

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Work Session and Council Meeting
August 6, 2013

Work Session

Due to a lack of quorum, President James Troup announced at 7:00 p.m. that a work session would be conducted. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Len Zboray offered an Invocation.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Zboray reported that on July 2nd during Pineknotters' Days that he presented Mayoral Certificates of Appreciation to Rebekah Kline and Marisa Eccker for their life-saving actions on the 6 year old boy swimmer on June 19th at Liberty Splashland. He also recognized the lifeguards who were on duty that day. Councilman Greg Carl also gave his thanks.
- The Mayor thanked the American Legion Post 44 for funding the child ID kits that were distributed and well-received at Pineknotters' Days. He also thanked Chief Kriner for securing the funding from Post 44 and noted that this did not cost the taxpayers anything, and thanked Wendy Reigel for handing them out.
- The Day of Remembrance at Riverview Cemetery is scheduled for noon on August 24th.
- The Community Yard Sale is planned for August 31st sponsored by Northumberland Revitalization.
- Memory Lane Concert in the King Street Park is slated for September 1st from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.
- The Mayor read a correspondence from Sarah and John Leeser thanking Kevin Rushton for his kind, respectful demeanor during a police call when Mrs. Leeser's mother passed away on June 7th.

- A letter of thanks from Kim King on behalf of the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library for participation in the Touch a Truck event. A police cruiser was on display and Wendy Reigel was present to interact with the children.
- The police department received a letter of appreciation for assistance during the Pineknotters' Days celebration for traffic and crowd control and the annual soapbox race.
- City of Sunbury Chief Mazzeo sent a letter of recommendation for the actions of Police Officer Kevin Rushton for exhibiting a high level of initiative in a highly dangerous situation involving an armed suspect. It was noted that Officer Rushton acted very professionally and diligently extended his search for the perpetrator who he ultimately located and detained. Chief Mazzeo stated that Officer Rushton is a credit to the law enforcement profession and the Northumberland Police Department.
- Civil Service testing is scheduled for August 12th and 13th.
- Wednesday evening, the Susquehanna Valley Garden Club will dedicate a London Plane tree in King Street Park in memory of Lois Haddon. The public is invited.
- Mayor Zboray met with the Shikellamy superintendent and engineers on July 29th to view plans for a new middle school in Northumberland. The three story building will be situated in the former football field. Soccer and field hockey fields will be created in front of the new building on Hanover Street. The plans include the use of PermaStone Drive as the main access to the building for school busses and the parking area. The Mayor requested that they speak to Tom Slodysko about these plans. They also discussed installing sidewalks on Prince Street. The proposed cost of the building is 17 to 18 billion dollars. The district plans for grades 6, 7 and 8 to be housed in the building by January, 2016.
- The original quote for the landscaping in front of Municipal Center was higher than anticipated so a revised plan has been developed. The landscaping will be started in September. The S. Luther Savidge Charitable Trust is also provided funding for a sign in front of the Borough Office and a sign to be displayed in King Street Park during special events that are funded by the Savidge Trust. Mayor Zboray had the signs on display.
- The Northumberland National Bank purchased a bench for the King Street Park. Mayor Zboray thanked Tom Slodysko for picking it up and putting it in the park.
- Mayor Zboray noted that the new street signs look great.
- Mayor Zboray informed council that they have a report in their mail and that the sweeper tickets, parking tickets and parking violations have increased thanks to the new employee, Wendy Reigel.

Northumberland Borough Council Meeting

President James Troup called the council meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Roll Call

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

Public Comment

Six visitors present introduced themselves. No public comment was offered.

Northumberland Sewer Department Report

“According to Adam Klock there was a meeting in July in which the three (3) remaining members of the Northumberland Sewer Authority (NSA) had a meeting to cover the last order of business. They voted on dissolving the NSA enabling Dean Paul and/or Adam Klock to take any and all actions necessary to take care of that process to move forward.

The Sewer Department had their first budget meeting. There was and in depth discussion of the process that is currently used to determine the end of year treatment reconciliation. The past reconciliations are questionable therefore the formula is getting reviewed. The calculation was done earlier in the year for the previous treatment year. Point Township questioned it and upon review it has been determined that more work needs to be done so it is a fair method for all parties. There needs to be a formula put in place so there is consistency in the approach for the reconciliation.

Michele Cope reported that since the last meeting \$92,908.56 has been collected for sewer services. We have not gotten a restitution payment from Cynthia Lark since early July. The Preliminary SOP for the billing software is completed. The budget has been reviewed with Jeremy Deitrick and Brian Book. There are 2 additional bills that were not on the bills to be paid which total \$225.31 for fuel at Kratzers. We had the constable post one water shut off notice. The 2nd quarter invoices have been mailed to Point Township and Upper Augusta for sewer usage.

Jeremy Deitrick stated that was another issue at Emmanuel Home with the pump station being blocked with rags, so they have gotten a second letter. They are doing a better job but they can do more to eliminate the problem completely. Jeremy attended the Act 167 presentation by the County. This is for storm water runoff. They outlined the project and expectations. Keith Mull and Jeremy Deitrick completed some training. Keith Mull finished his activated Sludge portion of testing and submitted his application for his operator’s license. Jeremy Deitrick completed his collection system and 2 other subclasses.

Brian Book, Engineer for Hazen & Sawyer reported that Bellefonte Borough was the low bid at \$2.00 per pound for Nitrogen and Energy Works was the low bid for Phosphorus Credits at \$1.00 per pound. Energy Works has extended for 30 days. Bellefonte Borough had a meeting the same time the Borough is meeting. Adam Klock has been speaking to Kelly Township and they offered the Nitrogen credits at \$1.00 per pound which is ½ of the lowest bid we received. They have 33,600 Nitrogen and 500 Phosphorus available. They only agreed to one (1) year. He is not sure if this is a misunderstanding but we will check on this. Adam Klock made a motion to enter into an agreement of sale for nutrient credits with Kelly Township Municipal Authority for the purchase of Nitrogen and Phosphorus Credits for a three (3) year term and have the opportunity to discuss with them to modify the terms that vary from the agreement that is being proposed, for the credit price of \$1.00 per credit. James Troup second. All approved. Adam Klock made a motion to approve the bid from Energy Works for the Phosphorus at \$1.00 per pound on an as needed basis. Harry Wynn second. All approved.

The inter-municipal agreement was amended in 2003 to change the way of doing capital improvements. It gave the Sewer Authority the option of having the bulk customers get their own funding for improvements or draw down (pay monthly) as done with the QSPS project. Brian Book recommends the draw down method as PTSA has to obtain funding for their own project. Adam Klock made a motion to require repayment from our bulk customer's responsibility for both the joint conveyance system and treatment plant upgrades based on the draw down. Specifically this is for PTSA and UASA. The payment will be based on true flow at the end of the year. Harry Wynn second. All members approve.

The paperwork needs to be signed for the amendment to the contract were \$17,600 is getting removed for I & I work and adding \$80,000 for the digester's preliminary and final design. Brian Book states they are remaining on schedule. There are revised numbers based on some changes plus an increased cost in concrete. (A detail of changes is available at the sewer office) Brian Book suggests we borrow 13.4 million based upon where we are right now. This includes 1 million which we should never have to spend and it includes the highest cost for concrete. There will be one more update at 90% before it goes out to bid which will be in Nov-Dec 2013.

Submitted by S. Michele Cope"

Stormwater Issues

Council members, Mr. Slodysko, and Mr. Book discussed the pipe along the parking lot at Liberty Splashland. This area is included in the study that will be done this year to reduce the amount of stormwater that reaches the pipe. The Borough Secretary is submitting a request to extend the deadline for completing the project. The Borough recently learned that FEMA has approved additional funding for the pipe and the Borough has received \$34,800 which is the estimated cost to replace the pipe with corrugated pipe. Since corrugated pipe will only last about 15 years, Mr. Slodysko has proposed installing three plastic pipes, stacked one on top of the other two. The cost for the three pipes would be less than \$30,000 while the cost for one large diameter plastic or concrete pipe is over \$100,000. Mr. Book has met with Mr. Slodysko at the site and suggested that it would be best to wait for the study to be completed to see what size pipe would be required. The trees that are next to the pipe were discussed and the consensus was that they should be removed.

Another storm water issue that was discovered behind SUNCOM was discussed. Mr. Slodysko and Mr. Book have looked at the area and Mr. Slodysko determined that he could install new pipe where the metal pipe has corroded.

Repair was completed to the storm drain on Queen Street at Brickyard Avenue.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Slodysko explained that the list of streets that were included by PennDOT for the paving bid was incomplete. The bid for paving was approximately \$90,000. The Borough has approximately \$150,000 available for the work. Mr. Slodysko is working with PennDOT to see if additional streets may be added to the bid. Mr. Slodysko informed council that the list of streets that he proposes for paving are King Street from 5th to 6th; 6th Street from Orange to

Prince; Hanover Street from 6th to 7th, Pond Avenue from Hanover to Prince; and Fifth Street above Strawbridge Road. Mr. Slodysko said that he has repaired the curbing on Hanover Street and that the condition of the street is too poor to just pave a portion of it, but should be paved curb to curb. Possibly a section of Sawmill Avenue could be paved. Paving that was proposed for Park Avenue will be postponed until next year. Mr. Troup asked if the budget could include curbing on Empress Tree Lane. Mr. Slodysko responded that the company would be correcting an issue on Lincoln Street and they could probably put a rolled curb along Empress Tree Lane at that time. Mr. Slodysko stated that Meckley's would honor the bid for the additional work, but must check with the milling company to make sure that they would agree to extend their price for the additional work. Mr. Wynn moved and Mr. Troup seconded a motion to add the streets recommended by Tom to the paving bid. The council approved unanimously. Mr. Troup asked about the dip on Fifth Street at Prince Street. Mr. Slodysko is checking to see what is causing it.

Mr. Troup stated that he spoke with the head of the Sunbury Street Department and they have a sign department and are willing to help the Borough with street signs. Mr. Slodysko responded that he had spoken to Sunbury right after they purchased the machine and they did not have time to make signs for the Borough. He will contact them.

Emergency Services Board Report - No report

Code Enforcement Officer's Report – No report

Mr. Tira stated that he has sent out a draft of an ordinance that addresses Act 90 of 2010, neighborhood blight. Mr. Klock moved to advertise Ordinance 2013-2, which amends Chapter 30 of the Borough Code. Mr. Tira explained that one of the provisions is to allow the Borough to deny permits to a property owner that has violations for any property that he owns, anywhere in the state. Upon motion by Mr. Klock, seconded by Mr. Wynn, council voted unanimously to advertise Ordinance 2013-2.

Committee Reports

Community Development – no report

Finance

Mr. Sees announced that the committee would meet on August 15th at 6:30 p.m. to review the 2013 budget. Mr. Sees noted that the committee would be holding meetings to prepare the 2004 budget. The September meeting will be for departmental requests; the October meeting will be to discuss the income side of the budget; the November meeting will be to finalize the budget. The council will vote on the budget at the two December council meetings.

\$30,000 has been received from the Chesapeake Bay Trust and the Borough Secretary requested that the council authorize the establishment of a checking account for this grant money. Mr. Troup moved and Mr. Wynn seconded the motion which is Resolution J-2013. Council approved unanimously.

Sewer Department

The sewer committee meeting was rescheduled for Tuesday, August 13th at 5:30. The committee is working on the budget.

Personnel – no report

Public Safety – no report

Rules

Mr. Klock stated that the solicitor has completed another draft of the animal ordinance but he has not had time to review the changes. Mr. Tira suggested that council review the ordinance before advertising it. He added that minor changes may be made once the ordinance is advertised.

Mr. Sees stated that the committee would meet on August 12th at 6:00 p.m. to review the ordinance. The members of the committee are Mr. Sees, Mr. Wynn, and whoever replaces Mr. Wetzel on the council.

Mr. Sees has a draft of the Dog Park rules which may also be discussed at the committee meeting.

Streets – no report

Old Business

1. Mr. Tira stated that he and the Borough Secretary would review the PMRS contract. The topic was tabled.
2. 2nd Street Community Center Rental Agreement was provided by the solicitor. Mr. Klock requested that the document be resent. The work on the Savidge Room and kitchen should be completed within a month.

New Business

1. Mr. Klock moved to approve payment of the bills with a correction to the Evenlink bill which is \$183.02. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve payment of bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$30,915.20; 2nd Street Community & Municipal Center bills total \$171.46; Park and Recreation bills total \$1,030.65; Parking Meter bills total \$730.80; Liquid Fuels bills total \$1,316.00; and General Contingency bills total \$139.77.
2. Upon motion by Mr. Wynn, seconded by Mr. Sees, council unanimously approved to transfer \$9,185.36 from the Liberty Splashland account to the General Fund for the July 26, 2013 and August 2, 2013 payrolls.
3. Mr. Troup announced that SU Give will be held on August 24, 2013 from 1:00 to 3:30. Students will help at Liberty Splashland and at the Dog Park.
4. Gary Smith has offered to take the two organs that are in the gymnasium. Discussion ensued. Mr. Klock moved to advertise the organs on Facebook and accept bids for them until September 2nd. Mr. Wynn seconded the motion which was approved unanimously.

[Note: The organs are posted on Facebook with a final date to accept bids by October 1st.]

5. A request was made to allow people to set up their yard sales in front of the 2nd Street Community Center. Council decided that they are not in favor of permitting this.
6. Mr. Wynn asked where the Borough stands on the playground tiles. Mr. Tira replied that the topic would be discussed in the Executive Session.
7. Mr. Klock stated that there used to be a Police Chief report. Mayor Zboray stated that the chiefs' reports are written reports. Mr. Klock and Mr. Troup requested that the chief provide an oral report. Mr. Klock asked where the revision to the police department policy stands. Chief Kriner and Ann August have been working on them. The Mayor stated that he will check on it but thought that some of the chapters have been sent out for review.

Mr. Sees stated that the council used to be given a report that lists what's in each officer's daily log. He said that they have received that electronically in the past and would like to see what each officer is doing.

8. Mr. Klock asked if any applications for the vacant borough council seat had been received. None had. He asked if anyone in the audience would be willing to serve. Ellie Rees offered to serve on the Borough Council. Mr. Sees asked if Ms. Rees has lived in the Borough for more than one year, for the record. Mr. Troup asked that she tell them about herself. Ms. Rees replied that she has lived in the Borough for 37 or 38 years and likes the idea of giving back to the community. She noted that her father was a mayor in New Jersey when she was 11. Mr. Sees moved, and Mr. Wynn seconded the motion to appoint Ms. Rees to the vacant position on Borough Council. Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment. The term expires at the end of the year. Mayor Zboray noted that Ms. Rees is on the ballot in November. Mayor Zboray conducted the swearing in of Ms. Rees and she assumed a council seat.

Mr. Troup stated that the meeting would be adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss litigation issues and would not be reconvened.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary