

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
June 3, 2014

President James Troup stated that due to a lack of a quorum, the council would conduct a work session until a quorum is attained. The work session began at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Len Zboray offered an Invocation.

Public Comment

The six visitors present introduced themselves.

Mr. Josh Knorr addressed the council about the Susquehanna Riverbank Stabilization Project funding. He is the owner of the company that has been engaged to perform the work at the Point and has been waiting for payment. The request has been made to DEP; however, the Borough is still waiting on the funds. Mr. Knorr asked if the council would be able to make any payment toward the outstanding invoices. The Borough Secretary stated that the topic is on the agenda and that there is funding in the General Fund that the council could approve. Mr. Troup stated that the council would discuss the request.

Ms. Fran Bogovich informed the council that because of high weeds, it is difficult to see if there is traffic at the intersection at Strawbridge Road and Horizon Avenue. She asked why the property owner does not cut the weeds. Mr. McCollum stated that he would check on it tomorrow morning. Ms. Bogovich also requested that the Code Officer check on a property on Lincoln Street at Madison. She said that there is nothing in the ordinance that says that you only have to cut three feet off the road. Mr. McCollum asked if she knows who owns the property. The response was that everyone does. Mr. McCollum stated that he would check on this property also tomorrow.

Mr. Jeff Strouse said that he has questions about the cat ordinance. He said that he read in the paper about the licensing and it said that this would address the feral cat problem. He would like to know how. In the past two years, he and his wife have spent over \$2,000 for these cat problems. They have had four put to sleep, have adopted three cats. He said that they can't take care of any more. He said that when he called the office to find out who is in charge to enforce the ordinance and to get rid of the feral cats, he was told that it is his problem. He said that he thought he was paying \$4.00 to license his cat to take care of the feral cat problem. He said that three weeks ago, someone came to his house and terrorized his wife and girls that he was going to take their pet cat. He has put chicken wire around his fence. He said that there is a feral cat that now has three kittens and he would like to know who to call to come and trap the feral cats.

Council member Harry Wynn arrived at 7:12 p.m.

Mr. Troup said that unfortunately, no one is going to come trap feral cats. He said that the council has tried to address a problem that no one wants to address. The TNR program is to be operated once funds are donated for the program. Cat owners can buy a license to ensure that if their cat gets out, it can be identified. Mr. Strouse questioned why he is to pay to license his cats when they are not left outside the house. He asked where the money from the license fee is being used. He said that he hoped it wouldn't be for the dog park. He said that the Borough can't enforce the dog ordinance and stated that he sees that people do not clean up after their dogs when they walk them. Mr. Troup said that if he sees anyone not cleaning up after their dogs, he should contact the police. Mr. Strouse said that 95% of the people are responsible. He said that if someone doesn't pick up the feral cats, they will probably reproduce in a few months. Mr. Troup stated that the people who came to meetings about the TNR program, said that they were willing to volunteer their time and help with the cats, but now they are nowhere to be found. Mr. Strouse asked if the Borough would consider purchasing traps that residents could borrow to trap feral cats. Mr. Troup stated that the cat license fee is to cover the Borough's costs for issuing the license and the costs associated with the website.

Mr. Dick Simpson told the council that the veterans appreciated the fire departments from the Borough and Point Township for their support on Memorial Day.

Roll Call

Mr. Troup stated that council now has a quorum so he called the council meeting of June 3, 2014, to order. Council members present were Ellie Rees, Stephen Reed, James Troup, and Harry Wynn. Other presents were Mayor Zboray; Ben Landon, Acting Solicitor; Jeremy Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent; Ted McCollum, Street Supervisor/Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Adam Klock, Paul Ruane, and Ty Sees were absent.

Council Meeting Minutes

Upon motion by Mr. Reed and seconded by Mr. Troup, council voted unanimously to approve the council meeting minutes of April 29, 2014.

Upon motion by Mr. Troup, seconded by Mrs. Rees, council voted 2-0-2 to approve the council meeting minutes of May 6, 2014. Mr. Wynn and Mr. Reed abstained.

Northumberland Sewer Department Report

Mr. Book stated that there was no sewer department committee meeting because there was not a quorum.

Mr. Book and Jeremy Deitrick are attending a conference in State College. They learned that there has been an EPA objection to the most recent NPDS permit rules. One objection concerns the credit trading program.

Mr. Ruane arrived at 7:24 p.m.

There is a possibility that the contract that the Borough has with Gettysburg Energy for phosphorus credits for this year and next year might be in jeopardy. Mr. Book requested that council approve that he write a letter to DEP about possible new regulations. Mr.

Troup moved to give Hazen & Sawyer the authority to write a letter to DEP regarding the phosphorus credits and the Borough's compliance. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Book reported that on May 21st, Borough representatives met with PennVest, DEP, Senator Gordner and Representative Culver. He explained that everyone understands that the Sunbury interconnection is not going to happen. However, PennVest is demanding a study so there is documentation. The lowest quote received was from Glace at a cost of \$5,475. The committee has instructed Jeremy Deitrick to hire the company, but council should take official action upon the hiring. Upon motion by Mr. Troup, seconded by Mr. Ruane, council voted unanimously to hire Glace at a cost of \$5,475 to conduct a study on the option of going to the Sunbury Municipal Authority.

Mr. Book stated that on May 15th, notification was received that if the PennVest application is submitted by June 4, 2014, the application will be considered. Mr. Book has submitted the application and has requested that the council vote to approve the action. Mr. Wynn moved to permit Hazen & Sawyer to submit an application for funding to Penn Vest. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Book told council that the earliest the bid for the project could be advertised would be June 20, 2014 with the bid opening on August 1, 2014. Mr. Troup moved to have Hazen and Sawyer advertise the bid for the waste water treatment plant BNR upgrade project on June 20, 2014 and to approve the bid opening date of August 1, 2014. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Book informed the council that the Borough did not receive grant money for Liberty Hollow from BIMBO or the Chesapeake Bay Trust. Council was also informed that the Borough did not receive funding from the LTAP program. The main reason given was that we were not able to guarantee the \$22,000 to pay for the engineering study. The committee recommended that the application be resubmitted when we have the funding in hand. There are several local funding sources that have been approached; however, the boards had not met yet. If funding is available and the engineering study can be completed, it was recommended that the application be resubmitted to LTAP for funding next year.

Mr. Troup moved to approve Resolution D-2014. This is Amendment No. 1 to the Consent Order and Agreement with Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve Resolution D-2014.

*"Resolution D-2014
Borough of Northumberland
Northumberland County, Pennsylvania*

Resolution approving amendment No. 1 to the consent order and agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

WHEREAS, the Borough of Northumberland (the "Borough") had previously entered into a Consent Order and Agreement ("COA") with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) regarding the sewage treatment facility in the Borough; and

WHEREAS, the borough has requested DEP to amend the timelines in the COA; and

WHEREAS, DEP has agreed to amend the timelines in the COA;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED this 3rd day of June, 2014 as follows:

1. It is in the best interest of the Borough to enter into the Amendment No. 1 to the Consent Order and Agreement with DEP.
2. The President and Vice President of the Northumberland Borough Council are authorized to execute the Amendment No. 1 to the Consent Order and Agreement with DEP.

ADOPTED as a resolution of the Council of the Borough of Northumberland, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, this 3rd day of June, 2014.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND

By: _____
Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary
[BOROUGH SEAL]

By: _____
James Troup, Council President

APPROVED this 3rd day of June, 2014.

By: _____
Len Zboray, Mayor

Susquehanna Riverbank Stabilization Project

Mr. Josh Knorr informed the council that the grant process is slower than anticipated and the Borough has not received all of the funding for the work that Columbia Excavating, Inc. has completed for the Susquehanna Riverbank Stabilization Project. There are outstanding invoices from March that total \$91,040.01. Mr. Knorr asked if the Borough would be able to pay a portion of the invoices until the funding is received from DEP. Mr. Knorr stated that he has spoken to a DEP representative and the process is moving forward. Mr. Troup made a motion to pay \$25,629.84. This amount is the balance due on the March invoice. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. McCollum stated that the street department installed the docks at the Hanover Street launch. He said that they ran into a problem when they were putting the dock in at the Point. He explained that the anchor block is buried with the riprap that was installed. Mr. Knorr stated that the riprap was installed per the engineered drawing. He said that he could try to uncover the anchor block and would try to help out. Mr. McCollum said that if another dock was purchased, two docks could be installed perpendicular to the shoreline and the third dock could be placed parallel to the shoreline with another anchor block. This would keep the boats away from the riprap. Mr. McCollum said that he would check on what can be done.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Zboray stated that the Memorial Day ceremony went very well with a good turnout. The St. Louis de Montfort Band from Herndon did a great job. Mr. Zboray noted that the band will not be available for the next two years because they will be on tour. Mayor Zboray thanked the American Legion Post 44 for the ceremony and for the cantina.

Mayor Zboray gave a special thank you to Kent Nunamaker from K & N Electric. Mr. Nunamaker came to the Borough to install the flags on the bridges after Mayor Zboray called him to request his assistance. Mayor Zboray said that he made the call at 11:30 and K & N was there at noon. Mr. Nunamaker did not charge the Borough for this service.

Mayor Zboray thanked Joe's Landscaping and Hardscape for installing the brick pathway at the King Street Park and Ted McCollum for helping with the project. The S. Luther Savidge Community Trust provided the funding for the project.

The S. Luther Savidge Community Trust provided funding for a pump for the pool (\$2,800); \$3,000 for benches for Liberty Splashland; \$5,000 for murals at the park and trees for the Christmas display; and \$5,000 for rewiring the park.

Mayor Zboray said that we are working on obtaining quotes for heating and electrical service for the gymnasium.

Mayor Zboray read the following letter of resignation from Wendy Yaw from her part-time position:

To: Northumberland Police Department, Borough Office, Mayor, Street Department, Council Members,

It is with deep regret that am giving my resignation to the Borough of Northumberland as the Parking Enforcement Officer, Crime Prevention and Police Clerk as of June 6, 2014.

I have acquired employment in the Oil Field Industry in the Williamsport area, and will be using my CDL operator's license once again. In Addition, I will be moving to that area as to lessen the distance for the new position.

Personally I want to thank Chief Kriner for his grand efforts to run such a dedicated department and his diligence for the safety and well being of every resident and person that enters his jurisdiction; Fellow Officers/Co-workers Cope, Hennessey, Lauver, Rushton, Roth, Kerstetter, Shear and Ortona. I pray you have continued safety and success in your careers; mayor Zboray; Borough Secretaries; Street Department; Council. In addition, the associates of the Borough and surrounding Police Departments.

In conclusion, I wish the Borough of Northumberland and its affiliates, continued success in the endeavors I have had the opportunity to witness as they are unfolding. I have been very proud in the past as well as the present, to have had the opportunity to be part of such a dedicated Police Force and the continuing efforts that are implemented to provide safety to you and the residents of this Borough.

Respectfully, Wendy A. Yaw

Mr. Wynn made a motion to accept her resignation as of June 6, 2014 with regret. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Wynn moved to advertise the opening. Mayor Zboray informed the council that there is an excellent applicant for the position. He is a retired police officer from the Sunbury Police Department. Chief Kriner said that Gabe DeMarco has a pension and health insurance and is looking for part-time employment. He is willing to work at the same pay rate. Chief Kriner added that Mr. DeMarco is familiar with the computer system that the police have and he would be able to handle additional calls from the public and could also take over the evidence room which would free up Officer Lauver. Mayor Zboray said that he could also be a help to the young officers and we are very fortunate that he is interested in this job. Mr. Simpson stated that when he on council in the '80s, Gabe was a dedicated officer in the Borough and did a fine job. Mr. Wynn withdrew his motion.

Mr. Reed moved to hire Gabe DeMarco as the part-time police clerk at the rate of \$11.50 per hour. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

The day after Memorial Day, Mayor Zboray said that he discovered the flags around the cannon in the cemetery were snapped off and thrown on the ground. He said that veterans gave up their lives for this country and if the people who did this are caught, they will pay. Mr. Ruane added that someone egged the traveling Vietnam Wall in Shamokin.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. McCollum stated that all the repairs were completed at Liberty Splashland. He said that the pool is ready to open.
- Mr. McCollum has provided a picture of the recycling center to the council members. He discovered that bags of concrete were missing. He is requesting that council install a camera at the building because of the equipment that is stored there. Mr. Ruane suggested that motion lights be installed at the property. The topic was referred to the Street Committee.
- Mr. McCollum said that the limbs overhanging the streets will be trimmed for clearance for the new street sweeper and fire trucks.
- Mrs. Bogovich said that bushes are growing over the sidewalks. Mr. McCollum said that he would address it with the property owners by hanging a door tag.
- Mr. Troup asked that the street sweeper be run on the hill.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. McCollum stated that the one new house is going up on Reagan Circle and a permit is in the works for another one. The Northumberland Hook and Ladder has submitted a preliminary site plan for a 4,000 square foot addition. Mr. McCollum issued eight code violations; had 23 complaints; one street cut permit; six rental inspections. He said that with the code violations he has found that most people comply to a door tag that addresses violations. If the property owner doesn't comply, he sends a letter. One property with high grass at 477 Sixth Street settles on June 6th. Mr. Reed stated that he believes the grass was cut.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Liberty Splashland

Mr. Reed stated that Travis Fisher's pay rate was not voted on. He moved that the pay rate be \$450 per week as pool manager. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Mr. Ruane asked how he is making out on his testing. Mr. Reed said that he has passed the testing except for the bowl slide inspection and that someone will be coming to give him the test. Mrs. Rees asked what council might be able to do to resolve the ongoing necessity of Travis having to pass the bowl slide inspection test as Pool Manager. She noted that council was told that they had to hire a pool manager right away because of this bowl slide inspection test that needed to be passed in a timely manner before the pool opened, and months have passed since council hired Travis. **Council had heard at previous meetings that someone would be coming to administer the test and it hadn't been done.** [Note: Travis passed the required test on June 4, 2014.] He is also not yet certified as a lifeguard. The Borough Secretary stated that Jonathan Ruths has contacted Rebekah Kline and she is going to teach a lifeguard class within the next few weeks. Mr. Reed said that Travis has done a good job so far and the pool looks wonderful. Council voted 4-1 to approve the motion. Mrs. Rees voted no.

Gymnasium

Mr. Reed asked if K & N Electric has come to provide a quote for the electrical work in the gymnasium. They have not been here yet.

Girl Scout House

Mr. Reed said that he will meet with Barb Kistner this week. She has obtained new cupboards from WoodMode. They will also finalize who will be doing the work.

Mr. Reed stated that the Pineknott Park ballfield looks great.

Mr. Reed said that a letter came from the school district that the Borough may have the stone from the C.W. Rice property. The district has requested a formal letter from the solicitor that provides a time frame for the removal of the stone. He said that volunteers would like to line the creek at the dog park. Mr. Reed said that he would see if the volunteers willing to do the work. The Borough Secretary will contact the conservation district to learn if a permit is required.

Pipe at Liberty Splashland

The Borough Secretary has obtained quotes for pipe required for the project. Because the quotes are higher than the minimum amount required for advertised bids, she requested that council approve advertising for bids for the pipe. Mr. Wynn moved to put the pipe out for bid. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Wynn moved to obtain quotes, or if the quotes or higher than the state maximum, advertise for a contractor to install the pipe. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Finance – no report

Personnel – no report

Public Safety

Mrs. Rees stated that the committee would meet on June 24th.

Mr. Ruane said that H & N is going to install the generator at King and Water Streets.

Street Signs – Mr. Ruane provided a hand-out on the cost for street signs. The Borough is required to have a plan for installing the required 3M reflective high intensity signs. The cost to replace 10% of the signs each year is approximately \$1,375; the cost to replace 15% of the signs is approximately \$2,140. These prices were obtained from one company. Mr. Ruane stated that he would obtain prices from other companies. He added that council could also consider purchasing a machine for the Borough. The signs are PennDOT approved and will last at least ten years. The current budget includes \$3,600 for signs.

Mr. Ruane moved to adopt a plan to replace 15% of the street signs each year. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Rules – no report

Streets

Mr. Wynn stated that he would get a definite date for the delivery of the street sweeper.

The bid results for the equipment that was posted on Municibid were reviewed.

- Mr. Wynn moved to accept the high bid of \$6,855 from Daniel Matesic for the 1997 Athey Mobil Air Street Sweeper. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Wynn moved to accept the high bid of \$1,265 from Mike Myers for the 1991 Ford Van E-350 with Boom Bucket Lift. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Reed moved to accept the high bid of \$1,625 from Thor Rorvik for the 2001 GMC Pick-up. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Wynn moved to accept the high bid of \$15,655 from Paul Casler for the 2004 GMC C5500 on the condition that the snowplow is not included. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mr. Troup stated that it would be necessary to revote on the acceptance of the council meeting minutes of May 6, 2014. He said that the vote earlier in the meeting had been 2-0 with 2 abstentions so there was not a majority vote. He said that council members, who were not present, may vote to accept the minutes. Mr. Wynn moved and Mr. Troup seconded the motion to approve the meeting minutes of May 6, 2014. Council voted 4-0-1 to approve the minutes with Mr. Reed abstaining.

Mr. Wynn moved to approve Resolution E-2014. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. The resolution follows:

“Resolution No. E-2014
 BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND
 NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

WHEREAS, the Borough Council (“Borough Council”) of the Borough of Northumberland 9the “Borough”) has determined that it is necessary to replace their current street sweeper; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Council has approved the purchase of a new street sweeper off a state approved contract; and

WHEREAS, the Borough needs financing for the purchase of the street sweeper; and

WHEREAS, the Northumberland National Bank (the “Bank”) has offered to loan up to Two Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$250,000.00) at the fixed interest rate of 2.75% per annum over a five (5) year term with repayment due through annual principal and interest payments; and

WHEREAS, the Bank has agreed to charge the Borough Council the following fees for the loan:

One Hundred Dollar (\$100.00) document preparation fee plus actual cost to collateralize loan with street sweeper; and

Now Be it RESOLVED, Borough Council has approved the acceptance of the Bank’s offer for financing for the street sweeper; and

Be it FURTHER RESOLVED, the Borough Council has authorized the President of Council and the Borough Secretary to execute any and all necessary documents to carry out the financing.

ADOPTED as a resolution of the Council of the Borough of Northumberland, Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, this 3rd day of June, 2014.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND

By: _____

By: _____

Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary
[BOROUGH SEAL]

James Troup, Council President

APPROVED this 3rd day of June, 2014.

By: _____
Len Zboray, Mayor"

Old Business

1. Mrs. Rees requested that council try to find a more permanent solution than sand for the playground mats. Discussion ensued.

New Business

1. Mr. Wynn moved to pay the bills. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Mrs. Rees asked if the bill from the CPA was on the list. She was told that the bill is listed under the General Contingency Fund. Mr. Ruane stated that the total for the audit was not to exceed \$7,000. The first two invoices that have been paid total \$7,656.25. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wynn amended his motion to pay the bills, excluding payment of the bill for \$6,837.50 from Wagner, Dreese, Elsasser & Associates, P.C. Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council voted 4-1 to approve payment of bills with the exception of the bill for \$6,837.50 from Wagner, Dreese, Elsasser & Associates, P.C. Mr. Troup cast the no vote. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$36,494.99; Liberty Splashland bills total \$8,479.83; Park & Recreation Fund bills total \$3,500; Shade Tree Fund bills total \$1,000; and Donations Account bills total \$12.14.

Mayor Zboray requested that council hold an Executive Session. Mr. Troup announced that the council meeting would be adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues and would not be reconvened. The council meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary