

Borough of Northumberland

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

Mayor Len Zboray administered the Oath of Office to councilman elect James Troup and constable elect Sean Deiter.

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

Public Comment

Members of the public introduced themselves.

Jon Apple, Captain of the Fire Police, informed the council that the new truck is arriving early. The Fire Police have \$32,000 to pay for the vehicle, but requested that the council approve a loan to the fire police of up to \$8,000 to pay for the lights, radio, etc. He noted that the group is in the process of fundraising and would reimburse the council once they have the funds.

Mayor Zboray asked if council would like to wait until later for the election of officers since Councilmen Elect Ralph Cianflone and Ty Sees are expected to attend the meeting.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Boyer, Ellie Rees, Paul Ruane, and James Troup. Council member Harry Wynn and council members elect Ralph Cianflone and Ty Sees were absent. Others present were C.L. Kriner, Police Chief; Jeremy Deitrick, Sewer Department Superintendent; Ted McCollum, Street Supervisor/Code Enforcement Office; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Fire Police Request

Mrs. Rees made a motion to approve the loan of up to \$8,000 for the Fire Police. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. It was determined to table the motion until the next council meeting.

Public Comment

Police Officer Josh Dreisbach thanked the council for hiring him and giving him the opportunity to serve the Borough. Council thanked him for coming and for his service to his country.

Northumberland Borough Sewer Department

- Mr. Ruane reported that Ralpho Township has agreed to extend their contract for nutrient credits for one year. Mr. Ruane made a motion to extend the contract for nutrient credits

with Ralpho Township by giving them a verbal agreement contingent upon the solicitor's review. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

- Mr. Ruane stated that the contractor at the sewer plant has requested permission for their employees to park by the boat ramp. Mr. Ruane said that he feels they could park on the left side, but the right side should be left open for boaters. They had been given permission to park on the other side of Route 11 but do not like walking across the road. It was noted that they may walk under the bridge. No official action was taken.
- The contractor has requested that their payments be hand delivered to them rather than being mailed. Council determined that the checks should be mailed.
- Mr. Deitrick stated that the contractor is not storing equipment on the former car lot. Discussion took place regarding the possibility of tanks on the property. No one at the meeting was aware that any tanks are located there.
- Mark Strahota, Hazen & Sawyer, informed council that the Queen Street Pump Station has a leaking roof and minimal access for maintenance in the wet well. He requested that council consider issuing change orders to resolve the problems.

Liberty Hollow Stormwater Pipe Project

Mark Strahota, Hazen & Sawyer, informed council that the request for a time extension was approved by PEMA. The emergency permit was issued by DEP. Mid-State Paving has requested that the Notice to Proceed be dated as of January 11, 2016. He recommended that the council issue the agreement from the bid documents, Change Order No.1, and the notice to proceed. Council had previously voted on these items.

Mr. Strahota asked if a preconstruction meeting could be held on Wednesday afternoon. The Borough Secretary stated that she would not be available at that time, but would be available Wednesday morning or any other day. Mr. Strahota said that he would see if Mid-State could meet on Friday.

Mr. Strahota stated that Hazen & Sawyer is not under contract with the Borough to provide services for the construction phase of the project. He stated that they had provided a proposal with an estimate of the costs not to exceed \$11,300. Mr. Ruane questioned if funding for this service is included as part of the FEMA funding. The Borough Secretary responded that engineering costs were included as part of the funding but she would have to check on the amount.

Oath of Office

Council member-elect Ty Sees arrived at 7:23 p.m. Mayor Zboray administered the Oath of Office to him.

Northumberland Borough Sewer Department, continued

- Mr. Ruane made a motion to approve the Application for Payment No. 7 in the amount of \$845,038.16 to Fulkroad under contract 14-1G. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
- Mr. Ruane made a motion to approve the Application for Payment No.6 in the amount of \$74,795.94 to Lecce, under contract 14-3E. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Nomination and Election of Council President

Mrs. Rees nominated Paul Ruane for President. Mr. Sees nominated Jim Troup for President. Mr. Troup, Mr. Boyer, and Mr. Sees voted for Mr. Troup; Mrs. Rees and Mr. Ruane voted for Mr. Ruane. Mr. Troup was named President.

Nomination and Election of Council Vice President

Mrs. Rees nominated Paul Ruane for Vice-President. No other nominations were made. Council voted unanimously for Mr. Ruane for Vice-President.

Nomination and Election of President Pro Tem

Mr. Boyer nominated Ty Sees. Mr. Sees declined. Mr. Ruane nominated Paul Boyer. No other nominations were made. Council voted unanimously for Mr. Boyer for President Pro Tem.

Reappointment of Borough Employees

- Mr. Troup read the list of Borough Employees for reappointment. They are Chief of Police - C. L. Kriner; Code Enforcement & Zoning Officer and Street Supervisor - Theodore McCollum; Borough Secretary-Treasurer - Janice Bowman; Borough Assistant Secretary-Treasurer - Jane Sanders-Ressler; Borough Clerk - Ann August; Sewer Department Superintendent - Jeremy Deitrick; Sewer Department Assistant Superintendent - Budd Reader. Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve the reappointment of Borough employees. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.
- Mr. Ruane made a motion to reappoint Ryan Tira as the Borough Solicitor. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.
- Mr. Sees moved to reappoint NEIC and BUI as Borough building code inspectors. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve.
- Mr. Boyer made a motion to reappoint Mid-Penn as the Borough engineer. Mr. Ruane seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve.
- Mr. Ruane made a motion to appoint Jim Sanders as the Borough's Sewage Enforcement Officer and Kenneth Young as the Alternate Sewage Enforcement Officer. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Council Meeting Dates

Mr. Troup stated that he spoke with Ryan Tira and he is not available the first Tuesday of the month, but could be available the third Tuesday of the month. He asked if council would want to hold a work session the first Tuesday and have the regular meeting on the third Tuesday. Mr. Ruane stated that applications for payment from the contractors are usually presented at the first meeting of each month.

Mr. Ruane made a motion to hold council meetings the first and third Tuesdays of each month, except for July 5th. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Committee Appointments

Mr. Troup announced the following committee appointments:

Personnel: Jim Troup, chairman; Ellie Rees, Paul Ruane

Finance: Ty Sees, chairman; Ralph Cianflone, Jim Troup

Sewer: Paul Ruane, chairman; Paul Boyer, Jim Troup
Community Development: Ralph Cianflone, chairman; Ellie Rees, Ty Sees
Street: Paul Boyer, chairman; Paul Ruane, Harry Wynn
Public Safety: Ellie Rees, chairman; Paul Boyer, Harry Wynn
Rules: Harry Wynn, chairman; Ralph Cianflone, Ty Sees
Central Susquehanna COG representative: Paul Ruane
Northumberland County Tax Collection Committee: Ty Sees
Planning Commission representative: Paul Ruane

Oath of Office

Council member-elect Ralph Cianflone arrived at 7:54 p.m. Mayor Zboray administered the Oath of Office to him.

Committee Dates

Sewer: First Tuesday of the month at 5:30 p.m.
Community Development: Second Monday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Street: Second Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m.
Rules: Second Monday of the month at 6:00 p.m.
Public Safety: Third Tuesday at 6:00 p.m.
Finance: Fourth Tuesday at 6:30 p.m.
Personnel Committee meets as necessary.

New Business

1. Mr. Ruane made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Council approved unanimously. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$38,325.42; Liberty Splashland bills total \$85.61; General Contingency account bills total \$406.60; Park & Recreation Fund bills total \$5,283.71; Donations account bills total \$410.52; 2nd Street Community Center bills total \$2,959.60; and Sewer Department bills total \$33,887.67.
2. Mr. Ruane moved to adopt Ordinance 2016-1, the tax levy ordinance for 2016. Mr. Troup seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously. The ordinance follows:

***"BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND
NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA
ORDINANCE NO. 2016-1***

***AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND, NORTHUMBERLAND COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, FIXING THE REAL
PROPERTY TAX RATES FOR THE YEAR 2016.***

The Borough of Northumberland hereby ordains:

Section 1. Tax Levy.

That a tax be and the same is hereby levied upon all real property within the Borough subject to taxation for the fiscal year 2016 as follows:

1. *Tax Rate for General Revenue Purposes, the sum of 22.000 mils on each dollar of assessed valuation.*
2. *Tax Rate for Debt Service, the sum of 2.300 mils on each dollar of assessed valuation.*
3. *Tax Rate for Fire Equipment Purposes, the sum of 2.700 mils on each dollars of assessed valuation.*
4. *Tax Rate for Recreation Purposes, the sum of 1.000 mils on each dollar of assessed valuation.*

Section 2. Discounts.

Pursuant to Pennsylvania's Local Tax Collection Law, a taxpayer subject to the payment of a tax levy by their ordinance shall be entitled to a discount of 2% from the amount of such tax upon making payment of the whole amount of such tax by or before April 30, 2016.

Section 3. Penalties.

A taxpayer subject to the payment of a tax levy by this Ordinance who shall fail to make payment of such tax by June 30, 2016 shall be charged a penalty of 10% (which penalty shall be added to the tax by the Tax Collector and shall be collected by the Tax Collector).

Section 4. Effective Date.

This Ordinance and the real estate tax shall take effect on January 4, 2016.

Section 5. Severability.

That any ordinance or part of Ordinance conflicting with this Ordinance be and the same is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects or is inconsistent with this Ordinance.

ENACTED AND ORDAINED into an Ordinance this 4th day of January, 2016 by the Borough Council in the lawful session duly assembled.

ATTEST:

BOROUGH OF NORTHUMBERLAND

Secretary

President, Borough Council

Approved this 6th day of January, 2015.

Mayor"

3. Mr. Boyer made a motion to approve Jim Troup, Paul Ruane, Ty Sees, Jan Bowman, Jane Ressler, and Ann August as signers for the Borough bank accounts. Dr. Cianflone seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
4. Mr. Sees made a motion to approve that the work proceeds on the Liberty Hollow project. Mr. Boyer seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.
5. There are several vacancies on various committees. The Borough Secretary was requested to contact the people who are currently serving to see if they are willing to be reappointed. The committees are the Emergency Services Board, the Planning Commission, the Shade Tree Commission, and the Zoning Hearing Board.
6. Mrs. Rees asked about the status of advertising for a part-time officer. She informed that an ad will be in the newspaper. It was also noted that someone was in the office today to obtain an application.
7. Mr. Troup asked Mayor Zboray if the police schedule is available. Mayor Zboray responded that he hasn't gotten the schedule yet because of hiring the additional full-time officer.
8. Mayor Zboray said that there is colored confetti all over King Street Park from the gazebo to the library. This was from the New Year's Eve celebration in the park. He said that he doesn't know how it will be cleaned up because it doesn't appear to be biodegradable. Mr. Boyer suggested that it may be able to be vacuumed.

9. Mr. McCollum stated that January 20th is the last day for Christmas tree pickup.

Executive Session

Mr. Troup stated that the council would go into an Executive Session to discuss personnel and litigation issues and would not be returning.

The council meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary