second was requested or occurred

Adam Klock – Jeremy has other things regarding the rates

Jeremy Deitrick - Looking at trying to set up a better outline to process delinquent accounts as such moving forward. There really isn't anything set in stone, it's just harass essentially.

Adam Klock – there was a constable delivering the bills.

Jeremy Deitrick - At one point, prior to my employment, there have been a few instances a constable has posted a house water shut off. It is something I would like to look at getting back into that or possibly putting a municipal lien when a balance reaches a certain point. I'm sure eventually swing it by Ryan.

Harry Wynn – we can actually do a municipal lien on a property because their not paying bills. If they try to move or dispose the property that all comes out

Jeremy Deitrick - Even if there is a foreclosure we are high on the list of getting payment

Harry Wynn – you will get paid

Jeremy Deitrick – Yes

Adam Klock- I would like to specify for the record that the Point Township delinquent account stands at \$337,000. We are in litigation

Adam Klock – I have a letter here dated July 6th from Mr. Trout, community center treasurer for Kiwanis.

“At a recent meeting we determined the responsibility for the sewer charge for the Kiwanis community center was the borough who owns the building. Based on this decision we the Kiwanis of Point Township request that the \$52.56 paid in January be refunded.”

I talked about this to Jeremy and this more of an oversight when you're switching over to useage, the billing system we try to identify all the water accounts that were borough accounts and we missed this one. They rent the building and it is a borough building. Apparently they paid last year too.

Jeremy Deitrick – I believe they paid in the past,,they paid a half EDU

Adam Klock – they shouldn't have been billed for that either .Although they are only requesting refund of \$52.56 for this year I make a motion to refund all money paid by the Kiwanis Club for the sewer bill.

No second offered.

Harry Wynn- I think we should just give back what they are asking for, the \$52

Steve Reed made a motion to motion to refund to the Kiwanis the amount of \$52.56

No discussion

Motion seconded by Harry Wynn

Motion passed 6-0

Respectfully submitted by

Edward Margel

Sewer Department Clerk/Secretary

Note – To the best of my knowledge no sewer committee meeting was held on June 2, 2015.”

Emergency Services Board Report

Mrs. Rees stated that there was no meeting this month.

Street Supervisor/ Code Officer's Report - No report

Mr. Troup read a letter from Darvin Straub with the Northumberland/ Point Township Kiwanis Club thanking Ted McCollum and his crew for their help to set up and store the items that the club uses for Pineknotters' Days. He also thanked the council for allowing the crew to take the time from their schedule to complete these tasks for them.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Reed told the council that the specs have come back from the HVAC contractor for the gymnasium. Mr. Reed called Troy Smith about the plans being stamped but Mr. Smith hasn't gotten back to him. The church that meets here is interested in helping out with the renovations. Discussion ensued.

Council Meeting Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Mr. Troup, council voted unanimously to approve the council meeting minutes of March 10, 2015,

Upon motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Wynn, council voted 5-0-1 to approve the council meeting minutes of March 17, 2015. Mrs. Rees abstained.

Committee Reports, continued

Finance

- Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Mr. Reed, council voted unanimously to transfer \$6,000 from the General Fund to the Liberty Splashland account. This is the budgeted amount.
- Upon motion by Mrs. Rees, seconded by Mr. Wynn, council voted unanimously to transfer \$1,000 from the General Fund to the Shade Tree fund. This is the budgeted amount.
- Mrs. Rees made a motion to hire Ann August full time at her current hourly rate. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Mrs. Rees, Mr. Ruane and Mr. Wynn voted yes; Mr. Reed, Mr. Troup, and Mr. Klock voted no. Mayor Zboray voted yes.

Personnel

Mr. Troup stated that there would be a meeting tomorrow night at 3:30 p.m. in Executive Session.

Public Safety

Mrs. Rees stated that she is happy to have a safe playground for the children. She thanked Mr. Reed for his work.

Rules - no report

Streets - no report

Steve Siegfried from Hazen and Sawyer, provided documents that are fifty percent complete for the stormwater project at Liberty Hollow. He added that he would meet with the street committee at their next meeting to review the plans. Discussion ensued about the springs in the area.

Mr. Klock noted that the gas company is ripping up a lot more roads than were originally planned. He questioned if the Borough should consider paving the other half of the streets that the gas company is paving this year. Mr. Ruane noted that the gas company will pave about half of the streets where they are installing new lines, if the street has been paved within the last five years. They will only repair the trench in the streets that have not been paved within five years.

Old Business

1. Mrs. Rees asked the solicitor if the motion to hire Ann August needs to include benefits. Mr. Tira responded that "full-time" includes full-time benefits.
2. Council discussed the Agreement for Services with Northeast Inspection Consultants, LLC (NEIC). Mr. Tira had reviewed the agreement and explained several provisions. Mr. Klock made a motion to enter into the Agreement of Services and appoint NEIC as code inspector contingent upon NEIC's acceptance of the agreement as presented. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Mr. Troup, Mr. Klock and Mr. Reed voted yes; Mrs. Rees, Mr. Ruane, and Mr. Wynn voted no. Mayor Zboray voted no.

Mr. Klock noted the problems that the Borough has had with BIU, the current inspection service. Mayor Zboray stated that he didn't understand that BIU was Jim Soos. Mr. Tira suggested that because there was a misunderstanding, the vote was discredited and the voting should start over again.

Mrs. Rees questioned whether there would be a way to limit the amount that NEIC would not exceed the fees that were charged for inspections. Mr. Tira advised that Mrs. Rees could make a motion to approve the agreement with the condition that NEIC's services for the Shikellamy School District project that is now underway will not exceed the unexpended current fees paid by the school district for the project. This clause changes section 2d of the Agreement of Services. Mr. Ruane voiced concern that the Borough could be on the hook for paying for inspections. Mr. Tira explained that if BIU decides not to continue with the inspections of the school project, the Borough would then request a refund of unexpended funds for services. Whatever the Borough receives back from BIU would be the amount that NEIC could charge to complete the inspections of the project. Mrs. Rees stated that she is concerned that she doesn't know enough about the things that could happen, even with the cap on it. She noted that since the Mayor is considering changing his vote to break the tie, it would either be based on the previous motion or she could make an amended motion that would provide more protection for the Borough. Mrs. Rees moved to approve the Agreement for Services with NEIC with the amendment to Section 2d that NEIC services on the Shikellamy School District project now underway will not exceed the unexpended permit fees paid by the school district for the project and refunded by BIU as of the time NEIC begins to provide services for the

school district project. Mr. Klock seconded the motion. Mr. Troup, Mr. Klock, and Mr. Reed voted yes; Mr. Ruane, Mr. Wynn, and Mrs. Rees voted no. Mayor Zboray voted yes.

New Business

1. Upon motion by Mr. Ruane, seconded by Mr. Klock, council voted 5-0-1 to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Klock abstained because he is related to one of the vendors, Zimmerman's. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$19,360.74; Donation Fund bills total \$183.43; Park and Recreation fund bills total \$900.75; Liberty Splashland bills total \$16,899.59; and Sewer Department bills total \$37,240.83.
2. Mr. Troup noted that the Borough has had a request from the Sunbury Municipal Authority for financial support. No motion was offered.
3. Mr. Troup asked if anyone wished to make a motion for a resolution in support of the legalization of medicinal cannabis in Pennsylvania. The resolution was provided by the Boroughs Association. No motion was offered. Mrs. Rees said that she does not think the council wasn't elected to lobby for things. Other council members agreed.
4. The Community Development Block Grant application is due this month. The low-to-moderate income guidelines based on the 2010 census are available. Funding would have to be spent for projects in the areas designated by these guidelines. The application deadline is July 24th. The next council meeting is July 21st.
5. Mr. Wynn made a motion to advertise to hire a full-time street employee. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Mr. Klock stated that the council hadn't budgeted for it. Mr. Troup stated that if Mr. Wynn rescinds his motion that the Finance Committee would look into it at the next Finance meeting. Mr. Wynn rescinded his motion.

Mr. Wynn moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
July 21, 2015

President James Troup 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 Adam Klock, Paul Ruane, Ty Sees, James Troup, and Harry Wynn. Others present were Mayor Zboray; Ted McCollum, Street Supervisor/Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Stephen Reed and Ellie Rees were absent.

Public Comment

- Jim Gilford explained to the council that in 2010 he received permission to place rip-rap on his property to protect the bank from erosion on the upper portion of Packer Island. He has received a grant from DEP in conjunction with the Borough to place the rip-rap on his property and along the Point. Mr. Gilford stated that he pays the invoices for the work done on his property, submits the invoices to the Borough. The Borough submits the invoices to DEP. DEP reimburses the Borough who in turn reimburses Mr. Gilford. He noted that it has worked this way for three years. He said that last year, he has not been reimbursed. Mr. Gilford stated that he spoke to a representative from DEP who stated that the Borough has been reimbursed. Mayor Zboray stated that he has checked with the office staff and the funds haven't been received. The Borough Secretary stated that when the reimbursement requests are submitted, reports are included with the requests. She stated that Ann August has been managing the grant and has met with Jason Fellon from DEP. She suggested that Mr. Gilford come into the Borough Office to review the paperwork and funding received by the Borough. Mr. Gilford noted that he wasn't here to get anyone in trouble, but is concerned about the delay of his money.

- Kathy Wagner, Keystone Insurers Group, Inc. came with a request that council move the Borough's health insurance to her agency. She would like the Borough to keep the insurance local and would like to improve the service. She said that she works with the Pfeiffer-Naginey Agency which is now owned by the Deibler, Straub & Troutman Agency. Ms. Wagner explained that the Keystone Insurers Group was started by Bob Naginey and Tom Troutman. Mr. Naginey is now working primarily with the Keystone Insurers Group. The Keystone Insurers Group grew from three agencies to over four hundred. They are the largest in the nation. Until she retired in 2009, Ms.

Wagner worked with the Blue Cross, retiring in 2009. She then worked for the Evangelical Hospital in Lewisburg. Ms. Wagner stated that the Borough's current broker has offices in Harrisburg and Lewisburg. She feels that she would be more accessible to the Borough and would be willing to come to the Borough on a regular basis to speak with employees if they are interested. Ms. Wagner would also present wellness programs for the employees, noting that she has put together wellness programs for other companies. Ms. Wagner stated that the Borough would not have to change its plan or rates by changing its broker. She said that she understands that the Borough's plan must satisfy union requirements and would see that any future changes to the plan would meet the union's approval. Ms. Wagner stated that she could come to the August meeting and could provide a letter for the Borough appointing her as the broker and also one to be sent to the current broker informing her of the change. Council took no action.

- Diane Wynn, a member of the Friends of the Priestley-Forsyth Library, and other members of the Friends, were present to request that the council provide a location in the building to collect their books and to have their book sale. She explained that the main purpose of the group is to raise funds for the library. The book sale is their biggest fund raiser. The next book sale is planned for the fall of 2016. The group currently collects books the first Saturday of the month. The books collected are stored until the sale. The books collected are stored until the sale. The current location is the basement of the Methodist Church. This location is inconvenient because of having to go the steps. The group is looking for an area about ten feet by ten feet. Discussion ensued. Mr. Klock made a motion to allow the Friends of the Priestley-Forsyth Library to store books in the gymnasium and to allow access to the building to conduct the book collection on the first Saturday of the month. Mr. Sees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Fran Bogovich questioned the status of the plans for the gymnasium. Mr. Troup stated that the council is waiting for the signed plans. Mrs. Bogovich noted that the architect has been working on the plans since October. Mr. Troup said that Steve Reed has been in contact with the architect who is obtaining plans for the mechanicals. As soon as the plans are received and approved, construction can start. Mrs. Bogovich asked if he was given a deadline. Mr. Troup responded that he didn't know if Steve had given him one.

Mrs. Bogovich stated that the weeds are high again at the corner of Horizon Avenue and Strawbridge Road. She said that she does not feel the Borough crew should be cutting them; it should be the homeowner's responsibility. Mrs. Bogovich asked about the status of the property on Susquehanna Road? Mr. McCollum said that the property is being handled by the PA Housing Finance Agency. Mr. McCollum sent a letter to the company on July 20th. If the company doesn't cut the grass within ten days, the Borough will clean it up and bill the company. Mrs. Bogovich said that letters should be sent to property owners who have high weeds; she does not feel like the Borough should do the work. Mr. McCollum stated that at the corner of Horizon and Strawbridge, it is not just the weeds that obstruct the line of sight to the left. He

has installed two signs on Strawbridge Road to warn motorists of the upcoming intersection.

- Barbara Kistner informed the council that work at the Girl Scout House is progressing. She added that if anyone has any questions or concerns, to contact her.
- Kay Ann Busshouse requested that someone explain her sewer bills to her. She said that she has one sewer system and is receiving two bills, one for her residence and one for her business. She stated that her patients don't use the bathroom, noting that it is double dipping. Mr. Klock stated that the council has approved the engineer to conduct a rate study. Ms. Busshouse said that she does not feel it is correct because she has one sewer system and is being charge two collection fees and two flat fees. Ms. Busshouse asked if Mr. Klock is getting two bills because he has an in-home business. Mr. Klock stated that he does not have an in-home business, adding that he works out of his house but he doesn't have customers. Mr. Klock stated that she has two units, the business and the residence. The usage is only being billed once. The volume pays for treatment at the facility. The collection fees and flat fees are billed per unit to pay for maintenance on the sewer line. Mr. Ruane noted that the owner of an apartment house with eighteen units is billed for eighteen flat fees plus water usage. It is up to the owner to determine how to distribute his cost.
- Robert Friend, a representative from Christ Wesleyan Church, provided information about the Ride for America on August 29th. For his PennDOT permit, he is requesting the council's approval for approximately 2,000 motorcycles to ride through the Borough at approximately 11:20 p.m. The group begins the ride at the Christ Wesleyan Church in Milton; travels south on Route 147 to the Borough and north on Route 11 to Danville. He stated that he would contact the Northumberland Police Department and the Fire Police and if they cannot provide assistance, he would have other people present at the intersections.

Upon motion by Mr. Troup, seconded by Mr. Wynn, council voted unanimously to allow the Christ Wesleyan Church to come through Norry on their ride. Mr. Friend requested that someone sign and date the letter that he must submit to PennDOT.

Council Meeting Minutes

Mr. Troup moved to approve the meeting minutes of April 21, 2015. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council voted 4-0-1 to approve with Mr. Sees abstaining.

Northumberland Sewer Department Report

Mr. Klock stated that the committee has several resumes for the personnel committee to consider. The Personnel Committee will schedule interviews with the candidates.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Zboray reported that the ad was placed in the newspaper for the Civil Service Testing for police officers.
- The Day of Remembrance is scheduled for August 22nd at the Riverview Cemetery. The sign-up starts at 11:00 and the service starts at noon.

- Memory Lane will play in King Street Park September 6th from 3:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- The Luther Savidge Trust awarded \$500 for the 2nd Street Playground. The funds will be used to pay for replacement parts for the playground and mats for under the swings.

Emergency Services Board Report - no report

Street Supervisor/ Code Enforcement Officer's Report

- Mr. Ted McCollum stated that he sent out an email on July 15th in reference to what he would like to see UGI pave. He is trying to set up a meeting with UGI personnel, possibly at the next Street Committee meeting. Mr. Ruane said that he would not be available for that meeting. Mr. McCollum would like to see them pave one entire lane.
- Mr. McCollum spoke to Dean with Pennsylvania American Water Company about paving one lane of Prince Street where they are working between Front Street and Permastone.
- Mr. McCollum provided a copy of an ordinance from Milton that provides for paving a street where numerous cuts are made. The Rules Committee will review the ordinance.
- Mr. Ruane stated that fill is needed at the Recycling Center.
- Mrs. Bogovich asked about holes that were cut on Jefferson Street last year. They were not paved. Mr. McCollum stated that he will check on it.

Committee Reports

Community Development

The Borough Office received a request that a portable toilet be placed at the 2nd Street Playground. The request will be taken to committee.

Finance

Mr. Sees stated that the committee would meet on July 28th at 6:30 p.m.

Personnel

Mr. Troup said that personnel issues would be discussed in Executive Session.

Public Safety - no report

Rules - no report

Street

- Mr. Ruane stated that the committee met and discussed the gas company's project and street sign replacement.
- PennDOT will conduct a public meeting concerning the PA 147/US 11 Reconstruction Project on August 5th from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

Old Business

1. Liberty Hollow Culvert Replacement - Engineers from Hazen and Sawyer attended the street committee meeting to discuss the plans for the project. They project that the bids will be let in August. A request has been submitted to FEMA for a time extension.
2. Mr. Klock stated that NEIC would like to make two minor changes to the contract. The Borough solicitor has advised that if agreeable, council would have to rescind the first offer and vote on the revised offer. Mr. Klock read the requested changes.

Mr. Klock moved to rescind the agreement for services with NEIC effective July 7, 2015. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved 4-1 with Mr. Ruane voting no.

Mr. Klock moved to accept NEIG's latest agreement for services that were received from the Borough's solicitor today with the revisions proposed by NEIC in Sections 2c and 2d. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council voted 4-1 to approve with Mr. Ruane voting no.

New Business

1. Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Mr. Klock, council voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$22,677.60; bills to be paid from the Donations Account total \$40.00; Parking Meter Fund bills total \$375.33; Liberty Splashland bills total \$4,132.82; and Sewer Department bills total \$160,485.37.
2. Richard Hort has submitted his resignation from the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Ruane moved to accept his resignation. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
3. Ron Frost and Jeff Farrow have requested the use of King Street Park on October 10th for "Sharon Budd Day". Mr. Klock moved to approve the request and waive the fee for the use of the park. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
4. Todd Wenrich has submitted his resignation as a part-time employee with the Street Department effective with his last day of work on July 24th. He has accepted a full-time position with Furmano's. Mr. Troup stated that he appreciates everything Todd has done for the Borough and wishes him well at Furmano's. Mr. Wynn moved to accept the resignation. Mr. Klock seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Executive Session

Mr. Troup announced that the council would go into Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was adjourned at 8:27 p.m. and reconvened at 9:06 p.m.

Mr. Wynn left the meeting at 9:06 p.m.

Mr. Troup made a motion to advertise the part-time position for streets. Mr. Klock seconded the motion. Council voted 3-0-1 to approve. Mr. Sees abstained.

Mr. Troup made a motion that Ann August will start full-time employment on Monday, July 20th, at the same rate of pay with 2.5 personal days, 5 vacation days and 3.5 sick days. Her accumulated time will be four years. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Mr. Troup and Mr. Ruane voted yes; Mr. Sees and Mr. Klock voted no. Mayor Zboray voted yes. Motion carried.

The Borough Secretary informed the council that she attended a meeting today presented by East Coast Risk Management. The company is contracted through Keystone Insurer's Group to assist with workers' comp injuries. The company will work with the Borough to reduce the Borough's claims and outstanding liabilities to lower the rates for future insurance costs. The group also assists with obtaining a physicians' panel, accident prevention, claim reporting procedures, and developing return to work plans, reducing employer costs. The services are at no cost to the Borough. The company also assists employers with developing employee handbooks, at an additional cost. Mr. Troup suggested that council should have a work session to discuss it, or discussion could take place at one of the committee meetings.

Mr. Klock moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary