

Borough of Northumberland Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
January 4, 2005

Call to Order

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. The nine visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Mr. Paul Ruane, Jr. explained to the council that more grant money is available to fire companies who have more certified volunteer fire fighters.

A fire company grant for \$1,000 is available from Wal-Mart. The company requires a letter from the Borough stating that the Hookies are a volunteer organization. Mr. Ruane requested that the Borough compose the letter to be sent to Wal-Mart so the Hookies may apply for the grant funding. Council approved the request.

- Mrs. Patty Young asked what information the council had about the name of the Northumberland Acorn Little League being changed to Shikellamy. She asked who changed the name, and why. Mayor Brosius stated that she spoke to Tim Fister before this evening’s council meeting. Mr. Fister invited the council to attend the Little League meeting on January 9th at 6:00 p.m. Mrs. Young stated that since the league is not run through the school, the name should not be changed. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Little League organization is a private organization that does not receive funding from the Borough. He added that the names of parks in the Borough are not being changed. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would contact Brian Luden for additional information. Mrs. Groninger stated that while the Borough does not have the money to support the Little League as they once did, the Borough crew does assist at the field when needed. The crew has also done much work at Pineknotted Park and this field is also used by Little League teams.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session from 7:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. to discuss a litigation issue.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius announced that Seamus West has obtained the rank of Eagle Scout and congratulated him on his accomplishment.

Mayor Brosius informed the council that the Police Department now has a part-time officer working several hours a week.

The Mayor requested that the council meet with the Police Department on a regular basis. It was determined that this should be at a personnel meeting. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Personnel Committee meet with the police at 6:00 p.m. on January 18th. The meeting will not be open to the public.

Mayor Brosius submitted the following names for approval for Fire Police for a two-year term: Herbert Gottshall, Jr., Captain; Herbert Gottshall, III, Lieutenant; Gary McNeir, Sergeant; and Patrolmen Jon Apple, Thomas Cropf, and William Farone. Mrs. Groninger moved to accept the nominees for Fire Police. Ms. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Ditton asked why the police report is censored. Chief Fink replied that he has removed names and the amounts of the fines since the Borough does not receive the entire amount of the fines.

Mr. Wolfe asked if the Mayor has received any information about the Police survey that was submitted to DCED. The Mayor has not heard anything pertaining to the survey.

Mr. Ditton asked why all the line items on the report are “closed”. Some of the cases are still open. Chief Fink will check why the report states “closed”, but feels it is a software issue.

Sewer Authority's Report

Ms. Lark stated that she has no report. Mr. Ditton asked why the rates are increasing. Ms. Lark replied that the Authority's expenses have increased. She added that rates have not been increased for seven years and the present increase is 10%.

Code Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane stated that he will provide the council with his report at the January 18th work session.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that he has not received a percentage of the insurance money from Abrana Marie's because the insurance company has not yet made a payment to the owner of the restaurant.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the Borough has insurance money in escrow from the fire at Fifth and Wheatley. Mr. Ruane replied no. Mr. Ditton stated that the property is for sale.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the restaurant is being repaired. Mr. Ruane replied that the repairs are at a standstill. The owner of the restaurant is opening a new restaurant in the Williamsport area.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Fisher stated that PennDOT has informed him that the repairs to Front Street will not be done until this summer when the paving is scheduled, which means that Prince Street will be closed until then. Mr. Wolfe stated that this is a safety issue, and if the street is not repaired until sometime this summer, the pool will be affected. Mr. Fisher stated that he will contact the maintenance engineer in Montoursville tomorrow. He has also contacted Representative Phillips's office. Mr. Fisher stated that PennDOT was informed about the problem in August and at that they hot-patched the street. Mr. Fisher also stated that he is concerned about an emergency and an ambulance being delayed because of the street closure. Council discussed options and requested that Mayor Brosius contact Mr. Phillips's office tomorrow.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that the final budget numbers for 2004 include a deficit of approximately \$58,000. This is due to not having received the final grant payment for Pineknoller Park from the state. The funding due is approximately \$63,400. \$50,000 of this money is owed to Omega Bank. The remainder of the grant money is included as income in the 2005 budget.

As part of the 2004 budget, the Finance Committee had anticipated borrowing an additional \$50,000 but this money was not borrowed.

Mr. Troxell moved to transfer funds from the General Contingency Account to the General Fund in the amount of \$30,000. \$10,000 of this money is the contribution to the 2005 budget from the Northumberland Housing Corporation which was received in 2004 and placed in the General Contingency Account. The other \$20,000 will be repaid to the General Contingency fund once tax money is received. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Ms. Lark informed the council that the Sewer Authority will give the Borough \$25,000 of its donation this week and \$25,000 at the end of January.

Mr. Wolfe explained that the Borough's budget in January and February is always tight because the Borough does not receive real estate tax money until March.

Personnel – no report

Mr. Ditton stated that he saw the crew picking up Christmas trees. Mrs. Groninger asked if residents are dropping trees off at the recycling center. Mr. Wolfe stated that the volunteers at the recycling center had asked him if it is okay for out-of-town residents to drop off their trees. Council discussed the fact that the Borough is providing services for residents from other municipalities. Mrs. Groninger

suggested that if the gate were kept locked, it may prevent some trees from being dropped off.

Property

Mr. Fisher stated that the waterline is not yet completed at the Recycling Center.

Public Safety

Pineknotted Park – Mr. Ditton stated that a letter from DCNR has been received, stating that a pile of debris must be removed and a picture is to be sent to DCNR. The crew has done the work and two pictures have been emailed to DCNR. The final grant check is anticipated by the end of January.

Other projects planned for grant funding are playground renovations. Mr. Straub stated that DCNR now is suggesting that Point Township be included.

Mr. Wolfe suggested that the sign at Pineknotted Park should be changed since borough taxpayers have paid for the renovations at Pineknotted Park. Mr. Ditton replied that donations have been received from various people from Point Township and many Point Township residents have donated their time at the park.

Mayor Brosius suggested that a Northumberland/ Point Township Recreation Committee be established.

Ordinance

The Ordinance Committee will meet the fourth Thursday of the month at 7:00 p.m.

Streets

Mr. Troxell stated that they are accepting bids for the Kubota.

The Street Committee will be contacting Don Free to help prepare the bids for the construction.

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe stated that the deadline for articles for the newsletter is this Friday, January 7th. The newsletter will cover events from January to April. Mayor Brosius suggested that several ordinances be included in the newsletter, informing the residents that it is illegal to park vehicles in their front yard. Snow removal and trash on porches should also be addressed.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Rees moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Discussion.
Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$17,523.53; bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$802.77.
2. Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt Resolution A-2005 (Schedule of Fees and Penalties).

Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe explained that the new ordinances have been codified and the penalties will be reviewed by the Ordinance Committee. If any changes are found to be necessary, a new resolution will be written. Mr. Wolfe reviewed several changes to be made to present resolution:

1. Page 2 – Building construction fees, Permits. Estimated value of construction \$999 or lower, the fee is \$35.00. The next line which says \$1,000 to \$1,999, should say “base rate” after that. On the third line, it should say, \$2,000 and beyond, per \$1,000, plus base rate, \$7.00.
2. Page 3 – Street Crew. The second point, Private Property Clean-up, should state “per equipment”, not “per person”.
3. Street Openings – the second line should read Permit, each additional square “foot”, not “feet”

Mayor Brosius asked about changing the fee to rent King Street Park to churches and non-profit groups. Discussion was that any group may meet there, without reserving the park; if they wish to reserve the park and have the street crew clean up the park before the event, the fee will be charged.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Liberty Pool operated at a net loss of \$5,500. This is on top of a net loss of \$7,500 in 2003. While the pool is not supposed to make money, Mr. Wolfe does not feel that the pool should be losing this much money. He requested other opinions. Ms. Lark stated that Liberty Pool charges \$1.00 extra to use the slides while Sunbury does not charge extra to use their slides. The pool saw an increase in season passes sold, but a decrease in daily pool passes. In 2004, more pool parties were held than in 2003. For 2005, Greg Carl is planning to offer time in the mornings to rent the pool for pool parties. Mr. Carl sent a letter to the council with suggestions for increasing the pool’s revenue. Two items were to charge the Red Cross for use of the pool for swim lessons and the swim team for use of the pool for meets. Ana Barlow Dodge asked if other municipalities contribute to the pool budget. Years ago Point Township contributed to the pool; however, they have not done so for several years. Ms. Dodge suggested that non-residents be charged a higher fee. The Ordinance Committee will review the fees at the February 24th meeting and present a revised resolution to the council at the February 1, 2005 meeting.

Roll call vote. Resolution A-2005 was approved unanimously.

3. Resolution B-2005, Flood Mitigation. Mr. Wolfe tabled this resolution in order to give the newer council members time to review the Borough’s plan.
4. Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Susan Morrioni to the Shade Tree Commission. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
5. A proposal has been received from Larson Design Group, Inc. to provide professional engineering, architectural, and surveying services to the Borough. Ms. Groninger suggested tabling the topic. Mr. Wolfe stated that he felt the council

should vote on the proposal and moved to accept the Larson Design Group, Inc. proposal as outlined in the letter. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton stated that the proposal does not have any retainer fees and does not mean that the Borough must use them exclusively. Engineering services do not need to be bid out. Roll call vote – All ayes.

6. Mr. Wolfe tabled the minutes of the November 16 and December 21 meetings since council had just received them.
7. A letter was received from PennDOT regarding the Borough's resolution on jake brakes. The solicitor stated that PennDOT will review the resolution and determine if valid reasons exist. They must also instruct the Borough where the signs may be erected. The letter also requests that the Borough inform PennDOT when the one-way signs are erected on Seventh Street, below Duke Street, so they may get their stop sign. Council discussed requesting that the sign remain to prevent someone who drives up Seventh Street the wrong way from pull out on Duke Street without stopping.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
February 1, 2005, 7:00 PM

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darwin Straub, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Seven visitors introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Mr. Todd Reichenbach informed the council that he is interested in buying the Rea & Derick Building and would like to renovate the office space for apartments. The space is between 20,000 and 25,000 square feet. The remainder of the building will be used for light warehousing. Mr. Ruane stated that the Borough Code prohibits the conversion of properties to apartments.

Mr. Shoch suggested that Mr. Reichenbach obtain a copy of the ordinance and determine if this property is addressed in the ordinance, adding that Mr. Reichenbach might apply for a variance as a non-permitted use, if that option is available.

Mr. Reichenbach stated that the other end of the building, along Sixth Street, may be converted to a banquet hall, or day care center. He also plans to put a playground on part of the property.

Mr. Reichenbach asked if Mini-Storage units would be permitted in part of the building. Mr. Shoch replied that Mr. Reichenbach should obtain a copy of the Borough’s ordinance. Mr. Wolfe added that it could be obtained from the Borough Office or online.

- Mr. Ray asked if any progress has been made by the committee that is developing criteria for handicapped permits. Mr. Wolfe stated that the committee determined not to provide handicapped parking permits in the future. Mr. Ray stated that the patrons at the bar at the corner of King and Priestley park in front of his property. Mayor Brosius asked if off-street parking is available at the rear of his lot. Mr. Ray replied that it is not. Mr. Ray’s address is 355 Priestley Avenue.

Ms. Long made a motion to establish a handicap parking space at 355 Priestley Avenue. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed 6-0.

- Mr. Paul Ruane Jr. informed the council that the Hookies’ financial records are at the offices of Lewis, Danzig, & Co. to be audited. The audit will be provided to the Borough. The Hookies may receive a \$500 grant from Wal Mart.

Executive Session

The council went into an Executive Session at 7:12 p.m. to discuss litigation and personnel issues. Council member Judith Groninger arrived at 7:25 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:37 p.m.

Mr. Ditton moved to approve filing legal documents that were discussed in Executive Session. Mr. Wolfe will sign the documents. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Troxell abstained. Motion passed 6-0 with one abstention.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Brosius requested that the Council approve the following Resolution :

Resolution

Resolution of Remembrance And Honor for Sgt. Brett Swank, First Northumberland Resident killed in Combat in The War Against Terrorism in Iraq On January 24, 2005.

WHEREAS Sgt Swank, age 21, is survived by his father, Daniel J. Swank of Northumberland and his mother, Debra M. (Roof) Santucci of Northumberland; and

WHEREAS Sgt. Swank was an officer with the 509th Battalion, Infantry Division of Fort Polk, LA; and

WHEREAS Sgt. Swank was awarded the Bronze Star, the Purple Heart, Army Accommodation Medal, Good Conduct Medal, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Ribbon, NCO Professional Development Medal and the Army Service Medal. Sgt. Swank was awarded his Ranger Tab, Combat Infantryman’s Badge; and

WHEREAS the thoughts and prayers of the citizens of the Borough of Northumberland and the Nation remain with the families of Sgt. Swank and all the soldiers fighting to ensure the Nation’s freedom and safety:

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that, the Mayor and the Borough Council of Northumberland, as Representatives of the citizens of the Borough, do:

1. honor and recognize Sgt. Brett Swank for his bravery and sacrifice;

2. extend their deepest sympathies to the family of this brave hero and;
3. pledge their continued support for the men and women who risk their lives every day to ensure the safety of all United States citizens.

Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor
February 1, 2005

Bryan Wolfe, Council President
February 1, 2005

Mrs. Groninger moved to approve this Resolution, designated as Resolution D-2005; Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The Mayor stated that Chief Fink has provided the council with the monthly report for January 2005.

The Personnel Committee met with the Police Department and hopes that the council will agree to continue these quarterly meetings on April 19, September 20, and November 15 at 6:00 p.m. before the monthly work sessions.

Renovations are continuing on the Police Office.

Sewer Authority's Report

Ms. Cindy Lark stated that the Sewer Authority plans to televise lines once the weather is warmer.

Code Officer's Report – no report

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Nate Fisher reported that the bid for PennDOT's project on Front Street has been awarded and construction could begin at any time. Fulkroad Construction was awarded the bid.

Committee Reports

Finance

1. Mr. Wolfe stated that the January financial statement will be provided once he and the Borough Secretary have completed the statement.
2. Resolution B-2005 – Revision to the Schedule of Fees & Penalties
Mr. Wolfe explained that the Ordinance Committee reviewed the Schedule of Fees and Penalties. They have provided this revision to Resolution A-2005. One revision is under Liberty Pool fees. The fee to rent the entire pool would be \$100 per hour. The committee also discussed issuing parking permits for the downtown area on a limited basis with the business owners being contacted first. The committee suggested that 10 permits be issued.

Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt Resolution B-2005. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Ordinance Committee felt that 10 parking permits which are 10% of the parking spaces would be a good number. Mrs. Groninger questioned if this would hurt the downtown businesses. Mr. Rees

replied that he walked downtown several times during the Christmas season and the parking spaces were not filled. Ditton asked if any meters would be restricted, such as those in front of the Post Office. Mr. Shoch advised that since the Borough has an ordinance that addresses parking in the downtown metered spaces, an ordinance must be adopted to change the current one. Mr. Wolfe amended his motion to exclude the parking permits. Mr. Ditton amended his second. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub moved to begin the ordinance modification process and amend the ordinance pertaining to parking meters to allow for parking permits downtown with the conditions to be decided by the Ordinance Committee at the February 24th meeting. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Wolfe moved to advertise for audit proposals for the Borough. The proposals are due on February 14, 2005, and the Finance Committee is to review the proposals and select the auditor. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that the Personnel Committee met and resolved a personnel issue.

Mayor Brosius requested that the Personnel Committee schedule meetings with the Police Department at 6:00 p.m. before the Work Sessions in April, September, and November. The committee agreed to the meetings.

Property

Mr. Straub announced the February 22nd meeting for those interested in renting the Second Street building. Any group interested will be invited to meet at 6:45 to walk through the building and the meeting will still begin at 7:30.

Public Safety

The committee will meet on February 22 at 6:30.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Emergency Services Task Force met last evening, January 31st, and will meet on February 28 at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Wolfe is hopeful that a solution will be reached by June. He added that the public is invited to the meetings.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees informed the council that the committee met last Thursday.

Greg Carl was present at the meeting to discuss the fees for Liberty Splashland. They decided to charge fees for the Red Cross swimming lessons and the Swim Team. Currently neither group pays anything for the use of the pool.

Mr. Ruane will revise the ordinance pertaining to curb cuts to present to the committee.

Mr. Rees stated that the issues to be addressed at the next meeting will be related to property.

The council discussed the responsibility that residents must assume for clearing their walks during snow storms. If the walks are not cleared by 24 hours of the snowfall, the police are issuing tickets. Walks that remain snow-covered are to be cleared by the crew and the property owners are to be charged for the crew's time. Mr. Ditton suggested taking pictures of the snow-covered walks before the crew clears them should it become necessary to do so.

Streets

Mr. Troxell moved to proceed with the bid process for the construction projects for 2005. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. The motion includes the process of a pre-construction meeting and a deadline for bids to be submitted by February 28, 2005, at 4:30 p.m. The bids will be opened at the March 1, 2005 council meeting. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Old Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to approve Resolution C-2005. This resolution adopts the Hazard Mitigation Plan as the official plan of the Borough of Northumberland. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mayor Brosius suggested that the council appoint members to the committee at the next meeting.
2. The check for Pineknott Park grant has not yet been received. This week the Borough Office received a request for various copies of bills from the project to be faxed to DCNR. The information has been sent. The total amount expended for this project exceeded \$427,000; with \$426,000 required to obtain the maximum grant funding of \$213,000.

New Business

Requiring Council Approval

1. Mr. Troxell moved to approve the minutes of November 16, December 7, December 21, 2004 & January 4, 2005. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Rees moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Discussion. Two additional bills were presented: \$110 for The Dust Butlers and \$65.00 to Keystone Communications for radio repairs. Mr. Ditton asked what the bill from Point Township was for. Mr. Fisher answered that he and Jimmy Neitz from

Point Township went together to purchase cold patch. This bill is for the Borough's share of the material that was purchased from American Paving. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$38,151.59; Liquid Fuels bills total \$2,751.22; and the Liberty Pool bills total \$28.91.

3. Mr. Ditton and Mr. Wolfe attended a meeting with SEDA-Cog regarding the bridge that will span the Susquehanna River from Winfield to Point Township. SEDA-Cog is soliciting citizens from the surrounding communities to comprise a task force. Approximately 15 to 20 people will be chosen to meet over the course of the next few months to make recommendations for an aesthetically pleasing bridge and interchanges. The project is to enhance the areas around the bridge, slated for construction in 2010. Anyone who would like to be chosen for the task force should contact SEDA-Cog and indicate interest in serving on the Gateway Project Design Task Force. Funding for the roadway to be constructed from Selinsgrove to the new bridge at Winfield is not in place at this time. Construction of the bridge is to come first and should be completed in 5 years. Mr. Ditton added that the design for the bridge and tunnel in Danville were conceived after a similar task force influenced PennDOT. The interchanges should be made attractive to encourage travelers to visit the area. The township supervisors must plan for zoning to determine the types and numbers of businesses to be permitted around the interchanges. Mr. Wolfe stated that according to SEDA-Cog the Borough may receive funding for having to contend with the traffic on Duke Street.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

**Borough of Northumberland Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
March 1, 2005, 7:00 PM**

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Don Troxell was on vacation. Seven visitors introduced themselves.

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius offered an Invocation.

Public Comment

- Mr. Paul Ruane Jr. stated that the Hookie’s audit is progressing. The company has a 3-year contract with the auditing firm. New procedures are being implemented which will streamline future audits. The Hookies received a \$500 donation from Wal-Mart that was spent for used air packs from Selinsgrove. The air packs will be usable for 8 years.

- Mr. Ken Dunkleberger, representing the Northumberland/ Point Township Senior Center, requested that the people attending the center be permitted to park on the street after the street sweeper has passed. It stated that parking around the park is difficult for some of the members because of the distance from the center. Shirley Pyers asked if the street sweeper is run on a set schedule and if they could park on that side of the street once the street sweeper has passed. Mr. Wolfe explained that the signs are posted for other street work besides the street sweeper.

Mr. Rees advised that the Ordinance Committee would review the situation at their committee meeting. A possible solution may be to change the street sweeping for this block to Wednesday mornings from 7:00 to 9:00 like the downtown streets. Mr. Fisher stated that the crew also clears the snow from the downtown streets on Wednesday mornings. In order to make changes, an Ordinance must be written and read at two council meetings so the group was advised that any change would take time.

Mr. Dunkelberger also stated that the members at the center are interested in moving the center to the Second Street building. Mayor Brosius replied that the county's office on aging has commented that they are not interested in moving the center. Mr. Straub suggested that the Senior Action Center should contact Representative Phillips.

Executive Session

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the meeting for an Executive Session at 7:18 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Wolfe stated that personnel and litigation issues were discussed.

Mayor's Report

The Mayor and Council have extended their sympathies to the family of James "Bud" Dodge, a Borough employee who passed away in February.

A flag has been donated anonymously by a Borough resident in the memory of Brett Swank. It is on the pole in the King Street Park.

The remodeling of the police offices is progressing.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the authority will be televising lines once the weather clears.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

No report

Public Works Supervisor's Report

No report

Bid Opening for 2005 Street Projects

Mr. Wolfe opened the bids for the Pipe. The companies and their total bids to supply the Pipe: Construction Supply Centers - \$15,671.00; Bradco Supply Co. - \$15,415.00; Fry's Plastics - \$15,205.00; L/B Water Service, Inc. - \$16,540.00; and Central Clay Products, Inc. - \$15,804.00. The apparent low bidder is Fry's Plastics.

Mr. Wolfe opened the bids for the labor to install the pipe and the inlets. The companies and their total bids for this project are: Mid-State Paving, LLC - \$48,925.00; HRI, Inc. - \$94,977.50; Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. - \$62,555.00; G & R Charles Excavation LTD - \$56,871.60. Mid-State Paving, LLC is the apparent low bidder.

Mr. Wolfe opened the bids for the paving projects. The companies and their total bids for this project are Mid-State Paving, LLC - \$73,539.50; Dave Gutelius Excavating, Inc. - \$78,675.00; HRI, Inc. - \$73,538.25; Eastern Industries, Inc. - \$79,394.50; and G & R Charles Excavating LTD - \$68,671.00. The apparent low bidder is G & R Charles Excavating LTD.

The total amount for all three bids is \$132,801.00.

Mr. Rees moved to accept the bid of \$15,205.00 from Fry's Plastics to supply the pipe, pending review of the bid qualifications. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Rees moved to accept the bid of \$48,925.00 from Mid-State Paving, LLC to install the pipe and inlets, pending review of the bid qualifications. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mrs. Long moved to accept the bid of \$68,671.00 from G & R Charles Excavating LTD for the paving, pending review of the bid qualifications. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Committee Reports

Finance

The Finance Committee met and hired an auditor. Patricia Young from Milton provided the low proposal of \$5,500.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that everything is running very smoothly.

Property

Bleachers

Mr. Straub spoke with Dr. Hartman, superintendent of the Shikellamy School District about the bleachers for Pineknott Park. Dr. Hartman informed him that the contract for the new bleachers at the football field included the contractor receiving the old bleachers. Dr. Hartman will discuss the possibility of some of the bleachers being donated to the Borough for use at the park. Mr. Straub expects to hear from Dr. Hartman after the Thursday night School Board Meeting.

Second Street Building

Mr. Straub talked with Gary Wolfe. It may be possible to renovate the building at a considerably lower cost than originally projected. The building could be renovated in phases. Mr. Wolfe provided Mr. Straub with estimates for the rent for the building. Mr. Straub has also contacted two realtors, who are going to provide him with rental fees.

Mr. Straub has located a donor who is interested in providing funding for the renovations if the work can be done without having to pay prevailing wage. Mr. Shoch will research the topic to determine if this may be done.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton stated that the committee members were here but no one else attended. No business was conducted.

Mr. Wolfe explained that the Emergency Services Task Force did not meet last evening because of the snow storm. The meeting may be rescheduled for Monday, March 7.

Ordinance

The Ordinance Committee did not meet last Thursday because of the snow storm. Mr. Rees stated that the committee will meet the fourth Thursday of March, March 25, at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Straub added that at a Property meeting, a resident stopped in to complain about the ordinance prohibiting truck parking on Borough streets. This individual stated that pick-up trucks are licensed for over 10,000 pounds. Mr. Straub contacted several dealers and learned that a class 4 pick-up truck does not weigh over 10,000 pounds unless it has dual wheels. He added that the Borough ordinance is just keeping the wide dual-wheel trucks off of the Borough streets.

Streets

The bids were opened earlier in the meeting.

Old Business

1. Spring Newsletter Deadlines
Mr. Wolfe requested that he be provided with the articles the first meeting in April.
2. Shade Tree Commission and Borough Council will meet on March 21 at 6:30 p.m. to discuss the pear trees in the downtown area. Mr. Vinnie Cotrone, an Urban Forester with the Penn State Cooperative Extension.
3. Mrs. Groninger asked if the gas company has provided the office with a timeframe for their construction work on Orange Street. The office has contacted the gas company but has not received a date when the construction will begin. The company was informed that work may not be ongoing during Pineknotters' Days in July. Mr. Ruane replied that the company is planning to do the work this summer.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve the minutes of February 1, 2005. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Rees moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion.
Discussion. The gas bill at the Girl Scout House was discussed. Council requested that the crew check that the thermostat is turned down. One bullet-proof vest was purchased to replace an older one. The bill of \$861.00 for repair to the chipper was discussed. The chipper is used to grind up the Christmas trees. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$34,267.83; Liberty Pool bills total \$743.37.
3. The United Way Days of Caring are scheduled for April 15 & 16. Council requested that Greg Carl and Mark Nogle be contacted to see if they would like volunteers for any projects planned for the pool or Pineknotter Park.
4. Leadership Susquehanna Valley has contacted the Borough Office to ask if anyone is interested in enrolling in the classes beginning in September. The deadline for

applying is in April. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the council review the information before the April meeting.

5. Mr. Richard Hoffman has resigned from the Penn Valley Airport Authority, effective February 18, 2005. Mr. Wolfe moved to accept Mr. Hoffman's resignation with regret. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland Council Meeting
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
April 5, 2005

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Gretchen Brosius, Mayor; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Six visitors introduced themselves.

Public Comment

- Ms. Judyann Schmidt asked if the Borough would conduct a Spring Clean-up this year. Mr. Wolfe explained that the Council did not budget for a Spring Clean-up. The possibility may exist for future years.
- Mr. Scott Johnson, from the 101, stated that water lies in the Duke Street at the intersection with Front Street. Mr. Ruane stated that Duke Street is a state road. Mr. Wolfe suggested that PennDOT should be informed of the problem.
- Mayor Brosius stated that she has received a complaint about the railroad crossing on King Street. It is believed that this would be the railroad’s responsibility. Mr. Wolfe moved to send a correspondence to the railroad, requesting that the property be repaired. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:06 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 7:20 p.m. Personnel and litigation issues were discussed, resulting in the following actions:

Mr. Troxell moved to approve the addendum to the Teamster Union contract. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Mrs. Groninger stated that she is most unhappy with the situation with the union and with their complaints about volunteers working in the Borough. She does not see a need to increase salaries because a man with many years experience is no longer working for the Borough. She feels that this council and previous councils made an error by including the higher pay scale. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 4-2.

Mrs. Groninger made a motion to increase the Street Supervisor’s (Nathan Fisher) salary by \$1.50 per hour, based on 2080 hours per year, retroactive to March 15, 2005. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Cindy Lark commented that since Mr. Fisher has started working for the Borough, the relationship between the Street Department and the Sewer Authority has improved immensely.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius informed the council that approximately 80 Priestley Elementary students visited the Borough Building last week.

The Revitalization Committee recognized several property owners for improving their properties. Those residential property owners recognized as the Winter recipients were Jayne and David Rogers of 519 Queen Street, Robin and Ona Bolig of 114 Third Street, and Diane and Daniel Alderson who own a property at 546 Duke Street. Young's Sporting Goods, at Duke Street and Church Avenue, was recognized as the business recipient. Certificates of appreciation were awarded by the Revitalization Committee. Michael and Elizabeth Boyer of 500 Orange Street, award recipients from the fall of 2004, were also present to receive their certificate.

History Day will be commemorated on May 14, 2005. Activities are planned for three locations – King Street Park, the Ramsey residence, and the cemetery. Mayor Brosius requested permission to use Second Street School instead of the King Street Park in the event of rain. Mr. Ditton so moved. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The Revitalization Committee is planning a block party in the downtown on August 6th. They would like to block off Front Street between Sheetz Avenue and Duke Street beginning at noon. The ending time was not known. Insurance was discussed. Since this would be a Borough-sanctioned activity, the Borough's insurance would be in effect. Additionally, vendors would be requested to provide proof of insurance.

Chief Fink has submitted his monthly report. Mayor Brosius reminded the council that April 19, at 6:00 p.m. is scheduled for a closed session with the council and police department. She will inform the council if the officers are interested in attending the meeting.

Mayor Brosius informed the council that Chewbaka, the retired police dog has died. The Mayor thanked those who worked with the dog and offered condolences to Sgt. Kriner with whom Chewy resided. Mayor Brosius also sent best wishes to Sgt. Kriner for his quick recovery after a recent surgery.

Mr. Ditton asked if the Mayor was aware of any activity at the underpass. She stated that she understands that the underpass was shown on Channel 16 today. They were in the area checking the river.

Mr. Ditton asked what the police policy is regarding automobile chases. Chief Fink replied that the Borough has a written policy. The Mayor requested that copies be provided to the Council. Mayor Brosius stated that since Mr. Fink has been named the Chief of Police, approximately six months, the police have had one thing after another to deal with and the Mayor appreciates the job the Chief Fink has been doing.

Mr. Wolfe requested that, in the interest of safety, Mayor Brosius, along with the Mayor of Sunbury, discuss alternative traffic patterns that may alleviate the wait in crossing the bridges during times when Route 11 is closed at the underpass. Mr. Fink stated that the police were attending the traffic light in the mornings and the fire police volunteers manned the light in the afternoons.

[Councilman Darvin Straub arrived at 7:33 p.m.]

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark informed the council that the sewer authority has had a lot of water this past week. As soon as the weather improves, the workers will televiser the storm lines for the Borough.

Mrs. Groninger asked if there is anything that the Sewer Authority could do to improve the appearance of the sewer plant. Ms. Lark replied that the structure work was painted about two years ago.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane informed the Council that four new houses are under construction in the Borough.

A problem exists at the property at Priestley Avenue and King Street owned by Dale Walter. A concrete culvert on his property crosses the railroad tracks and continues into the river. A borough storm sewer line coming from Sheetz Avenue empties into this culvert and runs through the property owned by Mr. Walter. Water is now backing up into the yard, possibly because this line is crushed. Mr. Ruane suggested that the line be televiser. The problem occurs when the river is high.

Mr. Ruane is now certified to conduct inspections in Plumbing, Mechanical, and Framing.

Mr. Ruane stated that the sidewalk ordinance does not include a fine if the property owner does not comply. The penalty under this ordinance is that the Borough replaces the sidewalks and charges the property owner. If the bill is not paid, a lien is to be placed on the property. Mr. Wolfe stated that the sidewalk ordinance was adopted because this is a safety issue. Mr. Shoch advised that a fine could be imposed, but if not paid, the Borough would file a lien. Mrs. Groninger asked if the Borough installs the sidewalk, would the property owner be able to come back on the Borough if the sidewalk fails because of freezing and thawing. The property owners would still be responsible to have sidewalks that meet the requirements.

Mr. Ditton asked when the gas company will be finished with the new line on Orange Street. Mr. Ruane stated that the gas company should have the line installed by September 1. Mr. Wolfe stated that the repairs should be determined by the Borough's schedule, not the gas company's schedule. He added that if the street is not paved before this winter, the Borough would have to close the road. Mr. Ruane replied that he will contact the gas company.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

No report.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that he would have the year-to-date numbers for everyone by next week.

Personnel

Personnel topics were discussed earlier in the meeting.

Property

Mr. Straub was in a course for recycling with DEP earlier today. This is the last year for 902 grant money. Mr. Straub would like to apply for a new leaf vacuum machine, a new chipper, and for funding toward the 2004 truck.

Mr. Wolfe suggested that the Property Committee consider how a Borough clean-up could be conducted. He added that several years ago, the Borough held a clean-up. The time required for the crew to pick everything up was several weeks. One problem that occurred was that residents from other communities brought trash into the borough. Mr. Wolfe would like council to consider budgeting funds for a clean-up for next year and requested that the Property Committee determine the cost. Mr. Straub said that he learned that some communities are accepting “white goods” on one Saturday; computers and electronics another Saturday. The residents could take items to the recycling center. Mr. Straub stated that they are charging \$12 per appliance. Mrs. Groninger stated that she had attended council meetings several years ago when they conducted a clean-up. The cost was estimated to be \$10,000. Mr. Straub stated that a chemical clean-up is to be held in Northumberland County this year. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the residents could be charged a certain amount for a permit.

Mrs. Long announced that a Community Yard Sale is planned for June 4. The fee is \$5.00 per space and an additional \$5.00 to use a table. Anyone who would like to donate their “treasures” for the Revitalization Committee to sell will be able to drop them off on June 2 and 3.

Mr. Troxell proposed that the Borough discontinue paying the light bill for the Pineknotted Park ballfield. He feels the bill should be paid by the ball teams. Mr. Troxell moved that the ball teams who play at Pineknotted Park pay the light bill. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Someone asked who pays the bill at the Acorn Field. Mr. Troxell replied that the Little League pays all the bills at the Acorn Field. Mr. Straub feels that part of the cost of running a town is to have recreation facilities for the residents and that the Borough contributes funding for the swimming pool. Mrs. Long stated that it is not fair for the Borough to pay toward the lights at one field and not another. Mr. Ditton stated that the 2005 budget includes funding toward the light bill and explained that collections were taken at the games last year. The teams playing at Pineknotted Park contributed \$15 per hour toward the light bills. The Borough Secretary will provide the council with the breakdown of the costs and contributions toward the expenses for the Pineknotted Park field.

Roll call vote was called on the motion that the ball leagues at Pineknotted Park pay the light bill at the field this year. Roll call vote – Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted nay. Motion failed 1-6.

Mr. Rees made a motion that the Borough informs the ball leagues that they must pay the light bill next year and have the bill put in their name. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Mayor Brosius asked what the council’s position is on the restrooms at Pineknott Park. Repairs are needed because of the flooding. Mrs. Groninger stated that the restrooms had been closed at the end of last summer because the pump broke. A new pump has been purchased at a cost of over \$2,000. Mrs. Groninger moved to inform the ball field group that the Borough currently has no toilet facilities available and does not know when they will be repaired. The motion was withdrawn for lack of a second.

The waterline at the recycling building is not yet finished. Mr. Straub stated that he would like to see the police station completed before the weather breaks and the waterline can be repaired after that.

Mr. Straub has had difficulty reaching the contractor to obtain a price for the bleachers that are being removed from the high school stadium. The bleachers may be purchased for use at the Pineknott Park ballfield.

Public Safety

Mr. Wolfe informed the council that the Emergency Services Task Force met the last Monday of March. The committee is considering recommending an Emergency Services Authority. The committee would like public input before making a recommendation to council. Mr. Wolfe invited the public to attend the next meeting on April 25 at 7:00 p.m. Information about establishing an authority is on the Borough’s website. Mr. Wolfe feels that the task force is “doing its job”.

The Hookies’ audit should be completed next week.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees explained that the sidewalk ordinance states that no slate sidewalks are permitted, unless approved by a voice vote by council. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council had given Mr. Ruane the authority to have some leeway in enforcing the ordinance. Mr. Shoch advised that if the slate sidewalks were in place before the ordinance, Mr. Ruane may approve slate sidewalks as long as they are level and not hazardous. If the slate sidewalk needs replaced, the new sidewalk must be concrete. Mayor Brosius stated that some property owners replaced slate sidewalks even though they didn’t want to. Mr. Ruane replied that those sidewalks were in poor condition.

Mr. Rees stated that the committee approved the installation of stop signs on Prince Street at Seventh Street. He added that the committee discussed the installation of a stop sign at 8th and King Streets, but since the Borough has an agreement with the Point Township concerning 8th Street, it would be Point Township’s responsibility. The Borough’s agreement with Point Township is for maintenance of 8th Street. The Borough would still have the authority to establish a stop sign at this intersection. Since this is the boundary line between Northumberland and Point Township, the township would determine whether or not to

establish a stop sign on the other side of 8th Street. The topic was tabled until Point Township officials could be contacted.

The committee discussed an ordinance banning soda machines in front of buildings with the exception of commercial retail properties on Duke Street and for limited time periods during special events such as Pineknoller Days. It was noted that soda machines are currently located in residential neighborhoods and on sidewalks.

Mr. Rees made a motion to ban all vending machines in front of buildings except those on Duke Street. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Wolfe suggested that if this motion passes, Mr. Rees and Mr. Shoch determine the specific qualifications to be included in the ordinance. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion carried 4-3.

The committee discussed dumpsters in front of a residence. They recommend that an ordinance be established to require that all trash outside of residences must be in a closed receptacle. Dumpsters must be located in the rear of a structure and all refuse must be removed at least every two weeks. The ordinance would not apply to temporary dumpsters, roll-a-ways, that are addressed in a different section of the code and require a permit. Mr. Wolfe so moved. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger stated that if the council is going to try to make our town a better place to live, our properties are worth less if there is a dumpster sitting in front of it or a soda machine sitting behind it. She feels that the council's goal is to improve the Borough and encourage residents to take care of their properties.

Mr. Fisher commented that the Second Street property is an eyesore that should be addressed. Mrs. Groninger replied that the council is working on improving the property. Mr. Wolfe added that the council must try to improve the community. Roll call vote – Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Rees stated that the committee's last recommendation is to address abandoned vehicles. Currently, the Borough Code does not define abandoned vehicles. Mr. Straub suggested that the definition should be that an abandoned vehicle is not registered and does not have a license. Mr. Ruane stated that a definition is provided in the State Property and Maintenance code. However the code may allow for one unregistered vehicle to be kept on a property. Mr. Shoch offered to research the law. The topic was tabled.

Streets

Mr. Troxell stated that the budget includes money to purchase a mower from Bestline. The price is under \$7,000. Mr. Troxell moved to purchase the mower at a cost of up to \$7,000. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The street committee will meet next Wednesday, April 13, at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe reported that the council met with the Shade Tree Commission and a forester from Penn State Cooperative Extension on March 21. The problem with the trees

downtown is that the fruit from the trees are soft, creating a mess on the sidewalks and vehicles. Margaret Weirick has contacted a company in Lewisburg to spray the trees when they are blooming. This should kill the fruit. The trees will be pruned after that. If any fruit remains, it should be hard. This process will need to be done annually.

2. Mr. Wolfe announced that the spring issue of the Pineknoller News is being prepared. All articles and advertisements are due by Friday.
3. Mr. Straub revealed that the Borough has been awarded an \$85,000 Recycling Grant. The money will be used to replace the diesel bobcat with a propane-powered forklift with a special front attachment to move the bales safely, and a baler to bale newspapers and plastics. The Borough's match is 10% which was included in the 2005 budget. Mr. Straub moved to accept the grant from DEP; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Straub stated that he would like to purchase the forklift first, obtain the reimbursement for the forklift, and then purchase the baler.
4. Mr. Wolfe explained that the bids for the King Street Park sidewalks would be opened on April 19th. The April 19th work session will be advertised as a regular council meeting. Mayor Brosius asked about the time table for replacing the sidewalks. A large tree in the park is to be removed as soon as the ground dries out. The sidewalk construction must be worked around History Day on May 14th and Pineknoller Days in July.

New Business

1. Mr. Wolfe moved to approve the minutes of the March 1, 2005 council meeting. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Troxell moved to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$36,239.87; Parks & Recreation bills total \$2,144.00; Shade Tree Account bills total \$30.00; and Liberty Pool bills are \$423.78. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. An invitation to North'd County Planning Commission Meeting/Dinner has been received. Space is limited to two persons from each municipality in the County. A response is requested by May 4th. Mr. Wolfe tabled the topic until the April 19th meeting and requested that council consider who should attend.
4. Mr. Straub requested permission to apply for a grant to purchase new docks through the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission. A 25% borough match of money or services is required. Mr. Straub moved to approve the grant application. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland Council
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
April 19, 2005, 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 Brosius offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Darvin Straub, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Charles Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Jonathan Rees. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nathan Fisher, Street Department Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Five visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Jane Stein informed the council that she is interested in purchasing a lot located between Seventh and Eighth Streets and King and Queen Streets. The lot would be accessed from Wheatley Avenue, which is unopened at this location. Council and Mr. Ruane advised what steps would be necessary before council would act on the matter. Mr. Troxell stated that a stormwater study would be required. Mr. Wolfe stated that the solicitor would be consulted to determine the legalities.

Bid Opening – Sidewalks in King Street Park

Mr. Wolfe opened the six bids that were received for the construction of the sidewalks in King Street Park. They are as follows:

Diversified Construction, Inc.	\$ 6,950
Herrold & Son Masonry	\$ 5,700
M & E Construction	\$16,550
Wolynic Construction	\$ 9,875
Lundy Concrete Services	\$ 9,850
G & R Charles Excavating, LTD	\$ 9,500

Mr. Troxell moved to accept the bid of \$5,700 from Herrold and Son. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. The Borough will purchase the concrete and the stone and the Borough Crew will be doing some of the work. The contractor will be consulted about the trees located in the walkway. Roll call vote – All Ayes.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session 7:12 p.m. The council meeting was reconvened at 7:15 p.m. Mr. Wolfe announced that the discussion was about a previous litigation issue which required no action.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported on the Code Enforcement Office activity for the month of March. He informed the council that PG Energy is planning to install new pipelines in the borough. The work is anticipated for May and June on Orange Street from Front to Seventh and on Third Street. Mr. Ruane plans for the paving to be completed before school starts in the fall.

An inspection of the waterline was conducted in the pit at Pineknotted Park. Mr. Ruane reported that the line passed inspection. He added that the Sewer Authority was helpful with the inspection. The cost for the inspection is \$260.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that Mr. Budd Feaster has resigned as the part-time code enforcement officer and that a current part-time Borough employee is interested in the position. Council decided that the Personnel Committee will meet to discuss the vacancy.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Fisher reported that the waterline has been installed at the glass center. The water company will complete the hook-up.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that a committee meeting is scheduled for May 18th at 6:30.

Representatives of the Swim Team will be attending the May 3rd council meeting to voice a formal grievance at having been charged to use the pool for the swim meets. The council had provided options for payment: a flat fee per meet or per season, a fee at the door, or the pool selling concessions. Mrs. Groninger stated that there had never been a charge for the use of the pool, and that the council is just trying to cover the costs.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger scheduled a Personnel Meeting for May 3rd at 6:00 p.m. to discuss the part-time code enforcement position.

Property

Mr. Straub set a committee meeting for April 26th at 7:30 p.m.

He has been corresponding with DCNR and a meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 18th with DCNR and DCED. [Note: The meeting is actually set for Thursday, May 19th 10:00 a.m.]

A leak was discovered in the waterline at the pool. The cost to replace the line is approximately \$1,200. The line had been repaired two years ago.

Mrs. Groninger moved to repair the waterline at the pool at a cost of up to \$1,200 with the money to come from the Borough's General Fund. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton announced that the committee will meet on April 26th at 6:30 p.m. The EMA coordinator would like to meet with the committee.

Mr. Wolfe stated that within the next 60 days, he will correspond with municipal officials from Sunbury, Upper Augusta, and Shamokin Dam to schedule a meeting to discuss the traffic patterns during periods of flooding. PennDOT will also be invited.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees announced that the committee will meet on April 28th at 7:00 p.m.

Streets

Mr. Troxell informed the council that the committee met and discussed selling three trucks and purchasing one new pick-up truck. They would like to purchase an F350. Mr. Troxell moved to put the three trucks in the state auction. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion ensued about whether the auction or advertising in the Daily Item would be the better way of selling the vehicles. Mr. Wolfe tabled the motion until May 3rd so more information may be learned about the state auction.

Mr. Straub asked that when the crew is patching the streets that they fill in a hole that is forming alongside a storm drain at the corner of Sixth and Orange Streets.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the pond in the park has been cleaned. Mr. Fisher replied that it has been cleaned and that Jim Kadryna has suggested that a net be placed over the pond in the fall to restrict the leaves from clogging the filters and prolong the life of the pump.

Ordinance

Mr. Troxell stated that he has received complaints about the proposed ordinance limiting soda machines to Duke Street. He explained that Mike's BP on Water Street has soda machines. Soda machines are also located at the C. W. Rice Building. Mr. Wolfe stated that the final draft has not been seen yet and the council may adjust it.

Old Business

1. The Northumberland County Planning Commission, along with DCNR, PRPS, and the Penn State Cooperating Extension has invited Borough representatives to attend a dinner and informational meeting on May 18th at the Hotel Edison. Noelle Long and Jan Bowman are to attend.
2. The trees in the downtown area are being sprayed tomorrow. Notices have been placed on all the meters and were placed on the cars that were parked in the downtown area last night. Cars will be towed if they are not moved.
3. Mr. Ditton asked if the parking meters are certified. Chief Fink is checking with Northumberland County on the procedure to have them certified.

4. Mr. Rees informed the council that he has been selected to sit on SEDA-Cog's Thruway Commission.
5. Mr. Ditton requested that the police check on a car that is being parked on the sidewalk on King Street.
6. Mr. Wolfe had a question about permits. He stated that a contractor has been working on a property on Susquehanna Street to replace a chimney. Plastic covering the chimney has been blowing in the wind and the sound is disturbing neighbors. Mr. Ruane will check on the progress of the work. Mr. Wolfe asked how long a permit is valid. Building permits are valid for 6 months. Mr. Ruane stated that a permit was not required to repair the chimney. Several other properties were discussed concerning the length of time they have had building permits and not completed the work.
7. Mayor Brosius informed the council that Bruce Killian has removed the graffiti from the slides at the Second Street School. She will send him a note of appreciation.

New Business

1. Mr. Wolfe tabled the minutes of the April 5, 2005 council meeting.
2. Mrs. Groninger moved to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$22,384.89; bills to be paid from the Pool Account total \$1,053.54.
3. Mt. Carmel Borough invited the council to meet with other municipalities to pursue a group medical plan. The Borough Secretary obtained additional information and learned that the Borough's premiums with GHP are approximately \$300 less than Mt. Carmel's premiums with Capital Blue Cross. Mt. Carmel's benefits include dental and eye care. The office will keep informed of the progress of the meeting.
4. The Council received an invitation to Sunbury's River Study Committee meeting tomorrow at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Wolfe replied that he is unavailable to attend and said that if anyone could attend, they should obtain the information in the office.
5. Susquehanna Garden Club called the office to request permission to plant a tree in memory of Sgt. Brett Swank. Mr. Wolfe moved to grant permission for the club to plant a tree, adding that the Shade Tree Commission should advise where the tree should be planted. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote- All ayes.
6. Mayor Brosius was visited by 2 representatives of a club from Harrisburg. The club members are trying to walk in a community in each county of the state. The members come on their own time and walk around town. They would like to walk in Northumberland, the community they chose from Northumberland County, during the daytime on September 10 and 11 or September 17 and 18. They are

asking for permission as a courtesy and do not require any special services. Council granted them permission.

7. Mr. Tim Fister made reference to a recent article that appeared in the Daily Item concerning the upkeep of Pineknotted Park. Mr. Fister stated that the Acorn Little League would be willing to pay the bills for the park and put it under the lease agreement that the league has with the Borough for the Acorn Field. Mr. Wolfe replied that this year the Borough is paying the bills; however, the league will be contacted during budget time for their input. The state girls' 9 and 10 year olds softball tournament will be held on the Acorn Field in August. Mr. Straub informed Mr. Fister that the lease for the Acorn Field that has never been renewed, as written in the contract. He suggested that a representative attend the Property Committee meeting next week to discuss the baseball fields. Mr. Straub has applied to the Anselmo Trust to purchase bleachers from the Shikellamy football stadium for Pineknotted Park. The contractor is asking \$5000 for the bleachers, which is the cost for scrap aluminum for the seating. If the Anselmo Trust provides the money, Mr. Straub requested that Little League volunteers help with dismantling the bleachers and moving them to the park. Two units would be purchased; one for the right field line and one for the left field line. Mr. Wolfe asked if the council approved the purchase of the bleachers. Mr. Straub replied that the bleachers would not cost the Borough any money - the Anselmo Fund would pay for the bleachers and baseball would come up with the money to put them up. Council discussed the existence of the Pineknotted Park Committee. Mayor Brosius stated that the committee is part of Parks and Recreation. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council should have a vote on whether to obtain the bleachers on record.

Mrs. Groninger moved that if the Anselmo grant is given to the Borough for the stadium seats to be placed at Pineknotted Park, the Borough Council approve the purchase of the bleachers. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Mr. Ditton asked the number of rows of seats. Mr. Straub replied that there are currently 15 rows, each section is approximately 57 feet, 9 inches. Mr. Straub added that it would create the potential to rent the stadium out to PIAA for playoffs in May and June. Roll call vote – All ayes.

8. Mayor Brosius announced that the Second Street Community Yard Sale would be held on June 4th. Spaces will be available for \$5.00. Anyone wishing to donate items for the committee to sell may do so on June 3 and 4 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the Second Street gym.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Council Meeting
May 3, 2005

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Donald Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Nate Fisher, Street Supervisor; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Ten members of the public were present.

Public Comment

Mr. Scott Johnson stated that the intersection at Front and Duke Street is in need of repair. Water lies in the street at the handicapped ramp, creating a hazard for anyone wishing to cross Duke Street. Mr. Johnson talked to PennDOT and they cleaned the street, but the problem has not been resolved.

Mr. Wolfe moved to call and write PennDOT requesting that they reexamine the intersection to find a solution to the problem. Ms. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Paul Ruane stated that the Hookie’s audit is in the process of being completed.

Mr. Kyle Gautsch, a former member and coach of the Northumberland/ Point Township Swim Team, questioned why the Borough requested that the team pay for the use of the pool. Mrs. Groninger stated that the pool had been told that they would need to recoup funding for the expenses incurred for the swim team. Mr. Wolfe explained that the Borough does not receive funding for the pool like Sunbury does. Since the pool has operated at a loss the past few years, the council asked that the pool management locate other means of income. It was determined that the Borough could no longer allow organizations to use the pool facilities for free. The swim team was provided with several options of payment. They have decided to permit the pool to sell concessions at the meets instead of paying an hourly rate of \$100 or charging 50¢ admission to the meets. Gautsch asked if the Borough would request additional funding for the use of the pool next year. Mr. Wolfe replied that the current council could not offer any guarantees. One reason is because the members on council could change and another is that they cannot predict what the financial condition of the pool may be in the future.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:20 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:24 p.m. Mr. Wolfe announced that no action was required.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reminded the council that History Day will be held on May 14th. She thanked the volunteers and contributors for helping to make the event a success. The Revitalization Committee is planning for a Block Party on August 6th in the downtown.

Mayor Brosius stated that Chief Fink has provided the council members with the monthly report.

Chief Fink stated that the police department would like to hold a bike auction the week of Pineknottter Days.

The Memorial Day Parade will be on May 30th at 10:00 a.m.

Chief Fink stated that he is contacting the state about certifying the parking meters. Mr. Straub heard that Sunbury and Shamokin employees were going to be trained in certifying meters this week. Chief Fink will check on it.

Mayor Brosius stated that she would like to see the Borough purchase 10 new meters each year. Mrs. Groninger moved to purchase 10 new meters. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor Brosius announced that the National Day of Prayer will be conducted on Thursday at 12 noon, in front of the Borough Building.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark informed the council that she has given the water company all the information that was requested.

Ms. Lark stated that the authority has televised the sewer line in Wheatley Avenue. They will not need to do any work on the line. One manhole was discovered that the Sewer Authority did not know existed. Mr. Ruane informed Ms. Lark that Wheatley Avenue is to be paved with one inch of top coat.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

- Mr. Ruane reported that a new state code is being considered which will require that all properties be inspected for smoke detectors each time a property sells. He suggested that a fee should be required to cover the administration of the law.
- Mr. Ruane provided a revision of the plans for the Branchview Development. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the plans for the Branchview Development Phases IV & V. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ruane explained that the location of the detention pond has been moved to a lower lot.

Mr. Ditton asked if the Borough's engineer had approved the plans. Mr. Ruane responded that he had. Mr. Wolfe noted that the Northumberland County Planning Commission and the Borough Planning Commission had approved. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

- Mr. Ruane informed the council that four new homes are under construction in the Borough.
- Mr. Ruane asked the solicitor if there would be a conflict of interest if the Borough prosecutes a landlord whose attorney is a member of Mr. Shoch's law firm. Mr. Shoch stated that he would speak to his colleague if the case should arise.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Nate Fisher was asked when the signs will be erected that limit truck traffic in the Borough. PennDOT must provide approval and notice of where the signs should be erected.
- Mr. Fisher was asked about the Borough's ordinance prohibiting truck traffic
- The crew has installed new waterlines at the pool and at the glass center.
- Today, the crew caught a goat that was missing from Mooresburg for 10 days.
- Mrs. Groninger asked that the crew check the pond each week and maintain it.

Penn Valley Airport Authority

Mr. Michael DeFeo, a resident of the Borough for two years, introduced himself. He is a Cub Scout leader and an assistant baseball coach as well as a student pilot. Mr. Troxell moved to appoint Mr. DeFeo to the Penn Valley Airport Authority. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the committee will meet on May 18th at 6:30 p.m. to review the budget numbers and planning the 2006 budget meetings. They will also discuss the possible purchase of new chairs for the council chambers.

Personnel

- The committee met at 6:00 p.m. this evening. They recommend that Larry Redington be hired as part-time code enforcement officer at the rate of \$9.00 per hour. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to hire Mr. Redington. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Michael Bowman tendered his resignation as the Borough Assessor because he is no longer a Borough resident. Mrs. Groninger moved to accept his resignation with regret. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. This is an elected position with the term ending December 31, 2007. Mrs. Groninger's motion includes the announcement that the position is opened and letters of intent from individuals interested in being appointed to the position will be accepted at the Borough Office until May 31, 2005.

Property

Mr. Straub informed the council that the committee met last week.

One topic of discussion was the Little League fields. A representative of Little League was present at the meeting to express Little League's interest in lease agreements with the Borough for the Pineknotted Park and Acorn Fields. Two of the four teams who compete at Pineknotted Park are Little League teams. Mr. Straub stated that he does not know if the Anselmo Trust committee will meet in time to approve the funding to purchase the bleachers for Pineknotted Park. Mr. Straub will call the contractor to see if the bleachers will be removed this week. If he is, the Borough will not have the money in time to make the purchase and Mr. Straub will contact Steve Hafer and withdraw the Borough's application for grant funding.

Second Street School

Mr. Straub informed the council that the proposed donor has withdrawn his interest in the project. A meeting is scheduled with DCNR for May 19th. Mr. Straub proposed a motion to apply for a grant to fund a feasibility study for the Second Street School project, following a recommendation from DCNR. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Mr. Straub estimated that the cost to the Borough would be approximately \$10,000 for the study. Mr. Wolfe questioned why the study should be done since money has been approved in the state budget to fund the renovations. Mr. Straub stated that Representative Phillips told him that he is working on trying to obtain \$750,000 from a different source for Second Street School. Money remains in the General Contingency fund [\$12,095.29] from the insurance money received for the fire damage and donations for the project [13261.53] are in the Donation Account. Mr. Troxell asked what DCNR would have to do with the building. Mr. Straub explained that DCNR could provide funding for the playground and the gymnasium. DCED could provide funding for the classrooms. The two agencies will work together toward funding for the building. Mrs. Groninger stated that the committee would only conduct the feasibility study if absolutely necessary in order to obtain grant money. She stated that the committee is requesting permission to use the money from the contributions and the insurance money, to fund the study, if needed. Mrs. Long added that this is the only way to move forward to acquire state funds. Mr. Wolfe stated that if this money is spent, there is still no guarantee and we cut in half the amount of money available for the building. Mr. Troxell asked why the fire insurance money should be spent for the Second Street building. Mr. Wolfe questioned whether the Kiwanis Club would want the donation money spent for a feasibility study. Mrs. Groninger replied that the fire insurance money could be spent for the feasibility study; that if nothing is done with the Second Street building, the donation money could be returned to the Kiwanis. Mr. Ditton stated that the insurance money has not been designated back to the Second Street School. Some of the money was used for the cleanup. The Borough pays for the fire insurance for the building. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would vote against the motion, not because he is against the Second Street project, but because he has lost confidence that Harrisburg is going to give the Borough money. Mayor Brosius reminded the council that there is someone who would like to rent the building. Mr. Wolfe replied that the council has not approved anyone moving into the building; that it is still in the discussion phase. Mrs. Long stated that if the Borough goes through the feasibility study for the grant process, more credibility will be given if the

feasibility study shows that the project is viable. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would like to see progress be made on the project. The only progress in five years has been a new roof on the building. Mr. Wolfe feels that he and Mr. Troxell are concerned about the finances. It has nothing to do with the volunteers' commitment. Mr. Straub said that he plans to meet with Representative Phillips during the summer recess. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the council, as a group, invite Representative Phillips to meet and discuss the project. Mr. Rees asked to have the motion clarified. Mr. Straub stated that he would like to have money earmarked for a feasibility study before the meeting that is scheduled with DCNR on May 19th. [Note: The meeting has been postponed to May 26th.] The study may require a year to be completed and Mr. Straub would like to get it started. Mr. Straub amended his motion. The new motion is to approve funding for a feasibility study for Second Street School, not to exceed \$12,000. Mr. Wolfe removed his second. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mr. Ditton, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted nay. Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Straub thanked Nate and the street crew for completing the waterline at the Recycling Center.

Mr. Troxell asked if the cost for the sidewalks at the Second Street building is to come out of the Second Street fund. Mr. Wolfe replied that money to replace the sidewalks was included in the 2005 Budget and will come from the General Fund.

Mr. Ditton stated that he strongly opposes a lease with Little League for Pineknoller Park. He said that they do not obey the Borough's rules and commitments. The group violated the agreement at the park with Pepsi Cola by taping up the soda machines and selling their soda. Mr. Straub stated that the agreement would have to include all the rules.

Mr. Wolfe asked if anyone would like to make a motion to pursue discussions with Little League to take over Pineknoller Park. Mr. Straub moved to begin talks with Little League to schedule the games and pay the bills for Pineknoller Park. Mr. Straub added that last year the Borough paid \$591 toward the light bill. Mr. Fister had approached the council with the offer to have Little League obtain a lease agreement for the field. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger suggested that the council go back to the original Pineknoller Park Committee and discuss what direction they would like to see the council take. Mr. Ditton agreed. Mr. Straub stated that last year Mark Nogle scheduled the games at the park and that he understands that Mr. Nogle was not interested in continuing to schedule the games. He said that a representative from Little League, Mr. Swanger, attended the Property Committee meeting. The committee was asked to consider an agreement with Little League. Mr. Wolfe asked for a clarification of the motion. Mr. Straub stated that his motion is for the Property Committee to pursue further discussions with the Pineknoller Park Committee and Little League. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion defeated 3-4.

Mrs. Groninger asked what happens with the scheduling if the council does nothing. Mr. Wolfe replied that the reason the topic came up, is because Little League would like to

enter into a lease agreement with the Borough. The Borough Secretary stated that the scheduling for this season has been done by Brian Luden. Mr. Luden called the Borough Office and offered to schedule the games for the four leagues that play at the field since two of the leagues are part of Little League. Mr. Mark Nogle had stated that he would not have time to schedule the games and that he was not aware of anyone else on the Pineknoller Park committee who was interested in scheduling the games.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton informed the council that the main topic of discussion at the committee meeting was with Herb Gottshall of the EMA. Mr. Gottshall requested that the council replace one of the assistants who has not been active. Two men have volunteered to serve as an assistant. Mr. Ditton added that the committee is recommending that Gary McNeir be appointed as the Assistant EMA Director. Mr. Ditton moved to appoint Gary McNeir as the Assistant EMA Director. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The committee also discussed the training requirements for the EMA. The three levels are Basic, Advanced, and Professional. The Assistant EMA Director is required to have the Basic training which is provided by the County at their expense.

Mr. Ditton recommended that an ordinance be adopted to establish regulations and guidelines for the EMA. The Ordinance Committee will draw up an ordinance for EMA that will address numbers, terms, training, tasks, etc.

The committee also talked about procuring signs that state “Road Closed” for when PennDOT is slow to erect the signs when the underpass floods. Mr. Gottshall has talked to Representative Phillips’s office about getting the signs.

Ordinance

Mr. Shoch conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2005-1. Mr. Rees moved to adopt the ordinance that amends Section 42-7 and addresses the elimination of garbage, junk, and rubbish, abandoned automobiles, and regulates dumpsters. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton noted that ordinances are not enforced, specifically prohibiting cars parked in front yards. Mrs. Groninger stated that this ordinance should eliminate garbage that is on properties. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the final reading of the ordinance will be on June 7th.

The committee will meet at 7:00 on May 26th.

Streets

Mr. Troxell informed the council that the crew needs a new truck. They would like to sell three of the Borough’s trucks to help pay for it. Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Troxell provide the Finance Committee with recommendations and figures so they can determine the cost.

Mr. Wolfe stated that Penn DOT is to pave Front Street by the end of August, with the water company installing new lines in June. PG Energy is to replace gas lines on Orange Street in June, and the Borough will pave that street in August.

Mayor Brosius noted the location of several potholes and requested that the crew patch them. They are on Wheatley Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Streets and on Sawmill off of Hanover Street.

Old Business

1. The Borough Secretary attended Sunbury's River Study Committee meeting. The committee met with the consultants to begin the process of determining what will be developed along the riverfront in Sunbury. A public meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m. on May 10 at the Shikellamy High School.
2. The Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency has requested comments from the council regarding Priestley Place's application for a federal low-income rental housing tax credit. The council is concerned that the letter does not stipulate that the tenants must be 62 years of age or older. The developers did not receive funding in the first round of applications; and have applied for this second round. The application is to house residents age 62 and older according to an agency representative. Mrs. Groninger moved to write a letter to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency requesting that an age limit be clearly stated on all correspondence relating to the housing application. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Wolfe announced that Mr. Ditton reviewed minutes of past meetings with regards to selling the trucks. Mr. Wolfe's motion to sell or auction off the vehicles had been tabled, so council had not formally agreed to do so.
4. Mrs. Long stated that she had talked about the Main Street Program several months ago. She is requesting that council provide names of individuals interested in serving on the Board for the Main Street Affiliate Program or on one of the four committees, Promotion, Design, Economic Restructuring and Organization. The committees are the major components of the program. Without an adequate number of volunteers, Mrs. Long is reluctant to submit an application. The applications are approved on a revolving basis.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the minutes of the April 5, and April 19, 2005 council meetings. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton asked about the issue regarding unopened Wheatley Avenue. An individual had approached the council to learn if she could use this roadway to access a lot that is situated behind homes on Eight Street and King Street. Mr. Shoch stated that the Borough could abandon the property and the two adjacent property owners would be able to claim it. If the Borough would want to sell it, and if it is worth over \$500, the Borough would be required to put it out for bids. If the Borough has not maintained the street in the past 20 years, the property owners could claim it. Mr. Troxell explained that Wheatley Avenue is used by one of the adjacent property owners to access his garage. It is believed that the stone was placed there by the property owner. Mr. Wolfe said that the person who is interested in building on a

- lot wants to know if she will have access to it from Wheatley Avenue. She has not requested that the Borough pave the street. The comment was made that this piece of ground could have a lot of water run-off. Roll call vote to approve the minutes of April 5 and 19, 2005 - All ayes.
2. Mr. Ditton moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$37,926.38; bills to be paid from the Shade Tree account total \$3,115; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$1,930.58.
 3. It was moved by Mr. Rees and seconded by Mr. Straub to transfer \$11,986.00 from the General Fund to the General Contingency Fund to repay a loan at the beginning of the year; \$15,152.00 from the General Fund to the Liberty Pool account (\$5,000 from PHEAA and \$10,152 from the 2005 budget); and \$1,852.97 from the General Fund to the Shade Tree fund to reimburse the Shade Tree account from the Forestry Grant. The motion also included the Borough's donation in the 2005 budget to the Revitalization Committee minus the bill that the Borough paid to A Touch of Class Landscapes & Floral for maintenance of the pond in King Street Park. The amount to be paid to the Revitalization Committee is \$657.84.
 4. Mr. Troxell moved and Mr. Rees seconded the motion to approve payment of \$3,932.66 to Point Township for the PennDOT Highway Transfer Turnback money for Eighth Street and Cannery Road. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted any. Motion passed 6-1.
 5. Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would hold a work session on Monday, May 16 at 7:00 p.m.

Council wished Mayor Brosius a safe trip to Europe.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Council Meeting
June 7, 2005

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. The seven visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered at this time.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:03 p.m. to discuss personnel issues and issues regarding negotiations. The meeting was reconvened at 7:25 p.m.

Mr. Ditton moved to proceed with negotiations as discussed in the Executive Session. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Brosius stated that the following Proclamation was presented to Roy A. Kimmey III on June 4th. She read the Proclamation for the record:

Proclamation

This proclamation is presented to Roy A. Kimmey, III, son of Carol Kimmey-Strouse, and a resident of 380 King Street, Northumberland, Pennsylvania, in recognition of his many accomplishments.

WHEREAS Roy A. Kimmey, III is the valedictorian of the Shikellamy High School Class of 2005, and the recipient of many awards and scholarships, including the 2005 Most Valuable Student Award and \$64,000.00 scholarship presented by the Elks National Foundation; and

WHEREAS Roy A. Kimmey, III is an Eagle Scout from Boy Scout Troop #342 at Christ United Methodist Church, Northumberland, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS Roy A. Kimmey, III is a talented musician who has performed in the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association's District, Regional and State Music Festivals and at the All Eastern Honors Chorus in Baltimore as well as serving in the church choir at Zion Lutheran Church, Sunbury, Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS Roy A. Kimmey, III is a talented speaker who has excelled in both the Drama Club and the Forensic Club, winning many competitions; and

WHEREAS Roy A. Kimmey, III has been a faithful newspaper carrier of The Daily Item for seven years; and

NOW THEREFORE the Mayor and the Borough Council, as representatives of the citizens of the Northumberland Borough, do proclaim June 4, 2005, as Roy A. Kimmey, III Recognition Day in the Borough of Northumberland.

Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor
June 4, 2005

Bryan Wolfe, Council President
June 4, 2005

The Mayor extended her congratulations to Mr. Kimmey on his many accomplishments.

History Day was held on May 14, 2005. Mayor Brosius thanked those who participated to make the event a success.

Mayor Brosius thanked Noelle and Bob Long and other volunteers for contributing to the success of the Second Street Yard Sale and Chinese Auction. The Mayor thanked the community for supporting all of the events that were held.

Kids Krafty Korner is planned again for this summer at the Girl Scout House. The first of six sessions will be Wednesday, June 15th from 9:30 to 11:30. Adult help would be appreciated.

Mayor Brosius informed council that the meters have been inspected. Only 38 meters have been certified; however, most of the meters failed because they provided more time than stipulated, not less. The mayor asked about the policy for collecting meter monies. She asked if one uniformed person and one non-uniformed person were to collect the money. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council would like two people to collect the money.

Mr. Wolfe asked if the parking meters could be fixed. Chief Fink informed him that the person who inspected the meters felt that it would be more cost effective to purchase new meters. Mr. Wolfe replied that the council had voted to replace ten (10) meters each year until all the meters were replaced. Mr. Wolfe moved to purchase an additional sixty (60) meters this year at a cost of approximately \$100 per meter to replace those that were not certified. The money is to come from the General Contingency Fund. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Once the Borough receives the meters, they must be certified. A state inspector certifies the meters at no cost to the Borough. Mr. Wolfe amended his motion to pay for the meters from the Parking Meter Fund and General Contingency. Mrs. Groninger seconded the amended motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Sewer Authority Report

The Sewer Authority is planning to put a new manhole on Eighth Street. Ms. Lark asked if Mr. Ruane would provide a letter from the Borough stipulating the height of the manholes on the streets to be paved this summer. Mr. Ruane replied that they will need raised 1.5 inches. He will provide additional information to the Sewer Authority.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane informed the council that a drainage problem exists at the Front Street side of Café Belissimo. A walkway going into the basement fills up with water. He would like the Borough Crew to fill the area with stone and clean out the gutters. Mr. Shoch recommended that the Borough post the property and send a notice to the owner at the last known address. Mr. Shoch will contact Mr. Ruane to discuss the problem.

Mr. Rees asked if citations have been sent to the property owner for not cutting the grass at her home. Mr. Shoch added that if the property owner does not cut the grass, the Borough may charge the property owner for the Borough Crew's time to do the work and put a lien on the property. A citation must be issued first. Mr. Shoch advised that if the code officer does not have a current address for the property owner, he should post the citation at the location.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

No report.

Committee Reports

Finance

The September Finance Committee meeting is changed to September 21. The other committee meeting dates are August 17, October 19, and November 16.

Mr. Wolfe moved to allocate \$10,000 for a new truck (truck may be new or used) to be reimbursed once the three older trucks are sold. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Wolfe stated that one concern the committee discussed was what happens to the contract for the stormwater construction since the pipe on Fifth Street does not need to be replaced. The Borough may change the contract by 25% after it is awarded. A portion of Third Street was not going to be completed, but it can now be done since new pipe is not required on Fifth Street.

Mr. Straub moved to purchase 10 leather chairs at the cost of approximately \$90 each. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe stipulated that the chairs will be paid from the "Miscellaneous – postage" account. Roll call vote – Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Long voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Rees voted nay. Motion passed 5-2.

Personnel

One letter of application was received for the vacant position of Local Assessor. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Cole Bowman, a resident of 777 Strawbridge Road, to fill the unexpired term which runs through December 2007. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The Personnel Committee met with Nathan Fisher, the Street Supervisor, prior to the council meeting.

Property

Mr. Straub stated that Lori Yeich, a representative of DCNR met with the Property Committee and Randy Yoxheimer, Supervisor from Point Township, to discuss grant funding. In order to obtain future grants, it was recommended that the two communities apply for funding to update the current Comprehensive Plan. DCNR would partner with DCED and provide 2/3 of the funding. The Borough and Township would share the remaining 1/3 cost. An estimate of the cost to the Borough is approximately \$15,000. Ms. Yeich also recommended that the council contact Larson Design Group to obtain a price for a Feasibility Study for the Second Street building.

Mr. Straub met with representatives from the Fish and Game Commission to discuss a grant application for docks at the Point and at the Hanover Street launch. The commission recommended that a new, wider ramp be installed at the Point. In addition to the new ramp, a dock will be purchased, and stone placed on the parking area. They also recommended that a path be made from the point over to the restrooms at the Pineknott Park pavilion. The suggestions for Hanover Street are for a new dock and a turnaround area that runs behind the Little League field prepared with stone. The Borough's contribution to the project will be to provide the labor to spread the stone on the parking lots and pathway.

Second Street

Mrs. Long stated that the committee received a great deal of community support for the yard sale and Chinese Auction at the Second Street building on June 4. Many local businesses donated items for the Chinese Auction. At this point, the group made \$981. Some items are being taken to an antique dealer. Mrs. Long thanked those who worked to make the event a success.

Mayor Brosius announced that a \$25,000 donation has been received for the Second Street building. The money has been placed in the Donations Account at NNB.

VFW Building - insurance

Mr. Troxell moved to approve the purchase of insurance for the VFW building at a price of \$1,167.00. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Recycling Building

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee noticed that the electric bill at the recycling building is high. Mr. Straub stated that he asked Nate to check if the heaters were on 220 volt or 110. If they are on 110, they will require more electricity than if they are on 220.

Public Safety

No Report

Emergency Services Task Force

The task force will be meeting with the two fire companies in the near future to discuss possible suggestions for replacing the current Fire Board. The committee is considering a 5-member board with one member from each company and three of the members representative of the general public.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees stated that the committee will meet the fourth Thursday of the month, June 23rd, at 7:00 p.m.

The second reading of Ordinance 2005-1 was tabled.

Streets

The committee will meet tomorrow evening at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Straub moved to send a letter to Point Township endorsing their request that a stop sign should be placed at 8th and King Streets and the speed limit on 8th Street should be lowered from 35 m.p.h. to 25 m.p.h. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion.

Discussion. Chief Fink stated that there have been numerous accidents at this intersection. Roll call vote: Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Old Business

1. Mr. Straub moved to approve the 902 Recycling Grant Application which is for a new leaf vacuum, a new wood chipper, and for reimbursement of 41% of the 2004 truck, approximately \$18,000. 41% is the amount of time estimated that the truck will be used for collecting leaves and yard waste to make compost and delivering the compost to the Borough parks. The old equipment may be sold to another municipality once the new equipment is purchased. The Borough will be reimbursed for 90% of the cost of the leaf vacuum and wood chipper. Mr. Straub's motion is to approve an application of up to \$62,000. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Ms. Long requested that council members provide her with names of individuals who are willing to serve on the Main Street Committee. Mr. Wolfe stated that his wife, Jennifer Wolfe, is willing to serve on the committee. Ms. Long stated that twenty dedicated volunteers are needed. Funding is available at no cost to the Borough.
3. Mr. Wolfe announced that newsletter articles are due on Thursday.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the minutes of May 3, 2005. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion. PennDOT has been informed about the drainage problem at Front and Duke Streets. A letter has been sent to the Pennsylvania Housing Finance Agency stipulating that a requirement for residency in the proposed housing complex on Priestley Avenue is that residents be age 62 or older. Mrs. Groninger stated that the cost to the Borough for the Pineknott Park ballfield \$1,446 in 2004, not just the \$591 for the electric bill that was stated by Mr. Straub and reported in the May 3 minutes. In addition to the electricity, the Borough also paid for ball mix and other

items. Mrs. Groninger added that the Borough also provides labor for the ballfield. Mr. Straub stated that the Pineknott Park committee submits a budget to the Finance Committee for approval. Mr. Wolfe called for a roll call vote to approve the minutes of May 3, 2005. Motion passed unanimously.

2. Mr. Rees moved to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. One additional bill was added for \$225.79 for taser supplies from Pennsylvania Police Supply, Inc. The motion and second were amended to include this bill. Roll call vote- All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$36,207.26; bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$6,773.42.
3. Mr. Rees made a motion to approve the subdivision for the Hock Estate. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve the subdivision for Eugene Hoeger. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mrs. Groninger moved to pay the registration fee of \$99.00 for Mr. Straub to attend a conference on June 21 and 22 at Penn State on composting. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of ordinary bills that are due before the July 19, 2005 council meeting. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Council will be provided with a list of bills that were paid.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council would meet on June 21 for a work session and that the next council meeting would be on July 19, 2005.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the council would conduct a council meeting at the pool this year. Mr. Wolfe announced that the August 2, 2005 meeting would be held at the pool.

The council will operate the hot dog wagon at Pineknott Days from 6:00 to 10:00 July 5th.

Mr. Felix Oshefski of 275 Fourth Street stated that mail was stolen from his mailbox last fall. The mail has not been returned to him because it was being held for the investigation by Sgt. Kriner. Mr. Wolfe explained that Sgt. Kriner has been on sick leave. Chief Fink stated that he would assist Mr. Oshefski.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Council Meeting
July 19, 2005 at 7:00 PM

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Darvin Straub, Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, and Jonathan Rees. Others present were Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mayor Gretchen Brosius was absent due to recent knee surgery. Mr. Richard Shoch, the Borough Solicitor, was absent because he was attending another meeting. The ten visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Doug Hulsizer, representing the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company, requested that the council release tax funds that were collected in 2002. In June, Mr. Hulsizer provided the council with a financial statement completed by a certified public accountant. He explained that an official audit was not possible because the auditors did not have sufficient, accurate records. He explained that different officers are involved and the records are being properly maintained. He requested that the council release the funds and that the money be deposited in an account at the Northumberland National Bank for the new ladder truck. This account is strictly for the truck fund and requires five signatures for money to be disbursed. The company has contracted with Lewis, Danzig & Company for a 3-year agreement to provide financial audits. The auditors are helping the fire company to improve their record keeping in order to produce a quarterly audit. The fire company has upgraded their computer system and has a new computerized cash register system. They are also getting online. Mrs. Groninger asked what funds were included in the financial statement. Mr. Hulsizer replied that the financial statement includes all the funds except the truck fund. The accounts that were included are the gambling account, the general account, the equipment fund account and the home association account which had two separate audits. The truck fund is a savings account so Mr. Hulsizer stated that this account was not included in the audit. Mrs. Groninger asked in what account the donations are deposited. Mr. Hulsizer stated that all donations are deposited in the truck fund. Mrs. Groninger asked in what account money is deposited for services rendered. Mr. Hulsizer stated that since he has been treasurer, he has not received money for services rendered. Mrs. Groninger asked if reimbursements are made for hazmat materials that are used. Mr. Hulsizer stated that the company receives replacements for hazmat supplies that are used; they do not receive monetary reimbursement. Mr. Wolfe stated that the balance sheet shows cash receipts in the

equipment fund of \$17,268. The ending balance of the equipment fund is \$12,000. \$7,300 was disbursed for the truck. Mr. Hulsizer stated that the funding for the ladder truck is in a separate truck fund. Mr. Hulsizer added that the company is now using Quick Books and is learning how to keep accurate records. The \$84,000 truck payment is due on November 1. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee would meet on August 17 and make a recommendation to the council at the September meeting regarding releasing the tax funds.

Mr. George Geise explained to the council that he would be replacing sidewalks at the Northumberland Christian School and Baptist Church. He questioned who is responsible to replace the curb. Mr. Ruane stated that the Borough normally replaces damaged curb when a street is paved. But Queen Street is not on the paving schedule for the next few years. Mr. Wolfe advised Mr. Geise to attend the Streets Committee meeting. The next committee meeting will be held on August 10 at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Mitchell Chaiken asked the council if the Borough would provide free pool passes for his family. Mr. Wolfe stated that after the June work session, the Borough Secretary contacted various agencies and learned that the funding is run through the Red Cross. The Red Cross uses the funding for shelter, food and clothing, not for recreation. Mr. Wolfe added that the Borough cannot provide free admission to one family, because the Borough does not have a policy to determine eligibility for free admission. Mr. Ditton suggested that Mr. Chaiken's children could work to earn their pool passes. Mr. Chaiken stated that the children are 10 and 14 years old. He feels that since the Borough has a pool he should be permitted to use the facility for free since he can't afford to buy a pool pass. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council cannot give one family a free pool pass because then everyone would expect a free pass. And the pool would not be able to operate without residents paying for admission. Mr. Fisher stated that he saw Mr. Chaiken at the scene of a tractor trailer accident recently. He said that Mr. Chaiken was riding an expensive mountain bike and had a digital camera. Mr. Chaiken replied that the bicycle was purchased in 1991 and the camera is 8 years old and was a gift. Mr. Greg Carl stated that he has run the pool for several years. He stated that he has not been paid for the service that he has provided because he knows that the Borough cannot afford to pay. He added that the pool operated at a \$5,000 deficit last year and cannot afford to provide free admission.

Mr. Scott Johnson reported to the council that the state is working to fix the problem of water lying in the streets at the Front and Duke Streets intersection. Mr. Wolfe complimented Mr. Johnson on the new patio at the 101.

Branchview Development

Mr. Bill Roll informed the council that Phase IV in the Branchview Development has been completed and he is requesting that the Borough approve this phase. Mr. Ruane stated that there is concern that a vehicle could end up in the ditch that is located at the corner of the intersection of Madison Avenue and Truman Lane. Mr. Roll stated that this area is part of the stormwater management and if it were paved, the stormwater could cross Truman and run into the yard on the lower side of Truman Lane. Mr. Straub

suggested that if a rolled curb were put around the house on the lower side of Truman, the water would be directed away from the yard. Mr. Rees stated his concern that if the street were icy, someone could end up in the ditch. Mr. Roll suggested that if a line were painted in the center of Madison Avenue, it might help drivers to stay on the road, and not drive on the shoulder. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the borough engineers be contacted to review the plans and the work that has been completed. Mr. Straub commented on the path for the water to reach the pond. Stone has been placed just off the cul-de-sac on Truman Lane, but does not extend to the pond. Mr. Ruane feels that the water coming from the cul-de-sac could bypass the pond. Mr. Roll stated that his engineers designed the storm water system and the Borough's engineers approved it. However, if there is a problem, Mr. Roll stated that he would fix it. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the engineers for both parties get together to determine the best solution. Mr. Roll agreed with the suggestion.

Mayor's Report

No report.

Sewer Authority Report

No report

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the Code Enforcement Office activity for the month of June. He has sent out 17 letters to property owners in the 2nd ward to replace their sidewalks within 90 days. He will be sending letters to property owners in the 3rd ward tomorrow. If not replaced, the property owner will be issued a citation and a fine. If sidewalks are still not installed, according to the ordinance, the Borough may replace the sidewalks and bill the property owner. Mr. Ruane stated that the conditions of the sidewalks will be reviewed yearly.

Mr. Ditton asked when the gas company would finish working on the gas line on Orange Street. Mr. Ditton stated that the Borough must pave Orange Street in September. Mr. Ruane replied that the gas company has been working and the street should be paved in September.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council appreciates the work that the code office, the street crew and the police department does in the heat.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Fisher requested that a stop sign be erected on Westway at the intersection of Fourth Street. Mr. Wolfe replied that this intersection could be added to the Ordinance to be voted on tonight.

Mr. Straub asked if there is anything that can be done to Permastone Drive until the street is paved next year. The crew will be making repairs.

Mr. Ditton thanked the street department for the work that they accomplished at Pineknotted Park. He suggested that council members should attend games at the park.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Finance Committee would be sending letters to the department heads for the 2006 budget requests. The committee will meet on August 17th at 6:30 and will discuss the request from the Hookies for funding.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that there is no personnel report. However, the Mayor did have a report for tonight and Mrs. Groninger believes that she was to have picked it up.

Property

Second Street School Feasibility Study

Larson Design Group will complete the study at a cost of \$7,950. Council had allocated \$12,000 for the study at the May 3, 2005 council meeting. The study is to take approximately two months.

Fish and Boat Commission

A contract has been received for a \$35,000 grant. Mr. Straub stated that the representatives from the Fish and Boat Commission have visited the area and determined that additional funding would be provided to expand the parking areas.

Public Safety

The committee will not meet in July.

Emergency Service Task Force

Mr. Wolfe anticipates that the committee's July 25th meeting at 7:00 p.m. will be the final meeting. The task force will work with the Ordinance Committee to develop an ordinance addressing the formation of a new emergency services committee. The committee will work with the Finance Committee to determine the emergency services budget for 2006.

Ordinance

Ordinance 2005-1

Mr. Ditton moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-1. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. This ordinance addresses garbage, junk, rubbish, and the placement of dumpsters. The ordinance does not include vending machines. Mr. Ditton questioned the definition of abandoned vehicles. Mr. Rees stated that one abandoned vehicle is permitted, by law, unless it is posing a safety hazard. Mr. Ditton requested that a clarification be obtained from Atty. Shoch. The motion was tabled.

Ordinance 2005-2

Mr. Troxell moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-2. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. This ordinance changes parking prohibitions on certain sides of the streets. Roll call vote - All ayes. A second reading of Ordinance 2005-2 will be conducted at the August 2nd council meeting.

Ordinance 2005-3

Mr. Rees moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-3. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Ordinance 2005-3 adds one stop sign on Jefferson Street at Madison Avenue controlling northbound traffic; one stop sign on Prince Street at 7th Street controlling westbound traffic; and two stop signs on Westway at the 4th Street intersection. Mr. Wolfe requested that traffic studies be conducted at these locations before the August 2nd council meeting. Roll call vote – All ayes. A second reading of Ordinance 2005-3 will be conducted at the August 2nd council meeting.

Ordinance 2005-4

Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-4. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Ordinance 2005-4 removes the requirement of wire mesh in new sidewalk construction. Roll call vote – All ayes. A second reading of Ordinance 2005-4 will be conducted at the August 2nd council meeting.

Mr. Rees announced that the Ordinance Committee would meet on July 22 at 7:00 p.m.

Streets

No report

Old Business

1. Mrs. Long announced that the Main Street Committee would meet on Wednesday, July 27th, at 7:00 p.m. in the council chambers.
2. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Resolution E-2005. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All aye. This resolution designates the Borough's intention to budget \$15,000 toward a joint Comprehensive Plan with Point Township. Applications are being submitted to DCNR and DCED for funding toward the plan. Each agency would contribute one third of the cost of the plan. The Borough and Township would share one third of the plan's cost. Estimates of \$50,000 to \$80,000 have been received. Resolution E-2005 follows:

WHEREAS THE Borough of Northumberland and the Township of Point will be operating an intermunicipal, cooperative project to update a Comprehensive Plan dated December 20, 1985,

AND WHEREAS THE Borough of Northumberland wishes to participate in said intermunicipal, cooperative project.

AND WHEREAS THE Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development makes available grants-in-aid to such projects through the Land Use Planning and Technical Assistance Program,
AND WHEREAS THE Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources makes available grants-in-aid to such projects through the Community Conservation Partnerships Program,
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Borough Council of the Borough of Northumberland hereby allocates municipal resources in the amount of \$15,000 to said project.

Adopted this 19th day of July, 2005 by the Northumberland Borough Council,
Borough of Northumberland, Northumberland, PA

A representative from DCED will be at the Borough on July 21 to review items to be included in the Request for Proposals.

New Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to approve the minutes of May 16 and June 7, 2005 as amended. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Ditton moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$36,362.89; General Contingency bills total \$3,142.49; Parking Meter bills total \$3,400.00; and Liberty Pool bills total \$2,500.43. Bills that were paid with General Fund money before the July 19, 2005 council meeting total \$5,900.13.
3. Mr. Wolfe moved to transfer \$12,922.78 for payroll funds from Liberty Pool Account to General Fund. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mrs. Groninger asked why the cars are being counted on Front Street between Duke and Queen Streets. It was learned that Penn DOT is conducting the count.

Mr. Wolfe wished Mr. Ditton a safe trip to Switzerland to attend his daughter's wedding.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Council Meeting
August 2, 2005 at 7:00 PM
At Liberty Splashland
Prince Street, Northumberland, PA 17857

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Richard Shoch, Borough Solicitor; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Public Comment

Belinda Albright asked what is going to be done with the Second Street building. Mr. Straub explained that the council is considering renting the building out or using part of the building for a regional police force. The gymnasium and playground would remain for recreation. Mr. Straub explained that the council is going to be submitting grant applications to DCNR for funding to upgrade playgrounds at Second Street, Pineknottter Park, and possibly a new playground at Jolly Hollow. Mrs. Long added that two yard sales have been held to raise money for the school building.

Mr. Jim Buch informed the council that his business, Haubert Homes, has recently experienced storm water runoff. The business is located on the Old Danville Highway. He believes the runoff is coming from the new development at Branchview. He stated that it appears that the water is bypassing the retention pond and is running down to the Old Danville Highway and over to his property. Mr. Troxell stated that he does not think the retention pond is large enough. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council has not yet accepted the development. Mr. Ruane stated that he would be meeting with the Borough’s engineer on Thursday and has spoken with the contractor of the development who has offered to meet with the Borough’s engineer to determine a solution.

Ms. Ruth Ann Bromfield stated that she is trying to respond to ideas and interest in 80 King Street, the former Moose Building. Last year, two plays were held at the building. She added that she is interested in having more community events at the building. Mr. Wolfe replied that Ms. Bromfield would be welcomed to join the Main Street Committee. Mrs. Long added that money is available for an “anchor building” through the Main Street program. The committee will meet at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, August 8th, at the

Borough Building. Ms. Bromfield stated that the building has a great deal of history and she would like to see it utilized for the community.

Scott Johnson reminded the council that Lemonade Day Parade is planned for Saturday, August 6th. He added that Mrs. Long has been working very hard to make the event a success.

Bid Opening for the Truck

Mr. Wolfe opened the bids for the new truck and bids to purchase the three borough trucks.

One bid of \$59,977.00 was received from Sunbury Motors Company to provide a new truck to the Borough.

Bids received for the purchase of the Borough's 1980 Ford F800 truck were \$1,510.00 from Ira W. Keister; \$2,111.11 from Northumberland Motors; \$1,000.00 from Richard Kline; and \$1,000.00 trade-in value from Sunbury Motor Co.

Bids received for the purchase of the Borough's 1996 GM truck were \$5,419.00 from US Property Outlets; \$3,660.00 from Dansco Sales; \$9,300.00 from Keith L. Ketchem; \$11,827.00 from Ira W. Keister; \$5,611.86 from Northumberland Motors; \$4,000.00 from Richard Kline; \$10,752.00 from Keister Construction; \$3,774.00 from Grace Quality Used Cars; and \$11,000.00 trade-in value from Sunbury Motor Co.

Bids received for the purchase of the Borough's 1994 GM truck were \$3,719.00 from US Properties Outlet; \$2,760 from Dansco Sales; \$8,200 from Keith L. Ketchem; \$9,126 from Ira W. Keister; \$3,500 from Richard Kline; \$9,752 from Keister Construction; \$3,474 from Grace Quality Used Cars, Inc.;

Mr. Wolfe announced that Sunbury Motor Co. was the apparent low bidder for the new truck at a cost of \$59,997.00. The high bidders for the Borough's used vehicles were: Northumberland Motors with a bid of \$2,111.11 for the 1980 Ford F800 truck; Ira W. Keister with a bid of \$11,827.00 for the 1996 GM truck, and Keister Construction with a bid of \$9,752.00 for the 1994 GM Truck.

Mr. Troxell moved to accept the bids as announced. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius reported that all the meters, except four, have been installed and are certified. She asked if council is considering purchasing new meters that include cards. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee would like to review the costs for the meters.
- Several representatives from the Borough, Point Township, and Sunbury met last night with Howard Dougherty to discuss the study for a regionalized police department. Mr. Dougherty was hired by DCED to conduct the study. He will have the report completed in September.
- Lemonade Day is scheduled for Saturday, August 6th.

- A gentleman contacted Mayor Brosius about the restrooms at Pineknoller and why they are not opened all the time. Mrs. Groninger stated that the council just put a new pump at the restrooms and the restrooms had been vandalized last year. The council had decided that the restroom would be opened whenever someone rents the pavilion or when the ballfield is in use.
- Mayor Brosius suggested that the council reappoint members to the Flood Hazard Mitigation committee to address topics that were included in the letter from FEMA.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reviewed the letter that the Brinjac had sent to the Borough concerning the Sewer Authority's Act 537 Plan Update. The Borough is requested to provide copies of various documents. Council determined that the Borough Office is to provide the requested information and charge the Sewer Authority the standard rates.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

No report

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Fisher reported that the crew has been patching Orange Street and Permastone Drive. Council discussed when Orange Street would be paved. Mr. Ruane stated that the gas company is going to pay toward the paving.

Mrs. Groninger left the meeting at 7:40 and returned at 7:42.

Committee Reports

Finance

The committee will meet the third Wednesday of every month through November. September 21 is when the departmental budgets will be discussed. Letters have been sent to the department heads.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger reported that everything is going well.

Property

The contract for Boating Facility Grant has been received. Mr. Wolfe asked who would be responsible for the road to the point. Mr. Straub replied that in the future the Borough may apply for a grant to have the parking area and roadway paved. Mr. Straub stated that the work to the borough would involve putting the docks in and taking them out. Mr. Ditton stated that he would not vote to approve a grant that he has not had the opportunity to read. Mr. Straub moved to accept the grant from the Fish and Boat Commission to provide parking areas at the Point and the Hanover Street launch, new docks for both locations, and a walkway under the bridge from the Point to the pavilion area at Pineknoller Park. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Straub stated that the Recycling Committee has met with 3 suppliers and plans to meet with another one tomorrow to get information about a baler and forklift for the Recycling Center. He made a motion to approve advertising for bids for these items. The 2005 budget includes the Borough's 10% share of the costs. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton stated that the committee would meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 6:30 p.m.

Ordinance

Mr. Wolfe announced the reading of several ordinances. All have been advertised in The Daily Item.

- Mr. Rees moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-1. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. This ordinance addresses the removal of garbage, junk, and rubbish, and the placement of dumpsters. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 6-1. [**Note: This was the first reading of Ordinance 2005-1. The second reading will take place at the September 6, 2005 council meeting.**]
- Mrs. Groninger moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-2. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. This is the second reading of 2005-2, which changes parking prohibitions on certain sides of the streets. Roll call vote - All ayes. The ordinance will be effective in 30 days.
- Mr. Rees moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-3. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. This is the second reading of Ordinance 2005-3 which adds stops signs on Prince Street at 7th Street controlling westbound traffic; Jefferson Street at Madison Avenue controlling northbound traffic; and Westway at Fourth Street. The police department conducted a traffic study. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.
- Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-4. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. This is a second reading of Ordinance 2005-4, which removes the requirement of wire mesh in new sidewalk construction. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.
- Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-5. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. This is the first reading of Ordinance 2005-5, the Emergency Services Task Force ordinance. Mr. Wolfe explained that the task force has met monthly since June of 2004 and this is the end product. When this Emergency Services Task Force ordinance is enacted, it will replace the Fire Board with an Emergency Services Board. The Emergency Services Board will consist of five members, one member of each company to be selected by the general membership of company; and the other three members, residents of the Borough of Northumberland, will be selected by the Borough Council. These three individuals may not be members of Borough Council nor the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief. Initially the terms will be rotating, 1-5 years. Eventually, the term of each committee member will be 5 years. This committee will

be responsible for selecting the Fire Chief and one Deputy Fire Chief. They will also be responsible for providing the council with a budget and for disbursing the funds. Mr. Wolfe explained that the Board would work with the fire companies to discuss what equipment the companies want. The Board decides what should and should not be purchased. Mr. Wolfe suggested to the Committee that the Board could approach the Council with a request that money be approved to purchase new equipment over a specified number of years. The council would have the control to set millage rates. Discussion. Mayor Brosius stated that a letter of support was received from the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company and asked if a letter of support was received from the #1 Fire Company. Mr. Wolfe stated that the #1's endorses the ordinance because their representative voted for it. Mr. Ditton asked about the residency requirement. Mr. Wolfe replied that the Board would be comprised exclusively of members who live in the Borough. The Fire Chief and Deputy Fire Chief must live in Northumberland or Point Township. Mrs. Groninger related past history when individuals informed the council of various mandated "requirements" to become fire fighters. However, the council learned that the requirements were minimal. Mr. Wolfe replied that the Board would determine the minimum requirements. Roll call vote to approve Ordinance 2005-5 – All ayes.

Streets

The committee meeting is changed to Monday, August 8 at 7:00 p.m. instead of Wednesday, August 10 at 7:00 p.m. because Mr. Rees is having surgery on August 10th. The meeting date will be advertised.

Old Business

1. Main Street Committee – Mrs. Long announced that an introductory meeting was held on July 27th and a second meeting is scheduled for August 8th at 7:00 for those who couldn't attend the July meeting.
2. The Susquehanna Valley All Sports Association, Inc. submitted a request to use Pineknott Park from August 12th thru October for fall baseball games. Mr. Ditton moved to grant their request. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

New Business

1. Mrs. Groninger made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$24,409.52 while the Liberty Pool bills total \$2,678.49.
2. Mr. Ditton moved to renew the Group Accident Policy at a cost of \$771 for the annual premium. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Straub asked when the damaged lights in the downtown and King Street Park would be replaced. The Borough Office has contacted K & N Electric to replace the two lights in the downtown area. Eastern Tree Company had told Margaret Weirick that they would replace the light that was damaged when the tree was taken down.

4. Mr. Ditton requested permission to remove the exercise stations at Pineknotted Park. Discussion. Mr. Ditton so moved. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mr. Wolfe announced that the Sunbury-Northumberland American Legion Baseball Team is competing in the State Tournament this evening. The council will recognize the team's accomplishments at a later date.
6. Mrs. Long announced that Lemonade Day would be held downtown on Saturday from 12:00 noon to 5:00 p.m.
7. Mayor Brosius asked about plans to fill in and level the ground in the King Street Park. The crew plans to level the ground and plant grass seed in the fall.
8. Mayor Brosius thanked Mr. Carl for the time he has volunteers to the pool. Mrs. Groninger added that everyone should make an effort to visit the pool to see the kids at the Sprayground and also to attend special events like the Lip Sync and Fear Factor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council Meeting
September 6, 2005 at 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, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Don Troxell, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Recognition of the Sunbury-Northumberland American Legion Baseball Team

Mayor Brosius read a Resolution recognizing the Sunbury-Northumberland American Legion Baseball Team. The resolution is as follows:

Be it resolved that the Sunbury/Northumberland American Legion baseball team consisting of players Jared Auman, Matt Boop, Chad Brady, Ry Carman, Scott, Deibler, J. J. Ermert, Tadd Eyster, Derek Fisher, Jason Foust, Tyler Gross, Jesse Hoover, Dustin Johnson, Tyler Latsha, Kurt Leitzel, Brad Moyer, Kyle Snyder, Erick Tuomisto, Steve Weikel, and along with coaches; Don Leitzel, Rich Aurand, and Travis Fisher has distinguished itself in the following areas:

Whereas, the team is sponsored by the Northumberland American Legion Post 44 and the Sunbury American Legion Post 201; and

Whereas, in the first year as a joint team it achieved first place in the Susquehanna Valley American Legion League (SVALL) both at the division and league level, with a 20-2 record; and

Whereas, the team advanced to the Pennsylvania Region 5 tournament winning that championship with a 5-1 record; and

Whereas, the team placed third in the Pennsylvania State Tournament with a 27-5 record for the season; and

Now Therefore, **I, Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor of the Borough of Northumberland, along with the Northumberland Borough Council as Representative of the Citizens of Northumberland, do hereby issue this Resolution as an expression of our congratulations to the achievements of the Sunbury/Northumberland American Legion Baseball team of 2005 and thank all those who supported the team in any way to make this an historic season.**

September 6, 2005

Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor

Travis Fisher, Assistant Coach, presented the council with a framed picture of the team.

Don Leitzel, Team Coach, thanked the people who supported the team, especially the Northumberland and Sunbury American Legions. He voiced his appreciation to the council for recognizing the team's accomplishments and thanked Mr. Ditton and Mr. Daddario for attending their games and for helping to keep the field in great playing shape.

Public Comment

Six members of the public introduced themselves.

Mrs. Fran Bogovich stated that she feels that residents should be cited for not cutting their grass. She noted that vacant lots are not being taken care of properly. She added that one property owner only cuts the grass at the top of the hill and does not take care of the remaining portion of the lot. Mr. Ruane replied that he will check the property but he has many other duties to attend to and is working a part-time job.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the borough's solicitor has informed the council that the police department is responsible for enforcing the borough ordinances that have a fine or penalty. Mr. Shoch explained that the Borough Code only names the police force as the entity for enforcing what is considered to be a summary offense. He added that the Police Department may obtain assistance from the Code Office, but it should be the police who issue the citations. Mayor Brosius asked if citations may be issued on the spot or if a warning must be given first. Mr. Shoch replied that specific ordinances may have a time frame stipulated in the ordinance. If the particular ordinance states that a letter be issued; however, once one letter is sent, subsequent letters need not be sent. The party has been informed and may be cited without further warning.

Mr. Wolfe stated that between the police and the code office, the violators should be cited.

Mayor Brosius suggested that Mr. Redington could canvas the Borough and issue citations for ordinance violations.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that PEMA has contacted her to request that the community send personnel to Louisiana to join in the search and rescue mission. Sgt. Kriner is slated to go if the local group is deployed. Mr. Ditton stated that he thought that the Mayor had agreed that a part-time officer should go. Mayor Brosius replied that she had agreed to send a part-time officer. However, no part-time officer was available to go. Mayor Brosius stated that PEMA had asked that two officers be sent but she did not feel that the police force should be reduced by two officers. Mr. Wolfe stated that while they had preferred that a part-time officer be sent, he respects the Mayor's decision. Mayor Brosius stated that if the Borough should have to pay overtime, PEMA has informed her that they will pay the overtime.

The Police Department is interested in purchasing a radar speed sign that can be mounted on a pole, next to a speed limit sign. The sign can also count cars. A sales representative is available to come to a meeting, if the council wishes. The cost of one sign is less than \$3,000. The cost of a speed sign on a trailer is approximately \$5,000. Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Fink ask the sales representative to attend a Public Safety Committee meeting.

Laura Owens, a student at Bloomsburg University, will be working as an intern in the Police Department.

Council members were provided with copies of the police department report for August.

Mayor Brosius sent a thank you note to Susquehanna University for the sending eleven freshmen to our community on August 27. These student volunteers helped by cleaning the Recycling Center, under Darvin Straub's direction, and by weeding the bank and planting mums at the railroad underpass on Route 11, under Gene Brosius's direction. Mayor Brosius also thanked the two gentlemen for overseeing these projects and the Revitalization Committee for donating the mums.

Mayor Brosius announced that the annual 9/11 Service would be held on Sunday beginning with music at 6:30 p.m. in the King Street Park.

The Revitalization Committee is planning a Fall Festival in the park for children on October 29th.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane stated that property at 560 Queen Street has high grass. The property owner has abandoned the property. Mr. Wolfe moved that the Borough Crew cut the grass and a lien be placed on the property. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Shoch advised that his office would take care of placing the lien on the property if Mr. Ruane provides them with the information.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that one resident plans to erect a wood furnace in a separate building on his property that will heat his home. Mr. Ruane stated that the Borough Ordinances do not prohibit this type of heating system. Mr. Shoch asked if the Borough has an ordinance that stipulates the height of chimneys. Mr. Ruane replied that there is not. A building permit will be required.

Mr. Troxell stated that people are replacing curbs for driveways the correct way. However, at a property on Hanover, above Front Street, the contractor did not replace the curbs and driveway correctly. The property at Fourth and Orange Street does not have a proper curb. Mr. Ruane stated that he is sending a letter to the former property owner because he obtained the permit and was to complete the work. Mr. Troxell feels that everyone should be required to follow the ordinances. Mr. Ruane stated that the Borough does not require inspections of the curbs.

Mr. Rees asked if the top coat would be placed at the intersection of Strawbridge Road and Jefferson Street before school starts. Mr. Ruane replied that the work will be done when Orange Street is paved.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

No report

Sewer Authority Report

No report

Executive Session

The council adjourned to an Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue. The meeting was reconvened at 7:48 p.m.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee approved disbursing the 2003 tax fund in the amount of \$17,826.18 to the Hookies truck fund at the Northumberland National Bank. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the transfer. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Paul Ruane II informed the council that the Hookies have received a grant of \$107,000 to purchase new air packs and a new high-pressure system. This funding would be for the entire department. They may also receive a \$4,000 grant, which must be matched, for education, jump suits, etc. The company is determining whether or not to accept the grant.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the committee would meet on September 21 to discuss department budget requests. Another subject to discuss is cards for the parking meters.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger moved to reappoint Matthew Markunas to the Planning Commission to a term that ends 8/31/09 and Richard Hort to the Zoning Hearing Board to a term ends 8/31/08. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Property

The committee is waiting on the paperwork from the Fish and Boat Commission for the grant funding for the Point and Little League dock areas.

Mr. Straub thanked the Susquehanna students who volunteered to work in the Borough at the recycling center and the underpass.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton stated that no one attended the last Public Safety committee meeting so no business was conducted. The committee will meet on Sept. 27, 2005 at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Wolfe requested that the committee review the Borough's burning ordinance.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees announced that the committee would meet on Thursday, September 22nd at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Wolfe stated that a second reading is required for Ordinance 2005-1. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-1. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Mr. Straub stated the ordinance would be effective in 30 days. Mrs. Groninger withdrew her second. Mr. Straub changed the effective day to 10 days from the date of the ordinance since it has been advertised. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Mr. Wolfe tabled Ordinance 2005-5 to be read at the October meeting since it has not been advertised.

Streets

No report.

Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, and Mrs. Long form an ad-hoc committee to recommend the type of street signs and the costs to the council for the first meeting in November.

Old Business

1. Mrs. Long announced that the Main Street Committee would meet on September 15th at 7:00 p.m. She will contact the members. The committee will go over the application and discuss ideas.
2. DCED representative Elizabeth Hansburg has emailed an RFP for the Comprehensive Plan. Mr. Wolfe requested that the council discuss the RFP in two weeks at the work session.
3. Mr. Wolfe asked if improvements have been completed in the Branchview Development. Mr. Ruane replied that the retention pond has been improved and Haubert Homes has no longer been experiencing water problems. Mr. Troxell added that the improvements look very nice. Changes are not yet made to the intersection of Madison Avenue and Truman Lane.
4. Mr. Wolfe asked if the lights have been replaced downtown. K & N Electric has been contacted to obtain and replace the lights, but have not done the work.
5. Articles for the newsletter are due on Friday, September 16. Mayor Brosius requested that a larger font be used. Mrs. Groninger stated that the advertising rates are too low.
6. Mrs. Groninger quoted from the May 19, 2003 council meeting minutes. At this meeting, a representative from the Pennsylvania American Water Company informed the council that a new water tank would be installed in the township to alleviate the lack of water pressure in some sections on the hill. She asked if the company could be contacted to learn when the water tank would be completed. Ms. Lark stated that the company has started work in the township. Mr. Shoch agreed that the company has met with the township and their planning commission to obtain approval to erect a new water tank.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the water company is still interested in purchasing the Sewer Authority. Ms. Lark replied that the water company is waiting for the studies that the Sewer Authority is having done for their permit renewal.

Mr. Wolfe asked what type of flood the facility can withstand. Ms. Lark stated that the tanks were not submerged in the 1972 flood. Part of the facility is in the 100-year flood plain and part is in the 500-year flood plain.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the minutes of July 19 and August 2, 2005. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion. The person requesting information about Second Street at the August 2nd meeting was Belinda Albright. Her name will be included in the minutes under Public Comment. Roll call vote – All ayes.

2. Mr. Rees moved to pay the bills. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$63,232.52 and bills to be paid from the Liberty Pool account total \$10,857.37.
3. Mr. Rees moved to transfer \$7,297.11 for payroll funds from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The final payroll transfer request will be made at the next council meeting. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mr. Wolfe requested that the council discuss the Home Rule Study for Northumberland County and either endorse, or not endorse, the plan at the next council meeting. If adopted, Home Rule would replace the three commissioners with a seven member board and full-time administrator.
5. Mr. Straub stated that Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Long, and he attended a meeting at SEDA-Cog to learn about grant funding for Hometown Streets, Safe Transportation to School. Funding is available for street lights in the park and replacing the bricks in the downtown street with a material other than brick. Mrs. Long stated that preconstruction costs, such as engineering and design costs, are not covered. The grant reimburses the Borough for construction costs. She stated that the railing and walkway at the underpass as well as the signage could be covered. Gateway signage is covered but the program will not pay for street signs.
6. A correspondence was received from PennDOT regarding the ongoing Pedestrian Crossing Research Project along Duke Street. Various ideas have been proposed and PennDOT is requesting that the council determine which treatment would be the most effective. Mr. Wolfe requested that the Public Safety Committee review the options and make a recommendation to the council at the October 4th meeting.
7. Mrs. Long stated that the Community Resource Center at SEDA-Cog is interested in forming a volunteer group to help determine how Shikellamy State parks can be better utilized, as well as plans to develop rails to trails from Northumberland to Danville. Anyone interested in volunteering should contact Mrs. Long.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council
October 4, 2005 at 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 Don Troxell, Bryan Wolfe, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, and Darvin Straub. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Speed Signs Presentation

Mr. John Painter, of All Traffic Solutions, demonstrated a radar speed display sign and explained its features. The \$3,000 price for this sign is being considered for inclusion in the 2006 budget. The price of the sign is under state contract. It comes with two rechargeable batteries that last approximately 4-5 years. The cost to replace a batter is approximately \$60.

Councilman Jonathan Rees arrived at 7:04 p.m.

2004 Financial Reports

Patricia S. Young, CPA, presented the council with the 2004 Financial Reports. One report is the DCED report with an audit opinion included in the report. This is in the same format as in other years. The other set of Financial Statements reflects the change after implementation of GASB 34. The funds statements remain the same as in other financial statements; other reports show full accrual – receivables, assets, and debts. Small governments may stay with a modified cash basis. The Borough’s statements consist of two activities: governmental activities – general fund, special revenue funds – and business activities – pool account. Municipalities should show assets, but are not required to obtain past infrastructure values. Since the records include loans for improvements made in the past several years, the audit identifies assets that are related to the debts that are currently on the books. Management’s Discussion & Analysis discusses the Borough’s financial highlights, summarizing assets, receivables and liabilities. Ms. Young offered to return at a later date to answer any questions that the council may have after reviewing the reports.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council would vote on the audited reports at the next council meeting.

Public Comment

Eleven members of the public introduced themselves.
No public comment was offered.

Executive Session

The council adjourned at 7:32 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 8:46. Mr. Wolfe announced that personnel and legal issues were discussed. No action is required at this time.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius received a thank-you note from the Volksmarch walkers. The 165 participants walked throughout the Borough on September 10 and 11.
- Mayor Brosius met with the Girl Scout Hemlock Council to discuss issues involving the Girl Scout Little House.
- The Mayor presented the Borough with the new box car to add to the collection on behalf of the Pineknoller Days Association.
- Police reports will be distributed to council.
- Mr. Wolfe asked if a department policy will be put into place to handle the property issues addressed by the recently enacted garbage ordinance. Mayor Brosius replied that she has discussed the new ordinance with Chief Fink. The police have ordinance warnings that have been issued in the past if the property owner is not home. Mrs. Groninger asked how the police will track warnings. Mr. Fink replied that the police could track the warnings with a spreadsheet. Mr. Wolfe asked why offenders are given warnings. He added that this requires an officer to go to the property at least twice and also adds a clerical duty. Chief Fink replied that warnings had been issued in the past. Mayor Brosius stated that some people will take care of the problem if warned. She also mentioned a letter that was received from Mrs. Sees concerning a neighboring property. It is difficult to locate this property owner. Mr. Shoch advised that the Borough could place a municipal lien on the property to have it cleaned up. The Borough would have to wait until the property is sold to satisfy the lien. Mr. Shoch explained that if a lien matures or if the Borough must continue to take care of a property, the Borough can take legal action against the property owner to force a sale of the property to satisfy the liens. Mayor Brosius asked if a citation should be given to a renter or the property owner when garbage is accumulating on a property. Mr. Wolfe replied that an ordinance is being proposed that would make the property owner responsible to see that garbage is removed from his property. The first reading is tonight.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

- Mr. Ruane informed the council that he has sent letters for the rental fee. A citation will be issued next week.
- Mr. Ruane stated that the grass and weeds in the culverts in the Borough should be cut. Mr. Wolfe replied that the crew should be taking care of Borough property.
- Mr. Ruane showed photos of the pond at Branchview, which has been improved. Additional paving will be done at Madison Avenue and Truman Lane to rectify the drainage at this intersection. Mr. Ruane expects Mr. Roll to attend the November council meeting to request that the Borough accept the new streets. Mr. Wolfe asked if the Borough's engineer would be coming to approve the streets. Mr. Ruane replied

that the engineer has approved the improvements to the pond and that he does not feel it is necessary for him to review the intersection. As long as the paving is completed, as planned, the drainage should be okay. The engineer had approved the plans before.

- G & R Charles will meet with Mr. Ruane the end of this week. The paving will begin the end of next week. In addition to Orange Street, sections of Depot Avenue, Wheatley Avenue, and Ropewalk Avenue will be paved. The gas company has agreed to pay for one block of paving.
- Jim Troup questioned if the Borough would improve the drainage on Empress Tree Lane because the runoff washes out his driveway.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Nate Fisher reported that the state has completed paving on Front Street and Water Street should be done on Thursday.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark requested that the Borough inform her if any additional streets are added to the 2006 paving schedule.

Home Rule Charter for Northumberland County

Northumberland County submitted a copy of the Home Rule Charter to the council. A Minority Report was also included. Mr. Wolfe moved to endorse the Home Rule Study, as presented. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mrs. Groninger stated that she has a problem with several issues. The first is the fact that the cost is unknown. If adopted, residents would only be permitted to vote for 3 of the 7 commissioners. She is also questions why Northumberland is in the same region as Upper Augusta Township, which is across the river, and beyond. Mr. Ditton stated that the Home Rule form of county government would eliminate 2 majority commissioners verses 1 minority commissioner, which is what a 3 commissioner board will always be. He added that Northumberland does not now have representation on the board. Mr. Ditton stated that the current commissioners are not administrators. With Home Rule, a County Administrator would be hired to oversee the county. Mrs. Groninger stated that the Minority Report mentions that there are only 7 Home Rule counties in the state. Mr. Troxell added that Northumberland County is comprised of two sections. Mr. Wolfe stated that with a 7-member board, the vote could be 4-3. Mr. Rees stated that the state mandates that a county has greater control as a Home Rule government, as opposed to the 3-commissioner form of government. Under the current form of county government, the county may only decide matters that the state expressly gives to the county's authority. Under Home Rule, a county has the authority to control anything that is not forbidden by the state. Mr. Straub stated that he feels it would be less likely that a larger group of commissioners would be able to put the county in debt like was done several years ago by two commissioners. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Chief Administrator would have seven people to answer to. Mrs. Groninger discussed the suggested pay rate for the Chief Administrator, stating that if someone is hired to run the county as the Business Manager, he should be compensated adequately. She feels that the \$100,000 salary would be acceptable, comparing the salary to that of school superintendents. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, and Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Mrs. Long voted nay.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Finance Committee meetings are rescheduled from the Wednesday dates to Monday, October 17th at 6:30 p.m. and Monday, November 14th at 6:30 p.m.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger reported that the Personnel Committee met with the Mayor and they are in the process of talking with Chief Fink. Mrs. Groninger moved to extend the existing Police Chief's agreement with Chief Fink until December 31, 2005 with a 4% increase, effective September 16, 2005. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger explained that by extending the agreement to December 31, Chief Fink's agreement would be on the calendar year, the same as other employees. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Property

The feasibility study on the Second Street building has been submitted to the Borough by Larson Design Group. The study is on file in the Borough Office. The study was completed by September 30th. Mr. Straub requested that copies of the Second Street Feasibility Study be provided to the council.

Mayor Brosius asked when the furnace was last serviced at the Girl Scout House. The Borough Office will check and schedule service if due.

Public Safety

PennDOT Pedestrian Study for Duke Street

Mr. Ditton told the council that Steve Mutchler, from PennDOT, presented safety device options available to the Borough. PennDOT would be responsible for installing them; the Borough would be responsible for maintaining them. The committee is recommending that the council approve the following options: Two overhead bars with pedestrian crossing signs and LED flashing lights, one to be installed across the lower end of Duke Street for traffic traveling north, and one to be installed across the upper end of Duke Street for traffic traveling south (exact locations to be determined later); a special type of plastic heat-installed crosswalks; and green pedestrian signs to be posted along Duke Street. The maintenance of the plastic crosswalks would involve replacing the sections of the crosswalks that are worn down by traffic. Mr. Ditton made a motion to approve these safety devices. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Troxell voted nay. Motion carried 6-1.

Mr. Ditton read from the report provided by PennDOT. One recommendation in the report, described as a potential solution at a higher cost, is a traffic light at one of the intersections on Duke Street. Mr. Ditton added that when the council met with PennDOT and Representative Phillips several years ago, PennDOT refused to agree to a traffic light. At that time, Mr. Phillips stated that he would locate funding for a light. Council discussed where a traffic light should be located, Third, Fourth, or Fifth Streets. Mr. Ditton moved to request funding from Mr.

Phillips for a traffic light for Duke Street. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion. The exact location will be determined once the funding is made available. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted nay. Motion passed 4-3.

Mr. Ditton informed the council about the National Incident Management System. Mr. Ditton explained that the National Incident Management System (NIMS) conducts a training course online that takes 45 minutes to 3 hours to complete and is for people working with emergency management, firefighters, etc. It is located at nimsonline.com He added that approximately 90% of the Hookies have taken the course; the #1's have not. Mr. Crebs stated that the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) has stipulated that the course be taken, adding that if the Borough does not endorse NIMS, by ordinance, then federal refunds for national disasters and grant applications, beginning in 2006, may not be funded. Mr. Ditton recommended that council members go online to review the provisions.

Mr. Ditton moved to ban burning in the Borough. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. One member of the audience stated that by banning burning, more waste would accumulate in landfills. Scott Johnson stated that he grew up outside of Sunbury and many people would dump garbage in the rural area. Mr. Ditton stated that the problem is that people are not just burning paper; they are burning plastic and items that are not permitted. Jim Troup stated that people in his former neighborhood used to burn garbage. He noted that residents in Branchview may not burn as part of their deed restrictions. Mrs. Groninger stated that her position has not changed in seven years. Instead of enforcing the code, she feels that by banning burning the council would penalize those people who comply with the ordinance. Mr. Troxell commented that burning barrels must be a certain distance from a structure and many are illegal and should be eliminated. Mr. Wolfe added that 95% of the people follow the ordinance; and the other 5% ruin it for the others. He suggested that council should examine the current penalties. Perhaps by increasing the fine, and strictly enforcing the ordinance, the problems with burning could be reduced. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Rees, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger and Mrs. Long voted nay. Motion failed 2-5.

Ordinance

- Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2005-5. This ordinance establishes an Emergency Services Board. Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-5. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mr. Wolfe conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2005-6. This ordinance establishes the Borough's Emergency Management Agency and provisions for the organization. Mr. Rees moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-6; Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

- Mr. Wolfe conducted the first reading of Ordinance 2005-7. He explained that the language of the existing International Property Maintenance Code is not clear about who is responsible for a property, the owner or tenant. This ordinance places the responsibility for properties on the property owner, not the occupant. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-7; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mr. Wolfe explained Resolution F-2005. This resolution revises the Schedule of Fees and Penalties, establishing minimum fines to articles that had no minimum, as suggested by Mayor Brosius. The minimum fine has been set at \$25.00. Mrs. Long moved to approve Resolution F-2005; Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mr. Rees announced that the Ordinance Committee would meet on October 27 at 7:00 p.m. The Ordinance Committee will meet on October 27 at 7:00 p.m.

Streets

Mr. Troxell informed the council that the new truck that was ordered from Sunbury Motors will not be available until February. Mr. Wolfe asked if the bid acceptance can be made null and void since the truck will not be available for several months. Mr. Troxell stated that Sunbury Motors has a 2005 truck on the lot and recommended that the truck be rebid. Mr. Troxell moved to rebid for a new truck with a stainless steel box. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion. The council will reserve the right to accept or reject any or all bids. The bids will be advertised to be opened before the November 1st council meeting. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Old Business

1. Main Street Committee: Mrs. Long announced that the committee plans to meet the first and third Thursdays of each month.
2. The Comprehensive Plan grant application has been submitted. Mr. Wolfe explained that the council must vote on a resolution that determines who may sign the grant application for the comprehensive plan. Resolution G-2005 states that the Borough Council President is authorized to sign the grant application. Mr. Straub so moved. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Straub requested that the council appoint him as the Borough Recycling Coordinator, explaining that opportunities are available through PROP to communities who have a coordinator. Mr. Wolfe so moved; Mr. Troxell seconded. Roll call vote – All ayes.

New Business

1. Mr. Troxell moved to approve the minutes of September 6, 2005. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

2. Mr. Rees moved to approve the payment of the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$58,493.78; General Contingency fund bills total \$5,962.50; Liberty Pool bills total \$1,635.71; Liquid Fuels bills total \$9,821.25; and bills to be paid from the Parking Meter fund total \$216.00.
3. Mr. Rees moved to transfer payroll funds (\$10,219.36) from the Liberty Pool Account to the General Fund to as the final payment for the pool payroll. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mr. Straub moved to approve the Sunbury Christian Fellowship Church’s request to block off King Street from Fourth Street to Brickyard Avenue on Saturday, October 8th from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. for their festival. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion. The church would be asked to provide the Borough with a Certificate of Insurance. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mrs. Groninger thanked Chief Fink for posting the “School Opened” signs throughout the Borough.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council Meeting
October 18, 2005

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Don Troxell, and Bryan M. Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Three members of the public introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Pat McPherson, a member of the Northumberland Fire Company No. 1 stated that there have been some questions about the new Emergency Services Board. He feels that this new board will work much better than the old Fire Board and said that the No. 1’s is looking forward to working with the new board. He thanked Mr. Wolfe and the others who served on the Emergency Services Task Force, adding that everyone did a very good job. He is hopeful that there will be three good representatives from the community willing to serve on the board.

Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. McPherson helped to set up the Fire Department budget. He replied that the Fire Chief had presented his budget to the Emergency Services Task Force and the task force had approved it. Mr. McPherson added that he had submitted the No. 1’s budget request to the council. Mr. Wolfe reminded him that the department budget would be coming from the Emergency Services Board.

Mr. McPherson informed the council that Mike Hixson has been chosen to represent the No. 1’s for the first 4 months of the Emergency Services Board until the No. 1’s have a formal election on May 1st.

Mr. McPherson told the council that the No. 1’s have lent one of their engines to the Tuckahoe Fire Company.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an executive session at 7:05 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 8:07 p.m. A personnel issue was discussed.

Code Enforcement Officer’s Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the activity of the code enforcement office for the month. He informed the council that paving has begun today on Depot Avenue. Orange Street was milled on Monday. The paving will continue throughout the week.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

Mr. Nate Fisher provided the council with a written report. Mayor Brosius questioned why 82 hours were spent on vehicle maintenance. Mr. Fisher replied that work had been done on the backhoe, the chipper, and the trucks have been readied for leaf pickup. Mr. Troxell added that this time includes work on all their equipment and also police vehicles. Mr. Wolfe informed Mr. Fisher that the council is going to begin conducting employee performance review process and that Mr. Fisher is the first candidate. He requested that Mr. Fisher meet with the council on November 1 at 6:00 p.m.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe moved to adopt the 2004 audit. Ms. Long seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton informed the council that the cost of the audit is \$156 per page. Mrs. Groninger asked if the Borough ended the year with a deficit. Mr. Wolfe replied that a tax anticipation loan was required to finish out the year. It was repaid in March. Mrs. Groninger requested that the record show that Mr. Ditton did remind the council that they are operating on a "credit card mentality". Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 6-1.

Personnel

The committee is in the process of talking with the police chief.

Property

Mr. Straub informed the council that thanks to Service Electric new flags have been put up at the white bridge. The Kiwanis Club provides the flags. Mayor Brosius received a memorandum from the governor that all state flags should be flown at half mast to honor the memory of eight soldiers killed in Iraq in the past two weeks.

Public Safety

Mr. Ditton stated that the committee would not meet this month.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees announced that the Ordinance Committee would meet on October 27 at 7:00 p.m. The committee will be discussing the code book chapters concerning Shade Tree, Housing and Electric. This will be the last meeting of the year. Mayor Brosius asked if the Borough has an ordinance prohibiting living room furniture on porches. Mr. Rees replied that it is part of the garbage – dumpster ordinance. (Ord. 2005-1)

Streets

Mr. Troxell announced that the Street Committee would meet on November 9 at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

1. Main Street Committee: Mrs. Long stated that the committee would meet on Thursday at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Long will be meeting with a representative from the state on Thursday at 1:00 p.m. to tour the Borough and discuss the application.

2. A committee is looking into purchasing new street signs. Mr. Rees stated that the signs are metal; however, they do not have raised lettering. Mayor Brosius suggested that the street signs for the downtown area could be a more historic type. Mrs. Noelle stated that the committee did consider a different type sign for downtown, but the cost would be about \$4,000.
3. Mr. Ditton asked how the Borough would get the police study report without submitting the audit. The Borough Secretary reported that Mr. Phillips's office was contacted and they learned that DCED had returned the study to Mr. Dougherty to modify part of it. Now that the audit has been approved, it will be sent to DCED tomorrow.
4. Mr. Wolfe asked if anything has been heard from the water company regarding their interest in the Sewer Authority. No information has been received.
5. Mrs. Groninger stated that the railings are loose at the underpass. She has received complaints that crumbled cement is falling on vehicles under the underpass. She requested that Mr. Phillips, Penn DOT and Norfolk Southern be notified about the condition and recommend that an inspector be contacted. [Note: Mr. Phillips's office contacted Norfolk Southern. On October 25, Mr. Minor Johnson, of Norfolk Southern, contacted the Borough Secretary to say that he has submitted the request to inspect the underpass to their Bridge and Building Division. He also provided his telephone number and email address.]
6. Mr. Wolfe asked if any information is available about the new water tower that is to be constructed in the township. His house was without water during the power outage on Saturday.
7. Ms. Long reminded the council that the Fall Festival will be on October 29 from 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. Activities being planned are storytime at the library, haunted fire truck rides, a costume contest, and free crafts for kids. Anyone available to help or to judge is asked to contact Ms. Long.
8. Mr. Troxell asked when the signs prohibiting trucks on the streets can be erected. Mr. Redington is conducting the traffic study that is required. The new stop signs on Westway, Prince and Jefferson Streets have been erected.

New Business

1. Mr. Straub made a motion to pay the bills. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion.
Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$12,517.10.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council
November 1, 2005 at 7:00 PM

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Bryan M. Wolfe, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, and Don Troxell. Others present were Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Police Chief; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Judith H. Groninger was absent because she was out of town.

Seven members of the public introduced themselves.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered at this time.

Branchview Development Phases IV & V

William Roll, developer, requested approval for Phases IV and V. Mr. Paul Ruane informed the council that Mr. Roll has completed the items that the Borough had requested, improving the drainage to the pond and additional pavement in the ditch along at the intersection of Madison Avenue and Truman Lane. Mr. Ruane had spoken to Mr. Roll earlier in the week and requested that additional riprap be applied in the berm along the northwest side of Truman Lane. Mr. Roll informed the council that Fairchild Brothers will complete this work.

Mr. Wolfe made a motion to accept Branchview Development Phases IV and V. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Bid Opening – Recycling Equipment

Mr. Wolfe opened and announced the bids. The following companies provided bids on the horizontal baler and conveyor: Recycling Equipment Corp. (\$55,590.00), BE Equipment (\$57,557.00), J.V. Manufacturing, Inc. (\$58,366.50), Winter Equipment (\$59,975.00), and Ohio Baler, Inc. (\$53,918.00). The two companies who provided bids for the forklift were Forklifts Inc. (provided bids for 2 models: Daewoo - \$22,793.00 and Clark - \$23,813.00) and Lifts, Inc. who provided a bid on a Toyota forklift at the bid price of \$23,194.00. These companies also bid on the cascade turner. Forklifts, Inc. bid \$10,998.00 and Lifts, Inc. bid \$11,447.00.

The amount of the grant award is \$85,000. The Recycling Committee will review the bids to determine if all specifications have been met and Mr. Straub will present their findings to the council at the December meeting. Mr. Wolfe tabled awarding the bids.

Bid Opening – Truck

Mr. Wolfe opened one bid for a new truck. The bid was from Sunbury Motors for 2005 Ford F550 with an aluminum box, a plow and spreader at a total price of \$58,247. Council discussed the bid, questioning why it was just \$1,730 less than the bid on the 2006 truck submitted on August 2nd. The truck was rebid because the delivery date for the 2006 had been extended to at least February of 2006. Mr. Wolfe moved to accept the bid from Sunbury Motors for \$58,247. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. The general consensus was that the 2005 truck which is on the company's lot should cost less than a 2006 truck with an extended cab. Both vehicles included the plow and spreader. It was also noted that the council had purchased the 2004 truck at a cost of \$49,297. Roll call vote: Mr. Troxell voted aye; Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion failed 1-5. Council discussed what should be done, whether the 2006 truck should be kept on order. Mr. Shoch advised that if the company could deliver the 2006, the council could still accept it.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius provided the council with monthly police report. She noted that the department has worked to enforce the newly revised ordinances, adding that many residents have complied when informed that their properties were in violation.

Council was given copies of a letter sent to Sgt. Kriner by a Virginia resident, recognizing his assistance at an accident scene.

Police canine – Sgt. Kriner would like to have another police dog. The funds to cover the \$300 for insurance are in the K-9 fund. Sgt. Kriner would keep the dog at home at his own expense. Chief Fink stated that any funding required beyond the \$300 for insurance would be raised by Sgt. Kriner. He added that currently none of the police departments in Northumberland County has a drug dog. Mr. Ditton asked about modification that may be required to the police vehicle. Chief Fink stated that a dog cage would be required for the bag. Mr. Ditton noted that in the past, complaints were received about the dog odor. Chief Fink replied that the benefits of having the dog would outweigh the odor. Chief Fink added that it would be valuable to have a police dog with the number of drug cases that are in the Borough. Mr. Wolfe requested that Chief Fink provide any start-up costs to the Finance Committee at their November meeting. Mr. Ditton asked why Sgt. Kriner is doing this. Chief Fink replied that Sgt. Kriner has had dogs in the past and he feels that it would be valuable to have another one.

Chief Fink requested permission to attend a class to learn how to repair guns. The cost is for the course is \$350. The request was approved.

Mayor Brosius announced that a new family restaurant is to open on December 1 at 95 Queen Street, the location of the former Café Belissimo. The new restaurant, Daddy McFatty's, will be run by Mr. Larry Tickle Jr. and Mr. Jason Letteer. The mayor added that she welcomes them to the community and sends her best wishes for a successful venture.

Mayor Brosius stated that the Fall Festival was a success. She thanked all the volunteers who donated their time and talents. She also thanked the Number 1's for providing rides on the fire truck ride.

Santa in the Park is scheduled for November 28 at 6:30 p.m. Decorating for the holiday season will take place on November 19 at 9:00 in the King Street Park. On November 5, volunteers will be checking the Christmas lights at the garage above the Rescue Building. The mayor thanked that Anselmo Community Trust and the Northumberland/ Point Township Revitalization Committee for their contributions to the Fall Festival and the Santa in the Park events.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the fire that occurred at the property on Duke Street on Saturday. He has informed the property owner of the Borough's ordinance stipulating that a percentage of the insurance money be held by the Borough until the repairs are completed.

Mr. Ruane informed the council that the paving projects are finished. Mr. Ditton stated that the paving on Orange Street does not seem adequate. He questioned why the center of the street was not sealed. Mr. Ruane replied that we don't usually seal the middle of the streets. Mr. Ditton stated that Penn DOT had sealed the center of Front Street. Mr. Ditton added that at some of the places where the new paving ends, like at Brickyard Alley, there is not a smooth transition. He is concerned that the street will be torn up if a plow hits it.

Public Works Supervisor's Report

No report.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the committee will meet on November 14 at 6:30 p.m. Their goal is to pass the 2006 budget.

Personnel

The committee will begin employee evaluations. They had originally planned to meet with Mr. Fisher this evening. However, since Mrs. Groninger could not be here, the meeting will be rescheduled.

Property

No report.

Public Safety

No report.

Ordinance

Mr. Rees moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-6. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. This is the second reading of Ordinance 2005-6 which establishes guidelines for the Borough's Emergency Management Agency. Herbert Gottshall Jr. is the EMA Coordinator. Herbert Gottshall III and Gary McNeir are his assistants. Mr. Wolfe suggested that if the ordinance is passed, these people should be reappointed so the record shows when their terms started, based on the new ordinance. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2005-7 which is an amendment to Chapter 23 of the Borough Code. This ordinance looks at the current edition of the Property Maintenance Code and makes amendments for the Borough's use. It stipulates that the property owner is responsible to keep the exterior of the property maintained in a clean, safe, and sanitary condition. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-7. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Streets

Mr. Troxell announced that the committee would meet on November 9th at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

1. Mrs. Long informed the council that she met with the new regional coordinator who is in charge of all the new Main Street programs. Following his advice, the committee is in the process of obtaining non-profit status which should open up new avenues of funding. The next committee meeting will be on Thursday at 7:00 p.m.
2. Mr. Wolfe announced that the council has received word that Jim Troup has been appointed as the representative to the Emergency Services Board by the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company. His term will run through 2008. Mike Hixson will serve as the Number One Fire Department's representative and his term will run through 2007. Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Eben Gibbs, Dean Paul, and Judyann Schmidt to the three at-large positions on the Emergency Services Board. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Mr. Gibbs's term would run through 2006; Mr. Paul's term through 2009, and Ms. Schmidt's term through 2010. Mayor Brosius stated that Mr. Gibbs does drive truck for the Hookies. She stated that she feels he is an excellent choice. Mr. Gibbs had been a profession fireman. The ordinance states that a member of the Emergency Services Board must reside in the Borough, may not be a member of the Borough Council, and may not be the Fire Chief or Deputy Fire Chief. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Wolfe stated that the office would send letters to the members with a date for an introductory meeting. At that time, the Emergency Services Board will schedule their meetings for 2006. Mr. Wolfe also stated that the Board could conduct its meetings in the Borough Building.
3. Mayor Brosius informed the council that while emptying the parking meters, she noticed that spraying the fruit has worked. Instead of soft, rotten fruit that stains the sidewalk and vehicles, the fruit is very hard.
4. Council discussed covering the parking meters for the holidays. Mrs. Long moved to cover the parking meters beginning anytime after November 21, 2005 until January 1, 2006. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mayor Brosius asked what can be done about the property on Queen Street that had a fire a year ago. She stated that the rear of the structure is opened to all the elements. Mr. Shoch advised that the owner could be cited under the property maintenance code. A lien could be placed against the property if the fine is not paid and the building is not repaired. Mr. Shoch advised to send a letter to the owners, informing them that a barricade will be put up and requesting that they repair the building. By taking remedial measures, it lessens the risk that someone may be hurt. Mr. Ruane will take care of the matter.

New Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to approve the minutes of October 4 and October 18, 2005. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Troxell moved to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe asked which vehicle required repair to the transmission. It was the Ford Explorer. Mr. Troxell recommended that the transmission fluids in the borough vehicles be changed every 20,000 miles because of the type of driving done in town. The borough crew has been changing the oil in the vehicles. Mr. Troxell stated that the vehicles should go to a commercial garage to have the transmission fluids changed. Mr. Wolfe suggested that the vehicles be taken to the dealership for maintenance. Mr. Ditton recommended that the owner's manual be followed for vehicle maintenance. Roll call vote to approve payment of the bills: All ayes. General Fund bills total \$44,818.21; General Contingency Fund bills total \$1,987.50; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$377.93.
3. Mr. Wolfe moved to pay the Solvency Fee to the Pennsylvania Unemployment Compensation Fund. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. By electing to pay this fee, the Borough will be eligible to file an election to request relief from charges for Unemployment Compensation benefits associated with base-year employment that are paid to a claimant who meets certain criteria. The amount of the solvency fee is based on the Borough's gross wages for the last two quarters of 2004 and the first two quarters of 2005 multiplied by the 2006 solvency fee rate of 0.0011. The 2006 Solvency Fee assessed to the Borough is \$533.06. Roll call vote: Mrs. Long, Mr. Straub, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe, and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Mr. Rees voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.
4. Requests were received from two residents for handicapped parking spaces in front of their properties. Mr. Wolfe asked if there were any existing spaces close by. There are none close to the properties. Mr. Wolfe asked if the goal is to alleviate a parking problem or to provide the spaces as a courtesy.

Mr. Straub moved to install a handicapped parking space at 295 Orange Street. This request was made by Mrs. Charles Frehafer. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Discussion followed. The property is located at the corner of Orange and Third Streets and several council members noted that adequate parking should not be an issue. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub voted aye; Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Troxell, Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Ditton voted nay. Motion failed 1-5.

A second request was received from Mr. Harry Gavason at 715 Queen Street. It was noted that this property is adjacent to a creek and that parking space should be available. Mrs. Long moved to approve the handicapped parking space at this location. No second was offered. Motion failed for lack of a second.

5. Mayor Brosius received a request from Pastor Rees at the Baptist Church for a handicapped sign to read "Handicapped Parking on Sundays from 9:00 a.m. to 12:30 p.m.". Several churches have moveable, temporary handicapped signs. Mr. Shoch advised that if a temporary sign is erected, someone could park at this location on

Saturday evening and not be aware that the parking space becomes a handicapped space on Sunday morning. He recommended that a permanent sign with the hours stipulated would be preferable. Mr. Wolfe asked if the Borough has received a written request. Since none had been received, he tabled the motion and requested that a written request be submitted.

6. Mr. Ditton requested that the Loading Zone sign in front of the Flower Basket be removed since the business is no longer in existence. Mayor Brosius informed him that there are no more meter heads. One was returned to the manufacturer, two are not fixable. Council had purchased new meters; however there are still ten older style meters. Mr. Wolfe moved to purchase additional new meters, at a cost of up to \$1000. Mr. Troxell seconded the motion. Roll call vote - All ayes.
7. Mrs. Long stated that more than 100 kids attended the Fall Festival in King Street Park on October 29th. Approximately 35 to 40 of them participated in the Costume Contest. And that the firemen conducted about ten to twelve fire truck rides to Haunted Hollow.
8. Mr. Wolfe reminded everyone to vote in tomorrow's election.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council
November 22, 2005 at 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 Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Bryan Wolfe, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Noelle Long. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Tim Fink, Chief of Police; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary.

Public Comment

No comments were offered at this time.

Old Business

1. Because of a delay in manufacturing, Sunbury Motors had informed the Borough that the 2006 truck would not be available until February or March. Since the Borough needs to have a new truck before the winter season and snow comes, Mr. Fisher went to Mechanicsburg to view two trucks that were available for purchase at McCafferty Ford in Mechanicsburg, PA as part of the state piggyback program. Council discussed the differences between the two vehicles. Mr. Wolfe moved to purchase a Ford F550 truck with an L-Pack from McCafferty Ford at a price of \$44,290.00. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mrs. Groninger moved to purchase a spreader at Maust Garage for \$5,430, installed. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mrs. Groninger moved to purchase a plow from Maust Garage at a price of \$5,561, installed. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

New Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to pay the bills. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton remarked that the paving job is not adequate and requested that the payment for the paving bill be held until repairs are made. He explained that the new paving is not tapered in to the old macadam or bricks at the intersections of the alleys. Mr. Rees amended his motion to pay all of the bills except the bill for the paving to G. & R. Charles, Inc. Mr. Straub amended his second. Roll call vote – All ayes. Council discussed how to handle the issue. Mr. Wolfe suggested that someone meet with G. & R. Charles, Inc. and request that the paving be repaired at the intersections with the alleys.

2. The Borough Secretary is looking into the Election Laws to see who may be appointed to the 2-year council seat. Mr. Wolfe won both a 2-year seat and a 4-year seat. After the newly elected council members are installed on January 3, 2006, the council will accept applications from those interested in being appointed to the 2-year seat.
3. Mayor Brosius stated that the cost to purchase the new meters exceeded the \$1,000 that had been approved. The estimate was for more than \$1,400. Mr. Wolfe moved to purchase the meters, not to exceed \$1,600. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Chief Fink informed the council that when he attended the class to learn how to clean and service the police guns, the instructor informed him that the guns currently used by the police are not safe and should be replaced. He was given a price to trade-in the old guns for new guns. Mr. Wolfe requested that Chief Fink provide the council with the information by the December 6th council meeting.
5. Mrs. Long informed the council that the PennDOT grant Hometown Streets Safe Routes to School was denied. She stated that the state had approximately \$1.2 million to award. Other municipalities were requesting four to five hundred thousand dollars. The Borough had originally applied for approximately \$46,000. PennDOT had eliminated all but \$20,000 for signage and landscaping. Mrs. Long was informed that the Borough may be able to obtain money from the growing greener initiative. They suggested that the Borough contact the county clerk to see if funding is available.
6. Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council
December 6, 2005

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, and Bryan M. Wolfe. Others present were Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Tim Fink, Police Chief; Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer, and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Don Troxell was absent.

Eight members of the public introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. David Angle informed the council that Mr. Rogers, a neighbor who lives across the street from the Naugles, had requested a handicapped parking space because his wife was handicapped. He stated that now both neighbors are handicapped. He read a letter from Mr. Rogers’s doctor, James Patterson, M.D. Mr. Naugle has checked where handicapped parking spaces are located on Queen Street. None are located in the 400 block. The Rogers live at 451 Queen Street. Mrs. Groninger added that there are no handicapped parking spots in the 400 or 500 blocks of Queen Street. Mr. Wolfe explained that, if approved, the handicapped parking space is not for their exclusive use. Anyone with a handicapped permit may park there. Mr. Naugle replied that they understand that. Mrs. Groninger moved to install a handicapped parking space at 451 Queen Street. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Pat McPherson stated that Coal Township has established a fee to install handicapped signs and an annual fee to maintain them. This has slowed down the number of requests they receive.

Mr. McPherson thanked the Borough Council and Mayor for doing a good job this year.

Executive Session

An Executive Session was held at 7:08 p.m. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 8:05 p.m. and announced that litigation and personnel issues were discussed.

Mr. Ditton moved to hire a non-civil service part-time police officer. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mrs. Long moved to approve an open-ended agreement with Tim Fink, Chief of Police, effective January 1, 2006. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius posed a question about tires that are in the police department that had been found along a borough street. Mr. Shoch advised to place a "Found" advertisement in the local newspaper. If no one claims them, the police may use them or dispose of them.

Mayor Brosius thanked those who helped to decorate the town for Christmas, including the Borough Crew and students from the Northumberland Christian School. She reported that more than 100 children visited with Santa the evening of his arrival at the King Street Park.

Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark presented a letter from the Northumberland Sewer Authority, recommending that Cammey Beaver be reappointed to the sewer authority for a five-year term. Mr. Ditton so moved. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe reported that the Finance Committee has approved the 2006 budget. The committee has been meeting monthly since July and the budget has been available at the Borough Office and online. He reviewed highlights of the proposed budget which includes a 2-mill tax increase that will primarily be used for the Fire Department. The budget also includes a \$21 Emergency and Municipal Services Tax in place of the former \$10 Occupational Privilege Tax. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the first reading of the 2006 budget. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger stated that she knows the committee has worked on the budget faithfully and diligently. However, she does not believe that taxes should be raised this year. She questioned the increase for the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax. Mr. Shoch stated that it may be possible to tax the residents for the Emergency Services as well as the people employed in the Borough. Mr. Wolfe stated that he believes the tax was enacted as a way of taxing the people who work in a municipality, not those who reside there. He explained that other municipalities have increased the fee to \$52. The Finance Committee is proposing to increase the fee by \$11. Mr. Rees stated, for the record, that he does not approve a tax that is not based on the income of the individuals. Mr. Wolfe reminded him that the vote to approve the budget is an up or down vote. Roll call vote – Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Council discussed transferring the Borough's bank accounts from Omega Bank to Northumberland National Bank because NNB is offering a better interest rate. Mr. Wolfe moved to move the bank accounts to Northumberland National Bank. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion continued regarding the different accounts and having time to get them set up with the automatic withdrawals. Mr. Wolfe tabled the motion.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint Ann Roll to the Appeals Board to fill an unexpired term. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Property

Mr. Straub asked that the council award the bid to Lift, Inc. for a Toyota forklift at a price of \$23,194. This was not the lowest bid; however the lowest bid did not meet all the bid specifications. The bid specified that the controls must be on the dash. Daewoo, the

lowest bid, had the controls located beside the seat. Mr. Straub added that the salesman knew that this was a primary consideration, but was hoping that the recycling group would change their minds. Mr. Straub moved to accept the bid, with the billing to come ten days after delivery of the forklift. The delivery date is scheduled for March. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub stated that he is postponing the response to the baler bids until the December 20th meeting, because the low bidder has not submitted a list of references. The solicitor has recommended that Mr. Straub work with him to learn if this is a viable company with proper services for the Borough. The cascade turnabout is being tabled until everything else is settled because at this point, the group does not have enough money to buy it. They are about \$2000 short.

Public Safety

Mr. Gottshall has requested that men be approved as Fire Police. Mayor Brosius recommended that the council wait to vote on their approval until after the Fire Companies have approved the names.

Mr. Ditton stated that the committee would not meet in December.

Ordinance

Mr. Wolfe read Ordinance 2005-7. This ordinance provides for licenses for contractors who work in the Borough and set minimum requirements for proof of insurance. Mr. Rees moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-7. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. Mrs. Groninger questioned having to charge contractors who work in the Borough. Mr. Ditton stated that this ordinance insures that the contractors have proper insurance. By maintaining a list of contractors, the Code Office can see that they are informed of the inspections that are required. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe read Ordinance 2005-8. This ordinance accepts the additions to Madison Avenue and Priestley Avenue as well as Truman Lane, which is being renamed Reagan Circle. Mr. Wolfe stated that the committee had indicated a desire to rename the street to the developer, but it was too late to change the plans. He added that Mr. Roll did not oppose changing the name. Roll call vote: Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, and Mrs. Long voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Mr. Wolfe read Ordinance 2005-9. This is the ordinance that implements the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax. It will amend Ordinance 267 which had imposed the Occupational Privilege Tax. The ordinance also provides for a clause that the council may enact to exempt anyone who earns less than a specified amount. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would move to adopt the Emergency and Municipal Services Tax with a provision to exempt anyone who earns less than \$10,000. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Long voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Rees voted nay. Motion passed 4-2.

Streets

Todd Snyder, a member of the Borough Street Crew, informed the council that the crew is having a difficult time plowing on Elliott Drive because residents park on both sides of the street and the truck cannot get through. Mrs. Groninger asked if this had been brought to

their attention before. Mr. Fisher replied that they did not have the problem before this year. Mrs. Groninger suggested that residents on Elliott close to Strawbridge have driveways that slope down and they may have difficulty driving up the driveways when it snows. Mr. Shoch suggested that letters be sent to the residents requesting that they park on one side of the street during a snow storm so the street can be plowed.

Nathan Fisher, Street Supervisor, read a letter of resignation. Mr. Straub moved to accept his resignation. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Mr. Wolfe moved to advertise for a new supervisor. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Long, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.

Mayor's Report (con't.)

Mr. Wolfe requested that the Mayor's report be continued since Chief Fink was now present.

Chief Fink informed the council that the police department can obtain seven new guns with a trade-in of the old guns at a total cost of \$1,050. Mr. Ditton moved to purchase the new guns. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Mr. Wolfe stated that the funding will fall under "Capital Expenses". Roll call vote – All ayes. Mrs. Groninger was not present to vote.

Old Business

1. Mrs. Long announced that the Main Street Committee would meet the first Thursday in January at 7:00 p.m.

New Business

1. Mr. Wolfe announced that the 2006 meetings would be advertised. He asked if the council would agree to hold the Reorganization Meeting on January 3, 2006 at 5:30 p.m. instead of 7:00 p.m. for "football reasons". Mr. Wolfe added that the Mayor would swear in the new members, the officers would be elected, and someone would be appointed to fill the vacant council term. The council will approve the new committees and bills to pay and any other business that may be presented.
2. Mr. Rees moved to approve the minutes of November 1 and November 22, 2005. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mrs. Groninger was not present to vote.
3. Mr. Straub moved to pay the bills. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Mr. Straub asked Mr. Fisher if he had approved the coveralls purchased for a member of the street crew since he had also purchased coveralls last year. Mr. Fisher stated that new ones were needed because the old ones were burnt from welding. Mr. Straub noted that the crew now has leathers to wear when welding. Mrs. Groninger returned to the meeting. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$32,964.08; Liberty Splashland bills total \$133.09; and Liquid Fuel bills total \$991.88.
4. A correspondence was received from Penn DOT, requesting approval for temporary removal of bridge lighting poles on S.R. 11. Mr. Ditton approved the request. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Discussion. Mr. Ditton amended his motion to include the condition that adequate temporary lighting be provided. Mrs. Long amended her second. Roll call vote – All ayes.

5. A committee is to review the Borough Flood Mitigation plan on an annual basis. Mrs. Groninger moved to appoint the Public Safety Committee to review the Flood Mitigation plan. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Executive Session

At 9:02 p.m., Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 9:30 p.m. Mr. Wolfe informed those present that no action was required, other than to say that based upon the council's prior motion to advertise for a new street supervisor, the council would accept applications until 5:00 p.m. on December 19th and the Personnel Committee would meet that evening at 6:00 p.m. to review the applications.

Mr. Straub asked if the office had received the contract from A.R.E.A. Services. The Borough Secretary stated that the company has not yet been contacted.

Mrs. Groninger requested that council thank Dan Berard for removing foul language that was spray painted on King Street, by the park. She requested that a thank-you letter be sent to Mr. Berard for taking his time to remove the paint and offer to reimburse him for any expense he incurred.

Mayor Brosius asked about the monthly meetings. Mr. Wolfe explained that the first meeting of each month would be a regular meeting and the meeting on the third Tuesday of the month would be a work session, with a few exceptions. The second meeting in January is scheduled as a regular council meeting.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Borough Council
December 20, 2005

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Noelle Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Tim Fink, Chief of Police; and Jan Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Judith Groninger and Don Troxell were absent.

Eight members of the public introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Mr. Jim Troup, Chairman of the Emergency Services Board, requested information about whose authority the Fire Police fall under, whether it is the Fire Department or the Mayor. Mr. Wolfe replied that he felt the council should look at the code and request clarification from the solicitor. Mayor Brosius stated that the ordinance stipulates how they are to be appointed and the council would go by the ordinance. Mr. Troup stated that he has heard that they are under the Mayor and the Police Department as Special Police. Mayor Brosius stated that she thinks that it depends who calls them out; if they are called out by the Police or the Fire Department. However, she believes that they are under the jurisdiction of the Fire Department according to the ordinance. Mr. Troup agreed that the ordinance does say that they are part of the Fire Department, but the Board would like clarification. Mr. Wolfe stated that the solicitor would be consulted.

Ms. Patty Young asked about the budget process. Mr. Wolfe informed her that the Finance Committee begins the process in July to hold public meetings for input. Ms. Young stated that she would be interested in learning how many people come in to look over the budget. Mr. Wolfe stated that the committee meets monthly from July through November. The meetings are open to the public. He added that every department submits a budget and the committee determines the final numbers. Mayor Brosius stated that the proposed budget is on the Borough’s website. Mr. Wolfe stated that the council has been consistent on how the budget is determined. Ms. Young questioned why money is donated to the Penn Valley Airport Authority and the library. She said that no money is given to the Northumberland Riverview Cemetery. She stated that the cemetery needs money because the cemetery is very old and funds that were received years ago are being depleted. They used to receive a donation from the Borough. Mayor Brosius asked if the Cemetery Board had requested funds for 2006. Ms. Young replied that they had not. Mr. Wolfe replied that a letter would be sent to the group when the Finance Committee is beginning the budget process for 2007.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius thanked those who have volunteered in the Borough in the past year. She added that without the volunteer spirit, a small community like Northumberland cannot exist.

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of the 2006 Budget. He stated that the \$1.171 million budget is an increase of 5.54%. He explained that real estate taxes would increase by 2 mills and the Occupational Privilege Tax of \$10 has be changed to and Emergency and Municipal Services Tax of \$21. He moved to adopt the 2006 budget. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Mr. Rees stated that he does not agree with the entire budget, but would support it. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Personnel

Mr. Wolfe announced that the Personnel Committee met yesterday and will be interviewing four candidates for the Street Supervisor position next Wednesday evening. They hope to have a recommendation for the new council on January 3rd.

Property

Mr. Straub moved to accept the low bid of \$53,918 for the baler from Ohio Baler, Inc. He has been told that this is an excellent machine and has received recommendations for the company in Mechanicsburg that will service the machine. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub informed the council that this afternoon a crew from the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission was surveying the Point for the new boat ramp. The commission will be installing a new ramp and the Borough will install the stone for the parking lot and walkway.

Mr. Wolfe asked if Mr. Straub was aware of a grant that is to be awarded for Pineknotted Park. Mr. Straub replied that he has no clue. Mr. Wolfe asked if anyone knew who authorized the application and the criteria. He understands that Mr. Daddario received a call that a grant is to be awarded for the ball field.

Ordinance

Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2005-7. This ordinance stipulates that landlords are responsible for their property. Mr. Ditton so moved. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe tabled the reading of Ordinance 2005-8 until the Borough receives the deeds for the streets.

Mr. Wolfe conducted the second reading of Ordinance 2005-9. This ordinance establishes an Emergency and Municipal Services Tax of \$21 in place of the Occupational Privilege Tax of \$10. It also exempts any person whose total income in less than \$10,000 per annum. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2005-9; Mrs. Long seconded the motion.

Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Long voted aye; Mr. Rees voted nay. Motion passed 4-1.

The council was asked to consider changing the ordinance that concerns the garbage haulers. Section 59-9 D a currently stipulates that the collector displays the license number on each vehicle in 2-inch high letters and numbers. This section is to be changed to read that the Borough will provide the collector with a form of license for each vehicle that is to identify the collector as an authorized waste hauler and the vehicle being licensed. The collector will be required to carry the license in the vehicle. Mr. Rees moved to have the solicitor draw up an ordinance to replace the current code with the new requirements and to advertise the ordinance. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. The solicitor had explained that the council need only read an ordinance one time after it is advertised. Mr. Straub asked if the Borough requires the collector to display the name of their company on the vehicle. That is section 59-9 d b. This section is not being replaced. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Ditton moved to advertise Ordinance 2006-1. This ordinance fixes the tax rates for the year 2006 and will be voted on at the January 3, 2006 meeting. Mrs. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe tabled the discussion on the Contractors' License Ordinance.

Streets

Several members of council will meet with the contractor to review the paving on Orange Street.

Old Business

1. Mrs. Long stated that the Main Street Committee would meet on January 5th at 7:00 p.m.
2. Mr. Wolfe stated according to the state, the Borough did not properly define the police chief's managerial duties. Mr. Wolfe understands that the police unit clarification is being handled by the attorney who handled the stipulation. Mr. Wolfe explained that the chief position had been removed from the police contract and due to a technicality, the clarification is needed.
3. Mr. Straub made a motion to move the Borough's bank accounts from Omega Bank to Northumberland National Bank.
4. The Borough Secretary informed the council that Mr. Ruane, Mr. Shoch and she were at a hearing at District Justice Bolton's office that morning for a landlord who had not paid his annual rental fees. Mr. Bolton ruled in the Borough's favor; however, the landlord has 30 days to appeal.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to pay the bills. Mr. Reed seconded the motion. Additional bills were submitted for \$106 from Rogers Uniforms and \$452 from Schick's Garage. Payment for these bills was included in the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

2. Mr. Wolfe informed the council that he had been on WKOK last week to discuss Borough topics, including the 2006 budget and the vacancy for street supervisor. The radio station will tape an hour discussion of the Borough Council and Mayor in February for the Roundtable program that airs on Sundays.
3. Mr. Wolfe stated that the articles for the next newsletters are due on January 6th. He requested that Mr. Frank Wetzel provide the office with his bio so an article about him can be included in the newsletter.
4. Chief Fink has obtained three quotes for ballistic vests. Since the current vests are defective, the department will be given credit for seven vests. The cost of \$600 each for the new vests is \$200 less than the credit issued for the defective vests so an eighth vest could be purchased for \$400. Mr. Wolfe moved to purchase the additional vest at a cost of \$400. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Chief Fink informed the council that the department has received the new guns. Once the officers have qualified with the new guns, the old guns will be returned.

Mayor Brosius wished the community a Merry Christmas and a Happy Holiday.

Mr. Wolfe stated that this would have been Mr. Troxell's last council meeting and he wishes him well. The Mayor also voiced appreciation to Mr. Troxell for his service to the community and her hope that he will continue to serve the Borough in other capacities.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary