

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857  
January 2, 2003, 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, Atty. Robin Martin, Borough Solicitor, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

A representative of the Daily Item was present.

**Public Comment**

No one from the public was in attendance.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius received information pertaining to signage.

The Red Cross contacted the mayor about designating January “Blood Donor’s Month”. More information will be forthcoming at the next council meeting.

A report concerning grants and applications involving multiple communities was received from DCED.

**Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher asked if the Street Crew was to pick up Christmas trees that were placed along the streets in plastic bags. Council stated that trees are not to be bagged or to have tinsel. This information is on the Web site.

The Christmas lights have been unplugged and the decorations have been removed from the parking meters.

Mr. Fisher and Mr. Todd Snyder have passed the written part of the CDL test.

Mr. Fisher asked if the street crew was to plow the unpaved driveway below Susquehanna Road. Council members did not feel that the borough owns the driveway because whenever the borough accepts a road, the developer is required to pave the road. Atty. Martin advised that if the borough did not accept the driveway as a street, it is not the borough’s responsibility to maintain the driveway. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Fisher stated that the street sweeper literature could not be found at the garage.

Mrs. Groninger stated that later on, a report might be needed to show how much time the Borough Street Crew spends on the park, recreation/pool, Pineknotters Days and the ballfield, etc. This information would help answer the question of why the crew cannot get all their work done. Discussion continued about this subject. The Borough Street Crew was commended for the job they did handling the last big snow.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of December 2002.

Mr. Ruane's report is on file in the Borough Office.

Mr. Mike Schneider, a resident on Riverview Drive, has requested that the borough reimburse him for damage to his refrigerator that was incurred when the street crew posted a sign too close to an underground wire. The freezing and thawing caused interference with the flow of electricity. Discussion ensued. Mr. Ruane is waiting for a bill from Peters Appliance to see how to handle this with the insurance company.

### **Executive Session**

The council meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss a litigation issue. The meeting was reconvened at 7:37 p.m.

A draft agreement was received from the insurance company regarding the litigation issue concerning a former police officer, Edward Cope. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to accept the agreement as presented by the insurance company. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Shaffer voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the Mayor inform the Police Chief.

Mr. Troxell stated that the council agrees to this settlement with regret.

Mr. Wolfe added that part of the agreement is that the details be kept confidential. Atty. Martin stated that any information that may become public may not come from anyone at the council table.

### **Committee Reports**

**Streets** – No report

**Finance**

Resolution A-2003 (2003 Schedule of Fees and Penalties)

Mr. Wolfe presented the schedule of Fees and Penalties for 2003 to the council. He informed the council that the penalties are the same as the penalties for 2002.

One penalty that had not been determined was a penalty for not complying with the sidewalk ordinance (Code Book Chapter 50-17). Mr. Ditton suggested that the Borough contact someone to perform the work and the penalty should be to reimburse the Borough for the costs to comply with the sidewalk ordinance. Mr. Wolfe stated the fee would be the actual cost for installing the sidewalks and an administrative fee for costs incurred by the borough.

Council also discussed the penalty for violating Code Book Chapter 59-26, putting rubbish, including grass clippings, in the street. Mr. Wolfe explained that the borough has a fee for the street crew to perform clean up of private property. He suggested that the penalty for putting rubbish in the street could be to reimburse the borough for the time spent by the street crew, and the equipment used, to clean up the street, with a one hour minimum. Atty. Martin added that the fine could be a minimum of one hour up to a maximum of the actual time required for the street crew to clean up the street.

Greg Shaffer made the motion to adopt Resolution A-2003 including the penalties established for 50-17 and 59-26. Greg Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote to accept A-2003 with changes and additions as stipulated. All ayes.

SUN Bank loan for Pineknoller Park – tabled until more information is received.

## **Parks & Recreation – No report**

### **Personnel**

Mr. Wolfe appointed Mr. Ditton as the Chairman of the Police Contract Negotiation Committee. Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Wolfe will also serve as members of the committee. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Shaffer accepted the appointments.

### **Property**

The snow guards have not yet been installed on the Second Street Building. Brickhill Construction will be contacted for a date when they may be installed.

### **Public Safety**

- Mr. Shaffer stated that the Fire Police have requested that the council reappoint them to another term. Eight names were brought to the Council for reappointment. Mr. Shaffer moved to do so. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The Fire Police are Jonathan Apple, Herbert Gottshall Jr., Herbert Gottshall, III, Thomas Croft, Robert Ciotti, Budd Reader, William Farone, and Gary McNeir.
- Mr. Ditton asked if the blocks have been removed from Orange Street. Mr. Ruane stated that some have been removed. However, the construction crew does not have the equipment to move them. They plan to move them when the equipment becomes available.
- The “No parking” signs are no longer posted on the even numbered side of Sixth Street between Sheetz Avenue and Orange Street. Mr. Troxell will ask the street crew to post signs.
- Mr. Wolfe requested that the Property Committee obtain street signs for the intersections along Duke Street.
- A dumpster is located on the property at the corner of Water and Queen Streets and has been there for some time. It was stated around the dumpster is garbage like an old mattress. Mr. Wolfe requested that the code officer contact the property owner.

## **Old Business**

1. Resolution B-2003 (Adopts the Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan as recommended by the Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee)  
Mr. Wolfe suggested that the resolution be tabled until the next council meeting. Council discussed the subject. Mr. Ditton provided the council members with questions he has concerning the resolution. He stated that the mitigation plan depicts two “unnamed” streams. He would like the streams to be named. Council agreed to review the plan for the next meeting. Discussion of the streams ensued.
2. Newsletter articles are due on January 10<sup>th</sup> for the winter newsletter.
3. Mr. Wolfe requested that Atty. Martin review the borough’s noise ordinance to determine what action the council should take to permit the Keystone Forge to begin work at 6:00 a.m. Atty. Martin has agreed to do so.
4. Mr. Ditton asked the mayor if she has more information about a memo regarding a police grant that was distributed to the council several weeks ago. She will have more information for the next meeting.
5. Mr. Ditton asked if the police procedure manual has been revised. Mr. Shaffer stated that Chief Redington is working on the manual.
6. The Personnel Committee is meeting on January 7, 2002 with the Police Department to discuss changing shift hours.
7. Mrs. Groninger stated that several other municipalities have increased their millage rates for the property tax for 2003. She added that the dollar amount collected for one mill of tax

varies among municipalities, as does property assessment values. An example given was that one mill of tax in the Borough is approximately \$13,000. In Selinsgrove, one mill of tax equals approximately \$24,000.

### **New Business**

#### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the minutes of December 17, 2002. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Troxell made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mrs. Groninger moved to reappoint the Borough personnel not under union contract. They are Paul Ruane and Jim Tamecki, Code Enforcement Officers, Jane Sanders-Ressler and Mary Walden, part-time office clerks, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Sylvia Bucher, office cleaning person, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. The pay rates are to be at the 2003 budget rates. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to appoint Larson Design Group, Inc. as the Borough engineer for the 2003 calendar year. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. 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.
5. Mr. Ditton asked about the memo from Max Inkrote about the Storm Water project. Mr. Inkrote will be contacted by the Borough Secretary for more information.
6. Mr. Carl asked if the Kiwanis Club is still volunteering at the Recycling Center. It is not known whether they have decided to continue to volunteer their services.
7. The gates for the Recycling Center have been received; but the weather has been too cold for them to be installed.
8. Mrs. Groninger mentioned a thank-you note that was received from Mr. Jack Hetrick, thanking the Borough workers and Mayor for the work done to put up the Christmas decorations.
9. Mayor Brosius has received a letter from the State Association of Boroughs, offering to formally recognize the Borough on its 175th anniversary.

Mr. Troxell moved to adjourn. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
January 21, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

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. Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The five (5) visitors present introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment was offered at this time.

**Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius read a Proclamation, declaring the Month of January as Blood Donor Month:

“Whereas, in the American Red Cross Services, Northeastern Pennsylvania Region, there is a need for 100,000 units of blood per year for area patients, and there is a need for additional healthy, regular volunteer donors to join the ranks of those who already give of themselves so generously.

Therefore, I, Gretchen Brosius, Mayor of Northumberland, hereby proclaim the month of January as “Volunteer Blood Donor Month” for Northumberland and urge all citizens to pay tribute to the humanitarian efforts of blood donors. I urge citizens in good health to donate regularly. I also urge all civic and service organizations and businesses, if they have not already done so, to form blood donor groups to provide blood for others.

In Witness Thereof, I have here set my hand and seal to be affixed this 10<sup>th</sup> day of January 2003.”

Mayor Brosius reminded everyone present that the Bloodmobile will be in Northumberland on Thursday, January 23, 2003.

- The Downtown Revitalization Committee met. Plans are proceeding for the renovations in King Street Park. Mayor Brosius said they are moving ahead with the plans for a Memorial Garden, Fountain, and Community Bulletin Board.

The committee plans to meet on January 27, 2003 to discuss a “history” day in the Borough.

- The Pineknoller Days Association met last Thursday. More information will be forthcoming about a check presentation.
- Mayor Brosius reported that Ford Motor Company will be replacing the gas tanks in the Crown Victorias. There will be no cost to the Borough.
- On the 19<sup>th</sup> of January Mayor Brosius swore in the Fire Police. She thanked them for the services they perform.
- The Kiwanis Club will hold a Spaghetti Dinner on February 22<sup>nd</sup> from 4:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. at the Kiwanis Building to benefit the Second Street Community Center.

Mayor Brosius’s report is on file in the Borough office.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark informed the council that the Authority will be meeting on Monday night. She has nothing new to report at this time.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher informed the Council that he will not be present at the next council meeting on February 3, 2003, because he will be on vacation.

Mr. Fisher displayed a street sign that the street crew is suggesting be used. Council discussed the signs. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Troxell stated that the Property and Street Committees will meet to arrive at a conclusion regarding the signs. A meeting date will be determined.

### **Recycling**

Mr. Phil Hallden, President of the Recycling Committee, explained that the volunteer groups at the Liberty Glass Recycling Center are the Lions Club, the Boy Scouts, AYSO, and the Ski Club. AYSO and the Ski Club do not have enough volunteers and may not be able to continue as is. Mr. Hallden stated that garbage is still being dumped at the center. Mr. Hallden stated that the income to the center is down. Mr. Hallden is suggesting that a gate be installed and the drop-off be eliminated. He would also like to see newspapers eliminated from the pick-up. Aluminum and cardboard are the only items that generate money at this time.

Other problems at the center were discussed. Mrs. Groninger said that people have been dropping off their Christmas trees at the Recycling Center. Christmas tree pick-up was to end on January 15<sup>th</sup>. It was also mentioned that residents in Point Township utilize the center and that Point Township should be approached for assistance in running the glass center.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to have the gate painted, rent a machine to drill the holes in the ground, and have the gate installed. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Council discussed the location of the gate. Mr. Hallden stated that a new lock should be purchased and keys re-

issued. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger vote aye; Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Bowersox asked if the volunteers have a problem with the cardboard when it gets wet. Mr. Hallden responded that it does not matter if the cardboard is wet or not.

Mr. Wolfe read from a letter from the Recycling Committee. They are requesting that the police fine anyone who dumps garbage at the center. Chief Redington stated that a sign should be posted to that effect.

Mr. Hallden suggested changing the hours of operation. The current hours are Monday and Wednesday evenings from 5:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. and Saturdays from 8:00 a.m. to noon. Discussion. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to change the recycling hours to Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon and Wednesday evening from 6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. The motion includes that the Borough will post a sign with the hours and a statement prohibiting drop-off at any time when the center is closed, subject to a fine. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he is not voting against anything that the Recycling Committee wants to do. His vote is because no one in the borough is willing to volunteer, except for about 5% of the residents. Mr. Wolfe feels that the borough is heading toward not having recycling because, in addition to people putting garbage out there, enough people don't want to volunteer to help and the committee and council must appease them, once again.

Mrs. Groninger recommended that a new lock be placed on the chain until the gate can be installed.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion that recycling collects three items only, aluminum, cardboard, and clean white glass, for curbside and drop-off. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion passed 5-2. If the items are not sorted, the items should not be picked up.

Mr. Hallden stated that at one time, the recycling group was being paid for newspapers. They currently are working on having an outlet for magazines.

Council discussed whether or not recycling is mandatory in the borough. According to the state, the borough is not mandated to recycle; however the borough has an ordinance that provides for mandatory recycling. Mrs. Groninger stated that this ordinance has never been enforced.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to repeal the mandatory recycling ordinance. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion ensued in reference to the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. The motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

Mayor Brosius asked if anyone has researched recycling in other towns. Mr. Shaffer said that Union County recycles countywide. Mr. Wolfe added that the Borough Secretary has

contacted other communities. Mrs. Bowman stated that the borough has one of the last volunteer groups. Most communities charge a fee for recycling and the work is done by the municipal employees. Discussion ensued. Council set the effective date as March 1<sup>st</sup>. By that time, the gate is to be installed, and only the three approved items will be recycled.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

- Mr. Paul Ruane reported that he conducted seven rental unit inspections last week.
- Mr. Ruane spoke with the solicitor, Mr. Martin, about doing something with the Herlinger property. Mr. Martin is going to check if there is a lien on the property.
- Branchview Development is going to start Phase IV of the development. The owner is reviewing the Stormwater Ordinance to try to comply with the ordinance. Mr. Ruane has asked the solicitor if the borough may enforce the ordinance for developments that had been approved several years ago.
- The gas company plans to install a new line on Orange Street, from 7<sup>th</sup> Street to Priestley Avenue. Discussion ensued in reference to paving.
- Mr. Ruane presented the plans for subdivision by Douglas and Brenda Shumaker. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the subdivision plan. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. 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.
- Mr. Ruane presented the plans for a subdivision by Verizon on Front Street. The council had questions about what is underground between the Verizon building and Mr. Carl's house. Another question arose about access to the rear of the Carl home in case of a fire. Mr. Wolfe tabled the vote on the Verizon Plans until all questions are answered.
- Mr. Wolfe asked Mr. Ruane if the dumpster is still situated on the property at the corner of Queen and Water Streets. The dumpster is being used for the tenants' garbage. This property has no back yard, so the dumpster is situated in the front yard. It was suggested that the tenants could have separate garbage cans. Council discussed how the dumpster was being emptied and if a truck had to drive over the sidewalk. The dumpster may be on wheels. Mrs. Groninger made a motion that the property owner is to remove the dumpster from the front yard. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl vote aye; Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Ditton voted no. The motion carried 4-3.

### **Executive Session**

An Executive Session was held at 8:15 p.m. The council meeting was reconvened at 8:30 p.m. A personnel issue was discussed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Streets**

Mr. Troxell asked who would be able to provide help with the piggyback program in purchasing a new truck. The 1996 truck is in the garage. Mr. Bowersox stated that the Borough could buy the truck under the state contract, at the state rate. Mr. Redington stated that the Borough would need to contact an authorized dealer. Ford Motor Company currently has the state contract.

#### **Finance**

SUN Bank loan for Pineknott Park

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council needs to see the amortization tables for the current loan and the proposed loan as refinanced. The issue was tabled until more information is available.

#### **PennVest loan**

The payments will begin on February 1<sup>st</sup>. The amount of the monthly repayment is currently \$5,316.50.

#### **Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Carl informed the council that the Liberty Splashland website is up and running. He invited everyone to visit the site at [www.Libertysplashland.com](http://www.Libertysplashland.com).

Mrs. Groninger commended Mr. Carl for the amount of time and effort he has put into the pool project.

#### **Personnel**

The Personnel Committee met with the police. The police are exploring the possibility of 10-hour shifts. No agreement has yet been reached. Mrs. Groninger stated that she felt it was a good meeting. Others agreed.

#### **Property**

##### **Snow Guards at the Second Street building**

The Brickhill Construction Company has received the snow guards. The contractor has learned that the manufacturer recommends that since the snow guards are double sided with adhesive, the temperature must be warm for several weeks before the guards are installed. Otherwise, it would be necessary to drill holes in the roof to install the snow guards and the contractor does not recommend this method. Mrs. Groninger requested that the contractor be contacted as soon as the weather permits to have the guards installed.

##### **Second Street Community Center**

Mr. Redington met with Gary Wolfe, the architect, yesterday afternoon. The committee met last evening. A copy of the preliminary plans will be in the Borough office for council to peruse. Mr. Redington suggested that the council members determine how they would like the building to be utilized. Mr. Wolfe gave a copy of the plans that he had developed several years ago for the school district to the committee. Mr. Carl commented that he would like to see more open space for a playground area. Mr. Bowersox asked about the heating. Mr. Redington replied that Mr. Wolfe has suggested that the building have separate heating units. Mr. Wolfe has suggested that the Borough buy large heating units which will run more efficiently. The committee is meeting with the architect on the first Monday in February. Mr. Bryan Wolfe suggested that the council members put suggestions in writing for the February 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. Council discussed the fact that a council meeting is also scheduled for February 3<sup>rd</sup>. Funding sources for the renovation were discussed. No more information from the state has been forthcoming regarding the money that had been approved for renovations. A capital campaign is in the works. Mr. Redington stated that the committee felt that it would be prudent to ask representatives from Point Township for assistance with the project. The committee would stand as is and report back to the council. The council approved his request.

#### **Public Safety**

The EMA has requested a meeting. Mr. Shaffer will contact the EMA to schedule the meeting.

## **Old Business**

1. Resolution 2003-B (Adopts the Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan as recommended by the Flood Hazard Mitigation Planning Committee)  
Mr. Wolfe made a motion to adopt Resolution 2003-B. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Council discussed who would be responsible for the obligations outlined in the plan. Mr. Shaffer suggested that the council notify the 43 residents who live in the flood plain, ask for six volunteers to serve on the committee, before the council votes to adopt the resolution. Mr. Wolfe removed his motion from the table. Mr. Shaffer moved to notify the 43 residents who live in the flood plain, and ask them for six volunteers to serve on the Flood Hazard Mitigation Committee. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. The motion carried 6-1.
2. Mr. Wolfe stated that the newsletters should be out next week.
3. Mr. Ditton asked if Max Inkrote was contacted about the letter he sent to the Borough stating that the storm water project issues had been resolved. Mr. Ditton asked for an explanation of what “resolved” meant, because some of the issues have not been fixed.
4. Mr. Ditton stated that the blocks on Orange Street have not yet been moved. Mr. Ruane had visited the site and requested that the blocks be moved. He explained that he has been busy with rental inspections and has been attending classes in Harrisburg. He has not had time to get back up to Orange Street. Mr. Wolfe asked if Jim Tamecki has been working part-time. Mr. Ruane stated that he is teaching school, but will be working for the borough this summer, when the code office will be busy with the sidewalk project. Mr. Wolfe stated that if necessary, additional part-time help should be hired.
5. Mrs. Groninger asked if the borough has heard from the insurance carrier regarding the police incident in Point Township. The insurance carrier had informed the borough that we do not have coverage for out-of-town incidents. It was explained that the borough has a policy from a separate company for the police. Council also discussed the Fire Police and their attendance at activities in Sunbury. Mr. Redington stated that the Fire Police are paid for attending these activities. Mrs. Groninger requested that the insurance company be contacted for confirmation that the borough’s insurance does cover borough employees and volunteers, such as the Fire Police and Firemen, for incidents that occur out of the borough.

## **New Business**

### **Requiring Council Approval**

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes for January 2, 2002. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the bills. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The motion carried 7-0. General Fund bills total \$12,765.69 and Liberty Pool bills total \$177.23.

3. Permission was requested to transfer \$20,000 from the Liquid Fuels Account to the General Fund as reimbursement for part of the E. J. Breneman bill (cold-in-place recycling on Priestley Ave.) Mr. Wolfe explained that the difference between the amount of street tax collected in 2002 and the amount of the bill for the cold-in-place recycling was over \$20,000. The Liquid Fuels fund has been reimbursed through the Penn Vest loan for money spent on the storm water study. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to transfer the \$20,000; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.
4. The No. 1 Fire Company has requested to have the \$5,000 Truck Fund transferred to their account. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to transfer the funds; Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, all ayes; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion carried with a 5-2 vote.
5. The Selinsgrove Borough offered \$17,500 to the Borough for the purchase of the snowblower. Mr. Shaffer moved to negotiate at a price of \$18,750. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer withdrew his motion and moved that the Borough accept the \$17,500 for the snowblower with the money to be used, short-term to pay bills, and long-term, toward a truck for the Street Department; Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Carl voted aye. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, voted no. Motion passed 4-3.
6. An Act 14 Notice Letter has been received from the Pennsylvania American Water Company regarding Orange Street Water Line Replacements, at Water and Orange and Front and Orange. Mr. Ditton made a motion to accept the Act 14 notification and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion passed unanimously.
7. Mike Schneider has contacted the Code Officer concerning an electrical failure and resulting damages at his residence on Riverview Drive. Peters Appliance has provided information about the cost to replace the appliance. Pfeiffer-Naginey has been given the information. Mr. Wolfe tabled the issue until the insurance company responds.
8. Mr. Douglas Shumaker has requested, in writing, that the borough vacate an unopened portion of Susquehanna Street and return the land to the adjacent property owners. Council discussed the fact that they do not wish to abandon or give away any borough right-of-ways. No motion was offered. Mr. Shumaker will be informed of the council's policy not to abandon borough property.
9. Correspondence from Gary Shirk regarding the trees in the downtown area will be referred to the Shade Tree Commission.
10. Mr. Wolfe stated that the next borough council meeting will be on Monday, February 3, 2003. The Second Street School plan and the Noise ordinance will be discussed. The council will also ask the solicitor to draft legislation to amend the recycling ordinance. Mr. Wolfe stated that he will be absent from the February 18<sup>th</sup> meeting because he will be on vacation.

11. Mrs. Groninger announced that the Property Committee will meet on January 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.
12. Mr. Troxell scheduled the Street Committee meeting for Tuesday, February 4<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
13. Mr. Carl requested permission to apply to two funds for money for the pool. Council approved his request.
14. Mr. Bowersox stated that the work being done by a utility company behind the Moyer property on Fifth Street is creating a water problem on his carport. Mr. Troxell stated that the water company is working being the property and is not finished. Mr. Moyer should contact the water company with his complaints.
15. Mayor Brosius asked if responses are provided to those individuals who contact the borough with concerns. One example offered was if Mr. Shirk would be informed that his letter would be referred to the Shade Tree Commission. Council expects that replies will be sent by the Borough Secretary.

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 9:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

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**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
Monday, February 3, 2003

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 Bryan M. Wolfe, Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger and Don Troxell. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Robin Martin, Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilmen Greg Shaffer and Don Troxell were absent.

The 11 visitors introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

- Ms. Karen Nogle, Co-chairman of the Revitalization Committee announced that the History subcommittee has set May 10, 2003 as History Day in the Borough. Activities are being planned for the King Street Park and other settings in the Borough. The History Committee will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Kiwanis Building. Ms. Nogle asked if the Borough is covered for liability insurance for this event. Atty. Martin advised that the insurance carrier be notified, by letter, to ensure that the event is covered.

Ms. Nogle requested that all Borough parks be reserved for May 10, 2003, for the activities, until the committee has developed the plans further. She also requested use of the Second Street School in case of inclement weather.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to reserve the parks and the Second Street School for May 10<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Plans are underway for the refurbishment of the southern end of the park.

The Revitalization Committee has a scheduled meeting for February 10, 2003 at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Building.

- Mrs. Ruth Ford informed the council that plans are being made to build a ramp in front of the Priestley Chapel. She stated that the work would be started this spring. Mr. Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, stated that a building permit

would be required. He added that the accessibility code might supersede the Historical Code and they must meet the handicap rules and regulations. Mrs. Ford does not think that the building is on the National Registry. She stated a Chapel group runs the Church.

Atty. Martin advised that the group should submit an application for a permit. At that time, the Borough will review it to determine if it meets all codes.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius met with the Fire Board. They are requesting monthly Public Safety meetings. Mayor Brosius has referred the request to Mr. Shaffer.

Sgt. Kriner has submitted a resignation letter for the police dog. Mayor Brosius stated the dog has served the Borough well for 13 years. He was retired as of January 24, 2003. She also stated her appreciation to Sgt. Kriner for caring for the dog.

Mrs. Brosius will be attending a meeting of the Pineknott Days Committee on February 20<sup>th</sup>. At this time the committee will be presenting a check for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street School Project.

The Kiwanis Club is planning a Spaghetti Dinner to raise funds for the Second Street School. The dinner is scheduled for February 22, 2003 at the Kiwanis Building. The Kiwanis Club has invited the Second Street School Committee and council representatives to their meeting on February 20, 2003 to present a check for the capital campaign for the Second Street School.

Mr. Wolfe has discussed the monthly Public Safety Committee meetings with Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Carl. They are in agreement to hold the meetings, providing an agenda is prepared in advance.

Mr. Bowersox asked if two parking meters had been damaged by Borough equipment. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Council might want to look into removing the meters if other funding can be obtained to replace the money generated by the parking meters.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the Sewer Authority is planning to re-bid the sewer work. They are currently televising the Orange Street sewer line. Council discussed the streets that are to be paved in 2003. The Street Committee will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. Discussion continued in reference to Orange Street.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Don Keeley stated that a water main broke at the Recycling Center last Friday evening. The water company would like to replace the 8 inch line with a 5/8 inch line. Mr. Bowersox stated that several years ago it was suggested that a small line replace the larger line and he thought it had been done at that time.

Mrs. Groninger thanked the crew for putting up the numbered street signs on Duke Street and for placing signs at the Recycling Center.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

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

Mr. Ruane presented the Verizon plan for the Council's review. The company has plans to install a ladder on the side of the building, as per the zoning variance.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to approve the Verizon plan. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the size of a street cut on Third Street. Mr. Ruane explained that the application was for a 3 x 5 foot cut. However, the company broke an unmarked borough pipe and needed to make a larger cut. They replaced the pipe at no charge, so no additional permit fee was requested.

Mr. Ruane stated that the council should revise the ordinance that refers to the latest BOCA code. BOCA has now become the International Code.

The American Water Company has requested that the Borough designate locations for fire hydrants on Madison and Truman Streets. Mr. Ruane will respond to their request.

Mr. Ruane asked about the sidewalk ordinance. If property owners do not install sidewalks by October 31<sup>st</sup>, the council has determined that the borough will have a contractor install the sidewalks and charge the property owner, placing a lien on the property if payment is not made.

Mr. Ruane asked if any liens are on the Herlinger property. Atty. Martin stated that there are no liens on the property at this time. The property owner is in a nursing home. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Roll has spoken with Mr. Ruane about the Branchview Development. He is reviewing the borough's stormwater ordinance and will contact the borough's engineers.

Mr. Ruane has obtained a copy of an ordinance from Bloomsburg that regulates BYOB establishments. He is recommending that the council review this ordinance.

Mr. Wolfe recommended that the Council review this ordinance, the recycling ordinance, the noise ordinance, and an ordinance to revise the name of the BOCA code to the International Building Code.

Mr. Carl moved to develop an ordinance to revise the name of the BOCA code to the International Building Code. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed 5-0. Atty. Martin will revise the ordinance.

### **Executive Session**

An Executive Session was held at 7:50 p.m. for personnel and legal issues.

The council meeting was reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Streets - No Report**

### **Finance**

1. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Borough may obtain a \$25,000 short-term Loan from the SUN Bank at 2.25%.  
Mrs. Groninger made a motion to obtain the short-term loan with the condition that the loan is repaid as quickly as possible. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger amended her motion to state that this loan, if needed, be repaid by June 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion passed 5-0.
2. SUN Bank loan for Pineknotted Park  
Mrs. Groninger made a motion to refinance the Pineknotted Park loan with SUN Bank at an interest rate of 3.79% and to pay the fees associated with the refinancing up front. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion passed 3-2.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Carl introduced representatives from Coca Cola who had prepared a proposal for the Liberty Pool. The company is proposing several contract options. Mr. Carl stated that the borough is not prepared to make a decision on the contract at this time because another company is planning to submit a proposal.

The Parks and Recreation Committee is planning a contest in the elementary and middle schools to raise funds for Liberty Splashland.

Tim and Michelle Fink have tendered their resignations from the committee. Mr. Carl made a motion to accept their resignations with regret. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl and Mr. Ditton voted Aye. Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 4-1.

The Liberty Splashland website is up and running. The web page can be reached at [www.libertysplashland.com](http://www.libertysplashland.com). Pool activities and events will be listed on the website.

### **Personnel**

The Personnel Committee will meet on February 11, 2003 at 6:00 p.m. The meeting will be advertised as a closed meeting.

### **Property**

Mrs. Groninger reported that the street crew has installed the numbered street signs along Duke Street. The sign at Third Street is not completed.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the gate has not yet been installed at the glass center.

A “No Parking” sign has been erected on Sixth Street.

Mrs. Groninger reminded the council that in 2001 the Property Committee recommended that the playground space at the Second Street School remain as open space.

Snow guards have not yet been installed at the Second Street School building.

## **Public Safety**

### Old Business

#### 1. Second Street School

Mr. Redington reported that the committee is meeting tomorrow evening with the architect, Gary Wolfe. He asked if the council has any suggestions pertaining to the preliminary drawings. Mr. Wolfe stated that he will support the plans that the committee approves. Mr. Ditton stated that he is not in favor of installing parking spaces on the open space area. Mrs. Groninger added that parking is not a problem in this neighborhood and she is not in favor of a parking lot on the playground. Mayor Brosius stated that the Recreation Committee is also not in favor of a parking lot in this space. Mr. Carl said that the Recreation Committee is making a recommendation that the parking be moved to a different location than that designated on the preliminary drawing, if it is necessary to have parking on the lot. Mr. Redington stated that a compromise has been suggested preserving the open space, with the thought in mind that if an event is planned that requires a lot of parking space, the area be constructed so that cars can be parked in the paved area. This would not be an everyday occurrence, but would be available if necessary. Mr. Wolfe stated that at the first March council meeting, the council would decide on the final plans for the Second Street building. Mrs. Groninger questioned the section that is on the design plans for the Police Department uses. She stated that in order to access that part of the building, it would necessitate using another door besides the most convenient door to the street. Mr. Ditton stated that he felt that the “public area” of the building should be opened before the Police Department area.

#### 2. Pineknotted Park Ball Field

- a. Mr. Redington stated that the Ball Field group would like permission to file a grant application to a local foundation for funding for the field.
- b. Mr. Carl stated that the group would like permission to apply to the Anselmo Fund for the difference between the budgeted amount that has been approved by council toward the cost of the lawn mower and the actual cost of the lawn mower, dirt for the infield, a weed whacker, and to re-erect the fence. Mr. Carl made a motion to grant permission for the group to apply for funding from the Anselmo Trust. Mr. Bowersox seconded the

motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion carried 3-2.

- c. Mr. Redington requested permission for the group to apply to another private donation source for additional funding. The Degenstein Foundation would be approached to match other funds for the entire project. Mr. Carl made a motion to grant permission for the group to apply to the Degenstein Foundation for funding. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger stated that any requests of the borough crew for assistance at the park are to be submitted in writing to the borough office. She asked if the crew is aware that they may be needed at the park in the spring. Mr. Redington stated that he intends to give the crew as much advance notice as possible. Mr. Redington stated that he plans to make inquiries to the foundation as to what type of request they would be receptive to. Mr. Carl asked if the \$25,000 would finish the field. He added that he would like to see the field finished and available for use this year. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed 5-0.
- d. Mr. Bowersox posed questions regarding the excavation and the pilings. He was told that the engineer’s plans are available for his review in the Borough Office.

3. Recycling

Mr. Wolfe explained that he spoke with Bruce Brady, the Recycling Coordinator for Union County. Mr. Brady will be at the March 4<sup>th</sup> council meeting to explain the procedure used in Union County. Landfills are willing to come to municipalities to collect recyclables, including plastic. In Union County, the landfill takes all the recyclables except for the aluminum. The aluminum is collected and sold by the volunteers. Volunteers assist at the collection locations. Additionally, the community donates money to the volunteers. Mr. Carl stated that this method reduces the need for a volunteer organization to run the recycling program.

4. Flood Mitigation

The council tabled the vote on the Flood Mitigation Resolution until responses are received from the residents who were sent letters requesting volunteers to serve on the committee.

**New Business**

- 1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$9,672.43 and the bills to be paid with Liquid Fuel funds total \$949.35.
- 2. Debra Herman has requested a handicapped parking space at 359 Third Street. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to approve a handicapped parking space at 359 Third Street. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr.

Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion did not pass 1-4.

3. Council reviewed the draft of the Noise Ordinance. Atty. Martin stated that the times prohibiting noise need to be inserted in the document. The times would be from 6:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.

Mr. Carl moved to accept the first draft. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll Call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 4-1.

The second reading of this ordinance will be at the February 18<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

4. Mr. Shuman of the Shade Tree Commission has contacted the District Forester about the complaints received regarding the fruit on the trees in the downtown area. He plans to come in the spring to look at the shade trees and offer recommendations.
5. Mr. Bowersox pointed out that he has noticed several broken or loose parking meters downtown.
6. Mayor Brosius stated that to keep people from leaving before the end of the Executive Session it may be better to conduct the Executive Session at the end of the meeting, or let the people speak at the beginning of the meeting on the issues that are on the agenda. Mr. Wolfe replied that the Executive Sessions are held early in the meeting because several years ago, a council will hold Executive Sessions at the end of the meeting, reconvene the meeting, and vote on a “hot” topic after the public has left the meeting. This council has been conducting Executive Sessions early in the meeting, so any topic to be voted on is done before residents leave the meeting.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857  
Tuesday, February 18, 2003**

Vice President Charles “Bud” Ditton 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 Shaffer, Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, and Judith Groninger. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Atty. Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council President Bryan Wolfe and Councilman Don Troxell were absent. (Note: Mr. Wolfe was on vacation. Mr. Troxell arrived as the meeting ended. He had been called out on a business emergency.)

The three visitors present introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius thanked the Borough Crew for their work during the snow storm. The crew will be working downtown tomorrow to remove snow from the metered streets. The council and Second Street School committees are invited to the Kiwanis building on February 20<sup>th</sup> for a presentation of a check for the Second Street School campaign from the Pineknotters Days Committee. The Kiwanis Club is sponsoring a Spaghetti Supper on February 22<sup>nd</sup> to benefit the campaign, also.

The History group is meeting at the Kiwanis building tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m. The plans for a History Day on May 10, 2003 are progressing.

Mayor Brosius’s report is on file in the Borough office.

Mr. Bowersox asked what the cost of the additional equipment would be to clear the downtown area tomorrow. The cost is not available at this time.

**Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher announced that he and Todd Snyder have both obtained their CDL’s as required for borough crew workers.

Several members of the crew were to attend a seminar tomorrow. Due to the inclement weather, the seminar has been rescheduled for next week.

The crew will be working in the downtown area tomorrow to clear the streets. Council discussed locations where snow might be taken. No one is permitted to haul snow to Pineknott Park.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane was not present because he is out of town.

Mr. Carl stated concern about a house on Water Street. The wall is bowed out. Mr. Ruane will be informed about this concern.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

- Mr. Fisher stated that the 1996 truck is in the garage to have the transmission rebuilt.
- A truck and worker from the Sewer Authority helped to remove the snow. The borough had two trucks in operation. Council members commented on the good job that the crew has done. Mr. Fisher and Mr. Todd Snyder stated that several borough residents helped to clear snow from the streets and they expressed their appreciation for the help.
- The street committee met on February 4<sup>th</sup>. A written report is on file in the borough office.
- Mrs. Groninger said that the committee report states that she asked to have Fifth Street patched from Queen Street to King Street. She requested that the report be clarified to include the fact that the committee had originally suggested paving Fifth Street from Queen Street to Hanover Street. However, Mrs. Groninger suggested patching the street between Queen and King Streets rather than paving. The committee decided to patch that block and pave Fifth Street from King Street to Hanover Street. The committee report on file in the borough office has been revised.

#### Finance

No report.

#### Parks & Recreation

- The committee meeting for this Thursday is being rescheduled for next Thursday, February 27<sup>th</sup>.
- Volunteers are being sought for the two openings that exist on the committee.
- The floor at the Second Street building has been removed.

#### Personnel

- Chief Redington informed the council that Officer Fisher has resigned her full-time position with the borough. Officer Fisher would like to remain on the police roster as a part-time employee. The hourly rate for part-time officers is \$8.25.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept Officer Fisher's resignation as a full-time officer and change her status to a part-time position. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

- The police and teamster contracts are both to be renegotiated this year.

## Property

Mr. Ditton asked if the Second Street School should be roped off since the snow guards have not yet been installed. Chief Redington stated that the area would be barricaded off.

## Public Safety

- Mr. Shaffer announced that the Public Safety Committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. on March 5<sup>th</sup> in the Borough Building. The meeting will be advertised and is open to the public.
- Herb Gottshall, Emergency Management Coordinator, has provided the council with an updated Emergency Operations Plan. Since September 11<sup>th</sup>, only a portion of the Emergency Operations Plan is to be available to the public. Atty. Martin explained that corrective legislation to the Sunshine Law is to be passed since the entire plan is not available to the public.
- Mrs. Groninger has received a telephone call from a borough resident who is interested in obtaining a handicapped parking space. Mrs. Groninger suggested that a questionnaire be established to determine criteria for issuing the handicapped parking space. Discussion followed about the handicapped parking issue.

## Old Business

### 1. Second Street School

Mr. Redington reported that the meeting planned for last evening was cancelled due to the weather.

The Spaghetti Supper is scheduled for Saturday from 4:00 to 7:00 p.m. at the Kiwanis building. The Kiwanis Club is sponsoring the event to raise funds for the Second Street School campaign.

### 2. Pineknott Park Ball Field

Mr. Redington reported that the Army Corps of Engineers will not be available to help with the lighting project because they have been deployed overseas. Mr. Redington has contacted PPL. They are reviewing the work and may assist on a voluntary basis.

### 3. Flood Mitigation

Mr. Ditton moved to adopt the Flood Hazard Mitigation Plan, Resolution B-2003.

Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote - all ayes. The motion carried 5-0.

Information is being sought about how to name the unnamed streams in Northumberland.

### 4. Second reading of Ordinance 2003-1 (amends the Noise Ordinance)

Atty. Martin explained that the amendment to the Noise Ordinance allows for the use of equipment from 6:00 am to 10:00 pm. Any other time would require the issuance of a special permit. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2003-1. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – all ayes. The motion passed 5-0.

## New Business

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the January 21, 2003. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - all ayes. The motion carried 5-0.

2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt the minutes of the February 3, 2003 council meeting. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger noted that the borough has received a letter from Pfeiffer-Naginey Insurance Co., informing the borough that volunteers are covered by the borough's liability insurance when working at borough-sanctioned activities. The letter stipulates that a written list of volunteers should be prepared for each event. Mr. Shaffer recommended that volunteers "sign in" at the beginning of the day for every borough sponsored event, such as History Day. Roll call vote to adopt the minutes of February 3, 2003 - all ayes. Motion passed unanimously.
3. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion carried 5-0. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$12,469.91 and bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$7.57.
4. Mr. Bowersox suggested that the council thank the borough residents for helping one another during the snowstorm. He added that he was grateful for his neighbors' assistance. Others agreed that the assistance provided by residents to their neighbors during the snow storm is greatly appreciated.
5. Mayor Brosius, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Redington are planning to attend the check presentation for the Second Street School building from the Pineknott Days Association on Thursday at the Kiwanis Building.
6. Mr. Carl requested that the costs of the recycling program be provided to the council before the next meeting. All costs, including an approximate employee expense for the monthly curbside pickup, are to be included. It was announced that a recycling center in Montandon, near the railroad tracks, will accept recycling materials from borough residents. They accept all items except for magazines. Recycling will be a topic on the agenda for the March 4, 2003 council meeting.
7. Mr. Ditton stated that the borough is not required to apply for the general NPDES permit as suggested in a correspondence from the Northumberland County Planning Commission. Representatives from the County Planning Commission and the State DEP have been contacted and have stated that the Borough is not one of the communities that must complete this permit. A written letter from the Northumberland County Planning Commission stating that the borough need not comply is to be forthcoming.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned at 8:07 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
Tuesday, March 4, 2003, 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.

Point Township Supervisors Randy Yoxheimer, Monte Peters, Joe Stender, and Jim Neitz were present at this meeting, as well as fifteen additional visitors.

**Roll Call**

Council members in attendance were Bryan M. Wolfe, Paul Bowersox, Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Greg Shaffer. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Robin Martin, Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilmen Don Troxell was absent because he was on vacation.

**Public Comment**

Teresa Houtz, a resident of Duke Street, asked what parking would be available to her since the owner of Gooseberry’s plans to build an addition on the building and she will have no off-street parking at her residence. She added that several years ago Duke Street residents had petitioned the council for a location to park since the parking on Duke Street was being eliminated. Mr. Bowersox explained that the state had requested that the parking be eliminated on Duke Street. Mr. Eugene Brosius stated that at that time, the borough had agreed to provide shale to people who had ground for off-street parking. No one recalled the council agreeing to provide a location for off-street parking. An office employee had researched the minutes and could find no mention of any council voting on this issue. Mr. Wolfe offered that the borough office employees would try to find alternative space. Ms. Houtz thought that the borough had provided off-street parking for the residents at Fourth and Duke Streets at CVS. It was explained that CVS permits residents to park on their property. Mr. Ruane added that from Third to Seventh Streets, residents have a private alley behind their homes and park there.

**Larson Design Group, Inc.**

Mr. Max Inkrote stated that HRI, Inc. has agreed to return in the spring to make repairs to the storm water project. He explained that the work to be reviewed include the joints and areas of ponding. This will be when the weather breaks. Mr. Inkrote will contact the borough office when a date is scheduled. The sidewalk that had been broken at the Sassaman property on Fifth Street will also be examined at that time.

Larson Design Group, Inc. has reorganized. They now have three major divisions. Mr. Inkrote explained that the Civil Group is responsible to the municipalities, land development, etc. Each client has been assigned a Client Manager. Mr. Inkrote introduced Andy Keister, the borough’s

new Client Manager, to the council. Mr. Keister has a special engineer's license and a special surveyor's license. Mr. Keister supplied business cards to the council.

Mr. Inkrote stated that he will continue to be involved with the Storm Water Project until its completion.

Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. Keister would now be dealing with Pineknott Park. She pointed out that an error was made in the addition of a change order for the lights at the park. Mr. Keister replied that he would be involved with any new issues that may arise regarding the park.

Mr. Inkrote added that Mr. Keister is also familiar with the DEP regulations, such as the new MS4's (Municipal Separate Storm Sewer Systems). Mr. Ditton replied that the borough is not required to obtain a permit, per this regulation, and is anticipating correspondence from the county concerning this fact.

### **Recycling**

Mr. Wolfe explained that the council had voted two meetings ago to eliminate collecting all recyclables except for aluminum, clear glass, and corrugated cardboard, effective March 1. Since that meeting, he has talked with many people and has invited Mr. Bruce Brady, the Recycling Coordinator in Union County, to describe how Union County handles their recycling. Mr. Wolfe added that this may be an alternative for the borough. Although recycling in the borough is believed to be handled through "volunteer efforts", the borough had expenses of over \$17,000 relating to recycling in 2002. Mr. Wolfe recognized that several of the dedicated volunteers were present at this meeting and invited their comments as well.

Mr. Brady explained that Union County had two employees who handled the recycling. They sorted and collected recycling throughout Union County. The county would then sell the material to the Lycoming Landfill.

Mr. Brady obtained a state 902 grant to set up permanent drop-off sites in the municipalities throughout Union County. By doing this, and using volunteer labor, the county was able to trim about \$40,000 off of their annual budget. With the 902 grant, the county purchased roll-offs. Lycoming County would take the roll-offs, at their cost, for the recycling materials, except for aluminum. Mr. Brady explained the type of containers they use to collect and sort the recycling material. Aluminum is collected by the volunteers, who sell the aluminum for profit. Mr. Brady distributed brochures about their recycling program and the sites. Mr. Greg Shaffer explained that the equipment at Northumberland's present "recycling site" had been bought with grant money. He asked if a new recycling program was set up, would the money already invested in the equipment have to be "paid back." Mr. Brady explained that he had turned the county-owned equipment they had over to the municipalities for them to use. A new grant then could be applied for without "payback". Mr. Brady noted they have not had to site anyone for dropping off materials that could not be recycled. Mr. Carl asked how the community was instructed about what could be dropped off. Mr. Brady explained that volunteers were at the sites to instruct people what they could or could not take and brochures were printed to give the same information.

Mr. Tom Wandishin stated that the volunteers have operated the Liberty Glass Center two times a week and the number of volunteer groups has decreased to two. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Brady invited the council to visit the sites in Union County.

Mr. Bill Gross stated that Danley's has found tiles in the dumpster at the recycling center.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to eliminate curbside recycling, effective April 30<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl and Mrs. Groninger voted yes; Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. The vote was tied 3-3. Mayor Brosius voted yes; thus the motion carried 4-3.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius announced that the Pineknott Days Association has donated \$10,000 to the Second Street Community Center Capital Campaign. The mayor and several borough representatives accepted the donation on February 20<sup>th</sup>. The money is designated for roof repairs or heating.

At the February 25<sup>th</sup> Fire Board Meeting, someone asked if a private citizen may be on the negotiation team for the police contract.

There is a circus coming on March 8<sup>th</sup> to the Second Street auditorium.

The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs has offered to commemorate the borough's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of incorporation. It was suggested that the presentation be made on History Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Brosius requested that borough elected officials and employees have a picture taken professionally in front of the borough building. Mr. Wolfe suggested the picture be scheduled to be taken before second meeting in April.

All petitions for the May election must be filed by March 11<sup>th</sup>.

Two groups of third grader from the Priestley School will be touring the borough building on March 24<sup>th</sup> and March 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:15 pm. Council members were invited to be present.

Mayor Brosius reported the police are having car trouble. She and Chief Redington will be meeting at the borough office on March 15, at 1:00 p.m.

Mayor Brosius's report is on file in the borough office.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, announced that the 1996 truck has been repaired and is back in service.

The crew spent 7 hours to clean up the snow from the four blocks in the downtown metered area.

Mr. Fisher's report is on file in the borough office.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Paul Ruane reported on his activity for February 2003.

The plans for the handicapped ramp at the Priestley Chapel were presented.

The circus is arriving in town on Saturday morning. The shows are slated for 5:30 and 7:30 p.m. Mr. Ruane will check if the circus will have fire extinguishers and the seating. Mr. Ruane pointed out more exit signs are needed.

Mr. Bowersox asked if Mr. Ruane had inspected the potholes on Hanover Street between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Ruane will check on them.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m. for an Executive Session. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 8:40 p.m. Litigation and personnel issues were discussed.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the bids are out for the construction work planned by the Sewer Authority for this year and are due back on March 21<sup>st</sup>.

Mr. Bowersox requested that the Sewer Authority check on a manhole on Toulman Avenue which is painted green. He is not certain if it is one belonging to the Sewer Authority or another utility company, but it needs to be corrected.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

No report

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to purchase a new Dell computer for the office with the cost not to exceed \$1,100.00. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion carried with a vote of 6-1.

#### Parks & Recreation

No report

#### Personnel

The committee to negotiate the Police Contract will hold work sessions on March 19 and March 26 at 6:00 p.m.

The committee to negotiate the Teamsters Contract will be Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Wolfe. No work sessions have been scheduled yet.

Atty. Martin advised that since no action will be taken at these meetings, the meetings do not need to be advertised.

#### Property

Mrs. Groninger requested the authorization to bid on a used truck; a 1989, ¾ ton Dodge truck used by the Sunbury Housing Authority for plowing parking lots.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to bid on the truck; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion.

Discussion. The motion included the authorization for the bid not to exceed \$10,000 with the actual amount undisclosed. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Carl voted yes; Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted no. The vote was tied 3-3. Mayor Brosius voted yes; thus the motion carried with a vote of 4-3.

ADT Contracts: The borough office was notified that the price of the ADT contract would increase as of April 22<sup>nd</sup>. The five year contract ends on that date. However, the

contract automatically renews on an annual basis if notice is not given thirty days prior to the renewal date. ADT security systems are in the Borough Garage and the Police Evidence Lab. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to explore the cost to obtain security systems elsewhere for the two buildings. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer stated that the committee meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening has been postponed until April 2 at 7:00 p.m.

#### Resolution B-2003 (Emergency Operations Plan)

Council had questioned if the borough would be violating the “right to know law” since the public is only entitled to examine part of the Emergency Operations Plan. Atty. Martin stated that legislation is supposed to be passed to indicate that this does not violate the “right to know law”. He added that, currently, an exception exists which states, “Any document that would operate to the prejudice or impairment of a person or person’s reputation or personal security is exempt from the “right to know law”.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Resolution C-2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0.

### **Old Business**

#### 1. Second Street School

Mr. Redington informed the council that the committee met with the architect last evening and approved a tentative scheme of the building and a layout for the parking and playground. The drawing is in the borough office for the council’s review. Mr. Redington is requesting that an exit ramp be included on the drawing, where it now exists. He also stated that the basement area does not appear on the preliminary plan. Mr. Gary Wolfe, the architect will draw up formal plans for the building.

The committee is in the planning stage of a capital campaign and is discussing domain names. The name “secondstreetcommunitycenter.com” is available. Mr. Redington is requesting permission to obtain the rights to this name.

Mr. Ditton reviewed the preliminary drawing and questioned why the play area has been reduced for parking. Mr. Redington stated that the area would be utilized for play, except for when special activities are scheduled and additional parking is required. The area designated would be utilized at that time. Mrs. Groninger stated that the Property Committee had voted that the playground area remain open space. Mayor Brosius added that the proposed parallel parking along Second Street and an addition along the gymnasium also reduce the playground space.

Mr. Ditton moved that the playground is “sacred”. No parking is to be permitted on the playground except for special events. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ruane stated the Borough Codes specifies the number of off-street parking spaces required for an office building. Mr. Carl said that he is in favor of providing a playground area and would be very disappointed if one was not provided. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Shaffer voted no. The motion failed with a vote of 2-4.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to purchase the domain name as follows: secondstreetcommunitycenter.com. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 4-2.

2. Pineknott Park Ball Field

Mr. Redington informed the council that baseball will be played on the field this spring. Mr. Redington has prepared a grant that council had previously approved, for the President of Council's signature. Discussion.

Mrs. Groninger noted a \$20.00 addition error in a letter from Larson Design Group, Inc. for additional lighting material for the park. Mr. Bauder, of Larson Design Group, Inc., will be informed of the error.

3. Mr. Wolfe tabled the first reading of Ordinance 2003-2. This ordinance amends the references throughout the Borough Code of the BOCA Code to the International Building, Property and Maintenance, Electrical and Plumbing Codes, the replacement of the BOCA Code.
4. Atty. Martin introduced the resolution for the tax and revenue anticipation of the \$25,000 loan. The closing, originally scheduled for tomorrow, has been postponed because DCED approval must be obtained first. Council had previously approved the loan, but approval of Resolution D-2003 to borrow the money, as well as the certifications and exhibits that go along with this, is needed. Mr. Bowersox made the motion to adopt Resolution D-2003 and Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0. Mrs. Groninger had left the room at 9:27 p.m. and was not present for this one vote.

### **New Business**

1. Mrs. Helen Martin, River Valley Re-Max, and Dr. Ralph Cianflone  
Mrs. Martin addressed the council about the property numbered as 744-747 Penn St. Dr. Cianflone has entered into a purchase agreement for the property with the intention of constructing a commercial car wash at this location. Mrs. Martin said she understood that a change in the zoning ordinance permitting commercial car washes as a special exception to the zoning ordinance would be required. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to amend the zoning ordinance to allow car washes to be a permitted use as a "special exception" in areas zoned R-2. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0. Atty. Martin advised that if the ordinance is passed, a zoning board hearing would be required to approve the car wash as a special exception at this location. The time frame required for all approvals was estimated to be three months.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes of February 18, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0.
3. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$14,244.74 and the bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$780.09.

Mayor Brosius left the meeting at 9:40 p.m.

4. The Berwick Bass Association has requested permission to use the Hanover Street access on June 22, 2003 for a Bass Tournament. Council is not in favor of permitting use of the Hanover Street launch for fishing tournaments because local residents use that area for recreational purposes. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to permit the Berwick Bass Association to use the Point landing not the Hanover Street access. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion carried 5-1.
5. Mr. Wolfe asked for a motion to allow any group to use the Point for fishing tournaments without the council having to act on the individual requests. The only reason permission would not be granted would be if the date conflicted with a previously scheduled event. Use of the Hanover Street access for fishing tournaments would not be permitted. The borough office should maintain a schedule of activities at the Point and would have the authority to approve the requests if no other activity was scheduled. Mr. Shaffer made the motion proposed by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0.
6. Mr. Wolfe announced that articles for the spring newsletters should be submitted to the borough office by April 5<sup>th</sup>. Ads for the newsletter are due by March 28<sup>th</sup>. The newsletters are to be mailed to the residents the first week of May.
7. The Pennsylvania Water Company has sent a letter requesting that the borough agree to pay the monthly fees for new fire hydrants to be installed in the Branchview Development. This section of the development has not been completed and accepted by the council. Mr. Wolfe will review the letter.
8. Mr. Ditton explained that the borough has received a letter requesting permission to put a telecommunication tower on the water tower. Mr. Ditton said that, although the borough does not own the water tower, he is wondering if the borough should adopt an ordinance regulating telecommunication towers. Atty. Martin advised the borough could adopt an ordinance regulating provisions regarding telecommunication towers. Discussion. Atty. Martin said that nothing could be done about towers installed in the borough unless an ordinance is in place. Mr. Ditton made a motion to adopt an ordinance regulating Telecommunications towers in the borough. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjournment at 9:50 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857  
March 18, 2003**

Call 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 in attendance were Don Troxell, Bryan M. Wolfe, Paul Bowersox, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Greg Shaffer. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Robin Martin, Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Greg Carl was absent.

The eleven visitors present introduced themselves. Also present was a Boy Scout troop with 10 members present.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Robert Waltz asked if the borough has a list of the property owners who are exempt from installing sidewalks. Mr. Ruane informed him that the borough does have a list of properties and the public may obtain the information. Mr. Waltz asked if sidewalks are required in the developments on the hill. That area of the borough is not required to install sidewalks. Mr. Waltz felt that all areas of the borough should be treated alike. Council members stated that the hill section does not have curbing or street lighting. Mr. Waltz replied that street lights had been installed at one time and the residents requested that council have them removed. Mr. Waltz stated that he felt the area should have sidewalks and not be exempt.

**History Day Update - Karen Nogle**

Mrs. Karen Nogle explained that the History Day Committee is a subcommittee of the Downtown Revitalization Committee. She requested that the council approve that King Street, at the park, and a portion of Second Street be closed to traffic on History Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>.

She also requested permission to provide carriage rides throughout the borough for tours. The fire police will direct traffic. Approval was granted.

Mr. Ditton moved to close the streets around the park and at Second and King Street on May 10<sup>th</sup> from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mrs. Nogle asked what to do with the garbage that is collected that day. She was told that the Street Crew would pick up the bagged garbage on Monday and dispose of it.

Mrs. Nogle asked if the group could use the electricity at the park. Permission was granted.

A press release was provided to the council and Mrs. Nogle encouraged those present to view the History Day page on the Borough's website which was completed by Bryan Wolfe, council president.

### **Recycling**

Mr. Paul Zarick, Recycling Coordinator for Northumberland County, explained that, currently, Lycoming County picks up the newspapers, magazines, and clear glass from the borough. He stated that the borough would not be able to dispose of other types of recyclables at Lycoming County for 2003. Other types of recyclables may be accepted by Lycoming County in 2004.

Mr. Zarick commented that the cost of the recycling bins, as explained at the last borough council meeting, would be between \$2,000 and \$3,000 per bin.

Milton Borough's recycling program costs the borough approximately \$12,000 per year. The borough has 2,200 homes. The borough charges each home \$2.00 per month, \$24.00 per year. An outside service conducts the curbside pickup three days a month. Mr. Wolfe asked how the money is collected. Mr. Zarick did not know, but added that he could find out.

Mr. Shaffer asked if the equipment that the borough owns, which was purchased with grant money and matching funds from the borough, could be sold to another recycling program and the money used toward the purchase of the recycling containers. Mr. Zarick did not have the answer. Mr. Zarick explained that if the borough has equipment that is worn out, it stays there. He explained that the state is letting the municipalities "hang". The state has no money to help the municipalities repair or update the equipment. If a municipality is no longer recycling, the state requests that the money be refunded. However, if Northumberland has a drop-off point, the borough is still recycling and the state won't require funds to be repaid. The possibility exists of grants being restored by the state in 2004, Mr. Zarick added.

Mr. Zarick passed out copies of an article from a state government magazine, The Keystone, which stated that grant money for recycling is expected to be limited this year.

Mr. Zarick explained that the state has money leftover from 2000, 2001, and 2002. The state is looking to award grants from 2002 monies. Mr. Zarick has applied for the grant for Ralpho Township, Point Township, and Northumberland Borough for a leaf-collecting machine. He believes that the grant was approved, but is waiting to see if the state awards the money. Each municipality would receive roughly \$13,000. He learned that another municipality has also applied for the grant. The Borough Secretary asked

who authorized him to apply for a grant on behalf of the borough and he said that she did. She stated she did not authorize the application. When asked if the grant would require a “match”, Mr. Zarick replied that a 10% match, or \$1,300, would be required from each municipality if the grant is awarded.

Mr. Zarick suggested that the borough, Point Township, and the county form a partnership, appoint a committee and visit other communities’ recycling centers. After obtaining more information about other programs, the communities could decide how best to handle recycling.

Mr. Wolfe said the borough is looking for a solution where “on a day-to-day basis” the borough is not involved in recycling.” The borough is not mandated by the state to recycle because it is not large enough. Municipalities with populations of 10,000 and larger are mandated to recycle.

Council had voted at a previous meeting to discontinue curbside pickups in the borough at the end of April.

Township and borough officials have called a joint recycling venture a way to improve their working relationship.

Mr. Wolfe thanked Mr. Zarick for providing the council with the information.

Mr. Monte Peters asked Mr. Zarick about the 904 and 902 grants. He added that the township would be willing to match borough money contributed to the volunteer groups.

Mr. Bill Gross reminded the council that the volunteers made money from recycling before the borough began the curbside pick-up. Mr. Tom Wandishin stated that, at one time, newspapers brought in the bulk of the money.

Mr. Phil Hallden stated that at one time, eight volunteer groups worked at the Recycling Center. Approximately eight years ago, the council approved that the recycling group open their own bank account. Lycoming County picks up the newspaper at the center. At one time, Mr. Hallden stated that a contract had provided for the borough to be paid \$5.00 per ton for newspaper. He has not seen the contract and the borough is no longer being paid for the newspaper. The recycling group sold aluminum and cardboard to other sources. These are the two items that generate the most income.

Mr. Peters added that he was told that the recycling group was paid about \$4,500 for aluminum. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council has not been told how much money the recycling group earned. Mr. Peters said that he knows the amount because a member of the township board “cut the check” for the aluminum.

Mr. Wandishin stated that last year, the Recycling Committee paid out \$4,200 to the seven volunteer groups. This year, they expect to collect about \$4,000. They now have just three volunteer groups working at the center. The treasurer of the Recycling Group is Dave Smith.

If the borough and township decide to have Lycoming County pick up the recyclables, they would keep the money earned for the materials.

Mr. Wolfe stated that, if it costs the borough \$17,000 for the recycling group to earn \$8,000, that perhaps the borough could donate money saved by the borough from changing the method of recycling toward the volunteer effort, to make up for the funding that group would lose by having Lycoming County pick up the recyclables. Mr. Yoxheimer added that Point Township would also be willing to contribute to the recycling volunteers.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he and Randy Yoxheimer, Point Township Supervisor, would meet to discuss the options for the township and the borough.

Mr. Hallden asked why the borough is being charged for the garbage removal. He felt that the garbage should be removed without charge in exchange for the borough permitting the collector to be parked at the recycling center on Saturday mornings. Mrs. Groninger explained that the council requested that the garbage collector be present as a service to the borough residents and had agreed to the garbage removal charges.

Mr. Zarick stated that, effective July 1, 2002; two or more governments combined together would have a stronger chance to obtain grant money than an individual municipality would have.

Mr. Carl arrived at 7:45 p.m.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius welcomed the Boy Scout troop that was present. The troop volunteers at the recycling center. The troop leaders explained that the money earned at the recycling center is spent for camp costs.

Mayor Brosius has arranged for a professional photograph to commemorate the borough 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of incorporation to taken of the borough officials on April 15<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

Students from the Priestley School will be visiting the borough offices.

The Bloodmobile will be at the C.W.Rice middle school on March 24<sup>th</sup>.

She stated that the Revitalization Committee is looking into having the Vo-tech students do the masonry work for the Bulletin Board. The items to be moved at the Front Street end of the park are several shrubs, one tree, and the Gettysburg Address.

Mayor Brosius would like to put yellow ribbons on the trees in the downtown area and asked for volunteers to help with the project.

Mayor Brosius met with Chief Redington and has informed the council that one police vehicle is not operable. Mr. Ditton asked if two police vehicles are sufficient. Chief Redington replied that, based on the manpower, there are occasions when three are needed. Mr. Shaffer does not feel that two cars are adequate. At this date, the meter money is approximately \$4,000 short of the amount needed for the first payment to purchase a new police vehicle. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to allow the police to order a new vehicle with the first payment of \$13,626. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed 3-4.

Mayor Brosius's report is on file in the borough office.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher informed the council that the crew has started to run the street sweeper. A written report is on file in the borough office.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane reported that he rented fire extinguishers at a cost of \$25.00 for the circus. He also had exit signs installed in the building. He suggested that the borough purchase fire extinguishers to keep at the building permanently.

Mr. Ruane complimented Dave Brubaker for the renovation work that he has completed on several rental properties in the borough.

PG Energy is not going to install a new line on Orange Street since the borough has decided not to pave Orange Street this year.

Mr. Tamecki will be working as a part-time code officer once school ends.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the curb cut that is in front of a new house on Hanover Street. Mr. Ruane has contacted the builder of the house.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m. to discuss a litigation issue. The meeting was reconvened at 8:35 p.m.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Streets**

- The committee is working on developing a paving plan for Fifth Street with Don Free of Penn DOT.
- The gas company was working on Orange Street.
- Complaints have been filed with Penn DOT about the condition of Front Street.
- Mr. Bowersox reported that the borough crew covered a manhole on Toulman Avenue with cold patch. Mr. Ruane explained that it is one of the Sewer Authority's manholes and that they asked that it be covered.

#### **Finance**

The Liquid Fuels audit has been received. The funding should be distributed soon.

#### **Parks & Recreation**

- Mr. Carl asked if the walkway in the park should be contracted before the activities are planned in the park. He was given the approval to obtain pricing for the work.
- Mr. Carl invited everyone to visit the web site; [libertysplashland.com](http://libertysplashland.com). Pool information is on the website.
- Two openings exist on the Parks and Recreation Committee.

## **Personnel**

The Personnel Committee will hold a closed meeting to discuss the personnel contract. Atty. Martin advised that other council members are permitted to attend.

## **Property**

- Mrs. Groninger stated that she is planning to attend a Public Works seminar. She invited others to join her.
- The ADT contracts expire on April 22<sup>nd</sup>. If not cancelled, the contracts automatically renew for one year. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to cancel the ADT contracts for the borough garage and the police evidence lab, effective April 22, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried. Other security firms will be contacted for proposals.

## **Public Safety**

Mr. Shaffer announced that the committee would meet in April.

## **Old Business**

1. Pineknotted Park Ball Field  
Mr. Redington stated that the work is scheduled for the ball field. Larson Design Group, Inc. is working with DCNR on the proposed field lighting. Baseball is to be played on the field this year.
2. The first reading of Ordinance 2003-2 was tabled until the next council meeting. This ordinance amends the Borough Code with adoption of the International Building, Property and Maintenance, Electrical and Plumbing Codes to replace the BOCA Code.
3. Mr. Wolfe stated that [www.secondstreetcommunitycenter.com](http://www.secondstreetcommunitycenter.com) is now online.

## **New Business**

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2003 council meeting. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton asked if any action has been taken on the suggested ordinance to regulate telecommunication towers. Atty. Martin will follow up on the ordinance. The roll call vote was unanimous to approve the March 4, 2003 council meeting. Motion carried 7-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion to pay the bills. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wolfe requested that the old copy machine be removed from the borough office. Mr. Troxell pointed out that the water had been shut off to the recycling center due to a broken line. He asked if the water company should be contacted to replace the large line with a smaller one or if the meter should be pulled. Council felt that water should be available at the building. Roll call vote to approve the bills – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
3. Resolution E-2003 - Support of Troops  
Mr. Wolfe explained that this resolution is to profess the borough's support of the nation's troops. Mr. Groninger made the motion to support the troops; Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.
4. Resolution F-2003 changes the 2003 Fee Schedule. The fee for backfill inspections at a rate of \$25.00 per hour was added. It had been inadvertently

omitted when the original 2003 fee schedule was adopted in January. This is the same rate as last year. The other change is to change the term of "BOCA Code" to codebook since the "BOCA Code" is no longer in existence. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept Resolution F-2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

5. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to transfer \$2,000 from the UDAG fund to the General Fund to pay for architectural services at the Second Street School building; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion carried 6-1.
6. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to change the borough's insurance carrier for Liability Insurance to EMC, Inc. as recommended by Pfeiffer-Naginey, Inc. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
7. Mr. Wolfe requested that the articles for the Spring Newsletter be provided to the borough office by Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. The newsletter will be distributed in May.
8. Mrs. Groninger stated that the response from the water company regarding the lack of water pressure on the hill during power outages is not acceptable. Mr. Shaffer stated the Public Safety Committee would discuss the water company letter. Several residents who live on the hill have experienced low water pressure at various times.
9. Mrs. Groninger would like to attend the meeting of the Shade Tree Commission when scheduled. Ms. Weirick has contacted the borough office with the information that the commission would be meeting with a consultant from the Penn State to discuss the trees in the downtown area.
10. Mr. Carl asked if the tree that is in the middle of the walkway should be removed before a new walk is installed. The Shade Tree Commission should be consulted.
11. Mr. Ditton stated that he would like everyone to read the audit report and it would be discussed next meeting.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn. 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**  
Tuesday, April 1, 2003, 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, Mr. Robin Martin, Solicitor, Mr. Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Mr. Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Mr. Todd Snyder, Street Crew Member, and Mrs. Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Four members of the public were in attendance. Mr. Paul Bowersox, councilman, was absent due to illness.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Roy Sulouff, of Point Township, informed the council that the borough has several homes located on Orange Street and Orange Street Extension that have RR 2 addresses with a box number. Mr. Sulouff is coordinating the house numbers in the township and has offered to coordinate the house numbers in the borough. Mr. Sulouff stated that the borough would need to send a letter to the residents informing them of their change of address. If approved, the numbers on Orange Street Extension would be in the high 700’s and the addresses on Orange Street beyond Eighth Street would now be low 800 numbers on Cannery Road. Mr. Sulouff stated that the addresses were coordinated with 911.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to renumber the house addresses from the rural route numbers to house numbers on Orange Street to the borough line. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer prefers to keep the name of Orange Street to the borough line, rather than adopting Cannery Road for one block. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion passed 5-1. A letter will be sent to the post office and the Point Township Supervisors.

Mr. Shaffer asked if the rural route addresses on the Old Danville Highway were being changed. He added that borough residences on that road should also be changed to street numbers and requested that Mr. Sulouff coordinate the street numbers of these addresses. Mr. Sulouff agreed to coordinate the street numbers of the borough residences and those of Point Township on the Old Danville Highway.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that a generous check has been received from Geraldine Mertz toward the Memorial Garden refurbishment in the King Street Park. A check from Mrs. Mertz's sister is also forthcoming for the project.

The Fire Police have requested permission to attend the Union County Veteran's Parade in Lewisburg on June 28<sup>th</sup>, at 10:00 a.m. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to permit their attendance at the parade, providing that sufficient coverage remain in the borough for the Soap Box Race on the same day. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1.

Mayor Brosius announced that Officer Shannon Klopp has resigned, effective April 14, 2003. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to accept Shannon Klopp's resignation. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Mrs. Brosius questioned if the council would wish to elevate Mark Cassel, a part-time officer, to full time or to increase his hours to up to 39 hours a week for the present. Mr. Wolfe recommended that the topic be discussed in the Executive Session.

Mayor Brosius explained that two of the police vehicles had been out of service. At this time, one has been repaired. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to allow an application process to begin, through the Homeland Security website, for a police cruiser and two pick-up trucks to be used as utility vehicles by the fire department, to be titled to the borough. The vehicles, at a cost to the borough of \$1.00, would be paid for with advertising. Under this program, they are replaced every three years. Mr. Shaffer stated there is no guarantee of getting the vehicle and the borough reserves the right to make the final decision on the vehicle. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer stated that the advertising on the vehicles is not overwhelming. Both the Fire Department and the Police Department are interested in applying. Roll call vote - All ayes.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to replace the transmission in the police vehicle, the cost to be paid for with money coming from the General Fund. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted yes. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mrs. Groninger voted no. The vote was tied, 3-3. Mayor Brosius voted yes. The motion carried 4-3.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to rescind the prior motion, and to replace the transmission in the police car, to be paid for with money the parking meter fund. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell voted yes; Mr. Shaffer voted no. The motion carried 5-1.

Mayor Brosius announced that the borough has received a \$4,000 forestry grant, which will be used to purchase screen trees for along the sewer plant to improve the appearance of the entrance to the borough. She thanked the Borough Council President and Borough Secretary for their work in completing the application.

Mayor Brosius thanked Marilyn Attinger, Judith Ditton, Jodi, Emily, and Caitlin Baylor, and Ginny Waltz for helping to decorate the town with the yellow ribbons, and Mr. Snyder for the use of his office to cut the ribbons.

Mayor Brosius's report is on file in the borough office.

### **History Day**

Mr. Wolfe conveyed a request from Karen Nogle to make available the Second Street School gym for History Day on May 10<sup>th</sup> in case of rain. Mr. Wolfe made the motion to agree to the request. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher asked if the crew is to continue to haul glass to the Lycoming Landfill. Council advised that the glass is to be taken to the landfill. Clear glass is the only color to be accepted at the recycling center.

Mr. Fisher had questions about reinstalling street signposts in areas where there are sidewalks. Council requested that the Street Committee and crew determine a solution.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of March.

He provided an updated on the Uniform Construction Code. If the code passes by July 9<sup>th</sup>, the boroughs would need to opt in or out of the program by January 21, 2004.

Mr. Ruane is starting the process of taking the tests for certification.

Mr. Ruane has suggested that the borough require Contractor's permits. He added that Sunbury charges each contractor a yearly fee of \$60.00.

Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Ruane provide the council with a memo of a list of recommendations.

Mr. Ruane has inspected the three playgrounds in the borough. He made suggestions for ensuring playground safety.

### **Executive Session**

The council meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m. for an Executive Session. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 8:10 p.m. Litigation and personnel issues were discussed.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to elevate the part-time status of Officer Mark Cassel to full-time status. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer stated that two part-time police officers would remain on the force. The Mayor asked if she would have to cast her vote this evening, in case of a tied vote. Mr. Martin advised that he would research whether or not the Mayor may cast a tie-breaking vote on this matter. Mayor Brosius stated that Officer Klopp's resignation would not be effective until April 14<sup>th</sup> so there would be no need to vote on this matter until the meeting of April 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Shaffer rescinded the motion.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Streets**

Mr. Troxell stated that Mr. Free, of PennDOT's Municipal Services, would be contacted tomorrow about the Fifth Street project. Mr. Troxell asked if the borough could have gotten a better price on the salt needed by the street department if we would have gone through COG. The borough's salt contract is through the state contract. The COG has been seeking health insurance costs. Discussion ensued.

## **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark announced that the authority has opened the bids and they are lower than the bids received in the fall. The project is to go forward. Ms. Lark stated that Dan Wiand and Jack Fasold would like to meet with the Street Committee and Penn DOT representative when the Fifth Street paving project is being planned so the Sewer Authority can obtain the necessary risers.

Mr. Ruane asked if the Sewer Authority would conduct a preconstruction meeting for their project. She replied that he would be invited to it.

## **Committee Reports (continued)**

### **Finance**

The 2001 audit was received from Forgett & Kerstetter, P.C. Mr. Troxell made a motion to accept the 2001 audit; Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Carl stated that Coca-Cola has offered the Liberty Splashland a proposal for a long-term contract. Pepsi-Cola has chosen not to offer a proposal. The Coca-Cola proposal guarantees a payment of \$6,000 up front, with payment of annual commissions several years after that and an annual payment in years 6-10 for a 10-year contract with exclusive rights at the pool. Mr. Carl stated that the pool is guaranteed a payment the first year, and the years 6-10.

Mr. Carl made a motion to accept the offer from Coca-Cola. Mr. Carl stated the contract would begin the first day of the 2003 season to the last day of the 2012 season. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, voted aye. Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Carl received proposals from water slide companies for slide apparatus for the pool. He received 3 proposals, from Mid Atlantic Park and Playground, Morning Star Manufacturing, and Natural Structures. Atty. Martin advised that any items over \$10,000 must be put out for bid. Discussion. Mr. Carl will draw up a bid proposal.

Mr. Ditton stated that he was informed that a \$5,000 grant exists for upgrading the tennis courts and proposed that the council may wish to explore the grant for the tennis courts at the C. W. Rice Building. Mr. Wolfe volunteered to look into the grant.

## Personnel

Mr. Ditton scheduled a Personnel Committee meeting for 6:00 p.m., before the April 15<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

## Property

### ▪ Security System Contracts

Mrs. Groninger provided the council with a written committee report, recommending that Commonwealth Security of Sunbury be contracted to provide the coverage at the borough garage and borough police evidence lab. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to accept the proposal of Commonwealth Security of Sunbury. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion, Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton voted aye, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Carl voted no, motion failed to carry 1-5.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to counter the previous motion, and accept A-1 Lock and Key proposal for \$760.00. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - all ayes. The motion carried 6-0.

- Mrs. Groninger moved to change the locks to the borough office, leaving the outside door keys the same. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Shaffer voted no. Motion carried 5-1.
- Mrs. Groninger has been in contact with the Shade Tree Commission. The commission plans to check the trees in the downtown area and the tree that is in walkway in the park.

## Public Safety

The Public Safety Committee has a meeting scheduled for tomorrow evening.

## Old Business

### 1. Car Wash on Duke Street

Ms. Helen Martin of ReMax River Valley Realty and Dr. Ralph Cianflone had presented the council with a proposal at a prior meeting. Atty. Martin is planning to have paperwork to the County Planning Commission by Friday for comment. They have 30 days to respond. If there is no comment, a public meeting can be scheduled. Atty. Martin advised that if approved, the zoning map should be amended. Discussion. Dr. Cianflone provided the council members with a more detailed plan of the car wash.

- ### 2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2003-2. This ordinance amends the Borough Code. All references in the Borough Code to the BOCA Code would be changed to the International Building, Property and Maintenance, Electrical and Plumbing Codes. This new code replaces the BOCA Code. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Wolfe stated that this was the first reading and there would be a final reading in two weeks.

- ### 3. Mrs. Groninger feels that the borough should pursue the water pressure problem in the hill section of the borough. Mayor Brosius stated that residents at Jefferson and

Buchanan Streets have a problem with their water pressure. Mr. Troxell explained that during a power failure, the pumps go out. The residents on the highest section of the hill lose the most pressure because the people on the lower part of the hill are draining water out of the mains. Mrs. Groninger requested that the council send another letter to the water company, with a copy to the P.U.C., asking that they provide a permanent generator for the water.

4. Mr. Wolfe asked that all articles for the newsletter be submitted by Friday, April 4<sup>th</sup>. This newsletter will contain information pertaining to History Day on May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 9:00.

### **New Business**

#### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
2. Resolution G-2003  
This resolution supports the construction of the Routes 11/15 bypass. Mr. Schaffer made a motion to adopt Resolution G-2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0. Copies of the resolution will be forwarded to the area's legislative representatives.
3. American Red Cross Water Safety/ Learn to Swim Program  
A letter was received requesting financial support for the 2003 swim program. Discussion was held. The topic was tabled.
4. Central Susquehanna COG  
Council discussed the renewal of the borough's membership in the COG and the borough's voting representative and alternate. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to renew the borough's membership at a cost of \$150 for the year, and to reappoint Mr. Troxell as the borough's representative and Mrs. Groninger as alternate. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Troxell moved to adjourn the meeting.  
The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857  
Tuesday, April 15, 2003, 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 Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Robert Waltz, borough resident, was also present.

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment was offered.

**Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Brosius reported that Chief Redington has met with Representative Phillips concerning a traffic study. A meeting will be scheduled with Representative Phillips, Penn DOT, and the Council soon. Penn Dot will be contacted about the sign at Queen and Water Street.
- Mayor Brosius added that a full time officer for the Police department would need to be hired in the absence of Officer Klopp. She felt this issue would come up in the personnel meeting.
- Officer Fink will be attending a training class in June. The tuition fund will come out of the police education budget.
- Geraldine Mertz and Eleanor Mertz Seward donated money for the Memorial Garden in King Street Park. The work on the Memorial Garden has begun. The borough crew has taken down some of the trees and will remove other plants. Mayor Brosius ask what the wishes of the Council are for the tree in front of the gazebo. The answer will not be made now, but when one of the committees meets.
- Ms. Karen Nogle is requesting permission to ban parking on several streets during History Day for the Horse and Buggy rides. The committee is concerned with the safety of the passengers and horses. They would like to ban parking on King Street from the King Street Park to Fourth Street, on Fourth Street from King

Street to Orange Street, Orange Street from Fourth Street to Third Street, and Third Street from Orange Street to King Street. The carriage turnaround will be at King and Second Streets. The committee is requesting that parking is banned on these streets from 10:00 to 3:00 pm. The ban is preferred for both sides, but one side only would be acceptable. The Fire Police are volunteering to direct traffic. The question arose as what to do if they are called away for an emergency. Mr. Shaffer suggested that the ride should be closed down if the Fire Police are called away, adding that this would be the only safe thing to do.

Mrs. Groninger asked what happens when the Fire Police are at a school function or at a parade. Chief Redington replied that they usually do not take a full contingent. Mr. Shaffer stated there would need to be traffic control at 4 intersections.

Mr. Shaffer estimated that five fire police would be needed to direct traffic for the buggy ride.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to ban the parking on the streets, as requested. Discussion. Chief Redington stated that a horse and carriage is a legal vehicle, as such, they have the same right to travel the borough streets as an automobile. Mr. Wolfe withdrew his motion.

- Mayor Brosius mentioned she had received thank you notes from the 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classes at the Priestley Elementary School and would place them on the table for others to see.
- Mayor Brosius read an essay written by John Savidge, a student in fourth grade at the Priestley Elementary School. The essay about “Why I am proud to be an American Kid” was published in a Troll Book article.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher reported that the gate has been installed at the Recycling Center. He also stated that on Saturday no volunteers were present at the Recycling Center. Bags of recycling were left in front of the garage doors. Mrs. Groninger noted that on other Saturdays, the door to the garage was raised partway. Mr. Wolfe stated he was meeting with Randy Yoxheimer, one of the Point Township Supervisors, on Monday. One topic to be discussed will be about getting additional volunteers from Point Township.

The crew has suggested that 50 gallons of white and 50 gallons of yellow paint would be required to paint the crosswalks on Duke Street and the curbing. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger stated that police protection would be needed when the crosswalks are painted on Duke Street.

Mayor Brosius asked about the yellow line in front of the Senior Citizen building and the line in front of the Northumberland Christian School.

Mr. Shaffer requested that Mr. Fisher coordinate painting the crosswalks on Duke Street with Jon Apple and the Fire Police and stated that the work should be accomplished at night. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Fisher stated that the street crewmembers have said that it is difficult to see to paint the lines at night. Mr. Shaffer stated it was too cold to paint in October but it is warm enough now to paint at night. Mr. Wolfe asked that the subject be discussed in the personnel meeting.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the past two weeks.

A check has been received from the insurance company for the structure at 553 Wallace Street that had a fire several months ago.

Mr. Bowersox asked how many street cuts were completed in the past two weeks. Mr. Ruane replied that there were three. He stated that he charged for three hours of backfill inspection.

Mr. Ditton asked what is occurring at the house on Fifth Street that had a fire several months ago. Mr. Ruane stated that they are still removing garbage from the house and he will contact the property owner.

Mr. Bowersox asked if Mr. Ruane has checked the property at Duke and Front Street where they are removing the roof shingles. Mr. Ruane did go past the property late this afternoon; however no one was working at that time. Discussion.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:27 p.m. for an Executive Session. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 7:55 p.m. Personnel and litigation issues were discussed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Streets**

Mr. Troxell informed the council that the committee met with PennDOT's municipal representative, Don Free. Three separate bids have been advertised. They are for full depth reclamation, grade and compaction; concrete curbing (full height); and a bit-binder course, ID-2. Reclamation and paving will be done on Fifth Street from Queen Street to Prince Street. New curbing is to be installed in the two blocks from King Street to Hanover Street. This is what the committee feels the borough can afford this year. Mr. Wolfe requested that the committee provide the Finance Committee with a "wish list" before the next year's budget is completed. The three bids will be opened at the May 6, 2003 council meeting. Mr. Wolfe stated the borough is not keeping up with the damage done to the streets, especially after the kind of winter we just had. Discussion.

Mr. Troxell added that the committee has developed a three-year program for the streets.

Mrs. Groninger stated that if the bids come in under the estimates, the borough would have some money remaining. She added that additional funds would be required for grass seed and handicapped curbing.

Mrs. Groninger commended the council for their commitment to the street projects. She stated that under the two street committee chairmen, Paul Bowersox and Don Troxell, this council will have completed the storm water project and the paving of Strawbridge Road, Fifth Street, Fourth Street, a portion of King Street, and Priestley Avenue in three years.

The new gate has been installed at the recycling center. The keys are in the borough office and will be distributed to the appropriate individuals.

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to transfer \$19,741.60 to the General Contingency Fund and \$10,966.86 to the Liberty Pool account. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The transfer to the Liberty Pool account is money received toward the 2002 payroll from the Degenstein Foundation and PHEAA. The money transferred to the General Contingency Fund is money designated for specific purposes. Council received a breakdown of those items. Roll call - All ayes. Motion passed 7-0.

#### Parks & Recreation

- Mr. Carl stated that the committee has four vacancies.
- He requested that the water be turned on at the pool.
- He asked if the crew could cut the grass at the pool, until the pool hires the summer employees. Mr. Fisher agreed to do so.
- Mr. Carl has received one proposal for the sidewalk at the park. It exceeds the amount budgeted for the walk. Mr. Carl asked if the borough crew could remove the tree which is in the middle of the blacktop walkway (if its removal is approved by the Shade Tree Commission) and the blacktop. A contractor could then be hired to install the walks. Mrs. Groninger spoke with Ms. Weirick about having the Penn State Cooperative agent meet with the committee regarding the removal of the tree and take it down as soon as possible, if approved.
- Mr. Carl learned that the Mid Atlantic Park and Playground Concepts, Inc. has a state contract for their equipment. This means that the borough may purchase items from the company without having to obtain bids for the item. Mr. Carl moved to approve the purchase of a slide apparatus for the pool, with the approval of the borough's insurance carrier. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion carried 6-1.

- Mr. Wolfe complimented Mr. Carl on the new red, white, and blue sign installed at the pool.

#### Personnel

Mr. Ditton stated that the Personnel Committee is recommending that the Police Department be limited to five full-time positions. He made a motion as such. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Chief Redington stated that if one part-time officer is elevated to full time, the remaining two part-time officers have full time positions elsewhere, and may not be able to work whenever needed. He explained that the Civil Service list has been exhausted. Therefore, the council would need to authorize the Civil Service Committee to begin the testing procedure. Mr. Redington stated that this process requires approximately four months. Roll call vote to limit the Police Department to five full-time positions was taken. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted no. The motion failed 3-4.

Mr. Shaffer moved to hire the borough's part-time officer, Mark Cassel, as a full-time officer and to authorize the Civil Service Commission to begin the testing procedures for a list of part-time officers. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton stated that he would like to interview Mr. Cassel, before making the decision. Mayor Brosius stated that she feels that the Police Chief is comfortable hiring Mr. Cassel as a full time officer. Chief Redington agreed. Mrs. Groninger stated that the Personnel Committee met earlier this evening and is suggesting that the Personnel Committee interview Mr. Cassel before hiring him. Mr. Wolfe called for a roll call vote to hire Mark Cassel as a full time officer and to authorize the Civil Service Commission to begin the testing procedures for a list of part-time officers. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Carl voted aye. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted no. The motion failed with a vote of 3-4.

Mrs. Groninger moved that upon the approval of the Personnel Committee, after an interview with Officer Cassel, the Council hire him as a full time police officer. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ditton moved to contact the Civil Service Commission to begin the testing procedures for a new list of part-time officers. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 7-0.

#### Property

- Mrs. Groninger informed the council that s representative of the Penn State Cooperative Extension Urban Forester is recommending that the trees in the downtown district be monitored this growing season and has offered to evaluate them in the summer. The Shade Tree Commission is in contact with him and will follow up on this recommendation. Mrs. Groninger requested that a letter with

this information be sent to the resident who had requested that the trees be removed.

- Mr. Bowersox stated that damage was done to the drain spouting at the Second Street School due to the heavy snowfall. The construction company will be contacted. Snow guards for the building were ordered; but were not yet installed. Mr. Bowersox noted that the borough's engineer had stated that snow guards were not necessary.
- Mr. Redington informed the council that the Second Street Committee contacted SEDA-COG to coordinate an internship for developing the capital campaign. If possible, the borough may be able to obtain the student through the Degenstein program. The representative from SEDA-COG has offered to explore other funding and expertise through the organization.
- A meeting for the Pineknott Park field lighting project is scheduled for Tuesday, April 22, 2003 at 1:00 p.m. in the borough building.
- Mr. Wolfe stated that the Shikellamy School Board has approved the borough applying for a grant to refurbish the tennis courts at the C.W. Rice building. He is exploring the grant application information.

#### Public Safety

- Mr. Shaffer stated that the Public Safety Committee met on April 2<sup>nd</sup>. Committee members Paul Bowersox, Bryan Wolfe and Greg Shaffer were present. Others present were Mayor Brosius and Chief Redington. The Fire Department was not represented.

The group discussed clarification of the EMA plan. Also discussed were painting the lines on Duke Street with the street crew and fire police.

The committee approved a motion to petition PennDOT to prohibit left hand turns at the intersection of Queen and Water Streets. The committee also voted to request that PennDOT repair Front Street.

- Mr. Shaffer moved that the borough notify PennDOT that they wish to prohibit left turns at the corners of Queen Street, where it intersects Route 11, and to prohibit left turns onto Queen Street from traffic traveling north on Route 11. Mr. Schaffer stated it was a safety hazard due to the two southbound lanes on Route 11. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
- Mr. Shaffer made the motion to send a letter to PennDOT to repair Front Street from the borough line to King Street Park. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 7-0.

- Brenda Snook has requested a handicapped parking space for 659 Duke Street. Mr. Schaffer stated that she should be notified that the borough cannot grant this request because no parking is permitted on Duke Street.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:50 p.m.

### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Ordinance 2003-2. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Ordinance 2003-2 amends the Borough Code with the International Building, Property and Maintenance, Electrical and Plumbing Codes replacing the BOCA Code. This is the second reading of Ordinance 2003-2. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Mrs. Groninger returned at 8:53 p.m.

2. Mrs. Groninger stated that she has received a complaint from Mr. Bill Shellenberger about the lack of water pressure at his and his father’s residences.
3. Point Township has requested that the council reconsider their decision not to rename Orange Street, from Eighth Street to Ninth Street, Cannery Road. Mr. Schaffer stated he went out to look at the four houses aligned on the road since the last meeting and a Cannery Road sign is already in place. He stated that since it makes for “uniformity”, it makes sense to have the addresses of these four borough houses renamed to Cannery Road, simply for alignment purposes.  
Discussion.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion that an Orange Street sign be posted at the corner of Eighth and Orange Streets in replace of the Cannery Road sign that is currently posted. Discussion. Mr. Shaffer withdrew his motion.

Mayor Brosius suggested that the emergency personnel be notified that the name of the road is Orange Street in the borough, and Cannery Road in the township.

Mr. Wolfe made the motion to rescind a motion of two weeks ago and rename Orange Street, from Eighth Street to Ninth Street, Cannery Road. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Schaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl voted aye. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Ditton voted no. The motion carried 4-3.

### **New Business**

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Wolfe tabled the minutes of March 18, 2003.
2. Mr. Carl made the motion to permit the American Red Cross to use the pool for the American Red Cross Water Safety/ Learn to Swim Program this season.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Mr. Schaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

3. Keystone Municipal Insurance Plan is a voluntary plan offered to all borough employees and paid elected officials. The borough would not contribute to the premiums. Mr. Martin advised that no motion was required of the council. Borough employees will be informed of the plan and may elect to purchase the coverage.
4. Mr. Schaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
Tuesday, May 6, 2003, 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 Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Two members of the public were present.

**Public Comment**

No comment was offered.

**Opening of Bids**

Curbing

The bids for the curbing contract were opened and announced by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the bid of \$27,135 from Wolyniec Construction, Williamsport, PA, pending approval of the borough engineer. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion carried 6-1.

Reclamation

Mr. Wolfe opened and announced the bid for the Reclamation contract. Discussion. The only bidder was received from E.J. Breneman. Mr. Wolfe tabled the bid for Reclamation, pending clarification from Don Free.

Paving

The bids for paving were opened and announced by Mr. Wolfe. Mr. Ditton made a motion to accept the low bid of \$54,950 from HRI, Inc., pending approval by Larson Design Group, Inc. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion passed 7-0.

Mr. Wolfe posed the question of what to do about the Reclamation contract since only one bid was submitted which is substantially higher than Don Free’s estimate. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the bid from E. J. Breneman of \$36,543 for Reclamation, pending approval by Don Free and Larson Design Group, Inc. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion carried 5-2.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reminded the council of History Day, scheduled for May 10, 2003. A representative of the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs will present a plaque to the borough to commemorate the Borough of Northumberland's 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary of incorporation as a borough.

Revitalization is ready to move on the Memorial Garden in the King Street Park, thanks to the people involved in getting the project ready by donating their time, equipment and material. Mayor Brosius thanked those responsible for moving the Gettysburg Address from the Front Street end of the park to its present location behind the gazebo. They include the borough crew, Vince Sheridan of Zartman Construction, Norman Koch of Sunbury Monument Co., and Ron Boyer of Boyer Machine Shop.

Mayor Brosius brought to the Council, the Pineknotters Association's request for approval of the use of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street School playground for Kiddie Rides during Pineknotters' Days. The police would also like to use an area of the playground for some type of ride, pending approval by Pineknotters' Days Committee.

Mr. Shaffer made the motion to approve the use of 2<sup>nd</sup> St. School playground and Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

## **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Lark requested that the Sewer Authority be informed of the pre-construction meeting for the street project this year. Mr. Ruane stated that the finish coat on Fifth Street will not be completed until 2004.

## **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher informed the council that the crew has been using the paint sprayer and are pleased with the progress. Mr. Wolfe asked why some of the lengths are different than prior paintings. Mr. Fisher informed him that they are measuring the correct length of the curb to be painted.

Mr. Ditton stated that the intersection at Front and Orange Streets has poor visibility due to a tree that is between the curb and sidewalk. Mr. Bowersox moved to have the tree removed. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. 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.

## **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane reported on the activity of the Code Office for the month of April. The report is on file in the Borough Office.

The engineering firm representing Branchview Development has informed Mr. Ruane that the development will abide by the borough's stormwater ordinance. He will provide Larson Design Group, Inc. with the stormwater plan for the development.

Mr. Wolfe asked Mr. Ruane about the extensions for the sidewalk improvements. Mr. Ruane replied that property owners in the second ward must have their sidewalks

completed by October 31<sup>st</sup> of this year. The property owners in the third ward may apply this year for an extension until October of 2004. Residents in the first ward would have an extension until October 31, 2005, if requested.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:49 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 8:20 p.m.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:20 p.m.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to accept a settlement, as proposed, regarding Edward Cope. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Streets**

Mr. Troxell stated that the American Water Company has sent a letter to the borough, with the information of a water rate increase. Mr. Shaffer recommended the borough oppose the rate increase, since the water company has failed to have a generator available to rectify the lack of water pressure to the residences on the hill in the event of power failure. He would like to file a formal complaint to the PUC. He said a portable unit is not satisfactory. Mr. Shaffer made the motion, seconded by Mrs. Groninger to file a formal complaint to the Public Utility Commission regarding the American Water Company's failure to supply a generator. Discussion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Mrs. Groninger had returned at 8:23 p.m.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to file an opposition to the American Water Company's proposed rate increase to the Public Utility Commission. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Wolfe made mention of the letter from Penn DOT and how quickly they had moved on the matter of the "no left turn" sign for the intersection at Queen and Water Streets. He referred to the Council Meeting of the April 15<sup>th</sup> where the issue has been brought up. After much discussion, Mr. Shaffer moved to approve Penn DOT's diagram of 4-23-03. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Troxell and Mrs. Groninger voted no. The motion carried 5-2.

#### **Finance**

The Finance Committee will be meeting with Bob Naginey, of Pfeiffer-Naginey Insurance, Inc. The meeting has not been scheduled yet.

#### **Parks & Recreation**

The Parks and Recreation Committee will be meeting on May 6, 2003.

Mr. Carl stated that the addition insurance cost for the general liability for the water slides would be approximately \$350 for the season. The purchase of the slides had been approved at a prior meeting, pending the availability of the insurance coverage.

Mr. Carl stated that there is a leak in an underground pipe between the pit in the parking lot and the pool building. It has been determined that the leak is approximately 10 feet from the pit. He is requesting that the street crew repair the pipe. They had repaired a pipe to the Kiwanis Building several years ago. Council approved that the crew repair the pipe.

Mr. Carl has received several proposals for the new sidewalks in the park. He is waiting for a few other quotes.

The Improvement Committee has completed their work on the gazebo in the King Street Park. Mr. Sam Wolfe has volunteered to examine the electrical wires and will make the necessary repairs. Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough needs to see what else should be done and budget for those repairs for 2004.

### **Personnel**

Mrs. Fran Bogovich has resigned from the Planning Commission. Mr. Wolfe moved to accept her resignation, with regret, and to advertise the opening. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Ditton stated that the Personnel Committee has met with Mark Cassel. Mr. Ditton moved to hire Mark Cassel as a full-time police officer, immediately, as recommended by the Personnel Committee. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Property**

#### **Sidewalks**

Snow guards at Second Street School are to be installed once the outside temperature is at least 50 degrees. The construction company is aware that damage has occurred to the spouting due to the heavy snow this winter and plans to repair it.

### **Public Safety**

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the Fire Police Schedule as submitted and to permit the Mayor to approve any additional dates that may arise. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

### **Old Business**

#### **1. Pineknottter Park Ballfield:**

A Change Order, received the 23<sup>rd</sup> of April, was tabled because the contractor is sending a revised change order.

A preconstruction meeting for the ballfield lighting project was held on April 23, 2003. The minutes of this meeting are on file in the Borough Office.

#### **2. Mrs. Groninger made a motion that the borough council not approves any more handicapped parking spaces. Those that are already in place and those that are required**

by law in parking lots are permitted. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed to carry 3-4.

3. Mr. Ditton made the motion to provide a handicapped parking space on Ropewalk Avenue as requested by Brenda Snook. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll Call vote. Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed to carry with a vote of 2-5.

Mr. Carl left the meeting at 9:05 p.m.

## **New Business**

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made the motion to accept the minutes of March 18, April 1, & April 15, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$12,668.44. The Liberty Pool bills total \$1,031.58. A bill from K & N Electric, Inc. as part of the ballfield lighting contract for Pineknott Park for \$12,193.00 was also approved as part of this motion.
3. Resolution H-2003 provides for the designation of an agent of the borough to be authorized to execute all forms and documents for financial assistance due to the President's Day Snowstorm, as stipulated under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act. Mr. Wolfe made a motion that the Borough Secretary, Janice Bowman, be designated as the borough's agent and that the Solicitor should sign the Certification to verify that council approved the resolution. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
4. SUN Home Health Services has requested permission to hold a Chicken BBQ & Bake Sale in King Street Park on August 9, 2003. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the request; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. It was requested they remove their garbage from the park at the conclusion of the event.
5. Mr. Ditton asked about the letter from the VFW for police assistance for the Memorial Day Parade. Chief Redington stated that the police department will work with the VFW as requested.
6. Mrs. Groninger asked if the council is aware that the street crew is picking up the library's garbage on a regular basis. Council members were unaware of this practice and felt that the borough cannot continue to provide this service to the library.
7. Mayor Brosius asked what action could be taken on the complaint received from Mr. Cam Shaffer about the poor condition of Sheetz Avenue from Water Street to Priestley Avenue. Mr. Troxell will see what can be done to remedy the situation.

8. Mr. Wolfe stated that he and Randy Yoxheimer, Chairman of the Point Township Board of Supervisors, met to discuss the recycling program. They are exploring the idea of the purchasing recycling containers and putting them out to be manned at certain times by volunteers. The borough and township would each contribute to the fund. Suggested amounts were \$2,500 to \$3,000. This money would be distributed on a quarterly or yearly basis to the volunteer groups that man the sites. All recyclable items would be included. No sorting would be required of the volunteers, since each type of recyclable would be placed in separate bins. The bins would then be picked up by Lycoming County. Discussion. No action was taken at this time.

Mr. Ditton made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857  
Monday, May 19, 2003  
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, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Mr. Don Troxell, councilmember, arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Five members of the public were present.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Wolfe explained that he had received comments from residents who were concerned about the new housing development being planned for Point Township. Mr. Wolfe spoke to Mr. Monte Peters, Point Township Supervisor, who said that if the borough received many questions, he would plan for the developer to meet with borough residents. Although the area is in Point Township, it is close to the borough line. The residents’ concern was the type of facility that is to be built. Mr. Bowersox stated that wetlands exist in this area.

**Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Brosius read the Certificate of Appreciation, which was presented on History Day, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 2003, in the King Street Park to commemorate Northumberland’s 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary as a borough:

“Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs  
Certificate of Appreciation  
is presented to  
Borough of Northumberland  
On the Occasion of the 175<sup>th</sup> Anniversary as a Borough  
in the County of Northumberland, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.  
PSAB Extends Best Wishes for Continued Success and a Prosperous Future.  
May, 2003.”

- The Revitalization Committee presented the borough with a ceramic crock, also commemorating the 175<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Other similar crocks were popular items sold on History Day. However, the borough's crock is one of a kind.
- Student volunteers from Susquehanna University will be available in August for one day to work on a municipal project. These projects will be done rain or shine if anyone is interested in using the volunteers.
- The Memorial Day Parade will form at the King Street Park at 10:00 a.m. and move at 10:30 a.m.
- The Civil Service Commission has met and will be advertising for part-time police officers.

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

### **Karen Nogle – History Day Report & King Street Park Memorial Garden Update**

Mrs. Nogle reported that the History Day Committee raised approximately \$1,100 during the one-day event. She thanked the volunteers, the street crew, fire police, and No. 1 Fire Department for their participation.

The committee has begun preparations for History Day 2004 and expects to double the participation with the number of booths. The History Day Committee will be meeting on June 23<sup>rd</sup> in the Borough Building. Mrs. Nogle said that the committee would welcome new volunteers to help plan the event and also volunteers interested in assisting just on History Day.

Mrs. Nogle added that the committee is tentatively planning to schedule History Day on the Saturday of the second weekend of May each year, meaning that the event would be held on May 8<sup>th</sup> in 2004.

The King Street Park Memorial Garden has been started. The committee hopes to have much of the work completed by June.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Mrs. Groninger asked if the residents have been contacted about the Sewer Authority's plan for new laterals on Queen Street.

Ms. Cindy Lark replied that the letters for residents on several other streets where new laterals are to be installed have been sent out. The remaining letters for those residents on Queen Street were mailed today. Ms. Lark explained that the residents will have the option to make payments of \$40 per month for two years for the costs. No interest is charged. Once the laterals are completed, the residents are responsible for the lateral from the house to the curb, and the Sewer Authority assumes responsibility for the lateral from the curb to the main line. Currently, residents are responsible for the lateral from their house to the sewer main. The laterals to be installed are 6-inch laterals.

[Note: The dollar amount of the payments was clarified at the June 3, 2003 council meeting. The residents will not be billed until the project is complete and final payment is made to the

contractor. Payments may be as low as \$42 per month with a final payment of \$34 for a two year period.]

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher stated that the crew has been working at Pineknoller Park. He has contacted Jon Apple (Fire Police) about directing traffic while the crew paints the lines on Duke Street. They are considering scheduling the work for a Saturday morning. Mr. Fishers stated the painting would probably take a day. Mrs. Groninger asked if a police car could be parked at the other end of the work area. Mr. Redington stated that the police had assisted the last time the painting was done on Duke Street. Mr. Fisher asked if the crew could take time off during the week, and work on Saturday. Mr. Wolfe informed him that the scheduling was up to his (Mr. Fisher's) discretion.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane reported that several residents have been contacted about cutting their grass. He explained the process that is necessary before the borough crew may cut the grass and charge the property owner for the borough's labor. Discussion ensued in reference to the cutting of grass when the resident does not respond.

Mr. Ruane reported that rats have been seen at a property on Duke Street. He and the Health Officer have been to the property and are working on the situation.

[Note: The address of the property is 124 Duke Street. Council requested at the June 3, 2003 meeting that the property address be specified in the minutes.]

Council discussed grass being blown into the streets. An ordinance was adopted last year to eliminate this problem so the storm sewers do not become obstructed.

Mr. Ruane's report is on file in the borough office.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:55 p.m.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

Mr. Troxell announced that the contracts for Fifth Street are being reviewed. The storm water project on Fifth Street and Brickyard Avenue was examined last Wednesday with the contractor and the engineer. The necessary repairs have been agreed upon.

The gas company will be repairing the failure on Priestley Avenue.

#### Finance

The short-term loan with SUN Bank is being repaid in full. [Note: The loan was repaid on May 20, 2003.]

The Finance Committee will be scheduling meetings for budget preparation beginning in July.

The committee will meet on May 21, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss insurances.

#### Parks & Recreation

The committee currently has several vacancies.

Mr. Carl moved to reappoint Angie Fegley to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Carl moved to appoint Jason Guffrey to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Guffrey is to be appointed to the longest available term. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Carl moved to appoint Kim Lenker to the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

(Note: All three terms will run until May 31, 2006. Currently, the Parks and Recreation Committee has two vacancies with terms expiring on May 31, 2004.)

Mr. Carl presented three quotes for concrete walks in the King Street Park. Mr. Shaffer moved to hire Herrold and Son, providing he has insurance coverage, to perform the work. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. The Revitalization Committee has offered to pay the difference toward the price of the walkway because this is the contractor who is also doing the concrete work at the end of the park. Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Troxell amended their motion and second to reflect this contribution to the cost. Roll call vote: Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Carl explained that the number of lifeguards paid through the PHEAA/ Degenstein program has decreased from last year. Mr. Carl made a motion to accept a proposed payment plan for admission to the pool to help off-set the cost of another employee. The cost would be \$4.00, general admission with the slide, and \$3.00 without the use of the slide. This motion amends the borough's fee schedule and is Resolution I-2003. Wristbands would be provided each day to those who purchase admission with the slide. The wrist bands would cost \$35.00 per one thousand. The color of the wristbands would vary each day. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### Personnel

The Police Negotiating Committee scheduled a closed meeting for May 27, 2003 at 6:30 p.m. An additional meeting was scheduled for June 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to meet with the police for the first negotiating session. This meeting is also closed to the public.

The first meeting of the council committee to negotiate the Teamster's contract is scheduled for June 24, 2003 at 6:30.

#### Property

- The committee feels that the Street Supervisor should have a cell phone. Mrs. Groninger moved to obtain a Nextel cell phone for Mr. Fisher. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
- The tree in the park that is to be removed is too tall for the street crew to cut down. The Shade Tree Commission has agreed that it should be cut down. Mrs. Groninger moved to have the tree which is in front of the Gazebo removed by a professional, as soon as possible. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
- Mrs. Groninger suggested that the council should approach Larson Design Group, Inc. about the lack of the snow guards at the Second Street School building and the damage that occurred due to this omission in the design of the roof. Mr. Carl made a motion to send a letter to Larson Design Group, Inc. providing them with this information. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer asked if the specifications for the vehicle for the Fire Department have been received from Mr. Crebs. He was told that they had not. He requested that Mr. Crebs be sent an email to forward the specifications to the Police Chief as soon as possible.

Council discussed the problems created by skateboards, skates, etc. in the King Street Park. Mr. Ditton made a motion to forbid scooters, skateboards, skates, bikes and in-line skates in King Street Park. Mr. Wolfe stated the Solicitor would then draft an ordinance forbidding the use of these in the Park. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Troxell and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion carried 5-2.

Mrs. Brosius asked what she is to tell the people who bought benches and plaques in the Park that have been stolen or broken. It was suggested this would come under the heading of a criminal act. No action was taken at this time.

#### Old Business

##### 1. Pineknotter Park Ballfield

Mr. Wolfe made the motion to accept the change order in the amount of \$1,794.00 for Hepco Construction. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion carried 4-3.

Mr. Schaffer made a motion to accept K & N Electric's change order for \$80.00. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted no. Motion carried 4-3.

##### 2. The first reading of Ordinance 2003-3 was conducted. The ordinance was corrected to permit "right turns only" from Queen Street onto Water Street. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to accept Ordinance 2003-3. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote:

Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion carried 6-1. A second reading of Ordinance 2003-3 will be conducted on June 3<sup>rd</sup>.

### **New Business**

#### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the minutes of May 6, 2003. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe requested that typographical errors on page five be corrected to the final copy. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
2. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. The bill from Martin Limestone, Inc. will not be paid at this time because it is not known if this bill is to be paid with funds in the Donations Account or paid for by one of the baseball organizations. The roll call vote to pay all other bills presented was approved unanimously. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$20,167.03. Bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$14,003.31. Bills to be paid from the Pineknott Park light grant total \$2,946.72.
3. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve a request from the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library to use the King Street Park on Oct. 18, 2003, for the annual Chicken-Chili Festival and to prohibit traffic on King Street, between the library and the park from 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. A representative of the Pennsylvania American Water Company relayed the information that the company is planning to install a water tower on the hill to eliminate the problem of the lack of water pressure. The location has not yet been determined, but the company hopes to have the tank constructed by next year.
5. Mr. Wolfe announced that articles for the Pineknott Days' Newsletter are due May 30, 2003. The newsletter will be distributed by the last week in June.
6. Mayor Brosius announced that the proofs of the photo of the borough officials have been received. Anyone who wishes to order a photo may do so. Mayor Brosius has the price list.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
June 3, 2003  
7:00 PM

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Mrs. Judith Groninger offered an Invocation in the absence of Mayor Gretchen Brosius.

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Borough Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Four visitors were present.

**Public Comment**

No comments were offered from the public in attendance.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius is on vacation so her report was read by Mr. Ditton. He stated the Revitalization Committee is moving ahead in the King Street Park. A “Kids Krafty Korner” will be held again this year on Wednesday mornings from 9:00 to 11:30 starting June 11, 2003. Registration forms are available in the borough office. Susquehanna students will be available on August 19, 2003 to volunteer time for a project in the borough.

**Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the plans for the sewer project are underway and should begin shortly. She reported that the construction company would clean the streets every night after completing work for the day. Mr. Ditton asked if the Sewer Authority received many comments from the residents about the new sewer line being installed. She replied that she has received more positive comments than negative ones. Mrs. Groninger asked what the payment amounts would actually be since it was reported in the minutes that the payments would be \$40 a month for two years. That number totals \$960. The cost to each resident was stated to be \$1,000. Ms. Lark replied that she may have stated that the

payments would be approximately \$40 per month. The actual payments are \$42 per month for the first twenty-three months, with a final payment of \$34.00.

Mr. Wolfe asked when the authority plans to replace the manholes on Strawbridge Road. Ms. Lark replied that the authority has the risers and will be installing them at a convenient time. She also stated they will need to have another party do the patching after the covers are installed. Mr. Wolfe expressed concern for the period of time it has been for the manholes to be corrected.

Mr. Carl arrived at 7:05 p.m.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher reported that the Street Crew has been busy at Pineknotted Park, King Street Park, and is scheduled to repair the water line at the pool. Mr. Fisher stated the King Street Park work (the removal of the trees and concrete installation) should be completed by June 14<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Ditton asked what happened to the bucket truck. The windshield was broken when a tree limb fell on it at Pineknotted Park. Mr. Wolfe stated approval had been given for a new truck and advised that the committee and Mr. Fisher should decide on a purchase.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane gave his report for the month of May. The report is on file in the Borough Office.

He reported that the Street Crew cut the lawn at a property on Prince Street. The owner of the property is a mortgage company in California. A bill for the crew's time and materials will be filed for payment. Discussion.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that two property owners have a dispute about cutting down a tree, which is on the property line. The sidewalks at the properties need to be replaced. One property owner is willing to pay for half the cost to remove the tree, the other is not.

Mr. Bowersox made a motion to inform the property owners at 232-234 Orange Street that they are to share the cost of cutting down the tree. If not done by the property owners, the borough will have it removed and bill each property owner one half the costs. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

Mr. Ruane was inspecting a backfill on Orange Street and noticed that a storm sewer pipe may be broken. He feels that the pipe in this block should be televised. Discussion.

Mr. Wolfe asked about the property owned by Mr. Mull on Orange Street. The sidewalks had been dug up and the property owner moved out. Mr. Wolfe stated that this is a safety issue. Mr. Ruane is preparing a certified letter to the property owner.

Mr. Wolfe reviewed the law that was passed by the council that the property owners in the third ward have until July 1, 2003 to apply for an extension. Mr. Ruane stated that some of the property owners are not aware of whether or not their sidewalks need replaced. Mr. Ruane stated his assistant who is to come in 2 weeks, will be inspecting sidewalks in the third ward and notifying property owners which walks need to be replaced. Mr. Ruane added that once the deadline to replace or repair sidewalks has passed, the Code Office will see that a citation for compliance with the sidewalk ordinance is filed with the District Justice. Atty. Martin stated that property owners have appeals rights through the District Justice office. The issue does not come before the borough's Appeal Board.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 for an Executive Session and reconvened at 8:00 p.m. Personnel and litigation issues were discussed. No action was taken on the issues discussed in the meeting.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

Mr. Troxell reported that the COG is interested in knowing what equipment each municipality owns that they would be willing to loan to another municipality. Council requested that Mr. Fisher compile a list.

#### Fifth Street Project:

Mr. Troxell made a motion that the Reclamation project be rebid. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Carl voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 6-1.

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that he would have a 2004 Budget Meeting schedule available at the next council meeting.

The Finance Committee met with Mr. Robert Naginey of Keystone Insurance Company. Mr. Wolfe stated that if there were any questions the "door was open" for the insurance company to give answers. Mrs. Groninger asked if citizens who ride with the police are covered by the borough's insurance. Mr. Ditton explained that if someone is in the vehicle because they are in custody or being provided a service by the police, or if a member of council or the Mayor is in the car, they are covered by the insurance. Any private citizen who is not either in custody or in need of a service from the officer, would not be covered by the borough's insurance.

#### Parks & Recreation

- Mr. Carl stated that the pool is scheduled to open tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. A flyer has been prepared with the schedule of activities. The slides are postponed one week. They will be shipped June 9<sup>th</sup> and should be installed by June 15<sup>th</sup>. The prices for the Season Passes are the same as the past year. He also mentioned that there are twice as many fun events planned for this year as there was for last year.

- Mr. Carl mentioned that the Soap Box Race is coming up very shortly.
- Mr. Carl would like four volunteers to each design and construct a room for the Haunted House. Materials will be provided. He said he would need responsible people that are “safe but crazy.”

#### Personnel

Mr. Ditton stated that the Teamsters Union had filed a grievance with the Borough that they say was “ignored”. Mr. Martin replied that he had spoken with Mr. Hartman, of the Teamsters Union, and a meeting is scheduled to discuss the issue.

#### Property

No report.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer stated that the Fire Department has not responded with their order for a truck that may be obtained through a special program for \$1.00. Chief Redington was going to apply for a vehicle for the Fire Department, along with a new police cruiser. Mr. Shaffer said at this point they should not worry about the truck and place an order for the cruiser. He added that an e-mail was sent to the Fire Department which was not acknowledged. Chief Redington was given the go-ahead to apply for a police vehicle.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to send a letter to PennDOT in reference to the rockslides on Route 11, along Blue Hill. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.

#### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Wolfe postponed the second reading of Ordinance 2003-3 because Mayor Brosius will be out of town for more than the ten days allotted for her veto.
2. Mr. Wolfe postponed the first reading of Ordinance 2003-4.

#### Parks and Recreation – additional item

Mr. Carl stated that he has had the locks changed at the pool. Nate Fisher and Mr. Carl are the only people permitted to have additional keys made. Keys are in the Borough Office.

#### **New Business**

##### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of May 19, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote - all ayes. Motion passed 7-0. Several items are to be clarified. The Sewer Authority is charging each property owner \$1,000 to replace the laterals. The property owners will not be billed until the project is complete and final payment is made to the contractor. The payments may be as low as \$42 per month, with a final payment of \$34, over a two year period. The minutes of May 19, 2003 state that rats have been sited at a property

on Duke Street. The address of this property is 124 Duke Street. The property owner has been contacted to hire an exterminator. The Code Enforcement and Health Officers are working together to have the problem resolved.

2. Mr. Ditton moved to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Shaffer voted nay. The motion carried 5-2. The Martin Limestone bill is to be included. The additional money to pay for this bill is to come from the Donation Account (for the ballfield lights) and the account is to be reimbursed once collected by the Pineknotted Park Ballfield Committee. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$3,345.41; the bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$1,056.01; and the Pineknotted Park Ballfield bills total \$19,415.77.
3. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve transfers totaling \$515.94 for payroll from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mr. Shaffer moved to submit the Dare Grant for \$2,092.00 for 2004. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
5. Mr. Ditton moved to donate \$50 to the Big Brothers/ Big Sisters organization. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. 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.
6. Mr. Ditton reviewed a memo concerning PennDOT's proposal to alleviate truck traffic at the intersection of Water and King Streets. PennDOT had been contacted by Jeff Persing, the property owner at the southeast corner of this intersection, regarding traffic going over the curb when turning right onto King Street. PennDOT plans to install two signs. One will be on Duke Street stating that truck traffic to 147 South and 61 South should turn right on Route 11 South, directing the truck traffic to Shamokin Dam and the bridge to Sunbury. A second sign is to be erected on Water Street, informing truck drivers to make a wide turn onto Route 147 South. PennDOT may install new sidewalks at the corner of the Persing property. They would be heavier than the normal 4 inches of concrete. No action was required of the council.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn and the meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
June 17, 2003, 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 Donald Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Paul Bowersox, Gregory Carl, Charles "Bud" Ditton, and Gregory Shaffer. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Three visitors were present.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Matthew Markunas, a resident of 245 Madison Avenue, addressed the council about Madison Avenue. He stated that Madison Avenue does not have paved shoulders along the roadway. He explained that residents are installing driveways, and are extending them to the roadway. He asked if the borough plans to pave the berms, once the development is complete; or if his business, Meckley Limestone, may have permission to pave the berms, at a cost to the residents who elect to do so. Mr. Troxell stated that Mr. Roy Moyer and Ms. Jennifer Apple, residents on Jefferson Street, have paved the berms in front of their homes and that the borough has accepted the streets in the Branchview Development, as is. Mr. Wolfe questioned why the borough would not pave the berms. He asked what would happen if some owners have their berms paved and others do not. Mr. Markunas also stated that the driveways being extended to the street and the drop along the sides of the street could cause damage to the snowplows. Mr. Michael Hubicki, another resident on Madison Avenue, added that while he and the Markunas's live on a straight section of the roadway, there is erosion on other properties. Mr. Markunas stated that he believes that the contractor should have completed the berms before the borough took over the street. Mr. Wolfe stated there are no plans to undertake this project right now.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion that berms be installed in the Branchview Phase III development by 2004. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton voiced opposition to this action, stating that a study should be completed to determine the cost of the project before action is taken. Mr. Bowersox withdrew his second. Mr. Wolfe withdrew his motion and requested that the Street Committee to explore the request. Mr.

Troxell stated that the committee would review the situation; however, the street money for 2003 has been allocated for specific street projects. Mr. Markunas offered to have his estimator provide the borough with an estimate of the amount of material required to pave the berm. The offer was accepted with the council's appreciation.

Mr. Markunas also commented about the pond in King Street Park. He has heard criticism about the cost of the project and suggested that the council inform the residents that donations have paid for the pond. Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough newsletter will be mailed next week and information about the pond is included in the newsletter.

Mr. Troxell scheduled a Street Committee meeting for July 16<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Troxell stated that as long as the residents maintaining the present slope of the berm along the streets, it would probably be okay to pave the berms at their properties.

Mr. Markunas mentioned that people have been dumping in the vacant lots in the development. Clean fill is wanted; however, garbage is being dumped there in addition to clean fill. The developers are trying to monitor what is being placed there; but they cannot be present at all times.

#### **Mayor's Report**

- The Kiwanis Club has generously donated \$500 for repairs to the gazebo.
- The Police Chief's report has been distributed to the council.
- The mayor received a complaint about a sign that has been temporarily erected in the tree line at the corner of Duke and Fifth Streets. Mayor Brosius would like the council to consider restrictions regarding signs.
- Several residents are concerned about their sidewalks being damaged by the contractor working on the new sewer line. Ms. Lark stated that any sidewalks removed or damaged by the contractor would be replaced.
- Mayor Brosius has received another complaint about the Herlinger property. Atty. Martin advised that there is a procedure to follow in condemning the property. Mr. Herlinger is in a nursing home and he refuses to sell the property. A car sets behind the property.

Mr. Carl made a motion to explore how to condemn the David Herlinger property, either through the county or the borough. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

- Mayor Brosius requested that Mr. Ruane check into the property in the 600 block of Duke Street that is being dismantled. Mr. Ruane will do so.

- The Soap Box Race Committee is requesting donations for their bake sale on June 28<sup>th</sup>, and Pineknotted Days is also accepting donations for the cake wheel during the Pineknotted Days celebration.
- The Revitalization Committee will be planting in the park on Saturday. Volunteers are welcome to participate.
- Council members will be helping to man one of the stands at Pineknotted Days.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Lark asked if the intersection at Fifth and Orange Streets is being paved this year. She was informed that Fifth Street is being paved from Queen Street to Prince Street. Ms. Lark stated that Doley Construction is doing the construction work on Queen Street. The Sewer Authority held a job conference on Monday and the issues have been resolved. Mr. Ditton asked if the paving that was dug up on Queen Street by the contractor's equipment would be repaired. Ms. Lark stated that they are required to repair anything that is torn up.

### **Public Works Department Report**

A resident on Woodrow Avenue requested that a "No Outlet" sign be placed at the corner of Woodrow and Lincoln Street.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to put a "No Outlet" sign up at the stated location. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Wolfe asked when the painting of the curbing would be completed. Mr. Fisher stated that they would be completing the work within the next few weeks.

Mr. Ditton commended the crew for the work that they have done in the park. Mr. Fisher stated that the grass is now growing where it had been seeded.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane reported that Mr. Jim Tamecki has begun work and is spray-painting sidewalks in the Third Ward that need to be repaired or replaced.

The water company's work on Orange Street is done and paving will be started if the weather cooperates.

Mr. Shaffer reported there are potholes on Elliott Drive that need attention.

It was suggested that should any contractor have extra paving material, it could be spread on Sheetz Avenue between Priestley Avenue and Water Street. Mayor Brosius stated this area is a priority.

Mr. Ruane stated that a light needs to be installed at the end of the park for the flag.

## **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:50 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation issues. The meeting was reconvened at 8:00 p.m.

## **Committee Reports**

### Streets

- **Fifth Street Project**

Mr. Troxell stated that the committee met with the curbing contractor yesterday. Eight trees will need to be removed on Fifth Street by a professional; the street crew can remove one tree. Mayor Brosius asked if trees would be planted to replace those that are removed. Mr. Troxell stated that another species of tree should be planted. He stated Pin Oak trees should not be planted because they grow entirely too large. The borough needs to obtain quotes to have the trees removed.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to obtain quotes to remove eight trees on the east side of Fifth Street. The price is to include tree removal and stump grinding. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Duke Street Traffic Study**

Penn DOT representatives and Bucknell professor Richard McGuinness met with council members and Chief Redington to consider options for pedestrian crossings on Duke Street.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to appoint Chief Redington, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Steve Mertz to the committee. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. The Mayor or Chief of Police will contact Mr. Mertz and ask him to serve.

- **Orange Street**

Mr. Troxell explained the emergency repair work that needed to be done to the storm pipe on Orange Street. A blockage in the pipe created a clogged storm sewer. Mr. Troxell stated that the pipe had originally been broken by a sub contractor for Verizon; and was not repaired properly. Pictures of the damage are on file in the borough office.

Mr. Shaffer moved to notify Verizon of the damage and assess them for the repairs. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

- **Penn Street**

Mr. Fisher contacted Mr. Troxell about a problem with the pipe on Penn Street. The street crew will install a new pipe.

- Liberty Splashland

The water leak at the swimming pool was discussed. The leak was not at the location where the water company originally believed it to be. The water company will be contacted to help locate the leak.

#### Finance

The committee has scheduled a meeting for July 30<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

#### Parks & Recreation

- The committee meets on Thursday, June 19<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.
- The slides are being installed at the pool.
- The committee currently has two vacancies and is seeking volunteers to serve.
- Mr. Carl explained that the handicapped ramp was removed from the pool two years ago when concrete steps were built at the low end of the pool. The Selinsgrove Pool would like to purchase the ramp. Council discussed the fact that the ramp should be advertised and sold to the highest bidder.

Mr. Carl made a motion to put the ramp out for bid with a minimum to be established by the Parks and Recreation Committee on Thursday. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

#### Personnel

- The negotiating committee has met with the police to discuss the contract.
- Mr. William Roll has sent a letter to the council regarding the regulations of the Civil Service Commission. Mr. Ditton requested that council members review the regulations for the July 15<sup>th</sup> meeting.

#### Property

##### Recycling

Mr. Wolfe suggested that a letter be sent to the Recycling committee members, requesting they attend the next council meeting, and determine if the borough should hire someone to work part-time at the center since it is not always opened at the times designated. Mr. Shaffer asked if the council would entertain the possibility of a private enterprise taking the recycling center over. The council will discuss all options at the July 15<sup>th</sup> council meeting.

#### Public Safety

No report.

## **Old Business**

1. Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2003-3. This ordinance establishes right hand turns only on Queen Street at Water Street. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2003-3; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. Flashing lights have been installed by Penn DOT at the left turn signs on Water Street to attract the motorists' attention to the signs.
2. Mr. Wolfe conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2003-4. This ordinance prohibits skateboards, inline skates, roller skates, scooters in King Street Park and the downtown streets. Mr. Shaffer noted that "memorial benches" have been purchased for the Park and the benches are being destroyed by individuals on skates or skateboards. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2003-4; Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.
3. A draft of Ordinance 2003-5 was reviewed. This ordinance amends the zoning ordinance, allowing for car washes as a special exemption in areas zoned R-2. A hearing must be scheduled for this issue. Mr. Wolfe stated a date will be determined.
4. Mr. Ditton announced that Mr. Ruane has successfully completed the required examination for issuance of the Residential Building Inspector certificate. The council congratulated Mr. Ruane on this accomplishment.
5. The water company has asked if the borough would like a fire hydrant added where new pipe is being installed in the Emmanuel Home Development. Discussion. Mr. Troxell made a motion that if the land is developed by Emmanuel Homes, and a hydrant is need, the development must install the hydrant. Mr. Bowersox seconded. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

## **New Business**

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of June 3, 2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. The motion includes \$285.00 for expenses and petty cash for the Soapbox Race from the Parks and Recreation fund. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$28,407.67; the Liberty Pool account bills total \$17,089.46; and the Parks and Recreation account bills total \$285.00. Pineknott Park ballfield bills to be paid with DCNR grant funds total \$58,883.40.

3. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to transfer money from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund for the Liberty Pool payroll. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion.

Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously. The amount to be transferred is \$1,195.94 for payroll checks dated June 6 and June 13, 2003.

4. Mr. Wolfe announced that the borough is seeking volunteers for the Planning Commission and the Appeals Board.
5. A Special Council Meeting will be held on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. to open the bids for the reclamation project on Fifth Street.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Special Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
June 19, 2003, 6:00 PM

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

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Paul Bowersox, Charles "Bud" Ditton, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

**Bid Opening for the Reclamation Project on Fifth Street**

Mr. Troxell explained the work to be done on Fifth Street. Curbing will be installed between King Street and Hanover Street. The street will be resurfaced from Queen Street to Prince Street. Handicapped curbing will be installed at Orange Street. Hanover Street has handicapped curbing.

Mr. Wolfe opened the two bids received for the Fifth Street Reclamation Contract. The two bidders were E.J. Breneman, with a bid of \$38,203.00; and Recon Construction Services, Inc. with a bid of \$19,765.90.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to accept the low bid of \$19,765.90 from Recon Construction Services, Inc., upon approval of the Borough Engineer. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay. Motion passed 3-1.

**New Business**

Mr. Bowersox stated that he believes that the backfilling on Orange Street should be examined.

Mr. Wolfe stated, for the record, that the developer of the Branchview Development had been planning to pave the berms along the roads in that development, but had been told by Mr. Bowersox and the council at that time that they were not to pave the berms. Mr. Bowersox replied that this was not the case. Mr. Troxell stated that when his father built his development, he paid to have the berms paved before the borough accepted the streets.

Mr. Troxell moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman,  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
July 15, 2003, 7:00 p.m.

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 Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Four visitors introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Brian Crebs, Assistant Fire Chief, asked if it is the council’s wishes that the Fire Board pursue a ballot question or attend the budget meetings to obtain tax revenue for apparatus purposes. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council may assess up to 3 mills for fire apparatus. He stated that if the Fire Department is supporting a referendum for greater than 3 mills of tax for fire protection, the Fire Board would need to file a petition with the County Election Board. He recommended that Mr. Crebs check with the county for the exact requirements and due date. Mr. Crebs stated that he intends to be present at the Finance Meeting on July 30<sup>th</sup> with letters from both fire companies supporting tax millage for fire apparatus.

Mr. Crebs asked who to speak to about touring the new midrise. It was recommended that he contact Dale Heim, president of the Northumberland Housing Corporation.

Mr. Bowersox arrived at 7:08 p.m.

**Recycling**

Mr. Phil Hallden and Mr. Tom Wandishin were present, representing the volunteers at the Recycling Center. Mr. Wolfe stated that the recycling volunteers were invited to this meeting to discuss the Recycling Center.

Mr. Wandishin stated that the number of volunteers is down to two clubs, the AYSO and the Lions Club. The amount of recyclables has been reduced. Eliminating the outside dropoff has helped. The Kiwanis Club is considering helping again. He stated that

Wednesday nights are light; Saturdays are busy. Mr. Wandishin asked if there is a possibility of placing containers in Point Township or in town for aluminum and cardboard. With five containers, two for aluminum, two for cardboard, and one for rotation, the group could pick up the containers.

Mayor Brosius stated that she had been contacted several Saturdays because the center was not opened. Mr. Wandishin asked that the office contact him if the center is not opened again.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he and Randy Yoxheimer, Point Township Supervisor, are both in favor of purchasing containers for other locations.

Mrs. Groninger stated that she feels that it should be up to the Recycling volunteers to determine when to have the center opened. Mr. Phil Hallden stated that the center has been manned by four to five people. Mr. Wolfe asked if the volunteers would be in favor of the borough hiring part-time help for the Recycling Center.

Mr. Wandishin stated that the checks were distributed in May. He is currently the treasurer. He also stated that they do have an outlet for magazines. The council had eliminated the collection of magazines and newspapers.

Mr. Hallden stated that the volunteers wanted to eliminate the curbside pickup of these items. However, at the meeting the council decided to reduce the items to aluminum, cardboard, and clear glass.

Mr. Wandishin stated that it has been easier for the volunteers since the curbside pickup has been eliminated.

Mayor Brosius stated that as long as the volunteers are willing to work at the recycling center, she feels that they should be permitted to continue running it. She asked who should be called if she receives calls from residents that the center is not open on scheduled Saturdays. Mr. Wandishin volunteered that she could contact him.

The volunteers received their checks recently for 2002. Mr. Wandishin is currently acting as Treasurer of the group since Dave Smith resigned.

Mr. Wolfe voiced his appreciation for the volunteers and expressed his concern that with the decline in the number of volunteers, the borough could consider hiring someone part-time to help with the work and guarantee that the center is open. Mr. Bowersox stated that whoever is in charge should be aware of what is going on at the center and know if the center is not open. Mr. Wandishin replied that if the council feels more comfortable have a part-time worker at the center, he has no problem with it. However, at this time, the volunteers feel that they will be able to have the center open on Saturday mornings and Wednesday evenings.

Council decided to rely on the volunteers to continue the management of the Recycling Program.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that she has received letters from the Borough Council and the Police Officers that the contract negotiations are now in arbitration.

Bob Ciotti has tendered a letter of resignation from the Fire Board. Mr. Bowersox moved to send Mr. Ciotti a letter of appreciation for his five years of service with the Fire Police. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

The American Legion Post 44 veterans have asked for permission to use the park and gazebo to hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> Memorial Service remembering 9-11. The service is scheduled for September 11, 2003 at 7:30 p.m. Mr. Bowersox moved to grant the permission to use the King Street Park for the Memorial Service. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

The Legion is sponsoring a Chicken Barbeque fundraiser for the Legion Baseball team on July 19<sup>th</sup> and Community Days on July 31, August 1 and August 2.

Mayor Brosius has sent thank you notes to those who contributed to the construction of the pond and sign in the King Street Park. She also thanked the members of the community who volunteered their time to help with the plantings.

Mr. Joseph Epler has voiced concern to the Mayor about the Japanese Cherry trees that are planted at the corners of the King Street park area. Other trees planted close by are crowding out the smaller cherry trees. Council suggested that the Shade Tree Commission be contacted.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher informed the council that the crew has finished painting the yellow curbing. He asked if crosswalks should be painted at A and B Streets where no sidewalks exist. He was told to use his discretion.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the curb and crosswalk painting throughout the borough looks very nice.

The crew currently has 4 part-time workers who are funded through the PHEAA/Degenstein program.

Mr. Bowersox asked what the working hours are in the borough. He was informed that the crew starts at 7:00 a.m. and works until 2:30 p.m. Mr. Bowersox stated that the crew should be taking a 15 minute break and a 30 minute lunch period, as stipulated in the Teamster contract. At this time, the workers prefer to work straight through. Mr. Wolfe stated that the contract is being negotiated and this issue would be discussed with them.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane informed the council of the code office activity for the past month.

A zoning hearing may be required at the end of the month for new construction at the corner of Orange and Fourth Streets. The issue has been given to the solicitor of the Zoning Board.

The Branchview developers have been in contact with Larson Design Group, Inc. The developers are complying with the Borough's stormwater ordinance.

Letters are being sent to property owners concerning repairs to their sidewalks.

Mr. Shaffer reported that weeds are growing at the porch of the house at the corner of Fifth and Duke Streets. The weeds create a problem with seeing the oncoming traffic.

Mr. Wolfe asked if violators of the Rental Ordinance have been issued citations. Mr. Martin stated that he will meet with Mr. Ruane to determine a test case.

Council discussed restricting the conversion of single family homes to multi-family homes. Mr. Carl moved to restrict converting existing homes from single family dwellings to multi-family dwellings as of October 1, 2003. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:47 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:57 p.m. Litigation and personnel issues were discussed.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

##### Fifth Street Project

Mr. Troxell stated that Wolyniec Construction, the contractor who was awarded the curbing contract, has provided the Borough with the prices to install handicapped curbing at the corner of Fifth and Orange Streets. Handicapped curbing is already in place at the Fifth Street intersections with Hanover, King, and Queen Streets.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to approve the change order from Wolyniec Construction. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe stated that Mr. Markunas will be attending the Street Committee meeting tomorrow evening to discuss the berms in the Branchview Development.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve changing the contract with Recon Construction from reclaiming Fifth Street to milling the street, as recommended by the contractor. Mr. Wolfe 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.

## Finance

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the 2002 Audit Report. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.

The Finance Committee meets at 6:30 p.m. on July 30, 2003 in the Borough Building.

## Parks & Recreation

### Liberty Splashland

A Fear Factor Day is planned for Saturday, July 19<sup>th</sup>, at the pool.

### Second Street School

Mr. Carl stated that the Second Street School has been broken into several times. Mayor Brosius suggests that the gym be opened first and heated. The Second Street School Committee needs more members. Currently only three members attend on a regular basis. Mr. Redington stated that funding is a problem. The money approved in the State budget has not been released and it is not known when the funding will be made available. Mr. Bowersox asked if a satellite police office could be located there. Mr. Redington replied that the building has no water, electricity or telephone.

### Pineknotter Park

Mr. Carl asked when the dumpsters would be removed. Mr. Redington stated that the company has applied to DEP for permission to remove the dumpsters. They will be removed as soon as approval is granted.

A change order has been received for the project from Hepco Construction, Inc. Due to the size of the anchor bolts, the foundation design must be changed. The cast in-place reinforced concrete pile cap thickness, for each of the six poles, must be increased from 3 to 4 feet to accommodate the 12" longer anchor bolts. The cost for the additional work to satisfy the change order is \$5,940. With the addition of this Change Order, the new contract price with Hepco Construction, Inc. would be \$129,248.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the change order from Hepco Construction, Inc. providing that the money to fund the change order come from other source, not the Borough. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. Motion failed 3-4.

## Personnel

Mr. Ditton stated that the Police Contract has gone into arbitration at the request of the police.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion that council approves no more than \$2,500 for the funding for arbitration. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe stated that the attorney in Harrisburg has stated that it will be more costly to

the borough not to have legal representation. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion failed 1-6.

#### Property

Mrs. Groninger stated that the trim on the borough building is to be painted.

#### Gazebo

Mr. Wolfe read the two quotes that were received for repairs to the gazebo. One is to replace the railings and posts with cedar at a price of \$4,000 and the other is to replace the railings with white vinyl railings at a cost of \$2,160.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the proposal from Welby Homes for \$2,160 with the project to be completed by August 15<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. 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.

#### Public Safety

No report.

#### **Sewer Authority**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the Sewer Authority is meeting with their contractor on a daily basis regarding the new sewer line that is being installed on Queen Street. Mr. Ditton asked if the contractor would resurface the entire street. Mr. Ruane's answer was that they are to repair the area where the trench was dug. Mr. Bowersox asked what the width of the new amiesite would be. Mr. Ruane replied that it would be a foot on each side of the trench. Mr. Bowersox stated that the width required is two feet on each side and that there are drawings showing this specification in the borough office. Mrs. Groninger asked why the contractor is not putting the top coat on the street cuts. Mr. Ruane stated that the top coat would be completed at one time. Mrs. Groninger asked if the water company would install new curbs where the new fire hydrants were installed. Mr. Ruane replied that they would.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

#### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Ditton made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2003-4. This is the second reading of this ordinance which declares that, "It shall be unlawful for any individual to use a skateboard, roller skates, roller blades, scooters and bicycles on the sidewalks, parking lots or curbs in the King Street Park and downtown business district of the Borough of Northumberland. The downtown business district shall be defined to include Front Street from King to Duke Street and Queen Street from Water to Second Street." Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe read the violations and penalties. A first offense shall result in the confiscation of the skateboards, roller skates, roller blades, scooters and bicycles for a period of thirty (30) days. A second and any subsequent offense shall result in the imposition of a fine to be set forth in the Borough Code Section regarding fines and penalties. The council will determine the fine after the vote to adopt the ordinance. In the event a

minor is involved with any of the offenses enumerated above, the parent(s) or guardian(s) shall be served with written notice of the infraction and person who shall be responsible for the payment of same. Mr. Wolfe called for the roll call vote to adopt Ordinance 2003-4. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion carried 5-1.

2. Mr. Ditton asked if the vendor was given a citation for spilling oil on the street at the park following Pineknott Days. Mayor Brosius explained that Tom Propst bought a power washer and was cleaning the street this morning. Mr. Ditton made an official complaint that the vendor responsible for the spill be cited by the police. He included in his complaint that the party who spilled oil on Brickyard Avenue behind the Hookies several months ago be fined. Mayor Brosius was unaware of this incident. Mr. Ditton questioned if the person was found and if DEP was notified. Mr. Wolfe stated that he understands that Mr. Propst was going to speak to the vendor who spilled the oil on King Street. Mr. Bowersox explained the damage that he has seen done to macadam when oil is spilled on it. Mr. Wolfe stated that he was told that the Kiwanis has a lease to use King Street Park for Pineknott Days. He believes that any organization that is leasing borough property for an event should be held responsible for any damage that occurs during the event. Mayor Brosius replied that Mr. Propst is taking care of the problem.

## **New Business**

### **Requiring Council Approval**

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of June 17 and 19, 2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to pay the bills and to approve transfers for payroll from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General fund total \$57,439.57; bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool Account total \$5,949.34; bills from the Shade Tree account and the Parks and Recreation account each total \$1,000. The money to be transferred from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund for payroll reimbursement for checks dated June 20, 27, July 3 and 11, 2003, total \$9,283.71.
3. The Civil Service Rules and Regulations were discussed. Mr. Ditton voiced concerns about several of the articles. He questioned what supercedes what, the Police Contract or the Civil Service regulations. Mr. Martin explained that the Police Contract governs current employees while the Civil Service contract establishes qualifications for potential employees. If the two documents are not in sync, the Police Contract would control. Mr. Ditton explained that the lengths of time for probation do not agree and reasons for dismissal during probation are not the same. Mr. Ditton also noted the differences in the requirements for physical fitness tests. The Civil Service testing is not graded by age, as is the MOPEC testing. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Civil Service Commission be provided with a copy of the Police Contract, once the new one is adopted, to streamline the rules and regulations to include provisions in the police contract. Chief Redington stated that the Borough's current regulations are from the 1960's. The committee obtained current regulations from the state and modeled these regulations from the

state regulations. When asked which set of rules would apply should a question arise, Mr. Martin stated that the employee may opt into union remedies or Civil Service remedies. He asked if the part-time employees are members of the union. While they are not members, their compensation is addressed by the contract. Mr. Wolfe tabled the document.

4. The Borough Code includes a Northumberland Equal Housing Opportunity Committee. At this time, no one is appointed to the committee. Mr. Wolfe tabled this topic and requested that a copy of this section of the Borough Code be provided to each council member.
5. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt Resolution J-2003. This resolution amends the Schedule of Fees and Penalties. Penalties for two approved ordinances are required. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the following penalties as Resolution J-2003. The penalty for violating Ordinance 2003-4 is to have the skateboard, bicycle, rollerblades, scooter, etc. confiscated for 30 days for the first offence; and a fine of \$25.00 for the next offense and \$50.00 for subsequent offenses, plus restitution of any property damage. The second penalty is for violation of Article 58-22-A of the Borough Code. This section of the code permits right turns only from Queen Street onto Water Street and from Water Street, traveling north, onto Queen Street. The penalty for this violation is \$25.00, plus costs. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion to amend the Schedule of Fees and Penalties. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Wolfe asked what the borough needs to do so the ordinance may be enforced. Signs will need to be erected for the enforcement of this ordinance.
6. Mr. Shaffer moved to adopt Resolution K-2003. This resolution addresses the subject of Sexual Harassment/ intimidation. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
7. Mr. Shaffer moved to renew the borough's Floating Structure Permit from the Pennsylvania Fish & Boat Commission at a cost of \$10.00. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
8. Mr. Wolfe received letter from Anne-Katrin Weischedel, MD of Strawbridge Family Medicine requesting a handicapped parking space at 614 Queen Street for Catherine Marks. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to provide a handicapped parking space. No second was offered to the motion. The motion died for lack of a second.
9. Mr. Troxell asked for permission to put out specifications for a new borough truck. Mr. Wolfe stated that council has approved the purchase.
10. Mr. Carl stated that one bid was received for the handicapped ramp and was well below the minimum bid established by the Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Shaffer suggested advertising the handicapped ramp on Ebay.
11. Mr. Carl informed the council that a day camp, run at the Kiwanis Building, by Northumberland County Children and Youth, was eliminated. The county had also contracted to use the pool during the weeks of the day camp. The pool loses

approximately \$5,000 this summer since this camp is no longer taking place in the borough.

12. Mr. Carl asked if the water line could be completed. He requested for the work to be done in April. The last water bill was \$2,000. Mr. Troxell will discuss this request with Mr. Fisher.
13. Mr. Bowersox stated that width of the paving on the street cuts should be two feet on each side. Mr. Ruane stated that this width is not included in the PennDOT book. Mr. Bowersox stated that it has been adopted by the state and Don Free would have the information.
14. Mayor Brosius asked if the council would consider an ordinance to restrict signs. Mr. Shaffer suggested that the parties who erect the signs be approached and asked to move them. No action was taken.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857**  
August 5, 2003, 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, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilman Greg Carl was absent due to a work commitment.

Seventeen members of the public introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Mrs. Fran Bogovich asked of the status of the ordinance limiting rental units in the borough. Mr. Wolfe stated that the ordinance is in the planning stages.

Mrs. Bogovich asked if anything had been done about the water pressure on the hill during a power outage. Mr. Shaffer explained that the company is planning to install a new water tower on the hill. A letter has been sent to the PUC informing them of the situation. The company indicated that if the power were to be out for more than a few hours, a portable generator would be brought in. Mrs. Bogovich’s concern is the lack of water pressure should a fire occur.

Mr. James Groninger voiced his opinion that Queen Street, from Fourth to Sixth Streets, is in terrible condition due to work that has been performed this year. He feels that the Sewer Authority is negligent in their awarding of the contract and negligent in conforming to the Borough Codes. He also voiced concern about Fifth Street between Hanover and Orange Streets. Ms. Cindy Lark responded that the work on Queen Street is not yet completed. When a bid is advertised, the Sewer Authority must accept the lowest bid, unless they are aware of a reason the contractor would not be suitable. The company’s references were checked and the bid was awarded. A walk-through was conducted today. Mr. Ruane informed the company that he is not satisfied with the paving job that was completed on Queen Street. He stated that the paving has a “washboard” effect. Mrs. Groninger stated that the destruction is incredible where the laterals came into the curbs. The water from the sump pumps is lying on the street and cannot get to the drains. Mr. Ruane stated that HRI would put a new topcoat on Queen Street from Brickyard to Fifth Street. Mrs. Groninger asked if the Sewer Authority is paying to install a topcoat. Ms. Lark stated that

the Sewer Authority is using the money that was in their contract for road restoration to pay the borough toward the complete restoration. Mrs. Groninger asked if the Sewer Authority has enough money to pay the bill. Ms. Lark assured that they do. Mr. Groninger suggested that the Sewer Authority should pay for restoration from Fourth to Sixth Street. He added that the Sewer Authority has destroyed at least 60% of the street in these two blocks. Mr. Wolfe suggested that a meeting be scheduled with the Sewer Authority and the Street Committee. The construction work on Fifth Street was completed approximately 13 years ago, according to Mr. Bowersox.

Ms. Marian Shannon requested that her address be changed. It is currently 358½ Orange Street and the house is situated on Ropewalk Avenue. The Borough Office will contact the county Emergency Management office and assign a house number on Ropewalk Avenue. Ms. Shannon and the Post Office will be notified of the new address.

Mr. Wolfe read the following commentary pertaining to the Second Street Community Center fire:

On behalf of the Northumberland Borough Council, I wish to express appreciation for the quick response of the area volunteer fire departments and the Northumberland Police Department during the recent fire at the Second Street Community Center. We feel fortunate to have skilled people who are willing to assist during such emergencies. The Council also thanks the neighbors for their cooperation and understanding.

The official determination, announced on July 31, is that the fire was arson, deliberately set by juveniles. It is unfortunate that the July 30<sup>th</sup> news article cited the instantaneous combustion of bales of straw, left from the Haunted House, as the cause of the fire, and named Councilman Greg Carl as the person responsible for the Haunted House. These statements gave the erroneous impression that Mr. Carl was ultimately responsible for the fire. The Borough Council appreciates the amount of time and energy that Mr. Carl has generously given for the betterment our community. Mr. Carl has overseen two successful Haunted House fundraisers, and has volunteered countless hours improving Liberty Splashland. Those of us who have worked with Mr. Carl have the utmost respect for him and feel fortunate to have him on Borough Council.

It should be noted that the bales of straw that had been used for the Haunted House were also used for the Soap Box race and were stored on the stage, in the open gym. Borough employees and officials have been in the building and were aware of the items stored there. The temperature of the building was never high enough to cause concern that a fire could spontaneously ignite.

As reported by The Daily Item, the Borough awaits funding from the state for renovations to the building. The funding has been approved by the State Congress, and currently sits in the state budget awaiting release by the Governor. We are all hopeful that this funding will be forthcoming in the near future and that the goal of a Community Center in Northumberland may soon be realized.

#### **Branchview Development, Inc.**

Mr. Chuck Thompson, PE, of Uni-Tec Consulting Engineers, explained the steps taken by his company for Branchview Development, Inc. to comply with the Borough's storm water ordinance. He explained Phases IV and V and their locations in the Borough on Truman Lane and Madison Street. He explained that several (9) small basins are to be located in the area, consistent with their plan that the storm water not be carried to one location; but

to spread it throughout the hill. In addition, one large detention facility is located in the development and a roof sump detail is planned for the development.

The company has received comments from Larson Design Group, Inc. Mr. Thompson's goal is to address these comments and ultimately comply with the Borough's stormwater ordinance. Mr. Shaffer asked what contingency plan is in place to avoid a homeowner's possible change in the way one lot may be addressed. Mr. Thompson replied that he plans to work with the developer and Larson's to include provisions that would address this possibility.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the slope to the property, adding that the borough had to install a swale to account for improper drainage in sections of the development that were approved prior to the stormwater ordinance. Mr. Thompson stated that the contractor is working to comply with the stormwater ordinance for this phase of the development. Mr. Bowersox asked about the shoulders planned for the development. Mr. Thompson stated that he feels that eight (8) foot shoulders may be excessive. He suggested that the shoulders could be a paved shoulder of three (3) feet in width rather than the eight (8) foot stone shoulders. Mr. Thompson stated that shoulders are necessary for traditional parking. Mr. Thompson asked if the work in the development could proceed once the development meets with the Borough engineer's approval.

The Borough's subdivision ordinance specifies a twenty (20) foot paved cartway, with eight (8) foot shoulders. Mr. Thompson is proposing a paved area of twenty-six (26) feet. Mrs. Groninger stated that Penn DOT has informed the borough that the developer should pave from berm to berm and install a rolled curb to eliminate a lot of water runoff. Mr. Thompson replied that the developer is proposing a wider road with a paved shoulder, instead of the narrower road with and wider stone shoulder. He asked if a thirty-six (36) foot width of pavement is necessary or if a narrower paved roadway would suffice. Mr. Thompson stated that a paved shoulder would hold up better over time than would a stone shoulder. Mr. Shaffer stated that emergency vehicles are getting bigger not smaller and he is in favor of paving 36 feet across.

Mr. Max Inkrote, of Larson Design Group, Inc. informed the group that he has reviewed the development specifications and offered to meet with the engineer to review the plans. He added he was in favor of a paved shoulder.

### **Pineknoller Park Update**

Mr. Bob Bauder, of Larson Design Group, Inc., stated that he was successful in reducing the cost to install the anchor bolts at the park. It was determined that one foot of the anchor bolts could be cut off. The bolts will be taken to Logue Industries in Montoursville to be shortened and will be returned to be installed without extra cost. The cost to have the bolts shortened is approximately \$10.00 each. Mr. Bauder stated that he was in contact with the bolt supplier to make sure how to handle the treatment of the bolts. Due to the delay, the holes at the park were uncovered, exposing the garbage. The borough crew has taken care of covering the holes and the dumpsters should be taken to the landfill shortly.

Mr. Bauder added that he is looking forward to the project proceeding and is sorry for the delays. Mr. Bauder stated that the driving of the piles was successfully accomplished and is documented.

Mrs. Groninger moved to approve a purchase order to shorten the 24 bolts at a cost of approximately \$10.00 each. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius proposed that a new police vehicle be purchased with funding from the Parking Meter account and the \$4,000 that has been approved in the 2003 budget for capital purchases.

Mr. Bowersox moved to purchase a new police vehicle through a 2-year lease buyout at a cost of approximately \$22,000 for the vehicle plus \$2,000 for the extra equipment necessary. For the year 2003, a total cost of \$17,000 has been approved toward the purchase of the vehicle. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote was called. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

Mayor Brosius sent a letter to Governor Rendell asking him to release the capital funds for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Street Community Center. The \$750,000 funding was approved by Congress and is in the state budget.

Mayor Brosius conducted a Krafty Korner at the Girl Scout House for six weeks. She thanked the Council for their support and added that about 25 children had enrolled.

Mayor Brosius thanked Mr. Amos Zook for watering the plants in the downtown.

The Mayor's report is on file in the Borough Office.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the Sewer Authority is working with the Borough to correct the construction work that is being done on Queen Street.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher asked for permission to remove a dead tree at the Second Street School. Permission was granted.

Mr. Fisher asked what would be expected of the Borough Crew to maintain the pond this fall. Mayor Brosius replied that the Revitalization Committee would be asked as to what would be required.

Mr. Troxell stated that he would appreciate that the crewmembers have their pagers turned on during a storm.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the Code Office activity for the month of July. A written report is on file in the Borough Office.

Mr. Ruane attended a seminar concerning OSHA requirements. Mr. Ruane felt that the seminar was very informative. Although the Borough is not required to comply with OSHA, if a contractor is digging a ditch deeper than five feet, and does not shore it up, the borough could be held liable.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that a stormwater problem exists at the rear of the property at 455 Fifth Street, next to Brickyard Avenue. He showed a picture of the area. The crew has been called out several times to fill in a hole that develops during heavy rains. Mr. Inkrote will review the situation.

Mr. Ruane also stated that a water problem exists at the rear of several properties in the 400 block of Queen Street. Mr. Inkrote explained that we have been experiencing more rainwater this year than in the past years. He does not feel that this problem would have occurred with average rainfall. Mrs. Groninger stated that one of the neighbors, Mr. Gautsch, used to have a willow tree between the two properties and the tree is not drinking any water any more. Mr. Inkrote agreed that this would account for more water in the yards. He also noted the amount of rainfall and the height of the river this summer. Mr. Bowersox asked what the safety factor was. Mr. Inkrote replied that ground water is not addressed as part of the safety factor of the stormwater project.

Mr. Ruane stated that Verizon has addressed the bill submitted for damage to the stormwater pipe on Orange Street. The pipe was damaged by Verizon several years ago. They have stated that the bill will be paid and asked that the Borough provide a permit for the building project at the Verizon building on Front Street. Mrs. Groninger moved to go forward with the Verizon project at the building on Front Street, with their word that the repair bill will be reimbursed. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Ruane informed the Council that Roy Sulouff, the Code Officer in Point Township, has requested that the Borough change the name of Penn Street in Northumberland, because there is also a Penn Street in Point Township. Twenty residences are located on the street in Point Township while just one or two residences are located on Penn Street in the Borough. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to change the name of Penn Street to Westway Avenue. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted no. The motion carried 4-2.

Mr. Ruane stated the Mr. Eugene Brouse has requested permission for a subdivision of his double lot on Elliott Drive. The lot meets the standards set in the Borough ordinance. The Northumberland Planning Commission as well as the Northumberland County Planning Commission has approved the request. Mr. Wolfe stated the only time Paul brings any of these to the Council is when the Planning Commissions have already approved them. Mr. Troxell made a motion to approve the request, and Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Role call vote. Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. The motion carried 5-1.

Mrs. Fasold had already received approval for the Fasold subdivision, but had not filed with the County Register and Recorder's Office within the required ninety (90) days. Mr. Shaffer asked if the plans were in compliance now and it was stated they are. Mr. Troxell made a motion to approve the request for the Fasold subdivision and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

## **Committee Reports**

### Streets

Mr. Troxell stated that the curbing is being installed on Fifth Street. The trees have been removed.

Mr. Inkrote stated that the issues remaining with the Stormwater Project are to be addressed. He hoped that the work would begin this week and thinks the stormy weather has delayed the work. Mr. Inkrote feels that the drainage problem in a property owner's backyard is the responsibility of the property owner.

Chief Redington, Mr. Bowersox, and Dr. McGinnis will be meeting to discuss the Duke Street traffic issue.

Mrs. Bowman stated that the wooden planter at the Hookies has not yet been moved. A letter was sent to Mr. Pete Gallo, of the Hookie's House Committee, on June 25, 2003. The letter requested that the Hookies move the planter because the curbing contractor needed it to be moved back about 2 feet so he could remove the old curbing. She added that it may be necessary to have the borough crew remove the planter tomorrow so the contractor can continue with his work. Mr. Troxell asked if the Borough could bill the Hookies for the borough crew's work, like anyone else would be billed. Council agreed that the Hookies should be billed for the crew's labor to remove the planter.

Mr. Wolfe asked Mr. Troxell if there were any problems with on-going projects that Mr. Inkrote should know about. Mr. Inkrote stated that the items that were discussed last year with HRI are being addressed. It is necessary for HRI to wait until the Sewer Authority has completed its work on Queen Street before the repairs to the stormwater project can be made. Knowing that the Sewer Authority was going to pay their contractor for repairing the street, Mr. Inkrote had worked out an agreement that the money that would have been spent by the Sewer Authority for the paving, be paid to the Borough, so the Borough could have HRI pave Queen Street from Brickyard Avenue to Fifth Street.

Mr. Ruane stated, for the record that he did not like the paving job on Queen Street, between 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets. The Sewer Authority is aware of this. Mr. Ruane contacted Don Free, of PennDOT, and Mr. Free explained why the street job was rippled. With the number of wires overhead, the contractor could not keep the truck bed up and pave the street in one continuous stretch. Mr. Free felt that this contributed to the ripple effect.

Mr. Wolfe addressed Cindy Lark of the Sewer Authority and stated that the issue has come up on the stormwater project verses what the Sewer Authority's project. Mr. Inkrote has been trying to contact the Sewer Authority's engineer so everyone is on the "same page" and the communications isn't there. Ms. Lark stated that their engineer has been in the borough once a week and he attends all of their meetings. Ms. Lark offered to contact their engineer to meet with the borough and Mr. Inkrote.

Mr. Schaffer stated the simple solution is that the "rippling" has to disappear. He stated if that means the contractor has to pay to have those overhead wires removed

so he can get in and make the paving right, from Fourth to Sixth Street, that is what he will have to do.

Mr. Wolfe stated a meeting should be set up with the Sewer Authority to hash out the problem with the street.

Mr. Wolfe stated it has been raining or snowing since October 2002. There was more discussion about the stormwater project and the problem of the flooding of people's yards. Mr. Inkrote does not believe that this problem can be attributed to the borough's stormwater project.

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that at the July 30<sup>th</sup> meeting, the Finance Committee discussed allocating money for arbitration of the police union contract and the Gazebo repair.

Letters have been sent to the committee chairman for 2004 budget requests. The library has made a request to attend the meeting.

The Finance committee will meet Wednesday, August 13 at 6:30 p.m. and September 10 at 6:30 p.m.

#### Parks & Recreation – no report

#### Personnel

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept Michael Mertz's resignation from the Planning Commission, with regret. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.

Motion passed unanimously.

#### Committee Appointments

Mr. Wolfe stated that there are two openings on the Appeals Board, which consists of three members. Linda Hixson and Judy A. Schmidt have volunteered to serve on the Appeals Board. Mr. Troxell made a motion to appoint Judy Schmidt to the term ending on January 31, 2006, and Linda Hixson to the term ending on January 31, 2004. Mr. Schaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. Mr. Robert Waltz is the third member of the Board. His term ends on January 31, 2005.

Mr. Robert Orr, Sr. has volunteered to serve on the Parks and Recreation Commission. Mr. Schaffer made the motion to appoint Mr. Orr to the commission. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Bowersox voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion carried 4-2.

Mr. Bob Sabol's appointment to Zoning Board ends on August 31, 2003. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to reappoint Mr. Sabol to a term to end August 31, 2006. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

### Northumberland Equal Housing Opportunity Committee

This committee is required by a Fair Housing Enforcement Administrative Plan adopted on December 29, 1982 as Ordinance No. 380. Mr. Wolfe stated this committee ensures that fair housing is being enforced in the borough. The committee is to consist of three members, one member of the Borough Council, one member of the Planning Commission, and a resident not employed or working for the borough. The Kiwanis Club is to appoint this member. The Council will appoint the members to serve from the Council and the Planning Commission. Mr. Wolfe tabled the appointments to The Northumberland Equal Opportunity Housing.

### Property

The Second Street School committee met last evening. They would like to continue with the concept of converting the building into a Community Center. In light of what happened (the fire), one way to preclude a future occurrence is to, as quickly as possible, convert the building into something that can be used. In order to do this, the building needs to be heated and water would need to be turned on for restroom facilities. The committee would like to see the gymnasium, and to some extent, the newer wing, utilized. They discussed downsizing the Capital Fund campaign to raise money for heat. They anticipate the cost will run around \$100,000 to totally heat the building. The committee plans to contact the architect to shift gears from the building design to viable ways of heating the building, from short-term scale to the total building.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he would like to know the opinions of all the council members, adding that this should be a wake-up call and that the building should not be vacant for another 3 years. Mrs. Groninger recommended that the council not take a negative approach at this time. She suggested that Governor Rendell be invited to a town meeting with the hope that he will see the possibilities and release the funds that are in the budget for renovating the structure. Mr. Troxell asked what provisions have been considered for the daily expenses. Mr. Shaffer agreed with Mrs. Groninger and added that it is the only place in town where a Community Center can be established. Mr. Ditton agreed, stating that he would like to see something in the building, whether it is permanent or temporary. He does not feel that the entire building need be utilized at one time. Mrs. Groninger remembered the positive effect the Circus had on the community. Mr. Shaffer stated that the new wing is under roof and has 2 bathrooms in it and there is electricity in it. Mr. Bowersox suggested that the council forget the “no raising of the taxes” and get the building heated before spring.

Mr. Brosius, a member of the committee, stated that the committee was looking forward to getting the funding from the state. Since it now appears that this money will not be forthcoming, he stated that the committee is interested, with the council’s support, in obtaining funding to put the gymnasium to use. They would hope to accomplish this goal within a short period of time. Council voiced its support to the committee in this goal. Mr. Wolfe stated he has a concern for the safety of the building. Discussion continued regarding the various groups who would be interested in using the building. Mr. Wolfe stated that if in 6 or 12 months nothing has changed the council might want to consider selling the

property. Mr. Wolfe stated there is free ad space from the radio stations to promote the Community Center campaign. The electricity is going to be reconnected at the school. It had been disconnected the night of the fire.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to allow the Fire Police to participate in the Annual Firefighter's Parade in Middleburg on August 7, 2003. Mr. Schaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

#### Old Business - None

#### New Business

1. Mr. Schaffer proposed to accept the minutes of July 17, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to pay the bills, including \$1000 to EMC. This is the amount of the deductible that the insurance company paid to the Harold Fromm estate. Also included in the motion is a payment to HEPCO for \$9,335.86 for work completed at Pineknottter Park. Mr. Schaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$32,805.59; and the Liberty Pool bills total \$4,048.81.
3. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve transfers for payroll from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund. Mr. Schaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. The amount to be transferred is \$6,999.98.
4. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the transfer of \$8,500, per the 2003 Budget, to the Liberty Pool Account. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. This is funding collected through the Recreation Tax. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
5. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to appoint Paul Ruane and James Tamecki as the Borough's Governmental Member Representatives to the International Code Council (ICC). As voting members, they would vote to approve any changes in the International Building Code. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.
6. The Senior Action Center requested that the Borough waive the rental fee for Pineknottter Park pavilion for the center's picnic on 8-13-03. Discussion. Mr. Ditton made a motion to wave the rental fee; Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Bowersox, and Mr. Ditton voted aye. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Troxell voted no. The vote was tied 3-3. Mayor Brosius voted yes to break the tie. Motion carried 4-3.
7. Mayor Brosius received a call from the Front Street Station regarding their playing of live music. The issue will need to be reviewed by the ordinance committee. A meeting date will be determined and advertised. The members of the Ordinance Committee are Mr. Ditton, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Carl.
8. Ms. Lark stated that since the fire in the Second Street School, her children now understand why the Borough adopts laws that govern the use (and misuse) of public property.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street,**  
**Northumberland, PA 17857**  
August 19, 2003, 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, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Esquire, Borough Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilman Greg Carl was absent due to a work commitment.

**PA Treasury Department – David McKay**

Mr. McKay explained services offered by the Treasury Department.

- The first program explained was the TAP program. This program is a savings program for college tuition. TAP stands for Tuition Account Plan. To obtain an enrollment kit, call 1-800-440-4000.
- Unclaimed Property was the next program explained. Stocks, bonds, savings accounts that are unclaimed are turned over to the state Treasury Department. This office tries to locate the proper owner. Notices are mailed to the last known address of property owners in an effort to return the property to the rightful owner.
- The third program is the Bureau of Contracts. Loan of Business Loans is to help small business owners with loans up to \$150,000. They award more than 40,000 contracts annually for goods and services.
- AgriLink is an agricultural loan program to help local farmers.
- The final program, Invest, is a cash management program for local governments and non-profit organizations. Invest money is not co-mingled with stated revenues.

Pamphlets explaining these programs are available in the Borough Office.

**Public Comment**

The ten visitors introduced themselves.

Mrs. Elizabeth Metzger stated that a problem exists with water lying in the backyard of the property she owns at 476-478 Queen Streets. She asked that the council look at the

situation and see what can be done. Mrs. Groninger stated that the Borough Engineer has looked at the property and has stated that it is not related to the stormwater project that was completed last year. The engineer had also interviewed the owner of an adjacent property, Mr. Farrow, who told him that a spring exists in his backyard and the yard is always wet. Mr. Shaffer added that the engineer had said that this year is the wettest in many years. It was also stated that two large willow trees that were in a neighboring yard have been removed. These trees would have soaked up a lot of the water. Mrs. Metzger believes that the water is coming from a broken line. The water lays in the yard and smells like sewer water. Ms. Lark, from the Sewer Authority, stated that they had checked standing water at the Gautsch residence, the property next to Mrs. Metzger's property, several years ago and it was determined to be stagnant water. It was noted that rainspouts from a residence and a garage in the alley extend into the yard. Mr. Martin stated that if the water is following the natural flow of the land, and this property is the natural low spot, the borough would have no liability. If properties have rainspouts emptying into the yard, they should be redirected. Mr. Wolfe stated that the water company would be contacted to determine if a leak exists. He also requested that the sewer authority check on the problem.

Dr. Ralph Cianphlone presented plans to build a carwash on Duke Street, at the corner of Fourth Street. Currently this commercial property is a car lot and a residence. Mid-Penn Engineering, from Lewisburg, is designing the plans. Mr. Ruane stated that a car wash is not included in the Borough Zoning Ordinance as a special exception.

Mr. Bowersox moved to amend the Zoning Ordinance to include car wash as a special exception. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Mr. Martin explained the process that must be followed. The Northumberland County Planning Commission is provided with the information and is given 30 days to respond. The Borough must advertise the proposed ordinance, and conduct a public meeting to allow the public a chance to respond to the proposal. The Council would then vote to accept the ordinance. Mr. Martin advised that the statutes for advertising must be followed. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss litigation and personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

### **Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Brosius announced that the new police car is in the parking lot.
- Several parking meters need repaired.
- Mayor Brosius requested that Mr. Wolfe examine the computers in the Police Department. They need updating.
- The Governor's office responded to the Mayor's letter regarding Second Street School.
- SUN Home thanked the council for the use of the King Street Park for their Chicken BBQ.

The Mayor's Report is on file in the Borough Office.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark reported on the meeting held at the Borough Office with the Sewer Authority, the Borough's engineer, and Street Committee members. The Sewer Authority has given deadlines to their contractor to repair the work on Queen Street. If the repair work is not completed in a timely matter, the Sewer Authority will hire another contractor and charge the original contractor for the work. The authority has not yet paid the contractor. Mr. Jack Snyder, a member of the Sewer Authority, stated that the authority is not any happier with this contractor than the borough. Mr. Shaffer agreed that payment should be withheld from the contractor until the construction is corrected.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher reported that an inlet at the corner of Third and King Streets needs repaired. The street crew plans to pour concrete in the bottom of the box and top it with flowable fill. The hole is approximately 5-6 feet deep.

Four windows have been shot out at the Second Street School, above where the plywood was installed.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane stated that the property owner at the Third and King Street intersection has placed a large rock at the corner to prohibit traffic from driving over her new sidewalks. No curbing exists at this area.

Mr. Ruane stated that a property owner at the corner of Queen and Second Streets is renovating a single family dwelling and converting it to a double house.

A property owner on Third Street had requested permission to subdivide a double lot. Mr. Ruane informed her that the ordinance does not permit her to subdivide her lot due to the minimum square footage required for a lot.

Mr. Ruane condemned the house at 38 King Street. The former resident has moved out. The new tenant has been given two weeks to clean the property and bring it up to code.

Mr. Ruane and Mr. Martin have discussed the Renter's Ordinance. A notice will be sent to a property owner who has not complied with the ordinance.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

##### Fifth Street Project

Mr. Troxell stated that the curbing is being installed on Fifth Street. Mr. Bowersox asked if the distorted curbing was fixed and when the curbing was sawed. He added that he saw good-looking curb and lousy looking curb. He asked if the curbing was sawed within 24 hours. Mr. Ditton stated that the curbing was sawed the same day that it was poured. Mr. Ruane stated that the cracks would be addressed and that there are no honeycombs in the finished curb, as required by PennDOT specifications. Mr. Bowersox stated that there are honeycombs below

the finished curblin and cracks in the curbing on the Hookies' side of Fifth Street due to the curb not being sawed in the time required.

#### Branchview Development

Mr. Wolfe has spoken with the developer, Mr. William Roll. Mr. Roll explained that the Borough's subdivision ordinance provides for a fifty-foot borough right-of-way; a 20-foot cartway with 8-foot graded shoulders on each side. At the August 5<sup>th</sup> council meeting, attended by the development's engineer, council requested that the total paved roadway be at least 32 feet. At that time, the engineer offered to pave a total of 26 feet, the 20-foot cartway, and 3-foot paved shoulders on each side. In that the ordinance stipulates a 20-foot cartway with 8-foot graded shoulders, the Borough is not in a position to require anything beyond that. By paving a 26-foot width, the developer is exceeding the ordinance requirements. Mr. Bowersox suggested that the council consider paving the additional feet of the roadway when the developer paves the streets. He feels that the paved width should total at least 32 feet. This suggestion will be considered.

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that the committee met on August 13<sup>th</sup>. The departmental meetings for determining the 2004 budget begin on September 10<sup>th</sup>. The committee would prefer to find additional revenues, rather than increasing taxes or eliminating services.

#### Parks & Recreation

##### Pineknott Park

The bolts for the light poles have been cut and some have been installed. The concrete pads will be poured once all the bolts are installed. The light poles are scheduled to be delivered soon.

The Shikellamy Braves Baseball Booster Club requested the use of the park for a baseball tournament on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>, 2004. Mr. Mark Nogle will be responsible for overseeing the activity at the field. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to approve the use of the Pineknott Park field for the baseball tournament sponsored by the Shikellamy Braves Baseball Booster Club. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed how to clean up the area behind the field. One suggestion was to place the excess gravel on Westway Street and grade it fill in the problem spots. No decision was made at this time.

Mayor Brosius reported that the Anselmo Fund has contributed money to Liberty Splashland and the summer recreation program.

#### Personnel

Committee Appointments – Planning Commission

Mr. Ditton moved to appoint Michael Hubicki to the Planning Commission to a term ending August 31, 2006. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

#### Property

##### Second Street School

A letter has been received from Atty. Jeffrey Apfelbaum regarding \$45,000 funding from the Degenstein Foundation for the Second Street School. Atty. Martin will contact Atty. Apfelbaum for more information.

The Insurance Adjuster has requested a meeting with the Property Committee. The committee members would be available to meet on Friday at 9:00 a.m. The Borough Office will contact the Insurance Adjuster with this meeting date.

Public Safety – No report

#### Old Business

##### 1. Ordinance 2003-5

This ordinance regulates the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in certain areas. Atty. Martin explained that the borough may not exclude the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in the entire borough. He recommended that the council decide in which zones the conversion of properties would be allowed. He explained the process to amend the zoning ordinance. Council discussed the areas where the conversion of the properties would be permitted. Northumberland has three residential zones, as well as areas zoned industrial, commercial business district, highway commercial, and open space. Council members will review the zoning map and discuss the options at the September 2<sup>nd</sup> council meeting.

#### New Business

##### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adopt the minutes of August 5, 2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the payment of the bills, including the SUN Bank and Penn Vest loan payments, the solicitor's monthly stipend, and bills for supplies for Kids' Krafty Korner. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 6-0. General Fund bills total \$19,323.41; Liberty Pool bills total \$966.15.
3. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the transfer August 8<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> payrolls for Liberty Pool account to the General Fund. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. The amount transferred would be \$4,039.43. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

4. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the transfer of the PHEAA reimbursement of \$2,849.88 for summer employees from the General Fund to the Liberty Pool account. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
  
5. Resolution L-2003  
Mr. Wolfe explained that the Front Street Station has an outdoor café where music is played on Friday and Saturday evenings during the summer months. The Borough Code permits this. However, the Liquor Control Board does not permit the amplified music. A process may be completed whereby the restaurant may continue this entertainment, providing the Borough Council pass a resolution and provide additional information to the Liquor Control Board. Mr. Troxell made the motion to accept Resolution L-2003 and Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.
  
6. Mr. Troxell made a motion to amend Resolution H-2000 from a 2-foot cutback to a 1-foot cutback. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Atty. Martin advised that Mr. Troxell should abstain from the vote because his business could be affected. Mrs. Groninger explained that other communities and PennDOT typically require that the utilities comply with a one-foot cut back. Mr. Bowersox replied that this motion would benefit the contractors. Roll call vote. Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted nay; Mr. Troxell abstained. Motion passed 4-1.
  
7. Mr. Ditton informed the council that a new law was recently passed by the state which provides that, should a police officer die, whether on or off-duty, his wife is entitled to the police officer's salary for the rest of her life. Mr. Ditton will obtain more information to determine what type of coverage this may necessitate.
  
8. Afternoon and evening meetings are scheduled for Thursday, August 21<sup>st</sup> regarding the bypass. Mr. Ditton plans to attend. Mr. Troxell would also like to attend.

Mr. Shaffer made the motion 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  
September 2, 2003, 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, Greg Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Judith Groninger was out of town.

Three members of the public were present.

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment was offered.

Mr. Bowersox apologized to the council for standing out on the alley and raising his voice.

**Mayor's Report**

- Mayor Brosius announced that a Remembrance Service would be held in King Street Park on September 11<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 7:00 p.m. as a joint endeavor with Point Township. The service is being planned by the American Legion and the Veterans.
- A Dedication Ceremony will be held on October 18<sup>th</sup> in King Street Park to dedicate the Memorial Pond and Garden, along with a rededication of the Gettysburg monument, which has recently been moved. The Veterans will be participating in the ceremony.
- The Mayor received a correspondence from the Red Cross, thanking the Borough for the use of the Liberty Pool for their Swim & Safety Program.
- The Northumberland Housing Corporation is hosting an open house at the new midrise on September 9<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m. for the council members.
- Chief Redington has submitted his August Report. Mayor Brosius informed the council that several parking meters are not working. The parts for the meters are currently available; however, this style of meter is being phased out. Mayor Brosius suggested that the council consider upgrading the meters to a digital

meter at a cost of \$140 each. She added that the borough could replace a specified number of meters each year. Mr. Bowersox requested that prices for various styles of meters be obtained.

- Mayor Brosius stated that several residents who live in the downtown area have requested parking permits. Council will consider the feasibility of providing annual parking permits.
- The Police Department has received the new police vehicle. One of the older vehicles will be sold as well as a working light bar. It was suggested that the items could be advertised on Ebay. Atty. Martin advised that this method would be legal.

The Mayor's Report is on file in the Borough Office.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark announced that the Sewer Authority held a job conference today with the contractor. The Sewer Authority's top priority is to have the block between Fifth Street and Brickyard Avenue completed. Mr. Bowersox asked if the flat pipe that was installed is one of the items on the drawing board. Ms. Lark replied that it is.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher provided a written report to the council. The street crew has been working on refurbishing the trim on the Borough Building.

Mr. Todd Snyder, a member of the Street Crew, stated that people are dropping brush off at the Recycling Center. The council had announced that brush would no longer be accepted. The crew will put up a rope to block off the area.

The crew filled in the area along Fifth Street so residents could get into their driveways. Mr. Bowersox stated that the contractor who installed the curbing should have filled in the area.

The stop sign at the corner of King and Third Streets was moved closer to the corner.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of August. His report is on file in the Borough Office.

Mr. Ruane requested that the yellow light bar from the police car be transferred to the code car. He suggested that the cost to install it could come from the Code Office budget. It was also recommended that the transmission from the old police car be transferred to the code car.

Mr. Shaffer moved to transfer the transmission and the "arrow stick" from the police car to the code car. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

Mr. Bowersox asked about the number of street cuts. Mr. Ruane explained that one was for the Sewer Authority, one for the gas company, and one for the water company.

Mr. Ditton asked if the stormwater from the new Priestley Extension would be tied into the borough's storm sewers. Mr. Ruane replied that their drainage would not tie into the borough's system, but would extend to the river. Mr. Troxell added that the borough engineer has approved their plans.

Mr. Carl stated that the contractor for Verizon has driven on the sidewalk to unload their trailer. He asked if it is permitted to drive on the sidewalks. No clear answer was given at this time.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss litigation and personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:45 p.m.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

Mr. Troxell stated that during the last few storms, the storm sewers have had some problems, but nothing serious.

#### Bid Opening for New Truck

Mr. Wolfe opened the bids for the new truck for the street department. Four bids were received. The low bidder was Sunbury Motor Company with a bid of \$49,297.00. Mr. Ditton asked why the committee was looking at only Ford trucks. Mr. Troxell stated that the Ford trucks are heavier than others. Mr. Redington informed the council that the borough is enrolled in the Ford Motor plan to lease/ purchase vehicles. Information will be obtained. No color determination was made at this time. Mr. Troxell made the motion to purchase the truck from Sunbury Motors at the stated price. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.

#### Finance

The committee will meet next Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the 2004 budget.

#### Parks & Recreation

The committee will meet on the third Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Brosius stated that the council should make a policy about moving benches in the park. She feels that the benches should not be moved every time there is a function.

#### Personnel

Committee Appointments

Mr. Shaffer moved to appoint Mr. Matt Markunas to the Planning Commission to a term ending 8/31/05. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Property

Second Street School

Mr. Martin has scheduled a meeting for Friday at 10:00 a.m. with an attorney from Tuscarora Insurance Company to discuss the fire coverage of the building. Council members were invited to attend.

Public Safety

No report

**Old Business**

1. Ordinance 2003-5 (Regulates the conversion of single family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in certain areas)  
At the last council meeting, the council was to consider where to permit the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to restructure our single dwelling to multi-dwelling exclusive to the Highway Commercial and R-3 Residential districts of the borough. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Bowersox, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion carried 5-1.
2. Front Street Station – Mr. Wolfe requested that Jay Seidel be informed of the resolution that was passed concerning outdoor music at the restaurant. Mr. Seidel is to contact the Liquor Control Board with the information.
3. Car wash - Mr. Martin stated that he spoke with Dr. Ralph Cianflone's attorney. He has determined that since a car wash is not listed as a permitted use in any zone in the borough, an argument might be allowed that a car wash is a legitimate use in the commercial zone. Mr. Martin advised that the Code Officer may issue a permit when the application is submitted. Mr. Martin suggested that the borough should have its Zoning Ordinance evaluated and updated.

**New Business**

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of August 19, 2003, with corrections. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried unanimously. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$101,539.84. The Liberty Pool bills total \$113.07 and the Parking Meter bills total \$2,547.00.

3. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to transfer funding for the Liberty Pool payrolls of August 22<sup>nd</sup>, 29<sup>th</sup>, and September 5<sup>th</sup>, totaling \$5,088.79 from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried unanimously.
4. Mr. Wolfe stated that the deadline for articles to be submitted for the next newsletter is September 19<sup>th</sup>. Letters will be sent to businesses, organizations, and committees.
5. Mr. Carl suggested sponsoring a Christmas decorating contest. Residents could pay an entry fee to participate in the contest and the funds could be used for lighting and Christmas decorations.
6. Mr. Ditton stated that the work at the Pineknott Park ballfield has been ongoing.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn the meeting.

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  
September 16, 2003, 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 Charles “Bud” Ditton, Greg Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Paul Bowersox was absent due to illness. Councilman Greg Carl was absent due to a work commitment, and Council member Judith Groninger was out of town.

Three members of the public were present.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Bob Zimmerman, a resident on Jefferson Street, informed the council that the berms in that area have never been paved or sealed. They are made of stone. Mr. Zimmerman stated that the paving should have extended to the street right-of-way. He explained that the snowplows move the stones to the end of Jefferson and Buchanan. He asked what plans the council has for finishing the areas. He added that he is speaking for his neighbors also.

Mr. Troxell stated that when Mr. Markunas and Mr. Hubicki attended a meeting, they were informed that the borough did not have money to pave the berms this year. Mr. Shaffer added that the committee would like to fund this project next year. Mr. Troxell stated an approximate cost for the berms was submitted at \$34,000.00.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius announced that the new police cruiser would be entered in the Milton parade this weekend.

The police are preparing for the upcoming storm. Mayor Brosius asked that the street crew be available in case of emergencies. Mr. Fisher replied that they would be on call.

A meeting will be held in the next few weeks to set priorities for the Flood Mitigation.

The Halloween Parade is scheduled for October 29, 2003.

Mayor Brosius thanked Dick Simpson, and the Veterans, for the program in the park on September 11<sup>th</sup>.

The borough crew was thanked for the work being done to refurbish the exterior of the borough building.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark announced that an independent contractor would be televising the sewer line under Queen Street on Thursday. She added that the Sewer Authority would be available to meet with council members and the street crew on Friday afternoon to discuss the findings. The Borough Office will be contacted with the time.

The contractor is bringing in the outside contractor because he disagrees with the Sewer Authority's findings.

Mr. Shaffer recommended that if the Sewer Authority's street job is not satisfactory, the borough hire HRI to complete the work and charge the contractor. Ms. Lark replied that the Sewer Authority would not pay the contractor until Paul Ruane is completely satisfied with the work. Mr. Troxell stated that he would be available to attend the meeting on Friday.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher reported that the crew has worked with K & T Excavating, Inc. and have installed new pipe, which connects with the pipe in Brickyard Avenue. He stated that the area where water was gushing out was excavated. Approximately fifteen feet up the pipe, the pipe branches into a Y. Two thirty-inch pipes are running into an 8-inch overflow. Discussion. Mr. Ditton stated that the large pipe has separated. He is wondering if one piece separated, how many other pieces could be separated. He requested that the entire pipe be checked. Ms. Lark offered to have the Sewer Authority to camera the pipe.

Mr. Ditton moved to have the Sewer Authority televise the entire length of the new pipe. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.

Mr. Fisher asked if council had any requests for the street crew before the storm. Mr. Troxell suggested that the picnic tables and dock should be moved to higher ground.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Ruane stated that Larson Design Group, Inc. and the Solicitor have replied to the proposal from Branchview Development. Several items are to be addressed before final approval is given.

The Herlinger property on Duke Street is scheduled for tax sale on September 30<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Ruane received a complaint from Mr. Charles Moyer, a resident of Lincoln Street. Water runs off the street, down his driveway and into his backyard. He asked Mr. Ruane if the borough would rectify the situation. Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough has had more rain this summer than in prior years. Mr. Martin advised that the borough is not

responsible for repairing the area unless the borough has done something to divert the water onto the property. Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough has not done any work in this area.

Mr. Wolfe mentioned a situation in Florida where private property was obtained through “eminent domain”. He asked the solicitor what constitutes valid reasons for acquiring properties. Mr. Martin replied that the borough might condemn a property for a street, a sidewalk, and a utility, something that would benefit the general public. A parking lot would be acceptable, providing the land condemned is utilized for that purpose.

### **Executive Session – 7:30**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m. to discuss personnel and legal issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

Mr. Ditton asked who would repave Brickyard Avenue. Mr. Troxell replied that he would talk to HRI about doing the work when they pave Fifth Street.

#### Finance

- Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee met last Wednesday. The next meeting is October 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Mr. Troxell requested that the money in the budget for sidewalks be reallocated for sidewalks in King Street Park. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to reallocate \$4,525 for the sidewalks in King Street Park. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.
- Mr. Wolfe made a motion to resume the pick-up of the garbage at the library, effective Oct. 1. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.
- Mr. Wolfe made a motion to disburse the budgeted donations to the following groups: Halloween parade, \$250; Library, \$200; SUN Home, \$200; and the Airport Authority, \$500. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.
- Representatives from the library attended the Finance Meeting to request funding in 2004. The committee is tentatively considering one mill of tax for the library. Mr. Wolfe stated that he was “misquoted” in the paper in reference to holding the line on the taxes.

#### Parks & Recreation

##### Pineknott Park

Mr. Shaffer moved to transfer the total amount in the Donations Account to the General Fund for lighting expenses that have already been disbursed. The account total was \$18,670.50 as of the end of May 2003. Additional interest would have accrued since then. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.

#### Personnel

The committee will meet on October 1 at 5:30 p.m., before the 6:30 p.m. Finance Committee meeting.

## Property

### Second Street School

Mr. Ditton stated that the street crew has tried to repair the roof at the Second Street building. Mr. Ditton is recommending that the borough purchase cans of tar to coat the roof. Council concurred.

The insurance adjuster was here on September 5<sup>th</sup>. He is to contact the borough with his findings in two weeks.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve payment to Brickhill Construction, Inc. for snow guards, with \$5,127.85 of the funding to be transferred from the UDAG fund to the General Fund. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.

## Public Safety

No report

Mr. Wolfe announced that the council toured the new mid-rise building on Sixth Street. Several council members complimented the workmanship of the building. Mr. Wolfe stated the tentative name for the mid-rise is “The Pines.” The sign that was used for the Charles Steele School building has been incorporated into a wall adjacent to the patio.

## Old Business

### 1. Ordinance 2003-5 - 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Mr. Martin explained that this ordinance amends the Borough Zoning Ordinance and regulates the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in certain areas. Mr. Martin stated that the existing Zoning Ordinance permits conversion of “apartment dwellings” in R-3 and R-2 areas, by special exception. Ordinance 2003-5 amends the Zoning Ordinance by removing conversion of “apartment dwellings” as a special exception in R-2. The ordinance continues to permit the conversion of “apartment dwellings” by special exception in R-3; and adds that this type of conversion is also permitted as a special exception in the Highway Commercial (HC) zone. After the council approves the ordinance, it is sent to the Northumberland County Planning Office. The Planning Office has 30 days to comment. If the ordinance is approved, the council must advertise it; and then conduct a public hearing, with a Court reporter to record public comment. At the next meeting, the council takes action. If approved, the ordinance must be advertised again.

Mr. Schaffer made a motion to approve Ordinance 2003-5. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.

## New Business

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of September 2, 2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to approve the payment of bills. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. \$200.00 for Wolyniec Construction, Inc. was being withheld, pending the completion of some repair work. Mr. Ruane stated that the company has

repaired the pipe in question, and the entire amount for the bill should be paid. Additional bills to be paid are \$19.44 to PG Energy bill for gas to the Girl Scout House, and \$3,685 to B&B Tree Service for tree removal on Fifth Street. Mr. Shaffer and Mr. Wolfe amended their motion and second to include these payments. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 4-0.

3. Mr. Troxell noted that he feels that the borough should have an ordinance for the types of trees permitted to be planted in the tree space. Certain species become too big and push up the sidewalks and the curbing. Discussion. It was suggested that this could be an article for the newsletter. Mr. Martin stated that the council could adopt a resolution, as a guideline of what types of trees should be planted. Council recommended that the Shade Tree Commission should be consulted to develop the guideline. The members of the commission will be contacted.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**221 Second Street,**  
**Northumberland, PA 17857**  
**Council Meeting**  
October 7, 2003

Vice-President Charles “Bud” Ditton 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, and Donald Troxell. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Paul Bowersox was absent due to illness and Bryan Wolfe was on vacation.

Seven members of the public were present.

**Public Comment**

No comment was offered at this time.

**Mayor's Report**

Chief Redington has submitted his monthly report.

Mayor Brosius announced that the dedication of the Memory Garden and Gettysburg Address by the Revitalization Committee is planned for October 18<sup>th</sup>. The event will be held at the American Legion Post 44, in case of inclement weather. Music and refreshments will be served.

The Sunbury Community Hospital Board of Trustees has extended an invitation to the Mayor to participate in a panel discussion on October 23, 2003 at 2:00 p.m. Mayor Brosius will be out of town and asked if any council member would be available. The topic of the discussion will be the medical needs of our community. No one on the council was able to attend. Mayor Brosius will ask the Health Officer if he could attend in her absence.

The Borough has received an invitation from the Priestley Society of Birstall and Heckmondwike, England, to participate in events commemorating the 200<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations of the life of Joseph Priestley. This event will take place on February 6, 7, and 8, 2004. The society would like to establish a formal contact with the Northumberland Borough.

Mayor Brosius informed the council that Andrea Bashore, Site Administrator at the Joseph Priestley House, plans to attend the events. The Mayor suggested that the council could ask Ms. Bashore to deliver the Borough's compliments, and a commemorative gift, if no one from the council is able to attend.

The Pineknotted Days Association has presented the Borough with a Pineknotted Days boxcar. They plan to produce one train car per year. The boxcar will be placed in the display case in the council chambers. Mayor Brosius will send a thank-you note to the group.

Councilman Paul Bowersox arrived at 7:12 p.m.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark announced that the work would be finished soon on Queen Street. Mrs. Groninger requested a completion date. Ms. Lark stated that the contractor was waiting for Paul Ruane to stop at the job site. Mr. Ruane stated that when he did, the contractor was not there. Ms. Lark asked what the Sewer Authority is to do as far as paving the trench. The Borough is waiting for information from the engineer regarding the completion of the stormwater work on Queen Street and whether or not HRI will mill and pave the street from Fifth Street to Brickyard Avenue. Mr. Ditton stated that the contractor did not put cold patch on the street cuts. Mr. Ruane replied that the contractor did not have any available. Mr. Shaffer recommended that the contractor should be sited if he does not comply with the ordinance.

Mrs. Groninger stated that HRI was to do some "fine tuning" at the curb, in conjunction with the Fifth Street project. She said that specific completion dates were set and the Sewer Authority was not finished with their work within the allotted timeframe. Ms. Lark stated that the Sewer Authority work was completed on September 25<sup>th</sup>, before the milling was done on Fifth Street. The Borough Secretary stated that she believed the date set for the completion of the Sewer Authority's work in this half block was August 25<sup>th</sup>. [Note: At the meeting held by the Sewer Authority, the Borough, and their engineers, it was determined that the Sewer Authority would give its contractor the deadline of August 25<sup>th</sup> as the date when the repair work was to begin. The contractor began work on September 25<sup>th</sup>.]

Ms. Lark added that the Sewer Authority would pay the Borough for paving the portion of the street that was under construction for the new sewer line. Mrs. Groninger asked if the Sewer Authority would provide the Borough with the dollar figure.

Mr. Bowersox stated that when he was in charge of the street, a man was there, watching the work. He asked if this is still being done.

Ms. Lark stated that the Sewer Authority would not approve the paving; that it will be up to Paul Ruane, the Borough's street inspector, to give the contractor final approval.

Mr. Bowersox asked if the Borough is still working with the PennDOT 408 specifications.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that he told the contractor that the backfilling was not acceptable. Mr. Ditton stated that Queen Street should be milled and paved. Mr. Ruane agreed.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to have Queen Street, from Fifth Street to Brickyard Avenue, milled, from curb to curb, and to bring the street up to the same condition as Fifth Street. The bill for this work is to be divided between the Sewer Authority and the Borough. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher provided a written report to the council.

Mr. Ditton requested that Mr. Fisher submit the time and costs for providing barricades for the street project to the office. Mr. Ditton stated the contractor would reimburse the Borough for this work.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Cherry trees in the Borough right-of-way, between Fifth and Sixth Streets, have come down in the storm.

The Planning Commission will be meeting on October 30<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 to review two subdivision plans.

The Herlinger property on Duke Street has sold at tax sale. Mr. Amato purchased the property.

Mrs. Groninger asked about the house on Fifth Street that had a fire. Mr. Ruane stated that the property has been cleaned out. He has not heard from the insurance company yet.

Mr. Ditton asked if the owner of the apartments on Water Street have paid their rental fees. Mr. Ruane is filing the charges on Thursday.

### **Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:51 p.m.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Streets

##### Unopened Washington Avenue

Mr. Robert Kolovich explained that he purchased his home from the Kerwins at 355 Susquehanna Street. Access to his home is from Washington Street.

According to the assessment maps, this is an unopened street. Two homes are situated on either side of it. The street is a hard base with stones on it. A storm drain is located on Susquehanna Street. Because of the amount of water coming off the hill, some of the water does not flow into the storm drain, but comes down the street. Mr. Kolovich provided pictures showing the area. The street ends at the lower side of these homes.

Mr. Kolovich stated that the street crew had been told not to plow the street last winter because the council did not think that the Borough owned this property. Mr. Kolovich searched the deeds and discovered that the street was deeded to the Borough in 1979. The utilities are all located under the street. He would like for the street to be paved and curbing installed to prevent soil erosion. He also requested one or two new storm drains be installed to handle the stormwater.

Mrs. Shearer stated that she has attended several Borough meetings, asking for maintenance to be done. Prior councils have affirmed that work would be done to the street. She stated the water situation is horrendous.

Mr. Martin explained that there is a two-step process, the deed of dedication and the Borough's acceptance of the deed of dedication. He also stated that no one on the present council would know what happened in 1979. Mrs. Shearer asked who the rightful owner would be if the Borough did not accept the property. Mr. Martin stated that if the acceptance by the Borough did not occur, the legal owners would be the Davis's. Mr. Shaffer stated that the office would check the records from 1979.

Mr. Martin stated that if the Borough accepted the street, the Borough would have to maintain it; however, they would not be required to pave it.

Mr. Kolovich stated that they would appreciate it if the Borough would pave the street.

#### Fifth Street

The street has been milled and the base coat is completed. HRI also built up the areas around the manholes and utilities. The top coat will be completed in 2004.

#### Finance

Mr. Ditton announced that the Finance Committee met on October 1<sup>st</sup>. Currently, the difference between the income and the expense budgets is around \$150,000. The committee meets again on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

#### Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl stated that the committee would like to review the Pepsi contract with the borough at Pineknott Park. The contract was a seven-year contract. Since the ballpark was not in use for the past three years, the committee would like to renegotiate the contract to start this year for seven years. Pepsi has not requested that the Borough renegotiate the contract.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to extend the Pepsi contract three years from the end date. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The motion passed 6-0.

The date of the October committee meeting was discussed but is not definitely known. It is normally the third Thursday of the month, however, this month the

meeting may have been rescheduled for the fourth Thursday of the month. [Note: The Recreation Committee meeting is October 23, 2003, at 7:00 p.m. in the Borough Building.]

#### Personnel

Openings exist on the Civil Service Board and the Planning Commission.

#### Property

Second Street School – The attorney for the insurance company has not gotten back to the Borough since inspecting the building. Mr. Martin will draft a letter to the attorney requesting information.

#### Public Safety

Mr. Shaffer announced that the new police cruiser is in service.

#### **Old Business**

1. The second reading of Ordinance 2003-5 was tabled in order to provide the Northumberland County Planning Commission with thirty days to comment. This ordinance regulates the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in certain areas.
2. Recycling  
Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve the acceptance of newspapers at the Recycling Center. The paper must be taken to the Recycling Center. The volunteers are willing to do this, as long as the papers are dropped off at the center during their hours of operation. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no. Motion carried 5-1.

#### **New Business**

##### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept the minutes of September 16, 2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Carl, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mrs. Groninger abstained because they were not present at that meeting. The motion passed 4-0, with two abstentions.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion pay the bills. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 6-0. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$36,578.84; the Liberty Pool bills total \$502.78 and the Parking Meter fund bills total \$343.00.
3. Mr. Rogers requested a handicapped parking space at 451 Queen Street. Discussion. Mr. Ditton asked if any member of council would make a motion to permit a handicapped parking space at 451 Queen Street. No motion was offered.
4. Mr. Bowersox made a motion to designate Trick-or-Treat night on October 31, 2003, between the hours of 6:00 p.m. and 9:00 p.m. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 6-0.

5. A check in the amount of \$19,276.20 was received from the state for the Volunteer Fire Relief Association. This funding will be distributed to the group within sixty days.
6. A check in the amount of \$17,203.21 has been received for the 2003 Commonwealth Allocation of General Municipal Pension System State Aid. This money must be forwarded to the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System within 30 days. [Note: The total amount to be paid by the Borough in 2003 for the pension plans is \$17,935.00.]
7. Statements regarding the Borough's Liquid Fuels appropriations for 2004 have been received. The Borough's estimated Liquid Fuels (Act 655) allocation is \$67,637.39 and the estimated turnback maintenance (Act 32) payment is \$3,200.00

Mr. Shaffer moved 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  
October 21, 2003, 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 Judith Groninger, Greg Shaffer, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Paul Bowersox was absent due to illness and Councilman Charles “Bud” Ditton was on vacation. Councilman Greg Carl had informed the office that he might be late for the meeting, but would be attending.

Seven members of the public introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

**VFW Last Man’s Club**

Mr. James Bell, a member of the club, explained that the club was formed 40 years ago with 59 members. Currently, 12 are living. The club is interested in promoting a memorial for those who “paid the supreme sacrifice.” The library has compiled a list with pictures of the individuals who gave their lives in the wars. Mr. Bell explained that this was a nice remembrance, but not many people see it. The Vietnam Memorial, with the names of those who died, has proven to be an effective tribute. The Last Man’s Club is interested in establishing this type of monument for the Borough. Mr. Bell exhibited pictures of a monument erected in Exeter, PA. The group is suggesting a two-foot high, five-foot long stone, with the inscription:

“Let us hold in honored memory those men and women from Northumberland and Point Township who gave the supreme sacrifice for their country in all wars.”

The cost is estimated to be \$7,700. There will be about 35-40 names on the stone, according to Mr. Bell. Space will be left for additional names.

Mr. Greg Carl, councilman, arrived at 7:05 p.m.

The Last Man's Club currently has \$5,000 toward the cost of the Memorial. The group would like to erect the memorial in the same area of the cannon. They are requesting that the Borough dig the hole for the base of the monument. The two ornamental trees may need to be removed. The anticipated date for the monument's completion is Memorial Day 2004. The group would also like to paint the cannon.

Mr. Shaffer moved to permit the Last Man's Club to install the monument and for the Borough to pay for the painting of the cannon. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Mayor Brosius stated that the Borough is hoping to have new pavements installed in this end of the park. Roll call vote – All ayes. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Branchview Development**

Mr. William Roll, developer, and Mr. Brad Aurand, an engineer with Larson Design Group, Inc., were present.

Mr. Aurand reviewed the letter addressed to the Borough from Larson Design Group, Inc., concerning the Branchview Subdivision Phase IV and V Stormwater Management Plan. He stated that the developer has met the requirements in the Borough's Stormwater Ordinance except for the requirement for Ground Water Recharge Volume. Larson's is recommending that this requirement be waived for this project due to the type of soil in this area and the development of the detention pond.

Two items in the letter were designated "solicitor" issues. The easements surrounding the basin have changed because the location of the basin has changed. Mr. Martin asked Mr. Roll if the easements and maintenance of the detention ponds would be included in the deeds to the adjacent property owners. Mr. Roll concurred that the agreement would be included in the deeds, as well as the sales agreements. The new easements are shown on the revised plan. Mr. Martin stated that this would be the plan referred to in the deeds. Mr. Martin has spoken with the engineer for the Branchview Development, Chuck Thompson, and is satisfied with the provisions.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the Borough has the current accurate plan for Branchview. Mr. Ruane may have received the plans. Mr. Aurand stated that he would forward copies of the plan to the Borough, if necessary.

Mr. Wolfe moved to approve the plan for Branchview Subdivision Phases IV and V, based on the recommendation of the Borough's engineer. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Mr. Troxell asked if any of the water would drain toward Buchanan Street. Mr. Aurand explained that the detention pond is on the opposite side of Truman Lane and would not affect Buchanan Street. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius read her report, which is on file in the Borough office.

The mayor read an invitation to attend a meeting of the Central Keystone COG in Middleburg.

Mr. Troxell stated that he has attended the Susquehanna COG and he does not feel that this type of organization holds much value for the Borough. Mr. Troxell moved to end the Borough's membership with the COG beginning in 2004. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe tabled the motion; requesting that it be presented for discussion later in the meeting.

The Mayor reported that the Civil Service process is moving forward with only one candidate left to consider for part time employment with the Police Department.

The Memorial Garden Dedication in King Street Park on October 18, 2003, went well.

The Halloween Parade is set for October 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 p.m.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that Doley Construction is to repave the sections of Queen Street that need repaved. The Sewer Authority has made payment for mobilization, not for piping. The contractor is repaving the entire area that they had paved because Mr. Ruane did not approve any of the paving. The contractor has repaired all the piping.

It was stated that HRI did not agree to mill and pave Queen Street from Brickyard Avenue to Fifth Street and the Borough was obtaining quotes to have this work completed. Representatives from HRI came to look at the work along Queen Street and did not feel it was their responsibility to make repairs to the street because residents had sump pump drains and storm water pipes coming out onto the street, causing the problems. HRI will provide a quote for the paving of that half block. The specifications were sent out to numerous contractors last week. The quotes are due tomorrow. A date of November 12 is set for the deadline to finish the paving and the temperature must be above 40 degrees.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Fisher provided a written report for the council.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the library's garbage is being picked up. Mr. Fisher said that he believes that it is picked up on Fridays.

Mrs. Groninger asked why weights were moved from TD's to the C.W. Rice School. Mr. Fisher replied that the weights were used for the police Civil Service test.

Mr. Shaffer asked if quotes were obtained for the shutters. Mrs. Groninger replied that at least three quotes were obtained and that Lowe's had the lowest price on this style and size of shutter.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the Borough Building looks wonderful and she appreciates the work that the Street Department has been doing.

When questioned about Second Street, Mr. Fisher stated that the roofs at the Second Street building are not leaking and that the crew checks the roofs and the overflows regularly.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

No report because Mr. Ruane is on vacation.

### **Executive Session**

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting for an Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. and reconvened the meeting at 8:07 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe stated that during the Executive Session, Council discussed the quotes for the milling and paving of Queen Street from Brickyard Avenue to Fifth Street.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the lowest quote if it did not exceed the amount agreed upon in the Executive Session. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Wolfe stated that he would like to submit for approval a labor agreement between the Borough of Northumberland and the Teamsters Local Union #764. This is a new contract for the Borough's unionized Street Department employees.

Mr. Troxell made a motion to accept the agreement. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell and Mr. Wolfe voted yes; Mrs. Groninger voted no. The motion carried 4-1.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Streets**

##### **Unopened Washington Street**

Mr. Martin explained that the research reveals that the Borough owns this unopened street. There is a recorded deed dated April 30, 1979 and a vote to accept the Deed of Dedication and adopt an ordinance on May 1, 1979. The ordinance does not include the intersection of Washington and Susquehanna Streets; however, Mr. Martin stated that the Deed of Dedication is controlling. The Deed of Dedication and the motion to adopt both reference "the tract of land in Davis's Development". The Deed of Dedication includes the legal description of the unopened Washington Street. Mr. Wolfe asked if the Borough would receive additional Liquid Fuels money if the street were paved. Mrs. Groninger stated that the amount of Liquid Fuels money received would not pay for the paving. Mr. Troxell stated that the Borough policy had been to not accept a street unless it was paved. He felt that the Borough may have accepted the property, but not as a street. Mr. Martin replied that since the Borough accepted the Deed of Dedication, the Borough owns this property and is responsible for the street. Mr. Martin recommended that the property owners be notified that the Borough acknowledges ownership of the street.

Council discussed the plowing and paving of the street.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to plow Washington Street. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted no. Motion carried 4-1.

Mr. Wolfe moved to pave Washington Street between the Kolovich and Shearer residences by the end of the paving season of 2005. Mr. Wolfe added that appropriate storm water actions should also be conducted. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger explained that when the Street Committee evaluated the streets, it was done with the consideration of the traffic patterns and the amount of people using the streets. This is why the alleys are not being paved. The Borough does not get Liquid Fuels money for alleys. Mr. Troxell agreed that the Street Committee is trying to pave streets in town and money is being taken away from the paving by these special projects. Mr. Wolfe called for a roll call vote. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, and Mr. Shaffer voted nay. The motion failed 2-3.

Mr. Carl moved to pave Washington Street and address the storm water issue by December 31, 2007. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl and Mr. Shaffer voted aye; Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted no. The motion failed 2-3.

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Finance Committee would meet on November 12, 2003. He requested that everyone try to attend because he hopes to finalize the 2004 budget at this meeting.

#### Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl announced that the Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 23, 2003.

#### Personnel

No report

#### Property

Mrs. Groninger informed the council that the concession stand at Pineknott Park was vandalized.

No news has been received from the insurance company about the Second Street School clean up. Mr. Martin will contact the attorney.

#### Public Safety

No report

#### **Old Business**

1. The second reading of Ordinance 2003-5 was tabled in order to provide the Northumberland County Planning Commission with thirty days to comment. Council may act on this ordinance at the November 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting. This ordinance regulates the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in certain areas.

## **New Business**

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of October 7, 2003. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
2. Mr. Shaffer made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$37,881.06; the Liquid Fuels bills total \$72,671.59; the Liberty Pool bills total \$24.92; and the Parking Meter Fund bills total \$280.00
3. It was explained that the balance in the General Fund is low. One reason is because the Borough has paid for bills for the Pineknott Park ballfield and the balance of the grant money will not be released from the state until the project is completed.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to transfer \$50,000 from the General Contingency Account to the General Fund. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

4. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to pay the Notice of Solvency Fee for 2004 of \$144.26 that was received from the Department of Labor and Industry. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. By paying this fee, the Borough, as a reimbursable employer, is eligible to request relief from charges for Unemployment Compensation benefits paid on applications in 2004 in accordance with Section 213 of the PA UC Law and the regulations of the Department. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
5. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to discontinue the Borough's membership in the Central Susquehanna Council of Government. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. This is the same motion, made by Mr. Troxell and seconded by Mr. Shaffer that was tabled earlier in the meeting. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street,  
Northumberland, PA 17857  
November 5, 2003**

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, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Lawrence Redington, Chief of Police, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Five citizens in attendance introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No comment was offered at this time.

**Executive Session**

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:03 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue. The meeting was reconvened at 7:38 p.m.

Mr. Shaffer made a motion to accept Chief Lawrence Redington’s resignation as of January 1, 2004, and to include all benefits for 2003. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. The motion was made with the council’s deepest regret. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 7-0.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that a candidate for the position of part-time police officer is available for an interview. The Personnel Committee will schedule an interview with the candidate.

Mayor Brosius informed the council that the 1995 police cruiser is now ready to be sold. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to sell the vehicle, advertising in the Daily Item and on Ebay. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The council discussed trying to sell the vehicle locally first. Mrs. Groninger amended her motion; Mr. Ditton amended his second. The motion includes that council has the right to reject any and all bids. Roll call vote – All ayes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Brosius thanked Mr. Ditton and Mr. Laubaugh for their help to check the Christmas lights. Decorating will continue on November 15<sup>th</sup>. Anyone wishing to help should meet at the King Street Park at 9:00 a.m.

The next meeting of the Revitalization Committee is November 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m.

The UUCSV Church has submitted a schedule for the 2004 activities of the bicentennial commemoration of the life and legacy of Joseph Priestley. They are posted on the bulletin board.

Trees have been received and are being planted around the Sewer Plant. The trees were obtained through a Forestry Grant and will be planted this fall and next spring. Thank you to the borough crew.

The Mayor and Borough Secretary attended a meeting regarding the Susquehanna River Trails. They also met with Penn State students to provide them with historical facts of Northumberland to help in preparing information about the river.

The borough received an invitation to attend a meeting on December 10<sup>th</sup> in Camp Hill. This meeting will discuss developing vacant sites and restoring abandoned buildings. The Mayor suggested that someone from the Borough should attend.

#### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the Sewer Authority has received a letter from the contractor stating that the construction work on Queen Street will be completed by the end of next week (November 14, 2003). No payment will be made until the Borough has approved the work, in writing. The contractor is talking to Eastern Industries; however, Ms. Lark did not know if the contractor or Eastern Industries would be finishing the construction.

Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Jack Fasold to a 5-year term with the Sewer Authority. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Brosius's report is on file in the Borough Office.

#### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher provided a written report to the council.

#### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of October.

He informed the council that the Planning Commission met on October 30<sup>th</sup> to review two sub-division plans. The Planning Commission did not approve the subdivision plan submitted by Caroline Petruzzo the back lot faces an unopened alley which is the only access to the lot. The Eckman plan is an agenda item, scheduled for later in the meeting.

A hearing concerning a violation of the rental ordinance is scheduled with the District Justice for December 8, 2003.

#### **Committee Reports**

Street

No report

## Finance

The Finance Committee will meet on November 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the 2004 budget. Mr. Wolfe requested that everyone try to attend.

## Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl reported that the committee would meet on the third Thursday of the month.

The final financial totals for the 2003 season at the pool are available. The council was provided with the report.

Mr. Carl reviewed the improvements that were made at the pool this year. The rainy weather affected the number of days that the pool was opened. Approximately 12 days were lost due to rain. However, the admission revenues per day were higher.

Northumberland County eliminated the Day Camp program this year, resulting in a loss of \$4,500 to the pool. A grant of \$7,500 was received from the Anselmo Trust Fund for operating expenses and to purchase a Big Squirt system. This system will be installed next year.

The concession stand income/ expense report indicates that income was less than anticipated. Mr. Carl plans to purchase a cash register for next year that will record the items sold.

Mr. Travis Fisher, pool manager, stated that people from other communities are visiting the pool, preferring Liberty Splashland over other municipal pools.

For 2004, Mr. Carl would like to install a "Spray Ground", with the council's approval. He and Mr. Slodysko are volunteering to complete the work. The location of the "Spray Ground" would necessitate moving the fence. The cost for this project is approximately \$12,000. Mr. Carl plans to apply for grant money for a portion of this amount. He also suggested selling raffle tickets. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Shaffer voiced their support for the project.

Mr. Carl reported the costs for Phase I of Liberty Splashland have increased significantly.

Mr. Fisher attended a two-day re-certification class recently. The instructor suggested various attractions that are desirable at community pools. These suggestions were similar to the attractions that have been included or are being proposed for Liberty Splashland.

Mr. Carl read an article about a water park in Chesapeake Beach, N. J. and the success it has experienced. Revenue from the water park has paid to pave the street in the municipality.

Mr. Carl would like the council to continue to support the plans for Liberty Splashland.

## Personnel.

Mr. Ditton resigned from the Personnel Committee and the Police Negotiating Committee. Mr. Wolfe accepted his resignation, with regret.

Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Mr. Troxell to the Personnel and Police Negotiating Committees. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox voted no; and Mr. Troxell abstained. The motion carried 5-1, with 1 abstention.

## Property

Mrs. Groninger requested that the snow guards be installed at the Rescue building. She also requested that the waterline at the Recycling Center be replaced.

No additional information has been received from the Tuscarora Insurance Co. relating to the fire at the Second Street School building. The report that was received from the investigator contained several errors. One was that hay was on the stage. Straw was on the stage. Discussion. Several dates mentioned in the report are believed to be incorrect.

## Public Safety

No report

## Old Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the agreement with Mr. Hennessey and Mr. Cassel, concerning Article 27 of the police contract. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
2. Mr. Ditton moved to approve Ordinance 2003-5. This is the second reading of the ordinance, which regulates the conversion of single-family dwellings to multi-family dwellings in certain areas. Mr. Bowersox seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
3. The Pineknotter Park project was discussed. The work to be completed includes digging a trench for the wiring, pouring concrete to cover the conduit, installing the light poles, finishing the parking lot, and replacing the outfield fence. Council requested that the Borough Crew complete the work that they are required to do so the project can be finished and the balance of the grant money obtained from DCNR.

## New Business

### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of October 21, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Carl, Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton abstained. Motion passed 5-0 with two abstentions.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the bills, including a PPL bill of \$29.42 to be paid from the Liberty Pool Account. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote –

All ayes. Motion passed 7-0. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$23,408.73; Parking Meter Fund bills total \$2.29; Liquid Fuels bills total \$7,002.34; Shade Tree Fund bills total \$234.97; and Liberty Pool bills total \$29.42.

3. Mr. Carl moved to transfer \$1,675 from the Parks and Recreation account to the Liberty Pool account. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. This was the remaining income from the Haunted House fundraisers. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
4. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to approve the William Eckman subdivision plan. Mr. Shaffer seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 7-0.
5. Mr. Shaffer moved to accept the proposed schedule for the 2004 Borough Council meetings. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote. Mr. Shaffer, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Carl, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Bowersox and Mr. Ditton voted no. The motion passed 5-2. The 2004 meetings are scheduled for January 5 (reorganization meeting) and 20; February 3; March 2; April 6; May 4; June 1; July 6; August 3; September 7; October 5; November 1; and December 7.
6. Mr. Troxell stated that he does not think that the Borough should plow the unopened Washington Street, as approved at the last council meeting. He is concerned that this may set a precedent. Washington Street is not paved at this location. Mr. Martin stated that if the Borough owns the street, the Borough must maintain it. However, the Borough is not obligated to improve it. Mr. Martin stated that according to the records, the Borough accepted Washington Street even though it was not paved. Letters were sent to the property owners who attended the council meeting last month, acknowledging the Borough's ownership of the street and that the Borough will plow and maintain the street.
8. No information has been received yet about the cost to remove the trees, or the cost to replace the sidewalks at the Second Street end of the King Street Park. The Shade Tree Commission is planning to assume responsibility for removing the trees.

Mr. Schaffer moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland**  
**Council Meeting**  
**221 Second Street,**  
**Northumberland, PA 17857**  
November 18, 2003, 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 Bryan M. Wolfe, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Greg Shaffer. Don Troxell was absent due to a family emergency and Greg Carl is working, but will be present later. Others present were Robin Martin, Solicitor, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Mr. Wolfe expressed his sympathy to the family of Paul Bowersox. Mr. Bowersox, a former council member, passed away on November 11, 2003.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would conduct a special council meeting on December 9, 2003 to interview candidates for the vacant council seat. This will be a public meeting.

Councilman Greg Carl arrived at 7:05 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe announced that applications for the vacant council seat are available online and in the Borough Office.

Seven members of the public introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

Mr. Drake Owen, a resident at 273 Fourth Street, requested that the council consider using fiscal restraint when preparing the budget this year. He felt that with the financial condition of Northumberland County, residents could not afford an additional tax increase from the Borough. Mr. Wolfe thanked him for his comments and invited him to attend the Finance Meeting tomorrow evening at 7:30 p.m.

**Mayor's Report**

The Mayor reported that the decorations are progressing in the King Street Park. Mayor Brosius thanked the people who volunteered their time to assist with the decorating. She also thanked the Kohls for donating trees for greens. More help is needed to complete the decorating. Santa’s arrival is slated for December 1. The Revitalization Committee will be meeting on November 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 p.m. to complete the plans for the event. Everyone is welcome to attend.

The Second Street committee met. The architect is obtaining an estimate to heat the gymnasium. It is believed that enough money is available to install the heat in the gym. Mayor Brosius announced that new people have expressed interest in joining the committee and the group hopes to reorganize soon.

Mayor Brosius's report is on file in the Borough Office.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to cover the parking meters in the Borough from December 1, 2003 to January 1, 2004. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mayor Brosius will see that the meters are emptied before they are covered.

Council discussed the possibility of having the JROTC assist with the decorating. Mr. Ditton offered to check with the group.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the Sewer Authority has received a letter from Doley Construction, informing them that the paving will be completed by the end of the paving season.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher reported that the leaf picker is not operational. He was informed that it would take approximately three weeks to be repaired. Mr. Fisher stated that Point Township will be finished with their leaf picker on Monday, and Mr. Neitz has offered to loan the leaf picker to the Borough to use, once Point Township's pickup is completed.

Pineknottter Park trenches have been dug. Mr. Fisher expects the conduit to be laid on Saturday and the poles to be erected within a few weeks.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

No report.

### **Executive Session**

An Executive Session was not held.

### **Committee Reports**

#### Street

Mr. Ditton asked why a one call was done for the intersection of Fifth and Orange Streets. Ms. Lark replied that the Sewer Authority plans to work on Orange Street, but not in the intersection. New pipes were installed in this area before the paving was completed.

Mrs. Fran Bogovich asked if the topcoat is to be placed on Fifth Street this year. Mr. Wolfe replied that this work would be completed in 2004.

#### Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Finance Committee would meet tomorrow evening at 7:30 p.m. to prepare the 2004 Budget.

#### Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl stated that the committee would meet on Thursday evening at 7:00 p.m.

#### Personnel

Mr. Wolfe appointed Ms. Groninger chairman of the Personnel Committee until the end of 2003. The other committee members are Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Troxell.

#### Property

Mrs. Groninger requested an update regarding the Second Street School building. It was reported that the insurance adjuster has met with the cleaning company and a contractor to obtain prices for work to be done in the building. The insurance company has still not informed the Borough or the adjuster of exactly what clean-up will be covered under the borough policy.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the water from the fire hose laid under the stage for over a week until the insurance company contacted the cleaning company and the work was begun.

#### Public Safety

No report.

#### **Old Business**

#### **New Business**

##### Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve the minutes of November 5, 2003. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Shaffer moved to approve payment of the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger suggested that the bill for the electronic odometer module be paid from the General Fund, charged to the Police line item for general supplies. Mr. Shaffer amended his motion; Mrs. Groninger amended her second. The Shade Tree account will be reimbursed by the proceeds from the Forestry Grant for the trees that were purchased for the entrance to the Borough at the Sewer Plant. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$20,928.98; the Liberty Pool account bills total \$41.80; and the bills to be paid from the Shade Tree Account total \$1,618.

Mr. Shaffer moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street,  
Northumberland, PA 17857  
December 2, 2003**

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 Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Greg Carl, Charles Ditton, and Judith Groninger. Council member Greg Shaffer was absent. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Robin Martin, Solicitor, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor; Clifford Kriner, Police Department Sergeant; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Five residents introduced themselves.

**Executive Session**

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:16 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe reported that four candidates have submitted applications for the vacant council seat. Mr. James Troup indicated that he is not available to attend the meeting next Tuesday so he is being interviewed tonight.

Mr. Troup introduced himself. He is a resident of Empress Tree Lane. Mr. Troup was raised in Northumberland, lived elsewhere for 15 years, and returned to the Borough several years ago. He is interested in becoming involved in the community to represent the people who live here. He stated that he has the town's best interest at heart.

Mr. Carl asked how Mr. Troup was involved in the other communities where he lived. Mr. Troup's response was that he was involved in the Fire Department and in an organization that invited young people to visit work places to learn about various occupations. Mr. Troup is interested in becoming involved in the Public Safety and Finance committees.

Mr. Troxell asked what Mr. Troup's main concern is regarding Public Safety. Mr. Troup responded that he is interested in reviewing the Borough's policies and upgrading them. He wishes to be sure that the public knows what to do in the event of an emergency. Mr. Troup currently holds the rank of Captain in the Fire Department. He is not aware of any of the Borough's policies that should be changed; however, he would like to review them to ensure that they are all adequate.

Mr. Ditton asked why Mr. Troup left the Borough Planning Committee. He replied that the meetings were not always scheduled in advance. He added that he has a flexible schedule and would be available for Borough meetings.

Mr. Ditton asked if the Hookies sold the old ladder truck. The truck was sold for \$15,000.

Mr. Wolfe asked what the biggest challenge is for the Borough. Mr. Troup believes that more people in the Borough should become involved. He would like to see more people attend meetings. He also expressed an interest in developing the downtown, bringing additional businesses into the Borough. He feels that this would help to increase the tax base, rather than putting the entire burden on the citizens.

Mr. Wolfe asked if Mr. Troup felt that the Borough is overtaxed. Mr. Troup stated that he lived in areas with higher taxes. He feels that there are services that need to be available for the people; however, he is not in favor of wasting tax dollars.

Mrs. Groninger stated that the council had added a fire tax last year. The Hookies has never had an audit completed in order to receive the tax money. Mr. Troup stated that an audit is in the works.

Mr. Troup feels that he can work with the others on council. Mr. Troup stated he was a "straight shooter." He stated he feels there could be a tax break for businesses. He stated he had not yet read the 2004 budget.

Mr. Troup stated that he feels that it is important to have recreational facilities for the youth. He would like to see Pineknott Park completed. He has a concern about the access to the area. He recommended that an overhead walkway be built to eliminate having to cross Duke Street. He is also concerned about the traffic in and out of the park.

Mayor Brosius asked how Mr. Troup felt about the Second Street School. Mr. Troup stated that he was not in favor of the purchase. He feels that something needs to be completed at the building before another fire occurs. He feels that it may be utilized as a community center, such as the community center in Penns Creek.

Mr. Troup suggested meeting with other communities to learn how they attract businesses to their areas.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the other three candidates would be interviewed next week. The other candidates are Wendell Wetzel, Linda Hixson, and Darvin Straub. Council will then determine who would become the new council member.

#### **Bid Opening – 1995 Crown Victoria 4-Door Sedan**

Mr. Wolfe opened the one bid that was received for the 1995 Crown Victoria. Michael Burke of New Columbia, PA, submitted a bid of \$757.75. No motion was made to accept the bid.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported on the Christmas program in the King Street Park last evening. The decorations have been placed downtown and in the park.

The Martin Concini Toy Drive by the Police Department is now in progress. The police department is collecting unwrapped toys for distribution to the needy in the area. Gifts may be brought to the Borough building or dropped off at various businesses.

Mayor Brosius reported there would be a "Victorian Christmas" open house at Joseph Epler's Funeral Home this Saturday, December 6<sup>th</sup>, from 4:00 to 9:00 p.m.

Mayor Brosius plans to attend a seminar concerning vacant properties, on Wednesday, December 10<sup>th</sup> in Harrisburg.

### **Sewer Authority Report**

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the work on Queen Street has been completed.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Pennsylvania American Water Company is interested in pursuing a dialogue to analyze the possibility of purchasing the municipal wastewater system.

Mr. Martin stated that it depends how the Sewer Authority was incorporated, whether or not the Borough would have the power to sell the sewer system.

Mr. Wolfe recommended that a date be set to meet with the Pennsylvania American Water Company and the Sewer Authority to explore the issue. He requested that Ms. Lark check on a January date that would be convenient for the Sewer Authority Board.

### **Public Works Department Report**

Mr. Nate Fisher provided the council with a written report.

The leaf picker has been repaired.

Work has been ongoing at Pineknott Park. Mr. Carl stated that the poles could be installed whenever the PPL volunteers are available. Discussion. The Borough will not receive the final installment of grant money until the work on the park is completed.

Mr. Troxell stated the Borough office needs copies of the street crew's driver's licenses.

### **Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on his activity for the month of November.

Mr. Robert Gearhart contacted Mr. Ruane about a drainage problem behind his property on Duke Street. According to Mr. Ruane, contractors have placed fill on a vacant lot behind Mr. Gearhart's property. The ground here is becoming built up, creating a problem for Mr. Roberts. A drain exists behind the CVS building. Discussion. Mr. Ruane suggested that the street crew fill in the ground behind Mr. Gearhart's building. Mr. Ruane and Mr. Fisher will speak with Mr. Gearhart.

Mr. Ruane stated that he plans to attend the COG meeting on December 17<sup>th</sup>. He feels that the Borough should continue their membership with the COG because the COG is planning to engage housing inspectors to work for the COG members. Mr. Ruane is becoming certified to conduct some of the inspections; however, he may not be certified to conduct all types of inspections. Discussion.

Mr. Wolfe moved to rescind the order to leave the COG. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Committee Reports**

### Streets

No report

### Finance

Mr. Wolfe presented the 2004 Budget for the first reading. Mr. Troxell moved to approve the 2004 Budget. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

### SUN Bank Loan

Mr. Wolfe moved to approve the \$100,000 loan from SUN Bank. The loan, a 2004 Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note, will have a fixed interest rate of 2.89%. Interest only shall be payable monthly, with the principal to be repaid by December 31, 2004. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

### Parks & Recreation

Mr. Carl presented Jerra Carl's letter of resignation from the Parks and Recreation Committee and moved to accept the resignation. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.

Mr. Carl informed the council of the progress at Pineknott Park. Mr. Wolfe requested that a representative from Larson Design Group, Inc. be present at the next council meeting on December 9<sup>th</sup>. The office will contact Larson Design Group, Inc.

Mr. Carl suggested that the council consider selling Jolly Hollow. A realtor, Helen Martin, has been contacted for information regarding this possibility. More information should be available the December 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

### Personnel

No report.

Mr. Carl asked if the Personnel Committee has decided anything about the hiring of a Police Chief. No decision has been made. Mrs. Groninger requested that a meeting of the Personnel Committee be set for January.

### Property

No report.

Public Safety  
No report.

**Old Business**

1. Council meetings for 2004 have been set. Mr. Wolfe recommended that work sessions be held the third Tuesday of the month, February through December. Mr. Martin advised that work sessions, as well as the regular council meetings, need to be advertised as open to the public. Mr. Wolfe will develop a schedule to be advertised.

**New Business**

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the minutes of November 18, 2003. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
2. Mr. Ditton moved to approve payment of the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$22,252.63 and bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$35.00.
3. Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Michael Nailor to the Civil Service Commission. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Mayor Brosius mentioned the petition that the Borough received from residents in the mid-rise on Queen Street. They would like the trees in the downtown area removed.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street,  
Northumberland, PA 17857  
December 9, 2003**

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

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

**Roll Call**

Council members present were Greg Carl, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Council member Greg Shaffer was absent. Others present were Clifford Kriner, Police Sergeant, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Seven members of the public introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was offered.

Mr. Wolfe announced that four applications were received from candidates for the vacant Borough Council seat before the December 2, 2003 deadline. He added that a fifth application received from Larry Geist on December 5<sup>th</sup> was not being considered because it was submitted after the deadline. The other candidates are Jim Troup, who was interviewed at last Tuesday’s council meeting, Wendell Wetzel, who is unable to attend this evening, Linda Hixson, and Darvin Straub.

Linda Hixson was the first candidate interviewed this evening. She stated that one of the main reasons she applied is that, being born and raised in Northumberland, she would like to participate with the other council members to make Northumberland a place where people would like to stay, and to bring businesses into the area.

Mr. Carl stated that the council faced challenges in preparing the 2004 budget. He expects that this may also be true in 2005. He asked Ms. Hixson about her feelings on budgeting for the services offered in the Borough.

Ms. Hixson replied that she believes that law enforcement and fire companies are essential. Ms. Hixson would look at things that may be considered wasteful and would consider cuts in these areas.

Mr. Carl asked about her opinion of the Second Street Community Center. Ms. Hixson feels that this building would be a good place to have a community center. Although it is an old building, she feels that it would be worthwhile to utilize this building for a community center and to move the police department there, or perhaps rent out areas of the building.

Mr. Carl asked if the kids in town have enough to do. Ms. Hixson stated that she does support Liberty Splashland and feels that there is not enough for the kids to do.

Mr. Troxell asked if there is one particular project that Ms. Hixson is most interested in. She replied that she has no particular project, but would be interested in helping in whatever areas that she could.

Mr. Troxell asked why she is interested in the Property Committee. She is interested in seeing that properties in the Borough that are rundown are refurbished.

Mr. Ditton asked if Ms. Hixson volunteered last year when the King Street Park project was being undertaken. Ms. Hixson stated that she had been working 2 ½ jobs at that time. She has since retired from Geisinger and now works approximately 28 hours a week and has more time to volunteer.

Mr. Ditton asked if she was in favor of the sidewalk project. Ms. Hixson was in favor of the sidewalk project. Some of the residents in her neighborhood have repaired their walks; some have not.

Ms. Hixson stated that she would not want younger children to cross Duke Street to access Pineknott Park. She would like to find other ways for them to get to the park.

Mr. Wolfe asked what, in her opinion, is not being done properly. She feels that some of the elderly people in town feel “written off”. Since many of the borough residents are elderly, she thinks that a list could be developed and a service could be provided to make sure that the elderly residents are okay.

Mr. Wolfe explained that the Borough is too small to receive funding, as Sunbury and larger municipalities receive. He asked if she felt that there are any services provided by the town that the Borough should reduce funding for, in order to increase funding for other areas. Ms. Hixson stated that she does not have a response at this time and she would like to study the budget before commenting on where waste may exist.

Ms. Groninger asked about the type of expertise Ms. Hixson could bring to the council. Ms. Hixson stated that she did work at Geisinger for 28 years. She knows about payables and insurances.

Ms. Hixson is currently volunteering as a member of the Borough’s Appeals Board.

Ms. Groninger asked if Ms. Hixson is available in the day. She is available Mondays and Tuesdays during the days; and works until 3:00 p.m. on other days.

Mayor Brosius asked if Ms. Hixson feels that Borough should go forward with the Second Street School is a project. Ms. Hixson replied that she is in favor of the project.

Darvin Straub, the second candidate, introduced himself. He grew up in the Borough, and after completing college, he came home weekends to remain active in the Baptist Church.

Mr. Straub taught in Camp Hill High School for 4½ years; came back to teach at Shikellamy (technology education) for two years. Mr. Straub returned to Camp Hill where he continued his teaching career, mostly in woodworking. Mr. Straub coached football, wrestling, and track. He was president of the union and served on the negotiating team for two terms. He was also a member of the Cumberland County DUI Board.

Mr. Straub returned to the Borough in 2002 and retired from teaching this year, after 32½ years of service. He is currently involved in the Northumberland/ Point Township Kiwanis Club.

When Mr. Straub heard about the ballfield lighting situation at Pineknotted Park, he offered suggestions to Mike Daddario about the possibility of obtaining volunteer help to install the light poles.

Mr. Straub feels that while Pineknotted Park is not in a good location for young people, it is appropriate for teenagers. He would like to see additional activities located at Pineknotted Park.

Mr. Straub suggested that grants might be available to obtain equipment. He stated that Camp Hill recently received grant money to help purchase two new trucks. Mr. Straub stated that he would be willing to meet with Camp Hill officials to learn more about the grant funding that they received. He would be willing to try to help locate grant sources.

Mayor Brosius asked about Mr. Straub's feelings about Second Street School. He suggested that colleges and other institutions of higher education be contacted to determine if they would have interest in using the classrooms in the building for satellite sites.

Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. Straub saw waste in the budget. He replied that he does not know enough about the budget or the Borough's spending history to comment on what may be waste.

Mr. Straub asked if new curbing is to be installed everywhere. Mrs. Groninger replied that if necessary, new curbing is installed. Mr. Straub stated that in Camp Hill, new streets were paved to within one foot of the curbing, leaving that foot of paving lower for stormwater runoff and also leaving the curbing intact. Mr. Troxell explained that streets are milled along the edges to provide for adequate curb reveal. Because this was not the normal practice years ago, some curbs do not have adequate reveal.

Mr. Straub stated that he is currently retired and available during the day. However, this may not always be the case, depending on health care costs.

Mr. Wolfe asked what is lacking in Northumberland that should be given more attention. Mr. Straub replied that he would like to see more individuals volunteering in the community.

Mr. Wolfe asked how Mr. Straub felt about the taxes in the Borough. He stated that his taxes are currently lower than they had been in his former community and he does not feel that the Borough residents are taxed too high.

Mr. Ditton asked where Mr. Straub lives. His address is 351 Orange Street. Mr. Straub graduated from Shikellamy High School in 1966.

Mr. Ditton asked why Mr. Straub did not volunteer to help in the park this fall. Mr. Straub replied that he had been installing new sidewalks at his property. He informed the council that he is also one of the Kiwanis members who volunteers regularly at the recycling center.

Mr. Ditton asked why Mr. Straub returned to Norry. He replied that it is a great place to grow up and he has family in the area.

Mr. Straub stated that one good thing in the borough is the mill (Keystone Forging Co.) on Duke Street. He would like to see additional industries established in the Borough.

He feels that the Little League is an active organization that is working well.

Mr. Straub feels that the pool is adequate. He is not in favor of razng the Kiwanis Building for the pool expansion because the Kiwanis Club has put thousands of dollars into renovating the building.

Mr. Straub would like to see the industrial areas expanded. He suggested that the Borough contact real estate companies to promote Duke Street and Water Street areas for commercial use.

Mr. Straub feels that with the number of new homes on the hill, the residents in that area must be making good money, which should help the tax base.

Mr. Ditton asked about Mr. Straub's opinion of a skate park. Mr. Straub feels that a skate park would be okay providing it is in an area where it would not disturb neighbors. Mr. Troxell stated that liability insurance is something that must be considered whenever the Borough undertakes a project such as a skate park.

Mr. Troxell asked if Mr. Straub works part-time at the Baptist Church because he saw him shoveling snow there over the weekend. Mr. Straub replied that he is a member of the church who volunteered to clean the walks before Sunday morning.

Mr. Carl asked if Mr. Straub feels that the Borough is doing the right thing by reducing the police force from six to five. Mr. Straub replied that without seeing a history, he does not know where the same amount of money could be cut from another part of the budget.

Mr. Troxell stated that one thing that the Borough has found out with grants is that the Borough can be “burned” with grants. Specifically, police had been hired through COPS grants, and now the grant money is gone and the Borough must fund the salaries.

Mr. Straub was asked how he felt about the Sidewalk Project. He replied that he was not provided with a set of standards for replacing sidewalks. He felt that standards should have been provided.

Mr. Straub explained that in other communities, all contractors must be registered. The fee was \$50.00 per year, but the citizens were protected, by knowing that the contractor had insurance and that the contractor was informed of the municipality’s building codes and standards.

Mr. Straub asked about the number of meetings planned. Mr. Ditton replied that there would be one voting meeting a month and one work session. Committee meetings may be scheduled separately. Mr. Wolfe explained that this council has never had just one voting meeting per month.

In summary, Mr. Wolfe stated that four candidates are interested in filling the council vacancy. Mr. Troup was interviewed last Tuesday, Ms. Hixson and Mr. Straub were interviewed tonight. And all members of the council know Wendell Wetzel, the fourth candidate who was unable to attend this evening.

Mr. Wolfe asked if anyone would like to comment.

Mr. E. Eugene Brosius stated that he would like to speak on behalf of Mr. Straub. He finds him to be a man of good character and common sense. He feels that Mr. Straub comes with a “clean slate” because he has not been in the area. He also has noted that since returning to the area, the people who had known him before have treated him with respect.

Mr. Mike Daddario added his comments in favor of Mr. Straub, stating that he too feels that Mr. Straub has common sense and would be a good council member.

Mr. Carl stated that he feels that the council needs to consider who is willing to put in their time, because sitting on council is time-consuming.

Mr. Wolfe opened the floor up for nominations.

Mrs. Groninger stated that she would like to thank all the candidates for applying.

Mr. Wolfe nominated Linda Hixson for council. Mr. Ditton nominated Mr. Straub. Mr. Troxell moved that the nominations be closed. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council members should each vote for the candidate of his or her choice. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger – Mr. Straub; Mr. Troxell – Mr. Straub; Mr. Wolfe – Mr. Straub; Mr. Carl – Mrs. Hixson; and Mr. Wolfe – Mr. Straub. The vote was four votes for Mr. Straub and one vote for Mrs. Hixson.

Mayor Brosius conducted the swearing in ceremony and Mr. Straub took his seat at the council table. Mr. Straub's Oath of Office is on file in the Borough Office.

### **Old Business**

#### **1. Pineknotted Park**

Mr. Carl stated that the situation is that the Borough will not get the final grant application from DCNR until Pineknotted Park is completed. The volunteers have been working to install the light poles and discovered that they were short on some of the materials.

Mr. Bob Bauder, an engineer with Larson Design Group, Inc., explained that the project was initially designed with 15 lights on the B poles and 9 lights on the A poles. In order to support the B poles with the 15 lights, Hubble, the company that received the low bid, required a heavier foundation. At that time, council requested that another solution be found. The new design required different amounts of wiring from the original design. Mr. Bauder was out of the area when the volunteers were installing the wiring.

Mr. Bauder provided a comparison of the original and revised wire and conduit quantities and costs for the lighting project. The handouts are on file in the Borough Office.

The wire was delivered as bid for the original design and has been utilized to the extent that it could be, to proceed with the installation that has been made. Mr. Bauder has spoken with Kent Nunamaker, of K & N Electric. He is willing to work with the Borough with a cost figure for the additional material that is needed and is willing to accept returns. Mr. Bauder does not expect a problem with full cable reels, however he does not know how partial reels will be handled. At this point, Mr. Bauder does not know what the additional costs may be. Mr. Nunamaker will contact Greg Carl with the information. Mr. Bauder stated that he does not know exactly why the amount of wiring required is more than the estimate. He apologized for the difference.

Mr. Bauder added that DCNR would be informed of any additional costs to the project.

Mr. Bauder provided the council with printouts of the Least Cost Project Alternative based on the 9/17/02 rebid results and modifications. It was necessary to add the cost of bonding back into the bids because DCNR required it. This cost was adopted as a change order.

Mr. Bauder stated that the borough crew should place fill around the foundation base before the light standards are erected.

Mr. Carl will contact Kent Nunamaker to determine what supplies are needed. Mr. Nunamaker has been given a list from Ron Pope, a PPL volunteer.

Mr. Carl made a motion to approve obtaining the remaining electric supplies, if the total cost is less than \$1,000. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Council discussed the necessity of installing a telephone in the concession stand since many people carry cell phones. Mr. Carl moved to run telephone cable at this time. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Troxell stated that the conduit is already in place and the wiring could be run at any time. The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Carl requested that the borough crew place stone in the trench, over the conduit, rake it until they can see the conduit, and pull the conduit to the top of the stone so they know that there is an adequate base for the concrete.

Mr. Carl said that the cost for the concrete would be an additional cost for the Borough. Mr. Troxell suggested that Central Builders be contacted for their “waste” concrete. Mr. Carl will contact Central Builders to try to obtain excess concrete. Mr. Fisher stated that the crew would be available to go to the park whenever concrete can be delivered.

Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Carl coordinate the efforts to complete this project.

Mr. Carl stated that erecting the lights is up to the volunteers. Mr. Bauder stated that Ron Pope is in contact with Skip Dailey. The PPL volunteers are available to install the light poles one at a time, after work and on the weekends.

Mr. Bauder commented that the borough is reclaiming land that was a landfill and making it more valuable. He supports the Borough’s efforts and wishes that it would be going more smoothly. He feels that this project will be worthwhile in the long-term.

Mrs. Groninger stated that Mr. Redington is to be commended for coordinating the efforts for this project.

Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt Pineknott Park Change Order Number 2, reducing the base electrical contract sum stated in Section 4.1 of project agreement with K & N Electric, Inc. dated 12/12/02. The agreement listed a cost of \$7,832 and the base bid was for \$7,200, a savings of \$632. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote –All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

**Executive Session**

Council adjourned for an Executive Session at 8:40 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue. The meeting was reconvened at 8:55 p.m.

Per the personnel discussion, Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt the decision made in Executive Session concerning a personnel issue. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 8:56 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland  
Council Meeting  
221 Second Street,  
Northumberland, PA 17857  
December 16, 2003**

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 Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Greg Carl, Charles "Bud" Ditton, and Darvin Straub. Judith Groninger and Greg Schaffer were absent. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Robin Martin, Solicitor, Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor, Sgt. Clifford Kriner, Police Department, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Six residents introduced themselves.

**Public Comment**

No public comment was offered at this time.

**Mayor's Report**

Mayor Brosius reported that the Fire Board has scheduled their 2004 meetings. They will meet at the No. 1 Fire Department on the second Wednesday of each month at 8:00 p.m., following the Northumberland/ Point Township Fire Relief Board meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Mayor Brosius and Mr. Gene Brosius attended a seminar in Harrisburg concerning vacant properties. The Elm Street project is a possible source of funding, if passed.

**Public Works Department Report**

No report.

**Code Enforcement Officer's Report**

1. The property at 38 King Street is for sale.
2. The hearing for the rental ordinance is continued until January.

**Executive Session**

An Executive Session was convened at 7:06 p.m. The council meeting was reconvened at 7:25 p.m. The topics discussed were personnel, legal and litigation issues.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Streets**

Mr. Troxell asked about the salt quantity. One load has been delivered. Another load can be ordered. Council discussed the plowing. Several areas are difficult to plow because the sun does not hit the street and the streets have black ice. Mr. Troxell explained that it was necessary to put feet on the plows because so many of the manholes are too high.

### **Finance**

Mr. Wolfe explained that the Borough is obtaining a \$100,000 loan from SUN Bank. The money was to be disbursed in December. However, because this is a tax anticipation note, the check will not be available until January 2, 2004. Funding is needed before that date. SUN Bank has agreed to a \$40,000 loan, which will be repaid by the end of January 2004.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept the loan for \$40,000 and to repay this amount as soon as possible. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion carried 5-0.

### **Second Reading of the 2004 Budget**

Mr. Ditton stated that while he voted for the budget in committee, he feels that the budget should not include a loan in order to balance.

Mr. Troxell made the motion to accept the 2004 budget and Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Carl and Mr. Ditton voted nay. The motion carried 3-2.

### **Parks & Recreation**

Mr. Carl stated that a committee meeting would be held Thursday, December 18, at 7:00 p.m. Some work has been done at Pineknott Park; however, the PPL workers will not be able to put up the light poles until spring.

Representative Phillips office has been contacted with a request that DCNR release a portion of the remaining grant funds. The state is withholding \$63,500 until the ballfield lighting project is completed. The state has not yet responded to the request.

### **Personnel**

Mr. Wolfe stated that he has worked on the police contract with Sergeant Kriner. The attorneys for each party are reviewing the contracts. Once their recommendations have been received, the Personnel Committee members will vote on the contract before it is presented to the full council.

Mr. Carl stated that a situation exists whenever a dance is held at the C.W. Rice Middle School. Police or Fire Police are present during the dance. However, after the dance, most of the students go to Amato's on Duke Street and there is no supervision by the school district. The police are aware of the situation and patrol the area. Since the new elementary school was completed, C.W. Rice now houses only middle school age

students. The number of students attending the dances and going to Amato's afterwards has greatly increased. The police have advised the school principal that it is a hazardous situation with the students crossing Duke Street. However, the principal stated that the parents are responsible for their children once the school activity ends.

### **Property**

Clayton Krieger of North Branch Auto leases the property at the Point and has requested that the lease be renewed. The rent for the property was included in the 2004 budget, with an increase of \$600 per year. Mr. Troxell made a motion to accept a three (3) year lease at the amount of \$3,600.00 per year. Mr. Carl seconded the motion. Council discussed the possibility of changing the lease to a two-year agreement. It was stated that North Branch Auto pays their quarterly rent in advance and has been a good tenant. Mr. Wolfe called for a vote on the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion passed 5-0.

Helen Martin, of ReMax River Valley Realty, has provided the Borough with a market analysis for Jolly Hollow. No decisions or motions were made at this time.

### **Public Safety**

No report.

### **Old Business**

1. Mr. Straub suggested that the Borough approach North Branch Auto to sell the police car on consignment. Council agreed with the suggestion. Mr. Straub will speak with Mr. Krieger.

### **New Business**

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve the minutes of December 2 and 9, 2003. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Troxell, Mr. Carl, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Straub abstained. Motion carried 4-0 with one abstention.
2. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$24,866.93 and the bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool Account total \$83.80.
3. Sunbury Community Hospital Random Testing Consortium Agreement. This agreement is for the Borough Crew drug tests. The Borough is charged \$3.00 per crewmember for membership. The drug testing is conducted randomly and the Borough is billed for each test. Mr. Straub made a motion to continue membership in the Consortium. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
4. Mr. Wolfe made a motion to reappoint Mr. Don Shuman to a 3-year term on the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Shuman's term will run until December 31, 2006.

5. PMRS has provided the Borough with updated information regarding the 2004 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) worksheets. The council has the option of use the revised MMO for Police plan and not for the other, the Municipality plan. By revising the MMO for the Police Plan, the Borough's obligation would be reduced by \$297. The Municipality MMO plan as previously adopted is \$1,781 less than the revised plan. The 2004 invoices are based on the accepted MMO plans. Mr. Ditton made the motion to accept the revised MMO for the Police plan. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes. Motion carried 5-0.
6. Mayor Brosius asked about the Committee assignments for 2004. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would be willing to be reappointed as President. He asked the council members which committees they would prefer to serve on. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Carl have discussed eliminating the council Parks and Recreation Committee since there is a separate Parks and Recreation Committee. Mr. Troxell stated that he would be willing to serve as the Council's representative to the Sewer Authority, providing he is removed from one of the other committees, preferably Personnel. Mr. Carl stated that he would like to be considered for the Street Committee. Mr. Wolfe stated that anyone having additional requests should speak with him.

Mr. Straub moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman  
Borough Secretary