

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council**  
**Reorganization Meeting**  
January 4, 2010

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Brosius conducted the swearing in of Council Members elect Gregory Carl, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel, and Tax Collector elect Joanna Rees.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Mayor Brosius asked if the council would prefer to elect a president and vice president or consider the appointment to the vacant council seat. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint a candidate to the council before the election of officers. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Tira asked if anyone had objections. As no one objected, council considered the applications for the vacant seat. Mrs. Groninger noted that four applications were presented to the council. They were from Adam Klock, T.G. Fasold, John Simeone, and Bryan Wolfe. Ms. Lark asked the two applicants who were present if they would like to speak. Mr. Klock stated that he wasn't prepared to speak tonight but that in his application he expressed his interest and described his qualifications. Mr. Klock responded that he is interested in serving on the Borough Council when asked if his name is still in the running for the vacant school board seat. Mr. Wolfe stated that he did not feel that he could run during the primary due to some personal issues but that they have been resolved and he is interested in continuing to serve the Borough.

Mrs. Groninger moved that Bryan Wolfe be appointed to the vacant council seat. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. The position is for a two-year term. Roll call vote to appoint Mr. Wolfe was passed 4-2. The dissenting votes were made by Mr. Reed and Mr. Wetzel. Mayor Brosius conducting the swearing in of Bryan Wolfe.

Mayor Brosius requested nominations for Council President. Mr. Reed nominated Mr. Rees. Mrs. Groninger nominated Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Rees declined the nomination. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Mrs. Groninger noted that she nominated Bryan because he has

been a fine leader for the past years. The roll call vote was 6-0-1 with Mr. Wolfe abstaining.

Mayor Brosius turned the gavel over to Mr. Wolfe.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he would have been willing to turn it over someone else but he appreciates the council's support.

Mr. Wolfe requested a nomination for the office of Council Vice President. Ms. Lark moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded a motion for Mr. Rees. Roll call vote was 6-0-1 to approve, with Mr. Rees abstaining from the vote.

Mr. Wolfe requested nominations for the office of President Pro Tem. Mrs. Groninger moved and Mr. Rees seconded a nomination for Mr. Carl. Roll call vote was 6-0-1 to approve with Mr. Carl abstaining from the vote.

### **Public Comment**

Susquehanna River Connection Coalition

Ms. Julie Marano presented information about the Susquehanna River Confluence Connections. The group is planning a joint event for Saturday, May 29<sup>th</sup> and Sunday, May 30<sup>th</sup> to celebrate the confluence of the Susquehanna River in the early summer when the dam is inflated and "Lake Augusta" is formed.

Currently SEDA-COG, Susquehanna Greenways, and the Visitors' Bureau are involved in the planning process. Mr. Jim Gilford plans to offer hot air balloon rides and plane rides at the airstrip on the island.

Other suggestions the group is considering are to have a Confluence Heritage Tour which would include a Native American Indian Era at the Shikellamy State Park Marina; European settlers at Fort Augusta, Northumberland County Historical Society; early scientific era and religious freedom, the Joseph Priestley House, the Industrial era and the Edison Hotel.

The group would also like to put out a welcome mat for entrepreneurs by conducting Cooks Kitchen, a way to connect the emerging sustainable agricultural community with the graduating students of surrounding culinary schools, and the economic revitalization efforts in the region of the Susquehanna River Confluence.

The coalition is seeking representatives from Sunbury and Northumberland. Mr. Wetzel stated that he thinks the idea is commendable. Mr. Wolfe added that he feels the Borough would like to be involved but the council will need to consider their involvement.

Mayor Brosius suggested that the Revitalization Committee be informed of the project with the possibility of someone from the Revitalization Committee representing the Borough.

Mr. Klock stated that he would also be interested in being on the committee and helping with the event.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that the monthly police report is in the council's packet.

A resignation has been received from a part-time police officer, Wade Lytle. He has accepted a full-time position in Point Township. Chief Fink has contacted two applicants who are on the Civil Service list. One applicant has accepted a full-time position and a back ground check is being conducted on the second applicant. Mr. Tira advised that the chief may hire a part-time officer on an as-needed basis, as approved by council at a prior meeting.

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

No report

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

Mr. Tom Slodysko informed the council that they will notice that the department is using small stones on the streets to combat the ice. Salt will be used as needed, but cinders are no longer available from previous sources.

Mr. Slodysko has investigated the purchase of a bucket truck and has found two websites that advertise used bucket trucks. He questioned if a used truck may be purchased in this manner. He is looking for one that has a higher lift. Up to \$18,000 was budgeted for equipment. Mr. Tira advised that the Borough should first create specifications and advertise for a used bucket truck. The council will approve the specifications. Mr. Reed asked if it might be better to contract with someone to trim the trees rather than purchasing a bucket truck. Mr. Slodysko replied that the truck could be used for a variety of purposes, not just trimming trees.

Mr. Slodysko informed the council that the crew brought to his attention a way to reconfigure the addition at the recycling building to enable the street department to store additional equipment under roof. Discussion ensued. Council requested that the volunteers at the Recycling Center be consulted before changes are made. Mr. Rees asked that the crew be thanked for the suggestion.

Mr. Wetzel asked whom to inform when street lights are out. Mr. Slodysko stated that the office contacts PPL with the pole number. A light is out at Fourth and Hanover Streets. Mr. Slodysko stated that PPL has been informed of this outage.

The price for salt has increased this year. The Borough contracts for salt through the state Co-Stars program.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

No report

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

The Board is meeting tonight at the Number 1's.

## **New Business**

1. Mr. Wolfe introduced Ordinance 2010-1, the Tax Levy Ordinance. A question arose about the ability to reopen the budget. If the majority concurs, the budget could be opened until January 15<sup>th</sup>. Upon motion from Mr. Rees seconded by Mrs. Groninger to approve Ordinance 2010-1, the council voted unanimously to approve. The resolution for fees and penalties will be reviewed by the Finance Committee before being presented to the full council.
2. Mr. Rees and Mr. Wetzel moved and seconded a motion to approve payment of the bills. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$6,706.62; Liberty Splashland bills total \$32.88; Liquid Fuels bills total \$1,493.23; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center bills total \$1,414.13.
3. Mr. Wolfe noted that Larson Design Group, Inc. has submitted a proposal to be the Borough's engineering firm. He stated that the company does not require a retainer and that the Borough is not obligated to use the firm if it chooses to put a job out to bid. He requested that the council members review the proposal so it may be discussed at the January 19<sup>th</sup> meeting.
4. Mr. Wetzel asked if there has been any interest on the purchase of the borough building. Mr. Tira replied that there has been some, but nothing confirmed.
5. Mayor Brosius asked if the vo-tech students have started working at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building. The office is waiting for a list of students from the school to consult with Shikellamy about busing.
6. Ms. Diane Petryk, a reporter with the Daily Item, questioned the wording of the ordinance relating to millage rates. It was explained that one mil is \$1.00 per \$1,000 property valuation. It was also noted that Northumberland County has not had a reassessment since 1973.

Mr. Tira announced that the council would hold an executive session following the meeting to discuss labor issues and that no action would be taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
January 19, 2010

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, Frank Wetzels and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary

The seven visitors present introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Adam Klock provided a handout to the council with a list of questions he has pertaining to the bequest from Geraldine Mertz and the purchase of the bowl slide for Liberty Splashland. The first question was about when the Borough was notified that funds were available from the estate of Geraldine Mertz for the purpose of Parks & Recreation. It was believed that the Borough was first notified around May that a bequest was made. The Borough has not been informed of the total of the bequest because the settlement of the estate has not been finalized. The Borough received a portion of the bequest in December.

Mr. Carl responded to a question about whether the bowl slide was put out for public bid. He stated that the solicitor advised that advertising was not required since it was a refurbished, one-of-a-kind item. When asked how he knew that no other slide was available, he responded that he spent days researching the availability of the apparatus on the internet and found just one other slide in England for twice the price plus the cost of delivery. It was also stated that advertising wasn't required because the slide is being paid for with donations. It was suggested that the solicitor be asked at the next meeting why advertising wasn't required. Brian Luden questioned why the scoreboard for Pineknott Park had to be advertised for bid when funds for the scoreboard were being donated. The solicitor had advised that the advertising was required for this purchase.

Another question was why the council visited Liberty Splashland at the conclusion of the June 16<sup>th</sup> council meeting. Mayor Brosius responded that Greg was showing the council where the fence would be extended and what attractions had been added to the pool. It was also noted that the council meeting was held at the Kiwanis Building so it was convenient for the council to visit the pool. Mr. Troup asked if the additional utility costs due to the slide have been considered. Mr. Carl stated that he estimates an additional \$1,500 will be required and an additional 400 patrons are expected who will cover this expense. Mr. Carl stated that he had contacted the person who had conducted the feasibility study for the pool several years ago and he feels that with the additional attraction, the daily fee should be increased by \$2.00 while the annual passes remain the same price. Mr. Carl also stated that he has voluntarily managed the pool for the past ten years and that he and Tom Slodysko have voluntarily provided the labor for the maintenance and repairs at the pool.

Brian Luden requested that the Borough run the Pineknott Park ballfield the way they run the pool. He would like the Borough to pay for two students to maintain the field and run the concession stand at the games. He also suggested that banners could be sold for at the park with the proceeds going toward the utility costs. It was requested that the office be given schedules of the games so they may be posted on the Borough website, included in the newsletter and posted at the field.

Mr. Wolfe stated that discussions occur at the various committee meetings and during the work sessions. The Finance Committee will be discussing the proposal for the ballfield requests. Mr. Carl added that the Community Development Committee would meet also discuss the ballfield at their committee meeting. Committee meetings are advertised and open to the public.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that she swore in the five Fire Police Officers yesterday.

Chief Fink stated that the police received complaints from residents yesterday about ticketing on a Federal holiday. This occurs four times a year when the Borough does not observe the Federal holiday.

Kevin Rushton was hired as a part-time police officer. He is on the civil service list.

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

Mr. Paul Ruane provided the council with his report for the month of December.

Mr. Ruane noted that the Borough does not have regulations regarding outdoor wood-burning furnaces. He explained that this type of furnace smolders and emits a lot of smoke and recommended that council consider adopting an ordinance to address them.

Mrs. Groninger asked how the code office is coming along with the landlords that haven't complied with the rental ordinance. Mr. Ruane replied that there are still a few.

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

Mr. Tom Slodysko reported that the crew has been demolishing areas of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building so construction can proceed.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the rates have not been raised for three years.

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Wolfe announced that a vacancy exists on the Emergency Services Board.

Mr. Wetzel moved to appoint Adam Klock to the Emergency Services Board. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. The term is a 5-year term. Roll call vote was unanimous to appoint Mr. Klock.

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Jim Troup stated that the only fire this year was a garage fire at Adam Klock's residence.

### **Committee Reports**

Mr. Wolfe noted the following committee appointments:

Community Development – Greg Carl, Chairman; Steve Reed, Cindy Lark

The committee will meet the 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Finance – Jonathan Rees, Chairman; Judith Groninger, Bryan Wolfe

The committee will meet the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Personnel – Judith Groninger, Chairman; Jonathan Rees, Bryan Wolfe

The committee meets as necessary.

Public Safety – Frank Wetzel, Chairman; Greg Carl, Steve Reed,

The committee will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Rules – Steve Reed, Chairman; Cindy Lark, Frank Wetzel

The committee will meet the 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Streets – Cindy Lark, Chairman; Judith Groninger, Steve Reed

The committee will meet the 1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday of the month at 6:00 p.m.

Planning Commission – Frank Wetzel

### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Wolfe moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded a motion to appoint Larson Design Group as the Borough's engineer. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.
2. Mr. Wolfe commented on a letter that was sent to residents by the Norry Neighbors. He is questioning their purpose for requesting money.
3. Mr. Rees asked if anyone has expressed interest in being a representative to the Susquehanna River Connection Coalition. The mayor is going to discuss the committee with the Revitalization Committee at their meeting next week.

## **New Business**

1. Mrs. Groninger moved and Ms. Lark seconded a motion to approve payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$24,095.20; Liberty Splashland bills total \$180.27, and Liquid Fuels bills total \$1,544.46. Council voted unanimously to approve.
2. The council has received two handicapped parking requests. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council does not have a policy for approving handicapped parking spaces. A list of locations of the handicapped spaces is on file at the Borough Office.

Ms. Lark moved to approve a handicapped parking space for Barb Hare at 427 Queen Street. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Rees and Mr. Reed voted aye; Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

Ms. Lark and Mrs. Groninger moved and seconded the motion to approve a handicapped parking space for the 1<sup>st</sup> Regular Baptist Church on 2<sup>nd</sup> St. at Queen Street. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Reed and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Ms. Lark voted no. Motion failed 3-4.

3. A letter was received from SEDA-COG who is obtaining a grant from DCED to provide a utility bill analysis. The cost to the municipality is \$3,750. No motion was offered to pursue an analysis.
4. Mr. Slodysko explained that with the move of the police station to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building, an antenna will be needed at the building. Several options are available. To install a new antenna at a permanent location on the building at Park Avenue and the purchase of a new base station, the cost would be approximately \$4,100. The base station would be located in the basement in a secured area. A second option would be to purchase two base radios for approximately \$6,600. Discussion ensued about the move to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building and the sale of the current Borough building. No action was taken.

Mr. Wetzel moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
February 2, 2010

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Bryan Wolfe, Greg Carl, Judith Groninger, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Cindy Lark was absent due to illness.

Mayor Brosius introduced Kevin Rushton, the new part-time police officer, and administered the Oath of Office.

**Public Comment**

The visitors present introduced themselves.

Jessica Poff voiced her support for the installation of the bowl slide at Liberty Splashland noting that this will attract more people to the pool and provide an additional attraction at our local facility.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that Ann Roll, a member of the Revitalization Committee, has met with Julie Marano regarding the Susquehanna River Confluence Connections. Mrs. Groninger moved that Ann Roll, a member of the Revitalization Committee, be named as the Borough's representative to the committee. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimously approved.

Mr. Wolfe asked what the security check which is listed on the police report involves. Chief Fink explained that when the officer is on patrol he checks the businesses in the Borough and leaves a card to inform the business owner that he was at the property. Discussion occurred about the different reports that have been prepared for the council. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would like to see a report that contains the number and types of incidents that occurred as well as the amount of time that was spent on each incident. Chief Fink replied that the log sheet tracks the amount of time spent on each call.

Mr. Reed asked about the police report being submitted to the newspaper. Chief Fink replied that reports have been submitted as time permits and that he hopes that once a secretary is hired for the police department, the report can be submitted on a regular basis.

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

Mr. Slodysko stated that he and the crew have been working on miscellaneous projects.

- They are relocating a wall at the recycling center so equipment may be stored at the center.
- Storm water issues were addressed after a recent storm.
- Work is progressing at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center with the removal of the basement ceiling.

Christmas tree pickup has been completed.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

No report

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Steve Cimino stated that the board has rewritten the ordinances which will be proof-read at their next meeting. After the revisions have been approved by the Emergency Services Board, the drafts will be submitted to the Borough Office for the solicitor and Rules Committee to review.

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Mr. Jim Troup reported on the activities of the Fire Department for January. The department had 268 man hours for January 2010.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

Mr. Carl stated that the committee would meet next Monday.

Mr. Wolfe noted that volunteers are needed for the festivals this year and asked that anyone who is interested should contact the Borough Office.

Mr. Wolfe asked if a date has been set for the move to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building. Mr. Carl stated that the committee would discuss this at the Monday meeting.

#### Finance

Mr. Rees introduced the Resolution A-2010 (Schedule of Fees and Penalties). He added that the only changes from last year's fees were some changes to the pool fees.

Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, council unanimously approved Resolution A-2010.

Mr. Rees announced that the committee would meet in April.

#### Personnel

As recommended by the Personnel Committee, Mrs. Groninger moved to increase the hourly rates for the Code Office and Borough Office staff. The proposed hourly rates are \$16.00 for the Code Enforcement Officer, \$10.50 for the Clerk I position and \$12.50 for the Clerk II position. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mr.

Wolfe noted that the increases average approximately 3%. The council voted unanimously to approve.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel announced that the committee would meet on the 16<sup>th</sup> of this month.

#### Rules

Mr. Reed stated that the committee would meet on the third Wednesday of the month.

#### Streets

Mrs. Groninger reported that the Street Committee met earlier this evening and will meet on Thursday morning to review the street projects for this year.

#### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Wetzel reported that a group in Sunbury is conducting a catch and release program. The group is taking stray cats to veterinarians in the Harrisburg area to be neutered or spayed and returning them to the area to be released. The organization's information will be supplied to the Borough Office and will be added to the website.
2. Mayor Brosius noted that the Fire Police provided a compilation of their man hours for 2009. A total of 653.5 hours were logged and almost half of those hours were provided by Jon Apple.

#### **New Business**

1. Mr. Tira advised that since just three current members of the council were present for the entire meeting on December, only two members are required for a quorum. Mr. Rees and Mr. Wetzel are the two council members who were present. Mr. Rees moved to approve the minutes of December 15, 2009; Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Rees and Mr. Wetzel voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Rees abstained. Motion carried 2-0-4.
2. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the council unanimously approved the payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$20,066.70; Liberty Splashland bills total \$67.46; Liquid Fuels bills total \$2994.29; 2<sup>nd</sup> St. Community Center bills total \$1,990.38; and Parking Meter bills total \$105.76.
3. Verizon Wireless has proposed a long-term lease agreement with the Borough for a cell phone tower on Borough land beyond Pineknott Park. Mr. Wolfe added that the Finance Committee would review the proposed agreement. Upon motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Carl, the council voted unanimously to pursue the agreement.
4. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council unanimously approved advertising an ordinance that addresses cell phone towers. This will be ordinance number 2010-2.

Mrs. Groninger thanked the members of the public who were in attendance to support Liberty Splashland and their interest in the bowl slide at the park. She noted that the council appreciates the work that these people do at the pool.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would conduct an Executive Session at the conclusion of the council meeting to discuss personnel issues. No action will be taken at the conclusion of the Executive Session.

Mr. Carl moved to adjourn. The council meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**March 2, 2010**

The meeting was called to order by President Bryan M. Wolfe. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Judith Groninger, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would conduct an Executive Session. Mr. Tira noted that personnel, litigation, labor issues and police negotiation issues. The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 7:55 p.m. Mrs. Groninger was not present.

**Public Comment**

Dana Ramsey presented the council with an audit of the History Day Committee's account. She requested that the council approve the proposed budget for 2010 and send a letter to the Anselmo Trustees informing them that History Day is a part of the Borough's Revitalization Committee. Mrs. Ramsey stated that several members of the committee conducted the audit. Mr. Carl made a motion that the council accept the budget for History Day and confirm that the group is a subcommittee of the Revitalization Committee. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Reed, Mr. Rees, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye.

Mary Haas commented about the noise level from the ButterKrust Bakery on Fifth Street. She stated that her house vibrates from the sounds. Mr. Wolfe stated that he thinks tests had been done by the bakery. Ms. Haas believes the trucks idling may be part of the noise which occurs between 10:30 p.m. and 12:30 a.m. and again around 4:00 a.m.

Mrs. Groninger returned at 8:03 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe announced that Cindy Lark has submitted a letter of resignation due to health and personnel issues. Mrs. Groninger moved to accept her resignation and to accept applications

for the vacant seat. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. The seat must be filled in thirty days. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius noted that the Police Reports were distributed to the council.

Mayor Brosius stated that Julie Marano attended the last Revitalization Committee meeting to discuss the Susquehanna Confluence Coalition. This group and the Friends of the Marina have many events planned for the summer starting with Memorial Day weekend. Mayor Brosius stated that she would bring a schedule to the next meeting. Plans are for the Borough to become involved with surrounding municipalities to enjoy movies at different locations. A walking a biking entrance to the Marina without having to cross the road is being explored. The group will also continue some of last year's events – Sunday Brunch at the Marina – and events at the Look Out. Ann Roll, the Borough's representative, will keep us informed.

Mayor Brosius extended her apologies to the Crime Watch Group for not advertising their meeting on the sign in the park. She noted that the weather has been a factor in being able to change the sign. Mr. Reed attended the Crime Watch Meeting which was held on March 1 at the Kiwanis Building. Only five people attended. He said that the meetings are scheduled for the first Monday of each month and that they will be held at the Kiwanis Building until the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building is available.

Mayor Brosius noted that the Red Cross Bloodmobile will be held on March 11 at the C.W. Rice building, not March 13, as reported in the Pineknoller News.

**Street Supervisor's Report**

Mr. Slodysko had nothing to report on the street department but thanked the police chief for monitoring the traffic at intersections with stop signs.

**Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

No report

**Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

No report

**Emergency Services Board Report**

Steve Cimino presented the revision of the Fire Department Ordinance for the solicitor's and Rules Committee's review. All council members will be provided with copies.

The Emergency Services Board's April meeting will most likely be held at the Borough Building. If the offices have moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center before that time, the Borough Secretary will contact Mr. Cimino.

**Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Jim Troup reported on the number of calls for the Fire Department for 2009 for each unit and station. The Northumberland Hook and Ladder's Truck No. 734 responded to 97 calls; the Rescue Truck No. 735 responded to 121 calls. The Northumberland No. 1's Engine No. 731 responded to 60 calls and Engine No. 732 responded to six calls. The

Northumberland Hook and Ladder's man hours for training was 2,687 hours; the Number 1's was 694 hours. The man hours for emergencies were 879 from the Northumberland Hook and Ladder and 270 for the Northumberland No. 1's.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the companies don't respond at the same time. Chief Troup explained that the various trucks are called out for different emergencies.

Mayor Brosius thanked the fire fighters on behalf of the Borough for volunteering their service.

## **Committee Reports**

### Community Development

Mr. Carl reported that the committee met for the first time last month and discussed the following topics:

1. Farmer's Market – Mr. Reed prepared a flyer to send out to prospective vendors. No day has been determined. Currently, the committee is favoring King Street Park as the location.
2. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center – the committee discussed moving the Borough records to the building as soon as the storage area is completed. The target date to have the Borough offices moved to the building is late March, early April. Mr. Carl moved to relocate the offices for the Borough to the Community Center by early April. Mr. Reed seconded the motion.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:18.

Roll call vote was unanimous with Mr. Reed, Mr. Rees, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voting in the affirmative.

Mrs. Groninger returned at 8:20.

Pineknottter Park Ballfield – Mr. Carl stated that the committee is recommending that each team obtain a permit in order to play on the field. Brian Luden presented a sample permit to the council. The purchase of a meter for the lights was discussed. Three Little League teams, two Legion teams, two adult teams, and a fall ball team play at this field. Discussion ensued about the charges to the various teams.

Mr. Luden also announced that Judith Ditton has donated \$500 to be spent toward the concession stand in memory of her husband, Charles "Bud" Ditton.

Mr. Tira suggested that he or the Rules Committee review the permit application. Mr. Reed requested that the solicitor review the permit application.

Mr. Luden has volunteered to manage the ball field. Mr. Wolfe moved and Mr. Rees seconded a motion to designate Brian Luden as the Pineknottter Park Baseball Manager. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

Mr. Luden proposed selling banner ads to raise funds for the ballfield.

Mr. Carl stated that he and Mr. Luden have met with the Health Officer to discuss requirements for the concession stand.

Mr. Wolfe left the meeting at 8:27 p.m.

Mr. Carl made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, to require that the Borough Office handle the concession monies. Roll call vote: Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Reed and Mr. Rees voted affirmatively.

Mr. Wolfe returned at 8:30 p.m.

Mr. Carl said that the cost to purchase a meter for the lights would be \$375 plus shipping. Tokens that would be sold at the Borough Office are used to activate the lights. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Rees seconded a motion to purchase a meter for the lights, not to exceed \$500. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve.

Mr. Luden requested that the council approve hiring two employees to work at the ballfield. Mr. Carl suggested that the details should be discussed at another meeting. Mr. Wolfe recommended that the topic be discussed at the Community Development meeting. Mrs. Groninger asked how many people Mr. Luden has contacted to serve on the ballfield committee, adding that she is aware that Adam Klock has volunteered. He replied that he thinks he has five people who are willing to help. He added that he still thinks it is necessary to hire two workers to run the concession stand and take care of the field. They could also work with the Street Department if the workload at the ballpark is light.

Mr. Ruane asked how the Hanover Street ballfield operates since they do not come to the Borough for funding. He added that he does not feel that taxpayers' money should go for the ballfield when volunteers should be taking care of it.

#### Finance

Mr. Rees announced that the committee would meet on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Personnel – No report

Public Safety – No report

#### Rules

Mr. Reed announced that the committee would meet the third Wednesday at 7:00 p.m.

#### Streets

Mr. Rees informed the council of the work to be done on the streets as recommended by the Street Committee. The tonnage was estimated at 1,138 tons of top coat and 498 tons of base repair. 6,500 linear feet, over a mile, of streets are scheduled to be paved. They include Lincoln Street, Orange Street from 7<sup>th</sup> to 8<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup> Street from Duke to Queen, intersections on 7<sup>th</sup> Street at Hanover and at North Avenue, 6<sup>th</sup> Street from

Duke to above Queen, Sheetz Avenue from 2<sup>nd</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> and half of the block from Water to Front, and the Buchanan extension, below Susquehanna Road. He moved that the council approve to submit the work to the Central Susquehanna COG to be put out for bid. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Tira reported that the right-of-way that was requested by the Pennsylvania Water Company would conflict with a prior request from the cemetery. The company has a waterline extending along the unopened 7<sup>th</sup> Street from Prince Street to Vista Avenue. He recommended that the Cemetery Board be contacted to inform them of the water company's request.

### **New Business**

1. Mr. Reed moved and Mr. Rees seconded the motion to approve the minutes of January 4, January 19, and February 2, 2010. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.
2. Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Rees, council unanimously approved the payment of the bills, including \$200 for membership in the Central Susquehanna COG. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$36,414.92; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community and Municipal Center bills total \$3,343.31; Liquid Fuels bills total \$10; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$15.81.
3. Northumberland Housing Corporation Refinancing  
Mrs. Groninger stated that she did not receive a copy of the paperwork. Mr. Wolfe tabled the discussion.
4. The Middle Susquehanna Task Force has requested a letter of support for designation as State Heritage Area. Mr. Wolfe so moved. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve.
5. Mr. Reed requested permission to look into the feasibility of putting cameras at the traffic light at Water and Duke Streets noting that the benefits would be better traffic control, relieve the police of some of their workload, and alleviate safety issues at the intersection. Mr. Reed stated that tickets could be issued because the cameras would take pictures of the license plate of the car and the driver. Mr. Tira advised that a motion is not needed for Mr. Reed to look into the possibility of the purchase.
6. Mr. Reed recommended that the Borough waive the fees for tickets on holidays. Chief Fink stated that there are several national holidays that are not observed by the Borough. Mr. Tira stated that if the council decides to waive the fees, it should adopt a resolution to not enforce parking restrictions on any national holiday.

Daily Item reporter Diane Petryk asked what precipitated the forensic audit of the Sewer Authority. Mr. Tira replied that the Borough is not the Sewer Authority and he cannot speak for the Sewer Authority. He advised that she would have to speak to them.

Mary Haas asked about the right-of-way for the Pennsylvania American Water Company. Mr. Tira explained that it is for a right-of-way along an unopened stretch of Seventh Street. The waterline is already installed in this area.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would adjourn for an Executive Session following a five minute answer session for the media. The issues to be discussed are personnel and negotiations. Mr. Tira added that the council may or may not reconvene following the Executive Session.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 9:25 p.m. Mr. Tira announced that the issues discussed were personnel, labor, and ongoing lease negotiations. No action was taken on any of these issues.

Mr. Wolfe announced that he wishes to step down as Borough Council president, stating that the presidency takes a lot of time which he does not feel he has at the current time. He requested nominations for President. Mr. Reed nominated Mr. Carl. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

Mr. Carl assumed the chair.

Since Mr. Carl had been the Chairman Pro Tem, Mr. Rees moved to nominate Mr. Reed to the office of Chairman Pro Tem. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Rees moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:28 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
March 16, 2010

The meeting was called to order by President Gregory D. Carl. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Judith Groninger, Stephen Reed, Frank Wetzel and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Jonathan Rees was absent.

Thirteen visitors were present.

Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Reed, the minutes of March 2, 2010 were approved by a vote of 5-0-1 with Mr. Wetzel abstaining.

Mr. Carl explained that the minutes are posted on the borough website. However, there have been some problems with the website lately.

**Appointment to vacant council seat**

Mr. Carl stated that he and the Borough Secretary have researched how the appointments for the vacant council seats had been determined in the past and they had been made in four different ways. Discussion ensued. Mr. Tira stated that there is no procedure outlined by the Borough Code for appointments to vacant council seats.

Mr. Reed nominated Carl Libby, T.J. Fasold and Adam Klock. Mrs. Groninger nominated Bob Long and Gary Steffen. Mr. Wetzel seconded Mr. Reed's nominations; Mr. Wolfe seconded Mrs. Groninger's nominations. Mrs. Groninger stated that she is supporting Bob Long because he and his wife have been very active and have kept some of the festivals going in town. She stated that he was a very good councilman; he asked questions and was never offended by comments that were made by others. Mr. Reed stated that he feels that there are a lot of good candidates. He would like to see some new blood and fresh ideas on the council. He added that Mr. Long and Mr. Steffen are not present tonight. Mr. Carl stated that he knows Mr. Steffen because he was a police officer with his father, but he does not know him personally. He has worked with Mr. Long who has volunteered and will "get his hands dirty". He also sees the value in having people on council who have

professional experience like Mr. Klock and Mr. Libby. Mr. Wetzel thanked those who have applied and said that he appreciates that they are willing to serve on the council. Roll call vote: Mr. Reed and Mr. Wetzel voted for Carl Libby; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger voted for Bob Long.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Troup stated that he would like to see people put their personal agendas aside and vote for the way people feel in this community.

Mr. Adam Klock submitted a petition of over 500 signatures that support a trust fund for the Pineknoller Park ballfield from the cell tower lease agreement.

Mr. Klock asked if council members feel they should receive formal ethic training. Mayor Brosius explained that new council members may attend training if they choose. Mr. Tira stated that the council may choose to answer or not. Mr. Klock asked if council members should receive mandatory training on the Borough Code. He stated that he would like to know what the councils' opinions are. Mr. Carl stated that it should be a personal choice. He added that the solicitor is present at the meetings to advise on the legality of the issues. Mr. Klock asked if council members should receive training on Robert's Rules of Order. Mr. Tira noted that they are not a resolution or ordinance of the Borough nor are they binding on any body in the state; they are not an official statute of the state. Mayor Brosius added that this topic had been discussed at a meeting a number of years ago. Mr. Klock asked if the council feels that there should be an annual audit done on the Borough's finances and should it be available to the public. Mr. Tira stated that the Borough does have an annual audit done on the finances and it is available to the public. He added that the council is not in a position to speak to an ongoing investigation at the Sewer Authority. Mr. Klock asked if the council feels that there should be a process to appoint members to the Borough Council. Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Reed and Mr. Carl answered yes. Mrs. Groninger replied for the record that she is not answering any of the questions because she feels this is a ploy to bring headlines to Mr. Adam Klock.

Mr. Ty Sees asked that since Mr. Carl is on Borough Council may he still run the pool or is it an ethics violation. Mr. Tira stated that Mr. Carl received no compensation. Mr. Carl added that for ten years he's received zero dollars.

Mr. Carl Libby thanked the council members who supported his nomination to the council. He stated that he is the Borough's representative to the Penn Valley Airport Authority. When he first accepted the position, the airport authority was \$550,000 in debt. They are currently approximately \$150,000 in debt so it has dropped \$400,000 of the debt. Heritage Aviation has assumed responsibility for the operations at the airport. Thirty people are currently taking classes. An air show is planned for July 17<sup>th</sup>. He requested that the council increase the budget for the authority from \$500 to \$1,000.

Ms. Diane Petryk of the Daily Item asked Mr. Wolfe if there is a reason why he stepped down as chairman of the council. Mr. Wolfe stated that the time involves takes a lot of time. Ms. Petryk asked if the council is considering contracting with Point Township to replace the entire police department. Mr. Tira responded that there are ongoing labor negotiations and council has made no decisions. Ms. Petryk asked if the council feels that

the community would be in favor of having their police officers replaced. Mr. Tira stated that this is a question for the community to answer.

Mr. Steve Cimino stated that the council has asked why the public is not interested in attending the meetings. He said that people are not interested in coming because they see the same faces with the same opinions.

Mr. Klock stated that the people who applied for council did not all attend the meeting and were not informed when there would be a vote. Mr. Carl explained that the position was advertised with the deadline for applications. Mr. Carl added that he agrees that there should be a process for appointing new members.

Ms. Petryk asked if she could have more information about Bob Long. Mr. Tira replied that the Borough Secretary could provide the information after the meeting.

Ms. Carol Updegrave asked if the reporter is reporting the news or making the news?

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

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the Code Office activity for the past month.

### **Public Comment**

Mr. Pat McPherson stated that the Borough had given the fire company a used radio which was appreciated. However, because it was not feasible to install it in the fire truck he is returning it to the borough.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

Mr. Carl stated that the committee did not have a formal meeting because he was the only council member present. He and Mr. Luden discussed a timer for the baseball field lights. The timer has been ordered. He asked if Mr. Luden feels that 50 tokens will be enough or if additional tokens should be purchased. Mr. Luden replied that the 50 tokens should be enough.

Mr. Robin Bolig asked if all the lights are on when they are turned on. Mr. Luden explained that they are and that is one of the reasons why the timer is being purchased.

Mr. Luden requested that the council approve the proposed banner ads that he has submitted. The cost for the banner is \$96.00. The rate for a three-year commitment for a 4' x 6' banner is \$1,000. The rate for a 2' x 4' banner with a three-year commitment is \$600. Upon motion by Mr. Carl, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, approval of the rates for the banners at Pineknott Park was unanimous.

#### 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center

The wooden floors have been refinished in the offices. The move to the new offices should occur in a few weeks.

Mr. Carl stated that certified lifeguards are needed for the summer at Liberty Splashland.

It was announced that the Community Development Committee will meet on April 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

#### Finance

Mrs. Groninger stated that the committee would meet on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Robin Bolig asked what financial plan is in place to support the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building, heating, electric, maintenance, etc. Mayor Brosius stated that the building is zoned for heat so it is not necessary to heat the entire building. Discussion ensued.

#### Personnel

Mr. Tira stated that he has material to be discussed in Executive Session.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that the Crime Watch Committee will meet on April 5<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Kiwanis Building. The committee meetings are set for the first Monday of each month.

#### Rules

Mr. Reed stated that the Rules Committee will meet tomorrow night at 7:00 p.m.

#### Streets

Mr. Slodysko stated that the bids are due to the COG tomorrow night. He stated that since the committee had met, he has noted that Prince Street has deteriorated and should be included for paving.

Mrs. Groninger asked if a motion is required to put the street bid out through the COG with Point Township only. Mr. Tira stated that a vote should be taken. Mrs. Groninger moved that, if possible, the Borough's street paving should be bid with Point Township only. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

#### **Emergency Service**

Mr. Steve Cimino stated that the Emergency Services Board will form a list of activities that they would like the council recognize so the firemen are covered under workman's comp. He requested that official training for firemen be recognized by the council this evening because they train every week. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, council voted unanimously to recognize official training for firemen as authorized by the Fire Chief or either Station Captain.

#### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded Ordinance 2010-2. This ordinance addresses Wireless Telecommunications Towers and Antennas. Mr. Klock had a question about whether amateur radios are addressed in the ordinance. Mr. Tira replied that amateur radios are specifically excluded from the ordinance. He also

stated that this ordinance does not approve the lease. Mayor Brosius asked where the location is proposed for the tower in relation to Pineknott Park. Mr. Carl explained the location is behind the ballfield in the wooded area and added that he would show her. The height of the tower is to be approximately 180 feet. FAA approval will be required due to the airport on the island. The company is aware of this. Roll call vote to approve Ordinance 2010-2 was unanimous.

2. Mr. Luden asked when his proposal for the permit will be reviewed for the ball teams. He also asked when the council will decide about employing workers at the ballfield. Mr. Carl stated that the council needs to know how much time will be required for the workers at the ballfield. The applications for the workers have been submitted to PHEAA but approval hasn't been received as yet. Mr. Carl explained that there should be a plan for the number of hours required each week for the employees. Upon motion by Mr. Wolfe, seconded by Mr. Reed, council unanimously approved the hire of two casual employees for up to thirty hours per week to run the concession stand and to take care of the field beginning May 17. Mr. Carl added that the permitting process will be ready for the April council meeting.

#### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Groninger moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded a motion to approve payment of the bills. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$10,881.93; Liquid Fuels bills total \$3,162.7; Liberty Splashland bills total \$61.19; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center bills total \$978.49.
2. Resolution B-2010 designates agents for the First National Bank accounts. Resolution C-2010 designates authorized persons for the Northumberland National Bank accounts. Greg Carl, Jonathan Rees, Janice Bowman and Jane Sanders-Ressler are the designated agents who are authorized to sign checks. Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the vote was unanimous to adopt both resolutions.
3. Mr. Tira spoke to the Housing Corporations' attorney regarding the refinancing. Their attorney will provide a resolution for the Borough to adopt. Mr. Tira stated that the bank requested a deferral of payments to the Borough but they are not ready to proceed.
4. Mr. Troup said that he was present at the meeting with the Housing Corporation. He said that with a million dollar investment, the Borough should be getting something from the housing corporation. He feels that instead of making an additional payment of \$1,000 to the bank, they should pay this amount to the Borough. Mr. Tira replied that the Housing Corporation does make some payment to the Borough each year. However, the agreement is for payment to the Borough to begin once the loan is paid off.
5. Mr. Troup asked if the Sewer Authority would provide a representative to the Borough meetings. Mr. Carl requested from their solicitor that a report be provided.

6. Mayor Brosius stated that she was contacted by Mr. Bordner who is looking for a place in the Borough for soccer fields. She knows that at one time soccer fields were planned for an area at Pineknott Park. The fields at Point Township are being resurfaced. In the meantime, the group needs soccer fields to replace the ones that are being resurfaced. She requested if anyone knows of fields that could be made available, that they contact her.
7. Mayor Brosius asked about the downtown lights. Mr. Slodysko responded that the lenses become yellow after a number of years.

At 8:38 p.m. Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting for an Executive Session to discuss labor and lease negotiations. No action is anticipated following the Executive Session.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
April 6, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Mayor Brosius conducted the swearing-in of Robert Long as a Borough Council member.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Judith Groninger, Robert Long, Steve Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Bryan Wolfe was absent.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Tamara Runyan asked about the sidewalks in the borough and why there is no continuity of the sidewalks in the Borough. She noted that there are no pavements on Prince Street near the pool, or Seventh Street and she feels that there is favoritism being shown. She also noted that there is no sidewalk on Fifth Street from King Street to Sheetz Avenue by the Fire Department and that the department's planter extends through the walkway to the street. She provided a list and diagrams of pavements that she feels are below standards. Mr. Carl stated that he would personally look at the sidewalks on the list adding that he would have a response at the next council meeting.

Mr. Carl Libby complimented the council on the playground at 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and added that it is used heavily. He reported that there are some issues with teens using their skateboards on his porch and also harassing an adult who was at the playground with his children and using foul language. Mr. Libby contacted the police and Officer Cope responded promptly to both calls. Mr. Libby asked what could be done. Mr. Tira responded that he would look at the ordinances because he believes one already addresses this issue.

Mr. Ted Koppen asked if the Borough plans to pave Prince Street where water lines were replaced. Mr. Slodysko responded that Prince Street from Third Street to Park Avenue will be paved this year and that the water company is coming tomorrow to repair the patches.

Mr. Steve Cimino questioned what is to be done about Bryan Wolfe being a member of Borough Council in light of the news that was in the paper. Mr. Tira responded that there is no action that the council can take at this time.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that the Police Chief has provided the council with the monthly report.

Mayor Brosius read a letter from Sunbury Police Chief Steven Mazzeo commending the Northumberland Police officers and thanking them for their assistance during the recent tragedy in Sunbury.

Mayor Brosius read a thank you note from a woman from New Jersey who had contacted the police with concerns about her father who lives in the Borough. The Chief responded by visiting her father and phoning her so she could speak with him.

Mrs. Groninger thanked Chief Fink for his report which is easy to read and appreciated.

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

Mr. Tom Slodysko reported that the paving bids would be let out next week by the COG. The crew is patching streets and has examined an area on Queen Street at the bridge between 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup> Streets where there is subsidence. He feels it may not have been backfilled properly and will keep a watch on it.

Mr. Slodysko noted that the new Borough Offices in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building are completed. The projected move date is April 22<sup>nd</sup>.

The water company has notified the Borough that check flow valves must be installed at the water lines on the pool, the garage, Kiwanis Building, and in King Street Park in order to conform with federal regulations. The price for each range from \$45 to \$350.

The State rules for brush pickup have changed. Curbside pickup is to be conducted once a year. In addition to the curbside pickup, the center will be opened one day a month for residents to take brush to the center. Branches less than 4 inches in diameter and less than 6 feet in length are accepted. No grass or weeds are accepted. Mrs. Groninger questioned several charges that appear on the bill list. Mr. Slodysko stated that the charge of \$475 from Sunbury City is for the annual use of the shredder and the M & S Garage bill of \$585 is for repairs to the composter. The curbside collection will be conducted in June, the dates will be announced.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report – no report**

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report – no report**

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Steve Cimino had spoken to the council about the workman's compensation coverage for volunteer firemen. The board would like the council to approve the following activities:

- All forms of approved company/department training
- Door to door fundraisers
- Hands-on fundraisers such as chicken BBQ
- Public service details
- Mutual Aid Calls
- Department and company approved meetings
- Physical Fitness Training
- Company and/or Department approved parades

He added that this list should cover approximately 90% of the activities of the firemen. Mr. Tira said that he will have the list ready for approval at the May meeting.

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Jim Troup reported on the activity of the Fire Department for the past month.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

Mr. Carl reported that the plan is to move the Borough Offices to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The next council meeting will be at the current Borough Building at 221 Second Street.

#### Pineknotted Park Ballfield

Mr. Tira has drawn up a Pineknotted Park Baseball Field Permit. The annual permit requires teams to apply for reserved times for their games with the schedule to be issued by the field manager. Discussion ensued. Mr. Robin Bolig asked who will employ the two employees who are to work at the ballfield. The Borough will employ college students through the PHEAA program. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Long seconded the motion to approve use of the baseball field permit. Roll call vote – All ayes.

#### Ordinance 2010-3 - Pineknotted Park Baseball Field

Mr. Tira has drafted an ordinance that outlines the details for the reserved use of the ballfield. He noted that the current Code Book does not have a chapter that addresses parks. The ordinance will be modified when a chapter is designated. Mr. Wetzel moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion to advertise Ordinance 2010-3. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Reed stated that he has talked to some interested vendors for the Farmer's Market in the King Street Park, close to Front Street. He is recommending that the market be set for Thursdays and Saturdays, every week from May to October. Mr. Pat McPherson suggested that one day a week should be sufficient. He also suggested that the market be held on Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon, adding that produce season is from June 15 to Labor Day. Most vendors in May would be flower vendors.

#### Finance

The committee will meet on April 27<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Building to review the first quarter of 2010.

#### Personnel

The council will conduct an Executive Session at the end of the meeting to discuss personnel issues.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Frank Wetzel noted that the Crime Watch Committee met last night with only six people were in attendance. The Emergency Services Board meets at the same time. They are changing their meeting time from 7:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m. because some of the board members would like to attend the Crime Watch meetings. Mr. Wetzel requested

that the Crime Watch meeting be held at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center on May 3<sup>rd</sup> at 7:00 p.m. Discussion occurred about what room would be available.

#### Rules

Mr. Tira stated that he and Mr. Cimino would meet following the council meeting to discuss the Fire Department Ordinance.

Mr. Reed stated that he had obtained an ordinance that addresses outdoor furnaces.

#### Streets

Mr. Rees noted that the paving bids haven't been opened yet. They will be available at the May meeting.

#### Old Business

1. Mr. Gene Brosius explained a request from the Northumberland Cemetery Board. The Board had originally approached the Borough to vacate the unopened Seventh Street above Prince Street. Since then, the water company has requested a right-of-way to maintain a pipe that runs the length of the property. The Cemetery Board is now requesting a right-of-way for the unopened street. Mr. Tira suggested that the topic be tabled until the property owners on the other side of the unopened street, the Feasters, can be contacted.
2. Resolution D-2010 – Procedure for filling Council and Mayor vacancies  
Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution D-2010 which is as follows:

A RESOLUTION OF THE NORTHUMBERLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL  
ESTABLISHING A STANDARD PROCEDURE FOR THE FILLING OF VACANCIES ON  
THE NORTHUMBERLAND BOROUGH COUNCIL OR IN THE POSITION OF MAYOR.

**Whereas**, the Northumberland Borough Council (“Borough Council”) has determined that it is in the best interest and welfare of the citizens of the Borough of Northumberland if a standard procedure is created for filling vacancies that may occur on the Northumberland Borough Council or in the position of Mayor; and

**Whereas**, the Northumberland Borough Council has determined that setting a standard procedure for filling vacancies on the Northumberland Borough Council or in the position of Mayor will foster greater participation in the process of filling vacancies; and

**Whereas**, Borough Council desires that all vacancies on the Northumberland Borough Council and the position of Mayor be filled in the manner set forth below; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that all the vacancies on the Northumberland Borough Council and in the position of Mayor be filled as follows:

1. At a public meeting, Borough Council shall announce that a vacancy exists either on the Borough Council or in the position of Mayor.
2. At a public meeting, Borough Council shall request that letters of interest to fill the vacancy be submitted by citizens and set the date that letters of interest must be provided to Borough Council for consideration.
3. Borough Council shall cause a legal advertisement to be placed in a newspaper, with daily circulation within the Borough of Northumberland, that states that there is a vacancy, requests letters of interest, the date the letters of interest are due and the date Borough Council shall take action to fill the vacancy.

4. At the public meeting that Borough Council set as the date and time to fill the vacancy, Borough Council shall conduct a vote in the following manner to fill the vacancy.
- (a). Borough Council President shall open the floor for nominations from Borough Council members. Any Borough Council member may nominate any individual that has submitted a letter of interest to fill the vacancy. All applicants, that have submitted a letter of interest and are nominated and seconded by Borough Council, shall be placed on the voting slate for consideration by Borough Council. Borough Council members may nominate multiple individuals for consideration for the vacancy.
- (b). Borough Council President shall close nominations by asking Borough Council for any further nominations and receiving no response from Borough Council. Upon the closure of the nominations, Borough Council President shall instruct the Borough Secretary to conduct a roll call vote. Each Borough Council member shall state the name of the individual, that has been properly nominated, that they desire to have fill the vacancy. Upon completion of the roll call vote, if an individual has received a majority of the votes cast, the individual shall be appointed to the vacancy.
- (c). If at the completion of the initial roll call vote no individual has received a majority of the votes cast, a second roll call vote shall be held considering only the top two vote recipients in the initial roll call vote. If there is a tie among the applicants as to who are the top two vote recipients, another roll call vote will be taken that considers the top two vote recipients, including all applicants receiving the same number of votes as the top two vote recipients. If after the second roll call vote, an applicant has received a majority of the votes cast, the individual shall be appointed to the vacancy.
- (d). If after a second roll call vote, there is no applicant receiving a majority of the votes cast and a tie exists between the top two vote recipients, the Mayor may cast a tie breaking vote. If the Mayor elects to cast the tie breaking vote, the applicant receiving the tie breaking vote shall be appointed to the vacancy. If after the second roll call vote there is no candidate receiving the majority of the votes and there is no tie among the top two vote recipients or the Mayor elects not to cast a tie breaking vote, no individual shall be appointed to fill the vacancy. If the vacancy cannot be filled by the above procedures, the vacancy shall be referred to the Borough's Vacancy Board.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption by Borough Council and approval by the Mayor.

**ATTEST:**

**ADOPTED** this 6th day of April, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary

\_\_\_\_\_  
Greg Carl, Council President

Passed this 6th day of April, 2010.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Gretchen Brosius, Mayor

3. Resolution E-2010 – Authorize signers for First National Bank accounts  
Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Long, council voted unanimously to authorize Gregory Carl, Jonathan Rees, Janice Bowman and Jane Sanders-Ressler to be the signers for three accounts with the First National Bank. One account is the Penn Vest account, the other accounts are debit card accounts. The old debit card account will be closed as soon as the new card is obtained for the new account.
4. Land Lease Agreement with Verizon Wireless  
Discussion of the land lease agreement with Verizon Wireless was tabled for discussion in the Executive Session.
5. Ordinance 2010-4 - Revises Holiday Parking restrictions  
Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Reed, council unanimously approved advertising Ordinance 2010-4 which revises Holiday Parking restrictions to include Election days as well as New Year's Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, Presidents' Day, Good Friday, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, Veterans' Day, Thanksgiving, the day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas.

#### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of bills, including reimbursement to the recycling group for grant funding of \$1,908 for the scale that the recycling group had purchased. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$29,501.54; Liberty Splashland bills total \$818.80; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center bills total \$3,305.64; and Liquid Fuels bills total \$1,316.
2. Mrs. Groninger stated that a date should be set for the Pineknoller News articles. It was determined that articles are due by Monday, April 12.
3. Mr. Reed had checked with Representative Phillips office regarding cameras to monitor the traffic lights and learned that they are not legal in Pennsylvania.
4. Mr. Brian Luden asked when the meter for the ballfield lights will be installed. Mr. Carl stated that some repairs are required for the light box before the meter can be installed. The parts are due soon. Discussion ensued.
5. Mr. Jim Troup asked who the Northumberland Sewer Authority answers to. Mr. Tira stated that do not answer to the Borough Council. They are a quasi-municipal body that was created by the Borough. Mr. Troup asked how the council could remove the members of the Sewer Authority. Mr. Gene Brosius stated that the members are appointed to five-year terms.
6. A Tax Collection Committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. at the Shikellamy High School. Mrs. Groninger stated that Mr. Roll is unable to attend the meeting. She requested that someone else be appointed to be an alternate for this meeting. Mr. Rees moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to appoint the Borough Secretary. Roll call to approve was unanimous.

7. Mr. Carl stated that to respond to Mr. Troup's comments, the council would not take action tonight regarding the sewer authority. He said that he thinks that since it is a voluntary position, there are not many people willing to be appointed to the authority. Mr. Tira said that the authority should explain what they are going to do to guarantee that this can't happen again. Mr. Long stated that the article in the newspaper said that they are requiring monthly bank statements and the auditor to attend a meeting.
8. Mr. Cimino asked if payment for the \$676.88 bill for the hardware for the bowl slide is being paid for with donations. Mr. Carl stated that it is and that he purchased 2,250 bolts and nuts and 4,500 washers saving approximately \$3,000. At Lowe's, two bolts cost \$3.54.

Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting at 8:32 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel and negotiations issues. He announced that the meeting would be reconvened and action may or may not be taken.

Mr. Carl reconvened the meeting at 8:57 p.m. Topics discussed during the Executive Session concerned ongoing negotiations.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to accept the proposal from Cellco Partnership d/b/a Verizon Wireless to lease a 50' x 50' parcel of land at Pineknott Park for a cell phone tower at \$1,500 per month with an escalated clause of 3% each year for five 5-year terms. Discussion ensued. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Mr. Carl announced that the council would go into an Executive session for personnel issues and that since no action would be required the meeting would be adjourned. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
May 4, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Judith Groninger, Robert Long, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Twelve visitors were present.

**Council Meeting Minutes**

Upon a motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Reed, the council voted to approve the minutes of March 16, 2010 with a vote of 4-0 with abstentions from Mr. Long and Mr. Rees.

Upon a motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Rees, the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of April 6, 2010.

**Public Comment**

Tamara Runyan asked what can be done about yard sale signs that are posted throughout the Borough. Discussion ensued. Mr. Slodysko stated that the Sunbury Police contacted him with a time limit to remove signs he had posted in Sunbury.

Ms. Runyan stated that people have contacted her about her comment about the Hookies' planter that blocks the passageway of pedestrians. She also had questions about where sidewalks are required under the sidewalk ordinance and why some property owners were permitted to install sidewalks that do not conform to the ordinance due to large trees. Mr. Wetzel said that the issue would be taken under advisement at a Public Safety meeting. He noted that he was not on council when the sidewalk ordinance was adopted. Discussion ensued.

Mary Haas asked if anything has been done about the noise that she hears at her home that she feels is made by the bakery. Chief Fink stated that several officers have been to her home and that when he was there, he did not hear the noise while other officers heard a humming sound. Ms. Haas stated that the bearings on the roof of the bakery make noises and the trucks idling

make noise. Chief Fink stated that there have not been complaints from anyone else living in the neighborhood.

Adam Klock asked a question about reconstructing his carriage house as historically accurate as possible. Discussion ensued. Mr. Tira advised that since the fire destroyed more than 50% of the structure, a variance from the Zoning Board is required. Mr. Tira noted that the council may amend the ordinance pertaining to structures in the Historic District.

Mr. Klock stated that he attended the Northumberland Sewer Authority meeting to ask what the process is to appoint representatives to the authority. Mr. Klock requested that the council consider advertising vacancies on the authority when they become open in the future. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Wetzel agreed that it would be a good idea to advertise vacancies.

Mrs. Groninger moved to put in a policy that all auxiliary authorities and boards be advertised in the Pineknott News and that the council would be more than grateful to residents who apply. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. The motion was amended to read “advertised as council deems fit”. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Mayor’s Report**

Mayor Brosius noted that the monthly police report has been provided to the council.

Mayor Brosius informed the council that the Northumberland Ministerium has begun a prayer service at 8:00 a.m. each weekday, Monday – Trinity Methodist; Tuesday – St. John’s Lutheran; Wednesday – Christ United Methodist; Thursday – Grace Lutheran; and Friday - St. Mark’s Episcopal.

The Ministerium is sponsoring the National Day of Prayer on Thursday, May 6, at noon at Second and Orange Streets.

History Day is set for 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on Saturday. Volunteers are needed to help set up on Friday at 4:00 p.m. and early Saturday as well as on Saturday after 4:00 p.m. to help tear down.

May 9 through May 15 has been designated as Police Appreciation Week.

The Blood Mobile will be at the Christ United Methodist Church from 1:00 to 6:00 p.m. on May 13.

Election Day is May 18<sup>th</sup>. The council is not having a work session that day.

### **Street Supervisor’s Report**

Mr. Slodysko reported that Point Township crew will provide backup in the case of an emergency this summer since the two Borough employees are on workman’s comp.

### **Code Enforcement Officer’s Report**

Mr. Ruane provided the following Springtime report from the Code Enforcement Office:

“We are into the grass/weed season so a lot of time is spent in telling people that they need to clean up their yards. As the saying goes, ‘90% of our time is spent on 10% of

the people.’ Cluttered-up porches are another major issue as well as accumulated rubbish/trash.

There are currently at least eight properties in the Borough which are in foreclosure. This becomes a really difficult problem because we usually cannot get anyone to cut the grass or assume responsibility for these places. In some instances the owners just walk away from the home, and it takes years before anything is done with them.

Another area of concern is with the three vacant and uninhabitable properties in town. The owners have all been notified and directed to repair or raze the buildings, but nothing happens, and we cannot really do much without funds. There are two on Priestley Avenue and one on Fifth Street. Do you have any suggestions?

We are also seeking direction from you in cleaning up a dump on Westway. The land is owned by the railroad and it contains an accumulation of junk/automobiles. Is there a way to make the railroad assume responsibility in cleaning it up and then keeping this from occurring again?

Rental inspections continue to go well. The landlords who do the least to fix up their properties have been having yearly inspections. They often wonder why they can’t get better tenants. There is still a small group of individuals who are in the rental business and do not understand how their uncooperative attitude has a negative impact on the entire community. They operate a business, make income from it, and expect the taxpayers to pay for the extra work that goes into the regulation of these properties. We have come a long way and have seen a lot of improvement with the enacting of mandatory inspections. Thank you for having the vision to support this for the betterment of the community.

We are here to work with you and our citizens.”

Council and the solicitor discussed what can be done about vacant properties and properties that have been repossessed by mortgage companies such as putting liens on the properties.

Mr. Tira suggested contacting the railroad about the abandoned vehicles on railroad property.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Currently the council does not have a representative attending the Sewer Authority meetings. Mr. Carl requested that the council members consider volunteering for the appointment.

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Steve Cimino stated that the Fire Department ordinance is being reviewed by the Fire Police.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Community Development**

- Mr. Carl announced that the committee would meet on Monday, May 10 at the Borough Building.
- The meter box has been installed for the lights at the ballfield.

Mrs. Groninger returned at 8:10 p.m.

- Liberty Splashland will open on Friday, June 4<sup>th</sup>.
- The \$2,000 donation from Point Township to Liberty Splashland will be used to purchase 48 new lounge chairs.
- The Borough Offices have officially moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Municipal and Community Center.
- Banners are being sold for the Pineknott Park ballfield. Mr. Luden provided a sample. He said that Adam Klock and Mike Daddario have offered to help sell banners. Mr. Luden discussed the employees for the field. The two students who had applied did not qualify for the PHEAA work-study program. He requested that the council approve hiring Derek Fisher to help at the ballfield as needed. He will prepare the field for games and run the concession stand. Mr. Rees moved to hire Derek Fisher as a casual, temporary employee at the ballfield. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. If another student would be eligible for the PHEAA work-study program, he could be hired in addition to Derek Fisher. Roll call vote – All ayes.

#### **Finance**

Mr. Rees reported that the committee met last month to review the budget. The audit should be completed soon.

#### **Personnel**

Mrs. Groninger announced that discussion would occur in Executive Session.

#### **Public Safety**

Mr. Wetzel reported that the Crime Watch committee held a meeting last evening at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center. Nine people were in attendance. The meeting on June 7 will include an hour-long seminar program offered by the state attorney general's office. The meeting will be held at the Townside at the Savoy on Front Street at 7:00 p.m. Other possible topics for discussion were considered at the last meeting. After the June meeting, the other meetings will be held at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center.

#### **Rules**

Mr. Long reported that the committee is working on an ordinance that addresses outdoor furnaces. The May 19<sup>th</sup> meeting will be rescheduled since Mr. Long has surgery scheduled for that day.

Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2010-3. The ordinance follows:

#### **PINEKNOTTER PARK BASEBALL FIELD**

##### **Section 1. Permit required; fee.**

Any group wishing to reserve the use of a baseball field in Pineknott Park ("Baseball Field") shall first obtain a permit for reserved use. A group shall complete an application for a permit for reserved use of a Baseball Field and return the application to the Borough Secretary. The application

shall be accompanied by payment of an application fee of twenty dollars (\$20), which fee shall be paid to the Borough Secretary simultaneously with submission of the application for the permit for reserved use of Baseball Field.

**Section 2. Issuance of a permit.**

Upon receipt of a completed application for a permit for use of a Baseball Field and the application fee required by Section 1 above, the Manager as defined in Section 4 shall issue a permit for use of a Baseball Field within six (6) days. The permit shall be valid, unless revoked by the Borough, through December 31 of the year issued.

**Section 3. Reserved Use.**

Each group that obtains a permit may request reserved use of a baseball field. Reserved use shall entitle the group to exclusive use of a Baseball Field during the designated reserved time.

**Section 4. Manager.**

Borough Council may appoint a manager of the Baseball Fields (the "Manager"). The Manager shall have authority over the use of the Baseball Fields. The Manager shall be in charge of designating reserved use time for groups. The Manager shall have the authority to prohibit or revoke a group's use of the Baseball Fields.

**Section 5. Schedule for Reserved Use.**

Each group desiring reserved use of a baseball field shall submit a request to the Manager. The request shall designate the dates, time, field and intended use. The Manager shall set the schedule for the reserved use of the Baseball Field in a manner equitable to all groups that have submitted requests between January 1<sup>st</sup> and March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year. All requests received after March 31<sup>st</sup> shall be handled based upon remaining availability on a first come, first served basis.

**Section 6. Non-reserved Use.**

Any group or individual may utilize the Baseball Fields on a first come, first served basis during times the Baseball Fields have not been reserved for use by a group with a valid permit. A permit is not required for use of the Baseball Fields during non-reserved times. The Borough and/or the Manager may require a group or individual to vacate a Baseball Field that has been reserved for another group. Any individual that refuses to vacate a Baseball Field, after being directed to by a Borough representative or the Manager, shall be considered a trespasser and subject to the penalties for trespassing.

**Section 7. Rules and Regulations.**

All use of the Baseball Fields must be done in accordance with all Federal, State and local laws, ordinances, resolutions, regulations and any rules issued by the Manager. Failure to comply with any of the above shall subject an individual and/or group to removal from the Baseball Fields and/or the revocation of their permit. A group is responsible for all individuals it allows to utilize a Baseball Field during their designated reserved use time.

**Section 8. Use of Lights**

All individuals and groups desiring to utilize the lights located on the Baseball Fields must obtain tokens from the Borough. The lights will be controlled by a token operated machine. The Borough may change, by resolution, from time to time, the rate to be charged for a token.

**Section 9. Disputes.**

All disputes concerning the use of the Baseball Fields shall first be brought to the Manager for resolution. If the matter is not resolved by the Manager, the dispute shall be submitted in writing to Borough Council. Borough Council will not consider any matters not submitted in this manner.

Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Long, council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2010-4 as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA AMENDING CHAPTER 58 "VEHICLE AND TRAFFIC", BY AMENDING SUBSECTION 58-15 B AND ADDING SUBSECTION 58-31 C.**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough Council of Northumberland, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania (the “Borough Council”) desires to amend the Borough’s regulations on parking on legal Holidays; and

**WHEREAS**, Borough Council desires to establish and clarify that the regulations and prohibitions contained in Sections 58-5 and 58-30 shall not apply on legal Holidays, as defined herein; and

**NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ENACTED AND ORDAINED** by the Borough Council as follows:

**Section 1.**

The Code of Ordinances of the Borough of Northumberland, Chapter 58, Vehicle and Traffic, Section 58-15 B, Definitions and Interpretation, shall be amended to read as follows:

**58-15 B.**

The term “legal Holidays” shall mean and include: New Year’s Day, Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, President’s Day, Good Friday, Primary Election Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Columbus Day, General Election Day, Veterans Day, Thanksgiving Day, Day after Thanksgiving, and Christmas Day. No other dates shall be considered a “legal Holiday”.

**Section 2.**

The Code of Ordinance of the Borough of Northumberland, Chapter 58, Vehicle and Traffic, Section 58-31 C, Enforcement on Legal Holidays, shall read as follows:

**58-31 C.**

The prohibitions on parking contained in Section 58-5 and Sections 58-30 A through C shall apply or be in effect on legal Holidays, as defined in Section 58-15 B. All other restrictions contained in Chapter 58 shall remain in effect on legal Holidays.

**Section 3.**

This Ordinance shall become effective immediately upon adoption by the Borough Council.

**Streets**

Mr. Reed reported that the Street Committee met tonight and the bids for the street paving have been received from the COG and are approximately \$20,000 less than the estimate. Mr. Reed read the list of streets scheduled for paving. The committee is recommending that some additional paving be completed on Prince Street at an estimated cost of approximately \$12,000. Upon motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council voted unanimously to award the paving bid to Meckley’s Limestone including additional paving on Prince Street from Church Avenue to Second Street at a total price of approximately \$140,762. [Note: The original low bid was for \$128,762.60 and the additional paving work is estimated to be approximately \$12,000.]

**Old Business**

1. Northumberland Riverview Cemetery Board Request

The Riverview Cemetery Board had requested a right-of-way on the unopened 7<sup>th</sup> Street above Prince Street. At the last meeting, the council had tabled the request until the Feasters could be contacted for their input. Mr. Feaster was contacted and he is in agreement with the cemetery board’s request.

Mr. Tira advised that the agreement should include a maintenance agreement. Mr. Gene Brosius requested that the council act upon the request at this meeting because the cemetery board has received grant money to pave a portion of the right-of-way and they would like to begin the work.

Mr. Wetzel made a motion to move forward with approval of the board’s request with the condition that a maintenance agreement be provided. Mr. Long seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

## **New Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Long, the council unanimously approved the payment of the bills, including the insurance bill for 2<sup>nd</sup> Street. Since the building is occupied, the insurance can be obtained through EMC and a credit has been issued by U.S. Underwriters Insurance Company. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$27,827.12; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street bills total \$665.51; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$713.32 plus the bill for the 48 lounge chairs for approximately \$1,866.
2. Mr. Rees moved and Mr. Carl seconded a motion to pay \$225 each for \$100,000 bonds for the Borough Treasurer and Assistant Treasurer. The motion includes obtaining quotes for bonds in the amounts of \$200,000 and \$300,000. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to accept a letter of resignation from Bryan Wolfe. Roll call vote was 5-1 with Mrs. Groninger casting the dissenting vote.
4. Mr. Wetzal moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to advertise the vacant council seat with applications due by May 25<sup>th</sup>. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. The United Way 2010 Day of Action is slated for June 21, 2010. Mr. Carl asked if anyone has any projects to propose. The application is due by May 7<sup>th</sup>.
6. A request for a handicapped parking space at 595 Queen Street was received from Annabelle Litchard. Mr. Rees stated that the council had decided to review the policy. The request was tabled until a policy can be determined.

Mr. Carl announced that an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues would be held at the conclusion of the meeting and no action will be taken following the Executive Session. The meeting was adjourned at 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
June 1, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

The public introduced themselves. Eleven visitors were present.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Robert Long, Stephen Reed, Frank Wetzel and Greg Carl. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Jonathan Rees was absent because he was chaperoning a school trip.

**Council Appointment**

Mr. Carl announced that the council accepted Bryan Wolfe's resignation at the last council meeting. Three residents submitted applications for the vacant council seat. They are Jim Buch, James Orner, and T.J. Fasold. Mrs. Groninger thanked the applicants for being willing to serve the community and noted that their expertise would be welcomed on the board, recognizing that Mr. Buch would be helpful with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building project and Mr. Orner would be helpful with financial issues. Mr. Buch offered to help with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street project without being appointed to the council stating that since Mr. Orner has financial expertise he may better serve as a council member. Mrs. Groninger thanked Mr. Buch for his most generous offer. Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Long, council voted unanimously to appoint James Orner to borough council.

Mayor Brosius administered the Oath of Office to Mr. Orner and he assumed a seat at the table.

**Minutes**

Mr. Wetzel moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded the approval of the minutes of May 4, 2010. All council members voted to approve with the exception of Mr. Orner who abstained.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Carl requested that everyone listens to whoever is speaking.

Mr. Luden stated that council has their backs to half the room. He suggested that the room be arranged differently.

Mrs. Bogovich asked if the minutes are posted on the web site. She was informed that they will be posted this week.

Mr. Libby announced that on July 17<sup>th</sup> an air show will be held at the Penn Valley Airport. Admission is free.

Mr. Libby requested permission to raise funds for safety equipment for the police such as cameras for the cars and traffic control devices. He would like to have a designated fund with checks made out to the Borough or Friends of the Norry P.D. Possible fund raisers include a golf tournament, trap shoot and a pig roast. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to approve the fund-raising for traffic control devices for the police department with the funds being placed in a designated bank account. Council approved unanimously.

Mrs. Bogovich asked about the next brush pick-up. Brush cleanup is set for June 7 – 9.

### **Mayor's Report**

Joshua Moyer, a senior at Penn State, is working as an intern in the police department this summer.

Chief Fink has attended a conference on Internet Crimes Against Children (ICAC). He also attended an international conference on how police departments can operate on less.

The Borough and Point Township police will sponsor the Soap Box Race in the Borough on July 3<sup>rd</sup> and the National Night Out in the Township on August 3.

The police would like to purchase twelve new parking meters from Duncan to replace those that are not working. There is money in the Parking Meter account to pay for the meters. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council voted unanimously to approve the purchase.

Mayor Brosius sent thank-you notes to the SUN Vo-Tech School for building cabinets for the Savidge Community Room at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Building and to Kay Glass, a former resident of Northumberland who now lives in Florida, for fulfilling her pledge of \$1,000 for the renovations at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Building.

Pineknotted Days will be held from July 4 through July 9. The craft day is July 5<sup>th</sup>. Volunteers are always needed.

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

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that two complaints have been received about the high grass at the vacant property at 346 Water Street. This property is in foreclosure. Mr. Tira advised that the Borough enforce the ordinance by notifying the property owner and posting the notice on the property. If the property owner does not comply, fine the property owner, have the grass cut, and put a lien on the property. Mr. Ruane stated that there are several other properties in the Borough that are vacant due to foreclosures. Although the residents have moved out, they are still listed as the owners on record at the courthouse.

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

Mr. Slodysko informed the council that the first brush drop-off was conducted last Thursday and thirty people brought brush. The Recycling Center will be opened for brush drop-off from 3:00

to 6:00 p.m. on the last Thursday of the month through August. The annual brush pick-up will be held next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, following the no parking ordinance. The water company did another quick repair on Prince Street. It may be another few weeks until the permanent paving is done.

Mr. Luden discussed work that is being done by the PHEAA students at the Pineknotted Park ballfield.

Mr. Buch asked why the Borough is using Borough workers to cut grass instead of subbing the work out. Mr. Slodysko did obtain a price from one contractor that was much more than he expected.

Mr. Slodysko told the council that the Borough's municipal representative from PennDOT would be coming tomorrow to prepare the bid specifications for the curbing on Sixth Street. He requested that the council approve advertising the project with the bid proposals due on June 29 and opened that evening. Mr. Reed so moved. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Council approval was unanimous.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

The committee will meet on June 14 at 7:00 p.m. This new time will be advertised.

#### Finance

The audit report has been completed and should be available to council this month. Patricia Young will attend the June 29 council meeting to answer any questions. The next committee meeting is scheduled for July 27 at 7:00 p.m. to review the 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter of 2010.

#### Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that the council will be discussing personnel issues and grievances in the Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that the committee would meet on June 15<sup>th</sup>. The Crime Watch Committee will meet June 7 at 7:00 p.m. at the Townside at the Savoy. A program about crimes against the elderly, run through the Auditor General's office, will begin at 7:30.

Chief Fink stated that there is a concern with vandalism at Pineknotted Park and at the Sea Scout Dock. Signs have been posted, but they have been removed. The police have patrolled the area. Council discussed ways to limit access to the area.

Mr. Long moved to install a chain and reflective signs to close off the ballfield from dusk or the end of the last game to dawn. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Mr. Wetzel noted that the area of Hanover Street near Fourth Street is dark due to the street light being above the trees. He requested that the street department trim the trees.

## Rules

Mr. Long said that the Rules Committee will meet on June 16 at the advertised time. Signs and outdoor furnaces are topics for discussion. Mr. Carl requested that the committee review the ordinances about sidewalks being cleared of branches growing over them and ground covering encroaching on them.

Streets - No report.

## Emergency Services

Mr. Troup asked if the Fire Department ordinance has been reviewed. Mr. Long moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded a motion to advertise the Fire Department ordinance. Discussion ensued. Motion passed unanimously.

## Fire Chief Report

Mr. Troup reported that in the past month, the department responded to three structure fires, two in the Borough and one in the township. There were no accidents or injuries.

## Old Business

1. Mr. Luden thanked the Borough Council for their support for the Pineknott Park ballfield, adding that everything is running smoothly.
2. Mr. Tira has prepared the maintenance agreement for the right-of-way requested by the Riverview Cemetery Board. It has been signed by the Cemetery Board and will be presented for approval at the June 29<sup>th</sup> meeting.

## New Business

1. Mr. Long moved to approve the payment of the bills. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The vote was unanimous to approve the payments. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$28,552.45; Norry Playground Fund bills total \$73.58; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$4,870.88.
2. Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Long, council voted unanimously to approve the transfer of \$12,166 of the Recreation Tax to the Liberty Splashland account.
3. The Planning Commission will meet on June 24 at 7:00 p.m. to review the Verizon cell tower plans.

Mr. Carl announced at 8:25 p.m. that the council would adjourn for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The council meeting may or may not be reconvened for action.

[Note: Meeting was not reconvened.]

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
June 29, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Judith Groninger, James Orner, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Solicitor; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilman Robert Long was absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the minutes of June 1, 2010. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Orner, Mr. Reed, Mr. Wetzel and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Rees abstained.

**Bid Opening**

Mr. Carl opened the bids that were received for the installation of curbing and handicapped sidewalks. The bids were as follows: McBryan Contracting - \$16,266; Lytle's Concrete Construction - \$24,865; G & R Charles Excavating LTD - \$27,968.49; HRI, Inc. - \$59,132. Discussion ensued. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the council voted unanimously to award the bid to McBryan Contracting for \$16,266.

**Public Comment**

The ten visitors present introduced themselves.

Mr. Steve Cimino asked a question about whether sidewalks are included in the bid for curbing and handicapped ramps. Mr. Slodysko responded that the bid is for curbing and the handicapped ramps at the crosswalks, not for sidewalks in the block.

Mr. Doug Walter commented on the noise in the Borough created by motorcycles and trucks. He has contacted the EPA and several senators. Mr. Walter learned that in order for the police to arrest someone for creating loud noises, the state laws require that the decibel level be measured. He suggested that the Borough could purchase the device jointly with Point Township. Chief Fink stated that the \$1,200 machine is a hand-held unit. Costs are also incurred in having the device calibrated. While new vehicles must meet the acceptable decibel levels, vehicle owners can modify the vehicles to create louder noise. Mr. Walter stated that he was told the fine for exceeding the acceptable decibel level would be \$100. It was explained that the Borough does not receive the entire amount of the fine, but a percentage of the fine. The example given was that the Borough receives one half of the fine for a speeding ticket and no portion of the additional fees that are assessed. There is no money in the current budget to purchase the device. The Finance Committee will consider the purchase of the device for the 2011 budget.

Mrs. Fran Bogovich requested that the ordinances and committee lists be included on the borough website. She was informed that the Borough Code Book is online which includes the codified ordinances. The ordinances and committee lists will be posted. Mrs. Bogovich asked that the high weed ordinance be enforced on the hill. Mr. Ruane stated that he will check on the properties and send letters if warranted. Discussion ensued. Mr. Tira advised that letters must be sent to property owners before citations may be issued.

Mr. Matt Farrell asked if the Borough is considering an ordinance on burning. He was told that the Borough had banned burning several years ago.

Mr. Farrell also recommended that the council approve the request that would be forthcoming on the Riverstock Triathlon.

Mr. Adam Klock asked how it has happened that the budget has gone over-budget for three years for internet website development and consulting fees. Mr. Rees stated that the budget was not necessarily over-budget. Other services are also budgeted under contracted services. Mrs. Groninger stated that the council was aware that a new website was being created, a website that was going to bring in money. Mr. Jim Troup questioned why the part-time office employee discovered the problem when the full-time office employee did not. Mr. Carl stated that he did not wish to comment on the subject at this time. Ms. Diane Petryk asked if it is Borough policy to sign checks made out to oneself. The Borough Secretary replied that the auditor has stated that this practice is not unusual. Ms. Petryk asked the auditor's name and was told that the current auditor is Pat Young. Mr. Tira noted that comments may not be made that may relate to pending criminal charges.

Mr. Troup asked if there would be someone available soon to report at the council meetings on the Sewer Authority. Mr. Carl stated that Jim Orner will be the Borough's representative to the Sewer Authority. Discussion ensued.

### **2010 Riverstock Triathlon - Mark Cox**

Mr. Cox reported that sixty-eight people participated in 2009 triathlon event. Mr. Cox recognized the Northumberland Police Department and the Northumberland Fire Police for their assistance at the triathlon. He also presented a framed picture and commemorative medal to the Borough Council. This year, the committee anticipates 300 participants. The 3-day event is scheduled for August 27 to 29 with a concert at the Shikellamy Lookout on August 27, an Expo at the marina on August 28, and the USAT-sanctioned triathlon on August 29. The run part of the triathlon is routed, in part, through the streets of Northumberland. Mr. Cox requested a letter of approval from the Borough for the committee to present to PennDOT. The Riverstock Triathlon committee will provide a certificate of insurance to the Borough.

Mr. Wetzel moved and Mr. Carl seconded the motion to provide a letter to approve and concur with the plans for the Riverstock Triathlon on August 29, 2010. Roll call vote was unanimously approved.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting for an Executive Session at 7:52 p.m. to discuss personnel and negotiation issues. The meeting was reconvened at 9:05 p.m. No action was required.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius stated that help is needed for setting up for Pineknotters' Days and to man the Bingo stand. She thanked all the people who make this celebration possible.

The soapbox race is in its eleventh year this year. With that in mind, Mayor Brosius recognized Tim Fink. She stated that Tim is not only an excellent police officer, but he volunteers hours of his time for events in the Borough. She presented him with the following Mayoral Certificate of Excellence:

"Awarded to Timothy A. Fink

IN recognition of his volunteer spirit that has been demonstrated by his involvement with numerous community organizations. He re-established the soap box race in 1999, he initiated and is instrumental in keeping History Day and the Corn Fest alive. And

IN recognition for his accomplishments as a Northumberland Police Officer since 1995: He has distinguished himself as the instructor for both the D.A.R.E. Program and in Firearms Qualification for the Borough. As Chief since 2004, he has adopted the following police programs: The Neighborhood Crime Watch, "a child is missing" program that he was the first in the area to initiate. He has organized the ICAC (Internet Crimes against Children) program for the entire Northumberland County."

Chief Fink was congratulated on his accomplishments.

Mrs. Groninger noted that there had been a break-in at Pineknott Park. She asked if the police are patrolling that area. Chief Fink replied that the officers on duty patrol the park and had patrolled the park the evening of the break-in. Mr. Reed suggested that a camera be posted at the concession stand. Other options were discussed.

Mayor Brosius read a letter that was sent from Nottingham Village to Darvin Straub commending and complimenting the people who work at the Recycling Center on Saturday mornings. Mayor Brosius added her thanks to the volunteers.

Mayor Brosius thanked Terry Miller for donating flowers that were planted at the King Street Park Gazebo and Girl Scout House; Ann Roll for donating, planting and watering flowers in the downtown; and Gene Brosius for maintaining the landscaping at the railroad underpass.

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

Mr. Tom Slodysko stated that the college students and casual employee are working well this summer in the absence of the regular employees. The crew will be installing the storm drain on Sixth Street.

Signs for Pineknott Park were discussed. A sign is being made that states, "closed to motor vehicles" to be placed on the chain across the road to the ball field. The chain is to be opened for the ball games. Chief Fink stated that the Sea Scout Dock is still a concern with teens swimming and riding bikes off the dock. If the Borough takes steps to prevent people from using the dock, the liability is reduced. It was suggested that the supervisor obtain cost estimates to remove the dock and check with DEP for requirements. Mr. Tira noted that by removing the SeaScout Dock, the dangerous condition would be removed.

Mr. Slodysko requested permission to use the Borough pick-up truck to pick up a chicken roaster for the Corn Festival. No objections were stated.

Mr. Slodysko noted that funds were budgeted for street signs. This year more money was spent for street signs, such as stop signs and parking signs so less money is available to purchase the street name signs.

The street department has sprayed the curbing for weeds. The downtown sidewalk area will be weeded tomorrow.

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

No report

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Mr. Orner reported on the meeting that was held Monday. The flow meter was installed on the island in Upper Augusta Township. The old meter had not been working since September. The authority has submitted the back state payroll taxes. As part of the state amnesty program, the penalties were eliminated and the amount of interest was reduced by half. Bill Roll has completed his work and is turning the information over to Steve Slaton to negotiate with the IRS. To ensure checks and balances, the Authority is reviewing the bank statements monthly.

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

The Emergency Services Board had submitted an ordinance to be acted upon by council. Upon motion by Mr. Carl, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance 2010-5, Fire Department Ordinance.

### **Fire Chief's Report** – no report

### **New Committee Assignments**

Mr. Carl stated that the council has been informed of the new committee assignments.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

Mr. Carl stated that the committee met on June 15. The 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building was discussed. The police space will be ready shortly. A decision regarding the move will be made at a later date.

Mr. Carl reported that attendance at Liberty Splashland has increased this summer by 700 people over last year at this time.

Mr. Reed reported on the Farmer's Market. Two vendors are in the park each Friday afternoon and Saturday morning. Several others have made inquiries. Interested parties should contact Mr. Reed.

#### Finance

Mr. Rees stated that the meeting has been rescheduled for July 13 at 7:00 p.m. The new date and time will be advertised.

#### Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that two letters for employment were received from two people. Letters informing them that the Borough is not hiring at this time will be sent.

## Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that the Crime Watch committee would not meet in July. The next meeting will be on August 2<sup>nd</sup>. The committee is reviewing the sidewalk ordinance. Handicapped parking spaces were discussed. The committee will meet on July 20<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

## Rules

The committee is reviewing an ordinance on outdoor furnaces. The committee is also considering a policy for handicapped parking spaces.

## Streets.

Mr. Reed stated that the committee is considering painting parking stalls on certain streets to be more efficient. Mr. Tira advised that an ordinance may be required to enforce this. The committee will also review the condition of the streets. The committee will not meet in July due to Pineknotters' Days.

Mr. Carl presented pictures depicting where the swim team would like to erect a block storage area inside the pool area, next to the bathhouse. Mr. Carl added that the swim team would build the building, and if they disband, it would become the property of Liberty Splashland. Mr. Tira advised that a written lease agreement should be approved. Mr. Carl added construction would not begin until after the pool closes this season. Mr. Tira will draw up the lease agreement.

Mayor Brosius thanked National Beef for providing volunteers for the United Way's Days of Action on June 21<sup>st</sup>. The volunteers painted the janitor closets in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center.

## Old Business

1. Upon a motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the council unanimously approved the Riverview Cemetery Right-of-Way Maintenance Agreement.

Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Carl, the council voted unanimously to extend the council meeting by fifteen minutes.

2. Mr. Carl moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion to adopt Resolution F-2010. This resolution regarding the refinancing of the mortgage for the Northumberland Housing Corporation was unanimously approved and is as follows.

### **"RESOLUTION F-2010**

#### **RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA**

**WHEREAS**, the Borough of Northumberland ("Borough") has an Agreement with the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation ("NBHC") dated June 18, 2002, which provides that NBHC shall make annual payments as provided in said Agreement, the first payment of which shall be made within ninety (90) days after the date of the completion of NBHC's annual audit of the year following the year that the construction loan mortgage taken by the NBHC in connection with the Steele School project has been paid in full (page 4 of said Agreement); and

**WHEREAS**, the maturity date for the original Steele School construction loan financing is August 1, 2023; and

**WHEREAS**, First Columbia Bank and Trust Company has offered to refinance the existing loan at an interest rate of 4.2% which is substantially less than the interest rate which NBHC is paying under its existing loan to finance construction of the Steele School; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the intent of the Board of the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation to make payments on the refinanced loan of \$10,300 per month, and if NBHC is financially able to make the said payments, the loan would be paid on or about August of 2022, one year earlier than the present projected maturity date; and

**WHEREAS**, it is the purpose of the NBHC Board to pay less interest as a result of its refinancing and pay off its Steele School construction loan sooner, and the natural result if the NBHC is able to make payments as stated above would be that the Borough of Northumberland would begin to receive payments under its Agreement with NBHC one year sooner; and

**WHEREAS**, First Columbia Bank and Trust Company is requiring the Borough's written Agreement that, "it will defer payment requirements of any obligation until the debt herein contemplated is paid in full."

**IT IS THEREFORE RESOLVED** by the Council of the Borough of Northumberland to continue to agree that it will defer payments from NBHC as provided by the Agreement of June 18, 2002 until ninety (90) days after the date of the completion of NBHC's annual audit of the year following the year that the refinanced mortgage loan taken by NBHC with First Columbia Bank and Trust Company has been paid in full; and

**IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED** to authorize the Borough Council President and the officers of the Council of the Borough of Northumberland to execute any and all documents necessary to implement or communicate this Resolution.

**ATTEST:**  
Janice Bowman,  
Borough Secretary

**ADOPTED** this 29th day of June, 2010.  
Greg Carl, Council President

Passed this 29th day of June, 2010.  
Gretchen Brosius, Mayor"

### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Groninger moved and Mr. Rees seconded the motion to approve payment of the bills. Discussion ensued. The motion was unanimously approved. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$18,462.21; Parks and Recreation bills total \$1,353; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$18,393.82.
2. The SU Give event (Susquehanna University: Get Into Volunteer Experiences) is scheduled for August 28. A response is requested by July 2<sup>nd</sup> with locations and activities planned for the volunteers.
3. Mr. Tira stated that since no bids had been received for the Borough Building, it could be listed by a realtor for sale. Council requested that realtors be contacted for information about listing the former Borough Building for sale. They asked that a proposed market value and a commission rate be obtained. An appraisal had been conducted last year.

Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
July 20, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Robert Long, James Orner, and Stephen Reed. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Solicitor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilmen Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel were absent.

**Approval of minutes of June 29, 2010**

Upon motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Orner, the council approved the June 29, 2010 minutes with a vote of 3-0-1 with Mr. Long abstaining since he was not present at the meeting.

Council member Judith Groninger arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Fourteen visitors introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Ms. Fran Bogovich presented a list of streets on the hill that do not have street signs. She suggested that council members take a walking tour through the Borough to see what needs to be done throughout the town.

Ms. Runyan asked if the council has reviewed the sidewalks in the Borough. Mr. Carl stated that the various committees will be meeting to discuss the ordinance that addresses sidewalks. The Streets, Rules, and Public Safety Committees will review the ordinance. Ms. Runyan requested that the intersection at Fifth and Wheatley be addressed first. Mr. Carl said that if an ordinance is required, it would be done after all the issues are reviewed.

Ms. Diane Petryk asked who is responsible for the fire station where people have to walk in the road. She was informed that it is the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Fire Company. Mr. Cimino, a member of this company, asked if the issue would be discussed at a Public Safety meeting, noting that he would not like to see people walk in front of the fire company. He added that people should walk on the sidewalks on the other side of the street for safety reasons.

Carl Libby reported that over 10,000 people attended the air show at the Penn Valley Airport. He thanked the council for their support of the airport.

Misty Aleta asked about parking vehicles on the yellow line near an alley. She said that while the police ticket vehicles that are in violation of the "no parking" signs, vehicles that are parked along the yellow line on the opposite side of the street are not ticketed. Chief Fink said that if she sees a violation, she should contact the police department. He will also tell the officers to check the vehicles parked at intersections when they are patrolling.

### **Auditor's Report**

Patricia Young, a certified public accountant, provided the Borough with the audited financial statements for 2009. She informed the council that she also filed the annual report to the state Department of Community and Economic Development. Ms. Young provided a letter with suggestions for reviews on improving controls. Those include providing bank statements for review, dollar limits for any one transaction, and additional documentation for internet purchases. She noted that a number of these controls have already been implemented. She responded to questions about procedures for controls for people handling money at special events, recommending that several people count the money and check to see that the amount deposited is the same. When asked how long she has audited the Borough's accounts, she responded for five or six years. When asked if she noted any questionable transactions, Ms. Young explained that she does not immediately assume misappropriations of funds when she notes questionable transactions. Other possible reasons could be incomplete or missing documentation. When questioned about transactions for the website, she explained that she saw that the Borough's website had undergone considerable change and that the amount spent was not unusual for a website similar to the Borough's. Ms. Young explained that she looks to see that the financial numbers adequately reflect the transactions that have occurred. She does not review every transaction, but reviews samples. When asked if someone should sign a check made out to himself, she stated that she does not normally recommend that it should not be permitted, adding that there are a number of other ways to ensure controls, one being that two signatures are required on each check. Another is by reviewing the bank statements. When asked what financial information is available, Ms. Young responded that the Borough uses Quick Books and that the Borough Secretary could print out any information that is requested. Mr. Tira added that while the information is available to the public, account numbers would be redacted for security purposes. Ms. Young stated that by having adequate controls in place, the chance of misappropriation of funds is reduced. It was also noted that invoices are available at the council meetings for the council's review should any questions arise. Mrs. Groninger thanked Ms. Young for her recommendations. Ms. Young noted that she speaks to the Borough Secretary throughout the year and has a very good working relationship with all the office staff personnel.

Mr. Carl moved to accept the audit. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The Penn Vest loan amount will be revised to the actual amount, which is less than that noted in the audit. Roll call vote was unanimous to accept the audit.

### **Mayor's Report**

Chief Fink requested that another part-time officer be hired. He was told that he had previously been given permission to hire two additional part-time officers at his discretion. Only one person had been hired thus far.

Fire Police – Tom Croft has agreed to serve as a member of the Fire Police. Mr. Tira reviewed the ordinance which stipulates that the Fire Police Captain is to see that a background check of the new member is done after which the council appoints him to the position.

Mayor Brosius thanked the Pineknotted Committee and all the volunteers who helped in any way to make this year's event possible. She thanked Bob Long and Jim Orner for manning the BINGO stand during Pineknotters' Days. Over \$500 was raised for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center. She also thanked Bob Long for setting up the tent at the playground to provide shade.

Mayor Brosius thanked the Anselmo Trust for providing funds for another successful Kids Krafty Korner. Twenty-seven children were registered for the weekly sessions with an average of twenty present each of the six weeks.

The volunteers who helped at the Soapbox Race were thanked. Mayor Brosius noted that the Northumberland and Point Township Police Departments were among those who volunteered at the event.

National Night Out will be held in Point Township on August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Northumberland Police will be on hand to help with the event which is sponsored annually by the Point Township Police Department.

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

Mr. Slodysko is on vacation. In his absence, Mr. Paul Ruane reported that the curbing work is completed on Sixth Street.

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

Mr. Ruane informed the council that the mortgage company has cut the grass at 346 Water Street. Notices have been sent to other property owners. Mrs. Bogovich asked if the property owners on the hill have been notified to cut the grass. Mr. Ruane responded that he has told the property owner about cutting the grass. He added that he will check the property.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Mr. Orner reported that the authority will meet at 4:30 p.m. on Monday at the Sewer Authority.

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

No report. The next meeting is set for August 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

### **Fire Chief's Report - No report**

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Community Development**

Mr. Carl stated that the committee met last week.

It was noted that the signs that were posted at the Sea Scout dock were removed within 24 hours after they were posted. Mr. Tira stated that since the Borough has taken reasonable steps to prevent any problems at the Sea Scout dock area, the Borough's liability is reduced. He also stated that this council is acting in a responsible manner.

The committee recommended that the police department be moved to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building once their temporary offices are ready. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Carl, the council approved that the police move to the new offices by August 30<sup>th</sup>.

Realtors have come through the Borough Building at 221 2<sup>nd</sup> Street and will provide information to council by the August meeting for listing it for sale.

Plans have been obtained for a dual heating system for the Savidge Room in the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center. Mr. Long moved to finalize the specifications and advertise for bids

with a due date of 4:00 p.m. on September 7, 2010, to be opened at the council meeting that evening. Discussion ensued. A bid bond of 10% is required with the bid and a performance bond is required by the successful bidder. The council reserves the right to reject all bids. Council approved the motion unanimously.

Mayor Brosius requested that the council consider changing the scope of work for the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps to include renovation to the Savidge Room at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center. The council agreed with the request.

#### Liberty Splashland

Mr. Carl received a request from the swim team for permission to erect a permanent shed at the pool. The swim team will pay for the supplies and erect the structure. Mr. Tira has drawn up a lease agreement that is rent-free to the swim team. Copies will be provided to the council for approval at the next meeting.

Mr. Carl announced that he has learned from Kim Best that the Northumberland County Commissioners are planning to grant \$40,000 to the Susquehanna Valley Visitor's Bureau for tourism which will be given to Liberty Splashland for installation of the bowl slide. Mr. Carl noted that the pool has been having an outstanding season.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Mr. Carl has spoken with three engineers about the design for the construction of the bowl slide. Coukart & Associate's estimate was \$11,888 for design of the foundation, modification of the columns, design of the receiving pool, design of the stair tower and platform, and the topographic plan of the slide area. Mr. Carl added that Mr. Coukart told him that if the actual cost for the plans is less, the Borough's cost will be less. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Long seconded the motion to accept Coukart & Associate's proposal of \$11,888 for engineering services for the design work. The motion was approved with a vote of 4-0.

#### Finance

Mr. Carl stated that the finance committee met last week to review the budget to date. The next meeting will be on September 15 at 6:30. At that time the committee will begin the expense budget for 2011.

Mrs. Groninger returned at 8:43 p.m.

#### Personnel

Mr. Tira stated there are personnel issues to discuss in Executive Session at the end of the meeting.

#### Public Safety

A Crime Watch Committee meeting will be held on August 6 at 7:00 p.m.

#### Rules

Mr. Long stated that the committee would meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m.

Outdoor burners, sidewalks, and other topics will be on the agenda.

#### Streets

Mr. Reed reported that the committee is in the process of conducting a long-term study of the streets and painting lines for designated parking spaces. The committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on August 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### Old Business

1. Friends of Norry P.D. are selling tickets for the 1st Annual Trap Shoot & Pig Roast Fundraiser. The fundraiser is scheduled for Sunday, October 17th, 2010, at the Northumberland Gun Club. The proceeds will be used to purchase safety equipment for the Northumberland Police Department.

#### New Business

1. The list of bills to be paid was presented. A bill from Valero for gasoline was added. Payment to Mayor Brosius for \$300 for supplies for Kids Krafty Korner was also added to the bill list. The Anselmo Trust has provided the \$300 funding for the program to the Borough. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Council voted unanimously to approve payments. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$39,221.82 plus the Valero bill; Parking Meter account bills total \$546.57; Parks and Recreation account bills total \$233.92; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$14,231.46.

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss personnel at 8:51 p.m. No action is anticipated.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**August 3, 2010**

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Judith Groninger, James Orner, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Randall Sees, standing in for Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Tom Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Clifford Kriner, Police Sergeant; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

**Verizon Wireless Tower**

Mr. Rich Williams, attorney for Verizon Wireless, requested approval from the council for the plans for the wireless tower to be erected at Pineknottter Park. Mr. Stauffer explained the proposal of a 150-foot monopole on a 50 x 50 foot parcel of ground adjacent to the railroad, a 11.5' x 30' equipment shelter on an elevated platform, and a 4' x 10' elevated platform for a propane tank for an emergency generator. The compound will be surrounded by a fence. An access road will be constructed to the site. The unmanned facility will be visited bi-monthly by a service technician for routine maintenance. The tower will have a non-reflective galvanized steel finish. A gate will be installed with landscaping at the sides to prevent anyone from going into the area. Several handouts were provided to the council. They include the Interference Analysis for Proposed Telecommunication Facility, the Radio Frequency Design of Proposed Communication Facility, the Site Inventory, PA Bureau of Aviation Screening, the Electromagnetic Emissions Analysis, and the Federal Communications Commission wireless Telecommunications Bureau's Radio Station Authorization for Celco Partnership. These documents will be included in the Borough's minute book and are on file at the Borough Office. It was explained that this facility will provide stronger coverage for Northumberland residents and for people traveling along the Borough streets and state highways. Positioning the tower in the valley insures service to the valley and does not interfere with the other towers in the area. The facility will not be lighted. Council questioned why the facility is called "North Sunbury". It was explained that the name was determined before the actual site was chosen and that it is complicated to change the name. When asked if any other wireless carriers would be using the tower, Mr. Jim Rodgers responded that if this should occur, Verizon would lease tower space to the company and the Borough would negotiate a lease for ground space with the company.

Mr. Carl moved to accept the plans for the Verizon Tower at the Pineknottter Park location with the stipulation that the company erect a gate on the access road with trees or shrubbery planted on both the sides of the gate, as recommended by the Borough's Planning Commission. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. The roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

**Public Comment**

The members of the public introduced themselves.

Tamara Runyan stated that she was handing out copies of a petition that will be filed tomorrow at the Borough Office. She stated that this way it cannot be put under the carpet and nothing done about it. She said it concerns the property at "409 King and Fifth Streets" where sidewalk

needs to be put in up to the edge of the property. She would like this property to be looked at and something done about it. She noted that she will be presenting more petitions in the future. Mr. Carl replied that she is welcomed to do so and that the committees would be reviewing the sidewalks in town. Ms. Runyan stated that she wants to have something done and the one that she wants done most of all is the one on Fifth Street up to Wallace Avenue. She added that this might get it started. Mr. Carl said that the last process took seven years to complete so it is not something that, once started, can be done in a few months. She was also told that the Rules Committee had discussed sidewalks at the last committee meeting. [Note: The petition presented is for the property at 409 Water Street.]

Adam Klock asked who was present as solicitor. Randy Sees, an attorney with McNerny, Page, Vanderlin & Hall, is present in Ryan Tira's absence.

Ms. Runyan asked what the committees have done about the sidewalks. Mr. Sees stated that the committees have met, but nothing has been determined and that it takes time to revise ordinances if the committees decide to do so.

James Troup asked if the Borough received the \$40,000 from the county for the bowl slide and if the Council voted to hire an engineer for the plans. Mr. Carl replied that Coukart & Associates was hired as the engineer. The money has not been received from the county, but Mr. Carl stated that there is enough money in the pool account for the engineering fees. Mayor Brosius added that there was never a check presented at the meeting as reported in the Daily Item.

Ms. Runyan asked if action would be taken on her petition. Mr. Carl replied that the petition would be given to the committees. It was noted that the Rules Committee has reviewed the ordinance and suggested that the concerns should be reviewed by the Public Safety Committee because they think that the ordinance is in place. The issues are those that the Public Safety Committee should look at to see if there are safety issues with the exemptions that had been granted before. Mr. Reed asked if there is a list of those exempted. Mr. Wetzel replied that there are letters to those who were granted exemptions.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gretchen Brosius reported that tonight is the National Night Out. The Borough Police are joining Point Township's Police at the event in Point Township. Mayor Brosius added that this is a time to think of our police officers and the service they provide our community in protecting and defending it.

The transmission in the 2006 police car needs to be replaced. Three estimates were obtained from local garages to repair or replace it. Mrs. Groninger moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion to have the transmission replaced by Kulp's Transmission for \$2,520, installed. This transmission has a 3-year, 100,000 mile warranty. The bill is to be paid with proceeds from the Parking Meter fund. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor Brosius announced that the police department has received a \$5,500 grant from the Degenstein Foundation for the purchase of hand-held radios. Sgt. Kriner stated that he was not aware of an application for the grant. It was suggested that it could be for the Fire Police. [Note: The check was received in error and the funds were returned. The grant was awarded to the Point Township Police Department.]

Mrs. Groninger noted that last month 73 calls were made to assist other agencies. Sgt. Kriner explained that the calls are only for officer safety issues and that other agencies assist Borough police if needed.

Mrs. Groninger requested that next month's report be the same type as the report provided in June.

A background check is being completed for Tom Cropf who will be a member of the Fire Police once approved.

Lemonade Day is this Saturday and the Corn Festival is scheduled for August 14<sup>th</sup>. Help is always needed.

The Susquehanna Student volunteers are coming on August 28<sup>th</sup> to help organize the storage area for the supplies and equipment used at special events. Painting is also planned for the hallway; volunteers should contact the Mayor.

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

Mr. Tom Slodysko stated that he the brake linings on the bucket truck were repaired and he would like to sell the truck and to purchase a new, used bucket truck.

Repairs to the backhoe are estimated to cost \$2,700. It also will need new tires. Mr. Slodysko is researching whether to repair or replace this piece of equipment.

The storm water work will be completed within the next week. Meckley's will be contacted to schedule paving.

Mr. Slodysko noted that he had an exceptional group of three college students working for the department this summer. They will be leaving around August 20<sup>th</sup>.

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

Mr. Ruane reported on the activity of the code office for the past month.

Contractor permits may still be requested for commercial work, road work, and new residences.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Mr. Orner reported that the Sewer Authority met on July 26<sup>th</sup>. All board members, the engineer and Ann August were present.

The authority is considering whether to drill a well at the Queen Street pump station or run a line from the current well at the sewer plant. A new meter was installed on the line coming from Upper Augusta Township.

Mr. Carl read a letter from Cammey Beaver tendering her resignation from the board:

“Dear Borough Council Members,

I'm writing to inform you that I have chosen not to seek reappointment to the Northumberland Sewer Authority Board when my term expires on December 31, 2010.

In addition to my full-time job and involvement in other activities and organizations, I have taken on a part time job and have been trying to give 100% to all entities. As you can imagine, this is a difficult task and ultimately something or someone will always suffer. I have prioritized my commitments and have decided that other things need to take precedence. In addition, developments at the sewer authority this year have weighed heavily on me, and presented additional stress that was not needed.

I can say without a doubt the sewer authority board has always tried to do what is right for the Borough and what is fair for the residents of the borough while trying to keep rates at a minimum. I hope that my knowledge as a Pennsylvania certified wastewater operator and my employment as a wastewater facility lab technician has in some way been an asset to both the Northumberland Sewer Authority and Northumberland Borough. Thank you for the opportunity to serve.

Sincerely, Cammey Beaver.”

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Steve Cimino presented the Financial Statement and the bill for the Financial Statement from Northumberland Hook and Ladder Co., Inc.

Mr. Cimino noted that he has received copies of the current budget and asked why the money for the ordinance and the advertising for the ordinance were taken from the Fire Department budget. The Borough Secretary stated that she was told to charge the Fire Department budget for the costs since the Fire Department had requested that the ordinance be changed.

Mr. Wetzel moved and Mr. Orner seconded a motion to replace the \$672.74 to the Fire Department budget. The motion carried 5-1 with Mrs. Groninger voting no.

Mr. Cimino requested that the council appoint someone to serve as the council’s liaison to the Emergency Service Board. Mr. Carl moved to appoint Mr. Wetzel as the council’s liaison to the Board. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve.

### **Fire Chief’s Report**

Chief James Troup reported on the activity of the Fire Department for July. He said that the water company has requested that water not be used from the hydrants except for emergency use. Mr. Slodysko stated that he has been told that the one hydrant may be used to operate the street sweeper.

### **Fire Police**

Mayor Brosius noted that the Fire Police have submitted their hours for the months of May, June, and July. These volunteers totaled 116.75 man hours for the three months.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Community Development**

The committee approved advertising for the heating system for the Savidge Room at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center. The bids will be advertised twice and opened at the September 7<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

SUN Home has offered the use of their emergency generator for the traffic lights during power outages. Mr. Slodysko and Mr. Carl will install the necessary switches.

Pineknottter Park has been burglarized several times this summer. Sgt. Kriner suggested that the area between the ballfield and lower road be opened up, with the trees and brush cleaned out to eliminate hiding places. Bryan Luden added that he would like to draw up a proposal for cleaning out the area and making it available for public use. He stated that people use the dock for fishing. It was suggested that help to clean out the bank could be obtained from the Coal Township State Prison or the Northumberland County Prison. Council discussed posting signs designating when the park is opened to try to eliminate vandalism.

Council member Robert Long arrived at 8:25 p.m.

Mr. Carl read the letter from the Degenstein Foundation approving the funding of \$2,500 toward the purchase of the bowl slide.

Blinds for windows of the police offices at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building were discussed. The cost for a double-cell blind for the six windows is \$99.00 each for a total cost of \$594.00. Other options were discussed and it was determined that the Public Safety committee would discuss the options at their meeting next week.

Mr. Carl announced that the pool had a record attendance this season.

#### Public Safety

The Crime Watch Committee met last evening. Another presentation by the representative from the state Attorney General's office is planned for this fall. The date has not yet been confirmed.

The Public Safety Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on August 17<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Diane Petryk, a Daily Item reporter, clarified that \$2,500 was received from the Degenstein Foundation for the bowl slide and asked what happened to the \$41,000 from the Visitor's Bureau for the bowl slide. Mr. Carl stated that the correction in the newspaper by the editor reported that the Visitor's Bureau said that it was not part of their mission. Ms. Petryk asked why Mr. Carl had announced that he got \$41,000. He said that this was the information he had at the time, but that he never said that a check was received as had been reported in the news article.

#### Rules

Mr. Long stated that the committee discussed an ordinance for outdoor furnaces. It was determined that the next step is for the solicitor to review the ordinance.

The committee discussed the sidewalk ordinance. The committee determined that there are two issues: enforcement and exceptions from the original ordinance. The committee feels that the Public Safety Committee should review these exceptions to determine the balance between public safety and the cost of installation. The committee also discussed keeping walkways clear of vegetation and tree branches and possibly adding language to the ordinance.

Yard sale and special events signs were discussed. Currently, there are no regulations. The committee reviewed another municipality's ordinance and are recommending that an ordinance be considered that states: "Any individual, group, or corporation conducting a yard sale or special event within the Borough or outside the Borough limits or any individual, group or Corporation posting advertisements within the Borough limits for a yard sale or special event to be held inside or outside the Borough limits shall remove from within the Borough right-of-way all signs, flyers, posters, and bulletins no later than the date after the yard sale or special event. Should the yard sale or special event for any reason not be held all signs, flyers, posters, and bulletins advertising the yard sale or special event must be removed no later than the scheduled last day for the yard sale or special event."

Zoning regulations for outbuildings were considered. The committee decided to keep a list of potential issues regarding zoning laws for further review. Since amending this ordinance is more involved, the committee felt it would be best to maintain the list of possible changes and when several are warranted, begin the process of making changes.

Handicapped parking spaces are being reviewed by the Code Office. Sgt. Kriner stated that the fine should be included on the sign. The committee discussed a policy for approving handicapped spaces and is recommending that one handicapped space is permitted per church and that other requests be considered on an as-needed basis. A handicapped sign has been requested to be placed at the parking meter in front of the new doctors' office at Front Street and Wheatley Avenue. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the motion was approved unanimously.

The committee also recommended that one handicapped parking space be permitted for any church that requested one. The First Baptist Church had requested a handicapped sign several months ago and was denied. Mr. Long moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion to approve a handicapped sign for the First Baptist Church. Council approval was unanimous.

## Streets

Mr. Reed reported that the committee discussed the following topics:

Signs were purchased for alleys between Duke and Queen Streets. Stop signs and other street signs were purchased because of fading. The posts are also purchased under sign budget.

Mr. Reed would like to ride through town to identify the congested areas. There is a question on the size of a parking space. One concern is that the size of the spaces may actually reduce parking spaces.

Mr. Reed would also like to prioritize the streets to be paved by riding through town.

The curbing has been installed and the base repair was completed today. The contractor will fix the ADA ramp at 7<sup>th</sup> and Queen Streets which has too great a slope.

The paving will begin in the middle of August.

The committee discussed changing the monthly meeting time, to be announced.

Mr. Wetzel stated that someone contacted him about putting a stop sign on 7<sup>th</sup> Street at Orange Street. No action was taken.

### **Old Business**

Mrs. Groninger was approached about the Sea Scout dock and was told that people of all ages use the dock for fishing. One person has talked to the kids that are at the dock and has spent some time with them. A trash barrel has been placed near the dock and this person has requested that the kids help to keep the area clean.

Mrs. Groninger also noted that someone had wanted to put a plaque at the dock in memory of Skeet McCreary.

### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of bills. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Mr. Slodysko noted that the bill to be paid for the scaffolding should not be paid since the scaffolding was returned. The bill from Lewis Barlett Klees, PC for the Hookies' Statement of Cash Receipts and Disbursements was for \$1,924.03. Mr. Rees stated that the amount to be paid by the borough should be the amount budgeted which was \$1,100. Council voted unanimously to pay the bills with the changes as discussed. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$46,171.34; bills to be paid from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center account total \$1,419.32; Liberty Splashland bills total \$4,357.25; and Park and Recreation Fund bills total \$50.
2. Mr. Rees moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to approve donations be paid to the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library of \$1,500, the Riverview Cemetery of \$500 and the Penn Valley Airport Authority of \$600. The motion was approved unanimously.
3. Mr. Rees moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded a motion that the utility bills that are due by September 10, 2010 be paid. Council unanimously approved the motion.
4. Mr. Klock asked if the amount charged for the lights at Pineknott Park has covered the electric bills. The information was available at the meeting.
5. Mayor Brosius told the council that she had recently visited Princeton, N.J. and that when she walked through the town she noticed that sidewalks are cut out around the trees. She added that it is a common practice in order to save the trees.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel and real estate issues.

The meeting was reconvened at 9:40 p.m.

Mr. Carl moved to accept Villager Realty's proposal to market the Borough building at 221 2<sup>nd</sup> Street, at a commission rate of 5% with an asking price of \$158,000. Mr. Long seconded the motion. The council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
September 7, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Judith Groninger, James Orner, and Stephen Reed. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Robert Long, Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel were absent.

**Approval of Minutes**

Upon motion by Mr. Orner, seconded by Mr. Reed, the meeting minutes of July 20, 2010, were approved unanimously.

Mr. Groninger moved to approve the minutes of August 3, 2010. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Mayor Brosius noted that when Tamara Runyan presented her petition about the sidewalks, she stated that the address was 409 King and Fifth Street. She then changed the address to 409 Wallace Street. The correct address of the property she was referring to is Fifth Street and Sheetz Avenue. Mr. Tira corrected the name of the law firm, McNerny, Page, Vanderlin & Hall, with which he and Randy Sees are associated. A comment attributed to Mr. Tira should have been attributed to Mr. Sees. The motion and second were amended to include the changes. The minutes were approved unanimously as amended.

**Bid Opening**

Mr. Carl conducted the bid opening for the Multi-Purpose Room Heating/Cooling System. Two bids were received. Spencer Mechanical, Inc.'s bid was \$12,900; McCreary's HVAC, Inc.'s bid was \$19,598. Both bid documents include bonds. Upon motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Orner, council voted unanimously to award the bid to Spencer Mechanical, Inc.

**Technological Services – Geise Associates, LTD.**

Mr. Bill Geise thanked the council members for serving the community, adding that he had been a council member eighteen years ago. He presented a proposal to provide comprehensive technology management services to the Borough. He noted that his company does not sell hardware or software, so they remain objective in their recommendations. He explained that the company does not enter into contracts, but requests a "gentleman's agreement" that his company will be used as the sole provider of professional computer services. Rates for advanced services are \$90.00 per hour. Other services, classified as

traditional services, are \$65.00 per hour. Mrs. Groninger moved to authorize Geise Associates, Ltd. as the Borough's computer experts on an as-needed basis. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius noted that the council has the monthly police report in their packets. The move to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building for the police department is complete. Chief Fink noted his concern about the parking at the new location. Mrs. Groninger stated that she does not think the vehicles should be parked three vehicles wide. She also feels that a fence is needed to protect the children who are at the playground. A parking lot could be installed at the end of the building, but the tree will need to be removed and a time capsule is buried there. Mr. Reed suggested discussing the topic at the Community Development Committee Meeting. Mrs. Groninger suggested that additional directional signs be posted at the building so visitors can find the new police department offices.

Mayor Brosius thanked the Susquehanna University students for their volunteer work at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Building. She also thanked the volunteers who worked two Saturdays to paint the hallway at the Park Avenue end of the building. They are Carol Updegrove, Amos Zook, Gene Brosius and Eric Brosius.

Mayor Brosius noted the success of the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps this past year. One member is currently working in the construction field and another will be furthering his education. Mayor Brosius thanked Jerry Moser, the crew leader, for this guidance to this group.

Upcoming events in the King Street Park include the 9-11 Remembrance at 7:00 p.m. on September 11<sup>th</sup> and a Hymn Sing scheduled for September 19 at 6:30 p.m.

Music in the Park was postponed twice this summer due to inclement weather.

The Pineknott Fudge Run is scheduled for October 2<sup>nd</sup>. The race begins and ends at King Street Park. Mrs. Groninger moved and Mr. Carl seconded the motion to sanction the Pineknott Fudge Run on October 2<sup>nd</sup> contingent upon the submission of the proper paperwork. Motion was approved unanimously.

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

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

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the activity of the Code Office for the months of July and August, 2010.

Mr. Ruane responded to a petition that was presented to the council regarding his sidewalks. He read the following from the Borough Code, "Where there are no paved sidewalks, or the sidewalks already laid so differ from the established grade and the other adjacent pavements as to render them dangerous to life and limb or inconvenient for public travel, a verified petition may be filed with the Borough Council by five (5) or more residents of the borough stating these facts and stating that the petitioners labor under great inconvenience" by walking on his sidewalks. He informed the council that three people who signed the petition have submitted letters that they did not realize what they were signing and wanted their names

removed from the petition. Mr. Ruane presented pictures of his sidewalk noting that the only requirement not met is that they are not five feet wide where they go around a tree. Mr. Ruane stated that the people who signed the petition did not walk on his sidewalks. He had thirteen pictures of other similar sidewalks. He said that he feels that his sidewalk was singled out because of a decision he had made as code officer. Ms. Runyan responded that it was not the case. She also said that the people who asked that their names be taken off the petition were concerned about retaliation. Mrs. Groninger stated that she knows that the letters that were received from these residents were not solicited. Mayor Brosius asked why, when the petition was presented, Ms. Runyan spoke as though the petition was about the sidewalks at the Fire Company. She also asked who had written the petition. Ms. Runyan replied that she could not disclose who had written the petition.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Mr. Jim Orner reported on the August 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the authority. An Executive Session was conducted during the meeting. The profit-loss report and balance sheet were presented at the meeting. The engineer from Brinjac provided an estimate of \$2 million for the sewer upgrade which must be completed by 2012. A survey will be conducted of commercial properties in the Borough. A position on the Board will be vacated at the end of December. Adam Klock suggested the names of three people who would serve on the Board. Mr. Reed asked if the authority discussed an increase in rates for next year. Mr. Orner replied that the topic was not discussed.

### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Steve Cimino stated that the board will meet next Monday and they will be electing a Deputy Fire Chief. He noted that representatives from both companies were asked to submit a name to the Board at the meeting.

### **Fire Chief's Report**

Fire Chief Jim Troup reported on the activity of the Fire Department for the past month.

Mrs. Groninger asked how the firemen train since the water company has limited the use of hydrants to fires only. Mr. Troup explained that the department trains with water from the river and conducts training that does not require water use.

Mr. Troup also stated that he is offended by the complaint that the Hookies does not have sidewalks. He added that the volunteer group is safety conscious and does not wish to see anyone hurt when a truck is leaving the station for an emergency.

Painting red hash marks in the street in front of the fire houses was discussed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Community Development**

Mr. Carl stated that the committee members plan to meet tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. at Pineknott Park to visit the various properties in the Borough in order to develop a budget for the Finance meeting. The official committee meeting will be on Monday at 7:00 p.m. at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building.

The police have moved to their new offices.

The attendance for 2010 at Liberty Splashland was 11,527, a 40% increase over 2009's attendance.

Mr. Reed reported that the Farmer's Market was held throughout the summer. Two weeks ago the two vendors opted out. Mr. Reed said that new ideas are being sought for next year with the hope that additional vendors will participate.

#### Finance

The Finance Committee will meet next Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. at the 221 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building.

#### Personnel

Mrs. Groninger said that the committee plans to set up a meeting with the Police Chief.

Public Safety – no report

#### Rules

Since Mr. Long was not present, Mr. Carl read the proposed Council Meeting Code of Conduct. Discussion ensued. Mr. Orner explained that if comments were presented ahead of time, the council may prepare and have a response available. Mrs. Groninger felt that some people may feel restricted by having to write down their comments or questions in advance. Mr. Carl noted that some things that are brought to council could be addressed by the police, code office, or street supervisor and resolved before the meeting. The proposal was sent back to the committee for review.

#### Streets

Mr. Reed reported that he met with Bill Seigel, from SEDA-COG, about block grant funds to pave streets in the Borough. The work could include curbing, storm sewer replacement and paving. The committee will meet Tuesday, September 14, at 7:00 p.m.

#### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Carl tabled the lease for the Sunbury-Northumberland Swim Team shed for additional review.
2. Mrs. Groninger asked if the Borough has accepted SUN Home's offer of a generator. Mr. Slodysko responded that he has; however the electrical work has not been completed.
3. Thank you notes are being sent to various organizations for donations.
4. Handicapped signs will be installed at the doctor's office on Front Street and the Baptist Church. Mayor Brosius thanked Mr. Slodysko for replacing the faded sign on Priestley Avenue at King Street.

#### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of bills, including a bill for Keystone Communications for \$35.30. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion ensued.

Motion passed unanimously. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$85,482.90; Liquid Fuel bills total \$111,475.33; Parking Meter bills total \$1,825.44; Liberty Splashland bills total \$21,757.55; Park and Recreation Fund bills total \$169.95; and Norry Playground Fund bills total \$1,686.00. Roll call vote to pay the bills was unanimous.

2. Upon motion by Mr. Carl, seconded by Mr. Orner, council voted unanimously to transfer proceeds from Lemonade Day (\$712.18) from the General Fund to the Parks & Recreation Account to be earmarked for Lemonade Day.
3. Upon motion by Mr. Carl, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, council voted unanimously to approve contributions of \$1,000 to the Northumberland/Point Township Revitalization Committee and \$1,000 to the Shade Tree Fund, as budgeted for 2010.
4. The 2011 Minimum Municipal Obligations (MMO) for the uniform and non-uniform pension plans were presented to the Borough Council. No action was required.

### **Public Comment**

Matt Ferrand, WKOK news, asked about the status on the check from Northumberland County for the bowl slide for the pool. Mr. Carl responded that the details have not been worked out.

Ms. Robin Kieffer, a resident at 154 Duke Street, stated that her house has been hit four times by vehicles parking at the Star Garden. She asked what her options are as a resident to prevent vehicles from hitting her property. Ms. Kieffer explained that one problem is that the restaurant now has tables and people are eating there which reduces the available parking. The restaurant was given a license for take-out only. When the restaurant first opened, there was a "take-out only" sign posted outside the restaurant; that has been removed. Mrs. Groninger stated that the police should be called whenever her property is hit. Mr. Tira recommended that she call the code office when she sees people eating in the restaurant or to take pictures if the code officer is not available. Ms. Kieffer asked if council has considered making Park Avenue one way in this block since it is difficult for two cars to pass. Mr. Carl said that the Streets Committee could review the possibility.

Mr. Jim Troup asked if there is a rule that stipulates how many meetings council members may miss. Mr. Tira replied that there is a way to have someone impeached for failing to carry out their duties. This is a long process. He added that Northumberland's Code could have some rule that was adopted years ago. He is not aware of it, but would research it if council wished. Mr. Carl stated that the rules committee will look into the question.

Mrs. Groninger noted that two volunteer Fire Police were directing traffic at the intersection at Water and Duke Streets for thirteen hours due to an accident on Route 11 between the bridge and Shamokin Dam. Mrs. Groninger was told that the police called for PennDOT to come to close the road. According to the 911 center, it was assumed that since Snyder County had called for PennDOT, they would have also closed the road in Northumberland. However, that was not the case. The Fire Police set up barricades to prohibit vehicles from driving south on Route 11; however 27 vehicles drove around the barricade and created traffic problems. Mr. Carl suggested that the Public Safety Committee research the issue.

Mr. Carl Libby reminded the council that a trap shoot and pig roast are scheduled for October 17<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Chris Skelley asked if the crew would be picking up brush. Mr. Slodysko stated that there would not be another brush pick-up this year. They will pick up leaves later in the fall and Christmas trees in January.

Mr. Skelley asked if the council has considered other methods of street lighting such as solar-powered street lights. He presented a handout with information about the lights. Mr. Troup noted advantages for having PPL service the street lights. Mr. Skelley suggested the possibility of replacing lights in one neighborhood to make a comparison. Mrs. Bogovich suggested that solar-powered street lights could be installed in the Branchview Development which has no street lights. Mr. Carl requested that the street committee review the options.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting at 8:42 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel and contract issues. He added that the council meeting may or may not be reconvened for council action.

### **Meeting Reconvened**

Following the Executive Session, the council meeting was reconvened at 9:25 p.m. Mr. Carl announced that personnel and contract issues were discussed.

Mr. Carl moved to accept the police contract with the contingency that the charge of unfair labor practice be dropped immediately. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Mrs. Groninger stated that the council has gone back to the police a couple of times on various issues, and asked them to agree. Then there would be one more stipulation in order for them to agree. She stated that the council has agreed to everything asked of them. The police were asked to withdraw the unfair labor practice as part of the negotiations, and have refused. This is the reason for her vote. Roll call vote: Mr. Orner, Mr. Reed, and Mr. Carl votes yes; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 3-1.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**October 5, 2010**

Chairman Pro Tem Stephen Reed called the meeting to order. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Robert Long, James Orner, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Greg Carl was absent.

The thirteen visitors present introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

- History Day – Noelle Long

Noelle Long, a member of the History Day Committee, announced that the History Day Committee has decided to cease their operations after eight years of holding the event. The group began with about nineteen members and at the past meeting only four committee members were still involved. The History Day began as a way to help preserve the history of the Borough.

At their final meeting, the group had a bank balance of \$8,449.73. The committee chose to distribute the funds as follows: \$2,200 to the Priestley Chapel Associates to be used in the preservation and maintenance of their historical site; \$2,200 to the Friends of Joseph Priestley House to be used for history programs and history camp; \$500 to the Northumberland County Historical Society to be used in their administration fund; \$1,000 to the Borough of Northumberland to be used for history display cases; and \$500 to the Pennsylvania Canal Society to be used for the construction of their canal boat which will be located in Watsontown. The balance of \$2,049.53 has been given to the Northumberland/Point Township Revitalization Committee to keep in reserve until November 1, 2011. If another group of volunteers is willing to step forward and continue the History Day tradition, the money donated to the Revitalization Committee is to be used as “seed money” for the new group. If no one volunteers to resurrect the event, the Revitalization Committee may utilize the funds for maintenance of the pond in the King Street Park or for other Revitalization Committee projects. Any supplies that have been purchased by the History Day Committee are donated to the Borough to be used for other special events and activities.

The council thanked Noelle for the committee’s hard work.

- Friends of Norry P.D. – Carl Libby

Carl Libby informed the council that a number of sponsors and door prizes have been obtained for the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Trap Shoot and Pig Roast which is set for October 17 at the Norry Gun Club.

- Mr. Steve Lenig, a resident of 635 Front Street, told council that he had attended the Zoning Hearing Board meeting in September and was advised to bring this issue to the council. He feels that the volume of music at the events at the Priestley-Savidge House is a problem. He noted that the Borough Code stipulates that the music must end at 10:00 p.m. and the property owners are very considerate at cutting it off at 10:00 p.m. However, he finds the loud base noise to be a nuisance. He asked if the council has another ordinance that addresses the acceptable levels of noise. Mr. Reed informed him that the police department does not have a device to measure decibel levels. Chief Fink responded that the ordinance does not stipulate a decibel level. Another gentleman said that he has a meter on his cell phone that read the noise at 90 decibels while standing across the street. Mr. Wetzel stated that he had attended the Zoning Board meeting and that the owner of the Priestley-Savidge House said that he had not be contacted about the problem and would work with the neighbors to resolve it. Mr. Lenig stated that he feels the owners have done a wonderful job with the property and he is not opposed to the plans that they have for the other property that they purchased. Mr. Lenig read a letter from Justin and Jennifer Bartholomew who reside on Front Street and have four children under the age of 8. They feel that 10:00 p.m. on Sunday night is too late for the music to end. Mr. Ed Baker, another resident of Front Street, explained that the extra cars parked on Front Street create a difficulty with seeing the traffic when pulling out of A Street. Mr. Baker also noted that the trucks are using jake brakes and he has not seen the police patrolling the street. He feels the sign prohibiting jake brakes should be moved to make it more noticeable. Mr. Matt Strauser, owner of the Priestley-Savidge House, stated that he was unaware of the neighbors' complaints and is willing to work with the neighbors by having the d.j. lower the volume. He asked that the neighbors call him whenever they feel the music is too loud so he may address it. They should call the phone number that is on the Priestley-Savidge sign which goes to his cell phone. The placement of the loud speakers was discussed as a possibly contributing to the volume that is heard by the neighbors. Mr. Slodysko requested that Mr. Strauser call him the next time he has an event. He knows of ways to reduce the loud base noise and is willing to help.

- Mr. Forrest Walter explained that two years ago he applied for a permit to build a house. After obtaining the permit, he was informed by the bank that he was unable to obtain a mortgage because houses in alleys in Northumberland do not appraise for a high enough amount. He then decided not to build. He is requesting a refund for the permit. Mr. Ruane explained that a refund could be given for the inspection fees. This amount is included in the list of bills to be paid.

### **Meeting minutes of September 7, 2010**

Mr. Reed noted a correction to the minutes. Mrs. Groninger was referred to as Mr. Groninger. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the minutes as corrected; Mr. Orner seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Orner, and Mr. Reed voted aye; Mr. Long, Mr. Rees and Mr. Wetzel abstained.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius noted that the police report is in the council's packet.

Chief Fink stated that Bill Geise from Geise Associates has suggested a solution to repair the phone lines to the police station. Mr. Geise asked the council to authorize the use of students from the McCann School of Business to repair the lines under his instruction. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Long, council voted unanimously to approve.

Mayor Brosius noted that two remembrance ceremonies took place in September. The 9/11 services were held in the King Street Park on September 11. And a ceremony was held to honor Brett D. Swank for his ultimate sacrifice on January 24, 2005, in Iraq. On September 30<sup>th</sup>, a portion of Route 11 was dedicated as the Brett D. Swank Memorial Highway. Both ceremonies were under the direction of Paul Ruane and Dick Simpson. Mr. Ruane was commended by Representative Merle Phillips at the ceremony for his initiation of the memorial highway which was introduced to the legislature by Mr. Phillips.

Mayor Brosius thanked the firemen for the volunteer service they do for the community and also for the education they provide to the children in Northumberland during Fire Prevention Week. She said that firemen will be at the area schools tomorrow.

Mayor Brosius requested that the council consider naming Budd Allen Reader as a member of the Fire Police. He has obtained a background check. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, council unanimously approved Mr. Reader's appointment.

Mark Cox sent a thank you note to the council for supporting the Riverstock Triathlon 2010.

## **Street Supervisor's Report**

Mr. Tom Slodysko reported that he is still working without the regular crew.

The handicapped sign at the Baptist Church will be installed in the near future. The compressor has been repaired so he will be able to put a hole in the concrete to install the sign.

Mr. Slodysko stated that the leaves will be picked up once most of them have fallen.

Mr. Walter stated that he has found several bristles of the street sweeper brushes along the street. He and Mr. Slodysko discussed the sweeper operation.

Mr. Walter noted that several intersections in the Borough do not have adequate line of vision. He said that cars sometime park illegally along Fifth Street at the football field and it is difficult to see vehicles traveling up the street. Other intersections in the Borough were discussed. Mr. Troup stated it is difficult to see traffic coming up Strawbridge at the intersection with Fifth Street due to shrubbery.

Mr. Wetzel stated that someone asked him about picking up brush. Mr. Slodysko said that he has not scheduled a pickup for the fall. He and the casual employees have used the chipper to reduce the large brush pile that is at the recycling center. Mr. Slodysko noted that there is a cost to use the mulcher and Sunbury's personnel. Sunbury purchased the mulcher with a

recycling grant; the Borough and Point Township each provided 10% of the municipality cost of the grant to Sunbury with the understanding that they would be charged a reduced rate for the use of the equipment. The cost is still close to \$1,000 for this use. Mr. Wetzel stated that he feels Borough should provide the service to the residents at no charge. Mrs. Groninger recommended that \$1,000 be requested for inclusion in the 2011 budget for costs to mulch the brush.

**Code Enforcement Officer's Report** – No report

**Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Mr. Jim Orner provided council with the report of the Sewer Authority's September 27<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Steve Cimino requested that the funds be transferred to the Hookies account for the truck payment.

**Fire Chief's Report**

Chief Jim Troup reported on the activity of the Fire Department for the past month. The firemen will be visiting the schools this week during Fire Prevention Week. St. John's Nursery School, Priestley Elementary School, Northumberland Christian School and Sunbury Christian School will all be visited.

Mr. Troup said that the radio system will be changing from a low-band system to a high-band system, county-wide. The new system will be in effect in 2012.

**Committee Reports**

Community Development

The committee will meet next Monday, October 11, at 7:00 p.m.

Finance

Mr. Rees stated that the committee met last month to review expenses and will meet at 6:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20, to review income.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that a personnel issue will be discussed in Executive Session.

Public Safety

The committee will meet on October 19 at 6:00 p.m. before the council work session.

Rules

The committee meeting date is being changed since it conflicts with the Finance Committee meeting. Mr. Long stated that he would inform the council of the new date and that the meeting will also be advertised.

Streets

Mr. Reed stated that the Hookies have inquired about the possibility of the Borough vacating the unnamed alley next to their property. The Hookies have stated that they

will absorb any costs. Mr. Tira advised that the owners of the abutting properties should circulate a petition requesting that the Borough vacate the property and present it to the council. All landowners should waive any claims for damages against the Borough as part of the vacating of the property. The petition should include the property owners' names and addresses. Mr. Tira stated that a hearing would then be held by the Borough.

### **Old Business**

No old business was conducted.

### **New Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the council voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills, including \$30,000 toward the Hookies truck payment. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$51,414.59; Liberty Splashland bills total \$1,572.05; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center total \$3,311.11; and the state aid payment of \$45,287.79 to the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System.
2. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council unanimously voted to appoint Thomas Cropf as the Borough's representative to the Northumberland County Gang Committee.
3. Chief Fink requested permission to purchase a sign for the new police offices. He also asked that additional lighting be installed at the end of the building where the walkway comes from the street to the police entrance. Discussion ensued about installing a stone parking lot at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street end of the building for the police vehicles. The open pit to the basement area of the building was also an issue. Various options were considered with no conclusion.

Mr. Orner moved to purchase and install the police department sign at a cost not to exceed \$500. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Reed stated that the meeting may be reconvened following the Executive Session.

The meeting was reconvened and adjourned at 8:34 p.m. No action was required.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland  
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting  
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA  
November 1, 2010

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Vice President Jonathan Rees offered the Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Judith H. Groninger, Robert Long, James Orner, Jonathan Rees, Stephen Reed, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Streets Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mayor Gretchen Brosius was absent.

The nine visitors present introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Carl Libby thanked the Mayor and Council for their support for the Trap Shoot and Pig Roast held by the Friends of the Norry P.D. He informed them that at least \$2,500 has been raised with money still being donated. Mr. Reed and Mr. Carl thanked Mr. Libby and his group for organizing the event.

Ms. Julie Marano, a founder and co-chair of the Friends of the Shikellamy State Park, asked if the council would be interested in collaborating to obtain a college student to work as an intern in the Spring and Summer months to plan events in the Borough and for the Friends group. This would not be a paid internship. Instead, the intern would earn college credit for this work. Council members voiced support of Ms. Marano's suggestion.

Ms. Marano stated that she is also involved with the Lake Augusta Gateway Corridor Committee and noted that the topic is on the meeting agenda. She said that she supports the Borough's involvement with the committee.

Mr. Jim Troup asked about the CDBG grant that was discussed at the work session and requested clarification on how funds are to be used. He questioned if the grant is for \$63,300 how it would allow \$40,000 of Borough money to go for the slide at the pool? Mr. Carl replied that this is what the county commissioners have requested to occur. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Steve Cimino stated that he did not want his tax money to go for the slide.

**Council Meeting Minutes**

Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council voted unanimously to approve the minutes of October 5, 2010.

**Mayor's Report**

In the Mayor's absence, Mr. Carl read the following tribute into the minutes:

*"Northumberland lost a faithful volunteer and friend on October 13<sup>th</sup> when Robert Waltz passed away. Bob was a councilman and mayor. He served in those capacities for many years. Bob*

*also served on various service clubs and committees throughout the years and was named Pineknoller of the Year. The Northumberland Borough Council, Northumberland Police Department and I send our condolences to his family. The flag has flown at half-mast since his passing and we will memorialize him with a brick at the playground. He will be missed.”*

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius

### **Street Supervisor’s Report**

Tom Slodysko reported that the crew has started to collect the leaves. The work day will be extended to the end time on the “no parking” signs if needed.

Mr. Slodysko has started work on the off-street parking area for the police department.

Mr. Slodysko stated that the heating system has been installed in the multi-purpose room at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building.

The Sewer Authority will help with the televising the storm drain lines on Hanover Street. A portion of the lines had been completed. The area from Water to Front Street and partway to Second Street remains to be done.

Mr. Reed asked who decided to keep the tree at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building. Mr. Slodysko responded that he decided that it could be moved back and not be in the way of the parking area for the police. The time capsule could not be found.

Mrs. Groninger asked about the invoice for televising a pipe. Mr. Slodysko explained that it was for the sewer line that had to be replaced at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building.

### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Jim Orner provided the council with a report on the Sewer Authority meeting. He noted that an audit will not be conducted for 2009 due to the lack of financial data. The authority has received information from the IRS about the delinquent federal taxes. Insurance policy information was obtained by the Authority.

### **Emergency Services Board**

Steve Cimino reported that the Board met earlier this evening and voted to re-elect Jim Troup as Fire Chief and Brian Crebs as Deputy Fire Chief.

### **Fire Chief’s Report**

Jim Troup reported on the activity of the Fire Department for the past month.

### **Committee Reports**

Mr. Carl explained that vacancies will exist on several committees in January. Residents who are interested in volunteering should complete the application form. The list of vacancies has been published in the newsletter and is on the Borough website. They include the Appeals Board (1, 2 and 3 year terms); Civil Service Commission (6 year term); Emergency Services Board (5 year term); Fire Police (2 year term); Northumberland Sewer Authority (5 year term); Planning Commission (4 year term); Shade Tree Commission (3 year term); and Zoning Hearing Board (3 year term). Thank you letters will be sent to the committee members whose terms expire along with an application form to reapply. The information will also be placed in the Daily Item.

### **Community Development**

- Mr. Carl stated that the committee would meet next Monday at 7:00 p.m.
- The pavilion has been delivered to the playground.

- The electrical rough-in for the multi-purpose room was completed by Mr. Carl and the PCC crew. The work was approved by the inspector and the crew has started to drywall. Mr. Carl feels the room may be completed in about three months.
- Mr. Reed asked if anyone has heard anything about cleaning up the brush along the river. Adam Klock responded that they are waiting until the leaves are off the trees. He added that he is not sure what resources are available.
- Mr. Long stated that someone is interested in using the gymnasium for exercise classes and asked if the council would approve the use. Mrs. Groninger noted that the council should research whether the groups that wish to use the gym should have insurance. In the past, other groups have requested the use of the gymnasium. Mr. Wetzel suggested that the committee consider what types of groups would be interested in using the gym and what the charges should be. Mr. Carl said that the Community Development committee would discuss the request and consider the overall use of the gym.

### **Finance**

Mr. Rees reported that the committee reviewed the income side of the budget last month and on November 17<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. they will meet to balance the 2011 budget.

**Personnel** – No report

### **Public Safety**

Mr. Wetzel has received a tentative confirmation for a presentation on Identity Thefts at the 221 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building on November 29<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. The guest speaker is from the Attorney General's office. [Note: The presentation was cancelled by the Attorney General's office. It may be rescheduled at a later date.]

Mr. Wetzel said that the committee had met last month to review the petition that was presented to the council about certain sidewalks in the Borough. The committee has determined that no action should be taken at this time. There is one more property that the committee will review. The committee plans to review the ordinance to see if sidewalks should be inspected on a regular basis as opposed to whenever a violation is noticed.

Mr. Wetzel announced that the background check for Tom Cropf has been received and he may now be approved as a Fire Policeman. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council voted unanimously to appoint Mr. Cropf to the Fire Police.

Mr. Carl asked if anyone on council wished to address the sidewalks at any of the properties that were discussed at the Public Safety meeting. Since no one had any comments, the issue was laid to rest.

### **Rules Committee**

Mr. Long explained the proposed ordinance to regulate signs posted throughout the Borough for yard sales and events. The length of time to remove signs is 48 hours after the conclusion of the event. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Orner, council voted unanimously to advertise this ordinance.

The ordinance regulating outdoor wood-fired boilers was tabled for additional committee review.

The committee had revisited the policy to address meeting decorum. Two options were provided for review. Mr. Long emphasized that both versions request, but do not require, that comments be submitted to the Borough Office in advance of the public meeting. Mr. Carl explained that the reasons for submitting comments or questions in advance are to allow the council to research a

topic so they are better able to respond to the comment or question. And depending on the issue, someone other than the council may be able to answer the resident's question or resolve the issue before the next council meeting. Mr. Long moved to adopt the short version of the policy for meeting decorum. Mr. Reed seconded the motion.

Mr. Carl read the proposed policy:

*“Council Meeting Code of Conduct*

*Below is a list of expectations for all people attending council meetings in the Borough of Northumberland.*

- 1. **Respect the speaker.** When a council member, citizen, or committee representative has the floor they are to be given complete attention. They will not be interrupted. Side conversations will not be tolerated at any time during the meeting.*
- 2. **Respect for time.** We request public comments be submitted to the Borough office by close of business the Thursday prior to the meeting. Each person will be given three minutes to share their thoughts, concerns, or questions. Council will then be given an opportunity to respond. Other citizens will be given a maximum of three minutes to add additional comments. Public comment on additional agenda items will be held to a maximum of three minutes per speaker. Additional time may be granted at the discretion of the Borough Council President.*
- 3. The Borough Council President has the authority to ask those who do not follow the above mentioned policies to leave the meeting immediately.”*

Council voted unanimously to approve the Council Meeting Code of Conduct.

**Streets Committee**

Mr. Reed announced that the committee would meet at 6:00 p.m. on November 9<sup>th</sup>.

Ms. Fran Bogovich asked about the height of grates in the streets and whose responsibility it is to repair them. She was told that the storm drains are repaired before streets are paved.

**Old Business**

1. An application has been submitted to Northumberland County for funding for handicapped accessibility at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center for FFY 2011 Community Development Block Grant.

**New Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Carl, council voted unanimously to pay the bills. General Fund bills total \$55,135.47; bills to be paid from the Parks and Recreation Fund total \$100; Liberty Splashland bills total \$901.79; bills to be paid from the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center account total \$14,241.84; and Parking Meter account bills total \$91.29.
2. Mr. Carl moved and Mr. Long seconded the motion to approve the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative Agreement. Roll call vote was 6-1 to approve with Mrs. Groninger casting the negative vote.
3. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve a four-year lease with North Branch Auto for \$4,200 per year payable quarterly. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve.

4. Upon motion by Mr. Orner, seconded by Mr. Long, council voted unanimously to approve a four-year lease with A.R.E.A. Services at a rate of \$900 per month.
5. Mr. Carl moved to pay the solvency fee of \$685.60 for 2011. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote failed by 1-6 with Mr. Long casting the affirmative vote.
6. Upon motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Carl, council voted unanimously to contribute \$250 for the Halloween Parade.
7. A meeting of the Lake Augusta Gateway Corridor Study is scheduled for Wednesday afternoon at 2:00 at the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce. The Borough Secretary will attend. Council members are also invited.
8. Mr. Long moved to approve the agreement for the Community Development Block Grant of \$63,300 from Northumberland County for street repairs on Second and Hanover Streets. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Mr. Carl explained that the County has hired SEDA-COG to administer the CDBG program. Council voted 6-1 to approve the agreement with Mr. Wetzel casting the dissenting vote.
9. Mr. Long moved and Mr. Rees seconded a motion to submit applications to PennDOT for Automatic Red Light Enforcement (ARLE) grants for two projects. One is to improve the railroad underpass on Route 11 by replacing the walkway and railings, repairing the sidewalls, and installing new lighting in the area. The second application would be for funding for the downtown to replace crosswalks, street lights and trees. Over \$7,000,000 obtained through the automatic red light enforcement in Philadelphia is available for funding projects.
10. Mr. Reed asked Chief Fink what he anticipates the cost would be for the equipment that the department is interested in purchasing. Over \$2,500 has been raised by the Friends of the Norry P.D. and the estimated cost is \$5,000.
11. The General Election will be held tomorrow.

Mr. Carl announced that an Executive Session for personnel issues will be held at the conclusion of the council meeting, but no action will be taken.

Mr. Carl adjourned the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**December 7, 2010**

Vice President Jonathan Rees called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Robert Long, James Orner, Stephen Reed, and Jonathan Rees. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Gregory Carl and Frank Wetzel were absent.

The twelve people in attendance introduced themselves.

**Executive Session**

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:10 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:23 p.m.

Mrs. Groninger moved to increase the hourly rate of pay for part-time Patrolman Kevin Rushton to \$17.00 per hour. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Rees stated that this does not change the budget; the Police Chief is still required to meet his budget. Approval was unanimous.

**Public Comment**

- Mr. Ty Sees asked about why the bowl slide was not advertised. Mr. Tira replied that based on the fact that the used bowl slide was a unique item, it did not have to be bid. Mr. Sees asked why there were four checks written to pay for the bowl slide. One check on 8/6 was for \$10,000. There were three checks on the same date, 9/25, one \$10,000, one \$4,500, and one \$5,500. The Borough Secretary did not remember the reason for several checks. Mr. Sees asked if the CDBG grant money from the county has any contingencies tied to it. Mr. Rees stated that he does not think there is a legal contingency. He added that his understanding was that the county could not give the grant money specifically for the bowl slide, but could give the money for the streets. The Borough could then use the money that would have been spent on streets for the bowl slide. Mr. Sees asked where the additional \$17,552 is coming from for the street project. This amount is above and beyond the grant money. Mr. Sees stated that there is only \$13,000 budgeted for streets. Mr. Rees explained that money generated from the street tax must be used for streets while the general real estate millage may be used for anything, including street projects. Mr. Sees asked if the council had documentation that shows that the bowl slide was a one-of-a-kind. He was told that Mr. Carl had researched the purchase.

- Ms. Fran Bogovich asked why the outside lights are on all night at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building. Mr. Rees said that it would be looked into.
- Mr. Bruce Killian asked why the driveway for the police department was done in the manner it was done. He said that he had installed a driveway at his property and had followed the code to install it. He stated that there is no curb along the street at the police driveway. Mr. Reed explained that a curb will be installed. Mr. Long stated that a reason for moving the sidewalk behind the parking area was for safety purposes so pedestrians would not be walking in front of the police cars. Mr. Reed stated that it would be done to code; it is the weather that prohibits it from being done now.
- Mr. Steve Cimino stated that he is not opposed to the bowl slide as long as the purchase is done with donations. He has spoken with a person from the state about a program that will help the Borough with this project. Mr. Cimino requested that the Borough stop work on the project until contacting this person and he provided the contact information to the council. Mr. Ruane stated that the engineer has drawn up plans and the state inspector has reviewed them.
- Mr. Jim Troup agreed with Mr. Cimino about the bowl slide being a great thing, but added not with his tax money. He asked if a cost analysis was completed on the project and questioned how the Borough will be able to continue to operate it. He also asked about the increased cost in insurance. He stated that he would like to see a cost analysis by the next meeting. Mr. Rees responded that the insurance costs were itemized and the cost difference for the pool is known. The amount of money allocated to the pool in the 2011 budget has been reduced due to the increase in insurance costs.
- Ms. Kelly Carlin introduced herself. She is an intern from Bucknell University who will be working with the Friends of Shikellamy State Park, the City of Sunbury, and Northumberland to help plan community events. Ms. Julia Marano explained that because Kelly will graduate in December she is not eligible for a funding through the university; however Ms. Marano is seeking funding elsewhere. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Reed, Ms. Carlin's appointment was approved unanimously.

### **Meeting minutes of November 1, 2010**

Mr. Long moved and Mr. Rees seconded the motion to approve the minutes of November 1, 2010. Council voted unanimously to approve the minutes.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius recognized Chris Kerwin and his committee for organizing the Wreaths for Warriors Program. This is the 5<sup>th</sup> year for the program which began with the Northumberland Cemetery and has grown to include other cemeteries. She also thanked Kohl's Stoney Creek Nursery for donating their time and providing the wreaths as well as those individuals who have donated funds, including the Post 44 American Legion.

The police report is provided to the council.

Mayor Brosius requested that council vote to extend the Civil Service List for one year. Mrs. Groninger so moved. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

Mayor Brosius was asked by Jerry Moser, the PCC Crew Leader, to read the following about a Pennsylvania Conservation Crew member into the minutes:

“Greg Shiffer was a 9<sup>th</sup> grade high school drop-out, unemployed, living with friends, having a hard time paying rent. He learned PCC was starting a project in the Borough of Northumberland through the Career Link, so he applied for a position. When I (Jerry Moser, PCC Crew Leader) interviewed Greg, he was quiet and shy, but had the courage to ask for help with his future. Fast forward 10 months later; Greg had his GED, Work Keys Certificate, Fit 4 Construction Certificate, completed a basic and advanced course in welding at SUN Tech Vocational School, and got OSHA certified. Greg participated on a panel discussion at the state-wide Youth Services Academy Conference by suggesting ways to better develop services to more than 100 service providers and decision leaders in attendance. Greg got his driver’s license, moved into his own apartment, volunteers throughout his community in his own spare time all the while having perfect attendance working with PCC. Greg and his crewmembers have renovated parts of an old school building for offices for the Borough staff, code enforcement, and police department. Greg got a job with Precision Building Systems from the skills he learned while working, training with PCC. He plans to attend a school using his Americorps education award he earned while training with PCC before he gets too old. All this from a 19 year old. Well done, Mr. Gregory.”

Mayor Brosius congratulated Greg for his accomplishments, along with Jerry Moser, the PCC crew leader.

Mayor Brosius thanked those who were involved with making Santa in the Park a huge success. She thanked the Northumberland/ Point Township Revitalization Committee, the Northumberland Fire Department, the Northumberland/ Point Township Kiwanis Club, and the Joseph J. Anselmo, Sr. Trust for making Santa’s visit to King Street Park another success. The Sunbury City Band’s performance was enjoyed along with the hot chocolate and cookies. The Mayor also thanked Mark Gulliver, Bob Long and Kirk Miller for helping Santa each Friday and Saturday night through December 18<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Brosius thanked the individuals who helped to decorate the park and downtown. She recognized the Borough Crew, Tom Slodysko, Gene Brosius, Ann Roll, Eric Brosius, and Todd Kline.

#### **Code Enforcement Officer’s Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that 10 permits were issued in the month of November. He provided his report for November. Mr. Ruane noted that 150 rental inspections were conducted this year.

#### **Northumberland Sewer Authority Report**

Mr. Jim Orner reported on the Sewer Authority’s November 22<sup>nd</sup> meeting. The income statements and balance sheets were presented to the Board. He said that the IRS is still working through the delinquent federal tax withholdings. In lieu of a raise, the employees were given full health benefits. Rates for Point and Upper Augusta Townships were discussed. Michele Cope was hired as the part-time clerk. The Board is entertaining proposals from insurance companies for coverage. A pre-release impact statement has been received which states that the release date for Cindy Lark is July 4, 2011. Jack Snyder has submitted his resignation from the authority, effective December 31, 2010.

## **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Cimino asked if approval is required for a fireman to post on Facebook. Mr. Tira replied that if he is posting as a representative of the Borough, approval would be required. If he is posting personally and not representing the posts as Borough sanctioned, no approval is required.

Mr. Cimino explained the purpose of the Knox Box and requested that the council consider placing a Knox Box at the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street building. The topic was tabled until the next public safety meeting.

## **Fire Chief's Report**

No report.

## **Committee Reports**

### Community Development

The Community Development Committee will meet on December 13 @ 7:00 p.m.

### Finance

Mr. Rees explained the increases in the 2011 budget. He stated that the increases in health care, insurances, such as workmen's compensation, the police salaries, and the Borough's retirement contribution have necessitated raising taxes. He noted that the median household will see an increase of \$34 in property taxes.

Mr. Long moved to approve the 2011 budget. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. The motion passed 4-1. Mr. Reed voted no, adding that he would like to see the CDBG grant used for streets to offset the millage increase.

### Personnel

Mrs. Groninger noted that two employees with the street department are still on leave due to injuries.

### Public Safety

The committee meeting is scheduled for December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

### Rules

Ordinance 2010-6 which addresses signs posted in the borough was discussed. The ordinance has been advertised. Council discussed the possibility of including areas where no signs may be posted due to creating a hazardous condition. No motion was offered. Mr. Long stated that the two topics for the next committee meeting are the sign ordinance and an ordinance that addresses outdoor furnaces.

### Personnel

Mr. Rees explained that Benecon has offered a reduced rate for life insurance that provides the same coverage as the current carrier with an annual savings of \$456.24. The insurance is through the Hartford Life Insurance Company. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Orner, council voted unanimously to purchase life insurance through Benecon and the Hartford Life Insurance Company.

### Streets

Mr. Reed announced that the committee would meet on December 14<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

## **Old Business**

1. Appointments to Committee Vacancies
  - a. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint James Troup to a one-year term to the Appeals Board, Ty Sees to a two-year term to the Appeals Board, and Adam Klock to a three-year term to the Appeals Board. Mr. Orner seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the appointments.
  - b. Mr. Long moved to appoint Michael Nailor to the Civil Service Commission. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. This is a six-year term.
  - c. Two applications were received for the Emergency Services Board vacancy. The appointment was discussed but no motion was entertained.
  - d. Mr. Long moved to appoint Gary Snyder to the Fire Police, contingent on a background check. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
  - e. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Adam Klock to a four-year term on the Northumberland Sewer Authority. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
  - f. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Susan Morroni to a three-year term on the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Long moved to appoint Michael Mummey to the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Reed, Mr. Rees, Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Orner voted to appoint Susan Morroni to the three-year term; Mr. Long voted to appoint Michael Mummey. Susan Morroni was appointed to the Shade Tree Commission.
  - g. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Russell Meachum to the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. This is a three-year term.
  - h. Mr. Long moved to appoint Bill Roll to the Tax Collection Committee. Mr. Orner seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. Mr. Rees moved to appoint Jan Bowman and Jim Orner as alternates to the Tax Collection Committee. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. These are annual appointments.

## **New Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Rees, the council voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$66,532.01; Liberty Splashland bills total \$657.52; Parks and Recreation bills total \$1,089.00; and 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community and Municipal Center bills total \$194.85.
2. Mayor Brosius asked if the council is willing approve reupholstering the chairs that are in the council chambers. Since the project was not budgeted for 2010, the request was tabled.

Mr. Rees noted that the he does not think action will be required following an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues, but the meeting may be reconvened if warranted.

The council meeting was adjourned at 8:51 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**December 21, 2010**

President Gregory Carl called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.  
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Jonathan Rees offered an Invocation.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Judith Groninger, Robert Long, James Orner, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The four visitors present introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Steve Cimino asked if anyone had contacted the representative from the state whose name he had provided at the last meeting. He said that he was informed that funding is available for the bowl slide. Mr. Carl stated that he had spoken with him several weeks before and that no funding information was offered at that time. He said that he would contact him again. Mr. Cimino said that he would as well. It was suggested that Mr. Carl and Mr. Cimino discuss the issue later.

Mr. Jim Troup asked who oversees the pool, if there is a committee that runs it. He was told that Mr. Carl oversees the operation of the pool. Mr. Wetzel stated that since he's been on the council, the Community Development Committee and Borough Council oversee and vote on matters relating to the pool. Years ago the pool was run by the Liberty Pool Association. At some time, the association was dissolved and the Borough became responsible for the operations. The invoices and payroll are paid through the Borough Office and the financial information is audited annually. Mr. Troup stated that he thought a committee should be established to run the pool. Mr. Wetzel stated that he is not interested in additional committee meetings and if other people would like to become involved, they should come to the committee meetings. Mr. Long stated that he feels that, as long as decisions are going through council and Community Development Committee, we have checks and balances. The meetings are advertised and opened to the public so anyone may attend to express their opinions. Mr. Wetzel noted how difficult it is to get people involved, citing the Emergency Services Board. He added that he is in favor of getting more people involved. Mr. Troup stated that the reason people do not get involved is because of the council. Mr. Carl stated that he has been thrilled to run the pool for the past 11 years. He also noted that Mr. Slodysko has helped with the work at the pool and is licensed for the pesticide application. He added that he doesn't recall ever complaining

about having too much to do. He is happy to continue to oversee the pool, unless the council would like to make changes. Mr. Troup stated that he did not think Greg was complaining; he just thought that things would be more transparent if there were others helping. Mr. Carl asked how things could be more transparent. Mr. Troup said it is easy for one person to dictate whatever he wants to do. Mr. Carl noted that the council has approved all the rules that have been established for the pool and he enforces them. Mr. Troup's response was that Hitler had the same approach.

The Borough Secretary stated that at the December 7 council meeting, Ty Sees questioned why three checks written for the bowl slide were all dated September 25, 2009. She said that she researched the question and learned that September 25, 2009, was the invoice date. The invoice was for \$20,000. The invoice was paid in three installments and the check dates, which were also printed on the check stubs that Mr. Sees obtained copies of, were October 7, 2009 for \$10,000; November 9, 2009 for \$4,500; and November 16, 2009 for \$5,500.

### **Meeting minutes of December 7, 2010**

Mr. Rees moved to adopt the minutes of December 7, 2010. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimously to approve with Mr. Wetzel and Mr. Carl abstaining because they were not present.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Community Development

Mr. Carl said that the committee met on December 13 and discussed the parking lot situation at the police department.

#### Finance

Mr. Adam Klock informed the council that he attended a Sewer Authority meeting yesterday. He stated that the insurance company had required that the authority adopt procedures for handling financial matters. He suggested that the council may want to adopt similar procedures. Mr. Orner stated that as the Borough's representative he had a copy of the procedures to provide to the council.

#### 2011 Budget

Mr. Long moved to adopt the 2011 budget. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Long, Mr. Orner, Mr. Rees, Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Reed and Mr. Wetzel voted nay. Motion passed 5-2. This was the second reading of the budget. Millage rates are set as follows: General real estate – 19.8 mils; Debt Service – 2.3 mils; Parks/Recreation – 1.0 mils; Street Improvement - .5 mils; and Fire Protection – 2.7 mils.

#### Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that personnel issues would be discussed in an Executive Session at the end of the meeting. Mr. Rees stated that the council would likely have a vote following the Executive Session.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel announced that the committee would meet at 6:00 p.m. on January 18<sup>th</sup>. He said that the lock boxes could be discussed if the Fire Department would like to

attend the meeting or provide him with the information. He said that he would speak to Matt (Lauver) about the Crime Watch meeting which is scheduled for January 3, 2011 at 7:00 p.m.

#### Rules

Mr. Long announced that the committee would meet at 7:00 p.m. on January 19<sup>th</sup>. The outdoor furnace ordinance will be reviewed.

#### Streets

Mr. Reed announced that the committee would meet at 7:00 p.m. on January 11<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Cimino asked about the painting of the yellow line on Orange Street. Mr. Slodysko stated that he has purchased the paint and the curb will be painted.

#### Old Business

##### 1. Appointments to Committee Vacancies

###### Emergency Services Board

Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Joseph West. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Mr. Rees nominated Judyann Schmidt. No second was offered. The council voted unanimously to appoint Joseph West to the five-year seat on the Emergency Services Board.

###### Planning Commission

Mr. Rees nominated Jon Groninger to the Planning Commission for the four-year term. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous with Mrs. Groninger abstaining.

###### Northumberland Sewer Authority

Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Jim Orner to the five-year seat on the Sewer Authority. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous with Mr. Orner abstaining.

#### New Business

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Orner stated that one recommendation from the financial procedure manual that he obtained at the Sewer Authority meeting was that a third party be assigned to review the finances. Mr. Rees suggested that the topic be discussed at the finance meeting. Roll call vote to approve payment of the bills was unanimous. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$34,232.44; Liberty Splashland bills total \$42.09; Norry Playground Fund bills total \$690.00; Parks and Recreation Fund bills total \$19.05; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community & Municipal Center bills total \$691.27; and bills to be paid from the Donations Account total \$180.00.

#### Executive Session

The meeting was adjourned for Personnel issues at 7:31 p.m.

The council meeting was reconvened at 7:52 p.m. Mr. Rees explained that the non-union employees are having wage freezes this year and some of them had them last year. Mr. Rees stated that the council appreciates their work and, this is not standard, but because of the wage freezes which will save the Borough money, he made a motion that Tom

Slodysko be given \$1,000; Paul Ruane be given \$500; Ann Roll be given \$500; Jan Bowman be given \$500; Ann August be given \$250 and Jane Ressler be given \$250. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Long and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mr. Orner, Mr. Reed and Mr. Wetzel voted nay. Motion passed 4-3.

Mrs. Groninger moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary