

Borough of Northumberland

175 ORANGE STREET
NORTHUMBERLAND, PA 17857

Phone: (570) 473-3414
FAX: (570) 473-3986

E-Mail: office@northumberlandborough.com
www.northumberlandborough.com

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
October 4, 2016

President Paul Ruane called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Len Zboray offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Boyer, Ralph Cianflone, Ellie Rees, Paul Ruane, 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; MaryKay Clark, Code Enforcement Officer; Brian Probst, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Ralph Cianflone was absent.

Public Comment

Five visitors introduced themselves.

Jon Apple informed council that Patti Gessner, a resident of Duke Street, would like to be appointed to the Fire Police. She is a member of the Hookies and has obtained a clear background check. Upon motion by Mr. Boyer, seconded by Mrs. Rees, council voted unanimously to appoint Patti Gessner to the Fire Police.

Janet Metzger, a member of the Grace Lutheran Church, presented a request to council to permit the church to hold a "Trunk or Treat" at the King Street Park on Sunday, October 30, 2016, from 2:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. If approved they will invite other community churches to participate in the event. Mr. Troup made a motion to permit the event.

Dr. Cianflone arrived at 6:39 p.m.

Mr. Boyer seconded the motion to permit the "Trunk or Treat" at King Street Park. Council approved unanimously.

Northumberland Sewer Department

Mr. Mark Strahota, engineer with Hazen and Sawyer, presented applications for payment.

Fulkroad (contract 14-1G) has presented Application for Payment No. 16 for \$40,858.57. Mr. Boyer moved to approve the payment; Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Lecce (Contract 14-3E) has presented Application for Payment No. 15 for \$63,309.28. Mr. Boyer moved to approve the payment; Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Zboray stated that he had a call from a resident who is concerned about students crossing Hanover Street near Permastone Drive where there are no pedestrian crosswalks. Mayor Zboray contacted the principal was unaware that this was being done. She has informed the students that they should only be crossing at the crosswalks and staff members are going to monitor it. Mr. Wynn stated that students are also crossing Prince Street where there are no crosswalks. Mayor Zboray responded that Prince Street was not addressed. Mr. Probst noted that crosswalks may not be painted where there are no sidewalks. Mayor Zboray stated that the principal would like all students to cross at 5th Street. Mr. Sees stated that his daughter who is in seventh grade crosses Permastone Avenue and walks through the backyards to get to her home. He feels that she is responsible enough to be aware of the traffic. Mr. Tira stated that students cannot be forced by the Borough as to where to cross.
- Mayor Zboray noted that Veterans' Day Ceremony will be held at the Riverview Cemetery on Sunday, November 13th at 1:00 p.m.
- The National Rifle Association award-winning crime prevention and personal safety seminar, Refuse to be a Victim, will be held on November 10, 2016 from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at the Borough Building. There is not cost for this seminar but pre-registration is required due to limited seating. Officer Scott Kerstetter will be conducting the seminar.
- Mayor Zboray stated that no bids have been received for the Dodge Durango on Municibid. Mayor Zboray suggested that the vehicle be parked at Pineknott Park with a "For Sale" sign. Dr. Cianflone offered that the vehicle could be parked in front of car wash on Duke Street. The vehicle has 67,000 miles on it. Council also discussed the possibility of taking the vehicle to an auction. The cost to the Borough would be \$100. Council also discussed selling the 1999 Ford Crown Victoria that was used as the code car. The code officer is currently using her vehicle. Mr. Ruane made a motion to park the Dodge Durango at the Cadillac Car Wash and to advertise it for sale by sealed bids due by November 1, 2016. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Wynn stated that his neighbor's waterline broke. He said that the water is not only deteriorating his wall, the curb and street are deteriorating. Mr. Probst noted that he contacted the water company two weeks ago about the leak. Mr. Wynn said that the insurance company wants him to sign a release that they are not responsible for any damage to his wall and he won't do that. They have requested that the water company runs a line across Strawbridge Road and tie it into the line that goes to the middle school. The water company has refused. Mr. Wynn's neighbor is still getting water but he has no pressure. Discussion ensued. Mr. Probst offered to contact the water company again. Mr. Tira advised that the street should be inspected and if it is found to be damaged, council should make a claim. Mr. Tira added that someone should take pictures of the street in case there is a claim.
- Mr. Troup asked if the officers carry their Tasers. Chief Kriner replied that they are not because some of the officers' certifications have run out. He added that he is working on getting the officers certified.

RETTEW Engineering Report

Mr. Brian Book informed council that he is working on the rate study and will have more information for the next council meeting in two weeks.

Mr. Book stated that there was a meeting with PennDOT to discuss the SR 11/ 147 project. Penn DOT requested that the Sewer Department have plans for the relocation project completed by October 7th. However, until PennDOT provides the Sewer Department with drawings that show what PennDOT plans, the Sewer Department plans cannot be completed.

There is still a question about the funding for the Borough's cost to replace sewer lines. If the Borough owned the road at the time that the sewer lines were installed, PennDOT would pay 100% of the costs. The Borough Office is working on providing information regarding ownership. Mr. Tira will review this information and submit it to PennDOT.

Mr. Book provided information about a CFA grant which would provide 85% of the funds for the project. The other 15% would be paid by the Borough and Point Township. He said that a resolution is required. Council could also make a motion to set aside funds for the Borough's share of the 15%. And could also pass a motion asking for the grant. Representative Culver and Senator Gordner have been contacted for letters of support for the project. The application is due by the end of October. The three actions will be available for the next council meeting.

Mr. Book noted that the grant is not guaranteed; only 20% of the applications were funded in the last grant round. An application fee of \$100 is required.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Ms. MaryKay Clark provided a report for the month of September. One zoning permit and one street cut permit were issued; twelve code violations and two citations were issued; eleven rental inspections were conducted.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Brian Probst stated that he was able to borrow a line painter from Sunbury. He said that he would like to thank Officers Cope and Vognetz for their help with traffic control when painting on Duke Street, Front Street, and Water Street.

Mr. Wynn requested that the weeds be taken care of along the riverbank.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Dr. Cianflone stated that the gym project will be broken down since the Borough does not have enough funds for the entire project. The committee has asked the architect to provide plans for the electrical bid.

Finance

Mr. Sees said that the committee met last Tuesday to discuss the 2017 budget.

Mr. Boyer moved to approve budgeted contributions to the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library (\$1,500), the Penn Valley Airport Authority (\$1,000), the Northumberland Revitalization Committee (\$1,000), and the Shade Tree Commission (\$1,000). Mrs. Rees seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve.

Mr. Sees made a motion to put the code car at car wash and advertise for bids, due November 1st. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Personnel

Mrs. Rees informed council that the committee has been meeting to discuss the negotiations with the Teamsters.

Mrs. Rees also stated that the date of October 17th has been set for the installation of the soft tiles for the Overdrive on the playground.

Public Safety

Mr. Troup stated that this is Fire Prevention Month and that batteries should be changed in smoke alarms.

Rules – no report

Streets

Mr. Boyer stated that PennDOT has requested that council approve a right-of-way agreement in the amount of \$11,700. Dr. Cianflone made a motion to approve the right-of-way easements for the road construction project in the amount of \$11,700. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

PennDOT has asked if the Borough would permit night work during the construction project. The decision may not be changed after the bid has been let out. Discussion ensued. Mr. Boyer moved to give PennDOT permission to do night work for the entire project. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Council voted 6-1 to approve with Mr. Wynn voting no.

PennDOT plans to demolish the house at the corner of Water and Duke Streets. They had asked if the Borough would be interested in the residual property. That offer has been rescinded.

Old Business

1. Resolution C-2016 Police Retirement Contribution was tabled until they get a contract.

Dr. Cianflone left the meeting at 7:28 and returned at 7:32.

New Business

1. Upon motion by Mr. Boyer, seconded by Dr. Cianflone, council voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$53,489.30; bills to be paid from the Liquid Fuels fund total \$116,676.01; Liberty Splashland bills total

\$1,306.47; Parking Meter account bills total \$384.62; Sewer Department bills total \$11,488.24; and Sewer Department PennVest account bills total \$445,266.26.

2. Mr. Troup made a motion to appoint John Marino as the Borough's Building Code Official (BCO). Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
3. Penn Valley Airport Authority held a meeting last week to provide information to the shareholders about a new hangar construction project. Mr. Ruane stated that at the meeting last week it was noted that the current hangers are at 100% capacity and a company uses a portion of a hanger to rebuild airplanes. The estimated project cost is \$1.25 million. The funding would be a combination of a 50% PA State budget grant and a 50% USDA Federal Rural Development Loan. The loan for \$625,000 would be payable over 40 years at a fixed rate of 2.78%. In order to receive the loan, the nine municipal stakeholders are asked to guarantee the loan at a maximum cost of \$69,500 each. The Authority feels that the hanger will pay for itself they have requests for additional space. Mr. Ruane added that the airport is used for people coming to the local universities. He said that the Authority also has a project next year for additional area to tie planes down. It is also felt that the airport could attract more based jets. The Authority will provide a resolution to be considered at a future council meeting. It was noted that once completed, the stakeholders gain a \$1.25 million asset. Mr. Ruane noted that the Borough owns 1/9th of the airport.

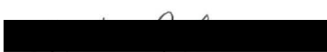
Mr. Sees left the meeting at 7:35 p.m. and returned at 7:41 p.m.

4. The Borough received \$19,179.39 for the Volunteer Fire Relief Association State Aid Allocation. This money is turned over to the Northumberland/ Point Township Fire Relief Association.
5. The Borough received \$56,870.40 for the General Municipal Pension System State Aid Allocation. This means that the municipal obligation for the police plan is 100% covered and the municipal obligation for the non-uniform plan is covered all but \$3,064.45

Executive Session

Mr. Ruane stated that the council would conduct an Executive Session to discuss contract and personnel issues but would not reconvene. He adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary