

Borough of Northumberland
Reorganization and Regular Meeting
Northumberland Borough Municipal Building
January 7, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and a Moment of Silent Meditation was observed. Mayor Brosius offered an Invocation.

The “Swearing In” of the new council members was conducted by Mayor Brosius. The new members are Paul J. Bowersox, Gregory D. Carl, Judith H. Groninger, Donald E. Troxell, and Bryan M. Wolfe.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Atty. James Best, Solicitor, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Election of Officers

Mayor Brosius requested nominations for the office of President.

- Mr. Bowersox made a motion to nominate Mr. Bryan Wolfe for President.
- Mr. Ditton made a motion to close the nominations for President.
- Roll call vote – all ayes, except from Mr. Wolfe, who abstained. Motion passed 6-0-1.
- Mr. Wolfe was elected Council President.

Mayor Brosius requested nominations for the office of Vice-President.

- Mrs. Groninger made a motion to nominate Mr. Charles “Bud” Ditton for Vice-President.
- Mr. Wolfe moved to nominate Mr. Carl for Vice-President.
- Mr. Shaffer made a motion to close the nominations.
- Roll call vote was conducted on the motion to nominate Mr. Ditton for Vice-President. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Carl voted aye. Mr. Wolfe voted no. Mr. Ditton abstained. Motion passed 5-1-1.
- Mr. Ditton was elected Council Vice-President.

Mr. Wolfe requested nominations for the office of Chairman Pro-Tem.

- Mrs. Groninger made a motion to nominate Mr. Carl as Chairman Pro Tem.
- Mr. Troxell moved to close the nominations. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye. Mr. Carl abstained. Motion passed 6-0-1.
- Mr. Carl was elected Chairman Pro-Tem.

Executive Session

The council adjourned at 7:10 p.m. for an Executive Session regarding a personnel issue. The meeting was reconvened at 7:15 p.m.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered at this time.

Appointment of Committee Members

Mr. Wolfe announced the committees for 2002:

Council Representative to the Sewer Authority: Mr. Bowersox.

Finance: Mr. Wolfe, Chairman; Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton.

Parks and Recreation: Mr. Carl, Chairman; Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Shaffer.

Personnel: Mr. Ditton, Chairman; Mrs. Groninger; and Mr. Wolfe.

Property: Mrs. Groninger, Chairwoman; Mr. Carl, and Mr. Troxell.

Public Safety: Mr. Shaffer, Chairman; Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Wolfe.

Streets: Mr. Troxell, Chairman; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Shaffer.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported on the progress of Priestley Avenue. A completion date of the end of January is expected. The Sewer Authority will continue to meet on the fourth Monday of every month. The exceptions to this schedule will be December and May when they will meet on the third Monday of those months. The Sewer Authority is looking at their street projects for 2002. Ms. Lark had a question as to whether or not Mr. Bowersox will be a voting member of the Sewer Authority. When Mr. Sees was on the Sewer Authority he abstained when a vote related directly to the Borough. Mr. Wolfe stated that no one from the Sewer Authority would be bumped, and that Mr. Bowersox would not be given a vote if the borough code limits membership to the existing five seats.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported on his activity as Code Enforcement Officer. His report is on file at the Borough Office. Mr. Wolfe asked for Mr. Ruane and Mr. Bowersox's input as to when he thought it would be best to add another Code Enforcement Officer. They both thought that summer would be a good time. Mr. Wolfe also asked Mr. Ruane when he thought the Renter's Fee Notice letters should be sent. Mr. Ruane thought now was a good time. Mrs. Groninger stated her appreciation to Mr. Ruane for the good work he has done.

Mayor's Report – no report

Meeting Dates Set

Council discussed the meeting dates for 2002. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to establish meeting times for the Borough Council. The next meeting will be on January 22 and all meetings thereafter will be held on the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of the month except for July, which will be held only on July 16th, and November, which will be held on Monday, November 4th and Tuesday, November 19th. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion passed.

New Business

- Mrs. Groninger moved to adopt Resolution A - Fees and Penalties, 2002. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 6-1.
- Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-1, "Amendment to Landlord Regulation Ordinance of 2002", first reading. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion was held regarding landlords who own multiple units and how this ordinance will affect them. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 6-1. Final reading will be at the next meeting, January 22, 2002.

- Resolution B, 2002, “Streets on which Sidewalks are Required”, was tabled until the next meeting.
- Mrs. Groninger moved to reappoint Kenneth Diehl to the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mrs. Groninger made a motion to approve the bills for payment. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve the minutes of December 18, 2001. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mr. Shaffer moved to approve subdivision plans submitted by Linda Yerger. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-2.
- Mr. Carl moved to accept the proposal for the printing of the 2002 tax bills from the Northumberland County Assessment Office. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- One of the garage doors at the building rented to A.R.E.A. Services needs to be replaced. Mr. Troxell has obtained quotes on three doors from Glick’s. The other garage door was damaged. A.R.E.A. Services paid for the repairs. Quotes will be obtained from other companies.
- Mrs. Groninger acknowledged the monthly police report received from Chief Redington.

Old Business

- Mr. Bowersox moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-2, the agreement to join the Central Susquehanna COG, first reading. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Roll call vote – all ayes. Final reading will be at the next meeting, January 22, 2002.
- Mr. Wolfe explained that the council could reopen the 2002 budget. Mrs. Groninger stated that the borough is including millage for fire equipment with the condition that an audited report is provided from any fire company that requested money. The audited report has not been received. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to reopen the budget. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger voted aye. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion failed 1-6.
Mr. Wolfe made a motion that an audited report must be received from the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Fire Company by May 15, 2002. If this audit is not received, the millage will be set aside in a separate account or reimbursed to the taxpayer. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye. Mr. Shaffer voted no. Motion passed 6-1. Mr. Jim Troup requested that a letter be sent to Jerry Aurand, President of the Hookies, informing him of the council’s condition.
- Council discussed advertising for a street supervisor by February 1. Mr. Ditton has drafted a job description for the other council members to review. Mr. Bowersox stated that some of the street crew do not feel that a street supervisor is needed. Mr. Bowersox does support hiring a street supervisor.

Executive Session - Personnel Issue

Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Troxell went into an executive session with Atty. Brosius at 9:20 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 9:55 p.m.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to extend the meeting to 10:15. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Personnel Hearing Decision

Mr. Wolfe read the Conclusions of the council members who served as the hearing board:

David Bogovich, the First Assistant Fire Chief of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland, made remarks of a sexual nature to Kelly Spigelmeyer, an officer of the Northumberland Borough Police Department, which were offensive to her. In so doing, Mr. Bogovich engaged in conduct unbecoming an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.

David Bogovich, the First Assistant Fire Chief of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland, responded to an accident scene after having consumed four beers, and with the strong odor of alcohol on his breath. This presented a negative image for the Borough and its Fire Department and constituted conduct unbecoming an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.

David Bogovich lied in the presence of Larry Redington, Chief of the Northumberland Borough Police Department, when he denied making any comments to Officer Kelly Spigelmeyer, except a comment about her blushing. This was conduct unbecoming an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.

Mr. Wolfe also read the hearing board's Determination:

Having found that David Bogovich engaged in the three acts of misconduct above, the Hearing Board sustains his suspension by the Northumberland Borough Council and directs that his suspension continue for two years during which time he shall not serve as an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland. Thereafter, if elected by the Fire Board pursuant to the Fire Department Ordinance, he may be considered for approval as Second Assistant Chief of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.

Mr. Shaffer recommended setting a Public Safety Meeting for Wednesday, January 23rd, at 7:00 p.m. to review the update of the EMA plan. Fire Police, EMA, and the borough council are all invited.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
Northumberland Borough Municipal Building
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
January 22, 2002

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and a Moment of Silent Meditation was observed. Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Larson Design Group, Inc. - Storm Water Project

Mr. Max Inkrote reviewed the plans for the storm water project with the council. He and others with Larson’s are in contact with PennVest authorities to determine the requirements that the engineering group must meet for the loan. Council stressed that the bids must be out by April 1, 2002.

Atty. James Best, borough solicitor, arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Council discussed whether or not the project would require a voter referendum. Atty. Best’s preliminary conclusion is that the borough would need a referendum for the project and that the Board of Elections would need notified by February 1, 2002.

Public Comment

The fifteen visitors present introduced themselves.

Mr. Clifford Shaffer voiced his opposition to the 1.5 mills of tax added to the budget this year for fire equipment. If the money were to pay for the fire hydrants, he would not be protesting. But he does not feel that the money should be spent for a new fire truck. A former borough council decided to permit the fire companies to operate small games of chance in lieu of tax money being spent for fire equipment. He stated that if the council was going to pay for the Hook & Ladder Fire Company’s truck, the truck should be titled in the borough’s name. He stated that other fire companies are utilizing trucks that are over 35 years old. Mr. Shaffer also suggested that the number of officers in the Police Department could be reduced to five. Mr. Shaffer had spoken with Mr. Bowersox who voted against the millage for fire equipment.

Several members of the borough street crew were in attendance. Mr. Wolfe thanked them for attending the meeting. Mr. Don Keeley answered questions about the borough trucks and the snow removal. The crew has an answering machine at the garage and they try to accommodate residents who call about snow removal.

The street crew will assist in removing the Christmas decorations.

Council members thanked the crew for their efforts during the snow storms.

Sewer Authority Report

- Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the authority has not met since the last borough council meeting. The next meeting of the Sewer Authority is Monday, January 28th at 7:00 p.m. Work is continuing on Priestley Avenue.
- Mr. Bowersox thanked Mr. Wolfe for the appointment to the Sewer Authority and stated that he declined the appointment.
- Mr. Keeley voiced his appreciation to the Sewer Authority for the help received from Budd Reader during the snow storms.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius has reviewed the Emergency Operational Plan manual. The Public Safety Committee will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. to discuss the manual.
- Mayor Brosius read a report from the Revitalization Committee and thanked the council for extending money to the committee for the railroad print sale. The money loaned by the borough has been returned and a \$1,300 profit has been realized thus far. She asked permission from the council for several projects that the committee would like to undertake. One project would be a permanent Community Bulletin Board to be placed at the end of the King Street Park. The committee would like to see the bricked crosswalks in the downtown area restored. The committee plans to clean the bulbs and globes of the downtown street lights. The railroad underpass clean-up and repairs is another project that the committee plans to undertake. A historic brochure is being planned. The next meeting of the Revitalization Committee is February 11, 2002.
- The Northumberland County Conservation Office is selling trees and shrubs. Ms. Brosius suggested that items be purchased for the area around the underpass with funds from the Shade Tree Account.
- Brochures are available in the borough office for the Susquehanna Valley Visitor's Bureau. The borough is a member of the bureau. Community activities can be advertised in the brochures.
- Mayor Brosius remarked that the ambulance cards from A.R.E.A. Services do not mention the fact that the company is in the borough. She felt that borough residents should be made aware of the fact that the service is located in the borough, in the former Rescue Squad building.
- Mr. Redington reported that PennDOT has requested a meeting with the council to discuss a pedestrian crossing on Duke Street. The time of the meeting has not been finalized.
- Mr. Wolfe voiced the council's approval for the Downtown Revitalization Committee's plans.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported on his activity for the month. The report is on file in the borough office. The Zoning Board has a hearing scheduled for January 29, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. for the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation's variance.

Committee Reports **Streets**

Mr. Troxell reported that two of the borough trucks are being repaired. Mr. Wolfe recommended that the Street Committee continue to develop a long-range plan for the street paving. Mrs. Groninger reminded council that one tractor trailer or garbage compactor traveling on borough streets is the same as 1,000 cars.

Finance – No report

Recreation

- Mr. Carl stated that the committee met last Thursday with representatives from SEDA-Cog to discuss the Susquehanna Greenways project. Over a time period of three years, municipalities will be asked to spruce up the areas within one mile of the river. That would encompass most of the borough. Jerra Carl has volunteered to attend the meetings, if council approves. Mrs. Carl is a member of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Council approved her attendance at the Susquehanna Greenways meetings.
- The meeting to discuss the pool project is scheduled for February 6th at 6:00 p.m.
- The skating rink at the park has been discontinued due to remarks from residents. The rink will be removed as soon as the weather permits. Mr. Wolfe stated that residents should bring their complaints to the council rather than to the Recreation Committee members.

Property

- Mrs. Groninger submitted a written report about the Property Committee meeting held on January 30, 2002. The report is on file in the borough office. She noted one correction. Those in attendance should include Mayor Brosius.
- A time schedule is in place for the ball field at Pineknott Park. The lighting project should be completed by the end of April, according to Mr. Redington. The rehabilitation of the ball field is part of the project. The field should be ready for ball games this year, whether or not the lights are installed. Mrs. Groninger stated that volunteers are working to complete the ground work. Mr. Mike Daddario requested the council's support in completing the field. The street crew may be asked to assist with the project as their schedules permit. Mr. Keeley stated that crew members are willing to volunteer on their own time. Mr. Shaffer questioned if the crew may legally volunteer their time while working with borough equipment and doing job-related functions. Atty. Best felt that the crew members could volunteer, if they choose to do so. If an accident should occur, workman's compensation would still apply, according to Atty. Best. Mrs. Groninger moved to allow the borough crew to volunteer their time at Pineknott Park on their off-hours, using borough equipment. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. The solicitor approved the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Council also agreed that the crew members may work at Pineknott Park during working hours, if the schedule permits and the street committee chairman approves.
- A new garage door has been ordered for the Rescue Building. The current door has been repaired temporarily.
- Construction of the new roof at the Second Street School has not yet begun.

Public Safety

- A committee meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. to review the Emergency Disaster Plan, according to Mr. Shaffer.
- Mr. Shaffer was informed by the fire chief that he plans to resign. However, a written resignation has not been submitted.
- At the last Ordinance Committee Meeting, the committee reviewed the ordinances pertaining to the Fire Department and Fire Protection. Mr. Wolfe moved that the Fire Chief, First Assistant Fire Chief, and Second Assistant Fire Chief should be approved by the Borough Council after being approved by the Fire Board. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. If necessary, the council may appoint a fire chief from outside the borough on a temporary basis, if the current chief resigns. Atty. Best added that the new ordinance could include that the borough council has the authority to discipline or remove an officer for just cause. Mr. Wolfe amended his motion. Mr. Shaffer amended his second. Discussion. Atty. Best stated that the borough's position has been that the council has the inherent power to discipline or remove an officer for just cause. By adding this wording to the ordinance, the borough's position is clarified. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Personnel

Mr. Ditton has prepared a job description for the Street Supervisor. He requested input from the other council members before finalizing the job description. Atty. Best's opinion was that the Personnel Committee should conduct the interviews for the position. Mr. Wolfe moved to advertise for the Street Supervisor and to interview the applicants at a Special Council Meeting to be held in Executive Session, closed to the public. The current street crew members are strongly urged to apply. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Ordinance

The Ordinance Committee will meet on February 12, 2002 at 6:00 p.m.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.
2. The minutes of the January 7, 2002 meeting were discussed. A correction to the minutes was noted. Mr. Wolfe, not Mayor Brosius, requested nominations for Chairman Pro-Tem. Mrs. Groninger moved to accept the minutes as corrected. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.
3. Mr. Bowersox moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-3, Amendment to Telecommunications Act of 2001 (1st reading). Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll Call vote – All ayes. The second reading of this ordinance will be at the February 5, 2002 council meeting.
4. Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint the Northumberland Special Fire Police for 2002. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. The fire police are Captain Jon Apple, Lieutenant & Secretary Herbert W. Gottshall, Jr., Sergeant & Treasurer Herbert W. Gottshall, III, and

Patrolmen Robert Ciotti, Gary McNeir, William Farone, Budd Reader, and Thomas Cropf. The motion was amended to include council's gratitude for the time these men donate to the borough in performing this service. Roll call vote – All ayes.

5. Mr. Troxell moved to hire Forgett & Kerstetter, P.C. to audit the borough's accounts for the years 2001, 2002, and 2003 at a cost of \$2,125 per year. If a single audit is required by PennVest, the cost for a single audit would be \$750. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to reappoint Mr. Robert Waltz to the Appeals Board for the term ending 1/31/05. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
7. Mrs. Groninger moved to engage Statewide Tax Recovery, Inc. to collect the delinquent 2001 per capita taxes. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Old Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-1, Amendment to Landlord Ordinance of 2002. This is the second reading of this ordinance. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. This ordinance adds the civil penalties to the current ordinance, as requested by District Justice Bolton, and authorizes the council to address the rate for inspections of the rental properties that have more than ten units. By adopting this ordinance the council would have the option of negotiating a flat rate for inspections for those property owners who have more than ten rental units. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Troxell and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-2.
2. Mr. Dwight Walters of Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. was present at the meeting. Mr. Walters has been negotiating the franchise agreement with the council. He feels progress has been made in the negotiations. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council will vote on the franchise agreement after the second reading of Ordinance 2002-3 at the February 4, 2002 council meeting. This ordinance establishes the borough's right to negotiate a franchise agreement to be adopted by resolution. Mr. Walters said that a franchise agreement will be forwarded to the council for review. Mr. Walters also informed the council that Service Electric has several bucket trucks for sale.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

3. Mayor Brosius and Mr. Wolfe have been attending the planning meeting for the Central Susquehanna COG. This organization would benefit the borough in that the municipalities in the COG could put out contracts as a group, thus saving money for each municipality. Mr. Don Free, of PennDOT, has been coordinating the efforts. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-2 Central Susquehanna COG. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. This is the second reading of the ordinance. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye. Mrs. Groninger was absent for the vote. Motion passed 6-0.

Mrs. Groninger returned to the council meeting at 9:00 p.m.

4. Council discussed Resolution C-2002 – the appointment of a voting member & alternate to the Central Susquehanna COG. Mr. Wolfe requested nominations. No one offered any nominations at this time. Mr. Wolfe tabled the resolution to give council time to consider the borough's representation to the COG.
5. Mr. Wolfe read Resolution B-2002. This resolution designates locations where sidewalks are required throughout the borough. Mr. Ditton explained a map which illustrated the locations. Mr. Bowersox moved to adopt Resolution B-2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Council discussed the exceptions provided for in the resolution. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Bowersox offered comments at the end of the meeting.

He noted that five of the representatives at the table had belonged to "Citizens for a Better Norry". He added that, in his opinion, this council was not "Citizens for a Better Norry." Mrs. Groninger took exception to the remark, noting that the current borough office employees are willing to help people who call or come into the office, the borough's Code Enforcement Officer enforces the codes, and the borough street crew is comprised of good workers. Mr. Bowersox stated that he approved the hiring of the workers on the borough crew. Mrs. Brosius commented that Mr. Bowersox voted to close Pineknottter Park and Jolly Hollow. Mr. Wolfe maintained that Mr. Bowersox is angry with Mr. Wolfe because he replaced Mr. Bowersox as the Street Committee chairman. Mr. Wolfe asked if anyone wished to make a motion to overturn the committee assignments. No motion was given.

Mr. Bowersox said that he would not bring up the issue again; but would show by his vote how he feels, as he did during this meeting. However, he would not vote negatively for anything that is for the betterment of the community. Mr. Wolfe stated that anyone who does not vote for the betterment of the borough should not be sitting on council.

In conclusion to his remarks, Mr. Bowersox stated that he was unable to supervise the borough crew "at the end" because he felt council members were going behind his back. Mrs. Groninger replied that council members had worked with him and no one was going behind anyone's back.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Regular Stated Council Meeting
Northumberland Borough Municipal Building
February 5, 2002

Vice-President Charles "Bud" Ditton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles "Bud" Ditton, Gregory Shaffer, and Donald Troxell. Judith Groninger and Bryan Wolfe were absent. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.
The fourteen visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mrs. Jerra Carl reported on the meeting she attended concerning the Greensway Organization. Funding is available for projects that are within one mile of the Susquehanna River. Representatives from the Greensway Organization offered to attend meetings of various committees in the borough. Discussion was held. It was suggested that the Northumberland/Point Township Revitalization Committee should be made aware of this funding. This committee meets on February 11, 2002 at 7:30 p.m.

Atty. Best arrived at 7:08 p.m.

Atty. Gene Brosius reported that the Second Street School Committee met last evening. The committee is considering starting a Capital Fund Drive. They also plan to meet twice a month, the first and third Mondays, if council has no objections. Council approved the meetings. The roof trusses for the new roof are expected in two weeks.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that Priestley Avenue is progressing nicely. The new main is being used and the laterals will be connected. The Authority has not yet determined their work for this year. The work on Priestley Avenue should be completed within the month.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that she attended the Fire Board Meeting on January 28. The committee will send the mayor a copy of the minutes, once approved. The Fire Board's next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 26 at 6:45 p.m. at the Hookies.

Mayor Brosius explained that she reluctantly signed the Landlord Ordinance. The reason she signed the document is that this ordinance adds the criminal penalty, as required by District Justice Bolton. However, Ms. Brosius does not agree with the section of the ordinance that allows property owners with more than 10 rental units to negotiate a lower inspection fee.

Ms. Brosius is currently reviewing the Police Procedure and Policy Manual.

Several members of the borough council, the Chief of Police, and Borough Secretary met with PennDOT and Professor McGinnis, an engineering professor from Bucknell and students in his engineering class. They will be conducting a traffic study in the borough within the next few months.

The Pineknotters Days Association is requesting the use of the Second Street School playground area during Pineknotters Days for rides, etc. No objections were raised.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activities for the month of January. The report is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Ruane suggested that the Property Committee visit the Recycling Building. Mr. Ditton requested that Don Troxell and Greg Carl check out the building.

Committee Reports

- Finance – no report
- Parks and Recreation
The committee met with a representative from the Greenways Organization.
- Personnel
An advertisement is being prepared for the Street Supervisor.
- Property
A meeting is scheduled for tomorrow evening at 6:00 p.m. in the borough hall.
- Public Safety
The Fire Police had requested \$900 for equipment from the Fire Relief Association. The Fire Relief Association had approved the funding; however the Hookies stated that the money was needed for the new fire truck. Mr. Carl voiced his opinion that the Fire Police should be able to receive money for their equipment and that the Hookies should have had plans in place for the funding of the truck before it was purchased. Discussion. The Fire Relief Association will disburse funds to the Fire Police; however, the money is taken from the Northumberland Fire Companies share of the relief money. The Fire Relief Association was told that the Northumberland Fire Board has established a policy for obtaining funds from the Fire Relief. Council agreed that if the Fire Board has policies about disbursing funds, they would like to receive a copy of the policies. Ms. Brosius requested that she be sent copies of the board's policies when she was at the January 28th meeting. The Public Safety Committee will make an official request.
- Streets – The cable company has offered the borough a bucket van for \$3,000. Mr. Troxell recommended that the borough purchase truck #455 for the street crew. Mr. Bowersox asked if the truck had been inspected. Mr. Walters informed the council that the van has been serviced regularly. Mr. Troxell moved to purchase the bucket van from

Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. for \$3,000. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

- Mr. Bowersox asked why the spreaders are not on the two large trucks. Mr. Troxell stated that one truck does have a spreader on it. Mr. Bowersox added that one spreader was sitting outside and becoming rusty. Mr. Troxell will check into it.

Old Business

1. Mr. Ditton read Ordinance 2002-3, Amendment to Telecommunications Act of 2001. This was the second reading. Mr. Carl moved to adopt ordinance 2002-3. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to adopt Resolution C – 2002 and appoint Mr. Don Troxell as the voting member with signature authority to the Central Susquehanna Council of Governments. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Ditton nominated Mr. Bowersox as the alternate member of the COG. Mr. Bowersox declined. Mr. Shaffer moved to assign Mrs. Judith Groninger as the alternate member of the Central Susquehanna Council of Governments, under Resolution C-2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Ditton provided the council with a written update concerning the Storm Water Project and PennVest loan. He has prepared a list of requirements; who should be responsible for completing them, and the due date for each. A May 1, 2002 bid date is the target date. Larson Design Group, Inc. has submitted a proposal for the Storm Sewer Design and Construction Agreement. Larson's will provide a senior inspector to be on site once a week. They recommend that the borough hire a resident inspector. PennVest has also recommended that a resident inspector be hired. Mr. Bowersox stated that Paul Ruane could be the inspector and Mr. Bowersox could oversee the inspection. Mr. Bowersox was the inspector at the Sewer Plant several years ago. Mrs. Brosius asked if new storm sewer is to be placed on Sixth Street. At this time, Larson's had not recommended new storm sewers on Sixth Street. A typo in the document was noted. The number of easements included in this proposal is fifteen, not four. Mr. Shaffer moved to accept Larson's proposal, with the correction noted. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 4-1. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$3,898.01 and the bills from the Liberty Pool Account total \$13.98.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2002 council meeting. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 4-1.
3. Atty. Best has not yet received Resolution D-2002, the Franchise Agreement with Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. Mr. Walters stated that it was completed and Atty. Best should receive it shortly. No action was taken.

4. The Mountain Valley Bassmasters have requested use of the Hanover Street launch for a Bass Tournament on August 4, 2002 from 5:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to permit the group to use the launch. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Mr. Shaffer suggested that the launch at the Point be used instead. Discussion. Roll call vote – Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 3-2. The topic was discussed further. Council is recommending that the group consider using the Point instead of the Hanover Street launch. More parking space is available at the Point. Mr. Shaffer added that the dock at the Point is for public use; while the dock at Hanover Street is a private dock. Mr. Ruane stated that the Park Superintendent at the marina had offered used docks to the borough.
5. The borough had received a letter from Northumberland County's Chief Assessor stating that the county would not be printing the borough's tax bills. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to authorize engaging Data Pro or another company to print the borough's tax bills if the county assessment office refuses to print them. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. Mr. Ditton announced that PennDOT is recommending lighted crosswalks on Duke Street instead of stoplights. The lights are recessed in the street. When the button is pushed, the lights blink on and off. The pedestrian is reminded to be careful crossing the street. The crosswalks have been installed in Montoursville. PennDOT would pay for the installation; the borough would be responsible for paying the monthly electric bill. Mr. Redington is meeting with the group from Bucknell on Thursday morning to discuss the traffic study. In order for an intersection to qualify for a stoplight, 53 cars per hour must enter the intersection from a cross street during eight hours of an average day.
7. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to renew the permit to install a floating structure on Commonwealth waters. This is for the dock at the Point. The permit fee is \$10.00. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Regular Stated Council Meeting
Northumberland Borough Municipal Building
February 19, 2002

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Gregory Shaffer, Donald Troxell, Judith Groninger, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.
The community members present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Robert E. Moyer of Fifth and Prince Street commented on the Sidewalk Ordinance. He felt that the ordinance itself was good but needed to have more exceptions. He felt that it was impractical to require sidewalks on Prince Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets. He also felt the only need for sidewalks was for mail carriers. His mail is delivered by vehicle not carrier. He would also have to dig out some trees that were recently planted and there is an embankment on his property. He has requested that the Borough Council make an exception to the ordinance for Prince Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets.

Mr. Carl answered Mr. Moyer’s concerns by stating that the ordinance contains a provision for the concerns he has stated. Mr. Moyer could apply for an exception. The ordinance itself was not to be enforced for five years. Mr. Wolfe told Mr. Moyer that coming to the council was the appropriate first step to applying for an exception to the ordinance. The Public Safety Committee will be responsible for reviewing the requests for exemptions. When the committee made a decision regarding Mr. Moyer’s property, he will be contacted. Mr. Wolfe suggested that exemption forms should be made available for the public.

Mr. William Swoyer had the same concerns as Mr. Moyer and his property will also be considered for the exemption.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that Priestley Avenue is almost complete.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that she visited the pedestrian crossing in Montoursville. She has some questions as to how it would work in the borough.

Jim Neitz came to see her about an auction that is scheduled. Participating municipalities need to respond by February 25. The borough receives 90% of the sales; the auctioneer keeps 10%.

There was a complaint of a school bus being parked on the street, which block the drivers’ view. There is a similar problem with large delivery trucks. The bus is parked on Orange between Second and Third Street. She also mentioned a complaint to the Street Committee about the leaf picker blowing dust.

The council discussed the fact that no complaint should be brought to the council unless the person has given their name along with the complaint.

The Revitalization Committee met on February 11, 2002. Eve Minson from SEDA-COG will come to the April 8 meeting to brainstorm on a current project. The committee would also like to see market vendors in the downtown area this summer. There are no ordinances that would preclude a market. The council will check with the solicitor. The committee is awaiting the guidelines for the underpass clean-up and would like to coordinate the clean-up with the closing of the underpass when the road is paved. This would occur on either an evening or a Saturday. PennDot has not set a date yet. The next Revitalization Committee meeting will be March 11, 2002.

The Improvement Committee met last evening. The work on the gazebo will begin in March. The Improvement Committee will pay for the cost of transporting the SUN Vo-tech students and the cost of materials. The work on the gazebo will be completed by April 13.

Solicitor's Report

Attorney Best could not be present at the meeting, but he prepared a written report for council. Resolution D-2002, the franchise agreement with Service Electric, will be discussed later. Fire Ordinance 2002-4 will be added to the agenda and discussed during New Business. A first vote will be taken this evening. Delinquent Rental fees and the Fifth Street issue will be discussed later in the meeting. Issues 2, 3, and 4 of the report cannot be discussed in public.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane gave a report on his activities. He will have to cite one of the landlords for failure to comply with the rental ordinance.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that ButterKrust is concerned about the possibility of hitting the fire hydrant at the corner of Fifth and Prince Streets. It was suggested that the company contact the water company.

Committee Reports

- Streets
Bryan Wolfe reviewed the street projects scheduled for 2002. The streets scheduled to be recycled and paved are Priestley Avenue from Queen Street to the new pavement (PG Energy will pay for a portion of Priestley Avenue.); Hanover Street from Water Street to Priestley Avenue; Second Street from Duke Street to Queen Street; and Fifth Street from Duke Street to Queen Street. Mr. Don Keeley explained that several of the alleys from Priestley Avenue to Water Street are in poor condition. If at all possible, they should be repaired.
- Property
 1. Mrs. Groninger announced that the rent for the Rescue Building is past due for the month of February. The company will be contacted.
 2. The new garage door has been installed at the Rescue Building. Repair to the downspout is needed. The crew should be able to complete this once the bucket truck is available.

3. Mr. Bowersox questioned where the money is coming from to pay for the bucket truck. Mr. Wolfe replied that there is money budgeted for small machinery and the amount for the truck can be taken from that account.
4. The contractor will begin replacing the roof at the Second Street School in the near future.
5. Mr. Bowersox remarked that only one person on the Property Committee attended the Property Committee Meeting this past month. Mrs. Groninger explained that she intended to be there but was out of town. The meeting had been advertised. Mr. Wolfe added that he was present. And that council had discussed, at one time, that as president of council, he could serve as other member of the committee if only one member of the committee was present. Other members of council were present and no action was taken.
6. Mr. Wolfe commended the Second Street School Committee, and Mr. Redington in particular, for the work they have done thus far in planning the future of the building and applying for funds. Mr. Redington will provide the council with specifics in the near future for council's approval.

- Finance – No report

- Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer reported that the No. 1 Fire Department is submitting a nomination to the Fire Board for the 2nd Assistant Fire Chief position. No official letter of resignation has been received from Josh Newbury as of yet. Mr. Shaffer stated that he has not responded to phone calls. Mr. Jim Troup told the council that Mr. Newbury is still the Fire Chief and that he was attending a training session this evening. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to send a certified letter to Josh Newbury, asking for his official status as Fire chief. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Mr. Ditton questioned why a letter should be sent and felt that if the borough has not received a resignation, Mr. Newbury is still the Fire Chief. Mr. Shaffer explained that one month ago Mr. Newbury had told him that he was resigning and would submit a letter. Mr. Newbury is a representative from the No. 1's. Mayor Brosius asked if the Hookies Fire Department was going to submit a name to the Fire Board for the 1st Assistant Fire Chief position. She feels that since the ordinance stipulates three Fire Chief positions, that the departments should fill those positions. Mr. Troup explained that Mr. Newbury had rescinded his decision to resign. Roll call vote on the motion to send a letter to Mr. Newbury – Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Wolfe all voted aye. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 5-2.

- Personnel

The Street Supervisor position was advertised. Members of the Street crew are encouraged to apply. Applications will be accepted until February 22, 2002.

- Parks and Recreation – No report.

Old Business

1. The bids for the completion of the ballfield at Pineknott Park, including the installation of lights, were opened this afternoon. Five bids were received. The apparent low bidder was I. Ray Zimmerman with a bid of \$294,700. The bid information is on file in the

borough office. The amount of the grant received from the state was \$163,000. Additional money is needed if the work is to be completed. Mr. Carl moved to request approximately \$135,000 from DCNR for additional grant money for the Pineknott Park ball field lights. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – all ayes. The bid was not awarded at this time.

2. The PennVest loan application was discussed. Last year, the borough's borrowing base was determined to be \$798,352. This would permit the borough to borrow approximately \$2,000,000 without holding a referendum. Other requirements were reviewed. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Personnel Committee meet with Atty. Best to review some of these requirements. Any evening except for a Wednesday would be convenient for the members of the Personnel Committee.
3. The council discussed Resolution D-2002, the franchise agreement with Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. Mr. Walters stated that the resolution was sent to the solicitor two weeks ago. Since the council did not receive copies of the resolution until this afternoon, action was tabled until the next meeting.

New Business

1. Mr. Wolfe read Ordinance 2002-4, "Fire Department Ordinance of 2002". Mr. Bowersox moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-4; Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The second reading of this ordinance will be at the March 5, 2002 council meeting.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$15,677.82, the Parking Meter Fund bills total \$50.00, and the bills from the Liberty Pool Account total \$3,781.97.
3. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to accept the minutes of the February 5, 2002 council meeting. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Council discussed an area of unopened Fifth Street where a property owner has a shed that extends onto the borough's right-of-way. The council had previously declined to sell a portion of the unopened Fifth Street to another borough resident with adjacent property. Mr. Troxell made a motion to send a letter to the property owner informing him of the problem. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Keeley recommended that council have someone contact the property owner personally to explain the problem. Council requested that the Code Enforcement Officer contact the property owner to resolve the issue. The motion was tabled.
5. A list of landlords who have not paid the yearly rental fee for 2001 has been compiled. Council discussed how to collect the delinquent fees. The collection agency charges a 50% commission. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to notify to landlords who have not paid the yearly rental fee for 2001. The letters are to inform the landlords that if the fee is not paid within 10 days, the landlord will be responsible for paying all costs associated with collecting the fees. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

6. The Berwick Bass Association requested permission to use the launch at Hanover Street on June 23, 2002 from 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. for a closed fishing tournament. Discussion. Mr. Ditton moved to permit the Berwick Bass Association use of the launch at the Point for their fishing tournament. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 6-1.
7. The borough has no substitute crossing guards. Mr. Shaffer moved to advertise for substitute crossing guards. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
8. Mr. Ditton stated that if applications for the Street Supervisor position were received, the Personnel Committee would review the applications.
9. Mr. Bowersox questioned if committee meetings would be held monthly. Mr. Wolfe stated that some of the committees do not meet on a regular basis. Council discussed dates for various committee meetings. The Street Committee will meet on March 12, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. The Property Committee will hold a meeting following the Street Committee meeting. The Park and Recreation Committee meets the third Thursday of each month at 7:00 p.m. The Public Safety Committee will schedule a meeting at the next council meeting.
10. Mr. Bowersox stated that the tentative date for PennDOT to complete the Penn Street ditch is March 1, 2002.
11. Mr. Carl reviewed highlights of the feasibility study that was prepared for the Liberty Pool by William L. Haralson and Associates. He made a motion to engage Water Technology to proceed with conceptual designs for upgrading the facility at the Liberty Pool. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Carl explained to the council that liability insurance would be purchased from an insurance carrier that specializes in insuring pool facilities. The anticipated cost for the insurance is typically two percent of the income. Roll call vote to proceed with the conceptual design – All ayes.

Funds were received from the Anselmo Trust to purchase a hot dog steamer and equipment for a sand volleyball area. Since funding has been received for these purchases, no motion was required.

Mr. Carl requested the council's permission to approach a potential corporate sponsor for the pool project. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to authorize Mr. Carl to contact a corporate sponsor. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl presented a model of a children's aquatic feature that he would like to install in the area of the baby pool. Much of the material for this structure has been donated. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the children's aquatic feature at the pool. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Plans are being made to paint the outside of the pool house this year. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve painting the outside of the pool house with a color combination of yellow,

orange, and purple paint. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. The inside of the pool house would not be changed. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl thanked the council members for their support of this project.

12. Mr. Troxell informed the council that the street sweeper has not been repaired because the crew has had difficulty obtaining the needed part.

13. The Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce is holding its First Annual Meeting at the Susquehanna University on March 5, 2002. The office staff will attend this meeting.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
Borough Building, 221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**

March 5, 2002

Call to Order

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles "Bud" Ditton, Judith Groninger, Gregory Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, James Best, solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The 14 members of the community introduced themselves.

Public Comment

1. Mr. Pat McPherson complimented the borough crew on the work that was completed on Penn Street this year.
2. Ms. Kathy DiBonaventura, a representative from the Susquehanna Valley Women in Transition, explained programs available through the agency, including a 24-hour hotline, emergency shelter, group and individual counseling. Brochures and cards with additional information about this organization are available in the Borough Office.
3. Mrs. Patty Young asked how the money generated by the Recreation Tax will be spent. She informed the council that Little League charges a \$40.00 fee to play baseball. Mr. Daddario stated that the fee is \$24.00 if the child participates in the fund raisers. Mrs. Young replied that no one had informed her son of that option. Mr. Carl stated that the tax would be used to pay for utilities associated with recreation, and items that have been paid for in the past with general funds. This money will also be spent toward the pool upgrades. Mrs. Young requested that the borough install nets at the tennis courts above the C. W. Rice Middle School this year. It was explained that the borough crew had placed nets at the courts several times last summer. However, children who are playing tennis ball on the courts are removing the nets.
4. Mrs. Sally Underkoffler requested that their driveway on Eighth Street be painted yellow. Since the Point Township supervisors prohibited parking on the township side of Eighth Street, a resident has been parking in front of the Underkoffler's driveway. Discussion. Instead of painting the curbing yellow, the police department will ticket any vehicles parking in front of the driveway.

Executive Session

Council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:15 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:25 p.m. The topics of discussion were legal issues.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark informed the council that repairs are to be made to Priestley Avenue before the contract will be completed. Center State is the contractor for the project. The authority will meet with Larson Design Group to review pipes to be televised.

Franchise Agreement with Service Electric Cablevision, Inc.

Council discussed Resolution D-2002. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt said resolution. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton posed several questions about the resolution. Service Electric Cablevision's address is not included in the resolution. Another issue was the reference in Section 17, page 8, to prior ordinances being repealed. The ordinances that were adopted in 2001 and this year would remain in effect. Atty. Best stated that the borough's telecommunication ordinance is different from prior cable franchise agreement ordinances. He added that a memo of understanding could be included with the resolution to add the company's address and other clarifications. Section 12, Part C references "leased" premises. Atty. Best stated that there is no difference between the terms "leased" and "rented". Mr. Ditton questioned the term "non-exclusive." Mr. Dwight Walters, a representative from Service Electric Cablevision Inc., explained that the borough could permit another cable company to operate in the borough at any time. The motion was revised to include the memo of understanding. Roll call vote – Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion passed 5-1. The franchise fee will be five percent of the gross revenue for basic cable television service and is to be paid to the borough quarterly. The agreement is in effect through December 31, 2011.

Fire Board

Mr. Troup informed the council that at the February meeting of the Fire Board, the members reviewed the Fire Department ordinance. Changes that they would like implemented are not included in the ordinance. Mr. Troup requested that the council postpone the second vote for the Fire Department ordinance until the Fire Board can meet with representatives from the Number 1's and the Hookies to make recommendations. One item he questioned was why the borough council should approve the members of the Fire Board. He stated that the Fire Board never made this change. Mr. Troup asked who on the council has the qualifications to make policies for the Fire Board. Mr. Wolfe responded that the council appoints members to the Planning Commission, Zoning Board, Civil Service Commission, Parks and Recreation Commission, and others, not just the Fire Board. Mayor Brosius suggested that the council wait until the Fire Board presents their recommendations. Mr. Wolfe responded that the Ordinance Committee has met twice, drafted the ordinance with the help of the solicitor, discussed the ordinance at the last council meeting, and does not feel it is necessary to postpone the vote. Atty. Best stated that the Borough Council should have authority to regulate the entities of the borough. He added that an individual who has a dispute with the council has claimed that the council has no authority to regulate the Fire Department. The borough council sits supreme over all the entities in the borough, Atty. Best continued. Passing the ordinance this evening does not prohibit revisions to the ordinance. Mr. Pat McPherson stated that he is in favor of the council approving the progression of the Fire Chief position. As it stands now, if someone is not doing a good job, the fire companies and council could not remove him from the position. Mr. Wolfe said that if the ordinance does not pass tonight, the revision must go to the ordinance committee before it is

presented to the full council. Mr. McPherson suggested that the general membership of both fire companies, not just the Fire Board, should review the proposed changes before they are presented to council. Members of the Fire Police were present at the Ordinance Committee meetings, and made suggestions for the ordinance.

Mr. Shaffer asked if the minutes of the Fire Board meetings, copies of the Fire Board guidelines, etc. have been provided to the borough office. No information has been received as of this date. The Number 1's has also requested the Fire Board's minutes of meetings held in 2000 and 2001.

Mr. Bowersox moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-4. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The Ordinance Committee will meet again if the Fire Board presents changes for the ordinance. In the meantime, the council can act on this ordinance. Roll call vote to adopt Ordinance 2002-4 - All ayes.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius announced that the Kiwanis Club is planning a Spaghetti Supper on April 6, 2002. The proceeds are earmarked for the Second Street Community Center project.
- The Pennsylvania Association of Boroughs is sponsoring two sessions for newly elected officials in Lewisburg on March 16 and 23. Mayor Brosius and Mr. Wolfe will attend.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported on his activity for February. His report is on file in the borough office.

Committee Reports

Recreation

Mr. Carl stated that the Recreation Committee had been contacted by SEDA-Cog regarding the Greenways project. If the Downtown Revitalization Committee is planning to attend the meetings, Mr. Carl questioned whether Parks and Recreation should also be meeting with the group. Mr. Daddario is involved with both committees and will act as a liaison between the groups. Other members of the community are encouraged to become involved in the Downtown Revitalization Committee.

Representative Sherwood's office is sending an application to the borough for funding through the Northeast Pennsylvania Urban Forestry Program for community forestry projects.

The Parks and Recreation Committee recommend that the Liberty Pool Association be reestablished. Mr. Carl made a motion to advertise for volunteers to the Liberty Pool Association. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Membership to the association is open to anyone interested in improving the pool facility. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer will work with the Fire Companies to prepare the recommendations to the Ordinance Committee.

Finance

The Second Street Community Center committee would like to establish a bank account at the Northumberland National Bank for the renovation project. Mr. Shaffer moved to set up an account at the Northumberland National Bank for funds for the Second Street Community and Municipal Center Renovation Project. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Streets

The Street committee will meet on March 12, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Property

The Property Committee will meet on March 12, 2002, following the Street Committee meeting.

Personnel

The Personnel Committee will meet on March 11, 2002, at 6:00 p.m. to interview three candidates for the Street Supervisor position. The meeting is closed to the public; however, council members are welcome to attend.

Old Business

1. Pineknotted Park project – Mr. Redington has submitted a request for additional funding to DCNR to complete the project at Pineknotted Park. No response has been received as yet. The baseball volunteers are working at the field.
2. PennVest - Storm Water Project update
Atty. Best will review the Storm Water ordinance prepared by Larson Design Group, Inc. Council discussed meeting to review the ordinance before the next council meeting. Mr. Wolfe set a special council meeting for March 12, 2002 at 8:00 p.m. to review the Storm Water Ordinance. Copies of the 61-page document will be made available for each council member.
3. Mr. Ruane has contacted the property owner who may have a building extending onto the borough's unopened Fifth Street right-of-way. He stated that the property owner will respond within ninety days.
4. Mr. Bowersox moved to send the delinquent rental fees to District Justice Bolton. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.
5. Second Street School update
Chief Redington stated that the roof is being installed on the building. The committee is planning a Capital Campaign for the Second Street Community and Municipal Center. Chief Redington provided each council member with a Strategic and Operating Plan for the center. A copy is on file in the Borough Office.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve payment of the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. A bill for \$268 for the police department's copy machine annual maintenance

agreement was added to the list of bills. The motion and second were amended to include payment of this bill. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$13,687.44.

2. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt the minutes of February 19, 2002. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. SUN Home Health Services requested to use the King Street Park for an Easter Egg Hunt for their employees' families on March 23rd at 1:00 p.m. Council approved the request.
4. Mrs. Groninger noted that the Police Chief has prepared a detailed monthly report for the borough council, as he does every month. Council thanked Chief Redington.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Special Council Meeting
Northumberland Borough Building, 221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
March 12, 2002, 8:00 p.m.

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 8:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, and Paul Bowersox. Greg Carl was absent. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Max Inkrote, of Larson Design Group, Inc., and Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police.

New Business

Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint Mr. Mark Williams as Second Assistant Fire Chief for the Fire Department. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Mr. Wolfe raised the question as to what power the council has regarding the Fire Department and the Fire Board. Roll call vote – Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton all voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Mr. Carl was absent. Motion passed 5-1.

Mrs. Groninger moved, at the request of the Street Committee, to remove 30 feet of yellow line from in front of the funeral home on Water Street. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call vote – Mr. Ditton voted aye. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox voted no. Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger were absent. Motion failed 1-4.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:31 p.m.

Greg Shaffer moved, at the request of the Property Committee, to trade the transmission in the code enforcement vehicle with one of the police cruisers. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. The police cruiser needs a better transmission and the one from the code car will suit the purpose. The transmission from the police vehicle will still enable the code vehicle to be used around town. The code vehicle will be rotated out next year. Roll call vote – motion passed 5-0. Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger were absent.

The Recreation Committee is requesting an advance on the grant so that the Little League will be able to plant seed at Pineknottter Park baseball field. A question was raised as to who from the Little League will be receiving the money. Motion tabled.

Old Business

Mr. Max Inkrote, of Larson Design Group, Inc., was present to discuss Ordinance 2002-5, the Stormwater Management Ordinance. This ordinance was prepared for the borough by engineers with Larson Design Group, Inc. in accordance with recommendations from DEP. Mr. Bowersox moved to approve Ordinance 2002-5, the Stormwater Management

Ordinance. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. This ordinance applies to permanent stormwater management facilities constructed as part of any Regulated Activities listed in Section 104 of the ordinance. Regulated Activities are:

- A. Land development
- B. Subdivision
- C. Construction of new or additional impervious or semi-pervious surfaces (driveways, parking lots, etc.)
- D. Construction of new buildings or additions to existing buildings
- E. Diversion or piping of any natural or man-made stream channel
- F. Installation of stormwater management facilities or appurtenances thereto.

Discussion followed. Any section on fees, including the penalty section, should refer to the current fee schedule set by the council. There was a discussion regarding the need of having an escrow account created. Mr. Best felt that the borough did not need to create this account at this time. Mr. Ditton feels that the Drainage Plan Application included in the ordinance should not be shortened because it asks questions that he would never have thought of asking. The engineer suggested that as questions come from the public, a list of common questions be compiled. Mr. Bowersox was concerned about silt. He was reassured that any silt problems would be taken care of. Roll call vote – motion passed 5-0. Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger were absent. A summary statement of the ordinance needs to be published in the newspaper. Once DEP has approved the ordinance it will be advertised in the newspaper and then final approval will be voted on by the council. A copy of the proposed ordinance is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to hire Larson Design group as the inspector for the Storm Water Project with a spending cap of \$35,000. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Mr. Bowersox would like to see the inspection done in-house. Mr. Wolfe stated that the inspector has to be independent of the council. The council has already voted to hire an independent inspector. Roll call vote – Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Ditton and Mr. Ditton voted aye. Mr. Bowersox vote no. Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger were absent. Motion passed 4-1.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting**

221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857

March 19, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Gregory Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Atty. James Best, Solicitor, was absent. The nine members of the public present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Jeff Persing addressed the council with his concern about the pedestrian crossing at the corner of Water and King Streets. According to a letter Mr. Persing received in December, the school district is not planning to bus the students from this location next school year. Discussion. Council advised Mr. Persing that he should contact the school district. Mr. Bob Lehman, the Transportation Director for Shikellamy, will be contacted by the Borough Secretary.

Storm Water Project update

Mr. Max Inkrote of Larson Design Group, Inc. presented the plans for the storm water project.

A Public Meeting is scheduled for April 2, 2002 at 6:00 p.m., before the next regularly scheduled council meeting. Mr. Inkrote informed the council that on Thursday, the culvert between Queen Street and Penn Street will be explored. Council discussed the cost to move utilities, if any are in the right-of-way. If it becomes necessary to move utilities in the right-of-way, the utilities would be expected to pay to move them. Project plans are available in the Borough Office, should anyone wish to review them.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that an application for a matching grant for trees has been received from the Northeast Penn Urban Forestry Program. The date the application is due is April 26, 2002. Mayor Brosius would like the borough to apply for funding to plant trees along the fence around the sewer plant. The grant is for matching funds; volunteer labor can be counted toward the borough’s match. Mr. Wolfe offered to complete the grant.

The United Way “2002 Days of Caring” will be observed on Friday, April 5th. A group of volunteers from Wood Mode will be painting the Girl Scout House. Another group, from Community Unity, will be waterproofing the picnic tables at Pineknott Park. The

borough will supply the materials and lunch for the volunteers. The street crew will oversee the project.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the Mayor's Report and all Committee Reports be typed and kept on file in the Borough Office.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity as Code Enforcement Officer. Certified letters are being sent to the landlords who have not paid the 2001 rental fees. Those invoices that are not paid by April 1, 2002 will be sent to the District Justice. Letters have been received from two attorneys regarding the Rental Ordinance. According to one letter, the attorney has advised his clients not to pay the invoice. Mr. Ditton remarked that this attorney has advised his clients to break the law. The other attorney represents a landlord who has multiple units for rent. This attorney has contacted the borough requesting a discount on inspections for his client. Council has denied the request. The water company is working on Priestley Avenue and on Third Street. Council discussed advertising for an assistant code enforcement officer. Mr. Bowersox moved to hire a part-time, as needed, assistant code enforcement officer/ street inspector. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Ditton asked if residents are permitted to paint driveways. According to the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code, blocking a driveway is not permitted. Mr. Wolfe moved that any curb that is painted yellow on either side of a driveway, should be painted gray. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Committee Reports

Finance

No report

Recreation

The Recreation Committee will meet on Thursday, March 21, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Property

The Property Committee met on March 12, 2002. Mrs. Groninger stated that A.R.E.A. Ambulance Services has paid the February rent. Part of the rent received for March was applied to the late fee charged for February, so a portion of the March rent has not been paid. An invoice has been faxed to the company.

Public Safety

The Fire Police requested permission to keep the Fire Police vehicle at their homes on their days off to save time in responding to emergencies. Mr. Shaffer moved to permit the Fire Police to keep the vehicle at their homes on their days off. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe informed the council that the newsletter is completed and is at the printer's. One article in the newsletter describes the Sidewalk Ordinance. Mr. Wolfe reminded the council that when the Ordinance Committee was meeting, they had discussed allowing a time period of five years for the property owners to comply with upgrading their sidewalks. However, the adopted ordinance does not stipulate the five-year time frame. Council discussed sending letters to property owners who should replace their sidewalks. It was suggested that once the assistant code enforcement officer is hired, the sidewalks throughout the borough be inspected. Council will look into available grants or other funding for homeowners to help pay for the new sidewalks.

Street Committee

- Mr. Troxell distributed written reports from the March 12, 2002 Street Committee Meeting. The report is on file in the borough office. A listing of streets to be paved in 2002 is included with the report. Paving will not begin until after April 15th.
- The committee declined to remove the yellow line that is painted on the odd side of Water Street, close to King Street.
- A bucket truck has been purchased from Service Electric Cablevision, Inc. at a cost of \$3,000. The borough crew received instructions on its operation today. Don Keeley thanked the council for purchasing the bucket truck.
- The Street Committee will meet on April 4, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Personnel

- Mr. Ditton stated that the interviews for the Street Supervisor position were inconclusive.
- The borough will advertise for a part time Code Enforcement Officer/ Street Inspector Supervisor.

Old Business

1. Second Street School Update

- Mr. Redington requested that an account be opened at the Northumberland National Bank before the Spaghetti Dinner on April 6, 2002.
- The Kiwanis Club is holding a Spaghetti Dinner on April 6 with the proceeds to benefit the Second Street Community and Municipal Building.
- Mr. Redington informed the council that the Second Street committee felt that the Capital Fundraising campaign would benefit by having architectural renderings of the completed building. The committee is suggesting that money from the existing grant be spent towards engaging an architect to design the plans for the building. Mrs. Groninger moved to advertise for an architect. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. An option would be to advertise for an engineering firm to design areas in the building that need to be designed. The roof and heating system have already been designed. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mr. Shaffer moved to advertise for interior design work once the square footage allotments are worked out. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

2. Pineknottter Park Baseball Field Update
Mr. Redington stated that Travis Fisher has agreed to be the “point man” for the project at Pineknottter Park, if council so desires. Mr. Wolfe requested that written minutes be completed for meetings and kept on file in the borough office. Mr. Shaffer moved to authorize Travis Fisher to obtain purchase orders for the Pineknottter Park project. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Ditton asked about the status of the ordinance that is required for the borough to borrow the Penn Vest funds. Mr. Wolfe will speak with Mr. Best to learn when the ordinance will be presented to council.
4. Traffic Study - Mr. Redington spoke with Dr. McGinnis, the professor from Bucknell who is in charge of the traffic study. The report will be available to the council at the April 16th meeting.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$15,815.57 and the bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool Account amount to \$24.10.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of March 5, 2002. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Recycling Program
 - Paul Zarick, the Recycling Coordinator for Northumberland County, sent a questionnaire to the borough asking if the borough is interested in recycling various items, such as tires, appliances, batteries. He plans to apply for grant funding for these programs. Council voiced its opinion that the borough would be interested, providing the county is obtaining the funding for the programs.
 - DEP performed a surprise audit at the Recycling Center. The two DEP representatives stated that the center looked very good for a small recycling center.
 - The Recycling Committee has requested that the borough pay towards the repair to the can crusher. Council reviewed the income and expenses to the borough for the recycling program during 2001. Mrs. Groninger moved to pay the \$300 repair bill. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
4. Mr. Wolfe announced several meeting dates. The COG meeting is scheduled for tomorrow night, March 20, 2002. Mr. Troxell and Atty. Eugene Brosius will attend.
5. The Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce is sponsoring a Candidate Forum Breakfast on March 28 at the Hotel Edison. Attorney General Mike Fisher, candidate for governor, will be present. Representative Don Sherwood will be present at the

Candidate Forum Luncheon, to be held at the Susquehanna Valley Country Club on April 12th.

6. The cost for liability insurance for the new bucket van would be approximately \$350.00 per year. The cost for liability, comprehensive and collision insurance would be approximately \$625.00. Mr. Troxell moved to purchase liability insurance for the bucket truck. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
7. Mr. Carl presented the names of six volunteers for the Liberty Pool Association. Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint Jon Apple, Brenda Apple, Mark Gulliver, Denise Gulliver, Travis Fisher, and Greg Carl be to the Liberty Pool Association. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
8. Mr. Carl announced a meeting with Water Technology on March 26th in the borough hall.
9. On April 6 and 7, a work party week-end will be held at the pool. Times will be 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Saturday and 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Sunday. The work party will be conducted, rain or shine. The volunteers will be cleaning, painting, raking, etc.
10. The borough received information about AFLAC, supplemental insurance. The cost would be to the employee, depending on what type of insurance is chosen. The borough would not have any cost. Mr. Ditton suggested posting the information at the borough garage to see if anyone is interested.
11. The Pennsylvania American Water Company sent a copy of its drought contingency plan to the borough. Council was provided with copies of the cover letter. The plan is several pages long and is available in the borough office.
12. Mr. Ditton remarked that the attorney who sent a letter to the borough opposing the rental ordinance quoted the Declaration of Independence incorrectly. Mr. Ditton and Mayor Brosius noted that the letter contained several typographical errors and missing words.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
April 2, 2002
Public Meeting - Proposed Storm Water Improvement Project - 6:00 PM
Regularly Scheduled Council Meeting - 7:00 PM**

The Public Meeting to review the Proposed Storm Water Improvement Project was scheduled for 6:00 p.m. Approximately twenty residents of the borough attended this informal meeting to speak with representatives from Larson Design Group, Inc. and borough council members.

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was observed and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Greg Carl was absent.

Others present were Mayor Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Atty. James Best, borough solicitor, was absent.

The twelve members of the public introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Ann Kerstetter informed the council that she has been translating for the Police Department during investigations involving Spanish-speaking citizens. Up until now, she has not requested payment and has not received compensation for this work. On Sunday, March 31, 2002, Ms. Kerstetter assisted the police during an arrest and she would like to be compensated for the 1.75 hours at a rate of \$100 per hour. The Northumberland County District Attorney informed her that the county would not reimburse her. She and Mr. Dock, another Spanish teacher who has also been called for assistance, have determined to charge for their services and have established a fee schedule. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council would discuss this “personnel issue” in the Executive Session.

Amy Klick, an assistant Brownie Troup leader, stated that the Girl Scouts would like to put a handicapped access at the Girl Scout Little House as a service project. The Girl Scouts have the funding for the project and would like the council’s approval. Mrs. Groninger suggested that the Property Committee meet with the Girl Scouts. A meeting was scheduled for April 4, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. at the Little House.

Mr. Ron Boyer, a business owner on Duke Street, asked if the council would consider tarring and chipping Penn Street. Mr. Bowersox stated that the street would need to be graded first. The Street Committee will consider the suggestion.

Storm Water Improvement Project

Mr. Max Inkrote, of Larson Design Group, Inc., informed the council that the project is proceeding on schedule. The storm water ordinance has been submitted to DEP for approval. He has contacted DEP and anticipates that the approval will be received before the scheduled deadline. Easements have been prepared by Larson's.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported on the Sewer Authority's proposed projects for 2002. They include proposed piping upgrades and a flow splitter box at the plant. The proposed conveyance line upgrades are on Prince Street from Sixth Street to Seventh Street; Pond Avenue from North Avenue to Hanover Street; Queen Street from Fourth Street to Sixth Street; and the lamp hole/manhole on lower Front Street right before Front Street Station. The first three areas include sewer main, manholes, and laterals.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported on committee meetings that she attended in March. A written report is on file in the borough office. Mayor Brosius has reviewed the new police policy and procedure manual. Accreditation can be obtained by meeting certain standards. Currently the State Police are the only agency in central Pennsylvania that is accredited. Mayor Brosius would like the council members to read the manual and meet with the police to review it. Chief Redington recommended that the meeting should be a closed meeting. Council members will be provided with copies tomorrow and in two weeks a meeting will be scheduled.

Mayor Brosius announced that several fundraisers are scheduled for Saturday, April 6. The Hookies are selling barbeque chicken at noon and the Kiwanis Club is having a Spaghetti Dinner from 4 p.m. to 7 p.m. to benefit the Second Street Community Center.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, reported on his activities for the month of March 2002. A copy of his report is on file in the Borough Office.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee

The audit was received from Steve Slayton. Mrs. Groninger moved to accept the audit. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. A statement in the audit regarding uncollateralized deposits was questioned. Mrs. Groninger withdrew her motion until Mr. Slayton could be contacted for an explanation. Motion tabled.

Finance

No report

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer stated that a letter was received from the Northumberland Fire Board acknowledging that the council is the governing authority over the Fire Board and asking for the council's input on issues relating to DEP and OSHA standards for the Fire Department. Mr. Wolfe has drafted a response, stating that the council is willing to work with the Fire Board to ensure that the Fire Department is in compliance.

Mr. Ditton stated that he does not feel the council should respond to a letter that is not signed. He also stated that the letter is not accurate. One example is that the borough does not have three fire chiefs at the present time. Mrs. Groninger agreed that letters to the council should be signed. Mayor Brosius asked if the solicitor had expressed an opinion. Mr. Wolfe stated that the solicitor recommended that council respond to the letter so that the receipt of the letter and response could be documented for future reference. Mr. Wolfe read his response to the Fire Board. A copy of this letter is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Shaffer moved to send the letter to the Northumberland Fire Board. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

The Public Safety Committee will meet on April 17, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

The Indiana University of Pennsylvania provides consultation for OSHA regulations, free of charge. Mr. Shaffer suggested contacting the university to see if the borough is eligible to participate in a review. The Public Safety Committee will review this service at the meeting on April 17th.

Mayor Brosius suggested that the solicitor should research the legality of the compliance. Mr. Wolfe stated that the issues are whether the borough is in compliance with OSHA laws, and if the volunteer fire department within the borough must be up to date with OSHA laws. Mayor Brosius added that the question of whether volunteer firemen are employees of the borough should be answered.

A one-day seminar for OSHA issues is being held in Harrisburg in June.

Recreation

Mr. Shaffer moved to accept, with regret, Tom Slodysko's resignation from the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Mr. Wolfe requested that the volunteer position be advertised.

A written report is on file in the Borough Office. Council discussed a date for a return visit from Claude Rogers of Water Technology. A tentative date of April 30, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. was agreed upon. Mr. Rogers will be contacted. Mrs. Bogovich questioned the feasibility of the water park project anticipated for the pool. Mr. Shaffer responded that a favorable feasibility study has been completed. Mr. Rogers is under contract to design the facility. The cost for this contract is approximately \$17,000. Proceeds from the Haunted House and the recreation tax are being used to fund the project. The public is invited to attend the April 30, 2002 meeting. It will be advertised.

Streets

Mr. Troxell reported that he and Gene Brosius attended the COG meeting last week.

A Street Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, April 4, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Complaints have been received about the restricted parking on Third Street. Parking is prohibited on weekdays between 7:00 am and 5:00 pm, but the contractor has not been working

regularly. The work was to be completed within three weeks. The “no parking” signs will be removed until the water company is ready to work on the specific section of street. The utilities will be instructed to contact the borough a day or two before they plan to work on a street. Streets will not be posted for weeks at a time when no work is being done. Council also discussed the stones and debris that accumulate in the storm sewers when the construction crews do not clean the streets after working.

The street crew is to paint the yellow lines on both sides of residents’ driveways gray. The curbing along the actual driveway may remain yellow.

Personnel

The positions of a part-time, as needed Code Enforcement Officer and a full-time Street Supervisor are open and are being advertised.

Property

The rent for the Rescue Building has been paid up to the end of May.

Old Business

- Second Street School Update

The committee met last evening. A preliminary floor plan was prepared by the committee. The bid for the architectural design has been advertised. The bids will be opened on April 16th at 1:00 p.m. and be acted on at the council meeting at 7:00 p.m. that evening.

A bill has been received from Brickhill Construction for the roof. Council requested that the contractor be contacted and asked when the roof is to be completed. Council also requested that the contract be reviewed for a completion date for the roof. It was decided to wait on paying the bill until more information is obtained regarding the completion of the roof.

- Mrs. Groninger requested that the minutes of tonight’s meeting reflect the fact that Borough Council approved painting of the yellow curb at Water and King Streets, beyond the legal limits, at a personal request of one property owner. The tractor trailers have no trouble rounding the corner at King and Water Streets. “This is wrong,” she stated. Mr. Shaffer considered the extra feet of yellow curbing to be a safety issue because of the traffic entering and exiting the parking lot at the funeral home. Chief Redington’s opinion was that 100 feet is sufficient to allow traffic to turn onto Water Street. The section of curbing painted yellow is approximately 130 feet. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to remove the 30 extra feet of yellow paint from the curbing on Water Street. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion failed 2-4.

New Business

- Mr. Wolfe reviewed Ordinance 2002-6. This ordinance increases the indebtedness of the Borough of Northumberland by the issue of a general obligation note in the amount of \$1,113,715.00 for the repair and improvement of the borough’s storm water drainage and

diversion system. The loan is being obtained from PENNVEST. Mr. Troxell moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-6. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

- Mr. Shaffer moved to approve payment of the bills, including a bill from NAPA Auto Parts for \$68.82. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The amount to be paid from the General Fund is \$11,836.60. The bills to be paid from the Park and Recreation Fund total \$60.00, and the Liberty Pool bills total \$555.40.
- Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of March 12 and March 19, 2002; Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- The council discussed the timeliness of the newsletter because one of the articles is about the Spaghetti Dinner scheduled at the Kiwanis Building on April 6. The newsletter is to be received tomorrow. Mr. Ditton moved to cancel the newsletter if it is not received tomorrow. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Council adjourned for an Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. The reasons were to discuss a personnel issue and to discuss payment to Mrs. Kerstetter for her assistance to the police department.

Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 8:55 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe moved to pay Ann Kerstetter \$175.00 for services rendered on March 31, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

Chief Redington will explore other options for obtaining assistance when investigating incidents relating to Spanish-speaking citizens. Mr. Wolfe moved to pay Ann Kerstetter and Michael Dock according to the fee schedule submitted to the borough for services rendered in the interim. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. The fee to be paid from 6:00 p.m. to 12 noon is \$100 for the first hour, and \$50 per half hour after the first hour. The fee to be paid between 12 noon and 6:00 p.m. is \$50 for the first hour, and \$25 per half hour after the first hour. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
April 16, 2002, 7:00 p.m.

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Greg Carl, Charles "Bud" Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Paul Bowersox was absent.

Others present were Mayor Brosius, Atty. James Best, borough solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The twenty-three members of the public introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Mrs. Fran Bogovich asked how the council is planning to spend the tax millage that was assessed for recreation. Mr. Wolfe replied that a large portion of the money would be designated for the water park. Mrs. Bogovich feels that the council is undertaking too many projects at one time. She requested that the council reconsider the formation of the water park and added that a water park at White Deer went bankrupt several years ago.

- Mr. Robin Bolig stated that he represented the No. 1 Fire Company. Members of the No. 1's responded to an alarm and were instructed by command where to place the fire department's apparatus. The person in command represented himself as Chief 732. Mr. Bolig assumed that this was Mark Williams. However, Dave Bogovich was in command and he informed the No. 1's that he was appointed by Chief Newbury and Assistant Chief Williams to act as the person in command. Mr. Shaffer stated that he also spoke with Mr. Bogovich and was told the same information. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Best stated that Mr. Bogovich is not to be in charge of the fire department in an emergency situation. The council will discuss this issue in Executive Session this evening and make a determination. If the two fire department chiefs are not available, the next person in command would be a line officer. Mr. Bolig stated that the fire department followed Mr. Bogovich's orders, but members are here tonight to question if he is to be in charge. The fire department will be informed of the council's decision.

Revitalization Committee

Ms. Karen Nogle, a co-chairman of the Revitalization Committee, presented an overview of the committee's activities. A copy of the report is on file in the borough office. The committee will meet on April 22, 2002, at 7:30 p.m. Ms. Nogle invited the public to attend the meeting.

Projects underway include the fundraiser of the print sales of the Front Street Station painted by Jeffrey Lynch. A historic walking tour is being developed with the help of the Northumberland Historical Society. Other projects are a Community Bulletin Board and park benches for King Street Park, a Farmers' Market in the park during the summer months, and garbage cans and planters for the downtown area.

The railroad underpass is a project that the committee plans to undertake. The railroad has provided guidelines for what the committee may do at the underpass. The borough crew has washed the first set of lights along Water Street, between the bridge and the underpass.

The committee has a core group of about eight individuals. In addition, others are interested in certain projects and can be called upon for their assistance.

Bucknell Traffic Study Report

Dr. Dick McGinnis explained that he and the students in his Innovative Transportation Engineering class at Bucknell University met with the borough council, Rep. Merle Phillips, and Penn DOT officials in February. Tonight, Dr. McGinnis and the students are presenting their report to the council. A copy of the report is on file in the borough office.

The reasons for the traffic study are the concerns about pedestrian safety on Duke Street; a request from Rep. Phillips to PennDOT to help resolve the problem; and PennDOT's request for the Bucknell class's participation.

The six concerns raised by the community are: congestion, crashes, incidents, mobility, pedestrian safety, and speeding.

The class suggested several possible solutions. One is to widen the intersection at Duke and Water Streets. Another is to add an all-pedestrian phase to the traffic signal at Duke and Water Streets. New crosswalks were proposed for the south sides of Fourth and Duke Streets and Front and Duke Streets. "Pedestrian Crossing" signs should be installed on the roadside and "Yield to Pedestrian" signs should be placed along the center of the line in the road. These portable signs are available from PennDOT and would help to slow traffic.

The volume of traffic observed through the traffic counts on Fifth Street does not warrant a traffic signal. Council discussed the fact that the residents in the borough avoid having to turn left onto Duke Street. They also explained that various streets are used by borough residents to exit onto Duke Street.

The Public Safety will discuss the portable signs at their meeting tomorrow evening.

Mr. Carl arrived at 7:38 p.m.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 8:04 p.m. for personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 8:22 p.m.

Mr. Troxell moved that the council request, in writing, that the Fire Board recommend a nominee to fill the second fire chief position by the May 7, 2002 meeting of the borough council. If a recommendation is not received for approval, the Vacancy Board will be asked to recommend someone to fill the position. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Troxell made a motion that based on a past incident of April 14, 2002, Mr. David Bogovich should be sent a letter stating that he broke the terms of his suspension, as determined by the Hearing Board on January 7, 2002. A copy of the letter is to be sent to the Northumberland Fire Board, the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company, and the Number One Fire Company. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion.

Mr. Wolfe read the Hearing Board's conclusion as announced on January 7, 2002, for the public record. The council members who comprised the Hearing Board were Mr. Troxell, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Wolfe. The conclusion is as follows:

“David Bogovich, the First Assistant Fire Chief of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland, made remarks of a sexual nature to Kelly Spigelmeyer, an officer of the Northumberland Borough Police Department, which were offensive to her. In so doing, Mr. Bogovich engaged in conduct unbecoming an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.”

“David Bogovich, the First Assistant Fire Chief of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland, responded to an accident scene after having consumed four beers, and with the strong odor of alcohol on his breath. This presented a negative image for the Borough and its Fire Department and constituted conduct unbecoming an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.”

“David Bogovich lied in the presence of Larry Redington, Chief of the Northumberland Borough Police Department, when he denied making any comments to Officer Kelly Spigelmeyer, except a comment about her blushing. This was conduct unbecoming an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.”

Mr. Wolfe then read the Hearing Board's determination:

“Having found that David Bogovich engaged in three acts of misconduct above, the Hearing Board sustains his suspension by the Northumberland Borough Council and directs that his suspension continue for two years during which time he shall not serve as an officer of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland. Thereafter, if elected by the Fire Board pursuant to the Fire Department Ordinance, he may be considered for approval as Second Assistant Chief of the Fire Department of the Borough of Northumberland.”

Mr. Wolfe explained that the motion on the floor is to send a letter to Mr. Bogovich that the council is aware that he has violated the suspension as stated above. No additional discipline is to be imposed. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Gretchen Brosius reported on the meetings that she attended in the past two weeks. Mayor Brosius also recommended that the Borough Secretary and perhaps a member of the street committee attend a seminar entitled Downtown Circulation – Creating Pedestrian Friendliness and Traffic Calming on Main Street. Council concurred.

The American Legion Post 44 requested permission to hold a Memorial Day parade on May 27, 2002. The parade will form at the park at 8:30 a.m. and move at 9:00 a.m. This parade, and the Little League parade, slated for the afternoon of Memorial Day, are both approved.

Mayor Brosius reminded property owners that the borough is beginning a \$1.1 million storm water project in the borough and that putting grass clippings in the street is against the borough ordinances. These clippings end up in the storm sewer system and create a problem.

Mayor Brosius enjoyed conducting tours of the borough building for the third graders from Priestley Elementary School and for two home school students.

Mr. Wolfe asked Atty. Best if the police accreditation document should be approved in public, since it deals with internal department procedures. The policy must be approved by resolution. Atty. Best feels that the document should be available to the public to comply with the sunshine law. Chief Redington explained that, in certain circumstances, it would be counterproductive for individuals to know the parameters that guide police policy and activities. Mr. Best still advised that this should be an advertised public meeting. The adoption of the policy by the council is necessary for accreditation and possible reduction of the police profession liability insurance rates. The Public Safety Committee will meet to review the policy. The meeting has not yet been scheduled. The committee meets tomorrow to discuss the sidewalk exemption requests.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the seminar that he attended concerning Act 45, the Uniform Construction Code. This code deals with building permits and inspections of new construction. Another meeting will be held in Shamokin Dam on May 16, 2002.

Mr. Ruane will attend the COG meeting tomorrow evening with Mr. Troxell and Mr. Brosius to share this information with the COG.

On April 30, 2002 at 10:00 a.m., the hearing for the rental ordinance violations will be conducted at District Justice Bolton's office. Atty. Best and Mr. Ruane will be present.

E. J. Breneman, Inc. will begin construction on Priestley Avenue on May 6, 2002. A pre-construction meeting will be held on April 29, 2002 at 11:00 p.m. in the borough office.

HRI will provide a price for the portion of the Priestley Avenue paving that is to be paid by P. G. Energy.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe and Mayor Brosius are preparing the forestry grant to obtain funding for trees at the sewer plant.

Atty. Steve Slayton, the borough auditor, had been contacted for clarification on a statement in the audit. He explained that if the borough has more than \$100,000 in any one bank, the money over \$100,000 is not F.D.I.C. insured. As a government entity, the borough is on a priority list for receiving money deposited in the bank in excess of \$100,000.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the audit. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Streets

The Street Committee met on April 4, 2002. Minutes of the meeting are on file in the borough office.

Penn DOT was contacted for an agility agreement to have the line painted on Strawbridge Road. Ted Deptula will review the work to be exchanged and respond to the request.

Council discussed the problem with utilities and contractors not cleaning up the street when they complete work each day. Mr. Ditton stated that it is the responsibility of the police department to enforce the borough ordinances. Mr. Ruane suggested that he would have the companies begin their clean-up earlier in the day.

The street committee is working on the street paving program for 2003. Once decided, the utilities will be informed.

The street committee is suggesting that four-way stop signs be added at the intersection at Sheetz and Park Avenues. Mr. Jack Snyder suggested that the intersection at Wheatley and Park Avenues also have four-way stop signs. Mr. Troxell moved to place four-way stop signs at both intersections. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The street crew has painted the curbing on either side of residents' driveways gray. One property owner has repainted the curb yellow. Council discussed what action to take. The police will assess the situation.

Tickets are being issued later in the day for cars parked in "No Parking" zones. Cars are not to be parked in the "No Parking" areas until 4:00 p.m. Some residents think that once the street sweeper has been run on the street, they may park there. This is not the case.

The “No Parking” assists the street crew and utilities to be able work on the vacant side of the streets as required.

Residents are also reminded that the borough has an ordinance prohibiting grass to be swept in the streets.

Recreation

The Recreation Committee will meet Thursday at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Carl stated that at the March meeting, the committee approved a Summer Day Camp, for two hours a day, at the C. W. Rice fields for elementary aged students. The committee received a proposal from Michael Bowman to coordinate the program. Mr. Carl made a motion to approve the proposal from Michael Bowman. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl thanked the borough crew for their help at the swimming pool and Pineknott Park.

Mr. Carl announced that Mr. Claude Rogers will be present on April 30, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. to review the water park project. This will be an advertised Recreation Committee meeting and the public is invited to attend.

A work party was held at the Liberty Pool on April 6th. Mr. Carl and several members of the Parks and Recreation Committee worked on the concession stand and started cleaning the facility. The Girl Scout Troop from St. John’s Lutheran Church weeded and mulched in front of the building.

Personnel

The committee will be meeting after tonight’s meeting.

Public Safety

The Number One Fire Company has submitted three members as the department’s new representatives to the Fire Board, effective May 1, 2002. The representatives are Robin Bolig, Pat McPherson, and Mike McPherson. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve these nominees. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. These individuals will serve until the end of 2002, at which time they may be reappointed. The Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company has not yet submitted the names of their nominees.

Northumberland Housing Corporation

Atty. Michael Balducci provided the council with a status report on the mid-rise to be constructed at the Steele School property. A public hearing will be conducted on May 1, 2002, at 4:00 p.m. at the Sunbury Redevelopment Authority office. As the municipality where the project is going to be located, the council will be asked for their written approval. Neither the borough nor the Sunbury Redevelopment Authority can be held responsible for the Housing Corporation’s debt. The final architectural plans are to be

completed soon, with bids scheduled to be received on May 9, 2002. Once the bids are received, the corporation will determine when the project can begin. Mr. Balducci will present the council with the required resolution to be approved.

Old Business

1. Second Street School

Mr. Wolfe announced that the bids for the Second Street School architectural design services were opened this afternoon. Bids were received from four engineering firms: Larson Design Group, Inc.; Wolfe Associates; Robert A. Lack, A.I.A. Architecture & Design, Inc.; and HillerSpeser Associates. The bids included a Base Bid, a 1st Alternate Bid, and a 2nd Alternate Bid. Because of the wide range of bids, Mr. Redington suggested that the proposals should be reviewed before action is taken on the bids. The Second Street Committee will review the bids at their May 6th meeting. The council discussed the fact that no formal plans for the use of the building have been approved. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to move the Police Department and Borough Offices to the Second Street school building. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Mayor Brosius stated that the committee met last evening but has not brought a recommendation to the council for the uses of the building. The grants that have been applied for include a community center and municipal offices for this site. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed 2-4. Mr. Wolfe stated that he voted no because he would like to know what the committee recommends for the building. Mayor Brosius and Mr. Shaffer said that the committee has developed a “Strategic and Operating Plan” that each council member should have received. Not every council member had received a copy of the proposal. The subject will be tabled until the next council meeting so every member has an opportunity to review the proposal.

2. Storm Water Improvement Project Update

Mr. Max Inkrote provided the council with the information about the easements for the properties located in the construction zone. Atty. Best stated his approval for the easements. Larson Design Group, Inc. has completed the stormwater ordinance. DEP has approved the ordinance and it has been advertised.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to extend the council meeting to 10:15 p.m. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

3. Mrs. Groninger moved to adopt ordinance 2002-6. This ordinance increases the indebtedness of the borough by the issue of a general obligation note in the amount of \$1,113,715.00 for the repair and improvement of the borough’s storm water drainage and diversion system. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes. This was the second reading of Ordinance 2002-6.

4. Mr. Troxell moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-5, the Stormwater Ordinance. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes. This was the second

reading of Ordinance 2002-5. The Resolution establishing fees and fines will be prepared for the next council meeting.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the payment of the bills. A second bill was received today for ADT. This bill is for the security service at the police lab. A bill had also been received for the service at the borough garage. Both bills are due by May 1, 2002. Council requested that the contract be reviewed before the bills are paid. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. The motion included to pay the ADT bills unless the contract expires at the end of this contract period. Discussion. A bill for signs at Pineknottter Park was submitted. Mr. Shaffer stated that he thought the bill should be paid by Little League. This bill was removed until more information is obtained. Roll call vote – Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$9,920.37. The two ADT bills would be an additional \$844.04. Bills to be paid from the Park and Recreation fund total \$422.39; the Liberty Pool Association bills are \$7.96 and the Parking Meter Fund expense for the final payment for the 2002 Ford Explorer is \$13,573.54.

2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the first application to Brickhill Construction, Inc. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. This bill is for the work that has been completed on the roof at the Second Street School. Discussion. Council members questioned the delay to complete the roof. When contacted, Mr. Peck stated that the work on the roof has been delayed because a part has not been received. As soon as the part is received, Mr. Peck plans to have the roof completed. Roll call vote – Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to extend the meeting for another 15 minutes. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

3. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of April 2, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

4. SUN Home Health Services, Inc. requested the use of King Street Park on August 10, 2002, for a Chicken Barbeque. The chicken will be cooked off-site and brought to the park to be sold. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

5. Mr. Jerre Wirt Blank wrote a letter to the borough about the signs that are posted in front of his building on Water Street. Council discussed the issue. This may be PennDOT's right-of way. Council suggested that Mr. Blank may remove the signs to mow the grass. Mayor Brosius felt that this is a safety issue since people are

reading the signs as they are driving through the intersection. The borough office will contact PennDOT and Mr. Blank.

6. Mr. Richard Price wrote a letter to the borough about the dip in the intersection at Strawbridge Road and Jefferson Street. Residents with motor homes and campers have difficulty turning onto Jefferson Street. Council discussed the problem and suggested that people with motor homes or campers travel a different route. It was suggested that turning onto Susquehanna Street and going up Buchanan Street to Jefferson Street may be a better route. The intersection was constructed with the dip to alleviate water run-off problems for the residents at that corner.

Mr. Carl reminded everyone about the meeting on April 30th with the consultant regarding the pool project.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 10:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
May 7, 2002, 7:00 PM

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Atty. James L Best, solicitor; Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police; Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mr. Paul Bowersox was absent because he is a patient at the Evangelical Hospital in Lewisburg. The members of the public introduced themselves.

Presentation

Mrs. Joyce Bartholomew, President of the Kiwanis Club of Northumberland-Point Township, presented Mr. Wolfe with a check for \$500.00 for the Second Street School renovations. Mrs. Jane Sanders-Ressler and Mr. Tom Propst, Kiwanis Club officers, were also present. Council members thanked the club for the donation. Mr. Wolfe thanked the club and added that the council would schedule a meeting with club members to discuss the future of the Kiwanis Building. He assured the members that the council hopes that Northumberland will always have a Kiwanis Club.

Public Comment

1. Mr. Paul Ruane II, a representative of the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company, invited the council and the general public to attend the dedication of the new ladder truck on Saturday, May 11, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. A band will provide entertainment at 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Ruane also requested a thirty day extension for the deadline for the Hookies’ audit. Mr. Troxell moved to extend the deadline for the Hookies’ audit to June 15, 2002. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Wolfe both voiced opinions that the Hookies have had extensions already. The audit had been requested in 2001 before the budget was passed. Mr. Wolfe said that the council had been promised an audit by December 31, 2001. Atty. Best asked if the Hookies has a contract for the audit. Mr. Ruane responded that Tom Wandishin has agreed to complete the audit. Mr. Wolfe asked if Mr. Wandishin is a certified public accountant. Council was told that he is. Mr. Wolfe asked for more opinions from the council as to whether to grant the extension. Mr. Troxell said that the fire company would not receive any money until the end of the year. Mr. Ditton voiced an opinion that council should agree to the extension. Roll call vote – All ayes. The audit is due by June 15, 2002.

2. Mr. Greg Stuck asked if the Fee Revision Amendment on the agenda has to do with the Landlord Ordinance. Mr. Wolfe stated that it does. Mr. Stuck requested that the council table the issue and have a discussion with the landlords before doing anything else. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council would be going into Executive Session to discuss this issue, in addition to others. Based on that discussion, council would decide whether to table the issue. Mr. Stuck presented the council with copies of the case that was cited concerning regulatory fees. He stated that regulatory fees are to assist the borough in covering the cost of the inspection and that municipalities cannot receive both regulatory fees and inspection fees. Mr. Stuck also found the amount of the fines ranging from \$250 to \$1,000 distasteful. He said that if the council's intent is to improve the rental properties, he suggests that if Mr. Ruane does not find any violations when he inspects the property, he should give the money back. He also suggests that once the property owner rectifies any problems, and presents a receipt for the work completed to repair the property, the borough give the money back to the property owner. Mr. Ditton asked about the borough's costs. Mr. Wolfe stated that Mr. Stuck's argument had been that the borough is not allowed to make money; and now his argument is that the borough should lose money. Mr. Stuck replied that Mr. Ruane is paid to do his job. He also said that he pays his taxes, as does everyone who owns real estate in the borough, unlike someone sitting at the head of council table. Mr. Ditton requested that Mr. Stuck end his comments and said that the council would discuss the topic in Executive Session.
3. Mrs. Helen Martin, owner of Re/Max River Valley Realty at 166 Eighth Street, explained that Point Township has made the township side of Eighth Street no parking. On Tuesdays when the borough has no parking on the borough side of the street, there is no place in this block of Eighth Street to park. She has been to Point Township and was told that the no parking was for a 90 day trial period. She is requesting that the borough clean the street between 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday mornings so cars can park there during the day. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Streets Committee would have to review the problem and make a recommendation to the council. Mr. Wolfe added that the no parking is not specifically for street cleaning. Utilities and the borough crew can work on the no parking side of the street during the day. Mrs. Martin suggested that temporary no parking could be posted as needed. The Street Committee was asked to review the situation before the next council meeting on May 22, 2002.
4. Mr. Jim Buch has purchased a triangular piece of property on Route 11. A PennDOT sign warning motorists of the congested area ahead is located on the property. Mr. Buch is requesting that the borough contact PennDOT and ask that the sign be moved closer to Danville. Mr. Buch will check on the distance that the sign could be moved and contact the borough office. PennDOT will then be contacted with the request.

Executive Session

Council went into Executive Session at 7:23 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported on her activity since the April 16th meeting. A copy of the Mayor's Report is on file in the borough office.

Mayor Brosius requested permission to attend a Pennsylvania State Mayor's convention from July 14-17. The cost is \$190.00 for the conference. Mayor Brosius has offered to pay her own lodging. Mr. Wolfe stated that council has budgeted money for conferences.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his work as Code Enforcement Officer and Street Inspector Supervisor during April. A copy of the report is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to increase Mr. Ruane's hourly rate to \$12.00 per hour, effective May 1, 2002. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Council added its appreciation for a job well done. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Committee Reports

Public Safety

The Public Safety Committee met on May 4, 2002 to review the twenty-eight properties where exemptions were requested. The committee also discussed the time frame for replacing sidewalks throughout the borough. They decided that it would not be feasible to have all properties in the borough in compliance within a year, so a draw system based on the voting wards, over a four year implementation schedule, would begin in 2002, and end in October of 2005.

Mr. Shaffer presented the committee's determinations for the exemption requests that were reviewed on May 4, 2002. Mr. Carl moved to accept the exemptions for the sidewalk ordinance, as provided by the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer explained the criteria used by the Public Safety Committee to determine exemptions to property owners. The only reason for an exemption is the extreme contour of the land.

Mr. Wolfe explained that the purpose of the Sidewalk Ordinance was to make the town safer for everyone. The council is seeking grant funding for low-income residents and the committee suggests that the borough advertise to obtain quotes from contractors, with the hope that lower prices will be obtained for residents who need to install or repair sidewalks. The contractor with the lowest quote will be announced and put in contact with property owners requesting that he install or repair their sidewalks. This will not guarantee exclusivity to the contractor.

Property owners present opposed having to install sidewalks where they have not previously been in place. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council had several advertised meetings to discuss the ordinance before the council acted on the matter. One resident felt that letters should be mailed to every property owner before the council decided to enact the ordinance. Mr. Carl stated that the state code stipulates that the all boroughs have the right to compel property owners to install or repair sidewalks. Mr. Wolfe added that the exemptions are recommended due to the contour of the land. However, if the contour of the land of a property in the middle of a block does not prohibit installing sidewalks, but the land on either side of this property does, due to the contour; the property in the middle of the block was also exempted.

Roll call vote was taken to accept the exemptions for the sidewalk ordinance, as provided by the Public Safety Committee. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

Mrs. Helen Martin, a local realtor, suggested that the home owners and realtors should have something in writing so they know the dates when the properties must be in compliance. Mr. Wolfe told her that he and the Borough Secretary would be working on a letter to be sent to every property owner affected by the ordinance. The borough newsletter would also have more information.

Another gentleman asked if any members of the council had voted against the sidewalk ordinance. Three of the council members, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell, had voted not to adopt the ordinance.

A gentleman who lives on Seventh Street said that if he must put sidewalks on Seventh Street, the storm water would be running into his house and driveway. He also said that he did not see anyone come to inspect his property for the exemption. Mr. Wolfe responded that the committee had reviewed each property on May 4, either by walking or driving by the property.

Mr. Ditton moved to create a lottery of the voting wards, requiring property owners to install or upgrade sidewalks within the time frame stipulated for each ward. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

The lottery was conducted with the following results. Residents in Ward 2 will be required to have sidewalks in compliance by October 31, 2002, with requests accepted by July 31, 2002 for extensions through October 31, 2003. Residents of Ward 3 will be required to have sidewalks in compliance by October 31, 2003, with requests accepted by July 31, 2003 for extension through October 31, 2004. Residents of Ward 1 must be in compliance by October 31, 2004, with requests accepted by July 31, 2004, for extensions through October 31, 2005.

Mr. Carl made a motion to advertise for quotes from contractors to obtain lower prices for residents who need to install or repair sidewalks. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The contractor quoting the lowest price will not be guaranteed exclusivity.

Recreation

- Mr. Greg Carl presented the design for the Water Park as approved by the Recreation Committee at a meeting on April 30, 2002. Two options had been presented with the committee selecting Option A, with a few revisions. This design is being presented to the council for approval.

Mr. Carl explained that this is a long-range plan to upgrade the community pool. Use of the pool has declined because of the increase in residential pools. A feasibility study conducted shows that the borough has a market area that could support a mini-water park. William L. Haralson, & Assoc., the firm that conducted the study has been in business for over 20 years and has worked with successful water parks.

The company that designed the water park, Water Technology, Inc., assists in locating funding through corporate sponsorships. Mr. Carl explained that a

representative will be coming to the borough in June to explain how to obtain corporate sponsors. The committee plans to begin a Capital Fund Campaign and to make improvements as funding is received. Mrs. Groninger added that the Haunted House has provided funding toward the studies.

Someone in the audience mentioned that the water park could only be used about three months during the year. Mr. Shaffer spoke about the success that has been realized at water parks in northern states such as Minnesota and Wisconsin.

Mrs. Martin asked if family passes would still be available. Mr. Carl responded that passes would be sold. Mrs. Martin stated that she liked the fact that her children could ride their bikes to the pool and she didn't need to worry about them. She is concerned because the water park at White Deer failed. Mrs. Martin also asked if the borough was spending money for labor to paint the bath house at the pool. Mr. Carl has volunteered his time to paint the bath house. Mrs. Martin asked what businesses would thrive with the water park. Mr. Carl told her that it would be up to the businesses to attract new customers from the people who come into town to patronize the water park.

Mr. Carl moved to approve Option A, with the alterations, as recommended by the Parks & Recreation Committee. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Streets

- A pre-construction meeting was held with Breneman, Inc. The cold-in-place recycling on Priestley Avenue will begin next week. Equipment will be moved into town on May 10, 2002. Work will also take place on Second Street from Duke Street to Queen Street and on Fifth Street from Duke Street to Queen Street. The finish coat will be done later.
- Mr. Robin Bolig asked if the patching in the trench on Third Street would be repaired. Mr. Troxell informed him that the trench has a temporary patch. The finished street will have four inches of base and 1½ inches of top coat.
- Mrs. Groninger asked when the work on Orange and Second Street would be completed. The sewer repair work is almost completed according to Mr. Ruane.

Parks and Recreation

- One vacancy exists on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Carl moved to appoint Cathy Klopp as the new member to Parks & Recreation Commission. Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint Letty Heim as the new member to the Parks & Recreation Committee. Roll call vote. Kathy Klopp was unanimously appointed to the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Carl stated that he appreciates the Ms. Heim's interest.
- Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Letty Heim and Brian Ginck to the Second Street School Committee. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Personnel – no report

Finance – no report

Property – no report

Old Business

1. Second Street School Update
The roof is scheduled to be completed soon.

Mr. Redington informed the council that the committee reviewed the bids for the architectural services for the project. The committee is recommending that the borough re-bid for the services due to one of the bidders pointing out a technical error on the bid from the lowest bidder. Mrs. Groninger moved to re-bid the architectural design for the Second Street School. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Bolig informed the council that the fence at the Second Street School property should be repaired. The borough crew will be contacted to repair the fence.

2. Storm Water Improvement Project Update
The bids for the project will be opened at the borough council meeting on May 22, 2002. Mr. Ditton stated that the borough must inform the contractor where to put the fill that is removed from the trench.

New Business

Ordinance/ Resolution Discussion:

1. Mr. Wolfe explained that a hearing was conducted last week for the rental ordinance. District Justice Bolton indicated some changes that should be made to the ordinance.

As a result, the council will vote by resolution to change the inspection fee for rental units. Resolution E is defined as a Fee Structure Resolution and amends the fee for rental inspections to \$50.00 per inspection for rental units. This resolution also changes the penalty fee to a \$25.00 minimum, \$250.00 maximum under the civil penalty. The violation fee for the criminal penalty ranges from \$25.00 minimum to \$250.00 maximum, and/ or 30 days in jail.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Resolution E. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Atty. Best asked that Mr. Wolfe should state for the record how the council feels the \$50.00 fee relates to the work done by Mr. Ruane. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council feels that the inspection fee is adequate to cover the costs associated with inspecting the rental units and secretarial costs. He added that the intent of the ordinance was not to make money, but to make sure that the rental properties in the borough are safe. Atty. Best stated that his opinion is that the \$50.00 fee is reasonable, and reflects the costs associated with the work done by the code officer and the borough office, including the record keeping and follow-up inspections.

Mr. Greg Stuck stated that Lewisburg, on an annual basis, charges a flat, regulatory fee of \$50.00 and there is no inspection fee. Mr. Stuck said that one of his clients told him that the duration of an inspection was 16 minutes and Mr. Stuck does not understand the justification for the \$50.00 charge. He also does not “buy in” on the copy of the budget

costing \$19.75. That charge included a \$15.00 administrative fee. Mr. Stuck questioned if anyone else knows about the administrative fee or if he was singled out. Mayor Brosius replied that several years ago, before she was sitting at the council table, she paid \$23.00 for a copy of the budget and Mr. Stuck is not being singled out. Mr. Wolfe added that the budget and other borough information are available on the internet. Mr. Stuck said that he was not aware of that fact. With respect to the ordinance, Mr. Stuck stated that the borough must stay within the case law that is there, it has to be reasonable, and it also has to be reasonably related to something.

Roll call vote to adopt Resolution E – All ayes. Motion passed.

Mr. Marlin Burrell asked why residents should pay an additional administrative fee when the Borough Secretary and the Code Enforcement Officer are already paid to do their jobs. A response was attempted by the Borough Secretary; however, Mr. Burrell interrupted the explanation.

Mr. Wolfe conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2002-8. This ordinance defines “residential rental unit” and “townhouse.” This ordinance also requires that a landlord arrange for an inspection after each and every tenant moves out of a rental unit. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-8. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously. Atty. Best explained that the reason for adding the word “townhouse” was because the owners of the Priestley Townhouses didn’t pay the fee because they felt a townhouse was not an apartment. Mrs. Martin stated that realtors should be informed of the changes in the fees and ordinances. Mr. Wolfe said that he enters all of the borough codes on the borough’s website for the residents’ information. When an ordinance changes the code, the codes online are updated.

2. Mr. Mike Balducci, solicitor for the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation, explained the purpose for Resolution F. This resolution states that the borough approves the financing for the Housing Corporation through the Sunbury Redevelopment Authority. Mr. Balducci said that the law requires a public hearing, which was held on May 1, 2002. No member of the public was present at this meeting. The Northumberland Borough Council and the Sunbury City Council both must approve the financing. Council questioned the low-income guidelines for the mid-rise. Atty. Balducci explained that the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation is a tax-free entity and most of the people meet HUD requirements as low-income elderly. The requirements are that 19 units of the 36 must be utilized for low-income elderly residents. Mrs. Groninger requested that the borough be provided with copies of the 1990 agreement. Atty. Balducci will provide the borough with a copy of the 1990 agreement and a new agreement for the Steele school site building. Mr. Dale Heim stated that the bids for the mid-rise are scheduled to be opened on May 17, 2002.

Mr. Troxell moved to adopt Resolution F. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Atty. Balducci requested that a copy of the resolution, with a cover letter expressing the borough council’s approval, be sent to Mayor Persing.

3. Resolution G provides for participation in the PSAB Borough Management Caucus. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Resolution G. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

4. Mr. Wolfe conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2002-7. This ordinance creates a 4-way stop at the corners of Park and Sheetz Avenues and Park and Wheatley Avenues. Mr. Shaffer moved to add stop signs at these locations. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. A stop sign has been requested for Susquehanna Road at the intersection with Honey Locust. Four-way stops were suggested for Priestley Avenue at the intersection with Orange Street and for the corner of Wheatley and Ropewalk Avenues. Atty. Best advised that the additional locations could be added to this Ordinance. Mr. Shaffer amended his motion. Mrs. Groninger amended the second. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed 2-4.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to install stop signs at all of the above locations, except on Susquehanna Road at the intersection with Honey Locust. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Shaffer voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

The second reading of Ordinance 2002-7 will be at the May 22, 2002 council meeting.

Requiring Council Approval:

1. Payment of the bills was discussed. Mr. Troxell informed the council that a reduction should be seen in the water bill for the Liberty Glass Center. Mr. Troxell repaired the leak in the toilet at the building. Council members thanked Mr. Troxell for doing so. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of April 16, 2002. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. Bolig and the other firemen have been informed as to what they are to do when reporting to a fire if the two fire chiefs are not present. Mr. Wolfe stated that letters have been sent to both fire departments, and the Fire Board informing them that Mr. Bogovich has been suspended as an Assistant Fire Chief. Roll call vote to approve the minutes of April 16, 2002 – All ayes.
3. Mr. Wolfe spoke with Ali Stevens of WKOK to plan another town hall meeting on May 29, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Building. He asked if this date is acceptable to the council members and mayor. No one had any objections to the date and time. The last town hall meeting was held two years ago.
4. Mr. Wolfe will be visiting Mr. Bowersox at the hospital tomorrow evening and invited anyone else who is available to go with him.
5. Mr. Wolfe announced that the Personnel Committee has selected a Street Supervisor and a part-time Code Enforcement Officer. They plan to discuss the positions with the candidates before formally recommending them to council.
6. Mr. Carl asked for approval for Tom Slodysko to use the backhoe with the borough crew's assistance to remove grass at an area at the pool to create a volleyball court. Approval was given.

7. Mr. Ditton asked about the letter received from the water company. He was questioning where the water from the water tank would be flushed. Mr. Carl stated that he saw the hose running down the bank and along the alleyway that is above the cemetery.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Motion approved unanimously.

Requests:

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request from the American Red Cross to conduct swimming lessons at the Liberty Pool this summer. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request from the Northumberland County Children & Youth Summer Day Camp Program to use the Liberty Pool this summer. Travis Fisher has recommended that the \$4,500 fee remain the same as last summer. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request from Back 40 Bass Club, Sheppton, PA, to hold a fishing tournament at the Point on July 21, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Towne Marine, Bloomsburg, PA, requested permission to hold a fishing tournament at the Hanover Launch on June 22, 2002. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request, providing the group conduct the tournament at the Point, instead of the Hanover Street launch. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request from PA Bass Federation District II, Wellsboro, PA, to hold a fishing tournament at the Point on July 28, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he has been elected to the borough council twice. Two times the council members unanimously gave him the opportunity to serve as president, and he serves at the pleasure of the people at the council table. Mr. Wolfe stated that he has been harassed by members of the community, such as Mr. Stuck, because he rents and does not own property in the borough. These people seem to feel that he is not qualified to sit on council because he is a renter. Mr. Wolfe offered to resign as President if the council so desires. Other council members all stated that they feel that Bryan is doing a good job on council and do not want him to resign as President. Mr. Troxell stated that most people do not know the amount of time that council members spend to serve the community. Additionally, council members use their own vehicles when checking on projects throughout town.

Mr. Wolfe said that he understands that people are upset about the Sidewalk Ordinance. The suggestion was made to “bring it up for a vote.” But the borough is a representative democracy, and as a representative democracy, people elect other people to make decisions and everything cannot be put on the ballot. Mr. Wolfe said that people need to be more involved so they can voice their opinions the first time a subject is addressed, not after topics have been discussed several times and decisions have been made. He added that it is not the council’s responsibility to send a letter to borough residents for everything they do. Meetings and ordinances are advertised.

Mayor Brosius feels that a Community Bulletin Board may help to inform people. Mr. Wolfe concurred and said that while the council members at the table do not always agree; they each make decisions based on what they feel is right for the town as a whole.

Mrs. Groninger said that many of the people at tonight's meeting are retired and the borough needs to find funding to help with paying for the sidewalks. She thinks that the council needs to develop better public relations when trying to address issues in the borough. An example was that council should have approached the Kiwanis Club to discuss with them the fact that the Kiwanis Building is located where additional parking may be needed for the pool. And also that the pool project is a "pay as you go" job and there is a chance that "we could fail". And all that we would have is what is built this year. But that is more than we would have had otherwise.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the minutes of the last borough council meeting maintain that the council had requested that the Fire Board present a candidate for the vacant Assistant Fire Chief position by the May 7, 2002 council meeting. She asked what council intends to do about this subject. Mr. Wolfe replied that, based on the discussion in Executive Session, this is a situation that is pending, and as such, it would behoove the council to wait to see what happens with the issue.

PennDOT has contacted the Borough Office to inform the council that truck traffic on Water Street would need to be rerouted because sidewalks are to be replaced at the corner of King and Water Streets.

Mr. Shaffer moved to extend the meeting 15 minutes. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion passed 4-2.

Council discussed options to detour the truck traffic. Mrs. Groninger made a motion that truck traffic coming north on Routes 11/15 use Veteran's Bridge to go into Sunbury, and traffic southbound on Route 147 should turn right at the intersection of Water and Duke Streets, travel south on Route 11, and cross Veteran's Bridge into Sunbury. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. PennDOT will be informed of the council's suggestion.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Groninger. The meeting was adjourned at 10:18 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting**

Northumberland Borough Municipal Building
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
May 22, 2002

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. The ten visitors present introduced themselves. Council noted for the record that Mr. Carl was absent because he was working on the renovations at the Liberty Pool.

Public Comment

Mr. Harry Wynn, a resident of Prince Street, stated that he had applied for a sidewalk exemption and was denied. He noted that other property owners on Prince Street and other residents in the borough are not required to install sidewalks. Mr. Wynn added that other people have not received the letter stating the specifications. Mr. Wolfe replied that letters will be sent to the borough property owners in June. If sidewalks are installed on his property, a bank will be created. Mr. Wynn feels that the bank created by the sidewalks would be as steep as the one that would be created at the properties on Prince Street between Strawbridge Road and Fifth Street and those properties have been exempted. Mr. Wolfe said that the properties located between Strawbridge Road and Third Street require sidewalks. Mr. Wynn asked why no sidewalks are required on the upper side of Prince Street from Washington Avenue to Front Street. Atty. Best explained that an exemption was granted for that area because all laws must be reasonable, and it would be unreasonable to make someone install a sidewalk, even if it is a benefit to the community, if the cost and difficulty to install the sidewalk due to the contour of the land is so great, as opposed to the benefit of the sidewalk. However, the decision whether or not to exempt a property is a judgment call that was made by the committee who inspected the sidewalks. Atty. Best added that residents who are unhappy with the committee’s decision have the right to take the issue to the borough’s appeals board. Mr. Wynn asked when an Appeals Board was initiated in the borough. He was told that the Appeals Board is in the Borough Codes. The members of the Appeals Board are Mr. Waltz and Mr. McWilliams. Mr. Wynn said that he cannot see the point of putting sidewalks in at one property, skipping other property, and putting them in at the next property. He does not think that is beautifying the borough. He agrees that sidewalks that are already here should be repaired or replaced to look decent. Mr. Wynn feels that the borough should obtain grants to help pay for sidewalks. Mayor Brosius told him that the borough is seeking grant funding to help pay for the sidewalks. Mr. Wynn feels that the money should be appropriated from some type of grant before

the residents are required to install or repair sidewalks. Mayor Brosius stated that the borough would keep searching for funding.

Another issue Mr. Wynn commented about was the water slides. . He questioned where the borough was obtaining the funding to install the slides. Mayor Brosius stated that the slides would only be done installed if funding is available. Mr. Wynn was under the impression that the water slides were already started. Mr. Shaffer stated that the project for this summer is a “dump tower”, which was built with volunteer labor and donated materials. The pool improvements will progress as funding is made available. Mr. Wynn does not feel that the water slides will bring anything into the borough. He would advocate a referendum on the project.

Mr. Robert Moyer requested that the letter that he sent to the borough council be read aloud. The letter was read by the Borough Secretary and is on file in the Borough Office. Mr. Moyer asked why residents living on the odd-numbered side of the Fifth Street should be required to have sidewalks while sidewalks are not needed on the even-numbered side of the street. He added that the four properties that are affected all belong to retired senior citizens. The four properties on the other side of the street belong to two retired citizens, and two homes where both the husband and wife work. Mr. Moyer also noted that all the other sidewalks required stop at Prince Street. Fifth Street is the only street where sidewalks are required above Prince Street. Mayor Brosius asked if sidewalks weren't already on the odd-numbered side of the street. Mr. Moyer stated that two separate properties have sidewalks and he does not feel that he should be penalized because someone installed sidewalks at their properties forty years ago. Mr. Ditton asked if Mr. Moyer would prefer that sidewalks were required on both sides of the street. Mr. Moyer stated that he does not feel that sidewalks are necessary on either side. Mr. Moyer also said that in order to meet the sidewalk at the neighbor's property, he would need to install steps due to the contour of the land. Mrs. Groninger told him that his area (3rd ward) does not have to have sidewalks until October of 2003, or if the residents apply for an extension, October of 2004. Mr. Wolfe stated that one person's problem is another person's safety issue. Atty. Best explained that with the Americans with Disabilities Act, the borough needs to provide access for residents in wheelchairs or other disabilities. Residents taking issue with a decision regarding the exemption of their property could appeal to the Appeals Board. Mr. Wynn feels that this ordinance will be putting undo hardship on the borough residents. Mr. Wolfe restated that there are many residents who are happy because the sidewalks are being replaced. He also restated that the borough is looking for ways to help residents offset the cost of replacing their sidewalks. Discussion was held regarding the letter that the Council will be mailing in June to residents regarding sidewalk replacement.

Bid Opening - Storm Water Improvement Project

The bids for the Storm Water Improvement Project were opened and read by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Max Inkrote, of Larson Design Group, Inc. told the council that the anticipated start date is in early July, possibly July 10, and a completion date is set for November 15, 2002.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to award the contract to HRI at the bid price of \$765,711.50, with the condition that the engineer review and approve the bid. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion was held regarding the use of any waste material. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported on her activity since the last council meeting. She recommended that someone attend the Greenway meeting scheduled for May 29, 9-11 AM or 4-6 PM. The Revitalization Committee has purchased flower urns for downtown and they will be planted and placed in the downtown before Memorial Day. A copy of the Mayor's Report is on file in the Borough Office.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the Sewer Authority plans to install piping in the plant. The low bid was \$192,000 and the authority has the money in place to fund the project. Mr. Shaffer heard that Point Township will receive a grant for their sewer project. He asked how that will impact the plant. Ms. Lark stated that the plant does have the capacity. Plan 537 was completed for the project.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane informed the council that a hearing is scheduled for June 10, 2002 for one of the violations about the rental ordinance.

Council discussed the letter regarding Act 45, the Pennsylvania Uniform Construction Code (UCC). The letter from the PSAB explains the options available to municipalities. The PSAB is offering to provide a professional Code Enforcement Program at cost of approximately \$1.00 per capita. Municipalities have the option to hire their own inspector, create a new inspection program by passing an ordinance adopting the UCC, or opt out of the program. The topic was tabled.

The Planning Commission meets on May 30, 2002. A sub-division for the former Diehl property, presented by Mr. Shumaker, will be reviewed.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the backfill on Third Street. Mr. Ruane stated that he did receive Mr. Bowersox's written complaint.

Mrs. Groninger asked if any problems exist at the railroad crossing on Hanover Street, in reference to a letter from the Public Utility Commission. Mr. Ruane informed the council that the P. G. Energy installed pipe under the railroad; they did not touch the tracks.

Executive Session

The council adjourned to an Executive Session at 7:55 p.m. to discuss legal and personnel issues. The council meeting was reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Finance Committee would meet in July.

Parks & Recreation

The committee would like the council to discuss the fee schedule for the Liberty Pool. The suggested fees are: General Admission - \$3.00; Children 5 & Under - \$1, Senior Citizens 55 & up - \$2.00, Group Rate of 20 people or more - \$2 per person, Season passes: Single Person - \$75, Family up to 4 - \$150, Each additional family member \$35, and Senior Citizen season pass \$60. Daily prices are ½ price after 4 p.m.

Mr. Shaffer moved to accept the adjusted fee schedule for Liberty Pool. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 5-0.

The unveiling of the waterpark design will take place at the pool on June 6 at 6:00 p.m.

Personnel

Mr. James Tamecki is willing to accept the position of part-time code enforcement officer. Mr. Ditton moved to hire Mr. Tamecki as the part-time code enforcement officer. This position will require less than 40 hours per week and will be under the direction of Mr. Ruane. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

The candidate for the Street Supervisor position has declined the offer. Discussion was held regarding the matter. Mr. Wolfe asked if the council would like to make a counter-offer. Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger stated that they did not want to make a counter-offer. Mr. Wolfe stated that the street crew needs someone to manage their schedule. Mr. Bowersox moved to advertise for a street supervisor with salary being negotiable. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton all voted aye. Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1. Mrs. Groninger stated that the crew is now working with one less worker.

Mr. Shaffer will contact an individual he thinks may be interested in the street supervisor position.

Property

No report

Public Safety

On advice of council, Mr. Shaffer is making a motion to draft a letter to the Fire Board, #1's and Hookies. The letter will state that the fire board has 5 active members who have been approved by the council. They are Robin Bolig, Pat McPherson, and Mike McPherson, all representing the #1's, and Fire Chiefs Josh Newbury and Mike Williams. Anyone not on that list is not approved as a member of the Fire Board. In order to have a quorum at the next Fire Board meeting, all 5 members must be present. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

The Public Safety committee voted to allow the police department to spend \$9,193 for equipment updates. This money is a reimbursement from the Department of Justice to the borough for the payback of the final installment of the C.O.P.S. grant. The police would like to purchase equipment for the

department. As of March 31, 2002, the borough is not entitled to any more grant money for the C.O.P.S. grant for wages. Mrs. Groninger stated that the money came into the borough to pay toward salaries for the police department. Mr. Shaffer moved to allow the police department to expend the money for equipment purchases. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer voted aye. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion defeated 1-5.

Streets

Mr. Troxell announced a Street Committee Meeting for May 29, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. A Round Table meeting with WKOK had been tentatively set for this date. Mr. Wolfe requested that Ali Stevens be contacted to reschedule the Round Table meeting.

Mr. Bowersox questioned the way the pipe was repaired on Priestley Avenue. Mrs. Groninger stated that the cold-in-place recycling work on Fifth Street was well done.

HRI will be meeting with Paul Ruane and Breneman's to determine a date to begin paving the streets.

Mayor Brosius stated that a resident informed her that a noise occurs in the street around the high rise. PennDot will be contacted about the problem.

The traffic study being done by Bucknell students is complete. The Street Committee is to review their recommendations to the traffic problems in the borough.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the curbing and crosswalks be painted this summer. A detour is currently coming through town because Ridge Road is being paved between Strawbridge Road and Bulk Plant Road.

Old Business

Second Street School Update

Mr. Redington said that the new roof is being installed at the Second Street School building. The request for architectural services has been advertised and the bids will be opened on May 30, 2002 at 1:00 p.m. They will be brought to the council at the first meeting in June.

Pineknottter Park Update

A proposal from Larson Design has been received to restructure the contract and bid proposal. Since then, Mr. Redington spoke with the project manager who has stated that the proposal is open for negotiation. Mr. Redington suggested that the council not act on the proposal at this time and he will arrange a meeting with the project manager. Council members will be informed of the time and are welcome to attend.

Mrs. Groninger mentioned that the Kiwanis Club had presented the borough council with a check from proceeds from the Spaghetti Dinner fund raiser and this information was not in the news media. The fund raiser was to support the Second Street School building project.

New Business

Ordinance/ Resolution Discussion:

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-7. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. This is the second reading of this ordinance and adds stops signs at Park & Sheetz Aves; Park & Wheatley Aves; Wheatley & Ropewalk Aves; Orange St. & Priestley Ave. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0. These intersections are now 4-way stops.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance No. 2002-8. This was the second reading of this ordinance which amends the requirements for the inspection of premises held for residential lease, etc.; setting fees; and establishing penalties. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

Council Approval:

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to pay the bills. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Mr. Ditton questioned the bill for the culvert at Third and Queen Streets. Mr. Troxell explained that the work was completed to repair pipes under the street. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$12,832.93 and the Liberty Pool bills total \$16.74.
2. Approval of the minutes of May 7, 2002 was tabled to the next meeting.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
June 4, 2002

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, and Charles "Bud" Ditton. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Atty. James Best, Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. The 15 visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Harry Wynn asked why every resident did not have the same time frame to complete their sidewalks. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council drew lots in a public meeting. Mr. Wynn asked why everyone could not have until 2005 to install or repair their sidewalks. He also questioned why the properties on Prince Street from Washington St. to Front Street are exempt. Mr. Carl stated that the reason was due to utility poles. Mr. Wynn asked why the entire borough wasn't included. Atty. Best stated that the council has the discretion to decide where the sidewalks should go. The council decided that the sidewalks should be required in the area where they are currently located. Mr. Wynn also questioned the width of the sidewalks. He stated that the 5 foot width is not required throughout the borough.

Mr. Roger Graboski requested that the council reconsider building the water park, stating that to put a water park in the middle of a residential area is ludicrous. He said that the water park which was at White Deer is no longer in operation.

Mr. Wynn added that a water park which was in operation near Kutztown has closed.

Mr. Schreffler asked if the council took the senior citizens into consideration when the sidewalk ordinance was developed. He did not see anyone to talk to when the properties were to be reviewed. He asked about whether the cemetery is exempt. Mr. Wolfe stated that the cemetery is exempt. Mr. Schreffler thinks that the cost of the sidewalks at his property, along Seventh Street, will be \$2000. Most people will not walk on the sidewalks in this area.

Mr. DeSantis stated that the committee may not have seen the bank at the rear of his property. Mrs. Groninger was at Mr. DeSantis's property and she agreed that he should complete the exemption form.

Letters are being mailed to the residents whose properties are affected by the new ordinance. The code officers will then go throughout the Second Ward to review the sidewalks and will determine which sidewalks need to be repaired or replaced. They also will inform the homeowner of what type of work should be done in order to be in compliance with the ordinance. Mrs. Groninger asked where the people should go to appeal their exemptions. Mr. Wolfe asked Mr. Best to comment on the situation. Mr. Best stated that council could designate the Appeals Board to hear these issues or the council could say that the council's decision is final and the resident has three days to appeal the decision in court.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion that any past exemptions or further exemptions should go through the Code Enforcement Officer and if the Code Enforcement Officer feels that the council's denials for exemptions were in error, the Code Officer may now exempt those people and the council would stand by the Code Officer's decision. If a person does not agree and a violation occurs, the resident may then appeal to the Court of Common Pleas. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion.

Mrs. Groninger stated that she does not want people to have to go to court over the issue. Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough, as well as the homeowner, is liable if someone is injured on the property. The council members are concerned for the public's safety.

Mayor Brosius said that she had a phone call from a resident on 7th Street who cannot get her wheelchair into the street because one of the properties has no sidewalks. If sidewalks were to extend to the end of the block, handicapped curbing could be installed.

Mayor Brosius also commented on a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Jay Wolfe. The letter explained various problems, including gas lines and trees along the street. The borough needs sidewalks; however, there are places in town where the grading is not conducive to sidewalks being installed.

Mr. Wynn feels that before the sidewalks are addressed, handicapped curbing should be installed at all intersections. He also believes that everyone should have the same time frame to comply with the ordinance.

Mr. Carl stated that he feels the council is being fair because Selinsgrove required that the residents install sidewalks within 90 days.

Mr. Schreffler asked if the borough would be liable if the gas line is hit. Mr. Shaffer stated that the utility would mark the gas line when a PA One Call is made.

Roll call vote was taken. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

Second Street School Report

Atty. Gene Brosius presented the recommendation from the Second Street School Committee. The committee received bids from 5 architects. The low bidder was Wolfe Associates at a bid of \$4,000 for Bid A and \$16,000 for Bid B. Atty. Brosius added that an evaluation form was also included. Mr. Gary Wolfe, of Wolfe Associates, has worked on the 2nd Street School for the school district. He has the plans, layouts, etc. Mr. Wolfe also received the highest score on the evaluation form. Mr. Bryan Wolfe commented, for the record, that he is not related to Gary Wolfe, or Wolfe Associates. The committee is recommending that the council hire Wolfe Associates.

Mr. Carl moved to accept the bid from Wolfe Associates. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. The proposal that was given to the council was the committee's recommendation. Atty. Brosius stated that he would like to see a way to utilize the basement of the building. He does not feel that the proposal is "locked in stone." Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held from 7:40 p.m. to 7:48 p.m. Topics discussed were legal and personnel issues.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius attended four meetings since the last council meeting. She also visited an area where the portable pedestrian signs are in use. She feels that they may be valuable to the borough and worth pursuing.
- Four new locations have four-way stop signs. They are behind the Norry Bank, behind the Second Street School, Priestley Avenue and Orange Street, and Ropewalk & Wheatley Avenues.
- Handicapped curbing was discussed. The locations where handicapped curbing is located were chosen several years ago. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Streets Committee should discuss the handicapped curbing for the homeowner on Seventh Street. He feels that handicapped curbing is the borough's responsibility.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported on his activity as Code Enforcement Officer. The report is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Ruane announced that the paving is completed in the borough. Two cars had to be towed. The cars were legally parked before the streets were posted. The borough may need to pay the garage for the towing costs.

The water company's final paving is being completed on Third Street today.

PSAB Regional Codes Program – Mr. Ruane contacted the PSAB for information. A letter of interest is to be returned by July 1.

Subdivision Proposal from Douglas Shumaker –

The Northumberland County Planning Commission and the Borough Planning Commission have both approved the subdivision proposal. Mr. Alan Zeigler explained that the drive and the house drain onto the woods surrounding the property. Mr. Bowersox asked why contours were not provided and Mr. Ruane stated that the property is exempt. Mr. Troxell stated that the roads to be installed are going to be on the top of the hill and would not affect route 11. Mrs. Groninger moved to adopt Shumaker subdivision. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell all voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that the Branchview Development is planning the next phase of the development. Mr. Robert Kline explained that the developers are changing the lot size and configuration. The road design will not change.

Committee Reports

Finance

The 2003 budget dates will be announced at the next meeting.

Parks & Recreation

The Design Revealing party for the water park at the Liberty Pool will be held on June 6 at 6:00 p.m. Mr. Carl thanked the borough crew for the loan of equipment and their help in completing the "Dump Tower" at the pool. Judith Leblein, a representative from Water Technology, will be in the borough on June 14, 2002 at 6:00 p.m. at the Front Street Station. Saturday, June 15, from 8:00 a.m. until 3:00 or 4:00 p.m., a corporate sponsorship training session will be held. This meeting will be in the Borough Building. Mr. Carl stated that the money for the water park would be grant money and corporate funding. Mr. Wynn asked what would happen if the money is not obtained. Mr. Carl stated that the project would die. No Northumberland tax dollars are to be raised for the pool project. The money from the tax bills now is being spent for the feasibility study, upgrades to the pool this year, and for bills that had been paid for from the general fund in previous years. Mayor Brosius stated that the park is more a "Splash Land" than a "Water Park".

Mr. Carl moved to initiate a Liberty Pool Capital Campaign. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl left the meeting at 8:20 p.m. to work on getting the pool ready for the Open House.

Mr. Bowersox moved to allow the Northumberland-Point Township Senior Action Center to use the pavilion in Pineknott Park free of charge. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox all voted aye. Mr. Carl was absent. Motion passed 5-0.

Mr. Bowersox moved to allow Trinity United Methodist Church to have their picnic at Pineknott Park on June 15 at no charge. A discussion was held regarding the fact that there is a fee to reserve the pavilion. If one church is

exempted from the fee, then all of them must be exempted. Mr. Bowersox withdrew his motion.

Personnel - No report

Property

The roof is being installed at the 2nd Street School. It should be completed in two weeks. Macadam on the playground area is failing. The borough crew has patched the areas.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer stated that a letter was received from the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company requesting that the council approve James E. Troup, Capt., Michael Keeley, and Michael S. Reedy to the Fire Board.

Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint James Troup to the Fire Board. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint Michael Keeley to the Fire Board. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint Michael Reedy to the Fire Board. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

The committee has received requests to ban burning in the borough. The issue will be put on the agenda for the June 18, 2002 council meeting. Mrs. Groninger stated that only one letter was received and that she does not know why the issue is being brought up again for just one letter.

Mr. Tim Fink requested that the borough approve the D.A.R.E. grant for the program in the school. The money will be received in November for the spring of 2003. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the D.A.R.E. grant. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mayor Brosius stated that she feels the D.A.R.E. program is very worthwhile. \$2,349.50 is the total cost of the program and grant application. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

Sidewalk construction quotes were reviewed. Four quotes were received. Mr. Shaffer reviewed the quotes. The council is not endorsing the contractors. Discussion was held regarding the implications of the quotes. Mr. Shaffer moved to post the names and addresses of the contractors who submitted quotes. If a person is interested in finding out the amount the contractors quoted then that person may inquire at the borough office. The motion was not seconded.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to post the quote sheet so that the residents have an idea of what the cost may be. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mrs. Groninger voted aye. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion tied 3-3. Mayor Brosius voted no. Motion defeated

4-3. Mayor Brosius voted no the quote sheet did not include all the information from the quotes. If a motion is made to correct the quote sheet then she would vote yes.

Mrs. Groninger moved that the borough secretary amend the quote sheet, listing the quotes in their entirety, and have the quotes and estimates available in the office for the residents. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox voted yes. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 4-2.

Streets Committee

Mr. Troxell presented the report of the committee meeting. A written report from the Street Committee meeting on May 29, 2002 is on file in the borough office. The Street Committee is working on getting a list together for the utilities to notify them of next year's work. Mr. Troxell would like to see Fifth Street and Orange Street paved. Many of the streets in town have been discussed. The next meeting should produce a more definite list.

Mr. Wolfe spoke with a resident on Jefferson Street about the intersection at Strawbridge Road and Jefferson Street. The resident is concerned that the intersection is sinking. His RV scrapes bottom when he makes a right hand turn onto Jefferson. The borough secretary sent a letter suggesting he bring his vehicle in by the opposite direction. The crew painted the area yellow so that it would be noticed. It has been suggested that a sign be placed alerting residents to the potential hazard. Mrs. Groninger noted that some issues cannot be corrected by the borough.

Mrs. Shearer attended the Street Committee meeting to ask about the driveway below Susquehanna Street. Council discussed whether this driveway is the responsibility of the borough. Mrs. Shearer's land was a part of Davis Development. Mr. Troxell stated that before the borough would accept a road, the developer should have been required to pave it. The maps in the Assessment Office do not show who owns the property in question. The office staff will try to locate a deed of dedication.

Mrs. Groninger stated that street crew had asked if the police could make two trips through the borough on "no parking" days. It has been noted that the police have not been ticketing vehicles at 8 AM. Mr. Wolfe asked if the broken meters downtown have been repaired. Mayor Brosius stated that she and Chief Redington were taking care of that issue this week. Discussion was held regarding the propriety of the mayor collecting money from the meters. Mr. Wolfe moved to have a police officer and a non-police officer collect the meter money. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

A discussion was held regarding the police department's enforcement of the borough codes.

Someone questioned if people who do not have curbing should not have to put in sidewalks. Curbing was installed in two areas of the borough recently. The homeowners were not charged for the curbing. Mrs. Groninger stated that the borough had the street surveyed and most of the land along the street is owned by the borough. Mr. Wolfe expressed concern that the borough keeps paying for curbs when other municipalities charge the property owners for curbs. Mr. Shaffer stated that the property owners should be charged for new curbing; however, any replacement curbing should be paid for by the borough. Mr. Ditton stated that the property owner is responsible to maintain their curbing.

Old Business

▪ Pineknotter Park

Larson Design Group revised its proposal for the light standards at Pineknotter Park. Mr. Daddario stated that the cost for the proposal has been reduced. He feels that the borough should tell Larson's to "pack their bags" because Larson keeps changing their fees. Mr. Kohl is volunteering his time to spread the topsoil at the field. The committee does not want to keep dipping into their \$163,000. A work party will be held at the park on Saturday at 8:15 a.m. The volunteers will fine-rake the field. Grass seed will be spread later. There will be no baseball played on the field this year. Mayor Brosius stated that she thought the labor to install the light poles is to be done by the corps of engineers. If so, it would help to defray the cost.

▪ Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation

Atty. Mike Balducci provided the borough with the closing agenda for the original Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation project and the agreement for the current project.

Bids were received Thursday night. The bids are in line with the estimated costs of the project. The corporation will review the low bid this Thursday night before awarding the bid. Atty. Balducci presented the council with a new agreement for the proposed midrise at the Steele School site. A copy of this agreement is on file in the Borough office. Mr. Balducci went over the agreement in detail. The Housing Corporation has sixty days to close the loan. They would like the borough to review the agreement, suggest any changes, and add the agreement to the June 18, 2002 borough council meeting agenda.

The Housing Corporation will reimburse the borough for any expenses incurred. No definition of elderly is in any of the housing corporation documents. The original documents do not directly state "low income" purpose of the Housing Corporation is to provide "affordable" housing.

▪ Storm Water Project

The easements need to be notarized. There are seven easements to be signed.

Mr. Shaffer moved to extend the meeting for 15 minutes. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox, all voted aye. Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 4-2.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote-All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of May 7, and May 22, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-1.
3. **Susquehanna University Service Project**
Susquehanna University has offered to send a group of 15-20 freshmen to Northumberland for a Saturday afternoon in August to volunteer for a community service project. One suggestion was that there might be something at Second Street School they could do. Other years, the projects undertaken by the students were mulching the playground, and staining the equipment at Pineknott Park. The office will contact SU once a project is decided upon.
4. Mr. Wolfe stated that letters about the sidewalks will be mailed to homeowners by the end of the week.
5. Mr. Ditton received requests to change the no parking in front of the Masonic Building on Front Street. Discussion was held regarding the reason for the no parking sign. Mr. Ditton moved to post a "6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. No Parking" sign in front of the Masonic Building. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Shaffer voted no. Motion passed 4-2.
6. Mr. Ditton moved to post 4-way stop signs at the intersection of Wheatley and Church Avenues. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA
June 18, 2002
7:00 p.m.**

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Atty. James Best, Borough Solicitor, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. The nine visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Daniel Benson asked if the council had seen his exemption for the sidewalks. Mr. Ruane informed him that he has seen the request and will be visiting the property. Mr. Benson thanked the council.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius read the following proclamation:

WHEREAS, David Cantine is a resident of the Borough of Northumberland, and is a recent honor graduate of the Northumberland Christian School, and

WHEREAS, David Cantine has distinguished himself by being named a **National Merit Scholar** for scoring in the top one per cent of the nation on the PSAT/NMSQT test taken by high school juniors across the nation, and

WHEREAS, David Cantine has distinguished himself as being named as a Susquehanna Valley Young American for his school achievements,

NOW THEREFORE, Northumberland Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius recognizes David Cantine’s accomplishments by proclaiming this 18th day of June, 2002 as David Cantine day in the Borough of Northumberland.

Mr. Wolfe, speaking for the council, concurs with Mayor Brosius’ proclamation.

Mayor Brosius reported on her activity since the last council meeting. Her report is on file in the borough office.

The Revitalization Committee met at the park to decide on a location for a community bulletin board. The monument with the Gettysburg Address may need to be relocated. It was suggested that the Revitalization Committee meet with the Parks and Recreation Committee regarding this issue.

A citizen of the borough would like to see a reminder for the residents of the borough stating that there are ordinances regarding burning, noise, and a curfew. During the discussion that followed, it was suggested that these ordinances be posted on the web site, be mentioned in the newspaper, and that consideration be given to having cards printed with these ordinances listed. The cards would be available at the borough office and at businesses in town. Mr. Wolfe stated that this reminder will be posted on the web site, listed in the September newsletter and that copies of the ordinances will be available in the borough office.

Mayor Brosius suggested that the council should act on obtaining pedestrian crosswalks suggested in the Traffic Study. A Penn DOT official, who was in the office, stated that the study should be sent to Penn DOT for approval. Funds may be available for the crosswalks. Crosswalks are to be considered for Duke Street, the school, and the pool.

Mr. Wolfe moved to forward the Bucknell Traffic Study to Penn DOT's traffic office in Montoursville and that the council will follow-up with Penn DOT in sixty days. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion held. Mrs. Groninger stated that in order to have an accurate count of the cars leaving town, Penn DOT should place more counters within the borough. Mr. Wolfe asked if this issue should be forwarded to the Street Committee. Roll call vote: Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye. Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mayor Brosius read a letter to the council from the Northumberland-Point Township Senior Action Center thanking them for waiving the fee for the rental of the picnic pavilion at Pineknotted Park.

Mayor Brosius thanked all of those, young and old, who came to Pineknotted Park the other evening, and those who helped open the pool. She also thanked Mr. Brosius for planting flowers around town.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane stated that this year has been a terrible year for high grass. There is currently no construction going on in the borough.

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that he and Atty. Best spoke with District Justice Bolton regarding the fees and fines for the landlord permit. He feels that the ordinance will be upheld. Another hearing is scheduled for June 27th.

Mr. Ruane noted that the Supreme Court recently ruled on solicitation permits.

Mr. Ruane discussed the property on Orange Street. The borough crew cut the grass and removed the garbage. Mr. Ruane spoke with the attorney in Harrisburg about the property problems. A team will be coming around to keep the grass mowed.

Mrs. Groninger moved that the borough take a lien on the Herlinger property on Duke Street. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Wolfe read a letter from Andrea Bashore, administrator at the Joseph Priestley House, complimenting Mr. Ruane for keeping her apprised of the paving situation on Priestley Avenue.

Committee Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee will begin the 2003 budget meetings. The dates are July 31 to review the current budget, August 28, to approve department budgets, September 25 to review salaries, October 23 income side of budget, and November 20 to review and approve the budget. The meetings will begin at 6:30 p.m.

Fire Apparatus Tax

A letter was received from Mr. Thomas J. Wandishin regarding the audit of the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company. Mr. Wandishin was present and he informed the council that he has tried to review the 2001 year, however, nothing is recorded. He explained that with a new administration at the Hookies, the company has a better handle on the records. Mr. Wandishin is recommending that he and Mr. Barry Moser assist the Hookies in maintaining better records and could provide the council with 2002 information once that has been determined. Mr. Wandishin had been contacted by the Hookies approximately one month ago to audit the records. Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. Wandishin is a CPA. Mr. Wandishin replied that he is not and provided the council with his accounting background. He was an accounting manager at Geisinger, and has worked ten years in the private sector, the past five as Controller at OTT Packaging. He added that Mr. Moser is a CPA.

Mr. Ditton asked what kind of documentation the company provided to obtain the loan for the fire truck. Mr. Troup stated that Mr. Bogovich handled that part of the transaction.

Mrs. Groninger stated that on October 9, 2001, the borough requested an audit of the books from the Hookies. She added that audits had been requested before that time; however she did not know the exact dates. Mr. Troup replied that the council had requested an audit when the fire company approached the council to establish a Fire Authority. Since an authority was not established, the audit was not conducted. Mr. Ditton stated that when Mr. Troup and Mr. Bogovich first came to the council to request money for the new truck, they were informed that an audit would be required. Mr. Wolfe added that the audit deadline was extended from the end of December to May to June. Mr. Troup stated that the person who was to conduct the audit did not respond so Mr. Wandishin was contacted. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council is dealing with public money, and while the council approved the funding in December of 2001, the fire department was asked to have a CPA conduct an audit in order to obtain the funding. Mr. Wolfe questions how the borough can give this amount of taxpayer money to an organization without knowing the status of the company's finances. He also questions why any company would give an organization a truck of this value on a lease or buy basis without looking at the organization's financial records.

Mr. Wandishin stated that when looking at a lease/purchase agreement, the company can reclaim the vehicle if the payments are not made and resell the vehicle at a minimum loss. The first payments that are made are basically the interest.

Mr. Ditton asked who signed the application for the truck lease agreement. He suggested that the application be located to see whose names are on it. Mrs. Groninger added that Mr. Troup has represented the fire company at council meetings. Mr. Troup stated that the company president signed the lease. Mr. Wandishin explained that the company's administration has changed. Mr. Troup stated that the past officers of the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company were Jerry Aurand, President and Brian Luden, Secretary-Treasurer. The current officers are Mike Keeley, President, and Bob Stiles, Secretary-Treasurer.

Mr. Troxell questioned the amount of \$12,000 profit for six months, as stated on the financial. Mr. Wandishin said that when he examined the six months of records, he learned that the company used the net amount, so the amount reflects cash plus equity.

Mr. Wolfe asked what the council could use the millage for if it elects not to satisfy the fire company's request. Atty. Best stated that the tax money may be spent on fire apparatus, buildings, insurance, and training. It may not be spent on fire hydrant rental. Or it could be placed into an account and earmarked for a later date.

Mr. Wolfe stated, for the record, at the reorganization meeting in January that the majority of council requested a CPA audit be completed in May. In May, the deadline was extended to June 15th. Since the CPA audit was not received, Mr. Wolfe feels that the council must decide whether the company should be given the money for the truck. Mr. Ditton said that the original statement was "no audit, no money." And he feels that the council should hold to that. Atty. Best advised that procedurally, the council should either accept or reject Mr. Wandishin's report, with no offense taken if rejected because it didn't comply with the requirement that it be signed by a CPA.

Mr. Wolfe moved to accept Mr. Wandishin's letter dated June 12, 2002, regarding the finances of the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company, as complying with the council's audit request. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all nays. Motion failed 0-7.

Mr. Wolfe asked what the council would like to do with the money. Mrs. Groninger replied that the council intended to give the money for the truck and she would like time to think about the situation. Mr. Wolfe tabled the discussion until the July 16th meeting. Mr. Bowersox asked if the plan is to continuously collect the millage for the fire tax. Mr. Ditton stated that it is being collected for 2002. Mr. Wolfe added that he thought that if provided with the documents, the council felt that the truck was important to the borough and funding could be approved on a year-to-year basis. At this point, the tax is just for this year; next year's budget has not been discussed. Mr. Wolfe stated that the tax money was not stipulated for only the Hookies; it could go to any group for fire apparatus. The borough can make direct expenditures for fire safety, Atty. Best stated. Mr. Troup asked if other groups would be required to provide an audit. Mr. Wolfe said that it would be at the discretion of the borough, but that he would have reservations of giving it to anyone without a certified audit.

Mr. Wandishin asked what, if anything, the council would like from the Hookies at the next meeting. Based on this discussion, in terms of funding for the truck, the council is not obligated to do anything. But if the Hookies provide the council with a certified audit, Mr. Wolfe felt that the council would consider the request. As far as 2002 goes,

until council decides what to disburse that money for, any of the fire companies can request the money. If the money is not disbursed by the end of the year, the tax payers could be reimbursed next year, or the money could be carried forward. Mr. Shaffer asked if tuition could be provided for firefighters for advanced training and trench rescue, without an audit. Atty. Best replied that it would be up to the council's discretion.

Parks & Recreation

▪ Liberty Pool

Mr. Carl thanked the individuals who attended the Pool Design Revealing Party and the people who were instrumental in making the improvements that were made at the pool this year.

The Liberty Pool Association met with Judith Leblein on Saturday and was instructed on how to obtain corporate sponsorships for the pool. She recommended that the borough consider hiring someone to obtain funding, on a percentage basis.

Another suggestion was to establish an authority for the pool. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Finance Committee review the idea and determine exactly what the entity should be.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council is trying to better the community and feels that they learned a great deal from Judith Leblein about how to obtain outside money. He feels that Water Technology is an excellent company.

Mr. Carl and the pool association are to determine whether to hire an individual or a marketing firm to obtain the funding.

Mr. Carl suggested that a name for the pool aquatic center should be determined in the near future. A reason for this is to obtain professional looking literature so potential donors will know that this is a legitimate project.

Judith suggested that the borough have a video tape made about the project. Either a local television station or the cable company may be able to assist with producing and airing the tape. Mr. Troxell will contact Dwight Walters, at Service Electric Cablevision.

The next council meeting, July 16th, will be held at the pool. In case of rain, the meeting could possibly be held at the Kiwanis Building or, as Mrs. Groninger suggested, the borough garage.

Mr. Wolfe asked if the borough is adequately equipped to refuse accepting advertisements from alcohol and tobacco companies. Atty. Best felt that a Resolution for a Right of Refusal to accept funding from alcohol or tobacco should be adopted at some point.

Personnel

▪ Part-time office position

Mr. Ditton made a motion to offer Jerra Carl the position of part-time office staff. Mr. Shaffer seconded the matter. Discussion. Atty. Best recommended that the position be advertised since Jerra Carl's husband serves on borough council. He does not feel that it is a violation of the ethic act if the borough does not advertise the position; but it is in Mr. Carl's best interest to advertise.

Mr. Shaffer moved to advertise the position. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

- Street Supervisor

Mr. Ditton made a motion to hire Chris Guadagnoli as the Street Supervisor. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The Personnel Committee decided that the Street Supervisor will report to the Borough Secretary. Any requests for the Street Crew should be made through the Borough Office. Mr. Ditton stated that this would eliminate the problem of the Street Supervisor having several bosses. Mr. Shaffer questioned how emergencies would be handled. Currently, the police contact the Street Crew if they are needed for emergencies after working hours. Mr. Ditton read the Letter of Understanding that will be sent to Mr. Guadagnoli. Mr. Ditton moved to send the Letter of Understand to Mr. Guadagnoli. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Property

Second Street School

Mrs. Groninger stated that macadam at the Second Street School is failing in several places. She recommended that once the contractor completes the roof, the borough crew lock the fence to prevent people from driving their vehicles on the playground. Council agreed to the suggestion.

Mr. Redington reported that the Second Street Committee met last evening. The committee would like to meet with the borough council to discuss the plans for the building. The date of the meeting was set for July 9th at 7:00 p.m. at the borough office.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer received a letter from Mr. and Mr. John Sampsell requesting that the council re-examine the burning policy in the borough. Mr. Ditton moved to ban burning in the borough. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wandishin, secretary of the Recycling Center, stated that if the borough bans burning, the recycling center will get more garbage. Mr. Wandishin told the council that the recycling group gets very little money for the articles to be recycled. Mr. Ruane stated that just because one person, or two, complain about the burning, it doesn't mean that council must ban the burning. He added the documented proof must be provided that the burning is causing health problems. Mr. Wolfe stated that if this vote passes tonight, the council will need to vote on the issue two more times before it is adopted. Mr. Troxell stated that the current ordinance should be enforced. Mr. Wolfe agreed that the borough would have as many complaints if the codes were better enforced. Mrs. Groninger asked why people who obey the law are punished because other people do not obey the law. Mrs. Brosius stated that today more homes are located in the alleys than in prior years. Mrs. Groninger responded that the code stipulates the required distance from the property lines for burning receptacles. Roll call vote was taken. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion failed 2-5.

Streets

- Stormwater Project Update

Atty. Best stated that the paperwork is being prepared and will be sent tomorrow. The closing is scheduled for July 16, 2002.

- Mr. Bowersox moved to adopt Resolution H-2002. This resolution approves reimbursement to the borough for costs relating to the storm water project up to the maximum amount of \$1,113,715. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mayor Brosius reported that the Pineknott Days Association has received large banners advertising Pineknott Days. She requested that the street crew place them at the entrances to the borough.

Mr. Wolfe requested that council members assist at the Pineknott Days hot dog stand on Friday, July 5th.

Old Business

1. Pineknott Park - Larson Design Group revised proposal

Mr. Redington explained that the group is now working on a proposal for the Army Corp of Engineers to install the lights at Pineknott Park. The work must be divided up into four separate bids: a contractor to install the foundations for the lights; the light fixtures; related electrical equipment and installation of conduit; and an electrical contractor to make the actual connection. Therefore, the committee needs four separate proposals for bids. This additional fee of \$3,600 is for Larson Design Group to draw up the four separate proposals and contracts. Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve the design change order for the Pineknott Park ball field lights. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

2. Northumberland Housing Corporation Agreement

Mr. Dale Heim, president of the Northumberland Housing Corporation, presented three documents for the council's approval. Mr. Wolfe read the first motion for the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation Resolution concerning the DCED grant: It is resolved by the Council of the Borough of Northumberland to adopt the attached Resolution (Resolution I) in connection with Section 4(c) of the Housing and Redevelopment Assistance Law; the attached Agreement between the Borough and the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation in connection with the DCED grant in the amount of \$337,000 and the attached Payment Requisition requisitioning the amount of the grant, \$337,000. Further, to do any and all things necessary to receive approval of the grant, finalize the grant, and authorizing officers of the Borough Council and its Borough Manager to sign the above documents and to do any and all things required to submit the subject Grant Application to DCED and to requisition the grant funds. Mr. Troxell made this motion. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Council next discussed the agreement between the Borough of Northumberland and the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation concerning the construction of a thirty (30) unit mid-rise for the elderly and handicapped at Sixth and Orange Streets in Northumberland and its financing in part by a grant through DCED for \$337,000. The provisions under this agreement are:

1. NBHC agrees to use the grant funds allocated to the project as set forth in its single application for assistance, that is for "soft costs" or non-construction costs.
2. NBHC agrees to comply with the terms and conditions of the Contract between the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development and the Borough of Northumberland (Contract No. 21-170-0022). Further, NBHC agrees to indemnify and hold the Borough harmless from and against any liability it might

incur as a result of the failure of NBHC to comply with the terms and conditions as set forth in the Commonwealth Contract.

3. The Borough agrees to do all things necessary to receive the said DCED Grant and pass the said funds to NBHC including the signing of the necessary Grant payment requisitions and other grant documentation.
4. The parties understand and agree that there shall be no payments from DCED to the Borough or from the Borough to NBHC until this Agreement and accompanying Resolution under Section 4 (c) of the Housing and Redevelopment Assistance Law, as amended, has been submitted to and accepted by the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development.

Mr. Ditton moved to accept the above stated agreement. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Heim stated that the contract for the mid-rise was awarded to the Robert Feaster Corporation for \$1,727,000.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to adopt the agreement between the Borough of Northumberland and the Northumberland Housing Corporation. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion.

Discussion. This agreement amends the 1990 Agreement between the two parties.

A summary of the provisions of the agreement are:

The parties agree that the borough shall convey the deed for the Steele School site to the NBHC on or before the date of closing on the construction loan for the project, with the NBHC bearing all of the costs for transfer. The Steel School site shall be used for housing for the elderly and the handicapped.

The deed shall contain a restriction limiting the use of the property to housing for the elderly and the handicapped, and prior to transferring any interest in the property, NBHC shall obtain the consent of the Borough Council. If consent is not obtained, the property and all improvements shall automatically revert to the Borough.

In the event NBHC becomes subject to the jurisdiction of the Federal Bankruptcy Courts, or becomes insolvent and is unable to pay for its expenses in the ordinary course of business, title to the property shall automatically revert to the Borough.

Additionally, if the property is not used for housing for the elderly and the handicapped for any one year period beginning with the date of completion of the project, the title to the property shall automatically revert to the Borough.

The Borough agrees that the Steele School site shall be used as security for NBHC's financing for the project; however, the Borough is not obligated in any way for any of the construction costs nor be responsible to NBHC's lenders or creditors. NBHC shall be solely responsible for all costs of the project.

The NBHC agrees that construction of the project shall be completed in a timely manner, and upon completion it shall operate and maintain housing for the elderly and the handicapped.

Payments to the borough are as follows:

NBHC agrees to make annual payments (beginning on a date as set forth hereafter) to the Borough of twenty-five (25%) percent of its net income from both the Lewis Building project and the Steele School project after payments of all of the NBHC's reasonable operating expenses, taxes (if applicable), debt service and a reasonable maintenance reserve (or sinking fund).

The first annual payment shall be made within ninety (90) days after the date of the completion of NBHC's annual audit of the year following the year that the construction loan mortgage taken by the NBHC in connection with the Steele School

project has been paid in full. Annual payments subsequent to the initial annual payment shall be made within ninety (90) days of the date of completion of each annual audit. A copy of the audit shall be supplied to the Borough upon its completion.

The NBHC agrees to make these annual payments so long as it is operating the Lewis Building project and the Steel School project and receiving net income as provided above.

NBHC agrees to consult with the Borough within 90 days of the date of completion of the NBHC's audit in order to discuss the use of the remaining seventy-five (75%) percent of the NBHC's net income.

The entire agreement is available for review in the borough office.

A roll call vote was taken. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ditton asked if the Fire Police were informed that council had approved that they may take the Fire Police vehicle to their homes. Mr. Shaffer replied that they have been informed and have taken vehicle home, on occasion, as approved.

New Business

- Requiring Council Approval:

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion.
Discussion. The motion was amended to include the payment of ordinary bills due before the meeting of July 16th. If the final bill is received from E.J. Breneman, it is also included. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Robert Naginey, of Pfeiffer-Naginey Insurance, Inc., has provided the borough with options for the 2002-2003 insurance policies for the borough. If the borough purchases insurance from Harleysville, the total cost would be \$52,114. The total cost to purchase the same policies from EMC would be \$46,965. Another option would be to purchase the Workers Compensation Insurance through the Keystone Municipal Insurance Trust at a cost of \$18,865. The Workers Compensation Insurance from EMC is \$23,788. The insurance coverage for the Second Street School would be from Tuscarora-Wayne Mutual Insurance Company. Mr. Ditton asked if the borough would still be covered through the litigation by Harleysville, if the council opts to purchase insurance from a different company. Atty. Best stated that the counsel for the litigation would still be provided by Harleysville. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to purchase the insurance through EMC except for the Second Street School and the Workers Compensation. The Second Street School liability is to be purchased from Tuscarora-Wayne Mutual Insurance Company, and Workers Compensation would be purchased through the Keystone Municipal Trust. Mrs. Groninger questioned the length of the term for the Workers Compensation. The borough would be obligated for two years through the trust. Mr. Shaffer also voiced uncertainty about joint the Keystone Municipal Trust because it includes a clause that provides, in addition to the initial and annual contributions, for further assessments which may be required if the liabilities are greater than its income base. Mr. Shaffer stated that he would prefer to revise his motion to have the borough purchase Workers Compensation from EMC instead of through the Keystone Municipal Trust. Mr. Ditton amended his second. Roll call vote – All ayes.

- Requests

The River Rats Bassmasters requested to use the launch at the Point on July 20, 2002 and August 3, 2002 for fishing tournaments.

The Capital City Bassmasters requested to use launch at the Point on August 10, 2002.

Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the three fishing tournament dates, providing these dates do not conflict with dates already approved for other tournaments. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mrs. Groninger recommends that in the future, the borough should have the insurance carrier meet with the council in March to review the insurances. The office should set up a tickler file.

Mayor Brosius stated that the borough is obtaining a \$4,000 grant through the Northeast Pennsylvania Urban Forestry Program for the trees at the sewer plant. A meeting is scheduled for July 17, 2002 at the Keystone College in La Plume, Pa.

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 9:27 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting at the Liberty Pool
Prince Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
July 16, 2002**

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted a moment of silence was observed.

Roll call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Gregory Shaffer, Donald Troxell, Judith Groninger, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Jim Tamecki, Code Enforcement Officers, Jim Best, Solicitor, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The 23 community members were present.

Public Comment

- Karen and Corey Nogle spoke to the council about developing a skate park in the borough. Karen co-chairperson of the Revitalization Committee in the borough. She is in favor of revitalizing not just the business community, but recreational activities. She feels that Pineknoller Park would be an ideal location for a skate park. Corey spoke about the need for the skate park in the borough. He presented the council with a list of ideas for development of a skate park. Communities in the area with well-designed skate parks are Bloomsburg and Williamsport. Hours and rules are posted at skate parks in other communities.
- Mike Keeley, President of the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company, informed the council that the accountant who is working on the audit will have a 3-month audit available soon. The company plans to hire Steven Slayton to audit their records.
- The Hook and Ladder Company plans to raise funds by having a ham sandwich sale, a food stand at Riverfest in Sunbury in August, a chicken barbecue in September, and a food stand at the Selinsgrove Street Fair. Plans are underway for a classic car show in October and a motorcycle ride in September or October. A candy sale and an annual fund drive mailing are scheduled for the fall.

Code Enforcement Officers’ Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the activity for the code officers for the past month. He informed the council that they are inspecting sidewalks in the second ward of the borough. They expect to complete these inspections in October.

The borough lost the hearing on June 27th regarding the rental fee due to double jeopardy. The borough can issue citations to landlords who do not pay the rental fee for 2002 after the end of the year. Mr. Ruane stated that anyone who has paid \$100 for an inspection would receive credit toward his or her next inspection since the fee has been reduced to \$50 per inspection.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the code officers have leeway in determining the length of time property owners may have to repair their sidewalks. The code officers are spray-painting each concrete walk that is in poor condition.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the borough could be sued, along with the property owner, if someone is hurt because of sidewalks in poor condition. Atty. Best said that the Borough could not be sued.

Mr. Wolfe asked Atty. Best to provide a guideline for low-income exemptions when someone claims hardship regarding sidewalk replacement.

Mr. Carl stated that safe access should be provided throughout the borough.

Sewer Authority

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that re-piping is being completed at the Sewer Plant. The contractor will be starting in August. Queen Street between Fourth and Sixth Streets will have new pipe installed. They will try to coordinate this project with the storm water project. Other streets scheduled to have new pipe installed are Pond Avenue, near ButterKrust, and Prince Street, from Sixth Street to the end of the line, toward Seventh Street. The bids will be going out soon for this work.

Committee Reports

Finance

A meeting will be held on July 31, 2002 to begin work on the 2003 budget. The committee will also review the advantages of forming a Pool Authority. Atty. Best stated that information is available online regarding establishing municipal authorities. The committee chairmen and department heads will be receiving letters detailing what they were budgeted last year, assisting them with requests for the 2003 budget.

Mayor Gretchen Brosius arrived at 7:25 p.m.

Mayor's Report

Benches are ordered for King Street Park. The Revitalization Committee has ordered waste cans for the downtown area.

The Pineknott Days Association presented a plaque to Mayor Brosius and Mr. Wolfe recognizing the borough council and workers for the thirty years of cooperation between the Pineknott Days Association and the Council in making Pineknott Days possible.

An email was received commending the borough for their excellent web site. Mayor Brosius complimented Mr. Wolfe on the work he has done in designing the borough's website.

A question was raised about painting the railroad underpass. If the railroad's rules are followed, the underpass may be painted. Their rules state that a railroad inspector must be present and the cost would be \$750. This issue is currently being considered.

Parks and Recreation

Mr. Carl moved to appoint Shannon Klopp to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl nominated Brandy Broome to the Liberty Pool Association. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl nominated Frank Wetzal to the Liberty Pool Association. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Carl discussed the renovations to the pool for this year. A new name is being sought for the pool complex. Three options suggested at this time are Liberty Island, Splashland, and Liberty Splashland. Mr. Carl approached people during Pineknott Days to suggest a name. Mr. Ditton suggested having a contest for naming the pool complex. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt the name Liberty Splashland. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe tabled the motion and announced a contest to name the pool complex. The deadline for suggestions will be August 5th. Mr. Carl made the motion to conduct a contest to rename the pool. Submissions will be accepted at the pool, at the borough office or via the website. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote -- All ayes.

A discussion was held regarding corporate sponsorship for the pool.

Mr. Carl moved that, as long as weather permits, the two August council meetings should be held at the Liberty Pool. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton all voted aye. Mr. Troxell and Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-2.

Personnel

The Committee will be interviewing applicants for a part-time administrative assistant on Friday. The Street Supervisor position will be opened for applications.

Property

No report.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer announced that the Fire Board has recommended Mr. Brian Crebs for the position of 1st Assistant Fire Chief. Mr. Shaffer asked Mr. Newbury if he is planning to

seek re-election as Fire Chief for the next two years. Mr. Newbury stated that he has not yet made a decision regarding re-election. He will be making that decision within the next month. Mr. Shaffer submitted the name of Brian Crebs as 1st Assistant Fire Chief. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Carl, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Shaffer stated that the Fire Board submitted a letter to the council stating their support of the Hook & Ladder Company's request that the funds for the truck be held until the Hook & Ladder Company submits adequate financial records. Mr. Wolfe stated that he had spoken to Mike Keeley and the lines of communication are open on this issue.

Streets

Mr. Carl stated that Mr. Palko requested that a four-way stop sign be placed at Sixth Street and Hanover Streets. Discussion was also held regarding the stop sign on Jefferson Street at Madison. Mr. Wolfe stated that if the sign is not authorized, the borough crew should remove it. Mr. Troxell moved to place a stop sign at Sixth & Hanover on Sixth Street. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Shaffer all voted aye. Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-2.

Mr. Troxell moved to place a 3-way stop sign, except for a right turn onto Strawbridge Road, at Prince Street and Strawbridge Road. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Troxell all voted aye. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Wolfe moved to place a 3-way stop sign at Susquehanna and Buchanan coming down from the hill toward Strawbridge Road. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Bowersox voted yes. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

Atty. Best will draw up an ordinance authorizing the approved stop signs. The ordinance will require two readings.

Old Business

1. Second Street School

The Second Street Community Center Committee met with the borough council on July 9th to discuss the scope of work expected of the architect. The council authorized that the architect should draw up plans to move the police department to the school building. Also discussed was the possibility of installing a new roof above the gymnasium. The committee would like the roof to be constructed as soon as possible, using the remaining grant money and additional funding. Mr. Wolfe asked if this discussion could be held at next month's finance committee meeting. Mayor Brosius is concerned that if the issue is not acted upon soon the price of steel will increase. The additional amount of money needed is \$24,000. The contract with Mr. Wolfe, the architect, consists of two components that total \$20,000. The bid for the

design is for \$6,000. The remaining \$14,000 is for final drawings, suitable for construction. The committee suggested put a hold on developing these plans in order to fund the roof project. Mr. Bowersox moved to use \$24,000 of UDAG money to Second Street Community Center Committee toward the construction of a new roof. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Wolfe moved to authorize a change order for Brickhill Construction for the second phase of the roofing project, over the gymnasium only, for an approximate cost of \$80,150. If the work is not completed by November 14, 2002, there will be a penalty of 1% of the amount of the contract, per day. This motion is contingent upon both parties signing a contract. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

2. Stormwater Project Update

Mr. Wolfe and Mrs. Bowman attended the PENNVEST closing today in Harrisburg. The loan process is as follows: HRI, Inc. will forward the invoices to Larson Design Group, Inc. After the engineer has approved payment, the borough will receive the invoices to submit to PennVest, and PennVest sends them to the controller. The controller then sends them to the treasury and the treasury wires the money into a special account from which the invoices are paid.

The start date for payback is February 1, 2003, at an approximate cost of \$5,300 per month for 10 years, and \$5,800 per month for the following 10 years. The face value of the loan is \$1.113 million. The timeframe of the loan is for twenty years, six months.

The project will begin on Penn Street and work up the hill. Mr. Ditton was concerned that the project would interfere with school traffic on Hanover Street in September and asked if the school district had been notified. Mrs. Bowman will contact the school regarding the project.

New Business

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills with an additional \$24 to reimburse Mr. Wolfe for telephone calls. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – all ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$44,004.22; the Liberty Pool Association bills total \$4,027.86.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt the minutes of the June 4, 2002 and June 18, 2002 council meetings. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – all ayes.
3. Mr. Carl announced that the pool association will be selling “bricks” to raise money for part of the Phase III plans for the pool. This is a sidewalk area for the new bathhouse. A 4 x 8-inch brick will cost \$50; an 8 x 8-inch brick will cost \$100, and a 12 x 12-inch brick will cost \$250. Sample bricks were on display.

4. Mrs. Groninger noted that student volunteers from Susquehanna University will be at the borough on August 24th.
5. Mr. Ditton voiced his concern with the inability to reach the police department for non-emergency requests or problems. While messages may be left on the answering machine, Mr. Ditton feels that if a resident wishes to reach the police, they should be able to speak to someone, not an answering machine. He suggested that the calls for the police department go through the borough office, and that the borough office personnel should know the location of the police at all times in order to be able to contact them. Possible solutions were discussed and will be addressed at a later date.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. for a litigation issue. The council meeting was reconvened at 8:51 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting at the Liberty Pool
Prince Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
August 6, 2002
7:00 PM**

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Gregory Shaffer, Donald Troxell, Judith Groninger, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Jim Tamecki, Code Enforcement Officers, James Best, Solicitor, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Public Comment

Mrs. Fran Bogovich asked if the ads in the borough newsletter help to defray the cost. Mr. Wolfe stated that the ads pay for approximately 80% of the newsletter expenses.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor’s report is on file at the borough office.

Mayor Brosius noted that during the past few weeks there have been many instances of neighbors helping neighbors in the borough. Many people came together to help aid in the worst possible situations – the fire on Duke Street and then helping to form a search party in Point Township for Todd Sees. Mayor Brosius wanted to thank all those who took part in this neighbor helping neighbor. She also noted that every time we hear a siren we should stop and pray.

Kids Krafty Korner ended last week. The average attendance was 20 children and 5 adults. The summer craft program was organized by the mayor with help from volunteers and college students in the PHEAA/ Degenstein program.

The Revitalization Committee is sponsoring music in the park on August 11th and August 25th at 7:00 p.m.

Sewer Authority Report

Cindy Lark reported that the project at the sewer plant will begin in the next two weeks. Bids will be opened on August 22. Work on Queen Street may be included, depending on the progress of the borough’s storm water project in that area.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

The Code Enforcement Officer's report for July is on file at the borough office.

The Northumberland Housing Corporation has requested a building permit for the mid-rise. The fee for this permit is \$10,298. Mr. Ruane asked if the council wished to waive the permit fee. Mr. Bowersox moved to waive the permit fee, of \$10,298.00, for the Northumberland Housing Corporation. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion was held as to whether the fee was included in the Housing Authority's loan. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox voted aye. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion defeated 3-4. Mrs. Groninger stated that Mr. Balducci had assured the council that the money for the fee was included in the loan amount.

Mr. Ruane stated that the borough should be receiving an insurance check, as a result of fire damage from the Duke Street fire, for \$14,000. Mr. Ruane spoke to the owner and told him that the funds would be placed in an escrow account until the house is razed or repaired. If the property is sold, the insurance money would still remain in escrow until the work is completed.

The code officers are continuing to inspect sidewalks.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:12 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:30 p.m.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to censure Mr. Bowersox for interfering with the contractors working on the Storm Water project. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion was held regarding the extent and result of Mr. Bowersox's interference with the contractors. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl all voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Committee Reports

Finance

The finance committee met on July 31, 2002. A written report is on file at the borough office. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt the committee's recommendation to disburse contributions totaling \$3,725.00. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton all voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1. The \$1,000 contribution for the Fire Police is to be reduced by the amount already spent on supplies purchased for the group. Other organizations to receive contributions, and the amounts, are: Penn Valley Airport Authority - \$500; Liberty Glass Recycling Committee - \$200; No. 1 Fire Company - \$500; Hookies Fire Company - \$500; Fire Board - \$25; Fire Prevention Week - \$600; Priestley-Forsyth Library - \$200; SUN Home Health Services, Inc. - \$200.

As a result of not hiring a street supervisor, it was suggested that funds previously allocated for that position be put toward expenses not included in the 2002 budget. The finance committee voted 3-0 to disburse the funds, deducted from the budget line of the

street supervisor. Parks & Recreation has requested funding to purchase lawnmowers for Pineknoller Park. Mr. Carl moved to allocate \$3,600 to the Parks and Recreation Committee for lawnmowers at Pineknoller Park. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Mr. Carl questioned if other organizations would be coming to council for funding for equipment. Maintenance of the park was discussed. In the past, the borough crew maintained the area outside the ball field fence and the ball teams maintained the area inside the fence. Mrs. Groninger suggested spending some of the money on Streets and Property. She noted that the street department has not purchased a trailer that had already been approved and that the Revitalization Committee had asked the borough to repair the bricks in the streets in the downtown area. Other items mentioned for the street department were a new truck, and a roof or lean-to type structure, attached to the garage, or pole barn for storing equipment. Mr. Wolfe requested the roll call vote on the lawn mowers for Parks and Recreation. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton and Mr. Carl voted aye. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion failed 3-4.

Mr. Bowersox moved to allocate \$2,000 for a new laptop with the software and a new chair for the Borough Secretary. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

The Revitalization Committee has requested funds to be put toward a Community Bulletin Board at King Street Park. Mr. Ditton moved to allocate \$4,000 for a Community Bulletin Board, with landscaping, for King Street Park. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion held. Mayor Brosius noted that Revitalization has used some of their funding to purchase waste cans and memorial benches. They do not have enough money remaining to consult with a professional landscaper. She also noted that the American Legion Post 44 has offered to clean up the Gettysburg Address monument. Roll call vote to allocate \$4,000 for the Community Bulletin Board was taken. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer voted aye. Mr. Bowersox, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

The sidewalks at the Girl Scout House need to be replaced. Mr. Ditton moved to allocate \$5,000 for sidewalks and a handicapped-accessible wooden ramp to be placed at the side entrance of the Girl Scout House. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Shaffer moved to allocate approximately \$3,600 to purchase a front end loader for the Kubota. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion held. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Wolfe stated that department heads have been sent letters regarding the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for August 28th at 6:30 p.m. This meeting will cover budgeted items for 2003.

Parks & Recreation

The Parks & Recreation committee received 10 submissions for the renaming of the Liberty Pool. The top three names are: Liberty Splashland, Splashland Family Aquatic Center, and Waterworks at Liberty Hollow.

Mr. Carl moved to name the future family aquatic center Waterworks at Liberty Hollow. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Wolfe voted yes. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

Mr. Carl moved to name the aquatic center Splashland Family Aquatic Center. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl and Mr. Ditton voted yes. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

Mr. Shaffer moved to name the aquatic center Liberty Splashland. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Groninger voted aye. Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-2. Mr. Carl added that the name Liberty Splashland was submitted by Mr. Michael Daddario.

Mr. Carl stated that Judith Leblein suggested that the committee obtain professional documentation to present to corporations for fund raising. She has worked with a firm in Indiana that produces logos. Host Art & Framing has submitted an estimate of \$350 - \$500 for a basic logo, camera-ready art and a color sample which would include three preliminary ideas, and a sample to include on advertising brochures. Mr. Carl moved to hire Host Art & Framing to create the logo at a cost of \$350 to \$500, coming from the Liberty Pool fund. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Carl noted that the Recreation Program is still being held at C.W. Rice tennis courts, weekdays from 9:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m., and the program is being run by Mike Bowman.

Personnel

Mr. Ditton moved to hire Joyce Yoder as an assistant office clerk at a rate of \$7.50 per hour to replace Debbie Stengele. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell all voted aye. Motion passed 7-0.

The Street Supervisor position will be re-advertised in the Daily Item.

Property

Mr. Wolfe inquired as to the status of the roof on Second Street Community Center. Atty. Best has the change order ready to be signed. The next Property Committee meeting will be held on August 27, 2002 at 6:30 p.m.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer moved to give permission for the Fire Police to attend the parade in Middleburg on August 8, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

Don Keeley asked about repairing the gazebo. He is concerned because the gazebo is beginning to rot. Mayor Brosius requested that Mr. Keeley attend the next Revitalization Committee to express his concerns. The next meeting will be held on August 12 at 7:30 p.m. The Improvement Committee has obtained the services of the Robert Feaster Corporation to repair the gazebo. Mr. Wolfe is concerned about the fact that the committee has said they will take care of this matter and, as yet, it has not been done.

Mayor Brosius would like to attend the next Public Safety meeting. She is concerned about the traffic situation on Duke Street and the EMA plan. She also feels that the police chief and the fire chief should be present for this meeting.

Mr. Daddario stated that one of the slats in the roof of the pavilion at Pineknott Park needs to be repaired. The borough crew will check it out.

Mrs. Groninger received a call from Donald Shuman regarding the power outage on the hill. During the power outage, the water pump did not work, and this is a safety issue for the residents on the hill.

Mr. Ditton thanked Don Keeley for his part in the rescue at the fire scene on Duke Street. Mr. Ditton also noted that it took PPL two hours to shut off the power to the burning structure. Standby crews were available but he understands that PPL would not call them in since they would have had to pay the workers for four hours. This issue will be discussed at the next Public Safety meeting.

Mrs. Groninger commended the police department for detouring the tractor trailers to Penn Street during the fire.

At the request of the Fire Police, Mr. Ditton suggested that a "right turn only" sign be placed on Queen Street for traffic entering Water Street at the upper side of the intersection with Queen Street. There have been seven accidents at this intersection in the past year, and two in the last month. Mr. Wolfe moved to add a "right turn only" sign at the stop sign at Queen & Water Streets, in front of the Lewis Building. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion passed 4-3.

Discussion was held regarding the placement and removal of stop signs in the borough. Mr. Wolfe requested that the stop sign at the end of Jefferson Street be removed since no record of its approval by a council exists. As such, it is not legal.

The next Public Safety meeting will be held on August 21, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Streets

The next Streets Committee meeting will be held on August 27, 2002 at 7:30 p.m. Discussion will take place regarding street projects for next year.

Old Business

1. Second Street School

The Second Street School Committee met with Gary Wolfe, the architect for the design of the building. The committee discussed where they currently stand and gave Mr. Wolfe their ideas. The committee is pleased with the choice of Mr. Wolfe as the architect for the project. Mr. Wolfe will work on the proposal and provide the borough with a formal contract.

Mr. Peck from Brickhill Construction has agreed to contract the roof over the gym. The change order has been prepared by Atty. Best.

Street crew personnel Don Keeley and Jim Dodge suggested that Second Street School be opened for ventilation. They noted that building smells musty and mildew is forming in the basement. It was also suggested that the new section of the building, which now has a new roof, should be heated for the winter.

2. Pineknottter Park

Larson Design Group, Inc. is working on dividing the light project at Pineknottter Park for bids.

The borough crew's help will be needed to construct handicapped access to the rest rooms. Work at the park is progressing along well.

3. Storm Water Project Update

Paul Ruane stated that the Storm Water Project is progressing well. The concrete pipe between Queen Street and Duke Street is installed. Mr. Ruane stated that HRI is a good contractor and they are doing a good job. Cindy Lark stated that, from a utility standpoint, the contractor is easy to work with. During this discussion, Mr. Bowersox asked Mr. Ruane if he had seen him at the job site and what he heard. Mr. Ruane stated that he saw Mr. Bowersox but was not close enough to hear the conversation between Mr. Bowersox and the contractor. Mr. Bowersox asked that the person accusing him of wrong doing face him. Mr. Ditton stated that he did hear the conversation that Mr. Bowersox had with the contractor. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Bowersox disagreed with what had been said at the construction site. Mr. Wolfe stated that, as borough council president, his only comment is that "Mr. Bowersox is upset that we have an inspector and is upset that we have not asked for his input on this." Mr. Wolfe added that "the borough office and other council members have been informed that the cost of this project may go up if Mr. Bowersox continues to go on site and doing what he has been doing." This is the reason the council voted to censure Mr. Bowersox earlier in the meeting.

Mr. Brosius asked about damage done by the contractor to sidewalks and curbing. Mrs. Bartman contacted Mr. Brosius about the contractor cutting down trees. She would like to know who will replace them. Mr. Wolfe will contact the chairman of the Shade Tree Commission. He feels that the borough should replace the trees. Money is available in the loan for the borough to replace the trees; however this is not part of the contract for HRI, Inc. to replace the trees.

Mrs. Groninger wanted to know if property owners in the area received letters regarding the project and alerting them to the fact that there will be parking problems and that it would be necessary to remove trees. Mr. Wolfe felt that the project was adequately advertised. The property owners were all sent letters informing them of the project and inviting them to attend the public meeting in April to review the plans and ask questions of the engineers. Mrs. Groninger feels that to send letters would have been a “good neighbor” thing to do.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Troxell moved to approve the minutes of the July 9, 2002 and July 16, 2002 council meetings. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Carl all voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

2. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the transfer of funds from Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund for the pool’s payroll expense. The paychecks are written on the General Fund each week. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

3. Mr. Shaffer moved to reappoint Richard Hort to Zoning Commission for a 3-year term. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

4. Mr. Carl moved to reappoint Michael Mertz to the Planning Commission for a 4-year term. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion was held. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell voted yes. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 5-2.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting at the Liberty Pool
Prince Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
August 20, 2002**

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge to the Flag was recited and Mayor Gretchen Brosius gave the Invocation

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe.

Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Attorney James Best, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman Borough Secretary.

Public Comment

None

Pineknotters Park Ball field – Larson Design Group, Inc.

Ms. Joyce Seno, project manager, distributed information relating to her presentation.

- Earlier this week revised packages for re-bidding the project were sent to the borough. Since that time she talked with Larry Redington, clarifying the electrical bid part of the work. They repackaged everything so they have a separate solicitation for installing the foundations.
- A separate solicitation was prepared for the borough to purchase the ball field lights directly from one of the suppliers.
- Other bid packages are one for an electrical supplier and a separate one for the electrical contractor.
- Summary of the work, provided by Larson Design Group, Inc. is on file in the Borough Office.

Mr. Larry Redington said that the next step is to put the four contracts out for bid. He requested that the council authorize the bids, setting a due date of 1:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 17, 2002.

Mr. Shaffer made the motion to put the four separate items for ball field lighting at Pineknotters Park out for bids. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Storm Water Project – Larson Design Group, Inc.

Mr. Max Inkrote, Project Engineer from Larson’s Design Group, Inc. presented an update of the project. HRI, Inc. is currently constructing two main storm water lines.

Alignment number one begins at Penn Street, crosses Duke Street, and extends through private property to Queen Street. The line runs on Queen Street to Brickyard Alley, up Brickyard to Hanover Street, from Hanover to Fifth Street and ends at Prince Street.

Alignment number two connects to the first on Queen Street, extends to Fifth Street and to Wheatley Avenue.

According to Mr. Inkrote, approximately 25% of the total construction is finished. The line from Penn Street to King Street is completed. He added that the project going well. A few minor problems were explained:

1. Down spouts had been connected into the old storm sewer pipe at three properties between Duke and Queen Streets. A dry well was installed and the down spouts were directed to this dry well.
2. Two residents were unhappy that trees had to be removed from their properties. A landscape architect with Larson Design Group, Inc. will work with the borough’s Shade Tree Commission to choose trees to replace those that were removed. Species with roots that grow straight down will be considered.
3. Two sewer laterals from residences on Queen Street needed to be redirected. The sewer laterals went through the middle of the storm water pipe. It was necessary to redirect the laterals to the properties. The extra cost will be covered in the contingency budget. The overall cost of the project is still anticipated to be lower than the original estimate.

Mr. Inkrote introduced the inspector on the project, Mr. Andy Anderson. Mr. Inkrote explained that Mr. Anderson is here every day, while Mr. Inkrote visits the construction site each week and is available by telephone whenever needed.

Mrs. Groninger asked about the problem with the trees. Mr. Inkrote stated that he spoke with two residents and their questions have been answered. For the size of the project, he feels that everything is going extremely well.

Mr. Bowersox requested that the following discussion be reported verbatim. (It should be noted that at times it was difficult to hear the exact words on the tape because the speaker spoke softly or several people were speaking at once.)

Mr. Inkrote said: I don’t know how many have been through projects like these before but we’re basically putting down 5,000 feet of storm sewer in an old borough and things are doing as well, ... I couldn’t ask for more. We got a great crew out there; we got a good inspector and a good engineer. I think everything is going well.

Mr. Bowersox: I was in that position.

Mr. Inkrote: What position was that?

Mr. Bowersox: Of putting in storm sewers & pipes and it was down on Delaware Avenue in Philadelphia, which was little more complicated than the borough of Northumberland.

Mr. Inkrote: A lot more traffic problems there.

Mr. Bowersox: Yeah, I have some questions.

Mr. Inkrote: Okay.

Mr. Bowersox: I was told that I was costing the borough money. I was...lies about it. If I was costing the borough money, what did I do to cost them money?

Mr. Inkrote: Well,

Mr. Bowersox: I want to hear it now.

Mr. Inkrote: It's hard to say what it was because I didn't receive the letter like I was supposed to from HRI and I wasn't here, but I guess honestly I don't know what answer to give you...

Mr. Bowersox: I've been censored for something I didn't do.

Mr. Inkrote: Well...

Mr. Bowersox: Your inspector sits there, he knows I didn't hold them up; I might have held HIM up.

Mr. Inkrote: Well, we really don't want to get into a shouting match,

Mr. Bowersox: No, we're not getting into a shouting match, but...

Mr. Inkrote: I'm trying to answer your question the best I can but I really don't have a direct answer.

Mr. Bowersox: I have people sitting at this table that's calling me a liar.

Mr. Anderson: If you can't, I was there.

Mr. Inkrote said to Mr. Anderson: Do you want to try to address this?

Mr. Anderson: You handle what you want to, and what you can't, I will.

Mr. Inkrote: All I can tell you is that I know that we have a contractor who is a very good contractor.

Mr. Bowersox: I agree with that.

Mr. Inkrote: ...and for the most part everybody's happy. And I don't know why that contractor would have called me and told me they were going to stop work if you (Paul) showed up at the job site again, unless there was something significant because the job foreman is a very nice, gentle guy...

Mr. Bowersox: The significant part was I showed up on that job when council said I wouldn't dare to. That's the significant part. I did nothing towards HRI.

Mr. Inkrote: Then I don't know what that would have to do with HRI being upset.

Mr. Bowersox: I asked them about the sump and told them what nice topsoil they had. Now him (Anderson) and I had a different discussion. But that had nothing to do with the work going on.

Mr. Inkrote: Again, if I'm not there, I can't tell you...

Mr. Bowersox: I'm censored for something I didn't do. You said you were going to be here and you'd talk to me about it.

Mr. Inkrote: Actually, I was hoping to stop by your home sometime.

Mr. Bowersox: I'd love to.

Mayor Brosius had another question. She is a member of the Flood Mitigation Committee. She explained that the work accomplished by the group is in its final stages. She just received a report pertaining to the Flood Mitigation Committee's findings from SEDA-Cog. Mayor Brosius is concerned about the two culverts that are below Penn Street. Mr. Inkrote stated that this

project begins at the ditch below Penn Street. The area below this ditch is on railroad property. The second culvert has smaller openings and it is felt that the railroad would be responsible to clean out this culvert and make any necessary repairs. Mr. Inkrote had contacted Greg Schoffler, with the Northumberland County Planning Commission, to see if the borough's project would impact that area and was told that the borough could proceed with their plans. Mr. Inkrote suggested that the railroad company be contacted about the culverts on their property. The borough signed an Agility Agreement with PennDOT to have the ditch below Penn Street cleaned out. Since that work was completed, a big difference has been noted in the storm water drainage at this area. Mr. Inkrote told the council that he has a name of a contact with the railroad and will provide the information to the borough office.

This is another section of the minutes that Mr. Bowersox requested be provided verbatim.

Mr. Bowersox: Max, I inspected the chlorine contact tanks at the sewer plant and right there Dean Paul is, he was in charge of it, had no problems, but yet I can't walk on the job at the Borough of Northumberland without being censored? I want to know why.

Mr. Inkrote: I've already told you.

Mr. Bowersox: You didn't tell me nothing.

Mr. Inkrote (to Mr. Anderson): ...or would you rather not?

Mr. Anderson: I don't care. I'm not walking away from it.

Mr. Inkrote: But if you're not comfortable...

Mr. Anderson: I've been at this racket 46-47 years. This is one of the nicest jobs I've had, nicest contractor. Bill, the foreman, is out of this world, and Bill does not like anybody, not even me, to come in and talk to his men. They know...The contractor and I have a great trust in each other. That's why the job has went so good for two weeks and then all of a sudden it blew apart and it...

Mr. Bowersox: Well, is it against the law to ask how much fill there was, how much modified there was under the pipes and or if it was 2A? Yes, I did ask that. Is that holding up the contractor?

Mr. Anderson: You stopped the contractor's men.

Mr. Bowersox: I did not stop the contract, that's a damn lie and you know it!

Mr. Wolfe pounds the gavel: Okay, Paul.

Mr. Bowersox: Okay, Bryan, put some more lies in the paper.

Mr. Anderson: I'm not here to argue and I apologize for it. But, I was put in charge of this job and I think you people ought to be damn thankful we got the contractor... We have had no neighbors out ready to shoot us or anything else. It's a smooth running project.

Mr. Bowersox: I don't think the trouble is with the contractor, I think the trouble is with the...

Mr. Anderson: Well, I know what you're insinuating to, so if you gentlemen don't mind...

Mr. Wolfe: Well, Paul, Max has nothing to do with it...

Mr. Bowersox: Yes, Max did have something to do with it. He told me I wasn't qualified to do the inspection. We're paying \$40.90 an hour now, when we could do it for \$11.00.

Mr. Wolfe: And we know, Paul, you are a better inspector than this man. We know that's what you say.

Mrs. Groninger: May I say that during the terrible thunderstorm downpours, the compaction on this job was magnificent. It never gave way. Our problem stems from our old problem. We don't have the storm drains. One storm drain on Queen Street, that's it. So that water had to go

somewhere. And it never failed. The compaction that HRI did, crossing that street, all along the curb line, held. What didn't hold was the water had nowhere to go; it couldn't go anywhere. So it just followed the amesite. Where the amesite stopped, it started finding its way in. That's the only thing. I was utterly amazed and I, like I said, I only had one complaint and it was about a tree and a tree removal.

Mr. Anderson: We had to stop there because a gas line there had to be raised two feet. That's going to be taken care of tomorrow.

Mrs. Groninger: Was the water company there too?

Mr. Anderson: Yeah, they had a bad leak.

Mrs. Groninger: Oh, that's right.

Mr. Inkrote: Yeah, actually there was a water company. If you'll notice that other hole on Queen Street - that really wasn't due to our project. That's something we discovered for the water company, that was there. They had a failure there.

Mr. Anderson: We went home one night and came back to work the next morning and the whole ditch - it appears water was coming from the water main. Ladies and Gentlemen, I don't know, you have Larson's, and Larson's has me, and I'm here, and I'd love to stay until the last day.

Mr. Inkrote: Paul, just one more thing. I really don't want to have an argument with you because I know if it wasn't for you, we probably wouldn't have even gotten this job.

Mr. Bowersox: I know you wouldn't.

Mr. Inkrote: I know you argued for us, and I'm very happy for that, but I really don't want, well, I guess I don't want any problems we don't need.

Mr. Bowersox: Ah, can you see why we're spending \$30.00 an hour for nothing?

Mr. Inkrote: I don't consider it...

Mr. Bowersox: You're talking, I do.

Mr. Inkrote: That's somebody's opinion, but I'm not going to bring that, that's beating a dead horse. There are three issues that I want to bring up, just to make you aware of, they're very brief. Then I'll get out of your hair.

Mr. Bowersox: Max...One more question please. I wanted to know what is the rate on the mileage.

Mr. Inkrote: On the mileage?

Mr. Bowersox: Yeah, to and from the job or to and from the office.

Mr. Inkrote (to Mr. Anderson): Somehow I guess you inspectors get paid to come here but you don't get paid to go home, right?

Mr. Anderson: Certain mileage you get paid round trip, half hour one way and a half hour the other.

Mr. Bowersox: I meant the actual charge of mileage.

Mr. Inkrote: Its 36 and a half cents per mile.

Mr. Anderson: That's what the Feds pay.

Mr. Inkrote: Yeah, that's...

Mr. Bowersox: That's what I wanted to know, what the federal rate was.

Mr. Inkrote: I know there's something about they're only allowed to charge so much.

Mr. Bowersox: And again, what about the "on the job mileage".

Mr. Inkrote: I don't think...

Mr. Bowersox: It's fair.

Mr. Anderson: I don't know, I don't get any job mileage.

Mr. Bowersox: Well, that's what I was getting at, to see if there's on the job mileage and does he leave from home or does he leave from the office in ah.....

Mr. Wolfe: Paul, is this necessary? What are these petty questions for?

Mr. Bowersox: These petty questions are for the bill here. Where you have the mileage down, the cost.

Mrs. Groninger: We all have it.

Mr. Bowersox: We all have it.

Mr. Wolfe: What's the total on there?

Mr. Bowersox: Is it petty cash, is it petty, the question.

Mr. Wolfe: How much is it?

Mr. Bowersox: How much is it? Four thousand and some dollars.

Mrs. Groninger: No, that's not petty cash.

Mr. Bowersox: \$4337.00.

Mr. Inkrote: It is all in the agreed amount, the loan amount for PennVest.

Mr. Bowersox: I'm just, I'm not trying to be, I'm just asking what the rate is. I don't know what it is, it was \$.35, I think, when I quit.

Mr. Inkrote: We always go with whatever the federal...

Mr. Bowersox: Yeah, I would expect that.

Mr. Anderson: I get no on the job mileage. I don't get any meals, or anything. In fact, I just was out and paid for my own supper.

Mr. Bowersox: Well, if you did get on the job mileage, I wouldn't have no complaint about it.

Mr. Anderson: Well, I don't know. The way... I don't think, Paul, you've been an inspector, you're there. I don't think you'll ever like me on the job, but I'm not walking away.

Mr. Bowersox: I have nothing ...

Mr. Anderson: I love the job too much...

Mr. Shaffer: We're glad to have you.

Mrs. Groninger: Yes, we are.

Mr. Anderson: And I hope council will back me on that one.

Mr. Shaffer: Thank you.

Mr. Bowersox: Don't worry, they will.

Mr. Inkrote: Just so you know, Andy and I come to these meetings for free, we don't get paid for these. We just do this because we're nice guys.

Mr. Shaffer: Well, thank you for committing your time to the project. Thank you for committing your extra time to the project to take the time and come out here.

Ms. Seno: I'm here for free, too.

Mr. Inkrote: You always know that engineers are better than architects; that's always going to be the case. Could I just real quickly here, bring up these three issues? One is with, it's not really an issue, but Mr. Ahearn wants to put the pine trees that have sentimental value, that his children planted. He wants to try to put them back in the same location. And I think, according to Andy, that's probably not going to be a bad idea. But I want him, he needs to understand, and I don't know if there's anything in writing, but he needs to understand that in the future, we go back in there and need to do maintenance on that pipe and the trees get removed, they won't get replaced. That's just, really, it's got to be understood.

Mr. Ruane: It's not the same location, but up where the birch trees were.

Mr. Anderson: There's room enough to do it there...they would dress that off...

Mr. Inkrote: Up against the fence?

Mr. Anderson: Yeah, because right there he had brick. And we traded off. The contractor did a concrete walk, gave him brand new bricks for his fireplace, and so there is plenty of room for all those shrubbery or whatever...

Mr. Inkrote: Okay. That's something else. The contractor gave him a deal if he wanted the brick back in there or if he wanted a concrete walk and he chose the concrete. And they also asked him if he wanted that brick, for lack of a better word, burn barrel. If he wanted the brick to put that back together, or they would just give him new brick, put a foundation in for him, and he could build a new one. And he chose to build a new one. So, you know, they've given him more than enough there.

Mrs. Groninger: When are they coming on my property?

Mr. Anderson: You've only seen the beginning of it. The trees that were cut down...they were the first on my list.

Mr. Inkrote: The downspouts along Queen Street, I noticed that at least half of those are already coming through the curb. What we're thinking about doing is having all of them come through the curb. And I wanted to make sure that was okay with you. And that's only if we can get enough curb exposure. Right now there's really not adequate curb exposure. We're going to try to raise that a little bit. Something that Andy, the inspector, and the foreman are going to look at tomorrow. But I don't really want to do that unless you guys are okay with that. Judy has tubing going through her curb right now, and some of the other ones do.

Mrs. Groninger: Everybody has sump pumps.

Mr. Inkrote: Other than that, it looks like it's just going to run right out onto the sidewalk. And I really don't like that. I don't know that DEP would be crazy about this idea, but if they really look at the alternative, they're going to understand it's either going to pour down on the sidewalk or it's going to pour out onto the gutter. And I think the gutter is the better way to go.

Mrs. Groninger: Yes, one place is the apartment house on the alley. They just run theirs right out onto the sidewalk. I bet that there are at least three houses where they just run it out onto the sidewalk.

Mr. Anderson: Are you going to bring up the problem, Max, about the contractor...He's talking about slipforming...

Mr. Inkrote: I think you and I can work that out. I'm not done with that one yet. I think I can show him and the contractor

Mr. Wolfe: Then it's okay to do that, as far as the piping goes.

Mr. Inkrote: I just didn't want to do it without letting you know. As long as nobody cares, that's what I was planning on doing.

Mrs. Groninger: It looks much better.

Mr. Bowersox: Slipforming what, Max? I didn't hear.

Mr. Inkrote: Well, they're talking about slipforming the curb on Queen Street. And I really don't want them to do that, because of the little downspouts and stuff they have to put through there. I was this close to putting that in the contract, that I didn't want them to use a curb machine. But we all agreed, it's such a small job, they'll never even think about using a curb machine. But, lo and behold, they are. So, I guess I learn something every job. I think I can work around this. I'm not going to worry about it yet. If it gets to a point where I need to be excited, I'll let you know. One other thing, and I brought a hand out, here. I'm taking a lot longer than I wanted to, I apologize. Remember I talked, one time, about getting the pipes that run between Wheatley Avenue and King Street, getting those videoed just to make sure that nothing runs into them – to be 100% sure. I got some prices. I called around. This is the only

place that I'm actually happy about or that I would really consider. Most of them wanted the pipes cleaned before we did this. It may look like a lot of money to you, but for what they're doing, I think it's pretty reasonable. But at the same time, it will be covered under the contingency fees. But if you guys don't want to do it, we don't have to do it.

Mr. Shaffer: Can our Sewer Department video it?

Mr. Inkrote: Well, their machine doesn't work. We were going to do that. That was something, we had sent in a list of things we wanted videoed and they told us that their machine wasn't working right.

Mr. Wolfe: Do we need this approved tonight?

Mr. Inkrote: Well, it's up to you. You can let me know. We've got to do this by the end of the week, I think, or by the end of next week, if we're going to do it. But it's basically, you know that if we plug that pipe there in Wheatley Avenue, right behind Judy's house, if there's any significant water coming in there and it's in a sump like that, it might cause a problem. Maybe it will filter into the ground. But, I would really like to know. I would feel a lot more comfortable if I knew what was going in that pipe.

Mr. Ditton: Seven hundred feet, where's that going?

Mr. Inkrote: Well, I scaled that. It's somewhere between seven and eight hundred feet. Because there is the pipe that goes up straight is a 30 inch pipe. Then there's one, and it may not even be there. As far as we can tell, there's one that goes off to the left, over towards Fifth Street. And then there's one that goes to the right..

Mr. Ditton: That's a tunnel. You can walk through that tunnel.

Mr. Inkrote: That's the one that goes to Brickyard, isn't it. That's a brick arch.

Mr. Troxell: You're talking here, about \$1,200, then, right?

Mr. Inkrote: Yes. This guy has his act together. We've used him before. He cleans the pipe, he does the video, he does a narrative, he does everything. He'll give me exactly what I want to see, and then I'll feel a lot better. Of course, unless he finds something, then I'll feel a lot worse. Then I'll have to figure out what to do with it.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to have the y-shaped pipes between King Street and Wheatley Avenue videoed at an approximate price of \$1,200.00. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Mrs. Groninger asked about the tree stumps. Mr. Inkrote answered that the contractor who cut the trees down would grind down the stumps, but he doesn't know when the work would be completed.

Mrs. Groninger also stated that the council members should see the contractor at the end of the day. HRI pumps water out of the creek, sweeps the street, and cleans everything up before going home. They have been very considerate of the residents. Mrs. Groninger added that the borough should insist that every contractor cleans up the way HRI has been. Mr. Inkrote stated that the key is to have a good scope of work and then you have something legal to hold them by.

This part of the meeting is being reported verbatim:

Mr. Bowersox: Max, I've got a question, if I dare. Since we was told all about this safety, how many safety meetings have been had, how many tool-box safety meetings, are you scheduling them for once a week, as required?

Mr. Anderson: I'm not in on safety. The meetings are not in the contract. Remember? That's up to the contractor.

Mr. Inkrote: Yes, the contractor is handling that. We decided that we didn't want the liability for that. It is one of the things that we changed at the last minute on the contract. We didn't want the liability; we wanted to put that on the contractor. But I do know that that he's good about...

Mr. Bowersox: I think the borough should have a commitment of when the meetings are, at least, when they're held and what is discussed. It is required.

Mr. Ditton: I didn't see that in the contract, did you?

Mr. Inkrote: I'm not following for sure. I know he's very...

Mr. Bowersox: It's the law I'm talking about.

Mr. Inkrote: He's a really, very safety-conscious man. I know when we had our meeting with DEP, the guy started walking around the job site and then the foreman looked at him and said, "Go get your hat on" because he didn't have one.

Mr. Wolfe: Okay.

Mr. Bowersox: If OSHA would walk down on the job, would they ask you if you had a safety meeting?

Mr. Inkrote: The regular job foreman got married, so he'll be off for about two weeks.

This was the end of the discussion with Mr. Inkrote and Mr. Anderson.

Mayor's Report

The mayor's report is on file in the borough office.

- Mayor Brosius said that at council's request to have a uniform and a non-uniform person collecting meter money, she has been collecting the money with the police. She asked if Paul Ruane, the code enforcement officer could assist with collecting the meter money if she were unavailable. The job takes about an hour to complete. Mr. Ruane agreed to help out if needed. Mr. Troxell made a motion for the code officer, Mr. Ruane, to collect the meter money with Chief Redington if the Mayor is unavailable. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.
- Mr. Dick Simpson, Commander of Post #44, requested permission to use King Street Park on September 11, 2002 for an evening memorial service being coordinated with Point Township, the police and firemen. Council approved the request.
- Susquehanna University students are coming to the borough on Saturday, August 24, 2002, to paint new benches for use in King Street Park, clean up the gym, and any outside work at the school that may need to be done.
- Music in the Park is scheduled for Sunday, August 25, 2002. The group "Undivided" will perform two shows, one at 6:00 p.m. and one at 8:00 p.m.
- Mayor Brosius has been approached about a history/ azalea festival, with the theme being the history of Northumberland. She would like to form a committee in the fall and would appreciate volunteers to help with the festival.

Code Enforcement Officer

- Mr. Ruane is working on the notifying property owners who must repair their sidewalks. He requested that the council extend the deadline for the second ward to next year because he has 400 letters to mail to the property owners and feels they won't have time to have their sidewalks repaired by the current deadline of October 31, 2002. He said Orange Street is the worst street in the borough. Mr. Ditton stated that many people are replacing their sidewalks. Mr. Wolfe said that property owners in the second ward have until October 31, 2003 to install new walks.
- Mr. Ruane informed the council that his assistant, Jim Tamecki, will be working as a substitute teacher. He does not know just how long the teaching position will last, but he will continue as a part-time code officer. Mr. Ruane does not feel that he needs any extra help at this time.
- Mr. Ruane has signed up for the Residential Building Inspector course, per act 45, taking place in Harrisburg for 12 days, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. He is requesting the use of the code car to drive to and from Harrisburg everyday. His request was approved. Mr. Ruane stated that he will pay for the course. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe stated, "Let the record show that the board will pay for this."

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the finance committee would meet August 28, 2002, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss department's budgets.

Parks and Recreation

- Mr. Carl presented the three design sketches for the logo for the Liberty Pool. He would like council to decide on the logo so the committee can start soliciting funds, because they want to apply for matching funds for the proceeds from the haunted house.
- Mr. Ditton made a motion to accept design #1. The motion died for a lack of a second.
- Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept design #2, Mrs. Groninger seconded it. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.
- Mr. Carl made a motion to accept red, white, and blue as the color scheme for the pool and design. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.
- The Recreation Committee met on July 18, 2002. A written report is on file in the borough office.
 1. Mrs. Karen Nogle and her son Cory were present to discuss the concept of a skate park to be implemented at Pineknott Park.
 2. Cory Nogle was appointed as a non-voting youth representative to the committee.
 3. Haunted House – the haunted house this year will be held on October 18, 19, 25, 26, and November 1 and 2, from 7:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m. Their goal is to raise \$20,000. Work will begin September 1, 2002. Mr. Carl will be there each day and would appreciate any and all help.
Mr. Carl plans to send out letters to businesses within a 25-mile radius for matching funds for the haunted house, all of which would go toward Phase 1 of the Water Park.

4. It was suggested to have a hayride in conjunction with the Haunted House. Colleen Epler Ruths was contacted and she said she would be delighted to do it. However, she needed to check on the insurance. She will be at the next committee meeting with information.
 5. Tickets for an advanced showing of the Haunted House will be sold again this year. The money raised through the advanced tickets covered all of the advertising for last year (\$1,200) and the committee is hoping to do the same this year.
- At the August 15, 2002 meeting of the Recreation Committee, the subject of the tennis courts at the C.W. Rice School was discussed. Mr. Shaffer informed the council that the playground equipment at the school was taken out this past week. Mr. Carl will contact a school board member to find out what their intentions are for the playground and tennis courts. It was suggested that Mr. Carl contact either Mr. Jeff Persing or Mr. Tim Fister, school board members.
 - The next Parks and Recreation meeting will be held on September 19, 2002. It will be held outside the 2nd Street School in the playground area. The mayor suggested that the committee think about how much square footage should be retained as a playground area. The possibilities will be discussed at the September meeting.
 - The mayor suggested exploring the idea of establishing a recreation authority with Point Township.

Property

- The next meeting is scheduled for August 27, 2002, at 6:30 p.m.
- The change order for the Second Street School roof has been signed and the rafters are on order. Deadline for completion of the roof is November 15, 2002, and a penalty of 1% of the contract price, approximately \$800 a day, will be imposed if the work is not completed by the deadline.
- Chief Redington asked about the dead trees on the school property. The borough crew will look to see if they are comfortable in taking them down.
- Mr. Carl asked if the committee has considered removing the fence around the school because it is such an eyesore. Chief Redington replied that the committee has not discussed the topic. The committee will consider what can be done about the fence.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer said a meeting would be held August 21, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. at the Borough Hall. On the agenda are Duke Street crosswalks, and potential improvements from Penn Dot, EMA update, handicap parking and general meeting. Firemen, EMA, and the police have been notified of the meeting.

Streets

Mr. Troxell reported that the front-end loader attachment for the Kubota has been ordered and the tires filled.

The repair bill for the mower deck will be \$344.87.

Council discussed street cleaning on Riverview Drive. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to erect a “No Parking on Tuesday” sign for street cleaning on the left side of Riverview Drive. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote—all ayes. The ordinance book

will be reviewed before a new ordinance is written in case this street is already addressed in the ordinances.

Greg Schaffer made a motion to that Feaster's move their construction trailer off of Sixth Street and onto the construction site. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe stated that Feaster's have requested that Sixth Street from Sheetz Avenue to Orange Street be stipulated "No Parking" during the project and that they have permission to park the trailer on Sixth Street. Mr. Bowersox added that it is difficult for a contractor to have a trailer in the middle of a construction project. Mayor Brosius suggested that council discuss an alternative with the company. Mr. Wolfe did not feel that an alternative existed. Mr. Troxell did not feel that the lot had the room for the trailer, or that the alley should be blocked off with the trailer. Roll call vote on the motion to ask Feaster's to move the construction trailer off of Sixth Street and onto the construction site. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion, seconded by Mr. Troxell, that for the length of the project, Sixth Street, from Orange Street to Sheetz Avenue, be posted with a "No Parking" sign on the east side of the street. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Shaffer voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

A motion was made by Mr. Bowersox and seconded by Mr. Troxell, that it will be the contractor's responsibility to remove snow from Sixth Street from Orange Street to Sheetz Avenue. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.

Old Business

Mr. Wolfe read Ordinance 2002-9. This ordinance adds stop signs in the borough and will become final tonight if all the motions pass.

- Mr. Bowersox made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Groninger, for a 4-way stop sign at the corner of Sixth and Hanover Streets. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.
- Mr. Ditton made a motion, seconded by Mr. Schaffer, for a 4-way stop sign at the intersection of Wheatley Avenue and Church Street. Roll call vote – all ayes.
- A motion was made by Mr. Bowersox and seconded by Mr. Carl for a 3-way stop, except for a right turn onto Strawbridge Road, at Strawbridge Road and Prince Street. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Shaffer voted nay. Motion passed 5-2.
- A motion was made by Mr. Bowersox and seconded by Mrs. Groninger for a right turn only sign to be added to the stop sign on the west side of Queen Street at the intersection with Water Street. Traffic may only turn right to proceed south on Route 11 from this side of Queen Street. Traffic may not turn left or cross Water Street. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer expressed his opinion that the borough should not enact this ordinance without PennDOT's approval since Route 11 is a state

route. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 5-2.

New Business

1. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to adopt the minutes of August 6, 2002, February 1, 2000, February 15, 2000 and March 7, 2000. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox questioned the “motion to censure” him at the last meeting. He stated that it was not true. He felt that he has a right to know where the facts came from for the censure and wanted to know the legal reason for his being censured. Atty. Best replied that the minutes are reporting what happened at the meeting. Mr. Bowersox also questioned the minutes of one of the previous meetings because no reason was given for Brenda Scheller’s resignation. Mr. Bowersox stated that she resigned under the council’s demand. Mr. Shaffer stated that a reason is not required. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. Mr. Carl and Mr. Troxell abstained because they were not on council for the meetings of February 1, February 15, and March 7, 2000. The motion to accept the minutes passed with four ayes, one nay, and two abstentions.
2. A motion was made by Mr. Shaffer and seconded by Mr. Troxell to pay the bills. One additional bill for cell phones for the police department in the amount of \$19.44 was added to the list of bills. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.
3. A motion to approve transferring \$7,081.82 from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Account for payroll was made by Mr. Schaffer and seconded by Mr. Carl. Roll call vote—all ayes.
4. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to transfer \$2,243.24 from the General Fund to the Liberty Pool account. This amount reflects the amount of reimbursement due from the PHEEA check deposited in the General Account for the Degenstein students who are employed at the pool. Roll call - All ayes.
5. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to submit the first drawdown request to PennVest for the stormwater project. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. The Autumn Newsletter is slated to be sent out in early October, 2002. Mr. Wolfe requested that articles be submitted to the borough office by the September 17th meeting. Council discussed topics to be included in the newsletter.
7. Mr. Bowersox asked the solicitor to provide him with the case law for his censure. Atty. Best responded that the council has the “inherent power to regulate its affairs and to express its opinion if one of its members is way off base. A censure is a statement of opinion. Council has the right to express its opinion.” Mr. Bowersox asked where it is stated in the Borough Codes. Atty. Best replied that it is the inherent power of the council and was treated as a resolution. Mr. Bowersox said that it is not in the Borough

Codes. Mr. Wolfe mentioned that the Borough Code does provide for a council to remove a member, with certain limitations. Mr. Bowersox agreed that council has that power and also the power to elect and remove a chairman. Mr. Bowersox objects to the censure because he believes that the censure was based on lies. Mayor Brosius suggested that the minutes reflect that Mr. Bowersox disagrees with the reason for the censure.

8. Mr. Ditton moved to post “no dogs” signs at Pineknott Park. He has received complaints that people are walking their dogs at the park and not cleaning up after them. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Shaffer voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.
9. Mr. Carl announced that a Splash Hop would be held at the pool tomorrow night, August 21, 2002.
10. Mrs. Groninger received a phone call from a resident on the hill with concerns about having no water during a recent thunder storm. She asked that the water company be contacted for a reason, since there is a generator that should operate when the power is off.
11. Mrs. Groninger expressed her appreciation to the council for the hours that they volunteer, especially to Mr. Carl for his work at the pool. She also thanked the mayor, borough secretary, code officers, police chief, and Mr. Eugene Brosius for their contributions to the borough.
12. Mr. Carl recognized the amount of work that Mr. Travis Fisher has done at the pool, adding that he appreciates his willingness to help whenever asked.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the next council meeting would be held at the Borough Building on September 3, 2002.

Mr. Troxell moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman,
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
September 3, 2002
7:00 PM

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith H. Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Atty. James Best, Borough Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the council members leave the personal issues out of the public meeting.

Public Comment

No comments were offered.

Mr. Wolfe thanked the Mayor for the borough picnic. Everyone in attendance had a good time.

Atty. Best arrived at 7:03 p.m.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported on the community service project by the students from Susquehanna University. They volunteered on August 24th and painted new benches for in the park and weeded areas at the Second Street School.

The Police Report for August 2002 is on file in the Borough Office and was provided to the council members.

The Memorial Service for 9/11 will be held in the King Street Park at 7:30 p.m. on September 11, 2002.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the Sewer Authority opened the bids for the sewer projects on August 23rd. The apparent low bidder withdrew their bid, due to a mathematical error. The bid has not yet been awarded. Ms. Lark asked if HRI would be paving the street in the half block from Brickyard Avenue and Fifth Street. Council’s reply was that the entire street is not to be paved, just one foot on either side of the cut.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported on the Code Officer's activity for the month of August 2002. The report is on file in the Borough Office.

Mr. Bowersox stated that as sidewalks are replaced, the borough should install handicapped sidewalks and curbing at the corners. He suggested that the borough install the handicapped curbing at the corner of Third and Hanover Streets.

Mr. Bowersox also stated that a driveway that was installed on Hanover Street, close to Front Street, does not have curbing. Mr. Ruane stated that a permit had been obtained, but the property owner had not called for an inspection. He will check the driveway.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the information about handicapped curbs should have been brought before council at an earlier time so council could have been prepared to put in the handicapped curbing and sidewalk. The money was not budgeted in this year's budget. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Street Committee review the curbing at the intersections, make a list of the intersections, and the 2003 budget should include funding for installing the handicapped curbing.

The committee does not have a meeting scheduled at this time.

Solicitor's Report

- Atty. Best received a report regarding Civil Service regulations and he will review and present it to council at a later meeting.
- The depositions are scheduled for Thursday, September 26, 2002. An informal review may be held on September 24, 2002.

Mr. Bowersox remarked that the depth of the sidewalks is to be 4 inches. Contractors who are using two by four's for the framing would have only three and a half inches of concrete for the sidewalks.

Committee Reports

Finance

The committee met on August 28th. Larry Redington and members of the Fire Board were present. Requests from Parks and Recreation were also reviewed. No decisions were made at this time. The date of the October finance meeting has been moved from October 23, 2002 to October 30, 2002. The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for September 25, 2002.

Parks & Recreation

No report.

Mr. Wolfe requested a finance report from the pool, so the committee will know what is requested for the 2003 budget. Mr. Carl stated that the bills have not all been received yet.

Personnel

The Personnel Committee is searching for a part-time office person. The person who was hired has been terminated. Mr. Shaffer suggested using a temp agency. Mr. Ditton informed him that the committee is considering it.

Property

- The committee met on August 27, 2002. A written report is on file in the Borough Office.
- Council discussed fixing the spouting at the Rescue Building. Mrs. Groninger will take the issue back to the committee.
- The roof on the Second Street School building is to be installed in October. The contractor has signed a contract with a 1% penalty clause if the roof is not completed by November 15th.
- Mr. Redington reported that the bids for the ball field lighting for Pineknotted Park were advertised in the paper yesterday. The bid opening is slated for September 17, 2002. Mrs. Groninger told Mr. Redington that his work for the park and the Second Street School project is appreciated.

Public Safety

- The committee met on August 21. A written report is on file in the Borough Office.
- The committee is requesting that “No Parking” signs be posted around the King Street Park on September 11th for the Memorial Service that is scheduled for 7:30 that evening. The residents in the area will be notified that the “No Parking” will go into effect for this event. Chief Redington stated that flyers would be placed on vehicles parked in this block of King Street the night before with this information. The parking around the park will be used for the emergency vehicles to be on display. Mr. Shaffer moved to post the “No Parking” signs. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- The Hookies requested the use of King Street, between Fourth and Fifth Streets, for a Car Show on September 28th, if needed. The Hookies have placed a call to Paper Magic, requesting to use the parking lot on Fifth Street. A Chicken Barbeque is scheduled for the same day at the Hookies. Council discussed other streets where the Car Show could be located. Mr. Shafer made a motion to close Orange Street between Fifth and Sixth Streets on September 28, 2002, for the Car Show, if the parking lot is not available. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.
- A letter was received from Mike Keeley, secretary of the Fire Board. Josh Newbury has requested to succeed himself as the Fire Chief for another two years. The Fire

Board has unanimously voted that Mr. Newbury be appointed for an additional term as Fire Chief. Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Mr. Newbury for the additional term. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. This is a two-year term for 2003 and 2004. Mr. Shaffer added that in the past few months, Mr. Newbury has been active and has indicated that he wishes to continue as Fire Chief. Mrs. Groninger stated that the new 1st Assistant Fire Chief, Brian Crebs, would be able to gain more experience before becoming Fire Chief. Roll call vote – All ayes. A letter will be sent to the Fire Board informing them of the vote.

- The Fire Board has provided the council with minutes of their meetings for 2001 and June and July 2002. The minutes of the earlier monthly meetings in 2002 had been presented to the council earlier in the year.
- Mr. Shaffer commended the police and fire police for their work during the power outage due to the accident by Pineknott Park on August 23rd. A tractor-trailer truck struck a utility pole. The police and fire police diverted truck traffic from Route 147 and Route 11 from around 5:00 p.m. to 9:30 p.m. A portion of the borough was without power during this time. Ms. Lark stated that the Sewer Authority was without power; however, the generator was working. A meeting with the EMA, Fire Police, and Police Department is scheduled for September 23, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the plans for directing traffic during an emergency, such as this one.
- Some of the street signs have been installed at the corners, as required in the ordinance passed in August. Others are on order. A flashing light is to be installed at the stop sign on Queen Street at Water Street. Council discussed whether or not the "Right Turn Only" sign on the stop sign at the Queen and Water Streets intersection is permitted. PennDOT will be contacted. Mayor Brosius asked why the lower side of Queen Street is permitted to turn left. The reply was that the two lanes of traffic between Duke and Queen Streets obstruct the operator's vision at the upper side of Queen Street, whereas the operator's vision is not obstructed at the stop sign at the lower side of Queen Street.
- Mrs. Groninger asked if the borough is installing lights and lowering the speed limit at the middle school. Chief Redington stated that to make it a legal and proper school zone, the borough would need to do these things. Mrs. Groninger asked if this would be at the borough's expense. The committee did not act on this topic. Mr. Shaffer clarified the minutes of the Public Safety Committee meeting. PennDOT had given the borough permission to paint crosswalks on Duke Street. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to paint crosswalks on Duke Street at Water, Front, and Fourth Streets. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe amended his motion to include each intersection from Water Street to Seventh Street, and to paint the arrows and the lines at the traffic lights. Mr. Carl amended his second to the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Shaffer stated that the borough crew must coordinate with the Fire Police for traffic control.

- Mr. Wolfe voiced a concern of what procedure should be followed when the council passes a motion, which includes work to be assigned to the borough crew. It was decided that the street crew should be instructed via a written memo. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to instruct the street crew to put a sign up, or whatever is decided by the council, via a written memo with a copy for the Street Committee Chairman. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mayor Brosius recommended that the existence of “No Parking” signs in each block should be checked. An individual who had received a ticket stated that no sign was posted in that block. According to a neighbor, the sign had been knocked down several years ago in a snowstorm and was not replaced. This sign was located close to Queen and Fourth Streets.
- Mr. Ditton asked why the Public Safety Committee discussed whether the contractor for the storm water project posted the state pay rate for jobs. He does not feel that this was a Public Safety Issue. Mr. Shaffer responded that he inquired to the foreman on the job at the time. Mr. Ditton stated that the committee should be concerned that hard hats are not worn on the Feaster site. That is a safety issue. Mrs. Groninger recommended that if this council has any questions about the construction for the storm water project, they should be addressed to Larson Design Group, Inc. Mrs. Groninger added that council had received a letter on September 21, 2002 from HRI, Inc. requesting that all contact come through the borough engineer. Mr. Wolfe stated that the reason the Public Safety Committee agreed to question the contractor about the safety meetings was because the inspector on the project stated at the council meeting that the engineering group was not responsible for overseeing the safety meetings. Mr. Shaffer added that as the chairman of the Public Safety Committee, he went to check if the meetings were being held. He stated that the Rex, acting foreman, had no problem with his addressing the issue with him. Mrs. Groninger moved that all issues with any contractor in the borough be addressed with the appropriate engineer or the borough street inspector. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger stated that the Public Safety Committee should be concerned if the safety of borough citizens is in jeopardy; if it were the contractor’s employees who are at risk, it would be the contractor’s responsibility. Mr. Shaffer replied that if one of the employees were to be injured on the job because the contractor failed to follow OSHA regulations, he could sue the contractor, the engineer, and the borough. Atty. Best’s opinion was that the individual would have a hard time suing the borough. Mr. Wolfe called for a roll call vote on the motion. Council continued the discussion as to whether Mr. Shaffer stated that he only went to the foreman because the inspector had stated that the safety meetings were not in his realm. Mrs. Groninger stated that Mr. Anderson also said that the contractor was holding the toolbox safety meetings. Mrs. Groninger withdrew her motion, requesting that someone suggest something better. Atty. Best added that he did not feel that the council could ban the committee chairman from making the inquiry.
- Mr. Redington had a request from residents who live on Jefferson Street for permission to close Jefferson Street from Buchanan Street to Madison Street for a

block party on Sunday, September 8 from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. Roll call vote – All Ayes. Motion passed 6-0. Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:25 p.m. and did not vote.

Street

- The Street Committee met on August 27, 2002. A written report is on file in the borough office.
- Mr. Troxell discussed the topic of pagers and cell phones with the borough crew. Ace Fromm does not use his pager. The other three members of the crew use their pagers. Mr. Troxell suggested discontinuing service for Ace Fromm's pager. All crew members have radios. They do not incur a monthly charge. Mr. Shaffer discussed Nextel phones that have pagers built into them. No decisions were made about cell phones.
- The committee discussed the garbage removal. The garbage was collected twice a week during the summer months due to the additional garbage from the pool and from the day camp being held at the Kiwanis Building. Mr. Carl stated that the pool could get its own dumpster next year.
- The street committee also discussed the street budget for 2003 during the meeting.
- Mr. Ditton asked if all the borough trucks have the borough name of them. All but the bucket truck do.
- Mr. Wolfe had reviewed the borough code regarding the no parking sign on Riverview Drive. According to the code, there is no parking on Riverview Drive on Wednesdays from 8:00 to 4:00.
- Mr. Wolfe questioned why the crew has discontinued painting the yellow lines. Mrs. Groninger explained that the crew had painted the curbing around the park before Pineknoller Days to spruce up the area. Mr. Wolfe would like to see the remaining curbing in the borough painted.
- Residents are still putting grass clippings in the streets. Council discussed the fact that the borough is undertaking the storm water project and that grass clippings create problems throughout the storm system. Mayor Brosius suggested that the police should be called if someone is seen putting grass in the streets. Mr. Wolfe suggested that perhaps an alternative would be a fine based on code enforcement. Mrs. Groninger feels that people don't realize that the grass should not be put in the streets. Mr. Wolfe requested that, short of another answer, the Mayor see that something is done, citations issued or just some solution. Mrs. Groninger recommended that once people are warned, they should be ticketed.
- Mrs. Groninger suggested that the monies realized through the street ordinance "no parking" violations could be designated for a street vehicle fund. Mr. Ditton stated that the money obtained through the fines is deposited into the general fund. Mr.

Wolfe added that the Street Committee should request what they feel is necessary to budget for 2003, including money for a new truck.

- Mr. Troxell added that the street crew members use many of their own tools and equipment. He does not feel that they should have to do this.

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe stated that the articles for the autumn newsletter are due in the Borough Office by Friday, September 13. Mr. Wolfe will write an article about codes, including grass clippings in the streets. He will also include an article about handicapped curbing at intersections.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the bills, including a bill received from Don Keeley for eyeglasses at a cost of \$291.94. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox questioned what was purchased for \$2,695.00. Mr. Troxell explained that this was for the purchase of the Kubota front-end loader and that up to \$3,600.00 was approved for this purchase. Other items discussed were the repair to the water pipe at the VFW building and repair to an unmarked storm water pipe. Roll call vote - All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$6,576.32; the bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool Fund total \$1,720.80.
2. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve transfers from Liberty Pool Account to General Fund for payroll funding. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. The total amount transferred was \$2,496.80. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. A request was received from the doctor's office of Dr. Sherri L. Orezza, M.D., for a handicapped parking space at the corner of Front Street and Wheatley Avenue. Council discussed whether to add a handicapped parking space to the downtown area or move one of the handicapped signs from the intersection at Front and Queen Streets to Front Street, near Wheatley Avenue. Chief Redington felt that the handicapped parking space in front of Gubin's was used less than the one across Queen Street next to Pfeiffer-Naginey Insurance Agency. The motion made by Mr. Troxell was to move the sign from Queen and Front Streets, in front of Gubin's, to Front Street and Wheatley Avenue, in front of the doctor's office. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to close the 12-month CD account at M & T Bank and deposit the funds in the General Fund. Mr. Ditton suggested keeping the money separate from the General Fund and depositing it in a savings account. Mr. Wolfe amended his motion to deposit the money in a savings account. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. The amount currently in the CD account is \$10,082.06. Roll Call vote – All ayes.
5. Mr. Wolfe stated that since the council approved the repair/ replacement of the sidewalks at the Girl Scout House, quotes from area contractors should be obtained.

6. Mrs. Groninger asked how the council felt about residents who remove trees from the area along the streets and do not remove the stumps. She feels that they should remove the stumps. Mr. Ditton said that the ordinance designates the Shade Tree Commission and Borough responsible for maintaining the trees and removing the stumps. He added that the property owner is responsible for planting the trees. Mr. Wolfe said that the borough does not want anyone to plant a tree that could cause a root issue and that the Shade Commission is researching what variety of trees should be planted. The trees should have roots that grow straight down. Mayor Brosius remarked that the metal frames of the trees downtown must be removed since the roots are pushing up the bricks on the sidewalk. The roots of these trees were to grow straight down.
7. Mrs. Groninger recommended that residents be reminded not to keep stagnant water around, such as in old tires. Mr. Wolfe will add this topic to the newsletter articles.
8. Mr. Eugene Brosius voiced concern about the huge rocks that are above Route 11, north of Tedd's Landing. Although this is not in the borough, he feels that public safety is a concern and perhaps the borough could address a letter to Representative Phillips regarding the issue.
9. Mr. Shaffer heard segments on the radio today of an interview with the President of the Recycling Committee, Phil Hallden. Mr. Hallden's statements were about the lack of volunteers and that the borough would need to decide how to fund the recycling program. Mr. Shaffer feels that it would be cheaper for the borough to either reduce the items collected at the recycling center or close the center altogether.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to inquire of DEP what would be required of the borough in order to shut down the recycling center; what the cost would be to the borough. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion.

Discussion. Mayor Brosius asked if the borough has received any information from the Recycling Committee since the Kiwanis sent its letter to the committee. The borough has not heard from the Recycling Committee. Mayor Brosius is a proponent of recycling. She also feels that it is fair to say that the borough's recycling system is in a crisis. Because of a lack of volunteers, and because Mr. Hallden has addressed the subject in the media, she recommends that the issue should be taken to the public. They should be made aware of the problems at the center.

Mr. Shaffer suggested that an alternative may be to install a locked gate at the top of the driveway and drop off be eliminated when the center is closed.

Mr. Wolfe feels that the borough should try to educate the public to get more people to recycle.

Mayor Brosius recommended that the council get facts and figures together and take the issue to the public before deciding what to do about the recycling center.

Ms. Lark stated that the issue should be put to the public in a positive manner. Let the public know that the borough may have to eliminate recycling and ask for feedback.

Roll call vote was taken on the motion to inquire on the cost to shut down the recycling center, as made by Mr. Shaffer and seconded by Mr. Wolfe. Roll call vote – Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-2.

Mr. Wolfe asked for three council members to volunteer to serve on an ad-hoc committee to meet with representatives from recycling. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe volunteered to serve on the committee. Mr. Hallden, Mr. Propst, and others involved with the Recycling Center will be contacted to meet with the committee.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Council Meeting
September 17, 2002, 7:00 PM

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and Mayor Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Paul Bowersox, and Charles “Bud” Ditton. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Mr. James Best, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Mr. Wolfe announced that an Executive Session would be held after the Code Enforcement Officer’s Report.

Public Comment

No Comment

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius attended a 9/11 service in the King Street Park on September 11th. A Proclamation was prepared for this event. Mayor Brosius submitted the Proclamation to the council for their approval and to be submitted into the minutes. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the Proclamation; Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

The Proclamation is as follows:

“A Day to Remember”

WHEREAS: the unprovoked attacks of September 11, 2001, upon America by foreign terrorists have thrust the United States, and other countries, into a war it never envisioned, militarily or diplomatically; and

WHEREAS: the challenges facing all the civilized people of the world as they relate to the war on terrorism will not end until those fanatics responsible are eliminated or brought to justice; and

WHEREAS: America is fully committed through Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Noble Eagle to ensure that our freedoms remain unfettered and sovereign for all generations, now and forever; and

WHEREAS: world opinion needs to remain focused upon the eradication of these inhuman acts perpetrated around the globe; and

WHEREAS: one way to accomplish this is to NEVER FORGET that those innocent victims did not die in vain; and

WHEREAS: America can fight back by reminding the world that the deaths of these people will always be remembered and they will be forever loved; and

WHEREAS: a noble and appropriate way to accomplish this is through the annual celebration of their living; and

WHEREAS: this commemoration should be held each September 11 throughout the land to include:

The promotion of global peace and goodwill;

The demonstration of America's resolve and perseverance to win the war on terrorism;

The advancement of responsible citizenship;

The encouragement of patriotism and love of country; and

The poignant remembrance of those innocent victims that died on September 1, as heroes, one and all;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, as the Mayor of the Borough of Northumberland in cooperation with the Chairman of the Board of Supervisors of Point Township, that we are issuing this proclamation to memorialize those men, women, and children who lost their lives;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that this proclamation be publicized for all to see and know that the citizens of Northumberland and Point Township remember with eternal respect those whose lives were suddenly, without cause, and pointlessly taken from them on September 11, 2001. May They Forever Rest In Peace and Abide In Our Memories.

Respectfully Submitted and Approved on this 11th day of September, 2002.

Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor
Northumberland Borough

Randall W. Yoxheimer, Chairman
Point Township Board of Supervisors

Mayor Brosius reminded those in attendance that the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Fire Company is planning a Chicken Barbeque and Car Show on September 28th.

Volunteers will be working at the railroad underpass on September 28. All are welcome.

The Halloween Parade committee has requested the assistance of the Police and Fire Police and the use of the King Street Park for the evening of October 23, 2002. Mayor Brosius requested that the council send the funding to the committee that has been budgeted for 2002. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to donate \$250 to the Halloween Parade Committee. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes. The council agreed to the committee's request for assistance.

The Mayor's report is on file in the Borough Office.

Revitalization Committee Report

Mrs. Karen Nogle, co-chairman of the committee, reported that Jim Kadryna, of Touch of Class, designed a Memorial Garden for the east end of King Street Park. Mrs. Nogle unveiled the design. Strong Industries has offered to donate a pond, including a fountain and waterfall. Mr. Kadryna is also willing to donate his time to construct the area. Several families are interested in making memorial donations to the borough. Other individuals have volunteered their gardening skills. The \$4,000 that the borough donated to the committee will be earmarked for the purchase of the Community Bulletin Board. A brick walkway is planned for the area. The design includes flowers that bloom at various times throughout the growing season, so color will last from spring until autumn. The large pine tree will need to be removed. The American Legion

Post 44 has approved moving the Gettysburg Address monument to the other end of the park, to be placed with the cannon. The bulletin board would be two-sided. The committee would like permission to begin construction as soon as weather permits in 2003. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to start construction in early spring, 2003, Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Council discussed the time frame for installing the pond. Roll call vote - all ayes. The design is on display in the council room.

Other items reported were:

- Ms. Nogle submitted an article for the newsletter.
- The committee has purchased small receptacles for garbage in the downtown area, with the Northumberland National Bank donating money for three of the receptacles.
- Mr. Eugene Brosius has planted flowers in planters in the downtown area and around the railroad underpass.
- The committee has sponsored "Music in the Park" this summer, and plans to sponsor similar evenings next year.
- Memorial benches have been purchased for the King Street Park.

Mr. Greg Carl arrived at 7:22 p.m.

Mayor Brosius added that Mrs. Nogle has put many hours into many projects for the revitalization committee and she appreciates all her help.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the past few weeks.

Residents in the borough are installing sidewalks. Mr. Ruane asked if the borough council is planning to install handicapped curbing at the intersections. Discussion. The current budget does not have funding budgeted for handicapped curbing. Mr. Wolfe suggested that property owners who are planning to repair or install sidewalks at intersections should contact the borough before installing the new walks. If funding is available, the borough would like to work in conjunction with the property owner and install handicapped curbing at that time. Mr. Wolfe will include this information in the newsletter. The county has been contacted and will determine if Community Block Grant funding is available for handicapped curbing.

Neighbors have contacted the office about the condition of Herlinger property on Duke Street. Mr. Ruane plans to contact an exterminator.

Mr. Wolfe asked about the property on Orange Street. Mr. Ruane stated that the neighbor is cutting the grass at the property.

The house on Duke Street that had fire damage is to be demolished. The borough has a portion of the insurance money in escrow until the demolition is complete.

Mr. Ruane and the code officers from Sunbury have been attending classes in Harrisburg to become certified. Once the borough adopts the codes, Mr. Ruane recommends that the council require contractors to be registered in order to work in the borough.

Mr. Shaffer asked about the right-of-way at the property at the corner of Prince and Fifth Streets. The engineer has designed another plan for installing the pipe along this street and the right-of-way may no longer be an issue.

Executive Session

Mr. Wolfe recessed the meeting at 7:35 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss legal issues. The meeting was reconvened at 8:10 p.m. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to forward to the borough's insurance company the majority agreement of the council regarding a former employee, Edward J. Cope, a police officer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Shaffer. Roll call vote: Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Ditton, and Ms. Groninger voted nay. The motion passed 4-3.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe, Committee Chairman, announced that a meeting is scheduled for next Wednesday, September 25, at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the 2003 budget.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl announced that a meeting scheduled for Thursday at 7:00 p.m. at the Second Street School.

The Haunted House is scheduled for October 18, 19, 25, 26, November 1 and 2. The premiere is planned for October 14th. Mr. Carl plans fundraising through various forms. Letters will be mailed out to area businesses. Tickets are also available in the Borough Office.

Personnel

No report

Property

Mrs. Groninger has contacted area contractors for estimates for the improvements to the borough building. The quotes have not yet been received.

Contractors have also been contacted for quotes to repair the sidewalks at the Girl Scout House, which have been approved.

Public Safety

The committee will meet on September 23, 2002 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the traffic patterns for emergency detours. A meeting is also scheduled for October 2, 2002 at 7:00 p.m. The Fire Board meets on September 24 at 6:30 p.m.

A letter from a resident addressed skateboarding on the sidewalks in the borough. The borough does not have an ordinance prohibiting skateboarding in the borough. Mr. Wolfe suggested keeping the borough's position status quo. If a skate park is ever built in the borough, the council may wish to re-examine this policy. The police have addressed unsafe actions of skateboarders in the past. According to Chief Redington, the punishment is addressed on a case to case basis.

Streets

No report

Old Business

1. Mr. Redington reported that the bids for the Pineknott Park ballfield lighting were opened at 1:00 p.m. this afternoon. The total of all the bids exceeded the engineer's estimate and the money that is remaining in the grant. The engineer's estimate for the foundation was based on the first set of bids. The bids for the foundation received today were double what they had been previously. The engineer will contact the contractors to determine the reason for the high bids. The bids for the other components of the work were within the engineer's estimates. The volunteers and borough crew are continuing the work on the handicapped access, water line, and field. The field will be ready for play next spring, whether or not the lights are installed.
2. **Flood Mitigation**
A Stream Dumping Ordinance, number 2002-10, has been prepared for the council's approval. Mr. Troxell made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2002-10. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - all ayes. The next step in the FEMA'S Community Rating System process is to submit a letter to Mr. David Thomas requesting the FEMA Regional Office to determine whether the borough is in full compliance with the NFIP. After receiving approval, the borough may apply to become a CRS Class 9. One benefit to this program is that property owners in the flood plain can obtain flood insurance at a reduced rate.
3. **Second Street School**
Mr. Redington reported that construction has begun on the gymnasium roof, with a completion date of November 15th. The committee has not met since the last borough council meeting.
4. **Recycling**
Mr. Wolfe announced that council members met with members of the recycling group. At this time, the general consensus is that public awareness is needed. One suggestion was to purchase magnets with information about the recycling center's hours and acceptable recycling materials. Recycling bins are available for purchase through a state contract. The price for the larger, rectangular bins is \$4.00. The recycling committee would like the chain that's across the driveway moved closer to the highway. They feel that drop-off should be prohibited when the center is closed. Mrs. Groninger stated that if the volunteer base is gone, the borough could not operate the recycling. It was suggested that a sign should be posted, stating "NO DROP-OFF UNLESS GATE IS OPEN", with a \$300 maximum fine for not complying. The new recycling grants will be available in 2003. It may be possible that Monies spent for containers or magnets may be reimbursable through the new grants. A motion was made by Mr. Troxell and seconded by Mr. Ditton to obtain a new gate for the top of the driveway at the Recycling Center at a cost not to exceed \$600. Roll call vote - all ayes. Mr. Troxell will look into the purchase of a gate.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Carl moved to approve the minutes of August 20, 2002. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox requested that the entire conversations with Max Inkrote, the engineer with Larson Design Group, Inc. and Andy Anderson, the inspector on the Storm Water Project, be included in the minutes. Mr. Wolfe tabled the approval of the minutes.
2. Mrs. Groninger moved to pay the bills. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. In addition to the bills on the printout, bills from Dan's Disposal for \$540.00 for garbage removal at the borough garage and \$180.00 for garbage removal at the Recycling Center for the months of June, July and August have been received. During the summer when the pool is open, pickup at the garage has been twice a week, rather than once a week. Elmer Danley, owner of Dan's Disposal charged us \$180.00 per month instead of \$120.00 per month for the additional weekly pickup. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Carl made a motion to transfer \$202.49 from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund for payroll funding. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.
4. Mr. Bowersox moved to authorize the second drawdown request to PennVest for the bill submitted by HRI, Inc. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox asked if a change order has been received for the number of trees removed because there were more trees taken than on the original contract. The office will check with Larson's. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) Worksheets for the borough's pension plans were presented. The borough's obligation for the municipal plan for 2003 is \$2,273. The borough had no obligation for this plan in 2002. It was noted that the PMRS determined normal cost, for 2003 is 0.10470. This ration was just 0.067 in 2002. The borough's obligation for the police pension plan for 2003 is \$15,662. The obligation for 2002 was \$31,191. The PMRS determined normal cost was .2182 previously and is .2126 for 2003. However, the "Amortization of the Actuarial Surplus" (PMRS determined) for 2002 was just 19, 939, whereas the 2003 surplus is 37,125.
6. It was announced that Northumberland County has placed a ban on burning.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
October 1, 2002, 7:00 PM

President Bryan Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, and Paul Bowersox. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Atty. James L. Best, Borough Solicitor, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. The visitors five present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Wendell Wetzel stated that a lawnmower is needed for the baseball field at Pineknotted Park. He understands that the Finance Committee has included \$5,000 in the 2003 budget for a lawnmower for the baseball teams. He is requesting that the council give the \$5,000 to the teams this year to purchase the lawnmower. Mr. Wolfe reviewed the budget for 2002 and borough’s current finances. Money owed for debt service, fire apparatus, Fireman’s Relief Association, and funding that is required for line items in the budget to the end of the year exceeds the current bank balance. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to donate \$5,000 to the baseball group for the lawnmower. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton asked what the cost would be to rent a mower this year. Mr. Troxell suggested using the borough’s Kubota. Mr. Wolfe asked which group is requesting the money. Mr. Daddario replied that it is the Pineknotted Park Committee, a sub-committee of the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Shaffer said that the request should be submitted to the Parks and Recreation Committee before being brought to the council. Mr. Carl explained that the subcommittee did make the request of the Parks and Recreation Committee and that request for \$5,000 was included in the 2003 tentative budget. In past years, the borough crew cut the grass outside of the fence and the baseball group cut the grass inside the fence. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Carl voted yes; Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed 2-5.

Mr. Bowersox suggested that the borough crew could cut the grass on the ball field for the remainder of this year. Mr. Troxell stated that the crew should be able to do so.

Mr. Daddario stated that the work at the field has progressed. He requested more dirt, if it should be available, for behind the backstop at Pineknotted Park. Both fill and topsoil are needed. He was told that the dirt that is available now is not the best for at the park. Larson’s will contact the borough office if dirt becomes available.

Stormwater Project Update - Larson Design Group, Inc.

Mr. Max Inkrote announced that the project is about 80% complete. Most of the pipe has been installed. The curbing should be started next week, weather permitting. The contractor ran into quite a bit of ground water in the brick arch between Wheatley Avenue and King Street. He is working on a solution for this area.

Mr. Inkrote explained that a sanitary sewer lateral coming out of a resident's house on Orange Street was too high. They were unable to adjust the sanitary sewer so the storm sewer needed to be raised. Since this was necessary, adjustments to the system upstream from the storm sewer were made.

The downspouts from one home on the upper side of Orange Street, adjacent to Brickyard Avenue, ran into the old pipe. Since the pipe and inlet across the street had to be raised, the downspouts were lower than the new pipe. A temporary solution has been to install a pipe from the downspout pipe up to the inlet. Mr. Inkrote plans to reroute the water, with council and PennVest's approval. He will contact PennVest with the information. Mr. Wolfe reminded the council that the bid had come in below the original estimate and loan amount, so if this work amounts to additional cost, it would still be covered under the original PennVest loan.

Mr. Bowersox asked why, if additional contingency money is available, the pipe on Fifth Street between Prince Street and Strawbridge Road is not being replaced. The diameter of the pipe varies in size, from fifteen inches to twenty-four inches. Mr. Inkrote asked if that mattered; since there is no blockage in the pipe and the water is flowing. He does not feel that it is necessary to replace the pipe in this block since the pipe does not appear to be damaged. He also did not know if the contractor would have time to replace this pipe and still complete the paving before the cut-off date. Mr. Bowersox asked that the record show that Max knew prior to the construction that the pipe was varied sizes.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the soft spot on Hanover Street in front of the school.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion that the contractors have the opportunity to answer the council's questions without being abused. Mr. Wolfe agreed, stating that he felt that this was a matter of being kind, and did not require a motion.

Mr. Andy Anderson, the inspector on the project, informed the council of a problem at Fifth and Hanover Streets. He also said that two new inlets would be installed across from the Hookies Fire Department. The work will be contracted on time and material. Mr. Bowersox asked if a price for the inlets was in the contract. The answer was yes. Mr. Bowersox asked why this work was to be done based on time and material. Mr. Anderson explained that he made an agreement with the contractor to base this work on time and materials because a water line is close to the inlet, the size of pipe in this location is unknown, and they do not know exactly what they will find when the work is begun. Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough has hired Larson's to oversee the project. Mr. Anderson repeated that, in order to be fair to the contractor because they don't know what they will be getting into, he agreed to time and material.

Mrs. Groninger stated that HRI is working in her neighborhood and she has seen them work. They have been very considerate of the residents, and she feels that they are doing a wonderful job in a difficult situation.

Mr. Anderson asked if the contractor would be permitted to pave the entire width of Brickyard Avenue above the intersection at Queen Street. The property owner at this corner has sidewalks along the side of the house which would be removed in order for the paving to run to the house. Mr. Ruane offered to contact the property owner for permission to remove the sidewalks and pave to the house.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the soft spot on Hanover Street. Mr. Anderson explained that a water line had been fixed by the water company. The transite pipe was replaced. Mr. Bowersox stated that the trench was not backfilled properly.

Council thanked Mr. Inkrote and Mr. Anderson for attending the meeting.

Mr. Bowersox had another question for Mr. Inkrote and they left the meeting room to discuss it.

Mayor's Report

- Mrs. Brosius represented the borough at an Open House at the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library.
- Borough officials have been invited to an Open House at Nottingham Village on October 3rd from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of September. The report is on file in the borough office.

The property at 386 Duke Street which had been damaged by fire has been sold. The dwelling is being razed. Once completed, the insurance money will be returned to the original owner.

Mr. Ruane sent a letter regarding a code violation for a car parked on Wheatley Avenue with expired license plates. This issue may need to be addressed with the District Justice.

Mr. Ruane is attending classes in Harrisburg with the Sunbury code officers.

Other code activities included two street cut permits, four rental inspections, and notifying property owners about replacing sidewalks.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the borough codes set a time limit for removing a burned-out property. Mr. Ruane stated that no time limit is stipulated in the codes. The borough does have \$14,000 insurance money in escrow until the work is completed.

Executive Session

Mr. Wolfe recessed the meeting at 7:45 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss legal issues. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

The borough has an ongoing drainage/ litigation issue. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to engage the borough engineers to review the plans submitted by the property owner's engineer, with a \$500 cap. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye. Mr. Troxell abstained. Motion passed with six ayes and one abstention.

Committee Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee met on September 25, 2002. A report is on file in the borough office. The committee meets again on October 30, 2002 to discuss taxes. This year the borough collected 4.5 mills for debt service. Mr. Wolfe asked the solicitor if a portion of the \$43,000 remaining from the debt service tax collected in 2002 may be carried over to be used toward the debt service for 2003. The committee is considering making a payment of \$23,000 toward the Pineknottter Park principle in 2002 and using the other \$20,000 in 2003 toward the PennVest payments. Atty. Best will research the issue and report to the council at the next meeting.

Mr. Wolfe informed the council that the Geisinger Health Plan for 2003 is to increase by 17.3%.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl informed the council that the Haunted House is 75% complete. The dates for the event are October 14, the premiere, October 18, 19, 25, 26, November 1 and 2. The purchase of premiere tickets includes the option of advertising at the Haunted House. The committee talked to Colleen Ruths about providing hayrides. The wagons have 8-foot high sides. If Ms. Ruths must purchase liability insurance, it would cost approximately \$75.00 per wagon. Pfeiffer-Naginey was consulted and the borough's insurance would cover the liability if this is a borough sanctioned function.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion that recreation be permitted to have the hayride in conjunction with the Haunted House. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The hayride would be held every night the Haunted House is opened. Tentatively, the committee plans to charge \$4.00 admission to the Haunted House and \$4.00 for the Hayride. Mr. Carl added that these prices may change. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Carl spoke with Jennifer Reichenbach, an employee of the 94KX radio station, who is a member of the Sunbury Riverfest Committee. She suggested that the Liberty Pool Association and her committee work together to have kids' concerts in a dance-type setting as fundraisers. The concerts would be held in the Second Street School building in the spring. 94KX and the Daily Item would provide the advertising; the borough would provide the gym. Council discussed the idea and would like to have more specifics.

Mrs. Groninger reminded council that various groups had requested to use the gym and the borough's liability was in question. Mrs. Groninger asked about having some type of temporary heating system installed in the section of the building with the new roof. She suggested that the Second Street Committee be consulted for their input.

Mr. Wolfe asked that Mr. Carl pursue the idea and draft a proposal for the council.

Mr. Bowersox asked if anyone was planning to check the ceiling in the gym and remove the areas of ceiling that could be dangerous. Mr. Carl informed the council that he removed ceiling last year and that the affected areas of the roof have been removed.

Mr. Wolfe asked what Mr. Carl's plans were for the Haunted House once the borough starts to utilize the Second Street building. Mr. Carl has no plans at this time.

Personnel

No report

Property

Mrs. Groninger stated that the 2003 budget does not have enough money included to repair the borough building.

Mr. Troxell informed the council that he has ordered two gates for at the driveway at the Recycling Center. They will be primed by the company and the borough crew will paint them. Mr. Troxell and the crew will install them. The gates are PennDOT approved gates for the Forestry Department. They are made of steel pipe.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer stated that a brief meeting was held last week. One topic addressed detour plans. The Fire Police and EMA are completing these plans. The committee discussed the midrise and the power outage. They are considering conducting an emergency drill at the midrise. Mr. Shaffer has sent a letter to the Northumberland Borough Housing Corporation. A written report is on file at the borough office.

Chris King, of PennDOT, has provided the borough with information about pedestrian crosswalks. A survey must be completed and Mr. King has also requested a copy of the traffic study that was completed by the Bucknell students. Penn DOT currently has a moratorium on the pedestrian crossing signs that are placed in the middle of the streets because the rubber bases are cracking. PennDOT has no problem with the borough painting crosswalks at every section along Duke Streets. If the council wishes to install crosswalks at other locations, between intersections, along Duke Street, PennDOT must be consulted.

The Public Safety Committee will meet tomorrow, October 2, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Streets

No committee report.

Carol Robuck wrote to council, asking if there is an ordinance prohibiting trucks from traveling on King Street. Mr. Wolfe asked if the borough has an ordinance prohibiting tractor trailer traffic in the borough. Atty. Best stated that a Local Delivery only ordinance could be adopted, but the borough would need to post signs. Mrs. Robuck also asked if the streets affected by the storm water project would be paved before winter. The roads will be repaired before winter, and the street cuts paved.

Sewer Authority Report

Mrs. Cindy Lark reported to the council that the Sewer Authority has postponed its work on the sewer until 2003. The low bid that had been received was rescinded. The authority expects to re-bid the project in December or January.

The authority is installing a manhole on Front Street, close to Front Street Station. They are also working near ButterKrust on Pond Avenue, where they may install a new manhole, if they are unable to locate an existing one.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the manholes on Strawbridge Road. Ms. Lark stated that they just received the risers for these manholes. If the work cannot be completed before it snows, they will hold off so snow plowing is not affected.

Mr. Bowersox commented on two manholes on Priestley Avenue that are low. He asked why risers weren't placed in these manholes when the street was paved. Mr. Ruane said that the street was milled before it was paved. The paving had been tapered into the manholes.

Old Business

1. Pineknotted Park Ballfield

The bids were reviewed at the last council meeting. Mr. Redington informed the council that Larson's would like some additional time to review the bids. They may recommend that two of the four items be re-bid, the electrical material and the foundations. The project has already been bid twice. The borough will not need to pay Larson's for the additional work; however the bid notice will be an additional expense. Larson's is reviewing alternative solutions and a representative from Larson's will be present at the next council meeting.

2. Second Street School Roof

Larson Design Group, Inc. has received the first bill from the contractor for the work that has been completed at the Second Street School roof. Larson's fee includes one inspection. They are planning to inspect the project once the roof trusses are in place. The trusses are to arrive tomorrow, October 3rd. Since new roofing is not being installed on the building at either end of the gymnasium, the contractor has two options for finishing the ends of the roof over the gym. Mr. Troxell will talk with the contractor about these options.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion that Larson Design Group, Inc. conducts a final inspection of the Second Street School roof when it is completed. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. It is felt that the inspection should not cost more than \$500. Mr. Troxell stated that the reason for inspecting the roof after the trusses are in place and braced is to confirm that the roof is structurally sound. He does not feel that a final inspection is warranted. Mr. Wolfe withdrew his motion.

Mr. Carl asked if council had a time frame for installing the other two sections of roof. At this time, the borough is seeking funding for the remaining roofing.

3. Flood Mitigation

Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2002-10 (Stream Dumping Ordinance). Discussion. Atty. Best stated that all violations of borough codes are summary offenses. The clause stipulating non-compliance with this ordinance to be a misdemeanor is changed to a summary offence. The penalty and fine are to be removed from the ordinance and are to be included in the borough's Resolution for General Fees and Penalties. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2002-10, as amended. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

New Business

1. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to approve minutes of August 20 and September 3, 2002. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Carl was absent from the meeting room for this vote. Motion passed 6-0.
2. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger withdrew her motion and made a motion to pay the bills, excluding the bill from Beck Electric Company for \$175 until information is obtained about which school sign was set. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Shaffer moved to set the date of "Trick or Treat" night for October 31, 2002 from 6:00 to 9:00 p.m. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mrs. Carol Randello requested permission for the Sons of Italy to conduct a fund raiser at the Pineknott Park pavilion in May of 2003. The group will rent the pavilion. They will be selling Italian foods. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the request. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. On October 22 at 6:30 the borough council will meet with representatives from SEDA-Cog and PennDOT to discuss grant funding for sidewalks. The meeting will be advertised as a work session in regards to grant funding for sidewalks.
6. The first November council meeting will be held on Monday, November 4th instead of Tuesday, November 5th, since the 5th is Election Day.
7. Mr. Bowersox asked where the fill material was taken that was removed from the storm water project. The material was taken to several places in the Branchview Development, Mr. Shaffer's property, and K & T. Mr. Bowersox stated that the fill could have been used at the Recycling Center along Route 11.
8. Mrs. Groninger announced that she is selling tickets for the Haunted House.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman,
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
October 15, 2002, 7:00 PM

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Mr. James Best, Borough Solicitor, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The nine visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Ms. Karen Nogle, Co-chairman of the Revitalization Committee, addressed the council. The committee is selling prints of the Front Street Station for a fundraiser. Jeff Lynch, the artist who painted the Front Street Station, will be signing prints at A Peace of Home on November 2nd.

The committee will be putting up Christmas decorations on November 9th or 16th. Several members of the borough crew have volunteered to help. Mrs. Nogle requested the council’s permission to use the bucket truck. Council approved her request.

Santa Claus is coming to Northumberland on Monday, December 2nd, at the King Street Park. The Sunbury City Band will be performing.

The Memorial Garden and Community Bulletin Board project is proceeding. The time line is to start as soon as weather permits in the spring of 2003. It is believed that the cost for the electricity to run the waterfall will be about \$25.00 per month. Ms. Nogle asked if the borough is willing to pay for this cost. She also asked about the liability for vandalism, should something happen to the lighted sign or pond. The council replied that the electric bill would be covered by the borough and that the borough’s insurance would cover any mishaps.

One business owner approached the Revitalization Committee about obtaining a parking permit for her personal use. Ms. Nogle asked that the council consider this request. Council explained that requests have been received from residents living in the downtown area for parking permits. The council did not approve any requests at this time.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the Revitalization Committee has considered whether or not to cover the parking meters in the downtown area for the Christmas season. Ms. Nogle said that the committee has not discussed the issue.

- Ms. Betty Santangelo addressed a situation about an abandoned car that has been on Queen Street for six or seven weeks. The vehicle had been disabled and had not been ticketed until today.
- Ms. Shirley McCloskey voiced a complaint about tenants at the property on Sixth and Queen Streets. Children are making noise outside at 11:00 p.m. She was informed that the borough has a 10:00 p.m. curfew and the police should be notified when this happens. The landlord had provided off-street parking for the tenants. However, they still park on the street. She also asked if a motorcycle may be parked on the sidewalk. There is a state law that prohibits this. Ms. McCloskey questioned why a neighbor was not permitted to have a handicapped parking space. Mayor Brosius has spoken with the neighbor who had never asked the council for a handicapped parking space, and gave her the information required to apply for one.
- Mrs. Brenda Shumaker explained to the council that she and her husband are currently building a house in the borough. A plot plan had been prepared and approved by the Planning Commission and council. A right-of-way exists from Susquehanna Street to their property. It is not clear who owns the right-of-way. Mr. Shaffer asked if the Shumaker's received a written right-of-way to the property. They do not have any written document for this property. Mrs. Shumaker asked about the waterline and PPL line that are to extend from Susquehanna Street to the house. Mr. Charles Stroup, a neighbor and resident of Susquehanna Street, said that he was not aware that the water and electric lines were an issue. He explained that he and the property owners on the other side of the right-of-way, the Hoegers, understood that the driveway to the Shumaker's property was to come from Wild Cherry Lane. They are not in favor of a driveway between their two properties and feel it would be less disruptive if Shumaker's driveway came from Front Street or Route 11.

Mr. Stroup is asked that the borough council table the issue until more information can be obtained. There are too many questions that he feels should be answered first. Mr. Shaffer asked about the access to the property that had been approved as part of the subdivision. He added that the council had approved the subdivision with the existing roadways. The run-off created by a different access had not been considered. Mr. Troxell stated that a utility easement right-of-way does exist. Mrs. Groninger moved to table the issue. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Atty. Best stated that at this point, the original subdivision for the development should be researched to learn who owns the right-of-way.

Mr. Wolfe stated that Shumaker's original plan which was approved by the borough's Planning Commission, Northumberland County Planning Commission, and the borough council, provided for access from Wild Cherry Road.

Atty. Best recommended that the property owners should consult their own attorneys for independent legal advice.

Mr. Wolfe requested that Atty. Best research the ownership of the property. Mrs. Shumaker asked if there is such a thing as public domain for utility access. Atty. Best stated that the

utility does have a right to assert that; however, a property owner could oppose the right-of-way.

Mrs. Shumaker asked if the utilities may be installed, providing the neighbors approve of the utility right-of-way with a legal document. Atty. Best advised that it would be best to wait until the legal ownership of the property in question is determined.

Storm Water Project

Mr. Andy Anderson, the inspector on the project from Larson Design Group, Inc., provided the council with an update, informing them that the storm sewer is all underground and working.

The curbing is complete on Prince Street, Hanover Street, and Orange Street. Weather permitting; curbing will be installed at the Fifth and King Street intersection, King Street and Queen Street this week.

The tunnel between Wheatley Avenue and King Street has been videoed.

An 18-inch plastic pipe is now in place from Wheatley Avenue to Queen Street.

The subcontractor will be working Saturday to continue with the curbing. Mr. Bowersox asked how many feet of curb forms the contractor has. Mr. Anderson stated that they are constructing 220 feet of curbing per day. Mr. Bowersox voiced his concern that the forms were being removed too soon. He recommended that they not be removed for 24 hours. Mr. Anderson stated that he worked on a PennDOT job in Lock Haven and the forms were moved the same day.

Pineknottter Park Ball Field

Mr. Bob Bauder and Ms. Joyce Seno, of Larson Design Group, Inc., presented their recommendation for the Pineknottter Park Ball Field lighting. The project had been rebid with four separate bids in September. Mr. Bauder explained the bid analysis.

The low bid for the supply of ball field lighting was from Hubble Lighting for \$56,449, \$551 less than Larson's estimate.

K & N Electric was the apparent low bidder for the ball field service labor with a bid of \$7,912, accepting alternates 1 and 2. This bid was \$5,132 lower than the estimated cost.

Bids for the installation of piles and foundations were almost double the estimate. The apparent low bidder, Hepco Construction, with a base bid of \$129,618, estimated 350 tons of waste disposal. Larson's had estimated 160 tons of waste disposal. Mr. Bauder recommended further discussion with Hepco to determine the reason they estimated the additional waste. Piles are to be run through the garbage into bedrock to hold the foundations. Mr. Bauder explained the two types of testing to determine the strength of what the pilings can hold. One is a dynamic test. The other, recommended by the boring contractor, is a twisting and lifting type of test. This test is \$12,000 more expensive, but is felt to be necessary because of the type of load, the height of the light standards, and the fact that the underground material is unknown.

The only bid for the procurement of material was from K & N electric. This bid was \$4,659.05 more than Larson's estimate. It was recommended that this portion of the project be rebid.

Mr. Bauder informed the council that the total project cost is \$28,881.02 more than the potential funding available. The potential funding includes an additional \$50,000 in the grant from DCNR. Mr. Wolfe stated that the current budget and the tentative 2003 budget do not have this money budgeted. He questioned if the council would consider whether to raise taxes two mills to obtain this money. Council decided that the Parks and Recreation Committee should address the project with DCNR. Mr. Carl scheduled a meeting of the Parks and Recreation Committee for November 11, 2002 at 7:00 p.m.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius provided the council with a written report. The report is on file in the borough office. A meeting is being planned in January to establish a History group. Volunteers are needed for this project.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

- Mr. Ruane informed the council that the house which had been damaged by fire at 386 Duke Street has been razed. The property owner is requesting a refund of the insurance money that the borough is holding in escrow.
- Mr. Ruane asked about the handicapped curbing at the Third and Queen Street intersection where the property owner is installing new sidewalks.
- Mr. Ruane informed Mr. Carl that the borough can rent fire extinguishers for the Haunted House from Susquehanna Fire Equipment. He also requested that the black plastic be removed from the hallways and gym when the Haunted House is over for this year.
- Mr. Wolfe asked if the “no dog” signs have been posted at Pineknott Park. The borough crew has posted the signs.
- Mr. Wolfe asked what is being done about grass clippings in the street. Mayor Brosius stated that if someone sees a person cutting grass and leaving the clippings in the street, he should report it to the police. Mr. Ditton mentioned that leaves should not be raked into the street, as well. Mr. Carl made a motion that the street crew issue warnings to the property owner who puts grass in the street. If the same person commits a second offense, the police should be informed and the property owner ticketed. Mr. Bryan seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Carl, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion failed 3-4.
- According to the current ordinance, the property owner has 24 hours to remove the grass from the street. Mr. Wolfe moved to amend the grass-clipping ordinance so there is no time frame. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Shafer and Mr. Bowersox voted no.
- Mr. Shaffer moved to remove the grass-clipping ordinance from the books. The motion died for a lack of a second.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Finance Committee will meet on October 30th at 6:30 p.m. to review the 2003 budget and discuss taxes and fees. At the November 20th meeting, the committee votes on the budget. The budget is to be presented to the council at the December 4th council meeting. Council must vote twice to adopt the budget before the end of the year. Council discussed who would pay for the cost for the electricity if lights are constructed at Pineknott Park. Mr. Redington stated that the Little League people are aware that they will need to pay for the lights.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl reported that the Haunted House has plenty of student volunteers. Mr. Bowersox asked who is supervising. Mr. Carl informed the council that there are six to eight adults there each night. Mr. Carl and Mr. Wolfe are meeting with the Kiwanis Club in November to discuss the pool project.

Personnel

A closed meeting with the police is scheduled for October 30, 2002 at 5:30 p.m.

Property

Mrs. Groninger stated that sidewalks have been installed at the Girl Scout House. She has received one proposal for the four windows and one door to be replaced on the borough building.

Public Safety

- Mr. Shaffer reported that the committee met on September 23rd to discuss traffic on Duke Street and emergency plans to redirect traffic. The committee also discussed safety drills at the midrise. A copy of the minutes of this meeting is on file in the borough office.
- The Fire Police and EMA have provided written reports to the council. These reports are on file in the borough office.
- The borough crew was to begin painting the crosswalks on Duke Street on Monday. Due to health issues with two of the borough crew members, the painting has been postponed.
- The police department should have a master key to the midrise, in case of an emergency.

Streets

No committee report.

Mr. Ditton stated that the intersections on Brickyard do not have adequate site clearance because there are too many trees and shrubs. Mr. Wolfe asked that the street crew trim or cut down any that pose a potential hazard.

Due to injury and illness, the street crew may require temporary help. A local temp agency will be contacted for information.

Old Business

1. Second Street School

Mr. Redington informed the council that the metal roofing material arrived today. The engineer from Larson Design Group, Inc. inspected the trusses and was satisfied with the construction. The metal over the gable ends will be shaped the same as the roof trusses to make it easier to install the roofing over the other ends of the building, on either side of the gym.

A leak over the wooden stairway behind the gym should be addressed.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to accept the minutes of September 17, 2002. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.

2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the bills. The bill from Eastern Industries is to be paid with money from the Parks and Recreation account instead of the general fund. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote - All ayes. With the correction of the Eastern Industries bill, the bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$17,392.08; the Liberty Pool account bills total \$698.84; and the Parks and Recreation account bills total \$347.33.
3. Mr. Troxell made a motion to remove the flashing light at Duke Street. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 6-1. PPL is to be contacted to have the service discontinued.
4. A letter was received from Mrs. Sharon Reader, requesting a handicapped parking space at 125 Hanover Street. She provided the council with a letter from her doctor, but does not yet have a state-issued handicapped placard. The request was tabled until a copy of the handicapped placard is received.
5. Mr. Wolfe stated that, for the record, he does not have stock, does not know, and has not been in contact with anyone at the Daily Item.
6. Mrs. Brosius reminded those present that the library's Chicken & Chili Festival is planned for Saturday, October 19, 2002, in the King Street Park. The Pineknotters Days Association will be selling jackets, Boyd's bears, pinecone jewelry, and sweatshirts.
7. Mr. Bowersox asked why the money that was received from PennVest as a reimbursement for street work that was completed last year could not be used to install handicapped curbing at various intersections. Property owners at the Water and Hanover Streets were installing sidewalks and Mr. Bowersox felt that the borough should install handicapped curbing at the same time. He stated that the contractor would have done the work and the borough would have only had to pay for the curbing. Mr. Wolfe explained that the issue had to be decided suddenly, because the contractor was already working on the sidewalks with the concrete scheduled for the next day. Therefore, a telephone vote was taken. The vote was 1-5 not to install the handicapped curbing at this time. Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted nay. Mr. Shaffer was out of town. Mrs. Brosius asked why Mr. Bowersox didn't have the handicapped curbing and access ramps installed on Priestley Avenue when he was chairman of the Street Committee. Mr. Bowersox said that handicapped curbing was installed on Priestley Avenue along the new section of road that was paved above Hanover Street to the cul-de-sac.

Adjournment

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting**

221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857

November 4, 2002, 7:00 PM

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, and Paul Bowersox. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Mr. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mr. Greg Shaffer, Councilman, and Atty. James Best, Borough Solicitor, were absent.

The fifteen visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

1. Mr. Charles Stroup, of 215 Susquehanna Street, updated the council on the right-of-way issue brought before the council at the last meeting. Mr. Stroup is agreeing to deed a right-of-way on his land to the Shumakers for their utility lines. He added that Mr. Shumaker is no longer interested in a right-of-way in the vacant land between the Stroup and Hoeger properties for utility easements or a driveway. Mr. Stroup is requesting that the borough abandon the right-of-way and deed the property to the adjacent property owners. Mr. Troxell stated that a utility easement would still be necessary on this property. Mr. Wolfe stated that the solicitor would be consulted for an opinion. Mr. Bowersox voiced concern about another property in this development that was deeded over to an adjacent property owner.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the property owners provide a written correspondence to the council, with all the stipulations explained.

2. Mr. Pat McPherson, a member of the Fire Board, asked what requirements the borough has for volunteer firefighters in the borough; what training classes must they have to be a volunteer firefighter. Mr. Brian Crebs, 1st Assistant Fire Chief, stated that he was told in a Public Safety Committee meeting that the borough’s minimum requirements are the same as the state’s minimum requirements. Mr. McPherson stated there are no state minimum requirements. There was some discussion as to who on council had made this statement. There is none in the Borough Ordinances. Mr. Crebs added that the state’s minimum requirements are to take the Hazardous Materials Recognition Identification course and Introduction to Safety Training. The two courses require approximately five

hours each to complete. Mrs. Groninger asked Mr. Crebs how many firemen that would eliminate. Mr. Crebs believed that the firemen from both companies have had this training. Mr. McPherson spoke with both Jack Riley, the state Fire Inspector, and Representative Merle Phillips, and was told that there is no state minimum requirement. Mrs. Groninger stated that she understood that the volunteer firefighters are to recognize and contain any hazardous materials spilled until the professionals can arrive. Mr. Crebs stated that this is one of the goals; the second goal is to rescue any viable victims. The question remained on the floor of whether it was a criteria, requirement, or a recommendation. Mr. McPherson stated that he wanted to have the borough's position on training requirements clarified.

3. Mr. Crebs expressed his thanks to the Fire Departments in Point Township and Northumberland for their work at fire last evening in the borough.
4. Fire Chief Josh Newbury informed the council that the No. 1 Fire Department has voted for a 1.5 mill increase for that department as well as the 1.5 mills requested by the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company. An audit is underway. Mr. McPherson explained that the company is looking at requesting approximately \$20,000 per year from the borough for the next five years, which would be \$100,000, with the goal of obtaining a refurbished fire truck at that the end of this time frame. He further stated that they are looking at a refurbished one because it would be one-third the cost of a new one. He said that if the Borough would provide \$100,000 along with the money the Fire Company has, they could purchase anything they needed. The company is not interested in financing a new truck and feels that the cost of a new truck is too expensive. He said this would put them in pretty good shape for the next 20 to 25 years. Mr. McPherson said a refurbished engine could be anywhere from 5 years to 25 years old. He also stated that Fire Company's in our area like Point Township have refurbished engines. Mr. Ditton stated that he couldn't vote for taxes being assessed for a company that restricts its membership and excludes females. He said this was his personal opinion. Brian Wolfe stated that the borough's tentative 2003 budget is at a 6-mill tax increase as of now, and the additional tax increase would mean a 7.5-mill increase.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius reported that the Revitalization Committee has requested permission to cover the parking meters downtown for the Christmas season. The request was to cover them with the original wooden decorations that were used in the past. Council discussed various options.

Mr. Ditton moved to cover the parking meters for the month of December. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Role call vote – All ayes.

- A resident on the hill voiced concern that when the electricity was off, there was no water pressure on the hill. Mayor Brosius said it was a concern for the resident and for the firemen. The Public Safety Committee is addressing this issue. It was stated that this is the third meeting this has been discussed. Mr. Zimmerman, a resident of Jefferson Street, requested that the borough write a letter to the water

company and see what their position is on it. He also stated that this has been an on-going problem for the people who live up there. Mr. Crebs informed the council that the Fire Department has alternative methods of obtaining water, in case of a fire.

- Mayor Brosius recognized that Mr. Ace Fromm, a member of the borough crew, has been working diligently at Pineknott Park and is a master at working a backhoe. She also asked that council keep him in their thoughts and prayers because he is not in good health.
- Mayor Brosius also informed the council that the VFW recognized Officer Tim Fink as Police Officer of the Year and Mr. Mike Reedy as Firefighter of the Year. Mayor Brosius gave them her congratulations.
- A Veterans Day ceremony is planned by the VFW for November 10th at 1:00 p.m. at the cemetery.
- The Revitalization Committee is meeting on Saturday, Nov 9th at 9:00 to install Christmas decorations in the downtown area. Several members of the Borough crew have offered to assist. They are to meet at the King Street Park. It was suggested that another workday would be needed for the volunteers to cover the meters.

Mayor Brosius's report is on file in the borough office.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the authority is rebidding the street projects. No street work will be done this year. The authority has money for the projects. They feel that the bids came in high because of the time of year the bids were let. She said they did not want to borrow any money.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of October. He issued 7 building permits. A copy of his report is on file in the Borough Office.

The demolition of the property at 386 Duke Street that had fire damage is completed. The property owner has been issued the insurance money that had been held in escrow.

Mr. Ruane stated he has all the sidewalk letters sent out for the Second Ward and he is starting on the Third Ward.

The property at 252 Fifth Street was damaged by fire last evening. Mr. Ruane has contacted the insurance carrier regarding the borough ordinance and the money to be held in escrow. The cause of the fire has not yet been determined. It was not known if the house was totaled.

Mr. Bowersox asked how many street cuts the borough had during the month. Mr. Ruane stated that there were three, two 3 x 5 cuts and one 4 x 7 cut. Mr. Bowersox asked how many hours

were spent for inspection. Mr. Ruane replied two hours; he was attending school at the time that one of the street cuts was backfilled.

Mr. Wolfe asked about a property where sidewalk repairs were started, but not completed. Mr. Ruane will send a letter to the property owner.

Executive Session

Mr. Wolfe stated that he will speak with the solicitor tomorrow.

Council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:44 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Litigation issues were discussed

Fire Department Truck Funds

Mr. Wolfe informed the public that the borough has \$5,000 in separate accounts for each fire company designated as “truck funds.” The accounts were established in March 16, 1999 with UDAG money.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe reported that the Finance committee met on October 30th to review the 2003 budget. Currently, a 6 mill tax increase would be needed to balance the budget. The committee will meet on November 20th at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Wolfe said they are looking for community input on the budget.

Mr. Wolfe reviewed the current millage rates, those proposed for 2003, and the maximum millage rates permitted by law for each item. The borough’s current total millage is 32.45 mills (19.45 – general mills; 4.5 – debt service; 5 – road fund; 1.5 – fire equipment tax; and 2 – recreation tax). Mr. Wolfe continued that currently the committee is considering 21.2 mills – general mills; 5 – road fund; 3.25 - debt service; 1.5 - recreation; and 1.5 - fire tax. But these rates do not balance the budget. An increase may be necessary in the total general mills. Mr. Wolfe stated that the school tax is the larger property tax received by the residents. Also, he stated that this tax does not comprise the majority of the borough’s revenue.

Mr. McPherson asked if the Northumberland Housing Corporation has started to make payments to the borough since the building has been paid for. He was informed that the council had agreed to postpone payments until the new midrise, currently under construction, is paid for. At that time, the borough will receive income for both the buildings.

Mr. Wolfe stated that in the past year the council had passed a balanced budget. He feels that the borough needs to find different ways to bring in revenue.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council has raised taxes in the past year because the tax base is not growing and that in one year the health cost for the employees goes up double-digits.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl reported that the Haunted House was a success. He thanked the Liberty Pool Association, Northumberland Fire Police, North'd Parks and Recreation Commission, Northumberland Police Department, students from Shikellamy High School, and all individuals who volunteered. Ticket sales were approximately \$7,000. Mr. Carl stated that there had been a couple of water (leakage) issues at the 2nd Street building, but they had been resolved.

Personnel

Mr. Ditton stated that the Personnel Committee interviewed candidates for Street Supervisor, Street Crew, and part-time Office help.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to offer Nate Fisher the position of Street Supervisor. Mr. Ditton stated that he had accepted the position if offered to him. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox asked what experience he has. Mr. Ditton replied that the Personnel Committee felt that he has enough experience for the position. Mr. Wolfe added that Mr. Fisher is aware that this position is a working position and Mr. Fisher will work with the borough crew on the job. The position starts with a 3-month probationary period at a salary of \$25,000. Role call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Mr. Ditton stated that, in anticipation of having an opening, and to continue the work that must be accomplished, the Personnel Committee recommends hiring Mr. Todd Snyder as a new street crew member. The position is a union position, at the contract price of \$10.05.

Greg Carl made a motion to hire Mr. Snyder and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Role call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Mr. Ditton and the committee recommended that Mrs. Mary Walden be hired as part-time office help at an hourly rate of \$7.50 per hour. She will work approximately 16 hours per week. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Role call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Carl abstained because Mrs. Walden is his mother-in-law. Motion passed 5-0, with one abstention.

Property

Mrs. Groninger announced that the sidewalks at the Girl Scout House have been installed.

Public Safety

No report.

Streets

Mr. Troxell and the Street Committee are tentatively planning for Orange Street, from Water Street to Fifth Street, and Fifth Street, from Sheetz Avenue to Strawbridge Road, to be paved next year.

Mr. Troxell stated he did not know exactly how much funds were available and how far they would go. Discussion followed.

Mayor Brosius stated that the Senior Action Center has requested that, to avoid having to parallel park, they would like to move the parking space for the county van closer to Wheatley Avenue. Mrs. Groninger stated it is a delivery area not a parking space. Mayor Brosius stated the handicapped curb "cut out" is not where the van driver drops the people off. Mayor Brosius stated the area is barely painted yellow. Discussion of the situation was made among the Council members. The Street Committee will look at the situation.

Permission to move the bus sign at the Northumberland Christian School was brought to Mayor Brosius' attention. The School would like to move the sign from where it is now to the area by the telephone pole. They would like to keep the same sign that says, "Bus Parking" Monday through Friday, from 7:00-4:00. Mayor Brosius suggested they limit the hours for parking. Mr. Wolfe stated the Street Committee should make a recommendation.

Mr. Matt Pittiglio contacted the borough office and requested that the council consider placing stop signs on Strawbridge Road at Fifth Street, and on Fifth Street at Prince Street Street. Mr. Wolfe moved to install four way stop signs at these intersections. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion followed. Role call vote. Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted nay. Motion failed with a 1-5 vote.

Light-Heigel correspondence was received stating that Emmanuel Home is requesting construction of a low volume driveway along SR 0011. This would provide easy access for delivery trucks and emergency vehicles. Paul Bowersox said the letter received has nothing to do with the borough; the state must approve the driveway since it enters on a state highway. Mr. Bowersox asked what the borough knows about the stormwater. Mr. Ruane has met with the engineer and the borough's engineer to review the driveway area. He said that they plan to put drains under the roadway.

Old Business

1. Stormwater Project – A Final inspection is scheduled for November 6, 2002 at 10:00 p.m. Mr. Wolfe stated the engineers, contractor, and a DEP representative will be here for the final inspection. DEP must approve the project for the PennVest loan.

Mrs. Groninger stated that today, HRI removed the grates and cleaned out the storm water pipes.

2. Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve HRI's 3rd draw down request. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Role call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. The motion passed 5-1.

3. Second Street School update

Mr. Redington stated that the roof panels are being installed.

The committee met this evening before the council meeting. The group is planning a Capital Campaign and requests council's approval. The committee plans to begin the campaign in late winter. Mr. Wolfe asked what the borough should do to obtain the money that has been approved by the state. Mr. Redington explained that the money has been allocated, but not yet appropriated. He suggested that calls could be made to the state representatives, Rep. Phillips and Rep. Helfrick.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to begin a Second Street Capital Fund Campaign. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Role call vote – All ayes.

The contractor has made a proposal for snow guards on the roof. Mr. Redington thinks that they may have been included in the contract for the gymnasium roof. Brickhill Construction has quoted a price of \$5,310 for snow guards for both roofs. Discussion. Mr. Troxell recommended that they should be installed. Mr. Wolfe suggested contacting the engineer to determine if snow guards for the gym roof are in the contract. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to approve the installation of snow guards, regardless of whether or not they are in the contract. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Role call vote – All ayes.

4. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to approve Sharon Reader's request for a handicapped parking space at 125 Hanover Street. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Troxell did not think that there should be a parking problem at this location. The new house across the street has off-street parking. Role call vote. Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mrs. Groninger voted nay. The motion failed 2-4.

5. Mrs. Groninger made a motion that the council freezes all requests for handicapped parking spaces until the current spaces are evaluated. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe requested a list of the handicapped spaces in the borough and it would be decided how to proceed on the issue. Mr. Ruane stated that a list had been compiled last year and letters mailed to the property owners at those addresses. He offered to review the list. Role call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 4-2.

6. Mr. Wolfe read Ordinance 2002-11, an Amendment to Chapter 50, Article V of the Borough Code Book. This ordinance eliminates the 24-hour period granted for removing grass clippings from the borough streets. Mr. Wolfe stated this is the first reading of the Ordinance, which needs to be approved one more time. The solicitor had explained to the borough secretary that the penalty in the Ordinance was a \$10.00 fine, and if not paid, it would then be a different fine. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the ordinance be approved with words corrected under Section 4 and Section 5 and where it says "Civil and

criminal” penalty that it would read “fees set by Resolution.” Mr. Ditton suggested that words be corrected where necessary. Discussion. Mayor Brosius stated that she is opposed to removing the 24 hour time frame. This summer, one lady was inside her home, taking a break, when someone came to her home to give her a warning. She had been planning to clean the grass clippings from the street. Mayor Brosius wanted to know how anyone would know how long the clippings had been there. Mayor Brosius stated that she thought they should be given 24 hours to get rid of their clippings. One incident was sited at Prince and Front Streets. A man “deliberately” blew his grass clippings into the street until they washed away. Role call vote – All ayes.

7. Mr. Troxell informed the council that the gate for the Recycling Center has been ordered.
6. Mr. Wolfe stated that he understands that the cost of repairing the gazebo is \$23,000. The volunteer organization that is undertaking this project, has requested funding from Representative Phillips. Mayor Brosius stated that she felt that the committee representatives should have been invited to the council meeting if council wanted information. Mayor Brosius added that the chairman of the group told her that if they were starting from scratch, the cost would be \$23,000. Mayor Brosius understood that they are putting on a new roof and fixing a few railings. She does not feel that the cost to repair the gazebo is expected to be \$23,000. The committee has informed the mayor that they do not need money for the gazebo; however, she has not been provided with any figures.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he is not criticizing the committee and he appreciates the work that the committee has done for the borough. He is concerned that if a committee does not have adequate funding for the repairs, the borough may ultimately be responsible for payment. Mr. Wolfe stated that he was not comfortable with an outside group going to Rep. Phillips and saying the borough needs money. Mr. Carl stated a Degenstein Foundation representative has told him that the borough is requesting funds for too many projects at one time.

Mr. Wolfe asked if the council was comfortable giving committees free reign on projects like this. Discussion continued. Mr. Wolfe made a motion that issues of funding should come before the borough first and that letters should be sent to all groups or people appointed by the borough council informing them as such. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Role call vote – All ayes.

Mayor Brosius asked if council approves of the Revitalization Committee obtaining memorials for funding for the King Street Park Memorial Garden. Mr. Wolfe replied that the council had approved the project.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval:

1. Mr. Troxell made a motion to approve the minutes of October 1 and October 15, 2002. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton asked if the solicitor has provided his opinion regarding whether debt service money may be held over and used in

2003. He has stated his opinion that it is permissible, but not in writing. Council would like his opinion in writing. Role call vote to approve the minutes – All ayes.

2. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Role call vote – All ayes.
3. A payment request of \$42,794.00 for the Second Street School roof has been received from Brickhill Construction, Inc. Mr. Troxell made a motion to pay the bill and Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The vote was unanimous to pay the bill.
4. Mrs. Elizabeth Lockcuff has requested the use of the King Street Park and Gazebo for a wedding on August 23, 2003. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to approve the request and Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Role call vote – All ayes.

The Finance Committee has discussed charging a fee for the use of the park and gazebo. Mr. Wolfe stated that Mrs. Lockcuff is aware of the fee and is more than willing to pay for the use of the park. Council discussed whether to exempt groups who use the park for various activities. The borough pays for the electricity in the park and the labor for the crew to have the park presentable before every event and to clean up afterward. Council will discuss the topic further at a later date.

5. Mrs. Groninger stated that PPL has a group in town who are “butchering the trees”. She suggested sending a letter to PPL complaining about the severity of the tree trimming in the borough. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Role call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 4-2.
6. Northumberland County has informed the borough that Weis Markets, Inc. is appealing the property taxes for 2002. The legal work will be done by the county solicitor, at no cost to the borough or school district. The county is requesting that the borough and school district share any other costs involved in the appeal. In the past, the costs have been pro-rated to the three taxing bodies in proportion to each taxing body’s millage.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion that the Borough be called a Borough, not a Township, and that the Borough would be willing to share the pro-rata cost. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Role call vote – All ayes.

7. The Northumberland County Planning Commission is accepting applications for Community Block Grant funding. Mr. Wolfe asked for a motion for Mr. Redington to duplicate the Block Grant application for handicapped access and restrooms for the Second Street School building, and a separate application for handicapped curbing at various intersections in the borough. Mr. Carl made the motion and Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Role call vote- All ayes.
8. Mr. Carl asked if the borough organizations are to obtain council approval before applying for funding from other outside sources, besides Rep. Phillips. Various council

members voiced the opinion that the council should be informed before any outside sources are approached for funding by any borough-appointed committee.

9. Mr. Bowersox stated that culverts exist on King Street and Queen Street, between 7th and 8th Streets. Although the borough does not own either, one is county-owned and the other is state-owned, Mr. Bowersox stated that the culverts should be cleaned out twice a year. He feels that the culvert at Penn Street should also be cleaned out annually. This culvert was cleaned out last year by the borough crew and PennDOT, through an agreement.
10. Mayor Brosius asked what the borough should do about the culvert that belongs to the railroad. The borough engineer has provided the borough with the address for Norfolk Southern Railroad. Mr. Bowersox recommended that the condition of the culvert should be inspected, before the borough contact the railroad.
11. Mr. Carl asked if the council would approve the addition of the person's name on the waterpark if that person donates \$1,000,000 or more for the park. Discussion.

Mr. Carl made a motion that, in the event a million dollars is donated to the water park, the name could be added to the current name of Liberty Splashland (ex. John Smith's Liberty Splashland). Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Role call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn the meeting. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 9:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman

**Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
November 19, 2002
7:00 PM**

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Gregory Shaffer, Donald Troxell, Judith Groninger, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, James Best, Borough Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The nine community members present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Proclamation Recognizing the Improvement Committee's 25 Years of Service

Mayor Brosius announced that the Improvement Committee has provided 25 years of service toward the betterment of Northumberland. In commemoration, a framed collection of 4-pictures entitled “Seasons in King Street Park at the Gazebo” was hung in the council chambers, and a scrapbook and Certificate of Recognition and Appreciation were placed in the glass-front cabinet.

Mayor Brosius then read the following Proclamation:

“**WHEREAS**, the Northumberland Community Improvement Committee was established in October of 1978; and

WHEREAS, during the many years of service to the community this committee has contributed significantly to the betterment of Northumberland by

- * planning the construction of and maintaining the gazebo in King Street Park
- * purchasing and assembling the borough Christmas decorations along with the Santa House
- * establishing and hosting the annual Lighting Ceremony and visit by Santa
- * working countless hours on fund raisers that made all these accomplishments possible.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor of the Borough of Northumberland, hereby issue this proclamation as an expression of gratitude and thanks to the Northumberland Community Improvement Committee in recognition of the community spirit they have exemplified during their first twenty-five years of service to Northumberland.”

Mayor's Report

- “Santa in the Park” and a carol sing are scheduled for December 2nd. Santa will arrive at 7:00 p.m.
- The parking meters will be covered on November 30th at 2:00 p.m., with the help of the Shikellamy Key Club. Mayor Brosius stated there would be a need for someone to supervise the club members.
- Memorial plaques are being prepared. They will be placed on the benches in the park. Mayor Brosius stated they should be on by Thanksgiving.
- Mayor Brosius addressed a Letter to the Editor from Mr. Robert Speer II. Mr. Speer received a parking ticket on Veteran’s Day and felt that this day should be a borough holiday with no parking tickets issued. Mr. Speer also wrote that there is no parking for the street sweeper to run and that when the street sweeper is not run, tickets should not be issued. Mayor Brosius stated the borough has a parking violation ordinance. It is not just for the street sweeper, but for the street crew and utilities to schedule street work on days when parking is prohibited. Discussion ensued recognizing holidays observed by the Borough. The consensus was to keep the status quo.

Sewer Authority Report

Act 14 Notification was received from Mr. John R. Bakowicz. This notification informed the borough of the sewer project for Upper Augusta. Mrs. Cindy Lark explained that DEP requires that the borough be notified. A letter was received and is on file. The project had been approved by the borough council several years ago.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

- Mr. Paul Ruane announced that the listing of handicapped parking spaces has been compiled. There are 25 handicap spaces throughout the borough. Seventeen are located at private residences; the remaining eight are at churches or parking meters.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion that the borough initiates contact with the individuals who have handicapped parking spaces to determine if the handicapped space is still needed. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

- Mr. Ruane has contacted a resident concerning moving his vehicle. It is to be moved by December 12. The resident will be fined after that date, according to Mr. Ruane. The resident and finance company are disputing over the ownership of the vehicle.
- American Water Company is installing a new water line on Prince Street, between 5th and 6th Streets.
- Larson Design engineer Max Inkrote has reviewed storm water problems in two back yards on Queen Street, close to the storm water project. Discussion ensued, referencing the water problem in this area.

- Mr. William Roll has requested that the council approve revised plans for the next phase of the Branchview Development. The original plan had been approved a number of years ago, before the borough had adopted the current stormwater ordinance. Ordinance #2002-5, which was approved in April of 2002, is now in effect. The council felt that the ordinance should apply to the new phase of the development. It was noted that drainage problems have existed in the developments on the hill. Council agreed that the plans for the development should abide by the ordinance and asked the Code Officer to inform Mr. Roll.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:32 p.m. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Litigation issues were discussed.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee will meet tomorrow evening at 6:30 p.m. The goal is for the committee to pass the budget tomorrow night to present to council for a first reading at the December 3rd meeting. Mr. Wolfe stated everyone was welcome to attend the committee meeting.

Parks & Recreation

Pineknottter Park Ball Field

The Parks and Recreation Committee met on November 11 to discuss Pineknottter Park ball field. Mr. Shaffer informed the council that on November 14, Representative Phillips spoke with Mr. Redington and indicated that grant funding of \$163,000 and the additional \$50,000 will be awarded through DCNR. Representative Phillips had stated he would like to see the project to go forward. Little League and other baseball organizations have obtained funding toward the deficit. They hope to collect the balance through fund-raisers. Approximately \$10,500 is still needed to fund the entire project. Mr. Shaffer explained the Funding Analysis that was prepared by Mr. Redington after the committee meeting. Four individual donors have requested to remain anonymous.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion that for 2003, \$10,500 be earmarked from General Contingency, if needed, for the ball park for the lights. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. The council is optimistic that the total funding can be raised without having to use this money. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the lighting bids based on the engineer's recommendation, with a completion date included in the contract. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox stated that there were two different methods for the pilings, with additional cost for one method. Roll call vote – All ayes to accept the bids as received per the engineer's recommendation.

Haunted House

Mr. Carl reported on the Haunted House project. Shikellamy students volunteered over 800 hours for the project. The profits realized total approximately \$6,000.

Kiwanis Club Meeting

Mr. Carl and Mr. Wolfe attended the Kiwanis meeting last Thursday to discuss the waterpark project. Mr. Carl felt that the meeting was very productive.

Fund-Raising

Mr. Daddario asked to whom committee members should report for fund-raising projects. Mr. Wolfe explained that the borough has numerous dedicated volunteers who serve on committees and approach outside sources for funding. The council members and borough office are unaware of these requests. Mr. Wolfe stated that any committee or subcommittee appointed by the council should contact the borough secretary before seeking outside funding. This way, the council and borough office are informed of all fund-raising activities and grant requests, in case any individual or organization has questions or concerns.

Personnel

Mr. Bowersox asked why a newly hired employee who was to start immediately was not able to start employment for two weeks. Discussion ensued. The employee had thought he would be able to start immediately; however, his former employer had requested that he give a two-week notice.

Property

No report at this time. The Second Street School project is to be discussed later on the agenda.

Public Safety

The EMA director has prepared a proposed detour for major traffic re-routing in the event of an accident or other major disasters or fires. It was stated this is only proposed at this time.

The committee will meet to discuss water problems that occur on the hill during power outages. The residents on the hill have no water pressure during these times. This also means that the fire hydrants are short of water.

The committee will set a meeting for sometime in January at the next council meeting.

Streets

Mr. Troxell stated that gates for the Recycling Center are done. He plans to pick them up and have them painted before they are hung at the Recycling Center.

Mr. Wolfe asked if the lines would be painted on the streets yet this year. He was told that it is too cold to paint the lines now and they will be painted in the spring.

Old Business

1. Council discussed whether the roof at the Second Street School building has been completed. The contract date for completion was November 15th. The snow guards are an additional item to the original contract. Mr. Wolfe stated that we need to make sure that what was included in the contract was completed.

Mayor Brosius sent a thank-you note to Representative Merle Phillips for his help toward obtaining the funding that is to be received from the state for the school building renovation.

Mayor Brosius reported that Walker International Events has requested the use of the gym for a circus in March. Mr. Carl made a motion to approve the request for a rental fee of \$600 and the cost of rental of portable toilets for the event. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Wolfe voted no. The motion passed 6-1.

Mayor Brosius reported that the committee is moving along with their Capital Campaign. They are in the process of forming committees. The Kiwanis Club is donating \$10,000 for the kickoff to the Second Street School Capital Campaign once their Certificate of Deposit matures at the end of the year.

2. Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2002-11, an amendment to Chapter 50, Article V of the Borough Code Book. The first reading was at the November 4th council meeting. This ordinance eliminates the 24-hour grace period granted for removing grass clippings from the borough streets. Mr. Wolfe called for a motion to adopt the ordinance which will be effective in 60 days.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2002-11. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Shaffer voted no. The motion passed 6-1.

3. Quotes have been received for five replacement trees from Shaffer Landscaping and Lloyd's Landscapes. A Touch of Class was contacted; but did not provide quotes. The quote from Shaffer Landscaping was lowest received. These trees are to replace trees that had been removed due to the storm water project. Three are to be planted on Queen Street and two on Fifth Street.

Margaret Weirick, a member of the Shade Tree Commission, had consulted with a landscape architect from Larson Design Group, Inc. to select the trees that are to be planted.

Mr. Carl made a motion to accept the quote of \$1,095.00 from Shaffer Landscaping for replacing the trees. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion passed 6-1.

Trees had also been removed at the Groninger residence due to the storm water project. The Groningers planted new trees at their property, at their expense.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the minutes of November 4, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Mayor Brosius asked if Mr. McPherson has been informed of the state requirements for firefighters. He had been. Mr. Ditton stated that he plans to address this topic later in the meeting.

Mayor Brosius asked if a letter was sent to PPL about the complaints received on the tree trimming that was done in the borough. The office had contacted the local PPL office to obtain a name and address to send the letter. Mr. Bill Miller came in to the office to explain the reason that the trees were cut in the V shape. According to Mr. Miller, Penn State recommends this type of cut because it does not shock the trees as much as topping them does. Mr. Miller was aware of complaints from several borough residents and visited those properties with Margaret Weirick, a member of the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Miller also stated that the trees would not be trimmed again for five years.

Mayor Brosius asked if the culverts below Penn Street have been checked. Mr. Troxell stated that they have been and are clear. Mr. Bowersox added that the parallel ditch along Penn Street should be checked at least twice a year.

The parking at the Senior Action Center was discussed. The yellow line has not yet been changed.

2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve payment of the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Bogovich questioned the amount of the gas bill to heat the Girl Scout House. The street crew will be asked to make sure the thermostat is turned back when the building is not in use. It was mentioned that this is a block building with no insulation and the heat would have been turned up for Election Day. The Girl Scout council pays for the electricity for the building and the borough pays for the gas. Roll call vote to approve payment of the bills. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion passed 6-1.

Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$6,226.99. The Liberty Pool account bills total \$1,051.41 and the Park and Recreation account bills total \$2,112.50.

3. Mr. Shaffer mentioned the email from Brian Crebs regarding the state requirements for firefighters. He said that he also received comments from council members about statements that were made in this email and that Mr. Crebs has apologized for the comments, explaining that he did not intend to offend anyone. Mr. McPherson has been provided with the requirements as received from the State Fire Commissioner. The only state requirements for training are mandates from the federal government concerning Haz-Mat.
4. The Northumberland Housing Corporation has invited borough council members to attend their meeting on Thursday, November 21st at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Shaffer may not be able to attend due to a death in the family. If possible, he will be there.

Mayor Brosius plans to attend. The Public Safety Committee had contacted the housing corporation regarding safety issues and state inspections at the mid-rise.

5. Mrs. Groninger remarked about a Letter to the Editor that was in the Daily Item. The author was appreciative of the work done by Mr. Eugene Brosius at the underpass. The area has been cleaned up, flowers planted, and a sign recognizing Northumberland as the Home of the Pineknotters was erected.
6. Mr. Bowersox had questions regarding the final inspection of the stormwater project. Discussion. Larson Design Group, Inc. has provided a written report of the final inspection meeting.
7. Mr. Daddario stated that Recreation and the Pineknotter Park Committees appreciate the council's cooperation and support for the ball field at Pineknotter Park.
8. Mr. Ditton asked if the change orders from Larson Design Group, Inc. are the final change orders. Mr. Inkrote and HRI representatives are meeting tomorrow. It is unknown if any additional change orders will be agreed upon.
9. Mr. Ditton discussed the memo from Mr. Inkrote regarding the "ponding" in the back yards of residents in the storm water project area. Mr. Inkrote's opinion states that this was a pre-existing condition and that the storm water project did not create the problem.
10. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council had agreed to 1.5 mills for the Fire Department for 2002, with the stipulation that an audit of the fire company be provided to the council. Mr. Wolfe asked if it was the council's consensus that the money is not to be disbursed to the fire company without an audit. Council agreed. He asked the solicitor if the council could retain the tax money that was collected this year until next year, to be disbursed once an audit is received. Mr. Best replied in the affirmative. Mr. Wolfe then asked if the borough could have a referendum on the ballot in the spring with the question as to whether the voters in the borough approve of instituting a fire tax of no more than four mills. Mayor Brosius stated that the firefighters have not asked for four mills of tax; they have requested three mills, which do not require a referendum. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council has made stipulations that the Fire Department must meet in order to receive the tax money. The Fire Department has not met these stipulations, as requested, and Mr. Wolfe feels that the council may be perceived as not caring about fire protection because no one else has been given these same stipulations. However, he explained that no other organizations, outside of borough organizations, have requested tax money. Parks and Recreation are a part of the borough. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council does not appoint people to the Hookies, so it is the council's responsibility to learn about their finances before committing tax dollars to the organization. This is the reason an audit was requested.

Mr. Jack Snyder stated that the council members have a lot of responsibility. One of the fire companies in the borough has purchased a new fire truck that will cost

the company \$800,000 over a period of 10 years. This truck is being purchased on a lease/ purchase agreement. If the council contributes \$20,000 this year and the company does not have the money to complete the payment in any particular year, the company will lose the truck and the borough's money will "go down the drain." He does not think that any taxpayer would be happy if this happens. He feels that the council should think carefully before paying this money to the fire company.

Mr. Shaffer questioned if it would be worth the \$20,000 if this truck helps to save one life in this year. He said that any fire department could go out of business any year; there is no guarantee with volunteers. Mr. Shaffer added that the Rescue Squad died because of lack of money and lack of volunteers.

Mr. Wolfe stated that for this particular issue, the purchase of the truck had nothing to do with the borough's contribution to the company. Mr. Bogovich and Mr. Troup had both told the council that the company could afford the truck without the borough's money.

Mr. Troxell stated that the fire company ordered the truck without any consideration for the borough.

The question was raised as to whether the Hookies company agreed to the purchase of the truck; or whether the decision was made by just a few members.

Mr. Wolfe also said that, although he is not advocating this, the borough could give the tax money back to the tax payers by reducing the general mills tax by 1.5 mills. Mr. Best concurred.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the borough does contribute to the fire companies and pays for the insurances for both companies.

11. Mayor Brosius asked if a deadline has been set for the next newsletter. Mr. Wolfe replied that he will determine the deadline for the next council meeting and that the newsletter will probably be published by the end of January.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
December 3, 2002

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, James Best, Borough Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilmen Paul Bowersox and Greg Carl were absent; Mr. Bowersox due to illness and Mr. Carl due to having to work this evening.

The seven visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mrs. Patty Young asked why the leaves have not been picked up. Mr. Ruane explained that the crew has been around collecting leaves. Due to the weather and wet conditions, it can take an hour to pick up leaves in a one-block area. He also explained that the crew was shorthanded due to illness and injury. Two new crew members have been hired.

Mr. Don Troxell, councilman, arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Paul Ruane, Jr. asked which insurance cards should be kept in the fire trucks. The borough’s insurance carrier is now EMC (Employers Mutual Casualty Company).

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius announced that the police are holding their annual toy drive in memory of a former police chief, Marty Concini. Several drop-off locations were announced. Anyone needing toys for their children should call the Police Department. Mayor Brosius’s written report is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Wolfe commented that the program in the park held last evening was very nice. Santa Claus arrived and the Sunbury City Band played several selections.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the Sewer Authority is recommending that the council reappoint George Gavason to the Sewer Authority Board. The term would expire December 31, 2007.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to reappoint Mr. Gavason to the Sewer Authority. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Ms. Lark stated that the Sewer Authority plans to televise the lines along Orange Street since the borough plans to pave Orange Street in 2003. This is in addition to the other work planned for next year. They expect to rebid this work in January.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the activity for the past month. His report is on file in the borough office.

Mr. Ruane suggested that when picking leaves, the truck driver and the crew member who is working behind the truck should have headphones and microphones to use to communicate instead of using hand signals.

Executive Session

No Executive Session was required.

Committee Reports

Finance

2003 Budget Proposal (1st reading)

Mr. Ditton made a motion to adopt the 2003 budget. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion.

Mr. Ron Wynn stated that he is concerned that the property taxes have increased in the past few years. Mr. Troxell explained that some major projects have been undertaken. The 5 mill street tax has been added in the past several years and now the storm water project has meant an additional increase. Mrs. Groninger stated that the council is not able to control the increases for several items, namely insurances and salaries under contract. She stated that she is not planning to seek re-election; but she believes that the street tax is necessary due to the condition of the streets and the storm pipes. She added that she would have raised the street tax by five more mills. She explained that every time a street is opened up, the borough needs to replace storm drains because they are in such bad condition. Mr. Wynn stated that he felt that some expenses could be cut; however, he added that he had not attended any of the budget meetings. Mr. Shaffer asked what services could be cut. He added that the council does not have any extras in the budget for future street construction. He also stated that the money just doesn't go far enough for all of the services in the borough. Mr. Shaffer stated the "wish list" for services had been cut. He recommended that residents should attend budget meetings to gain a better understanding of the expenses.

Mr. Ditton stated that the Street Department and Police Department are unionized; therefore their salaries and benefits are already established.

Mr. Jim Troup asked why additional laborers were hired, adding that many companies are laying off workers. It was explained that two street crew members were hired; one will eventually replace another worker. The other is the street supervisor. The part-time office clerk was hired to replace a part-time clerk who moved out of the area.

Mrs. Young asked if the Borough Secretary's salary was increasing by \$10,000. Mr. Ditton stated that this was not true. Mr. Wolfe added that the increase is from \$28,500 to \$35,000 and that Mrs. Bowman has assumed additional responsibility. Mrs. Groninger explained that since the borough does not have a Borough Manager, the Borough Secretary functions as more of a manager.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee has been working on the budget since June. He stated that approximately 50% of the budget is governed by contracts. Mr. Wolfe explained that almost \$317,000 in the budget is related to the police department and much of this is determined by their contract. Mr. Wolfe also stated that he feels that only as a last resort should health care be cut for the employees. He also stated that the employee co-pays for office visits and prescriptions are increasing. The police contract expires next December. He explained that the salaries of the police department have increased by 57% over the past two contracts. Mr. Troup asked if the council has considered shared services with Point Township. This had been explored at one time. Mr. Wolfe stated that one full-time officer and one part-time officer had been funded through the COPS grant. Although no additional grant funding is anticipated for 2003, the committee did not choose to cut these positions. Jan Bowman stated an officer told her that 95% of his time was spent on drug-related issues during a one-week period.

Mr. Wolfe explained that council hopes that the Water Park will bring in more revenue in the future, so the taxes will not have to go up. He also stated that if the borough does not find other ways of raising revenue, either taxes would need to be increased or expenses and services would need to be reduced.

Mr. Shaffer added that he feels it is important for the borough to have police on duty twenty-four hours a day.

Mr. Troup asked if the street sweeper is run on the streets on the hill and if recycling is picked up there. Mrs. Marilyn Attinger, a resident of Villa Vista, stated that the services are provided in her neighborhood. Mrs. Fran Bogovich stated that the residents on the hill are paying a street light tax, but do not have street lights. Mr. Wolfe responded that the borough does not have a street light tax this year or included in the 2003 budget.

Mr. Wynn asked why the cell phone budget increased. Mr. Wolfe explained that the committee had looked at the expenses to date for the pagers and the cell phones are more cost effective. The proposed budget does not include the expenses incurred in 2002, but the committee had looked at those expenses when preparing the 2003 budget.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the original increase in the 2003 budget was anticipated to be six mills. The Finance Committee worked to reduce that to three mills.

Mr. Wolfe called for a roll call vote to adopt the budget. All council members present voted in the affirmative. Council will conduct the second reading of the budget at the December 17, 2002 council meeting.

Disbursement of \$5,000 Truck Fund for Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company requested the \$5,000 that has been designated for the Hookies Truck Fund.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to cut a check for \$5,000 from the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Truck fund to the Hookies. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Council discussed how the check should be handled. Mr. Paul Ruane, a member of the Hookies board, suggested that the check be deposited to the Hookies Truck Fund Account that is at the Northumberland National Bank. He added that the first payment for the truck has been made. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Shaffer amended the motion and second to make the check payable to the truck fund at the Northumberland National Bank. Roll call vote - All ayes.

Mr. Troup commented that the Hookies' recent fund drive was a success, thanking the many residents who donated money toward the purchase of the new truck.

SUN Bank loan for Pineknottter Park

Mr. Wolfe stated interest rates are lower now than they had been when the borough obtained the loan from SUN Bank for the clean-up at Pineknottter Park. The loan can be re-negotiated with the SUN Bank at a lower interest rate. The current interest rate is 5.85 %. The new rate would be 3.79% fixed for five years. At the end of five years, the borough would need to renegotiate the loan. The borough would have to pay fees related to the refinancing. If the loan is refinanced, a representative of the bank has estimated that approximately \$16,000 could be saved. Mr. Shaffer made the motion to begin the process to refinance the loan. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion.

Discussion. Roll call vote was taken. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion passed 4-1.

Parks & Recreation

The Parks and Recreation Committee recommended appointing Angie Fegley as new Parks & Recreation Committee member. Mrs. Groninger requested that the appointment be tabled until Mr. Carl is in attendance. Mr. Wolfe tabled the appointment.

Mr. Wolfe stated that within the next two months the name of a corporate sponsor for the waterpark would be revealed.

Streets

- Mr. Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, stated that a total of 92 man hours have been spent picking up leaves in the past week. Mr. Troxell added that this year has been especially difficult since the leaves all fell at once. The wet conditions have contributed to the length of time it takes the crew to pick up the leaves.
- The crew was called out early one morning to remove leaves that had been dumped in the middle of Prince Street.
- The snow plows are on the trucks and working well.
- The crew was called to pull a canoe from the river. Mrs. Groninger questioned if this was something the crew should have been asked to do or if another public agency should have been contacted.

- Mrs. Groninger asked if the crew responds immediately to phone calls from residents who want their leaves picked up. Mr. Fisher replied that they can't respond to each individual request, but must follow the schedule. Eventually, the streets will all be covered.
- Recycling is still being done along with picking up leaves.
- Mrs. Attinger complimented the decorations in the downtown area, covering the parking meters. She also thanked Mayor Brosius and Mr. Brosius for placing the planters in the downtown area.
- Mr. Wolfe signed Ordinance 2002-11, after the 10-day time frame for the Mayor to sign the ordinance. Mayor Brosius has elected not to sign the ordinance. This ordinance was passed at the November 19, 2002 council meeting. It will become effective on February 1, 2003.

Personnel

No report.

Property

Mrs. Groninger announced that the Second Street School roof has been completed over the gym within the time frame stipulated in the contract. The snow guards will be installed as soon as they are delivered.

Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer reported that he and Mayor Brosius attended a meeting of the Northumberland Housing Corporation. He stated that they had very good dialogue with the Housing Board regarding emergency procedures.

Mr. Shaffer stated that the Fire Board recommends that the borough contact the water company, informing them that water pressure to the hill is too low and the pump from the water tank should be replaced.

Mr. Shaffer stated the hydrant across from the Second Street School needs to be replaced because it is antiquated and could cause a hazard. Because of the way that it is styled, it poses a problem for hooking up the fire hose.

A resident's request that a fire hydrant be moved on Madison Avenue was approved by the Fire Board. There is to be no cost to the borough. The resident and water company were informed that if it is necessary to excavate Madison Avenue, the borough's excavation fee would apply. The homeowner would assume any cost related to moving the hydrant.

The Fire Board requested that the borough not put a referendum on the ballot next spring about a fire tax. Mr. Shaffer said that the Fire Board felt that the two companies should be informed and in support of the referendum before the board agrees it. Mr. Troup stated that although it is needed, he does not feel that the property owners will vote to approve the referendum with the tax increase that is being imposed for 2003. He further stated that the public should be educated on how the fire tax would be spent. Discussion ensued. Mrs. Groninger stated that if the voters approve that a fire tax be implemented, she would vote to include the fire tax in the budget. Mr. Wolfe agreed, adding that he did not feel an audit would be required, if

the voters approved the tax. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council is permitted, legally, to add up to three mills of tax for Fire Apparatus. Therefore, the question on the ballot may be worded, "Would you agree to up to four mills of tax allocated for Fire Apparatus?" He added that anyone can petition to include a question on the ballot. The deadline to have the question included on the primary ballot is in March. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Fire Board did not need to make the decision tonight and they could present the issue to the fire companies.

Mrs. Brosius stated that the Northumberland Housing Corporation is not an authority, but a Corporation. As such, the borough council really has nothing to do with the organization.

Old Business

1. Second Street School update. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to pay \$24,957.00 for the roof of the Second Street School to Brickhill Construction, Inc. \$6,084.85 would be transferred from the General Contingency fund and \$18,872.15 would be transferred from the UDAG fund. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. The money from the General Contingency fund is the balance of the \$175,000 state grant. Roll call vote - All yes. The motion passed unanimously.
2. Mr. Wolfe announced that the articles for the newsletter will be due by January 10, 2003, with the newsletter anticipated to be out by the end of the month.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the minutes of November 19, 2002. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to pay the bills, including \$180 for eye care reimbursement to James Dodge. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$12,760.08.
3. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Resolution 2002-J. This resolution requests permission to participate in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Cooperative Purchasing Program. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. 2003 Council Meeting Dates
Mr. Wolfe reviewed dates for the Borough Council meetings for 2003. He suggested that the meetings be scheduled for the first and third Tuesdays of the month, except for the months of May, July, and November. The first meetings in the months of May and November would be scheduled for the first Mondays of those months due to the primary and general elections held on the first Tuesdays of the months. Only one council meeting will be held the month of July, due to Pineknott Days. The date suggested for this meeting is July 15th. Mr. Shaffer made the motion to accept the 2003 meeting dates as stated; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
5. Borough Office Holidays for 2003.
Mr. Wolfe stated that in 2003, December 31 is on a Wednesday and the borough office closes at noon on Wednesdays. Therefore, he recommends closing the office on

President's Day. Mrs. Bowman requested that the office be closed for the Christmas holiday on December 25 and 26 in 2003. Normally, the office is closed on December 24 and 25, but since the 24th is a Wednesday, the office will close at noon anyway. The other borough office holidays would remain the same as the 2002 holidays. Mr. Shaffer made the motion to accept the holidays and Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll Call vote- All ayes.

6. Mrs. Groninger moved to hold the curbside recycling in 2003 as scheduled, except for the month of December 2003, when curbside pickup would be eliminated. Residents could still take their recyclables to the center during December. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Curbside pickup would be on the first Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of each month unless one of those days is a holiday. In that case, recycling would be scheduled for the second Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday of the month. There would be no curbside recycling in the month of December. This is because the street crew is busy with leaf pickup and the possibility of snow plowing, as occurred this year. Roll call vote – All ayes.
7. Mr. Troxell stated that the gate for the Recycling Center has been received, but it cannot be installed because the ground is frozen.
8. Mayor Brosius stated that she has received written monthly reports from the Fire Police and the EMA.
9. Mayor Brosius requested that the Christmas lights be installed this year. She requested a bucket truck for installing the wreaths downtown and asked that the snowflakes in the park be connected so they can be lighted. Mr. Wolfe requested that the Mayor and Street Supervisor plan a time for this to be completed.
10. Mr. Troup requested that money be included in the budget for Fire Prevention. Mr. Ditton stated that some of the money budgeted for portables could be used toward Fire Prevention.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
December 17, 2002

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was conducted and Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Greg Shafer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Paul Bowersox and Judith Groninger, and Solicitor James Best were absent.

Public Comment

- **Keystone Forging Company - Noise ordinance**
Mr. Joe Cipriani, representing the Keystone Forging Company, explained that he had received a phone call from the police regarding the work shift, and noise, beginning at the forge at 6:00 a.m. He was informed that the noise ordinance prohibits noise until 7:00 a.m. He explained that the forge has been operating from 6:00 a.m. for 25 years and that he had been told that the company would be “grandfathered in” and not be made to comply with the 7:00 a.m. stipulation in the ordinance. It was stated that the town “grew up around” the Forge Company. Mr. Cipriani requested that the council permit the forge to continue with their present schedule. Major studies resulted in two walls being built to buffer sound, new doors installed, and a reduction in the amount of noise emitted. Mr. Cipriani asked that the noise ordinance be changed to permit noise beginning at 6:00 a.m., instead of 7:00 a.m.

Mr. Shaffer stated that he felt that the council should exempt the forge.

Mr. Wolfe said that, if possible, a Resolution would be prepared for the January 2, 2003 meeting to amend the ordinance to permit the forge to operate at the earlier hour.

- Karen Nogle, Co-Chairman of the Revitalization Committee, thanked everyone who helped to decorate the park and downtown area for the Christmas Season. She and Mayor Brosius thanked the Borough crew for their assistance along with the other volunteers.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius reported that a Police Department has requested a personnel meeting in early January.
- The Mayor reported that one of the flashing bars on one of the Police cars needs to be replaced.
- The distribution of toys is scheduled for December 22nd.
- The mayor has received two complaints. One was about the trees that extend over Front Street. Penn Dot has informed the Borough that it is the Borough's responsibility to trim trees along Front Street in the right-of-way. Discussion was held as to whether this is a safety issue. It is felt to be a safety issue. Mr. Shaffer stated the property owner owns the right of way. Mr. Wolfe requested that the Code Officer, Police Department, Street Department, and borough office work together to resolve the issue.

The second complaint was from a gentleman who lives on Duke Street. When the state plows the road, the snow is thrown up on his sidewalk. The property owner stated the trucks are coming into town too fast. The suggestion was made that he contacts PennDOT.

- A concern was brought to the Mayor's attention about the number of trees that have been removed from the tree space and not replaced.
- Mayor Brosius thanked the street crew for their many hours of work to install the Christmas lights and decorate the borough for the holidays.

The Mayor's Report is on file in the borough office.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the authority hopes to have the sewer work out for bid in January.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane announced that the Planning Commission will meet on Thursday, December 19th to review two plans. One is for Verizon on Front Street. The second is a subdivision between Shumaker and Stroup properties off of Susquehanna Road.

Jim Buch is planning to construct a building on the triangular piece of ground between Route 11 and the old Danville highway.

Mr. Bill Roll has contacted Mr. Ruane about the revision to his development on the hill. Council stated that if the development is subdivided or the lot sizes are change, the development would be required to comply with the new Storm Water ordinance. Changes to the land would affect the drainage on the property. Mr. Wolfe added that Mr. Roll is welcomed to come to a meeting to address the Council.

Mr. Ruane is ready to cite violators of the renter's ordinance after the 1st of the year.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the issue with the renter's ordinance would be addressed at the January meeting.

Executive Session

An Executive Session began at 7:35 to discuss litigation and personnel issues. The Council Meeting was reconvened at 7:46 p.m.

Committee Reports

Streets

Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, provided the council with a written schedule of the street crew's work. Both Mr. Fisher and Mr. Snyder are working to obtain their CDL licenses. The crew is still collecting leaves. Mr. Fisher's written report is on file in the Borough office.

Finance

2003 Budget Proposal - 2nd reading

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt the 2003 budget. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton asked if any revision was planned for the Fire Prevention materials for the Fire Board. Council decided not to revise the budget, but hopes that money will be available by the end of the year. Fire Prevention week is in October and the bill for the materials used was received this month. Roll call vote - All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the information has not been received yet regarding the refinancing of the loan for Pineknott Park.

A fee and penalty schedule will be in the council's mailboxes this week for their review. The schedule will be acted upon at the first meeting in January.

Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl requested that the council approve Angie Fegley as new Parks and Recreation Committee member. Mr. Ditton moved to appoint Angie Fegley to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.

Mr. Carl explained that Tim and Michele Fink have offered to step down from the Parks and Recreation Committee if others volunteer to serve. The Finks would still like to remain on the sub-committee for the Soap Box Race.

Mr. Wolfe suggested that a group meet informally some evening in January to discuss the pool project. A date will be set after the holidays.

Personnel

Mr. Ditton suggested that the Personnel Committee meet with the Police Department on Tuesday, January 7 2003, at 7:00 p.m.

Atty. Best has resigned as the Borough Solicitor, effective December 31, 2002. The Personnel Committee is recommending the appointment of Atty. Robin Martin as the Borough Solicitor for 2003. Mr. Ditton moved to appoint Atty. Martin to the solicitor position for 2003 at a retainer fee of \$7,500 per year. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Property

No report.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton requested that the Feaster Corporation be contacted to remove construction supplies from Orange Street. The council had approved for construction vehicles and trailers to be parked on Sixth Street.

Council discussed the “no parking” signs that had been placed on the opposite (even-numbered) side of Sixth Street. Mayor Brosius suggested covering the existing signs with some type of bag to denote “no parking”. The signs are no longer there. Mr. Troxell will ask the Street Department to erect something more permanent.

Old Business

1. Second Street School update -
The snow guards have not yet been installed.
2. Resolution 2002-K (Adopts the Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan as recommended by the Flood Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee) was discussed. Mr. Ditton had not received a copy of the plan and requested time to review it. Mr. Wolfe tabled the resolution.
3. 2003 Council Meeting Schedule
The council meeting schedule as been revised. The first meeting in January will be January 2nd. The first meeting in February will be February 3rd. Mr. Wolfe stated that all other meetings would remain as approved at the December 3rd council meeting. The council meetings and regular committee meetings for 2003 will be advertised in the Daily Item. All committees should submit their 2003 meeting schedule to the borough office by Monday, December 23rd in order to be included in the advertisement.
4. Mr. Wolfe stated that the deadline for articles and advertisements to be submitted for the borough newsletter is January 10th.
5. Storm water project - Payment request #4.
Mr. Shaffer made the motion to submit the HRI request #4 for payment. Mr. Troxell seconded he motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
6. Pineknotted Park Ball Field Lighting
Mr. Redington informed the council that Mr. Bob Bauder, the engineer with Larson Design Group, Inc., has written a letter outlining the work to be completed

by the contractors in the spring. Projected dates are included. He added that the work can be completed without interfering with the baseball season.

7. A memo from Larson Engineer Max Inkrote regarding the water ponding in backyards of Metzger and Farrow/Frost properties on Queen Street is to be included in the borough minutes for future reference. Also, a memo was received in reference to an existing storm water culvert between Orange Street and Wallace Avenue (Street) that runs under the Baranaskas property. This, too, is to be included in the minutes for future reference.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes of December 3, 2002. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Three bills were added for payment: \$47.15 to Susquehanna Fire Equipment and \$68.00 to Keystone Communications from the General Fund, and \$211.99 for a Karaoke machine for the pool to be paid from the Liberty Pool Fund. Roll call vote - All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total 24,389.17 and bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total 229.36
3. The Insurance Fund has a balance of over \$10,000. It was suggested that this fund be transferred into the General Fund along with any interest which is in the Hookies Truck Fund, and the two accounts be closed. Mr. Shaffer made the motion to transfer the balances in both accounts and Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
4. Mr. Troxell made a motion to reappoint Hope Kopf to the Civil Service Commission and reappointment of Margaret Weirick to the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
5. Mr. Troxell made a motion to accept the Sunbury Community Hospital & Outpatient Center's Random Testing Consortium 2003 renewal. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe presented gifts for the office staff from the Borough Council.

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary