

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street
Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
February 7, 2012

President James Troup called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Leonard Zboray offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Adam Klock, Stephen Reed, Jonathan Rees, Ty Sees, James Troup and Frank Wetzel. Others present were Mayor Zboray; Ryan Tira, Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Public Comment

The ten visitors present introduced themselves.

Mr. Gary Klick stated that he is glad to see that the Borough website is updated with the meeting minutes and meeting dates. He said that he hopes the website continues to be updated. He suggested that the website include the holidays when the cars do not need to be off the streets. Mr. Klick also asked why the street sweeper isn't being run since the weather is warmer.

Mr. Klick suggested that the sign on Duke Street that warns that retarder brakes are prohibited be moved closer to the edge of town. Mr. Tira stated that PennDOT regulations determine where the signs are placed on state routes and the size of the signs. Mayor Zboray stated that the police have been heavily enforcing this ordinance on Front Street. He will ask the police to monitor the traffic on Duke Street.

Mr. Klick asked about the status of an ordinance regarding cats in the Borough. Mr. Wetzel replied that the topic would be discussed at the Rules Committee meeting on Monday at 6:00 p.m.

Mr. Klick stated that there are forty-three signs on Bob's Washington Tavern and it is unsightly. Mr. Troup requested that the Code Officer check if there is any ordinance that may be enforced.

Mr. Don Troxell stated that the Northumberland Sewer Authority planned to hold a meeting here on Monday at 3:00. He said that he was told that the Authority could not meet here and asked who decided that the meeting could not be held here. Mr. Troup stated that he said that the

meeting could not be held in the Borough building. Mr. Klock asked why the meeting wasn't scheduled to be held at the Northumberland Sewer Authority, where they are normally held. Mr. Troxell stated that two of the authority members called for the meeting as is permitted according to the bylaws. He added that Mr. Klock did not have a right to cancel the meeting. Mr. Klock stated that Mr. Troxell should read the next sentence in the bylaws, adding that two of the board members were not consulted on the date and time, the meeting was to be held on a week day during business hours when these two board members work and would not be able to attend. Mr. Klock added that this was the reason the meeting was changed. Mr. Troxell stated that the authority should be able to use the Borough building. Mr. Troup asked why the authority members would use the Borough building to underhand the Borough and the residents of the Borough of Northumberland. He said that if they (the sewer authority members) are going to stick a knife in their back, he's not going to give him the knife. Mr. Troxell responded that it is not right; Mr. Troup replied that what is not right is the way that they operate.

Council Meeting Minutes of January 3, 2012

Upon motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Klock, council unanimously approved the meeting minutes of January 3, 2012.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Zboray reported that he swore in Brian Crebs, the new Fire Chief, on January 20th.
- Mayor Zboray announced that he attended the quarterly meeting of the S. Luther Savidge Community Trust where he is a on the board. He informed the council that the trust has awarded a grant of \$5,000 to Liberty Splashland for the bowl slide.
- Mayor Zboray spoke to the Cub Scouts of Pack 3333 at Zion Lutheran Church. He gave them a trivia test on the Borough after his speech and received a nice thank you letter from them.
- Mayor Zboray attended a 17857.org meeting that he, Ann August and some local businesses are trying to get started to promote the area encompassing 17857. Additional meetings are scheduled.
- Mayor Zboray made several calls to various people and the press about the fundraising for the Acorn Little League Field and a checking account was set up at Northumberland National Bank for donations.
- The Ford Crown Victoria was painted because the roof was peeling. Money toward the repair was received from Ford Motor Company.
- Tra Electric repaired the alignment of the cameras at the Duke and Water Streets traffic lights.
- The Mayor and Chief worked on meters. Some were repaired and new batteries were installed. Seven tickets were issued for speeding on Duke Street on January 29th while the ENRADD system was in operation.
- The Mayor thanked Chief Fink for painting the brackets and poles on the police sign outside the station.
- The Mayor and Chief took money from the meters to the bank and fixed additional meters.
- Vinny Clausi presented a check for \$10,000 for the bowl slide to Greg Carl and the Mayor. Other county officials were also present. A picture of the check presentation was in the newspaper.

- Mayor Zboray spoke to a representative from the water company about leaks at Seventh and Prince Streets. They are going to check the water tank again.
- Mayor Zboray thanked Tom (Slodysko), Todd (Snyder) and Steve (Carr) for installing the sign at Taylor's Meats.
- More parking permits are being sold for parking in the downtown area.
- Mayor Zboray met the Borough's auditor, Patricia Young, today. She has begun work on the 2011 audit.

Chief Fink requested permission to order a 2013 Ford Taurus police interceptor. The base price is \$28,397. Keystone Communications will install the equipment for \$4,542.77. There is currently \$7,000 in the meter fund and \$6,000 budgeted in the general fund. Mr. Rees requested that the Finance Committee review the proposal at their meeting this month. Mr. Troup asked if the Chief has looked at other models such as the Dodge Charger. Chief Fink said that he has not. He will see what other vehicles are available.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Thomas Slodysko reported that since the last meeting, the department has patched potholes. Mr. Slodysko stated that some potholes cannot be repaired with cold patch. The pothole located at the intersection of Priestley and Wheatley is one that will require hot macadam. The storm line on Wheatley Avenue is deteriorating and the sanitary sewer line runs below the storm sewer line.
- Mr. Slodysko said that Todd Snyder and Steve Carr are cutting the trees along the fence between the Pineknott Park and the railroad. He said that the area all the way back to the cell tower will look nice by spring. He noted that Todd Snyder has used some of his skills to repair the backhoe. It is being used at Pineknott Park.
- The department is replacing street signs.
- The newly purchased truck should be out of the garage tomorrow. The fuel injector pump was replaced. Mr. Slodysko had obtained a warranty that should pay for some of the repairs.
- Signs will be installed along Elliott Drive, prohibiting parking on one side of the street.
- Mayor Zboray said that he has had some comments about the flags on the bridge. Mr. Slodysko said that the flags will be replaced; however the chains require replacement and the work cannot be done until warmer weather. The bucket truck is used to replace the flags. Mr. Troup stated that the ladder truck could be used if needed.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane stated that he will have a report for the next meeting. He asked that the council address the rental ordinance. The fees should be adjusted to more closely reflect the Borough's costs.

Emergency Services Board Report

Mr. Troup noted that the board did not have a quorum so the committee meeting was not held.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Carl stated that the committee would meet on Monday at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Reed moved to accept the quote of \$6,153 from Apollo Fencing for the fence at the Pineknotted Park ballfield. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. This company had installed the fencing that is in place at the ballfield and the new fence will match. The Legion Team received a grant from the Anselmo Trust to pay for the fence. Council voted unanimously to approve the purchase.

Mr. Carl said that he has gotten some quotes for the stair structure for the bowl slide.

- He has received 4 quotes for the timber, the lowest being from Knoebel's Lumber at a cost of \$10,682.84. He moved to approve the purchase. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Carl moved to purchase dimensional lumber for the bowl slide from Lewisburg Builders' Supply at a cost of \$3,476.54, delivered. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. This was the lowest quote received. Council voted unanimously to approve the purchase.
- Mr. Carl moved to approve the purchase of fasteners from wholesalebolts.com at a cost not to exceed \$3,469. Mr. Klock seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

Mr. Reed informed the council that he was approached by a citizen who requested a donation of a family pass to Liberty Splashland for a fundraiser for 5th grade camp. Mr. Reed so moved. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

Mr. Reed said that he knows that the council had voted to sell Jolly Hollow. However, he requested that the council revisit the topic because he would like to see the land kept in the Borough. Mr. Wetzel said that he was also approached by someone requesting that a dog run be put there. Mr. Mike Spickler asked if his Cub Scout Pack could be involved with the property. Discussion ensued. The property has not been advertised. Council was considering an auction for the property in the spring. Mr. Reed moved, and Mr. Rees seconded a motion that the sale of the Jolly Hollow property be tabled. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Klock stated that volunteers are needed to help with the work at the Acorn Field. To date, \$13,090 has been donated for the repairs. Mr. Mike Spickler said that Dean Paul has inspected the building and has advised how to repair the structure. The dugouts at the t-ball field have been torn down and will be replaced. The dugouts at the Acorn Field will also be replaced. K & N is donating the labor to rewire the concession stand; the Little League will purchase the materials. The scoreboard hasn't been inspected yet. It was underwater to eight inches from the top. Mr. Spickler stated that the group has work parties scheduled. The final work parties are set for April 6th and 7th. They also hope to replace the fencing that was damaged. Mr. Klock said that Career Link will provide six people to help with repairing the flood damage at the field. A representative will be at the Community Development Committee meeting on Monday at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the field repairs.

Finance

Mr. Rees said that the Finance Committee will meet on February 15th at 6:30 p.m.

Personnel

Personnel issues will be discussed in the Executive Session.

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that the committee would meet on February 21st at 6:00 p.m.

Rules

Mr. Sees announced that the committee would meet here at 6:00 on February 13th.

Sewer

Mr. Klock stated that the committee was to have met earlier this evening but the meeting was cancelled. The litigation will be discussed in the Executive Session.

Streets

Mr. Reed stated that the committee would meet on February 14th at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

1. Lighting proposals to replace lights in four locations in the Borough were received from one company. The properties are the 2nd Street Municipal and Community Center, the Borough Garage, the Recycling Building, and the streetlights in the downtown area that are owned by the Borough. Discussion ensued. Due to the estimated cost before rebates, Mr. Tira recommended that the project be advertised for bids. Mr. Klock moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion to advertise for bids the lighting replacement for the Borough properties. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion. The bids will be opened at the March 6, 2011 council meeting.

New Business

1. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Klock, council voted unanimously to approve the payment of bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$62,087.03; Liberty Splashland bills total \$877.91; bills to be paid from the Parking Meter account total \$58.97; and bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center account total \$1,956.63.
2. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Reed, council voted unanimously to approve payment of bills for budgeted items due before March 9, 2012.
3. Mr. Rees moved to approve Resolution C-2012 which designates signers for the Acorn Field Donations Account at the Northumberland National Bank. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve James Troup, Gregory Carl, Jane Sanders-Ressler, and Janice Bowman as the designated signers for the account.
4. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Rees, the council voted unanimously to approve the agreement with the Central Susquehanna Opportunities, Inc. (CSO, Inc.) for flood clean-up at the Acorn Little League Field.

5. The Northumberland County Community Development Block Grant Application is due March 8th. A meeting is scheduled for February 28th at the County. Mr. Klock suggested that the Borough apply for funding for street projects.
6. Northumberland County is developing a Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan. The Borough will qualify to adopt this plan as the new Borough plan since the Borough Secretary has attended a meeting with the County and has submitted information to the County to be included in the plan.
7. A company has contacted the Borough Secretary about developing a Directory Map of the Borough. The company will obtain advertisements from local businesses to pay for the maps which will be distributed throughout the community. Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Sees, the council voted unanimously to pursue the idea and for the Community Development Committee to determine the informational content.
8. Mr. Troup moved to approve the Copier Maintenance Agreement from C.S.P. at a rate of \$.012 per copy. Mr. Klock seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous.
9. The Pennsylvania Department of Labor & Industry has provided a notice of solvency fee for 2012 at a cost of \$663.05. If council elects to pay this fee, the Borough may be eligible to request relief from charges for unemployment benefits that take effect in 2012. No motion was offered.
10. Mr. Slodysko informed the council that the trench that was dug at Pineknott Park for the cell tower is settling. The Borough Secretary stated that she has spoken to their representative and they will be back to make the necessary repairs.

Executive Session

Mr. Troup announced that the council would hold an Executive Session to discuss litigation, real estate, and personnel issues. He added that the meeting would not be reconvened.

Mr. Wetzel moved to adjourn the meeting. The council meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary