

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
June 5, 2012

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

Roll Call

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

Public Comment

Mr. Harry Kolody introduced himself and his wife, Lori, and explained that they are the owners of General Sales, Inc. in Bloomsburg. He stated that he is present to get an explanation why the bill wasn't paid in full. Mr. Tira responded that the council had approved that amount for payment. Mr. Kolody provided a history of the repairs to the truck. He stated that the majority of the company's work is done with municipalities, school districts, fire companies, and ambulance companies. He noted that their normal labor rate is \$65 per hour; their municipal labor rate is \$48. Mr. Kolody requested that the council reconsider the decision to withhold a portion of the payment. Mr. Wetzel asked why council had not paid the bill in full. Mr. Tira stated that the council would take the issue under consideration in Executive Session.

Upon motion by Mr. Reed, seconded by Mr. Rees, council unanimously approved the council meeting minutes of May 1, 2012 with Mr. Wetzel abstaining.

Upon motion by Mr. Sees, seconded by Mr. Reed, council unanimously approved the meeting minutes of May 15, 2012 with Mr. Rees and Mr. Wetzel abstaining.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Zboray informed the council that two college students are interested in working as police interns this summer. One of the individuals is eligible for the PHEAA work study program, and would be paid \$7.25 per hour. It was learned that the other applicant is not eligible; however, the applicant feels that is an error and is checking with PHEAA. If not eligible for PHEAA, she is still interested in a volunteer internship. Upon motion by Mr. Sees, seconded by Mr. Rees, council unanimously approved the interns working with the police department. If PHEAA eligible, the

position would pay \$7.25. If not eligible for PHEAA, the position would be voluntary.

- The tires have been changed from the police vehicle to the code office vehicle. The police vehicle will be posted on Municibid. The new police vehicle is ready for use.
- The trees have been removed along Front Street by PPL. Mayor Zboray thanked PPL for doing the work.
- Mayor Zboray attended the County Commissioners' meeting with Chief Fink and Jan Bowman to show support for the opposition to the Commissioners' plans to transfer the responsibility for transporting prisoners to court hearings from the county to the municipalities.
- Mayor Zboray walked the route for the Cancer Walk with their representatives. The event will be held on October 27th. A kick-off breakfast will be held at Front Street Station.
- Mayor Zboray attended the grand opening at Furmano's.
- Mayor Zboray attended the Shikellamy Marina Presentation at the Degenstein Library. Representative Lynda Culver and Frank Nanno who oversees the state park were present to answer questions. Mayor Zboray said that he requested that a tree that is in the river near the railroad bridge be removed and was told that the tree is located in a no wake zone.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Slodysko requested that the council review the letter from Mr. Kolody and reconsider the amount of payment for the General Sales bill.
- Mr. Slodysko explained that he has contacted the representative from Bradford about the street signs for Strawbridge Road and Susquehanna Road. The names were printed on two- foot long signs and the lettering is so narrow that it is difficult to read. Bradford is working to replace the signs.
- Mr. Slodysko noted that the areas of Prince Street that were patched are settling. He will determine the reason and fix the problem.
- The crew has worked along the Old Danville Highway to alleviate the storm water problem.
- Mr. Slodysko discussed the repair to the brick crosswalks in the downtown area.
- The S. Luther Savidge Trust has provided the Borough with \$2,000 for new planters and plants for the downtown. They have also awarded \$1,000 for a flagpole and landscaping at the 2nd Street Community Center.
- Mr. Slodysko requested that the council consider removing the trees that are along the fence at the 2nd Street Playground. He stated that mowing grass is difficult due to the low branches.
- Three trees in the downtown were removed; one blew over and the other two were deteriorating.
- Mr. Slodysko requested permission to post the 1990 truck on Municibid. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Rees made a motion to advertise the 1990 truck on Municibid and to close bids on June 26, 2012 if the council has time to reject the bids after the council meeting that evening. If the time to reject the bids ends before the meeting, the date to close the bids is to be on June 27, 2012. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council approved unanimously.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report – No report

Emergency Services Board Report - No report

Sewer Authority Report

Mr. Troup stated that he attended the Northumberland Sewer Authority meeting and that the board voted to construct a new plant in Northumberland.

Committee Reports

Community Development

- Mr. Reed stated that letters were sent to businesses for donations to the dog park.
- Mayor Zboray stated that he spoke to the members of the S. Luther Savidge fund and they will consider donating to repair the tennis courts at the C.W. Rice building.
- The committee will meet on June 11th at 7:00 p.m.

Finance

No report

Personnel

Personnel issues will be discussed in the Executive Session.

Public Safety

No report

Rules

Mr. Sees said that he would not be present for the committee meeting on Monday. It will be decided by Mr. Wetzel and Mr. Klock whether to meet.

Sewer

No report

Councilman Gregory Carl arrived at 8:00 p.m.

Streets

Paving Bid

The street paving project was bid through the Central Susquehanna COG. The bids for the Borough's paving were \$127,942.05 from Meckley's Limestone; \$148,403.00 from Eastern Industries; \$148,830.00 from Gutelius; and \$175,606.75 from HRI.

Upon motion by Mr. Rees, seconded by Mr. Wetzel, council voted unanimously to accept the bid of \$127,942.05 from Meckley's Limestone.

Curbing Bid/Quotes

Mr. Rees moved to authorize the street supervisor and Borough secretary to obtain quotes for the curbing along Second Street. If the quotes are over \$18,000 authorization is given to advertise the bid with a bid date of June 26th. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Old Business - No old business was conducted.

New Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to approve payment of the bills, excluding the K & T bill that was sent in error. The YBC bill for \$405.27 for lumber for the bowl slide is to be paid to the Acorn Field Account because of the credit that is in that account from YBC. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$37,985.44; bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community and Municipal Center total \$2,449.03; the Parking Meter bills total \$5,653.34; and the Liberty Splashland bills total \$7,455.75.
2. Mr. Tom Propst has made a request on behalf of the Pineknotters' Days Committee for council to grant the Borough Street Supervisor and Police Chief permission to assist the committee with the Pineknotters' Day celebration. Upon motion from Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Carl, council voted unanimously to approve the requested assistance.
3. Upon motion by Mr. Wetzel, seconded by Mr. Sees, council voted unanimously to approve submitting the Games of Chance Application to Northumberland County at a cost of \$10 for the application and \$20 for the backgrounds checks on the Council President and Secretary.
4. Upon motion by Mr. Sees, seconded by Mr. Reed, the council voted unanimously to obtain flood insurance in the amount of \$27,500 with a \$1,000 deductible for the Fire Police Building at a cost of \$267.
5. Mr. Reed asked if the party that has shown interest in the old Borough Building has made a decision. He was told that the person is still considering the purchase. Mr. Tira advised that the topic could be discussed in the Executive Session.

Executive Session

Mr. Troup adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m. to discuss litigation, personnel and potential claims. He announced that the meeting may be reconvened.

Mr. Troup reconvened the council meeting at 9:40 p.m.

Mr. Rees moved to pay a total of \$1,996.74 with a credit of the prior payment of \$1,355, to General Sales. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Mr. Troup, Mr. Carl, Mr. Reed and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mr. Sees and Mr. Wetzel voted nay. Motion carried 4-2.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary