

Borough of Northumberland

175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857

Northumberland Borough Council Minutes August 1, 2023

Council President Paul Ruane called the Special Meeting to order at 6:32 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, and Mr. Ortiz offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Mr. Paul Ruane, Dr. Denise Guilbault, Ms. Kaitlyn Simmons, Mr. Frank Wetzel, Mr. Winston Ortiz and Mr. Charles Stroup. Others present were Ms. Melissa Kelso, Borough Solicitor, Mayor Daniel Berard; Mr. Jeremy Deitrick, Wastewater Superintendent, Mr. David Johnston, Streets Supervisor, Jackie Hart, NEIC; and Ms. Ann Zartman, Borough Manager.

Changes to the Agenda requiring a vote - none

Public Comment on Agenda Items - none

Mayor's Report

Mayor Berard read the report on the activity of the Police Department for the month of July. The police issued 33 traffic and 4 non-traffic citations, and 95 parking tickets. They responded to 223 calls for service, made 26 court appearances and trained for 21 hours. Several people were arrested for the misdemeanor and felony crimes of Endangering the Welfare of Children, Recklessly Endangering Another Person, False Identification to Law Enforcement, and DUI. The police responded to 23 assist calls for the month; 4 to Point Township, 12 (Primary on 3) to Sunbury, and 4 to other agencies. Milage for the month was 1,419.

Epler's Funeral Home had a funeral on Monday, and at Front & King a long line of cars would not let the procession in. After no one stopping, Todd Snyder was in the Street Sweeper. He stopped and stopped traffic. Thank you to Todd Snyder for his consideration.

President Ruane questioned the 3 primary calls, what does that mean. Mayor Berard commented that the calls were in Sunbury but no Sunbury officers were available. Mr. Wetzel commented that before we make an issue of it, we should learn the reasons behind the Sunbury Offices absences.

Sewer Department Report

Budget meetings will be starting at 1:00 pm on August 21st.

Street Department Report

No report.

NEIC Report

Ms. Jackie Hart of NEIC reported for the month of July: 3 zoning permits were issued; \$150.00 in zoning permit fees were collected; 1 council meeting was attended by Ms. Jackie Hart; 8 building permits were issued, and \$1,509.95 in building permit fees collected; 20 code violations reviewed; 6 Quality of Life tickets issued; 2 citations issued; 22 complaints were lodged and reviewed. No street cut permits were issued. 22 Rental properties were inspected, and \$10,525 inspection/licensing fees collected.

President Ruane commented on how well the new rental program was progressing.

Committee Reports

Community Development - No meeting.

Finance

No meeting this month, budget meetings will start at the next finance meeting.

Personnel – nothing new.

Public Safety

No meeting, the barricades worked well. Thank you to Nate for moving them around.

Rules

Dr. Guilbault made a motion to approve Resolution A-2023 Schedule of Fees and Penalties. Ms. Simmons seconded the motion. All approved, motion carried.

Streets

Mr. Ruane reported that a meeting was held with the engineers on the Queen St project. It's a slow process, we are making progress, and the bidding process should occur in 2024.

New Business

Mr Wetzel spoke about the Hanover Railroad crossing. He requested a letter be send to the railroad regarding the rough crossing over the tracks, and the erosion between rails.

Payment of Bills

Mr. Wetzel made a motion for the payment of bills; Ms. Simmons seconded. All approved, motion passed. Bills to be paid from the General Fund totaled \$ 54,444.25; and Sewer Department bills totaled \$110,317.39.

Public Comment

Mayor Berard commented that there is a future possible council member in the audience, Mr. Elijah Stretching.

Adjournment

Mr. Wetzel moved to adjourn, everyone seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Ann Zartman
Borough Secretary