

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Northumberland Borough Council Meeting**  
**October 4, 2011**

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

**Roll Call**

Council members present were James Orner, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Len Zboray; Ryan Tira, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Gregory Carl, Judith Groninger, and Robert Long were absent.

The seven visitors introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No comments were offered.

**Council Meeting Minutes of September 6, 2011**

Upon motion by Mr. Orner, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, the minutes of the September 6, 2011 council meeting were unanimously approved.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Zboray reported that the 25 mph speed limit sign has been installed on Fifth Street, off of Strawbridge Road. The police are enforcing this law.

The Mayor and Chief Fink collected money from the parking meters.

A resident of Honey Locust Lane has a problem with water runoff in his driveway.

The Mayor and Chief Fink discussed seeking grant funds to purchase a rescue boat. This item is included on the wish list provided to Representative Lynda Schlegel-Culver.

Key lock boxes were purchased with money budgeted for crime prevention. These boxes will be provided to senior citizens who live alone.

The Mayor attended a Sewer Authority meeting and a Rules Committee meeting.

The Mayor and Chief Fink have replaced batteries in the parking meters.

Bill Gross contacted the Mayor about water in the loading dock at the recycling building due to the placement of the drain spout. Tom Slodysko will be told of the problem.

Mayor Zboray informed the council that he met with Tom Slodysko and Steve Reed to view the damage from the flood at the pool area. They recommend that the stream above Liberty Splashland be dredged and riprap installed along the stream banks as well as the possibility of creating a collection pond.

Tulpehocken has donated bottles of water to the Borough. They are available for emergencies.

Mayor Zboray stated that he spoke with six business owners and they are all in favor of permit parking for the business owners. The Rules Committee had discussed providing permits.

The drainage is poor in the lots along West Way. Mayor Zboray said that when the street supervisor returns, they will see what can be done.

Mrs. Cellitti informed the council that she owns a lot along West Way and that years ago the Borough removed pipes that ran from the lots under West Way to the culvert on the lower side. Since that time, the lot fills with water. Another thing that contributes to the problem is that the street has been built up over time and is higher than the lots.

Mayor Zboray requested that the council approve the Fire Police assist at the Catawissa, Danville, and Sunbury Halloween parades. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Rees, council unanimously approved the requests.

Mr. Rees asked if the parking permits should be approved by ordinance. Mr. Tira advised that an ordinance should be adopted. The amount of the permits will be set by resolution so it may be adjusted periodically.

#### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report - No report**

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

Mr. Orner stated most of the council was present for the Authority's September meeting. He added that the Authority has a budget meeting tomorrow. The next monthly meeting will be held at 4:30 p.m. on October 24<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Adam Klock said that a meeting is scheduled for October 24 at 7:00 p.m. to gather facts about utilizing Sunbury's sewer system for the Borough. The meeting will be held at the Sunbury Municipal Authority building on South 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

#### **Emergency Services Board Report**

Mr. Jim Troup reported that the Board met last evening to review their budget which will be provided to the Finance Committee. The Board also discussed the events that occurred during the flood. The next meeting will be on November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. at the 175 Orange Street building.

#### **Committee Reports**

##### **Community Development**

The committee will meet on October 10<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

## Finance

Mr. Rees stated that the committee would meet on October 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 to discuss the income side of the 2012 budget. At the September meeting, the committee members approved Mr. Slodysko's request to purchase a used truck and/or equipment to replace the backhoe for the street department. An auction is to be held on October 11<sup>th</sup>. A new truck is needed to replace the blue GMC that is inoperable. The committee recommends that the council give Mr. Slodysko approval to purchase a used truck and/or backhoe replacement at a cost not to exceed \$21,500. This amount would be obtained from the money that is to be deposited in the Contingency Fund (\$12,000) by the end of this year, in addition to \$6,000 that is currently in the Contingency Fund, and \$3,500 that is in the street budget. Mr. Rees so moved. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

## Electricity Supplier

Mr. Rees stated that several energy suppliers were considered and it is recommended that a contract with Constellation Energy be approved. The representative has provided quotes for 12, 24 and 36 months. Mr. Rees moved to approve a contract with Constellation Energy not to exceed 36 months at a rate up to 8.5¢ per kWh. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The contract will be in effect for 2012. Mr. Rees amended the motion to approve a 12 month term at up to 8¢ per kWh. Upon notice from Constellation Energy that a favorable rate is available, the Borough Secretary is to obtain the council president's approval and lock into the rate. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion. [Note: The rate obtained is 7.7¢ per kWh.]

## Personnel

Personnel issues will be discussed in the Executive session.

## Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that the committee would meet on October 18<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

## Rules

The committee reviewed the traffic studies at the September meeting. They are recommending that ordinances be drafted for parking on one side of Elliott Drive and to extend the no parking line on Orange Street at Fifth Street. Mr. Tira will wait until hearing from Mr. Long about the ordinance.

The next committee meeting will be on October 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

## Streets

Larson Design Group has provided a Contractor's Application for Payment of \$72,769.40 for G&R Charles Excavating, Ltd. for the Hanover Street storm water project. A portion of this invoice will be paid with CDBG funds by Northumberland County but the Borough must approve the payment. The engineer plans to meet with Mr. Slodysko to examine the storm drains at the Hanover and Second Street intersection because not all the water is being caught by the drains at this intersection. The engineer has suggested that the Borough withhold a portion of the total request. Mr. Rees moved to approve the payment request less 5%. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve payment.

A payment request has been received from Meckley's Limestone Products, Inc. for the paving and curbing work that was completed on Hanover Street. The payment will be made from two funds; \$61,282.64 from the Liquid Fuels Account and \$10,943 from General Fund. The payment from the General Fund is for curbing that may not be paid with Liquid Fuels funds. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Rees, council voted unanimously to approve the payments.

The next committee meeting will be on October 11<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### **Old Business**

1. Council discussed providing parking permits for businesses. Mayor Zboray stated that it was decided to limit the number of permits to two per business. Mr. Wetzel questioned if permits for residents were discussed because the residents on Queen Street had requested permits. Mayor Zboray responded that the committee did not consider permits for residents. Mr. Rees tabled the topic and recommended that the Rules Committee review the request for parking permits for residents so one ordinance may be developed to address parking permits.

### **New Business**

1. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, council voted unanimously to pay the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$70,720.07; 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community & Municipal Center bills total \$79.50; Liberty Splashland bills total \$160.80; and Norry Playground Fund bills total \$45.99.
2. Upon motion by Mr. Orner, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, council unanimously approved payment of bills for budgeted items due before November 4<sup>th</sup>.
3. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Reed, council voted unanimously to set Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup> from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. as Trick or Treat Night in the Borough.
4. The Police Department has ordered Key Lock Boxes for residents who live alone. These would be installed for the residents so that if there would be an emergency, the police would be able to gain access to the property without breaking down a door.

Mr. Reed moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. Mr. Rees stated that no action would be taken following the Executive Session.

The council meeting was adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary