

Borough of Northumberland
175 Orange Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Work Session/Council Meeting
May 15, 2012

Borough Council President James Troup called the council work session to order at 7:00 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Code Enforcement Officer

Paul Ruane informed the council that he is attending school to renew his BOC this week. He recommends that the council review the rental ordinance and the fees. Mr. Ruane also provided copies of his April 2012 report to the council.

Mr. Troup asked if the property at Fifth and Wheatley should be condemned. Mr. Ruane will look into the codes and determine if it is safe. Mr. Tira advised that the outside of the building must appear unsafe in order to condemn the property.

Committee Reports

Streets

A pre-bid meeting was held for the downtown crosswalks project. The contractors who were present determined that the project would require more than five days for each of the two phases and estimated that the bids would come in higher than the estimated costs. Mr. Reed explained that it was originally thought that the concrete under the bricks had deteriorated. Mr. Slodysko removed some bricks today and discovered that the concrete under the bricks did not break, just the concrete on each side of the bricks. He is obtaining prices for brick that will withstand heavy traffic. The Street Department would be able to replace the bricks, installing them in one half the intersection at a time.

It was learned that the Borough will not receive a Community Development Block Grant for fiscal year 2012. An application had been submitted to install curbing and pave a portion of Second Street.

Mr. Slodysko informed the council that the GMC truck has been repaired at Paul Stine's. The truck was originally taken to General Sales in Bloomsburg for repairs; however, the truck was not fixed. Mr. Tira suggested that the council discuss the topic in an Executive Session.

Executive Session

Mr. Troup announced that the meeting would be adjourned at 7:26 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss the bill from General Sales for the repair of the GMC truck.

Mr. Troup convened the council meeting at 7:38 p.m. and a roll call was conducted. Council members present were Adam Klock, Stephen Reed, Ty Sees, and James Troup. Others present were Mayor Len Zboray; Ryan Tira, Solicitor; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Greg Carl, Jonathan Rees, and Frank Wetzel were absent.

Mr. Klock made a motion to pay \$1,355 to General Sales, Inc. as payment in full for the parts and services rendered on the GMC truck. Mr. Sees seconded the motion. Council voted unanimously to approve the motion.

Old Business

1. Mayor Zboray said that he received a call from Bud Mertz about the street cut across Susquehanna Road. Mr. Mertz told him that Fine Line Homes had dug up the street in 1996, not Mr. Troxell. Discussion ensued.
2. Mr. Slodysko will be meeting with a contractor to obtain a price for repairs to the tennis courts.
3. Mayor Zboray had received a complaint about high grass at a property on WestWay. The Code Office has contacted the owner.

New Business

1. Mayor Zboray announced that a community event, See You in September at King Street Park, will be held on September 2, 2012, from 2:00 to 9:30 p.m. Ted "Dutch" VanKirk, the navigator on the Enola Gay, will be honored by the American Legion Post 44. He will be signing copies of his book, "My True Course: Dutch VanKirk Northumberland to Hiroshima". Lynda Culver will be invited. Plans for the day include a Cruise In of classic cars at the King Street Par. Bob Haile has volunteered to barbeque chicken and other foods will be sold. TM Sounds will be playing W.W. II music and "oldies" during the afternoon. Memory Lane will be performing in the evening. The Revitalization Committee is sponsoring the event. Mayor Zboray hopes this will become an annual event. Mr. Troup suggested having a cruise through town before the cars are put on display at the park.
2. Representatives from the American Cancer Society will be in the Borough next Friday to determine the final route for the 5K walk called Making Strides against Breast Cancer. The walk is planned for Saturday, October 27th. The group is also planning to hold a kick-off breakfast or lunch to publicize the event.
3. Mr. Troup said that Travis Fisher called him to look at the tennis courts. Mr. Troup met with him and Justin Michaels and told them that the Borough has a lease with the school district for the property. Mr. Troup stated that the surface is in poor condition. Mr. Slodysko will have Jeff Tate provide an estimate to repair them.

4. Adam Klock stated that he would like to host an Art Gallery in his home during Pineknotters' Days. He said that they would also like to have wine tasting. Discussion ensued. Mr. Tira asked that Mr. Ruane check on the ordinance to determine if any permits would be required of the artists. He recommended that Mr. Klock check with the winery regarding the liquor laws. He noted that the winery should know what is required to be compliant and advised that Mr. Klock should make sure they are complaint for his own protection.
5. Mayor Zboray said that he would like to sell chances at the event in September and said that he would check with the county to see if a one-day permit could be obtained.
6. Mr. Reed asked if an account could be created for contributions for the dog park. Contributions that are received will be deposited in the Parks and Recreation bank account with the donors and the amount of the donation listed in a separate line item in QuickBooks.
7. Mayor Zboray stated that he and the Borough Office staff are working on posting the police vehicle on MunicBid.
8. In response to a letter received from Mr. Pfleeger, Mr. Tira stated that there was no intention to state who was the legal owner of the property. He said that the Borough is not the owner of the property in question and that this is not a Borough matter but a matter to be handled by the private landowners. He commented that there is no action to be taken by the Borough in this matter. Mr. Tira added that he does not believe he commented on the property after Mr. Pfleeger left the meeting.
9. Mr. Troup announced that Phil Hallden has submitted an application to be appointed to the vacancy on the Emergency Services Board. Mr. Troup moved to appoint him to the position that runs until January 1, 2015. Mr. Klock seconded the motion. Council unanimously approved the appointment.

Executive Session

The meeting was recessed for an Executive Session at 8:03 p.m. to discuss personnel issues.

No action was taken following the Executive Session. Mr. Sees moved to adjourn. The council meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary