

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council
Reorganization Meeting
January 7, 2008

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius conducted the swearing in of the newly-elected council members, Charles Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Cynthia Lark.

Mayor Brosius called the meeting to order, led the Pledge of Allegiance and offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Council member Jonathan Rees was absent due to a prior commitment. Others present were Mayor Gretchen Brosius; Dave Noon, acting solicitor in the absence of Richard Shoch; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

One visitor was present.

Nomination and Election of Council President

Mayor Brosius asked for nominations for Council President. Mrs. Groninger nominated Bryan Wolfe. Mr. Ditton seconded the nomination. Mr. Straub and Mr. Wetzel made and seconded a motion to close nominations. Roll call vote was taken with five council members voting in the affirmative and Mr. Wolfe abstaining. Mr. Wolfe was elected Council President.

Mr. Wolfe asked for nominations for Council Vice President. Mrs. Groninger nominated Mr. Ditton. Mr. Straub seconded the nomination. Ms. Lark and Mr. Wetzel made and seconded a motion to close nominations. The roll call vote was five votes for Mr. Ditton and one abstention by Mr. Ditton. Mr. Ditton was elected Council Vice President.

Mr. Wolfe asked for nominations for President Pro Tem. Mr. Ditton nominated Mr. Straub. Mr. Wetzel seconded the nomination. Mr. Straub nominated Mr. Rees. Mr. Wolfe seconded the nomination. Mr. Wetzel and Mr. Ditton moved and seconded to close the nominations. Roll call vote was taken. Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton, Mrs. Groninger, and Ms. Lark voted for Mr. Straub; Mr. Straub voted for Mr. Rees. Mr. Straub was named President Pro Tem.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Brosius welcomed Cindy to the council. She also thanked Noelle Long for her service to the community and announced that Mrs. Long will remain on some committees, even though she is no longer a member of council.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that the rental inspections are ongoing. He also reported that the Borough won two civil suits; one for failure to pay the Borough for work done to sidewalks and the other for a property maintenance violation.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Tom Slodysko reported that the temporary workers with the Street Department have removed plaster in the Second Street building.
- The department's schedule includes painting the curbing on Elliott Drive; removing Christmas trees and Christmas decorations; and repairing potholes.
- Mr. Slodysko welcomed Ms. Lark to the council and thanked the Sewer Authority for purchasing kits that the Street Department is installing which make a smooth transition from the street to the manhole cover. He prefers spending 15 minutes to install the kits rather than having to repair the snow plows when the plow hits a high manhole cover.
- Mr. Slodysko will meet with the company who will be installing the brick columns at the Second Street playground.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark announced that an article will be placed in the newsletter to explain the rate increase for 2008. The 2008 bills will be mailed in a few weeks.

Emergency Services Board Report

No one from the Board was present because the Board was conducting a meeting at the Hookies. The Council is seeking a volunteer to serve on the Board as one of the three members-at-large.

Committee Assignments

Mr. Wolfe announced that he has decided to combine the Property and Recreation Committees due to the over-lapping topics. He also created a "Rules" Committee whose job is to review the current laws and make recommendations to the full council. The committee assignments are:

- Finance – Bryan Wolfe, Chairperson; Charles Ditton; Jonathan Rees
- Personnel – Judith Groninger, Chairperson; Charles Ditton; Bryan Wolfe
- Community Development – Darvin Straub, Chairperson; Judith Groninger; Frank Wetzel
- Public Safety – Frank Wetzel, Chairperson; Jonathan Rees; Cindy Lark
- Streets – Jonathan Rees, Chairperson; Judith Groninger; Cindy Lark
- Rules – Cindy Lark, Chairperson; Darvin Straub; Frank Wetzel,

Committee Reports

Finance

Mr. Wolfe stated that the committee would not meet in January.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger moved to continue to employ all non-union employees for 2008-2009. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Mrs. Groninger voiced her appreciation for the work done by these employees. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe appointed Ms. Lark as the Borough's representative to the Sewer Authority. Mrs. Groninger asked Mr. Noon if there could be a conflict of interest. Discussion ensued. Mr. Noon advised that since this is not a voting position on the Sewer Authority, there is no conflict of interest.

Committee Reports, continued:

Community Development

The committee decided to set its meeting for the 4th Tuesday of the month at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Straub stated that the committee would not meet in January.

Public Safety

The committee will meet the 4th Tuesday of each month at 6:30 p.m. Mr. Wetzel stated that the committee would not meet in January.

Streets

The committee meetings were tentatively scheduled for the 2nd Tuesday of each month at 7:00 p.m., providing that Mr. Rees agrees. The Street Committee will not meet in January.

Second Street Change Order

Mr. Wolfe moved to approve a Change Order to remove the metal chimney liner and install a cap on the existing chimney at a cost not to exceed \$1,160. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – all ayes.

Old Business

1. A correspondence from James A. Neitz, Sr., Point Township Supervisors, requested that the council approve the installation of 4-way stop signs at Queen & 8th Streets and King & 8th Streets and a reduced speed limit from 35 miles per hour to 25 miles per hour at these locations. The letter refers to a traffic study that Mr. Neitz conducted. The council requested a copy of the study.
2. Mr. Wolfe noted that the council will meet next Tuesday, January 15th, at 7:00 p.m. for a regular meeting. In June, the council will conduct regular meetings on June 3 and June 24. Council will not meet the first week of July due to Pineknotters' Days. The council will hold a regular meeting on July 15th.
3. The newsletter will be completed by Friday.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the minutes from December 4 and December 18, 2007 council meetings. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Ditton voted aye; Ms. Lark abstained. Motion passed.
2. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the payment of bills. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$29,716.17; Liberty Splashland bills total \$11.18; Liquid Fuels bills total

\$93,750.28; and bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center Grant total \$26,234.42.

3. Ms. Lark moved to adopt Ordinance 2008-1, the Tax Levy Ordinance. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The tax rates remain the same as in 2007: General Revenue Purposes – 12.95 mils; Debt Service – 2.675 mils; Fire Equipment Purposes – 2.3 mils; Special Road Fund Purposes – 2.5 mils; and Recreation – 1.0 mils.
4. Ms. Lark moved to adopt Resolution A-2008, the Schedule of Fees and Penalties. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mr. Wolfe tabled the request from the Larson Design Group, Inc. to be approved to provide the 2008 General Consulting Services.
6. Mrs. Groninger asked about a pre-trial conference that Mr. Shoch was to attend on December 4th. She asked if anyone had information regarding the outcome. Mr. Noon replied that he did not but he would ask Mr. Shoch to respond to the question.
7. Mr. Straub announced that the Borough has received a \$7,200 recycling grant. The money will be used for the scales that have been purchased and to purchase a commercial shredder. The recycling group is exploring what will be done with the shredded paper. The group did not receive grant money for a tractor trailer for storage and does not have excess storage space.

Mayor Brosius asked if residents may take their yard waste to the recycling area for disposal. Mr. Straub replied that the Borough is requesting permission from DEP to use a portion of the recycling property for a composting area. He added that Point Township is purchasing a 2 acre lot for yard waste.

Mr. Straub said that the amount of recyclables brought to the center increases every week.

Sunbury Lions Club is an additional group of volunteers at the recycling center.

8. Statements of Financial Interest for the State Ethics Commission are due on May 1st.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:02 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
January 15, 2008

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 Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, Bryan Wolfe, Charles “Bud” Ditton, Judith Groninger, and Cynthia Lark. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Jonathan Rees was absent due to another commitment.

Public Comment

Brian Derr, president of Shikellamy Little League, Chris Swanger, vice president of Shikellamy Little League requested that the borough help to dig out the batting cage at the Acorn Little League Field. They would like to have stone put down, as was done at the Pineknotted Park. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Wolfe moved to dig out the ground at the batting cage and put stone down, similar to the batting cage at Pineknotted Park. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Ditton noted that the group should attend the finance meetings when the budget is being prepared.

Mr. Swanger requested that the dates for the Sign at King Street Park. Mayor Brosius read the list of dates and locations for the sign up and explained that it is too much to post on the sign. She also does not have enough of some of the numbers. The information is on the Borough website and Mayor Brosius will add “check the website” to the sign.

Mayor Brosius also explained that the Little League Memorial Day parade is posted on the sign, but barbeques are not listed because there are too many groups who would make that request.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Brosius noted that the police report for December is available to the council. Chief Fink reported that the student intern started working with the department yesterday.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Mr. Ditton asked why the rates increased by \$67.00. Ms. Lark replied that the rates were increased twice in eleven years. She added that the annual payment increased from \$290.40 in 2007 to \$348 this year. One reason for the increase is for the updates that are

mandated by DEP. Payments are due 30 days following the billing date. The annual payment and first quarter payment are due on February 8th.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub announced that the committee would not meet next week.

Old Business

1. Point Township had requested that the council approve 4-way stop signs at Queen & 8th and King & 8th Streets and a reduced speed limit at these locations. Traffic Studies have been provided by James A. Neitz, Sr. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the 4-way stop signs at Queen & 8th and King & 8th Streets and to reduce the speed limit from 35 to 25 miles per hour. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote: Mr. Wolfe, Ms. Lark, Mr. Straub, and Mr. Wetzel voted aye; Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 4-2.
2. Mr. Wolfe moved to approve Larson Design Group as the Borough Engineer for 2008 General Consulting Services. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. The Borough had advertised for bids for a used compost turner. No bids were received. Mr. Slodysko had been able to locate a used compost turner for \$20,000. Council had approved this purchase. A recycling grant has been obtained to pay for 90% of the costs for this piece of equipment.
4. Mr. Straub moved to accept the recycling grant of \$7,200. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mayor Brosius asked when the Borough will begin enforcing the ordinance that prohibits truck parking on Borough streets. Signs have not yet been erected. The solicitor will be consulted to determine if the ordinance may be enforced.

New Business

1. Mr. Ditton moved to pay the bills. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$25,201.12; bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center Grant total \$4,860; Liberty Splashland bills total \$88.20; and Norry Playground Fund bills total \$1,875.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
February 5, 2008

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, Cynthia Lark, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Richard Shoch, solicitor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The fifteen visitors in attendance introduced themselves. The visitors included Boy Scout Troup 342, along with Troup Leaders Scott Hixson and Ted August.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an executive session at 7:05 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:10 p.m. Mr. Wolfe announced that no action was required.

Oath of Office

Mayor Brosius conducted the swearing in of the Fire Chief, James Troup. The council noted their appreciation for the firemen who volunteer their time.

Mayor’s Report

Mayor Brosius reported:

- Sergeant Kriner is attending drug training classes.
- Officer Boyd is attending vascar school.
- The parking meters have been tested and some need to be replaced. Twelve of the new meters are not functioning properly. The company has agreed to replace the meters free of charge. The key to the deposit canister must be replaced. In addition to the twelve meters to be replaced, the department is still short ten meters. Mrs. Groninger questioned if Chief Fink has decided where to eliminate meters until the replacement meters are returned. She recommended that the residential area on Queen Street be left without meters until the new meters arrive. The Borough has purchased meters from two companies. The meters from Duncan cost \$150.00, but are the better of the two brands. Mayor Brosius explained that only the internal part is of the meters have been replaced.

The cases, including the glass windows, have not been replaced and are showing wear. Council recommended that the replacement glass be purchased. New stickers to post the hours when meter parking is in effect are also needed.

- Beginning this week, the Police Chief will send the police calls to the newspaper.
- Mayor Brosius recently swore in the Fire Police at their meeting. The council was provided with their annual report for 2007. Mayor Brosius thanked the Fire Police for the number of hours that they volunteered for the Borough. She also noted her thanks to the volunteers in the fire companies who ensure a safe community.

Mayor Brosius told the Boy Scouts that volunteers are needed in the Borough. The Fire Companies need volunteers to provide other services besides fighting fires. People are also needed to help in other capacities.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Ruane reported that the Code Office has conducted 31 rental inspections thus far. They are finding a number of violations, such as a lack of batteries in smoke detectors.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Rees announced that the committee will meet next Tuesday at 7:00 p.m.

Mr. Thomas Slodysko reported that he and Mr. Ruane have made a list of street work that they suggest be considered for work this year.

The Street Department will be working to install the new boat docks this spring. The crew has made a trailer using the old police trailer that will be used to install and remove the docks.

The crew has patched potholes and will continue this work when the cold weather breaks.

The borough crew will install a new water line into the Second Street building. There is currently a ½ inch meter at the building. The crew will also be installing a water heater in the building.

The tar buggy will be fired up this spring to repair streets.

Mr. Wolfe asked about the status of new street signs. Mr. Slodysko stated that he may need to find a new company to make the street signs. He has used budget money in the past to purchase posts, and “no parking” signs for throughout the Borough. Mr. Shoch will research the ordinance that prohibits truck parking on Borough streets.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

No report.

Emergency Services Board Report

Mr. Jim Troup reported that the Emergency Services Board met last evening. A topic of discussion was the lack of volunteers. The firemen spent 1620 man hours last year training. In addition to the training, the volunteers conduct fundraisers, golf tournaments, etc.

Mr. Troup invited the Boy Scouts who were in attendance to volunteer with the Fire Department as a way to serve the community. He explained that they have a Junior Firefighters group for anyone age 14 and over. Anyone wishing to volunteer should contact the Borough Office.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub announced that the committee will meet on February 26 at 7:00 p.m. Anyone interested in the playground, the Second Street project, and recreation is invited to attend.

Mr. Straub stated that anyone wishing to help choose colors for inside the building should remain after tonight's meeting.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the committee would not meet this month. Their next meeting will be in March.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger reported that the personnel committee met after the January 15th council meeting. They approved a wage increase for part-time officer Dave Donmoyer. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve a wage increase to \$16.64 per hour for Dave Donmoyer effective January 28, 2008. She noted that the Police Chief recommended the increase. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Mr. Straub questioned if an increase could be approved under the new contract. Mr. Shoch stated that the changes in the new contract went into effect in January of 2007. The motion was changed to include the contingency that the increase be acceptable under the new contract. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The committee received a letter from Greg Carl regarding the pool and met with him on January 22nd at 6:00 p.m. They were very pleased with his innovations and ideas of ways to improve the pool and activities to increase patronage at the pool.

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel announced that the committee would not meet this month.

Rules

Mr. Wolfe suggested that Ms. Lark meet with the mayor to determine if there are any issues for the committee to review.

Streets

Mr. Wolfe has received several complaints about the water that is pooling on Front Street at Prince Street. Mr. Slodysko spoke to PennDOT and was told that they have refused to address the problem. The property at the corner has a natural spring in the basement and the water is pumped out into the street and causes a problem when it freezes. Since PennDOT has paved the street, the water does not reach the catch basin.

Mayor Brosius asked if the water is still leaking on Orange Street between Priestley Avenue and Water Street. Mr. Ruane stated that the leak has been fixed.

Mayor Brosius noted that spouting on a house at Brickyard and Duke Street is coming out into the alley and creates ice at the bottom of Brickyard, posing a problem to motorists.

Old Business

1. The council had approved the request from Point Township to install four-way stop signs at Queen & 8th Streets and King & 8th Streets and to reduce the speed limit at these locations. There had been a question of the traffic study conducted by the township. Mr. Shoch will discuss the traffic study with Mr. Neitz.

New Business

1. Ms. Lark moved to approve the minutes of January 7 and January 15, 2008. Mr. Ditton seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Ms. Lark, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe, Mr. Ditton and Mrs. Groninger voted aye; Mr. Rees abstained. Motion passed 6-0 with one abstention.
2. Mr. Ditton moved to approve the payment of the bills. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve payment of the bills. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$24,297.19; Liberty Splashland bills total \$11.25; bills to be paid from the Parking Meter fund total \$117.90 and bills to be paid from the Second Street Grant total \$51,171.44.
3. Mr. Straub requested permission to attend a parks and recreation academy consisting of three evenings in March and April sponsored by DCNR. He asked that the Borough pay the \$75 fee and stated that he would pay for his transportation. Mr. Wolfe so moved. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Ms. Lark acknowledged the email from Kim King, of the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library. Ms. King requested permission for the library to use the King Street Park to host the “Bug Mobile” in July. Ms. Lark moved to approve the request. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mayor Brosius noted that the street department has difficulty plowing on Elliott Drive because residents park on both sides of the street. The office will send letters to the residents, requesting that they park on one side of the street during snow storms so the plows can get through. Mr. Wetzel had phone calls from residents on Riverview about residents from Washington Avenue parking on Riverview during snow storms. It was noted that there are no restrictions to parking on Riverview.

Mr. Ditton moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
March 4, 2008

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

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

Roll Call

Council members in attendance were Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Charles “Bud” Ditton was absent due to illness.

The five visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

Dave Bogovich informed the council that the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company is in the process of filing a tax exempt request with the IRS and requested that the Borough provide a letter stating that the company is an entity of the Borough.

Middle Atlantic Inspections & Building Inspection Underwriters – Steve Merrick

Mr. Steve Merrick, an employee of MAI and BIU, introduced himself and told the council that he has been working with the Borough to conduct electrical inspections for new construction. Building Inspection Underwriters provides inspection service for both residential and commercial properties. Mr. Jerry Farro explained that when BIU conducts a commercial inspection, the company includes a fee for the Borough. The company provides all the paperwork and provides the permits. The Borough’s code officer would administer the paperwork. He provided the council with a contract, explaining that the contract binds the company to the Borough, but does not bind the Borough to the company. The contract also stipulates the amount of insurance coverage that is to be maintained by BUI. The Borough would receive 15% of the permit fee and may charge an additional administrative fee. The fee schedule is included in the contract. The fees are based on the square footage of the building. The cost is comparable to that of the Keystone COG. Four inspectors work for the company. Paul Ruane explained that the Keystone COG does not perform residential inspections, whereas, this company does. He also stated that the Borough receives no portion of the fee that is charged by the Keystone COG. Mr. Farro added that the company provides timely service, often same-day service. The company has people who are qualified in all disciplines and also has their own hearing board. Mr. Merrill added that he has been working in the Borough for the past year conducting electrical inspections and suggested that the council check into the residents’ satisfaction.

Mr. Wolfe asked the Rules Committee to review the contract and make a recommendation to the council.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius recognized Paul Geise for his service to the community. Mr. Geise recently passed away. Mayor Brosius commented that Mr. Geise was a friend to the borough, and asked that the following be read into the record, "For 60 plus years Mr. Geise volunteered as a firefighter and at least 50 plus years as a fire policeman. His smiling face and fine example will be sadly missed at many of our community events and we send our condolences to his family."

Mayor Brosius noted that the police report is provided to council.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that the Zoning Hearing Board has approved a request from Dave Snyder to renovate the Duke Street Hotel to an apartment house with three apartments. The property is located in the commercial district. There is off-street parking at the property. Mr. Snyder plans to repair the building.

Mr. Ruane requested that Mr. Shoch file a citation against a property owner who did not show for the inspections scheduled for his apartments.

Mr. Ruane stated that the code office is averaging 17 inspections a month. He noted that lack of smoke detectors and GFI receptacles are two violations that occur quite often. Depending upon the condition of the properties, the code office schedules the next inspection in one, two, or three years.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Slodysko has been exploring the possibility of making street signs. He has contacted several companies and is waiting to hear back from one. All signs must be made with a reflective material, per a new state law.

Mr. Slodysko has received a lower offer for the sealer material from a local company.

The crew is filling potholes and will soon be bringing out the street sweeper.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Lark reported that the Sewer Authority is proceeding with the corrective action plan so the moratorium can be lifted. Currently no permits are available. When the project goes out for bid, five permits will be made available. The bids will be out by the end of the month. Currently, no one is waiting for a sewer permit. The Sewer Authority owns the land at SUNCOM parking lot where the new pump station will be constructed. Ms. Lark stated that the property had been surveyed.

Emergency Services Board Report

Mr. Jim Troup reported that there is a vacant position on the Emergency Services Board. Mr. Henry Hullahen and Mr. Bob Sabol had volunteered. Mr. Wolfe replied that Mr.

Sabol brought to the council's attention that he is on the Zoning Board and, therefore, is not eligible to be on other committees. Mr. Troup replied that Mr. Hullihen is a retired police officer and he feels that he would be an asset to the board. Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Hullihen be invited to attend the work session on March 19 so council may meet him.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub reported that the committee met on February 26 and toured the Second Street building. The committee asked for a price to install plastic laminate on the walls instead of the fiberglass panel.

Mr. Straub moved that the council approve the four change orders that were presented by the architect. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. The change orders are 1. installation of hang fire-rated hung tile ceiling in the hallways for \$2,200.00; 2. addition of power wiring to the Electric Water Heater in the 1st floor janitor's closet for \$335.00; 3. removal of the painting of interior walls (credit of \$1,995.00); 4. use of plastic laminate wall panels in lieu of FRP panels in restrooms for \$625.00. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Finance Committee would be responsible for determining where the additional \$1,165 could be obtained. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe suggested looking into having a key card system instead of locks on the doors. Mr. Straub stated that he would check with the architect on pricing.

Mr. Troup asked why the council is considering renting out the building. Mayor Brosius explained that the plan is to use the building for a community center, with an area for the police department. A portion of the building may be rented to help pay for the expenses. Mr. Troup asked if there is a possibility of obtaining a room for the fire police/fire department/EMA. Mayor Brosius responded that a group has also requested room for a history museum. Mr. Wolfe added that the council wants feedback on the use of the building. The emphasis is not on renting the building, but there are a number of classrooms that could be rented to help pay the utilities. Mr. Straub explained that this \$400,000 grant is used for replacing the exterior doors and windows and renovating the four classrooms and restrooms at either end of the gym.

Finance

The committee will meet on March 20.

Personnel - No report

Public Safety - No report

Rules

Ms. Lark announced that the committee would meet at 6:00 p.m. on March 20th to review the flood management ordinance and the contract from BIU for inspections.

Streets

The Street Committee met last month. The work planned for this year is to replace storm drains and curbing on Sixth Street.

Old Business

1. The Borough has received a correspondence from PMRS regarding the uniform plan and the contribution rate. Mr. Shoch informed council that the police contract is completed, with the exception of the police retirement funding. PMRS will be contacted to meet with the solicitor to discuss the arbitration ruling.
2. Mayor Brosius asked about the dumpster located on the property at Queen and Water Streets. The property owner has told the code office that he would replace the dumpster with individual garbage cans. Mayor Brosius noted that the Rules Committee should review the ordinance which she believes states that a dumpster may not be situated in a front yard.

Mayor Brosius informed the code officer that there is a dumpster sitting on Wheatley Avenue, close to Fifth Street. Mr. Straub noted a dumpster that sits on Sheetz Avenue.

New Business

1. Mr. Straub moved to approve the minutes of February 5, 2008. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Wetzel moved to approve payment of the bills. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. An addition bill of \$346.64 for Eugene Brosius for a zoning hearing was added to the list of bills. Mr. Slodysko requested that the bill for Bradco Supply Co. be held until a credit is issued. Mr. Wetzel and Ms. Lark approved the changes to the bill list for the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$31,529.10; Liberty Splashland bills total \$32.63; Parking Meter bills total \$29.14; and bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center grant account total \$58,743.76.
3. Mr. Wolfe read a resolution provided by the Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs that expresses the Borough's opposition to Senate Bill 596. According to the PSAB, Senate Bill 596 strains municipal pension plans by stripping municipalities of their pension plans and creating a statewide local oversight board under the State Employee Retirement System. Mr. Wolfe moved, and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion to adopt Resolution B-2008. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Ann August has been examining the procedures for establishing a non-profit corporation for the Borough and committees to apply for grant funding that requires the recipients be a charitable corporation under §501 (c)(3). Information about establishing a non-profit corporation was provided to council. Mr. Wolfe tabled action until the council has more time to review the information.

5. Information about AmeriCorps was provided to the council. The agency provides an individual to work full-time, part-time, or for a summer position at a minimal cost to the Borough. Mr. Straub and Mr. Wetzel moved and seconded a motion to apply for a summer employee whose job description would include programming for the 2nd Street Community Center and special events such as Lemonade Day, the Corn Festival, and the basketball tournament. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way Days of Caring is scheduled for April 18 and 19. Mayor Brosius asked that Mr. Slodysko supervise the volunteers.
7. Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. Slodysko has had time to inspect the gazebo. Mr. Slodysko stated that the columns are beginning to twist. It was recommended that Feasters be contacted.
8. Mr. Slodysko has passed the pesticide course and is licensed to use pesticides in the Borough.
9. Mrs. Groninger noted that the police report is worthwhile reading. She said that a name that is mentioned frequently is our new officer Scott Boyd. He has made numerous traffic stops and security checks as recorded in the police report.
10. Chief Fink stated that the History Day committee would like to have open hearth cooking in the park. He requested permission to take up a portion of the sod for the hearth and replace it following the event. Mr. Wolfe replied that the burning ordinance does not apply to outdoor cooking.
11. Mr. Shoch noted that signs are required at each end of the designated streets in order to enforce the ordinance that prohibits truck parking on borough streets. Mr. Straub noted that for a first violation, a warning will be issued. Second and subsequent violations will result in a fine.
12. Mr. Shoch stated that a motion is required to advertise an ordinance that includes two additional streets where trucks may travel. Ms. Lark and Mrs. Groninger so moved and seconded. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
April 1, 2008

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 Judith H. Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius, Richard Shoch, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Jonathan Rees was absent.

President's Message

Mr. Wolfe read the following Proclamation:

Borough of Northumberland, Pennsylvania
Proclamation

April 3, 2008 is Charles "Bud" Ditton Day

Whereas, Charles "Bud" Ditton served faithfully on the Borough of Northumberland Council from 1999-2008, and

Whereas, Mr. Ditton helped improve the Borough through his commitment, insight and dedication,

Whereas, Mr. Ditton served the Borough with distinction, persuasion, detail and yes, feistiness to improve our community,

Whereas, Mr. Ditton who left his family, friends, and neighbors on March 8, 2008 to be in a better place after a courageous battle with cancer,

After having been born on April 3, 1939, and lived nearly sixty-nine years, Whereas, Mr. Ditton will be missed by all,

Now, therefore, The Borough of Northumberland does hereby proclaim
As

CHARLES "BUD" DITTON DAY

In the Borough of Northumberland on **Thursday, April 3, 2008**, his birthday.

Dated this 1st day of April 2008.

Mayor Gretchen H. Brosius

President Bryan M. Wolfe

Mr. Wolfe and Mrs. Groninger moved and seconded that the proclamation be approved. The proclamation was approved unanimously.

Election of Vice President

Mr. Straub nominated Jonathan Rees as Vice President. Mrs. Groninger seconded the nomination. Mr. Wetzel nominated Darvin Straub as Vice President. Ms. Lark seconded the nomination. Mrs. Groninger moved to close the nominations. Roll call vote was taken. Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger, and Ms. Lark voted for Mr. Rees; Mr. Wetzel voted for Mr. Straub. Mr. Rees was named Vice President.

Vacant Council Seat

Mr. Robert Long applied for the vacant council seat. The term will run through December 2009. Mr. Long stated that since his wife had been a council member, he is aware of the responsibilities of the office. Mrs. Groninger asked if Mr. Long would be available for meetings. He replied that he would. Mayor Brosius noted that Mr. Long has volunteered his time at numerous events and would be an asset to the Borough as a council member. Mr. Wolfe moved to appoint Mr. Long to the council. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimously approved.

Invocation

Mayor Brosius offered an Invocation.

New Committee Assignments

Mr. Wolfe announced the following new committee assignments:

Finance – new member Judy Groninger, joining Bryan Wolfe and Jonathan Rees

Personnel – new member Jonathan Rees, joining Judy Groninger and Bryan Wolfe

Community Development – new Bob Long, replacing Judy Groninger, joining Darvin Straub and Frank Wetzel

Public Safety – new member Bob Long, replacing Jonathan Rees, joining Frank Wetzel and Darvin Straub

Public Comment

Mr. Walter Baron introduced himself and explained that he was present to speak for Mr. Bart. Mr. and Mrs. Bart live at 33 Elliott Drive and have lived there for 33 years. The Bart's wish to have the yellow line that was painted on the curbing in front of their home removed. It was explained that the line was painted due to a safety issue. If a vehicle is parked along the curb that was painted yellow, anyone exiting a private driveway could not see oncoming traffic. Mr. Baron provided pictures to the council, showing where the Bart's parked their car along the edge of their driveway. Mrs. Groninger stated that a number of years ago, the Borough made a decision not to paint driveways. However, since this problem was brought to their attention, the council voted to paint this driveway. She added that no one may park in front of a driveway, including the property owner. Mr. Baron also stated that the owners of the private drive had paved a portion of the Bart's property when the driveway was repaved. Mr. Shoch requested that Mr. Baron leave their information with the council. He added that the issue of the encroachment of the driveway is a private matter. Mayor Brosius stated that Elliot Drive is not wide enough for two cars to pass if someone is parked along the curb in this development.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the council would discuss the issue in Executive Session.

Executive Session

The council adjourned to an executive session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss legal issues. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 7:45 p.m. No action was required.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that Chief Fink has researched options for posting signs in the school zone areas at C. W. Rice Middle School and the Northumberland Christian School. Mr. Shoch recommended that PennDOT be contacted for information. Mayor Brosius recommended that the Public Safety Committee address the topic at their April meeting so that the signs can be in place before the next school year. Chief Fink will contact PennDOT to obtain the requirements for school zones. Mr. Shoch stated that the information required would include the length of the school zones. Mayor Brosius added that an ordinance may be required to designate the area.

Chief Fink reported that the Fire Police have expressed an interest in obtaining the old police radios. Council approved.

Matthew Godlewski, a Borough resident, has requested the opportunity to be a police intern. Chief Fink stated that the current intern, Jason Raynes, will soon complete his internship.

Mr. Wetzel asked if the police plan to have DUI checkpoints this year. Chief Fink replied that they plan to do so, in addition to the Safe Driver program.

The police department accreditation report has been given to the solicitor to review.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the activity for Code Office for the past month. The police have been reporting violations at rental properties to the Code Office. The Code Office then sends letters to the property owner to inform them that the police were at their property. It's up to the landlord to contact the police if they would like additional information.

Ms. Lark stated that the Rules Committee reviewed the proposal from the Building Inspection Underwriters, Inc. The committee recommends that the council appoint the company to conduct commercial inspections and as a backup for Paul Ruane for residential inspections. Ms. Lark made this motion. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Thomas Slodysko reported that the street department is currently building the retaining wall at the playground. He has contracted the work to grind out the large tree stump that was located in the playground. Two storm pipes that run through the playground will be replaced.
- The floor in the bucket truck will be replaced for \$500.

- The crew will be working on the storm drains on Sixth Street. The Sewer Authority will camera the storm drains along with their sewer lines.
- Mr. Slodysko reported that there have been problems with the pond in King Street Park. A number of fish had died. To determine the cause, Mr. Slodysko had the water tested and it is not contaminated.
- Mr. Slodysko noted that he is waiting to hear the legal wording for the street signs to limit truck traffic on borough streets.
- Mr. Slodysko has been working with Greg Carl to get the pool ready for the season.
- The crew has been conducting spring cleanup at the various borough properties.
- Mr. Slodysko addressed the landscaping on Sheetz Avenue along the basketball court at the 2nd Street Playground. He stated that the spindly green bushes make it difficult to cut the grass and would like to remove them.
- The company that sprays the trees will be contacted to spray the fruit trees in the downtown area.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Lark reported that the authority is in the process of working with DEP on their project of increasing the capacity of the pump station on Queen Street and increasing the size of the force main from the pump station to the plant.

Emergency Services Board Report

The council met with Henry Hullihen who has volunteered to serve as a resident-at-large on the Board. Ms. Lark and Mr. Straub moved and seconded that Mr. Hullihen be appointed to the Emergency Services Board to replace Eben Gibbs. The term will expire in 2011. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mrs. Lark moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded a motion to accept Mr. Gibbs’s resignation with deepest regret. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub announced that the committee would meet on April 22nd at 7:00 p.m. (Note: The meeting was postponed to April 29th, due to Election Day.)

Finance

Mr. Wolfe reported that the committee met two weeks ago. He added that the Borough did not have to borrow money for the first three months. The tax money has started coming in.

Personnel

Mr. Wolfe noted that Ann Roll’s position on the Appeal’s Board has expired. Mr. Wetzel moved to reappoint Mrs. Roll to the Appeals Board for the term ending January 31, 2011. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel announced that the committee would meet on April 22nd at 6:30 p.m. (Note: The committee did not meet due to Election Day.)

Rules

Ms. Lark announced that the committee would meet on April 15th at 6:00 and will begin meeting on the third Tuesday of each month at 6:00 p.m. until further notice.

Streets

Mrs. Groninger announced that the committee would hold their regularly scheduled meeting on April 8 at 7:00 p.m.

Old Business

1. AmeriCorps – The office was informed that summer positions through AmeriCorps have all been filled. A representative from AmeriCorps will be meeting with borough personnel on April 3 at 10:00 a.m. to discuss the possibility of a part-time position. The part-time positions run from August to July.
2. Representatives from Benecon are scheduled to meet on Friday, April 4 at 1:00 p.m. with Borough personnel to discuss the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative.
3. Representatives from PMRS are working on a resolution for the Borough regarding the Police Pension plan and the members' contribution. They will meet with borough personnel on April 11 at 10:00 p.m.
4. Mr. Straub stated that at the last work session, he requested that the council consider joining Sunbury and Point Township in an application for a recycling grant to purchase a belt shredder to process yard waste.

Mr. Straub moved to approve the allocation of \$2,500 to \$3,000 as one fourth of the 10% match for a belt shredder to process yard waste to be shared with Sunbury and Point Township. Sunbury will match one half of the 10% and Point Township will match the other quarter. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

5. Mr. Straub and Mr. Slodysko have discussed conducting brush pickups through the summer months. Mr. Straub moved to begin the pickup in May. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – Mr. Straub, Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe, Ms. Lark, and Mr. Long voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion passed 5-1.
6. Articles for the Spring issue of the Pineknottter News are due on April 4.

New Business

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve payment of bills. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$33,767.69; bills to be paid from the Parking Meter account total \$1,515.60; bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center Grant total \$32,347.63; Liberty Splashland bills total \$197.36; and bills to be paid from the Norry Playground Fund total \$876.20.

2. Ms. Lark moved to approve the American Red Cross request to use Liberty Splashland on June 16-27 and July 4, 2008 at a cost of \$600. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Greg Carl presented a request to advertise Liberty Splashland on a billboard along Route 11, near the railroad underpass. He explained to the council that the pool would utilize the billboard during the summer months and that the space could be rented to local businesses during the remaining months. Mr. Carl suggested that the rent be set at \$600 for 2 months. He also requested permission to have two trees removed at the location where the billboard will be erected. The cost to have a professional tree service remove the tree is \$1,200. Mr. Carl suggested that the pool could contribute \$400 toward the tree removal with the additional funding coming from the advertising fee. The cost for the billboard sign is around \$400. Mr. Carl would also like to add space at the bottom of the billboard to display banners advertising various events such as Pineknotters' Days, Lemonade Day, etc.

Ms. Lark moved to approve the billboard for Liberty Splashland, per Mr. Carl's request. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous.

4. M. David Hummel, Northumberland County Field Assessor, requested that the Borough refund overpayment of taxes of \$534.98 for the past six years on two parcels owned by James R. and Velma M. Malloy. According to Mr. Hummel, when the properties were assessed in the mid 1990's, they were assessed with basements. After recently examining the properties, it was found that they were built on concrete slabs. Mr. Wetzel moved that the Borough refund the requested tax amount of \$534.98 to the Malloy's. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion ensued regarding how many years of back taxes are required to be refunded. Mr. Shoch noted that the limitation for permit fees is three years. Roll call vote: Ms. Lark, Mr. Long, and Mr. Wetzel voted aye; Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, and Mrs. Groninger voted nay. The question arose as to whether or not the Mayor may break a tie in matters concerning finances. Mr. Shoch will research the issue. Since the vote was a 3-3 tie, the motion died. Mr. Wolfe requested that Mr. Shoch also determine how many years of back taxes must be reimbursed to the property owners.
5. Penn Valley Airport has requested that the Borough contribute the budgeted amount of \$600 as soon as possible. Council approved that the donation be sent.
6. Mr. Straub stated that he was approached by a citizen asking why the Borough does not have a Senior Citizen rate for Liberty Splashland passes. Sunbury, Milton, and Lewisburg have senior citizen rates for annual passes. It was noted that the Liberty Splashland has a daily senior citizen rate of \$2.00, which is half the regular rate. A 10% discount is offered to anyone who purchases the passes before May 15. Mr. Straub moved to establish a \$50 rate for senior citizen passes, with no early purchase discount. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Straub and Mr. Wetzel voted aye. Mr. Long, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark voted nay. Motion failed 2-4.

7. Mayor Brosius asked if PennDOT worked on Duke Street this weekend. Mr. Ruane stated that they did some work close to the underpass.
8. Mayor Brosius noted that the Borough has cited two property owners for work that was done by the Borough to put the properties in compliance with the ordinances. Discussion ensued about putting liens on the properties.
9. Mr. Ruane read a plaque that was presented to the Borough from FEMA for participating in the National Flood Insurance Program Community Rating System.

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
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
May 6, 2008

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order.

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Cynthia Lark, Robert Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan M. Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Richard Shoch, Borough Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police, Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Judith Groninger was absent due to illness.

Public Comment

Mr. Bob Troxell noted that the guard rails on the King Street bridge between 7th Street and 8th Street are unsafe. He would like to see the repairs made so no one gets hurt.

Mr. Troxell questioned when the owner of the property at 7th and Orange Streets must clean up the property and install sidewalks. He said that there is an unlicensed truck and garbage in the backyard. Mr. Ruane stated that he may not enter private property and is not aware of violations that he cannot see from the street. Mr. Troxell gave Mr. Ruane permission to go on his property to view the neighbor's backyard. Mr. Wolfe stated that he would like the Borough to install the sidewalks where property owners haven't complied and put a lien on the properties.

Mr. Troxell questioned why a borough truck is being used for personal use. He stated that he has seen a borough employee driving the truck after working hours. He also asked why the Borough signs are not on the sides of the truck.

In response to Mr. Troxell's questions, Mr. Wolfe moved that for every property that is not up to compliance with the sidewalk ordinance within sixty days, the Borough will have new sidewalks installed and put liens on the properties. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the personnel issue would be discussed in Executive Session.

Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative

Robin Richardson, representing the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative, explained the purchase of health insurance through modified self-funding arrangements.

She noted that with this insurance, the Borough would have the benefits of self-funding without the risks. Instead of belonging to a health insurance carrier, the claims fund belongs to the Borough. The insurance and administration is through Capital Blue Cross. The insurance works the same for the employee as if they had a fully-insured capital Blue Cross policy. There are currently over 100 municipalities in the cooperative. Instead of a Health Maintenance Organization (HMO) like Geisinger Health Plan, the insurance would be a Preferred Provider Organization (PPO). Ms. Richardson explained that the increase in annual renewals is about 5-10%. Ms. Richardson added that the company requires a 30 day notice to establish the insurance plan for the group. An ordinance and agreement must be signed. However, this may be done during the 30 day period. GHP also requires a 30 day cancellation notice. If the Borough changes plans on July 1, the minimum savings would be \$5,796.72 for the Borough and Sewer Authority. If the claims are as predicted, the savings would be over \$23,000. Mr. Wolfe stated that the new policy must be presented to the unions. This plan is equal to or better than the current plan. Mr. Wolfe requested a letter be sent to the union representatives. In addition to full-time employees, retired police officers may remain on the insurance plan. Borough officials may also obtain health insurance through the cooperative.

Ms. Lark and Mr. Wetzel moved and seconded that the Borough change its health insurance provider to the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative on July 1st, contingent upon the unions' reviews. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

Executive Session

The meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. Mr. Wolfe reconvened the meeting at 7:44 p.m. Personnel and litigation issues were discussed. No action was required.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane stated that he appreciates the information from Mr. Troxell and will check on the property at 7th and Orange Streets. Mr. Ruane added that the Code Office has been working on property maintenance issues, but it is difficult to see into some backyards because the Code Officer may not go on private property without permission. The rental inspections are going well. The Code Office sends reports to landlords whenever the police are called to their property.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the authority is moving on their pump station project.

Emergency Services Board Report

Mayor Brosius reported that the Board did meet last night. No one from the Board was present at the council meeting to provide additional information.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that she attended a D.A.R.E. class with Chief Fink.

This Friday, Chief Fink reported that Lt. Dave Peifer from the Delaware County D.A. office will show officers how to put on a demonstration about Internet Crimes Against

Children (ICAC). Lt. Peifer will be at the C.W. Rice Middle School at 1:30 on Friday to present the program to those students.

Alex Nichols, a criminal justice major attending Temple University, has requested to be an intern with the police department. Mr. Rees and Mr. Long moved and seconded to approve the request. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor Brosius attended a work session regarding gangs and drugs that are coming into the area. The meeting was held by a group of boroughs in the Columbia-Montour County area.

The community clean-up on April 18 and 19 was successful. The Greater Susquehanna Valley United Way volunteers from the Daily Item worked at the railroad underpass on Friday, the 18th, and student volunteers from Susquehanna University assisted at Liberty Splashland on Saturday, the 19th.

The 2nd Street Community Center Yard Sale has been postponed until the workers are out of the building.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub has attended a seminar conducted by DCNR in Enola.

The committee will meet on May 27th at 8:00 p.m. At the last meeting the committee decided to contact several colleges to learn if there would be interest holding in off-campus classes in the building. The painting in the building will be done by volunteers.

The playground committee is determining how to display the bricks that will be purchased for the playground at 2nd Street. Mayor Brosius stated that she would be meeting with Noelle Long to review the engraving for the bricks.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the committee will meet in June and begin the 2009 budget in August.

Personnel

No report

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that the committee would meet this month to discuss the school zones and a neighborhood crime watch program.

Mayor Brosius asked if a sub-committee of the Emergency services Board could meet on the fourth Monday of each month in the Borough Building. Currently, no one meets here on that day.

Rules

Ms. Lark announced that the committee will meet on May 20th.

Streets

Mr. Rees stated that the committee will meet next week to discuss the King Street bridge. Mr. Straub stated that this bridge is owned by the county and that they had been asked to look at it several years ago. Mayor Brosius stated that Mr. Gallo had contacted her about the brush that is building up along the creek in this area. Mr. Wolfe stated that there are places throughout the Borough that are unopened alleys. The county engineering office will be contacted about the bridge.

Mr. Ruane reported that the water company will be repairing the water line on Orange Street between Water Street and Priestley Avenue. They will repave the streets.

Old Business

1. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Ordinance 2008-2. Mr. Long seconded the motion. This ordinance adds Strawbridge Road and Prince Street from Strawbridge Road to Front Street as streets designated for truck traffic. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. AmeriCorps
The Borough has applied for a person to work part-time, beginning in August for one year. The job description is to develop programming at the 2nd Street Community Center and to enlist volunteers.
3. PennDOT Traffic Unit has provided information regarding school zones. The Public Safety Committee will review the information from PennDOT.
4. The Rules Committee recommends that the ordinance addressing bicycles, skateboards, scooters, etc. be amended to include the Second Street Playground and to designate the hours when the playground is open from sunrise to sunset. Ms. Lark so moved and Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve.
5. Mr. Wolfe noted that Andrew Bart has requested that the Borough remove the yellow line that was painted on the curb in front of his driveway. Mr. Wolfe added that since the crew painted the line, it has been learned that the yellow line is not necessary because it is illegal to park in front of a driveway according to the vehicle code.

New Business

1. Ms. Lark moved to approve the minutes of the March 4, 2008 council meeting. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – Mr. Wolfe, Ms. Lark, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, and Mr. Wetzel voted aye; Mr. Long abstained. Motion passed 5-0 with one abstention.
2. Mr. Wolfe moved to approve payment of bills, including a bill for fencing for the 2nd Street Playground. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote

– All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$53,700.13; Liberty Splashland bills total \$4,335.58; bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center Grant are \$69,079.80; and Norry Playground bills are \$4,627.91.

3. Mr. Rees moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to adopt Resolution B-2008. This resolution approved Janice Bowman as the designated signer for the DCNR grant signature page. The grant request is for the gymnasium and multi-purpose room at the 2nd Street Community Center.
4. Ms. Lark and Mr. Wetzel moved and seconded Resolution C-2008. This resolution authorizes Bryan Wolfe, Jonathan Rees, Jane Sanders-Ressler, and Janice Bowman to be signers for the bank accounts at the Northumberland National Bank.
5. Mr. Long moved and Mr. Rees seconded the transfer of the 2008 budgeted amount of funding to Liberty Splashland. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. The Degenstein Foundation has offered to sponsor “Music in the Park” by Billy D. and Rosie for several Friday and Saturday evenings this summer. The group will be playing in other towns as well. The Degenstein Foundation will advertise the dates. Mr. Straub will check on the Pineknott Days schedule for the 4th of July and the Degenstein Foundation will be contacted with a response for requested dates.
7. Mr. Wolfe moved to put the gazebo work out for bids, with the condition that the Borough may reject all bids. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. The bids will be due on July 15th. Wolfe Associates has been asked to provide the specifications for the bid. Roll call vote – All ayes.
8. Mr. Wolfe noted that the council will hold regular meetings twice in June, June 3 and June 24. The July council meeting will be on July 15. No work sessions will be held either month.
9. Mr. Rees asked about the status of the ordinance for the stop signs on 8th Street. Mr. Shoch stated that the council is waiting for a traffic study from Point Township. The council has not voted to advertise the ordinance.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
June 3, 2008

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

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and Council member Darvin Straub offered an Invocation.

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mayor Gretchen Brosius, Council members Robert Long, Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel were absent.

Public Comment

Ms. Tamara Runyan informed the council about two separate attacks by cats, one on her cat and one on her dog. Ms. Runyan attended the work session on May 20th and requested that the council adopt an ordinance addressing the cat issue. A sample ordinance has been obtained from the Borough's Association. The Rules Committee will review the ordinance and make a recommendation.

Council member Frank Wetzel arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Executive Session

The meeting was adjourned at 7:18 p.m. for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 7:35 p.m. Mr. Wolfe stated that, as discussed in the Executive Session, based on some issues that have occurred with some employees, the council is reprimanding them and docking their pay. He requested a motion to send letters to the employees stating the reasons for the reprimand and council's actions. Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark so moved and seconded. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Tom Slodysko thanked the council for their concern over his surgery several weeks ago.

He reported that the Street Department has been maintaining the grass on Borough property and repairing streets, noting the work that was done at the end of the Old Danville Highway.

Equipment was not available last week in order to work on the playground. The work will continue when the equipment is available.

Mr. Slodysko stated that he will be out of town on Friday and Monday.

The Street Department collected three full dump truck loads of yard waste this week. Several people had not conformed to the guidelines in the newsletter so those items were not picked up. The next pickup is in two weeks. At that time, yard waste will be picked up along the numbered streets in the Borough.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that over 100 rental inspections have been conducted so far this year. The new owner of the former Duke Street hotel has been renovating the building and improving the property.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark reported that the Authority's pump station project has been put out for bid. Once the project is completed, the moratorium on the new sewer permits will be lifted.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Darvin Straub reported that the committee met with two representatives from Point Township to discuss a joint recreation committee. The LARA agreement has been obtained to review.

Wilkes University has an appointment to see the 2nd Street Building on August 15th and Bloomsburg University would like to see the classrooms as soon as they are completed. The classrooms will be completed by the end of June except for the painting. One contractor has been contacted to submit an estimate for the painting. Another option is to have volunteers paint the rooms.

Mr. Straub stated that a realtor told him that the rooms are not rentable for offices because of the playground. He asked if a realtor should be contacted about the Borough building for rental purposes or to sell it. Council discussed the possible use of the building and maintenance of the property.

Mr. Wolfe suggested holding the July 15th council meeting at the 2nd Street building. Council will meet on June 24th, July 15th (at 2nd Street), and August 5th.

Mr. Straub stated that the job progress meeting will be held on Thursday morning at 9:00 a.m.

The Anselmo Trust Fund and Savidge Trust have donated funding to the Borough for a scoreboard for use at Pineknotted Park. Since the cost estimates for the scoreboard are in excess of \$10,000, the Borough must put the item out for bid. Mr. Shoch advised that if the trustees of the funds would prefer to purchase the scoreboard, they could do so and donate the item to the Borough instead of the money.

Ms. Lark moved to put the scoreboard out for bid, or have the trust funds purchase and donate the scoreboard. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub announced that the next committee meeting would be on July 22. The June meeting is cancelled since the council will hold a regular meeting that evening.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Financial Statement for 2007 has been received from the auditor. Mr. Wolfe advised that the council would vote to accept the audit at the June 24th meeting. He noted that the audit states that the Borough's financial condition is strong, and that the Borough is well within its debt covenants and the more stringent financial policies and guidelines set by the Board and management.

The committee will meet on June 19th at 6:30 p.m. The 2009 budget process will begin in September.

Personnel – No report

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel reported that the committee would meet on June 24th at 6:00 p.m. He will have an article for the newsletter about the Neighborhood Crime Watch.

Gary Wolfe has been contacted to recommend what should be done to repair the gazebo in King Street Park. He has looked at the structure and will have a recommendation for the June 24th meeting.

Rules

Ms. Lark reported that the committee would meet on June 15th at 6:00 p.m. The Flood Mitigation Ordinance will be reviewed. There are several items in the ordinance that have options. However, Mr. Shoch has recommended that the Borough adopt the ordinance as proposed by DCED. The provisions are more strict than those of the options. Ms. Lark moved to advertise the Flood Mitigation Ordinance as written with a vote to be taken on June 24th. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub and the Borough Secretary met with representatives from DEP to discuss a recycling grant. DEP has a new provision for municipalities when applying for the recycling grants. Municipalities must require residents to have proof of trash removal for their property. An ordinance is required to make an amendment to Chapter 59. Mr. Straub moved to add an amendment to the waste ordinance requiring that residents maintain receipts or weigh slips. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

The committee will review information obtained on an ordinance to address animals allowed to run loose in the Borough.

Streets – No report

Police Report

Chief Fink reported that the department held a DUI checkpoint in May. Two DUI arrests, one illegal alien arrest, and several traffic violations were noted.

Chief Fink recently attended a seminar about a new wireless speed device. He explained that the officer may be up to one quarter of a mile ahead of the vehicle and be able to determine the speed of the vehicle. The device requires only one person to operate it and costs \$4,000. Chief Fink added that he could arrange for a demonstration for the council.

Old Business

1. Ms. Lark moved to change the Health Insurance provider to the Pennsylvania Municipal Health Insurance Cooperative beginning in August, 2008. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. The police and Teamster unions have approved the change. The Teamster Union has requested that the contract provision regarding health insurance coverage be reviewed. Roll call vote – All ayes.

New Business

1. Mr. Wolfe moved to approve the minutes of the April 1, 2008 council meeting. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Wolfe moved to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2008 council meeting. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Wetzel, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark abstained because they were not present for that meeting. Motion passed 3-0-2.
3. Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark moved and seconded the payment of the bills. Roll call vote to approve was unanimous. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$28,828.70; Liberty Splashland bills total \$7,942.56; Norry Playground bills total \$999.09; Parking Meter Fund bills total \$100.60; and Shade Tree Fund bills total \$1,150.
4. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve a transfer of \$1,000 to the Shade Tree Fund. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
5. Mr. Wetzel and Mr. Straub moved and seconded to approve a contribution of \$1,000 to the Riverview Cemetery. Roll call vote – All ayes.
6. Mr. Wolfe plans to look into a website company for municipalities. Mrs. Groninger complimented Mr. Wolfe for the website that he created for the Borough.
7. Mrs. Groninger asked when the pole would be installed at the playground for the camera equipment. Mr. Straub stated that Mr. Slodysko is trying to obtain the equipment to prepare the area. Mrs. Groninger asked if signs for playground have been ordered. Noelle Long is looking into ordering the signs.

8. Mr. Wetzel asked why some people throughout the Borough are not required to have sidewalks. Mr. Wolfe explained that the committee had reviewed the entire town and determined the integrity of the property and if it would be feasible to install sidewalks in some locations. Seventh Street, above Orange Street, and areas along the upper side of Prince Street were two areas that were noted as not being feasible due to the contour of the land.
9. Mr. Wetzel asked if the Police Department has considered alternative ways to reduce the gas consumption. He commented that other Police Departments are patrolling on bicycles. Mr. Wolfe added that it may be beneficial to look into a hybrid vehicle for the department.

Mr. Wetzel moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
June 24, 2008

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Robert Long, Jonathan Rees, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Clifford Kriner, Police Sergeant; Paul Ruane, Street Supervisor; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Councilman Darwin Straub was out of town.

Public Comment

Mr. Walter Baran commented that he has met the street supervisor and has learned that the yellow paint on the curbing along Elliott Drive at the Bart's property will be removed. Mr. Slodysko stated that he will check at Sherwin Williams to see if there is a product that can remove the paint.

Mrs. Groninger noted that several years ago, the Borough crew painted driveways yellow at the request of the property owner. Due to the time required, the crew no longer paints the curbs. The crew does paint curbing next to intersections at alleys. Mr. Wolfe stated that the Bart's have requested that the paint be removed. Discussion ensued.

Mr. Wolfe moved to remove the paint on the curb by June 27th. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All aye.

Members of Boy Scout Troop 342 and their troop leaders were present. They are working on their Communications Badge.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that some area mayors and police chiefs have met to exchange ideas regarding drugs and gangs in our communities.

Mayor Brosius thanked the individuals who are volunteering their time in the King Street Park. She thanked Terry Miller for donating flowers for around the gazebo and at the Girl Scout House. Volunteers will be planting them.

The Revitalization Committee is purchasing a new sign to be erected at the underpass. The sign says, "Welcome to Northumberland. Home of the Pineknotters." The committee will

be selling postcards designed by Barbara Kistner depicting four different scenes in Northumberland. The committee has also made a contribution to the playground fund for benches at the 2nd Street Playground.

Mayor Brosius thanked Ann and Bill Roll for planting the flower pots in the downtown area.

The Sunbury City Band will be in the King Street Park on July 14th at 7:00 p.m. Other dates for Music in the Park may be found on the borough website or in the Pineknotted News.

Mr. Wolfe received an email from a resident requesting that the signs prohibiting jake brakes be moved in order to be more visible. Chief Fink stated that he has spoken with the resident. He added that the police do cite violators who use jake brakes in the Borough.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the Code Enforcement Office activity for the past month. The Code Officers have submitted a letter to the council with several issues that concern them. Mrs. Groninger stated that the Code Officers need the solicitor to specifically advise them. Mr. Rees stated that the solicitor should be asked if the Code Office should put liens on properties or they could submit the unpaid bills to a collection agency.

Mayor Brosius stated that the Borough is fortunate to have the people who work in the Code Office. In addition to Paul Ruane, the Code Officers are Al Derr and Ann Roll.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the log house on Queen Street must be removed. Mr. Wetzel moved that the log house on Queen Street be removed by August 1, 2008. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Thomas Slodysko reported that the Street Department cleaned up tree limbs and brush that had come down during the storm. They have cleaned the lights in the King Street Park and downtown streets.
- Mr. Slodysko has purchased a Case Loader for \$23,700. Ninety percent of this cost will be reimbursed by recycling grant funds. Allenwood Equipment is servicing the loader.
- Mr. Slodysko has looked at bucket trucks to replace the one we currently own. There is an auction this week and he has also located one near Harrisburg.
- The new street signs will be installed soon.
- The Sunbury Municipal Authority is bringing their flush truck over to clean out storm drains that are blocked. A storm pipe on Madison Avenue empties into a yard. Mr. Slodysko stated that there are numerous storm drainage problems in the Borough.
- The pool is holding water, except for evaporation. The first electronic controller for chlorine has been installed.
- Mr. Slodysko noted that the wooden playground structure at Pineknotted Park should be repaired. Council discussed applying for grant funds to replace the equipment. Mr. Wolfe moved to remove the playground structure at Pineknotted

Park and actively pursue grants for a new structure. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report - No report.

Emergency Services Board Report - No report.

Mr. Wolfe noted that the Finance Committee discussed the funding budgeted for the Fire Department. \$30,000 is to be in the budget for the truck payment and \$5,000 for other apparatus, to be put into an account for future purchases.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Several Borough officials and employees were present for the walk-thru at the 2nd Street Community Center. This phase of the renovations is almost complete. The architect has requested that council approve the following Change Orders for the renovations: \$1,920 from the General Contractor for the repair/replacement of the porch roof near the basketball court; \$150 from the Electrical Contractor for the installation of a fixture and related work for the porch roof; \$1,944 for repair at the new Electrical panels; and \$2,790 change order credit for the elimination of heating units in the stairs. Mr. Long moved to approve the change orders; Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Finance

Mr. Rees moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion to approve the 2007 Audit. Discussion ensued. Mr. Rees asked why the headings on two columns on page 5 were both “2005”. It appears that the columns should be titled 2006 and 2007. The address was listed as Second and Wheatley instead of 221 Second Street. Another question was what comprised the “other taxes” listed on page 8 under general revenues. Mr. Wolfe asked if Mr. Rees would like to remove his motion from the table until the questions are answered. The motion was withdrawn.

Mr. Rees also asked about a breakdown for the pool receipts. The Borough Office can provide those figures.

Mr. Rees asked what the interest rate is for the Penn Vest loan. The rate increased this year, the exact percentage was not known. [Note: The interest rate is currently 2.774%.]

Mr. Rees stated that it is not necessary for the auditor to attend a meeting; just to provide the answers to the questions.

Mr. Wolfe announced that the budget process would begin in September.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger reported that the committee met to address a grievance from the Teamsters. The committee will meet with union representatives on July 8th.

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel stated that Gary Wolfe has submitted an opinion for repairs to the gazebo in King Street Park. The committee will review the options and make a recommendation. It is not felt that there is an immediate danger.

Mr. Wetzel stated that the committee feels that the green signs for the school zone would be preferred over the lit school zone signs. The speed bumps are also being considered.

Mr. Harry Wynn attended the committee meeting to discuss a safety issue with trucks traveling down Prince Street. He is concerned that an accident could occur during inclement weather. He also noted that trucks do not come to a complete stop at the stop sign on Prince Street at Strawbridge Road.

Rules

Flood Mitigation Ordinance

Ms. Lark moved and Mr. Long seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 2008-3. This ordinance requires all persons, partnerships, businesses and corporations to obtain a building permit for any construction or development; providing for the issuance of such building permits;

The committee is working on an ordinance to address cats, which provides for similar requirements as the dog ordinance.

An ordinance to include DEP's new requirement for recordkeeping by property owners to provide proof of trash pickup is under consideration. This provision is a requirement to be eligible for future recycling grants. This ordinance would amend Chapter 59 of the Borough Code. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Long moved and seconded to advertise the ordinance. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Streets

Ms. Lark moved to send a letter to PennDOT requesting that they pave Duke Street since it is in poor condition. A request should be included that PennDOT notify all utilities when the work is scheduled. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. An addition to the motion was to send a copy of the letter to Representative Phillips. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe conducted the bid opening for the Scoreboard for Pineknott Park. Two bids were received. The first bid totaling \$19,525 was from Institutional Specialties, Inc. The second bid from Electro-Mech Scoreboards totaled \$13,686. Mr. Wolfe moved to accept the bid from Electro Mech Scoreboards with the stipulation that all funding come from the ball teams' resources. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Mayor Brosius asked if this price included installation. Instructions are included with the bid; however installation is in addition to the bid price. \$12,000 in grant funds have been received with an additional \$4,000 pledged to be donated

in September. The Legion team also plans to have various fund raisers during the tournament at Pineknott Park in July. Roll call vote – All ayes.

New Business

1. Ms. Lark and Mr. Wetzel moved and seconded approval of the minutes of the June 3, 2008 council meeting. Roll call vote: Mr. Wetzel, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger, and Ms. Lark voted aye; Mr. Rees and Mr. Long abstained. Motion passed 4-0 with 2 abstentions.
2. Mr. Long moved to approve payment of the bills. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$40,385.73; Norry Playground Fund bills total \$43.58; bills to be paid from the 2nd Street Community Center Grant total \$10,055.55; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$6,130.84.
3. Mr. Long moved to approve contributions of \$1,000 to the Revitalization Committee and \$2,500 to the Priestley-Forsyth Memorial Library. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
4. Mrs. Groninger noted that the hill section of the Borough was once again without water during a power outage. Mrs. Groninger moved that a letter be sent to the PUC in regards to the lack of fire protection due to no water service during power outages. The Pennsylvania American Water Company has not utilized a generator during power outages as promised. Copies of the letter should be sent to the Pennsylvania American Water Company and Representative Phillips. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. The water company was to construct a new water tower in the township. The status of the new tower is not known.
5. Mr. Long requested permission to purchase 10 tables for approximately \$900 with the funding from the special events budget. Mr. Wolfe stated that the tables could be purchased since the money for them was budgeted.
6. Ms. Lark asked if the Borough still has a bike and if an officer uses it. Chief Fink replied that the police will be patrolling on the bike during Pineknott Days.
7. Mayor Brosius read a letter from Helen Hummel concerning a group of signs that were posted along Route 11 near the bridge. The signs included church signs, the Kiwanis Club sign and were attached to a large piece of wooden lattice. The entire lattice frame and signs are missing. A police report has been filed but no one knows what has happened to the signs.
8. Mr. Wolfe asked if the police have considered purchasing a hybrid car for the new police vehicle. Mr. Wetzel stated that Harrisburg just purchased a whole fleet of hybrid SUV's and cars. Chief Fink stated that the police planned to purchase a Dodge Durango. Mr. Wolfe requested that they obtain pricing for a hybrid. Mrs. Groninger asked that the council be

provided with the additional costs required to install the radio and additional features. Mrs. Groninger noted that the funding available totals \$15,600. (The parking meter fund and insurance money total \$5,602.86 and the budgeted amount for capital purchases is \$10,000.) In addition to this funding for the vehicle is the money obtained through the sale of the Ford Explorer. Mrs. Groninger asked that the police check what the backlog on the hybrid vehicles would be and if the hybrid vehicle could be purchased through the piggyback program.

9. Mr. Wolfe announced that the insurance premium for the 2nd Street building will increase to \$4,805.60 with the increase of coverage to \$615,000. The former premium was \$3,398.62 with coverage of \$219,000.
10. Chief Fink and Sergeant Kriner presented a proposal to the council to increase hours for a part-time officer in order to utilize one of the full-time officers as a drug officer for 32 hours each week. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wolfe recommended that the finance committee review the budget to determine if funding can be located for the additional hours.

The council meeting was adjourned for an Executive Session at 9:15 p.m. to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 9:22 p.m. Mr. Wolfe stated that personnel issues were discussed and no action was required.

Mr. Wolfe adjourned the council meeting at 9:23 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
July 15, 2008

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 Cynthia Lark, Robert Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

The three visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

No comments were offered.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius noted that the police log is provided to the council members. She thanked the police department and their committee for a successful soapbox race. This was the ninth year for the race.

Mayor Brosius commended the volunteers who helped during Pineknotters' Days. She recognized Tom Slodysko for being named Pineknotted of the Year and thanked him for his service to the community; Colby Derr who received the first annual Charles L. Ditton Memorial Award; and Heather Savidge from the C.W. Rice Middle School for being the recipient of the Good Citizen Award.

Mayor Brosius thanked Terry Miller for donating flowers and Gene Brosius for planting them at the King Street Park.

The Revitalization Committee sponsored the Sunbury City Band last evening and the committee's next musical event is scheduled for August 20th. Billy D. and Rosie will perform. The committee's next scheduled event is Lemonade Day from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. on August 2nd. Mayor Brosius noted that volunteers are always welcomed.

The following residents were recognized by the Revitalization Committee for taking pride in their properties and awarded a certificate of appreciation and a gift certificate: Connie and Charles Sekulski; Tonia and Josh Newbury; Michael Mummey; Debbie Marotto; Cathy and Robert Kolovich; Tracy Rought; and the Northumberland National Bank.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

No report.

Emergency Services Board Report

No report.

Public Comment

A representative from the Clinical Outcomes Group stated that the organization, in coalition with Drug and Alcohol Awareness week, plans to hold a kickoff event Saturday, October 25. They would like to sponsor a 5-K race in the afternoon in conjunction with Action for Community Transition (ACT) and requested the council's approval. Mr. Long moved and Mr. Straub seconded the motion to approve the 5-K race. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Council member Judith Groninger arrived at 7:10 p.m.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Tom Slodysko informed the council that the playground equipment was removed from Pineknottter Park. Used equipment has been donated and will be installed at the park.

Committee Reports

Community Development

- Mr. Straub announced that the committee would meet next Tuesday at the Borough Building. One topic for discussion will be the joint Recreation Committee with Point Township.
- The contractor is finished with the renovations of the Second Street Community
- Banners advertising various events will be added to the bottom of the sign on Route 11, coming into town.

Finance

Mr. Rees moved to approve the 2007 Audit. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Wolfe stated that the committee would meet on the third Thursdays of August, September, October, and November at 6:30 p.m. The budget numbers are due from the various committees and outside groups on September 18th.

Personnel

The committee met with the Teamsters' representative to discuss a grievance. A second grievance will be arbitrated.

Public Safety

The committee will meet next Tuesday at 6:30.

It was noted that PAWC's new water tank is completed in the township. This should alleviate the low water pressure during power outages.

Rules

The committee has discussed a cat ordinance. Ms. Lark will review the topic with the solicitor.

Streets

Several requests have been received to purchase the old street signs that are being replaced. The council discussed pricing of the signs and decided to charge \$19.95 per sign. Some of the signs are being replaced this year; some will be replaced in 2009.

The wording for the signs that prohibit trucks on Borough Streets was discussed. Mr. Slodysko will order the signs.

Mr. Slodysko is working on determining the bid specifications for the stormwater work on 6th Street. The bid will be based on time and material to install the storm boxes. New curbing along this street will also be bid. Work must be done at night at 6th and Sheetz due to the trucks at the warehouse.

Old Business

1. Mr. Slodysko reported that the curbing at Andrew Bart's property on Elliott Drive has been sandblasted and the yellow paint removed.
2. Mayor Brosius asked if there is an update on the missing signs at the entrance to the Borough. There currently is no information.
3. Mayor Brosius asked if the code issues have been completed. Mr. Shoch stated that the sample letters will be completed before the next council meeting.
4. Mayor Brosius noted that there are several holes in ground of the King Street Park. Mr. Slodysko will look into it.
5. The mayor received several complaints about potholes in streets. Mr. Slodysko stated that the crew has filled potholes and will be out to repair those mentioned.

New Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to approve the minutes of the June 24, 2008 council meeting. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Ms. Lark moved to approve payment of bills. Ms. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. General Fund bills total \$39,304.18; Park and Recreation Account bills total \$627; Parking Meter Fund bills total \$37.59; Norry Playground Fund bills total \$4,070.85; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$8,913.20.
3. An email was received from the Energy Resource Center at SEDA-COG regarding a state grant to help local governments reduce greenhouse gas emissions, conserve energy and lower operating expenses by hiring technical service providers who would help establish greenhouse gas emissions inventories, develop plans to reduce emissions and offer recommendations for how to proceed. No motion was offered to apply for the Local Government Greenhouse Gas Pilot Grant Program.
4. Mr. Wolfe noted that the police vehicle has been ordered. He had requested that the police consider a hybrid vehicle the next time they order a police vehicle. Chief Fink stated that the vehicle ordered is a Dodge Durango and it is now in Nanticoke to be painted. Discussion ensued.

5. The CSIU is conducting a survey to determine how many municipalities, and other non-profits would be interested in forming a cooperative to purchase electricity. Mr. Straub has obtained the survey which will be completed by the Borough Secretary.
6. Mrs. Groninger commented on the police report for the month of June. She noted that the report includes 30 reports for assisting other agencies. Chief Fink stated that the police only respond for serious offenses. The Borough police are the first response for assistance to Sunbury and Point Township. Point Township is the Borough's first response for assistance.
7. Mayor Brosius attended the Corn Festival Committee meeting. The committee is looking for participants in the dunk tank. They requested that members of council consider participating. Mr. Wolfe volunteered his services. The festival is 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on August 9th.
8. Mayor Brosius received an email from a Best Buy representative. The company is offering to donate time on a regular basis.
9. Mrs. Groninger moved to initiate a new Civil Service Test for police officers. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
10. Mayor Brosius noted that Beiter's Home Center has a program each year for a specified time when they will donate a percentage of a purchase to non-profit organizations. The Norry Playground Fund has received donations through this program for the past two years. Mrs. Groninger commented that she appreciates Beiter's service to the community through this program.

Executive Session

Mr. Wolfe announced that the council would hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:59 p.m. Mr. Wolfe announced that no action was necessary.

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

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
August 5, 2008

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith H. Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Robert Long, Jonathan Rees, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice R. Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Frank Wetzel was absent.

Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Task Force - Joe McGranahan, Chairman

Mr. Joe McGranahan, Chairman of the Central Susquehanna Valley Transportation Task Force addressed the council. He explained that the task force consists of three members from the Greater Susquehanna Valley Chamber of Commerce, three members from the Central PA Chamber, representatives from SEDA-COG, representatives from the Route 15 Coalition, Senators Gordner and Madigan, Representatives Phillips and Fairchild, and Congressman Carney. Additionally, two former PennDOT engineers have provided much insight to the committee. The committee has been meeting quietly for about six years to try to keep the project on track. Until recently, Mr. McGranahan feels that the task force has been successful and has had a good working relationship with PennDOT. Recently the task force has been blindsided by PennDOT's position on and commitment to the project with its decision to put the project in hibernation. This came as a shock to the CSVT task force because PennDOT ignored two very important things and positive signs. Last year, Congressman Jim Oberstar, Chairman of the U.S. House of Representatives Transportation Committee, met with the task force and committed to do everything he could to obtain funding for the bridge across the Susquehanna from Point Township to Winfield.

The second hope was to have the project added to the Appalacian Development funding stream. U. S. Senator Arlen Specter has been working to get the project added to this list without reducing the miles from another location. With a commitment from Senator Bond of Missouri that he would consider adding this project, Senator Specter is optimistic that something would happen this fall.

Mr. McGranahan informed the council that PennDOT had made a number of commitments over the years. They have told the task force many times that all money is in place to complete the final design, acquire private properties and secure the rights-of-way, and relocate utilities. If PennDOT completed the three things they committed to do, then money designated for construction could be put to use for construction. Mr. McGranahan explained that the one thing that is completed is the mitigation.

Mr. McGranahan is requesting that the borough write letters to Secretary of Transportation Biehler and Governor Rendell and encourage citizens to do so as well. Mr. McGranahan provided a list of talking points that could be included in the letters, emphasizing that the main message should be “Do not reallocate \$1 of the Susquehanna Valley Transportation project fund to anything else – now or ever.”

He discussed the traffic congestion along Route 11-15 in Shamokin Dam and Route 147 in Northumberland.

When questioned, Mr. McGranahan stated that he believes that \$27,000,000 has already been spent. This money has funded most of the northern end design, all but 27 properties acquired, and some utilities relocated. Fifty million is what remains to be spent prior to construction.

Mr. Wolfe announced that Chris Hackett, the Republican candidate for congress, will attend the borough council meeting in two weeks; Representative Chris Carney, the current member of the legislature and Democratic candidate, is tentatively scheduled to attend a meeting on October 21st.

Mrs. Groninger commented that officials should be brought to the area on a Wednesday, Thursday, or Friday afternoon when they would be stuck in traffic. She noted that when Route 147 had been reconstructed in the early 2000’s, a contractor noted that the road would last for about ten years. With all the tractor trailer traffic, the asphalt had developed ridges. PennDOT’s solution was to scrap the asphalt to remove the ridges and left it that way. Once again the traffic has created ridges and small vehicles have difficulty navigating the ridges. PennDOT has informed council that repairs to the underpass and concrete on Route 11 will be repaired in the spring of 2009.

Mr. McGranahan proposed that the bridge from Point Township to Winfield should be built to alleviate the traffic on Route 147. The southern end of the bypass could be constructed in the future.

Mr. McGranahan stated that the task force would meet on September 5th. After that meeting, they will be going to Harrisburg to lobby for the CSVT.

Public Comment

Mr. Mike Sebasovich, owner of the property at the corner of Front and Queen Streets, requested the council provide the owner of the coin shop with one parking space. Mayor Brosius stated that the council could not provide a free parking space because it would not be fair to other business owners. It was noted that there is a private parking lot in that block. Mr. Sebasovich asked if he could put a parking space behind his building for the business owner. He was advised to speak to the code officer to determine if there would be adequate space.

Executive Session

The council adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues at 7:28 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 8:02 p.m.

Mayor's Report

- Mayor Brosius requested that council approve the hiring of Kent Peterson as a part-time police officer. Mr. Wolfe so moved. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- The American Legion baseball team sponsored a baseball tournament at Pineknotted Park during July. Mayor Brosius thanked the volunteers who made this possible.
- Mayor Brosius thanked the volunteers for their assistance on Lemonade Day. The group moved the location to the 2nd St. Community Center due to the weather. Mr. Long stated that it was a great place to have the activity and many comments were made about the building and how it can be utilized.
- The Corn Festival is set for this coming Saturday. It was announced that Mr. Wolfe will be in the dump tank at 4:00 p.m.
- A Blood Drive is planned for August 12th at Nottingham Village.
- August 16th is the second Ed Pfeiffer Memorial Basketball Tournament.
- August 20th is Music in the Park with Billy D. & Rosie.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that there are three property owners in the Borough who have not complied with the sidewalk ordinance. Mr. Wolfe moved to advertise for a contractor to install sidewalks at the three properties, bill the property owners and put liens on the properties if the bills are not paid. Mr. Long seconded the motion. The property owners and addresses are William Dorman, 387-389 Priestley Avenue; Aaron Roush, 624 Water Street; and Sandra Sommers, 386 Water Street. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote: Mr. Long, Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, and Ms. Lark voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay. Motion carried 5-1.

Mr. Ruane reported that the new owner of the property on Duke Street is renovating the building with three new apartments. The same person has also purchased another property on Duke Street and plans to renovate this property.

Mr. Ruane announced that the code office has conducted 150 rental inspections thus far this year. He anticipates completing 200 inspections this year. Within three years all rental properties will have been inspected at least once.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Tom Slodysko reported that the storm drains at the 2nd Street Community Center are in place. He has purchased two large humidifiers for the building. The water line at the building will be completed shortly.

Mr. Slodysko requested that someone determine the location for the new sign for Pineknotted Park. Mayor Brosius requested that the sign be placed where the DCNR sign is currently located. She requested that their representative be contacted to learn how long the DCNR sign must be on display.

Kratzer Oil is discontinuing the key card system and will require credit cards for gasoline purchases in the future.

Mayor Brosius requested that the council give permission for the police to apply for a grant for cameras in the police cars. Mr. Long and Mr. Rees moved and second a motion to approve the application. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Committee Reports

Community Development

- The committee met in July. No one from Point Township was present. The committee is still interested in establishing a joint recreation committee with the township. The supervisors will be invited to send a representative to the August 26th meeting.
- Four people have volunteered to paint classrooms at the building.
- Mr. Straub announced that on August 14th both Wilkes and Bloomsburg Universities are coming to tour the Second Street building as a possible site for continuing education classes.
- Mr. Wolfe asked what uses the council anticipates for the building in the future and requested that the committee make a recommendation to the council. The committee will meet on August 26th and will have a recommendation to council on September 2nd. He also requested that estimates of costs to maintain the building be provided to the council.

Finance

The committee will meet in two weeks to discuss year-to-date numbers. Letters will be sent out to the various committees for the budget meetings which will begin at the September committee meeting.

The Borough received a request from Velma Malloy for a refund of overpayment of taxes. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wolfe moved to refund \$534.98 to Velma Malloy, as requested. Motion died for a lack of a second. Ms. Lark moved to refund the amount of tax money for the number of years the Borough is legally required to refund. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Ms. Lark, Mr. Long, and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mr. Straub and Mr. Wolfe voted nay. Motion passed 4-2.

Personnel

- Mrs. Groninger noted that the Personnel Committee has interviewed attorney Ryan Tira of McNerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall and recommends that the Borough retain his services to handle the mediation on two grievances with the Teamsters Union scheduled for August 20th and to handle labor matters generally, going forward, for the Borough. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Long moved and seconded the motion to retain Mr. Tira's services. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mary Walden, a School Crossing Guard, has tendered her resignation. Mr. Long moved to advertise for a new crossing guard. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark moved and seconded the motion to accept Mrs. Walden's resignation with regret. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Mrs. Groninger moved to advertise for Civil Service testing to establish a new Civil Service list for the police. The test would be conducted in September. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Public Safety

- The committee met in July and selected the type of signs for the school zones. The PennDOT forms have not yet been received. PennDOT must approve the signage and speed limit before the ordinance is approved.
- Mr. Rees noted that stop signs have been erected at 8th Street. The council has not approved the sign for the Borough side, pending an acceptable traffic study.

Rules

- Ms. Lark moved to advertise Ordinance 2008-4, an ordinance that addresses requirements for property owners to have proof of a garbage hauler. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
- Ms. Lark announced that the committee is reviewing sample cat ordinances.
- The ordinance for the school zones will be completed once PennDOT has approved the request.

The committee will meet before the work session on August 19th.

Streets

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

Old Business

1. Mrs. Groninger congratulated Tom Slodysko for being named the Pineknotted of the Year and read the proclamation into the record:

“The recipient has given countless hours of his time volunteering for the betterment of this community.

His knowledge and expertise, of which he is more than willing to use and share has saved the Borough of Northumberland much in the way of finances.

He became involved with the community in 1997 when asked by a friend to help save the community pool, which was a challenge due to it having a major leak problem. Having the knowledge and experience with construction and heavy equipment along with help from some other residents, they conquered the problem and the pool opened the following year and has been going ever since. His leadership and skill at the Liberty Community Pool, many times working alone into the night, has helped change the pool from a financial burden into a positive asset.

When called upon to assist with many of the events in this community, he is always there with an eager and positive attitude.

He has served as a Borough Councilman, President and member of the Park and Recreation Committee, he helps prepare for and run the Soap Box Races, History Day Events, Corn Festival, Lemonade Day. He spends many hours at the 2nd Street Playground and has helped decorate for the Holidays at King Street Park.

Even though he is a paid employee of the Borough, being hired in 2006 as the “Street Supervisor”, his dedication goes well beyond his paid hours.

This man is exemplary of what the Pineknotted of the Year should be.

He came to Northumberland in 1986, and grew up in Shamokin, graduating in 1975. He built his own home, married his wife Mary, and they have a son, Jordan.

His ideas are to make the Borough a great place to raise a family, to be proud of this community and to help others. When you need him, he is always around to help and volunteering is only one of the things that he does well.

2008 Pineknotted of the Year

Tom Slodysko

366 Riverview Drive

Northumberland, PA 17857”

2. PennDOT has contacted the Borough Office to ask if the council would like to install the new handicapped curbing at the intersections on Water Street where they will be paving. If the Borough’s funding is already allocated for other projects, PennDOT requests that they be provided with a letter stating this fact. Mr. Rees said that the committee has already allocated the funds for other street projects.

New Business

1. Mr. Long moved to approve payment of the bills, including a bill from Lerko Products for \$408.50 for t-shirts for Lemonade Day. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$58,858.93; Park and Recreation Fund bills total \$16,422.00; and Liberty Splashland bills total \$6,029.30.
2. Mr. Wolfe reminded the council that on August 19th, Chris Hackett will be attending the Borough’s work session and on October 21st, Representative Chris Carney is tentatively scheduled to attend a Borough Council meeting.
3. Mr. Long proposed that the Borough place a dumpster at the 2nd Street Community Center and remove some of the materials that are in the building.
4. Mr. Long requested permission to explore the possibility of having a junior council member. Council approved his request.
5. Mr. Long would like the council to consider holding an Oktoberfest in the Borough. He has spoken to the Mifflinburg police chief and has learned that there have been no incidences at their Oktoberfest. Mr. Long feels that if done properly, it would be a successful event. It would require lifting the ban on alcohol for one day at whatever park is determined to be the location for the festivities. A one-day liquor license would be required. A local attorney has offered to assist in obtaining information. Mayor Brosius commented that this event would require a large number of volunteers. Mr. Long stated that he is not sure if there is enough time to schedule an Oktoberfest for this year but he would like the council to authorize exploring the possibility of Oktoberfest. Mr. Long moved and Ms. Lark seconded a motion to pursue more information about Oktoberfest in the Borough. Roll call vote: Mr. Straub, Mr. Wolfe, Ms. Lark, Mr. Long, and Mr. Rees voted aye; Mrs. Groninger voted nay.
6. On behalf of Pineknotters’ Days, Mr. Straub presented a model caboos to Mr. Wolfe for the Borough’s display case.

7. Mr. Straub noted that because railroading was a vital part of the community for many years, he would like to see tribute to the history of railroading at Pineknoller Park. He would like to purchase a caboose from a gentleman in Lewisburg and renovate it for display at Pineknoller Park. The total cost to purchase and refurbish the caboose was estimated to be \$50,000. Mr. Straub provided pictures of a caboose display in Enola, PA. He is not requesting any funding from the Borough. He proposes raising the funds and is asking for permission to pursue the project for the Borough. Mr. Straub moved to secure funding through donations to put a caboose at Pineknoller Park to celebrate the years of our influence in the railroad industry. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Ms. Lark, Mr. Rees, and Mr. Straub voted aye; Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Long voted nay. Motion passed 4-2.

Mr. Wolfe announced at 9:22 that the meeting would be adjourned for an Executive Session to discuss personnel issues. The meeting was reconvened at 9:55.

Ms. Lark moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
August 19, 2008

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith H. Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Robert Long, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel were absent.

Mr. Wolfe announced that Chris Hackett, the Republican candidate for U.S. House of Representatives would be speaking tonight. He also stated that Representative Chris Carney is tentatively scheduled to speak at a meeting in October.

Public Comment

Mrs. Cellitti addressed the council about a drainage issue on a lot she owns on Westway. She stated that a drainage pipe had been located there and was removed by the Borough many years ago. Mr. Slodysko had looked at the problem suggested that Mrs. Cellitti contact utility companies to obtain clean fill and have the lot built up since it is lower than the surrounding ground. The lots along Westway fill up from storm water coming out of the catch basin at Seventh Street whenever there is a heavy rain. No storm pipes run along the railroad line. There is no sewer or water at the lot. The water and sewer lines could be run back to the property from Duke Street. Ms. Lark stated that a sewer permit may be available within the next month.

In a separate issue, Mayor Brosius had been informed that someone has dumped yard waste in the ditch along Westway. Mr. Slodysko will check on it.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that the Police Report is in the council's packet.

Mayor Brosius read a resignation letter from Scott M. Boyd, a borough police officer. Mr. Long moved to accept his resignation with regret. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor Brosius thanked the volunteers for their work at the Corn Festival

She noted that Music in the Park is scheduled for Wednesday and Friday of this week.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Slodysko reported that the bricks will be ordered for the playground area.

The drain pipe has been installed through the playground area and the basement of the building is drying out.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Cindy Lark announced that the pump station project bid has been awarded. The project should be completed in sixth months, depending upon the weather. Six properties in the Borough are waiting for sewer permits.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Wolfe moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded a motion to inform DCNR that the council is planning to move forward with the 2nd Street project if awarded the grant money. Roll all vote – All ayes.

Mr. Straub thanked the volunteers who painted classrooms in the building.

Mr. Straub has met with Wilkes and Bloomsburg Universities.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that he committee would meet at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, August 21, to review the budget to date. The 2009 budget preparation will begin in September.

Personnel

The Personnel Committee and attorneys will meet with the Teamsters tomorrow. One application was received for the vacant crossing guard position.

Public Safety

The application to PennDOT for the school crossing signs is being completed.

Rules

Ms. Lark has requested that the solicitor prepare the ordinance for the school crossing signs.

The committee has been reviewing ordinances that address the problem of stray cats.

Chris Hackett, Republican Candidate for U.S. House of Representatives

Mr. Hackett addressed the council and visitors. He provided some background information and discussed his views on various issues. He feels that "Washington is broken". Wasteful spending is embodied in the pork barrel spending system. Social Security system monies have been borrowed to fund other projects.

Concerning the energy issue, Mr. Hackett stated that Washington waits until something becomes a crisis before dealing with it. He is in favor of drilling on the continental shelf, in Alaska, and exploring alternative sources of energy. He feels that nuclear energy is a terrific option and believes that it can be a safe way of obtaining energy. He noted that the government has been involved in incentives to companies to find alternative sources of energy but believes that government should pay for successful results, not the process.

He noted that the Central Susquehanna Valley Thruway is a critical issue and an important economic tool for this area. He also feels that tolling route 80 will stop all economic development in the northeast portion of the state. In his opinion, we now have this problem because Governor Rendell took \$4,000,000 from the transportation budget to send to Philadelphia.

His view of the war in Iraq is that the politicians should allow the generals to run the war. He added that it is critical to finish the war and bring the soldiers home in good fashion.

On the issue of illegal immigration, Mr. Hackett is in favor of securing the borders and allowing for legal immigration.

Mr. Hackett would like to see an increase in manufacturing jobs, noting that we should create and maintain jobs in the country. He is in favor of the free enterprise system.

Mr. Hackett answered questions from the floor and thanked the council for inviting him to attend the meeting.

New Business

1. Mr. Long moved to approve payment of the bills. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$21,901.19; bills to be paid from the Liberty Splashland account total \$460.30.
2. Mr. Wolfe moved to join the PENCON Electricity Pool. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
3. Mr. Long asked if something could be done to the board on the bottom of the sign along route 11 at the underpass to have it look nicer. Discussion ensued.
4. Mayor Brosius asked if the solicitor has provided the letters for the code office. They have not yet been received.
5. The Susquehanna students will be here Saturday to volunteer at the Second Street Community Center.
6. Mr. Long announced that the basketball tournament scheduled for this past Saturday was cancelled due to the lack of entrants. The committee is considering having the tournament in late May or early June next year.

Executive Session

Mr. Wolfe announced at 8:45 p.m. that the council would adjourn to an Executive Session to discuss Personnel issues. He added that the council would reconvene the meeting after the session and that the discussion may or may not require a vote.

Mr. Wolfe reconvened the council meeting at 9:00 p.m.

Mrs. Groninger moved and Mr. Long seconded to hire the school crossing guard whose name was revealed in the Executive Session, providing the clearances be completed. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Long and Ms. Lark moved and seconded a motion to hire the next person on the Civil Service list as a full-time police officer. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Long and Mr. Straub moved and seconded a motion to purchase the Dodge Durango for a police vehicle. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mr. Long moved to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
September 2, 2008

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith H. Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Robert Long, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius; Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council member Jonathan Rees was absent.

Public Comment

Mr. Barry Gearhart informed the council that his neighbor has moved out of their house; left garbage on the back porch, weeds and tires in the yard, and left their dogs in their house. Since they have moved out, they brought two more dogs into the house. They come to the house once every two days, let the dogs out for about 10 minutes and put them back in the house. The property address is 346 Water Street. Mr. Gearhart presented written complaints from himself and two other neighbors. Mark and Connie Libby are the owners of the property. Mr. Ruane spoke to the county dog officer. He is going to talk to the Libby's to determine if the dogs are being taken care of properly. The property owners have been cited in the past and have paid fines. Mr. Shoch advised that if they pay the fines and do not clean up the property, the code officer should cite them each day and request that the district justice impose stiffer penalties. The ordinance provides that every day the property owner is out of compliance, they can be cited.

Mr. Gearhart noted two other properties that have been abandoned and are in poor condition. One is on Priestley Avenue and owned by Dale Walters; the other is at the corner of Orange Street and Priestley Avenue and owned by William Dorman. The Code Office is in the process of contacting owners of abandoned properties in the Borough.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that the Susquehanna University students were at the 2nd Street Community Center to help clean up the building on August 23rd. They have offered to assist with painting and other tasks to finish the rooms at the building.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported that the code car will be going to the garage tomorrow. He provided council with a written report on the activity of the code office for the past month.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub reported that the committee met and is waiting for an analysis from the Bowen Agency regarding the value of the current Borough Building and the rental income potential. Mr. Ruane advised that the COG will give the 2nd Street building the certificate of occupancy.

Mr. Straub has recruited two volunteers to serve on the Recreation Committee.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the committee will meet on September 19th. The 2009 budget requests are due by September 12th.

Personnel - No report

Public Safety

Mr. Wetzel questioned if the council would like to obtain specifications for the repairs to the gazebo. Mrs. Groninger moved to hire Wolfe Associates to develop specifications for the repairs to the gazebo in the King Street Park. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Mayor Brosius asked if the questionnaire for the school zones has been sent to PennDOT. The office is waiting for information from the school district in order to complete the questionnaire. The street department is obtaining white “SCHOOL” lettering that will be placed on the street at both ends of the school property.

Rules

Ms. Lark moved to advertise the ordinance designating school zones at the C. W. Rice Middle School and the Norry Christian School with the understanding that PennDOT may require changes before adoption. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Streets – No report

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe and Mr. Long moved and seconded the motion to approve Ordinance 2008-4. This ordinance requires property owners to maintain proof of contracts with waste haulers. Adoption of this ordinance is a requirement from DEP to apply for recycling grants. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Ms. Lark stated that the committee is working on a cat ordinance.
3. Mr. Wetzel asked about the progress of the removal of the log house on Queen Street. Mr. Wetzel had made a motion to require that the log house be moved by August 1st. Progress had been made, but work has been stopped. Mr. Ruane will speak with the owner.

New Business

1. Ms. Lark moved to approve the minutes of July 15, 2008. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Long moved to approve the minutes of August 5, 2008. Ms. Groninger seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes and one abstention by Mr. Wetzel.
3. Ms. Lark moved to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2008 council meeting. Mr. Straub seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes and one abstention by Mr. Wetzel.
4. Mrs. Groninger moved to pay the bills. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$20,627.74; Liberty Splashland bills total \$2,215.31; and Norry Playground Fund bills total \$583.45.
5. The Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement System has informed the Borough Secretary the amount of state aid that will be received for 2008 is \$44,608.61. The state aid unit value for 2008 is \$3,186.33. The Borough receives one unit of state aid for each non-uniformed participant and two units for each uniformed participant. For 2008, the state aid for the police pension plan of \$31,863.30 does not cover the invoice amount of \$35,131 for the police pension plan. Atty. Shoch will contact the attorney for the police union to advise him of the necessity to withhold the 1.5% member contribution to the plan. Mr. Straub moved to withhold 1.5% from the police wages beginning in October until the end of December and to withhold the additional amount that is due in equal installments. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – Ms. Lark, Mr. Long, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wetzel, and Mr. Wolfe voted aye. Mrs. Groninger voted no. Motion passed 5-1. It was noted that the state aid for 2008 is approximately \$20 less per unit than that of 2007.
6. The Borough Secretary provided the council with the 2009 Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) worksheets for the Police and Borough Pension Plans. The worksheets provide the council with the municipality's expected financial obligation for the coming year and are provided to satisfy legal requirements of Act 205 of 1984. The Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Police Pension Plan for 2009 is \$47,081, with the police contributing 1.5% of their gross wages; the Minimum Municipal Obligation for the Borough Pension Plan for 2009 is \$3,777 with the borough employees contributing 3.0% of their gross wages.
7. The Northumberland Fire Police received a letter from Bob Kuhns, Northumberland, requesting permission for the Viet Nam Counseling Group to meet at the Fire Police building from 1:30 to 3:00 p.m. every other Wednesday. The Fire Police are in favor of the request and asked the council to approve it. Mr. Wolfe moved to grant permission for the Viet Nam Counseling Group to use the Fire Police building, as requested. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.
8. Mr. Wetzel moved to approve the Halloween Parade Committee's request to hold the parade on October 29, 2008 and to provide the lights at the gazebo. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

9. A letter concerning an accident at Liberty Splashland was received from Scott and Angela Poff. Council requested that the office contact the Borough's insurance carrier to handle the claim.
10. Mayor Brosius announced that the 9-11 ceremony will be held in the King Street Park gazebo next Thursday. The band will begin playing at 6:30 p.m. and the ceremony will begin at 7:00 p.m. Representative Merle Phillips will be the speaker.

Mr. Wetzel moved to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
October 7, 2008

President Bryan M. Wolfe called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Robert Long, Jonathan Rees and Darvin Straub were absent.

The two visitors present introduced themselves.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that the Police Chief has provided council with copies of the monthly police report.

Mayor Brosius announced that Chief Fink was selected by the ICAC (Internet Crimes against Children) to attend its training session in Missouri next week. All expenses are paid by the ICAC. Two others officers in the area have received this training.

Mayor Brosius attended the Emergency Services Board meeting last night. The board had some questions about a recent fire at the recycling center. They would like to be notified whenever the Borough holds a controlled burn. They also questioned if the Borough is permitted to burn since the ordinance was passed. The solicitor stated that the ordinance does permit controlled burning by the Borough. Mayor Brosius suggested that the Street Supervisor and Fire Chief discuss the fire department's concerns. A third concern is a personnel matter that Mayor Brosius requested be discussed in Executive Session.

The Fire Department will be distributing free smoke detectors and free batteries on October 25th at the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company on Fifth Street to residents of Northumberland and Point Township.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Slodysko stated that the control burn at the recycling center was part of the clean-up at the property.

The street sweeper and back hoe have been repaired. The radiator on the tar buggy is being repaired. Plans are to run the tar buggy this fall.

The new sign has been placed on the billboard at the underpass.

Mr. Wolfe asked if it is possible to repaint the yellow lines before winter. Mr. Slodysko replied that the street committee had determined to paint the curb yellow along the main intersections only this year. The plan is to paint all the curbing next year.

The crew is ready to conduct the leaf pick-up.

Christmas decorations will be hung before December 1, 2008, when Santa will arrive in the King Street Park.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

On behalf of the Sewer Authority, Ms. Lark requested that Michael Daddario be appointed to the Northumberland Sewer Authority Board to fulfill the term vacated by George Gavason. She so moved. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Mr. Daddario's term ends in 2012.

Emergency Services Board Report

No representative was present, but Mayor Brosius reported that Chris Boyer, newly appointed to represent the Northumberland Hook and Ladder Company, was elected chairman. The current board consists of Sam Wolfe, the Number 1's representative; Judyann Schmidt, Dean Paul, and Henry Hullihen, borough representatives, and Mr. Boyer.

Committee Reports

Community Development

The committee is preparing for a Capital Campaign for the 2nd Street Community Center. The goal is to raise \$125,000 as a match for a DCNR grant. The state has not yet announced which application requests will be funded. The committee has also discussed what offices will be housed in the renovated portion of the building and is waiting for council to make this determination.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe announced that the meetings have been rescheduled for 6:30 p.m. on October 22 and November 12.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger explained that the Civil Service Commission has recommended that the current Civil Service List be extended to September 30, 2009. She moved to extend the list. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Public Safety

The office has requested information from the school district's transportation department in order to complete the traffic study for the speed limit and signage in the school zones in the Borough. Council suggested that the district office be contacted for the information since there has been no response. Once the information is received, the study will be sent to PennDOT.

Sidewalks have been installed at three properties in the Borough. Mr. Shoch advised to send the bills certified to the property owners with thirty days to pay. If the bills are not paid by the 30-day deadline, the Borough will put liens on the property.

Mr. Wetzel noted that more logs have been moved from the property on Queen Street.

Mr. Wetzel asked if anything has been done with the Abrana Marie property. Mr. Ruane replied that the property owner has ninety days to make the property habitable.

Rules

Ms. Lark stated that the school zone ordinance is ready to be approved once PennDOT has approved the traffic study.

An ordinance to address non-domesticated animals was discussed.

Old Business

1. The Borough had purchased a used 1995 Case loader with 4,821 hours through Asset Auctions for \$23,630. In order to obtain the equipment at the lowest price, the Borough also advertised for a used loader. One bid was received. Mr. Wolfe opened the bid from Bradco Supply Company of \$39,000 for a 1996 John Deere with 8,440 hours on the meter. Council took no action to purchase the used loader from Bradco Supply Company.
2. Mr. Wolfe moved and Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion to designate Trick or Treat night on October 31 from 6:00 to 8:00 p.m. The motion passed unanimously.

New Business

1. Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark moved and seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the September 2, 2008 council meeting. Roll call vote – All ayes.
2. Mr. Wetzel and Ms. Lark moved and seconded a motion to approve payment of the bills. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$73,889.81. Liberty Splashland bills total \$23,261.77, including the transfer for payroll reimbursement of \$22,811.73, and Norry Playground bills total \$880.32.

3. A correspondence has been received from PENNDOT addressing pedestrian access improvements. Representatives from PENNDOT wish to meet with Borough representatives to discuss the proposed roadway alteration project. Council determined that the representatives should be invited to the Borough's November 14th Street Committee meeting. The meeting is scheduled for 7:00 p.m.
4. Mrs. Groninger posed a question about the repairs to the gazebo. An estimate has been received from Gary Wolfe of Wolfe Associates. The Finance Committee will take this estimate under consideration when preparing the 2009 property budget. Council has requested that Mr. Wolfe draw up the plans so the project may be let out for bids.
5. The grass area at the 2nd Street Playground will be seeded tomorrow. The playground will be closed for a few weeks. The bricks are being engraved and will be completed in about a month. Mr. Slodysko asked if sidewalks should be installed to the building from Second Street, along the playground area. Discussion ensued. Mr. Wolfe moved to locate \$5,000 in the General Fund to install the sidewalks at this location. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Motion was unanimously approved.
6. Mayor Brosius said that she received a letter from the Sunbury Rotary Club thanking the Borough for obtaining signatures on the petition to support the thruway.
7. Mr. Wolfe has not received confirmation that Representative Carney will be present at the meeting on October 21st.
8. Mr. Wolfe informed the council that the Mayor and he received a letter from the Northumberland Police Department indicating a vote of confidence for Chief Fink. He read a portion of the letter: "The purpose of our correspondence is to let it be known that we, as the full-time officers of the Borough of Northumberland, have cast a vote of confidence for our Chief of Police, Timothy Fink." Mr. Wolfe added that everyone at the table also appreciate the work of Chief Fink and the other officers.

Since no other issues were brought before the council, Mr. Wolfe noted that the council would hold an Executive Session to discuss personnel and legal issues. He added that no action would be taken at the conclusion of the meeting. Mr. Wolfe adjourned the regular council meeting at 8:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
November 3, 2008

Borough Council Vice-President Jonathan Rees called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Robert Long, Jonathan Rees, and Darwin Straub. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Richard Shoch, Solicitor; Paul Ruane Code Enforcement Officer; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Council members Cynthia Lark, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe were absent.

Public Comment

The two visitors present introduced themselves. No comments were offered.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that Chief Fink has completed courses in both the ICAC Investigative Techniques Training and the Project Safe Childhood training given by the US Department of Justice.

The police are currently updating their firearms training and will be given CPR and AED training on November 8th. Any borough official who wishes to do so may join them.

Mayor Brosius read the following letter of commendation and requested it be included in the record:

Dear Chief Fink,

I respectfully commend and applaud you and your officers involved in the recent drug arrests in Northumberland and the surrounding area. I specifically acknowledge the work of Sgt. Clifford Kriner, Officer Edward Cope and former Officer Scott Boyd of the Northumberland Police Department along with those involved with the Northumberland-Montour County Drug Task Force for all their hard work. Again I express my sincere appreciation as well as the appreciation of the Northumberland Borough Council to all involved.

Kindest regards,
Gretchen H. Brosius, Mayor

Mayor Brosius noted that the Northumberland Police Department, Borough Council and she extend condolences to the family of Tony Koppen who passed away last week. He worked with the police and fire departments in the community as an EMT.

Thanks were given to the volunteers who helped make the Fall Festival and Haunted Walk successful. Special thanks were given to Bob and Noelle Long.

Mayor Brosius also thanked the Northumberland/Point Township Revitalization Committee for sponsoring an open house at the 2nd Street Community Center.

Mayor Brosius attended a ceremony for Kelsey Belenko, a Senior Girl Scout from Lewisburg who has obtained her requirements for the Golden Award of Girl Scouting by organizing and renovating the history room at the Priestley Forsyth Memorial Library. Mayor Brosius commended Kelsey for her hard work.

Mayor Brosius expressed appreciation to Barbara Kistner who has spearheaded recent renovations at the Girl Scout Little House in memory of Kissy Kistner. She thanked all who donated to the project, especially Brownie Troop #15 for heading a campaign to provide new flooring in the building.

Code Enforcement Officer's Report - No report.

Street Supervisor's Report

- Mr. Slodysko reported that the crew is in the process of collecting leaves. In addition to the leaf picker, the street sweeper is being used to collect them.
- Several pieces of equipment have been repaired.
- The crew will begin decorating for the holidays next week, including setting the Santa House in the park.
- Emergency repairs for two storm drains on Sixth Street were necessary. K & T Excavating was contacted to work with the street department to replace the drains and pieces of pipe that had collapsed.
- The gas leak at 2nd Street building has been located in a heating unit and was repaired by the mechanical contractor.
- The playground at 2nd Street will be opened next week. It had been closed while the open play area was seeded.
- The salt supply is adequate and the crew will also obtain cinders to use when street conditions warrant.

Council member Cynthia Lark arrived at 7:16 p.m.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report

Ms. Lark reported that Mr. Mark Walberg met with Dan Wieand regarding the sewer connection to the log structure that is being erected on his lot. A solution has been agreed upon.

Emergency Services Board - No report.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub stated that the committee will meet next Tuesday, November 11th, at 7:00 p.m. in the office instead of the fourth Tuesday of the month. An open house was held at the

2nd Street Community Center on October 25th. Realtors will be asked to provide market analyses of the Borough Building. One market analysis has been conducted.

Finance

The committee will meet next Wednesday at 6:30 p.m. to finalize the 2009 budget.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger explained that the Penn Valley Airport Authority has requested that the council appoint a new member to the board. Michael DeFeo, the Borough's former representative has resigned. Mrs. Groninger requested that a letter of appreciation be sent to Mr. DeFeo for his service.

Mrs. Groninger introduced Carl Libby. Mr. Libby is a pilot and resident of the Borough who is willing to serve as the borough's representative. Mr. Straub moved to appoint Carl Libby to the Penn Valley Airport Authority. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous. Council thanked Mr. Libby for volunteering.

The member contribution to the police pension plan for 2008 is to be 1.5%. Mr. Shoch explained that the attorney for the police has agreed that the state aid for 2008 does not cover the Borough's obligation. The contribution amount that was made by the police in 2007 is to be credited as part of their 2008 contribution per the arbitration award.

Public Safety

Mrs. Groninger asked if the traffic study for the school zones has been completed. It has been sent to PennDOT for approval.

Rules

Ms. Lark stated that the committee would meet at 6:00 p.m. on November 17th to discuss the animal ordinance. The meeting will be advertised.

Council discussed changing the council meetings from Tuesdays to Mondays for the last three meetings in 2008. Mr. Long and Ms. Lark moved and seconded a motion to reschedule the November 18 work session and the December 2 and December 16 council meetings to 7:00 p.m. on November 17, December 1 and December 15. Approval was unanimous. The new dates will be advertised.

Streets

The committee will meet on November 11th at 7:00 p.m. Representatives from PennDOT will be present to discuss the construction planned for Route 11 in 2009.

Old Business

1. Mr. Long moved to sell the Ford Explorer and apply the proceeds to the cost of the new police vehicle. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to advertise the vehicle with the right to reject any and all bids.
2. Mr. Shoch explained that a party has shown interest in purchasing the old scoreboard at Pineknott Park. He suggested that a motion be made to approve the sale pending his review of the requirements for selling Borough property. Ms. Lark so moved and

stipulated that the proceeds be earmarked for Pineknotted Park ballfield expenses. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve the motion.

New Business

1. Mrs. Groninger moved to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2008 council meeting. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Discussion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark voted aye; Mr. Long, Mr. Rees and Mr. Straub abstained because they were not present at the meeting.
2. Mr. Long moved to approve payment of the bills. Mr. Rees seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. One additional bill of \$810 to Royal Flush was included in the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$120,124.71; Norry Playground Fund bills total \$1,187.79; Liquid Fuels bills total \$2,836.31; Bills to be paid from the Fire Apparatus Account total \$522.16; and bills from the Liberty Splashland account total \$292.60.
3. Ms. Lark made a motion to transfer \$6,600 from the Parking Meter Account to the General Fund; to close the UDAG account and transfer the balance of \$16,521 plus interest to the General Fund; to transfer \$17,700 from the 2nd Street Donation Account to the General Fund; to transfer \$4,150 from the General Contingency Account to the General Fund; and to transfer \$5,000 from the General Fund to the Fire Apparatus Account. Mr. Long seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve the transfers.
4. Mr. Long and Mr. Straub moved to pay the 2009 Solvency Fee. Roll call vote was unanimous to approve the motion.
5. The next newsletter will be published in January.
6. Correspondence has been received regarding the PA Wayfinding Signage Program. No motion was offered to provide a letter of support for this program.
7. The veterans will hold a memorial ceremony on Sunday, November 9 at 1:00 p.m.
8. Santa in the Park begins at 5:30 with Santa arriving at 7:00 p.m. on December 1st.
9. The American Red Cross will hold a blood drive on November 11th at the St. John's Lutheran Church, Third and Queen Streets.

Ms. Lark moved to adjourn the meeting. 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
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
December 1, 2008

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Darvin Straub, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Richard Shoch, solicitor; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; Paul Ruane, Code Enforcement Officer; Timothy Fink, Chief of Police; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary. Mayor Gretchen Brosius and Councilman Robert Long were volunteering for “Santa in the Park”. Council members Jonathan Rees and Frank Wetzel were absent due to other commitments.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Code Enforcement Officer’s Report

Mr. Paul Ruane reported on the Code Office activity for the past month. He also discussed with council a letter from UGI regarding street cut permit fees.

Street Supervisor’s Report

Mr. Thomas Slodysko reported that the crew has been picking up the leaves and have decorated the Borough for Christmas. Because of an attachment he devised for the leaf picker, Mr. Slodysko reported that the crew could operate the leaf picker with one less person so only one temporary employee was hired to assist with the leaf pickup. Mr. Slodysko praised Brad Beaver, the temporary employee who worked along with the crew.

Mrs. Groninger asked if the repair to the brick crosswalks at Front and Queen Streets was in the 2008 budget. Mr. Straub stated that the committee was waiting for information from a company that installs walkways made of other surfaces.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report – No report

Emergency Services Board Report - No report

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mr. Straub reported that the committee would meet next Tuesday evening, December 9th at 7:00 p.m. instead of December 23rd.

Finance

Mr. Wolfe introduced the 2009 Budget. The millage rate is increased by 2 mils. He noted that in the last five calendar years, the real estate taxes have been increased a total of 4.2 mils. Mr. Straub moved to approve the 2009 budget; Ms. Lark seconded the motion. The motion was approved unanimously.

On a motion by Ms. Lark and seconded by Mrs. Groninger, the council unanimously voted to advertise Ordinance 2008-6. This ordinance fixes the real property tax rates for 2009.

Personnel

Mrs. Judith Groninger moved to accept, with regret, Richard Shoch's resignation as solicitor. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Roll call vote was approved unanimously.

Mrs. Groninger moved that as recommended by the Personnel Committee, Ryan Tira with the firm of McNerney, Page, Vanderlin & Hall be hired as the Borough Solicitor, effective January 1, 2009. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote – All ayes.

Public Safety – No report

Rules

The committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on December 15th to discuss the animal ordinance.

Streets – No report

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe tabled Ordinance 2008-5 which establishes School Zones because PennDOT is reviewing the traffic study.
2. Mr. Straub moved to adopt Resolution D-2008 which addresses an Open Records Policy. Mr. Wolfe seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Changes to the resolution were to add "business" to section 4.G. to read "5 business days" and to designate Janice Bowman, the Borough Secretary, to act as the open records officer. The roll call vote to approve was unanimous. The Resolution is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. D-2008

WHEREAS, the Borough Council of the Borough of Northumberland, located in Northumberland County, Pennsylvania, constitutes the chief governing body of Borough of Northumberland; and

WHEREAS, the Council deems it necessary to enact an Open Records Policy to comply with the new Right to Know Act Law, Act 3 of 2008.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Council of the Borough of Northumberland hereby adopts the following Open Records Policy:

1. Requests.

Requests for documents shall be in writing and directed to the appointed Open Records Officer for the Borough of Northumberland. Written requests shall be on a form provided by the Borough and shall include the date of the request, the name and address of the requestor, and a clear description of the records sought.

2. Fees.

The fees for duplication of the documents shall be those fees set forth by the Office of Open Records for the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

A request will not be processed until such time as the fee is paid with the request form.

3. Response.

The Borough will make a good faith effort to provide the requested public records as promptly as possible. The Open Records Officer shall review all written requests for access to public records. As soon as possible, but no later than five (5) business days after receiving a written request to access public records, the Open Records Officer shall respond to such request in a manner consistent with Act 3 of 2008, the new Open Records Law. In the event that the Borough fails to timely respond to a written request for records pursuant to Act 3 of 2008, the same shall be a deemed denial.

4. Additional Time to Respond.

The Open Records Officer shall, upon receipt of the written request for documents, determine if one of the following applies:

- (A) The request for access requires redaction of the record;
- (B) The request for access requires the retrieval of a record stored in a remote location;
- (C) A timely response to the request for access cannot be accomplished due to bona fide and specified staffing limitations;
- (D) A legal review is necessary to determine whether the record is a record subject to access under this Act;
- (E) The requester has not complied with the Agency's policies regarding access to records;
- (F) The requester refuses to pay applicable fees; or
- (G) The extent or nature of the request precludes a response within the required time period.

Upon determining that one of the above applies, the Open Records Officer shall send a written notice to the requester within five (5) business days within receipt of the request for access and said notice shall include a statement notifying the requester that the request for access is being reviewed, the reason for the review, a reasonable date that a response is expected to be provided and an estimate of applicable fees owed when the record becomes available. A response shall be given to the provider within thirty (30) days after service of said notice unless the requester agrees in writing to an extension.

5. Denial.

If the Borough's response is a denial of a written request for access, whether in whole or in part, the denial shall be issued in writing and shall include:

- (A) A description of the record requested;
- (B) The specific reasons for the denial including a citation of supporting legal authority.
- (C) The typed or printed names, title, business address, business telephone number and signature of the open records officer on whose authority the denial is issued;
- (D) Date of the response;
- (E) The procedure to appeal the denial of access under the New Right to Know Law.

6. Appeals Process

If a written request is denied or deemed denied, the requester may file an appeal with the Office of Open Records within fifteen (15) business days of the mailing date of the Borough's denial. The appeal shall state the grounds upon which the requester asserts that the record is a public record, legislative record or financial record and shall address any grounds stated by the agency for delaying or denying the request. The appeal must comply with Act 3 of 2008.

All appeals shall be submitted to Terry Mutchler, Executive Director, Office of Open Records, Commonwealth Keystone Building, 400 North Street, Fourth Floor, Harrisburg, Pennsylvania, 17120.

Within thirty (30) days of the mailing date of the final determination of the office of open records relating to a decision of the Borough, a requester or the Borough may file a Petition for review or other document as required by the rules of Court with the Court of Common Pleas of Northumberland County.

7. Posting

A copy of this policy shall be posted in a conspicuous place at the Borough Building.

8. Open Records Officer

The Borough pursuant to the provisions of Act 3 of 2008 hereby appoints Janice Bowman to act as the open records officer.

ATTEST:

NORTHUMBERLAND BOROUGH
COUNCIL

Janice R. Bowman, Secretary

Bryan M. Wolfe, President

3. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Wolfe moved and seconded a motion to adopt Resolution E-2008 which sets the member contribution to the Police Pension Plan for 2008 and is as follows:

RESOLUTION NO. E-2008

WHEREAS, Northumberland Borough, Northumberland County, by Ordinance No. 465, entered into an agreement, dated January 18, 2000, with the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board to provide a police pension plan; and

WHEREAS, Paragraph 11 of said Agreement allows for the Borough to annually waive or reduce the required employee contributions; and

WHEREAS, Northumberland Borough, Northumberland County now desires to reduce the required member contributions for calendar year 2008 only, from five percent (5%) to one and five-tenths percent (1.5%).

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED this first day of December, 2008, that in accordance with Ordinance No. 465 and the Agreement, dated January 18, 2000, the Borough agrees to reduce the required member contributions to the police pension plan for calendar year 2008 only from five percent (5%) to one and five-tenths percent (1.5%); and,

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution shall be filed with the Pennsylvania Municipal Retirement Board to so indicate the Borough's intent.

DULY ADOPTED this 1st day of December, 2008, by Northumberland Borough, Northumberland County.

TALLY OF VOTES – YEAS 4 NAYS 0.

ATTEST:

Secretary

BY: _____
President

New Business

1. Ms. Lark moved to approve the minutes of the November 3, 2008 council meeting with corrections. Ms. Groninger seconded the motion. The minutes were approved unanimously by roll call vote.
2. Ms. Groninger moved to approve payment of the bills. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$53,435.47.
3. Mr. Wolfe noted a letter received from Thomas Brett regarding the Community Rating System Annual Recertification. The Code Office and Borough Secretary are working on the report and will submit it as soon as completed.
4. DCNR has announced the grants awarded for 2008. The Borough did not receive approval for its application for grant funds for the 2nd Street Community Center.

On motion by Mr. Straub, seconded by Ms. Lark, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary

DRAFT

**Borough of Northumberland
221 Second Street, Northumberland, PA 17857
Northumberland Borough Council Meeting
December 15, 2008**

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

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

Roll Call

Council members present were Judith Groninger, Cynthia Lark, Jonathan Rees, Robert Long, Darvin Straub, Frank Wetzel, and Bryan Wolfe. Others present were Mayor Brosius, Timothy Fink, Police Chief; Thomas Slodysko, Street Supervisor; and Janice Bowman, Borough Secretary.

No visitors were present.

Public Comment

No public comment was offered.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Brosius reported that Acting Chief of Police for Point Township, Joshua VanKirk, commended Matthew Lauver along with officers from other police departments for his assistance in the township on a police call involving a suicidal individual. According to Chief VanKirk, the officers worked together to overcome a dangerous incident that ended peacefully. His letter concluded that, "Ptlm. Lauver epitomized both the professional level of policing that our residents should expect in an officer and the importance of interagency cooperation. I would appreciate if you would attach this letter to the personnel file of Ptlm. Lauver, as well as express our police department's sincere appreciation of a job well done to your Borough and fellow officers."

Mayor Brosius thanked Sergeant Kriner and the Northumberland Police Department for continuing the Martin Concini Memorial Toy Drive by collecting and distributing toys to needy families. The toy drive is in memory of the late Martin Concini, a former police chief. Sergeant Kriner has headed this drive for many years.

Mayor Brosius thanked Tom Slodysko for installing the engraved bricks at the 2nd Street Playground. She also recognized the Revitalization Committee and Borough Crew for decorating the town for Christmas and Boy Scout Troop #342 for covering the meters downtown. Others recognized were Gene Brosius for repairing the Santa House and Mark

Gulliver and Councilman Bob Long for helping Santa. Over 100 children and families enjoyed the festivities of Santa in the Park on December 1. Sponsors of the event were the Joseph P. Anselmo, Sr. Community Trust, the Northumberland-Point Township Revitalization Committee and the Northumberland-Point Township Kiwanis Club. Mayor Brosius thanked the sponsors and Tom Gresh for leading the singing and the Sunbury City Band for participating in the event.

Street Supervisor's Report

Mr. Slodysko reported that the crew has been replacing faded street signage and repairing, cleaning and polishing equipment for next season. The bricks are installed at the playground and Mr. Slodysko plans to repair lights in King Street Park and repair potholes in the streets. The tar buggy is in working order but the temperatures are currently too cold to run it. Mr. Slodysko will have it running once the temperatures reach 50 degrees.

Northumberland Sewer Authority Report - No report

Emergency Services Board Report – No report

Mr. Wolfe reported that he received a complaint about the speed of a fire truck going through the Borough. Mr. Wolfe will speak to the Fire Chief concerning the complaint.

Committee Reports

Community Development

Mayor Brosius stated that the committee feels that there will be enough funds to renovate the multi-purpose room and kitchenette at the 2nd Street Community Center since the vo-tech school teachers have toured the building and plan to propose to the superintendent of the school that the students work on the various components of the project during the next school year. The funds would be required for the materials, transportation for the students, and any work that the students would not be able to do such as install the beam in the multi-purpose room. The committee has a pledge from the Luther S. Savidge Foundation and is seeking other funding.

The committee would like the council to approve an application for a Pennsylvania Conservation Corps grant. If awarded, this grant would provide for a crew leader and crew for one year beginning in July 2009. The state would also provide up to \$15,000 toward materials. The committee is proposing that the scope of work include the renovation of the gymnasium, stage, and basement areas of the 2nd Street building. The application is due on January 9, 2009. Mr. Wolfe moved to apply for the Pennsylvania Conservation Corps grant. Mrs. Groninger seconded the motion. Roll call vote was unanimously approved.

The Borough has applied to the county for Community Development Block Grant funding to install handicapped restrooms on either side of the stage and handicapped access to exterior doors of the building.

Mr. Wolfe requested that the also Borough explore grants for trees.

Finance

On motion by Ms. Lark, seconded by Mr. Long, the council unanimously voted to approve the 2009 Budget.

On motion by Mr. Long, seconded by Mr. Straub, the council unanimously voted to approve Ordinance 2008-6. This ordinance establishes the Property Tax Rates for 2009.

Personnel

Mrs. Groninger stated that Sherry Rhoades has tendered her resignation as a school crossing guard. Mrs. Rhoades was the crossing guard at Front and Hanover Street. On motion by Mrs. Groninger, seconded by Mr. Long, the council voted unanimously to accept Sherry Rhoades' resignation with regret. Council discussed the need of a crossing guard at this corner since no elementary children cross Front Street at this intersection. Crossing guards are on duty at Front and Orange Streets and Water and Orange Streets.

Mrs. Groninger moved to adopt a police department policy on part time officers filling open shifts. Mr. Wetzel seconded the motion. This policy was proposed by Chief Fink and requires that part time officers work at least twelve (12) shifts in addition to the annual mandatory training per year to be considered a part time police officer unless they are not needed to fill a shift, then the shifts needed for the year would be one less than twelve for every month a part time police officer is not called to fill a shift. The policy was unanimously approved by roll call vote.

Public Safety

No report

Rules

Ms. Lark reported that the committee is working on an ordinance that addresses dogs and other animals in the Borough. She noted that once a few changes are made, the council will be provided with copies of the ordinance to review.

Ms. Lark also reported that PennDOT has approved the School Speed Limit of 15 miles per hour restriction for locations at the Northumberland Christian School and C.W. Rice Middle School. PennDOT has provided information regarding the signs needed to post the restriction, the hours of the restriction and the locations of the signs. The required information has been inserted into Ordinance 2008-5 which establishes the school speed zones. Ms. Lark moved and Mr. Long seconded a motion to approve Ordinance 2008-5. Roll call vote to approve the ordinance was unanimous.

The committee is seeking sample ordinances to review that address satellite dishes and fences.

Streets

The committee had met with PennDOT to discuss reconstruction plans for Routes 11 and 147. PennDOT has requested that the Borough agree to the installation of cameras at traffic lights to regulate the lights instead of the electronic devices under the street. Once installed, the maintenance is the responsibility of the Borough and according to PennDOT the cameras are less costly to maintain.

The council discussed a letter from PennDOT requesting that the Borough pay a portion of the cost to install handicapped ramps along Duke Street when PennDOT repaves the street and determined that concurrence not be given.

Old Business

1. Mr. Wolfe has provided the council with a list of dates for the 2009 council meetings. He stated that the committees remain the same for 2009 and requested that the committee chairmen inform the office if the dates and times of the meetings are to change so the meetings may be advertised.

New Business

1. Mr. Rees moved to approve the minutes of the December 1, 2008 council meeting. Ms. Lark seconded the motion. Roll call vote: Mrs. Groninger, Ms. Lark, Mr. Straub and Mr. Wolfe voted aye; Mr. Long, Mr. Rees and Mr. Wetzel abstained. The motion was approved 4-0 with 3 abstentions.
2. Mrs. Groninger and Mr. Long moved and seconded a motion to approve payment of the bills. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote – All ayes. Bills to be paid from the General Fund total \$22,652.37.
3. The Pennsylvania State Association of Boroughs has requested that the Borough complete a 2009 Capital Budget Requirement Survey with estimates of infrastructure and capital budget needs including public works, environmental, public safety, recreational and municipal facilities. Mr. Wolfe suggested that council members and staff members complete sections of the questionnaire and provide the information to the office by the first week of January.
4. A request for a handicapped parking space was received from Thomas Propst of 331 Fourth Street. Mr. Straub and Mr. Wetzel moved and seconded a motion to approve his request. Discussion ensued. Roll call vote: Mr. Rees, Mr. Straub, Mr. Wetzel voted aye; Mr. Long, Mr. Wolfe, Mrs. Groninger and Ms. Lark voted nay. A letter will be sent to Mr. Propst with the suggestion that he may reapply once he provides a copy of his handicapped placard.
5. Larson Design Group, Inc. submitted a proposal to provide General Consulting Services in 2009. There is no retainer fee as part of the consultation agreement. Mr. Wolfe tabled the request until January.
6. Mr. Straub noted that the Kiwanis Club used to put their trash in the garbage can at the garage but that the barrels are no longer at the garage. Mr. Slodysko stated that

they were moved to the rear of the garage. The council's consensus was that the Kiwanis may place their trash in the Borough's dumpster.

7. Mayor Brosius received an email from a representative of Best Buy. The company employees may provide volunteer service to the community and will contact her after the holidays to learn of possible projects.
8. Mr. Slodysko informed the council that the clock in front of the Northumberland National Bank is not working. It had been donated to the Borough by the bank when it was erected. Council discussed various options and suggested that it be taken down until council has more information and decides what to do with it.
9. The articles for the winter newsletter are due by January 2, 2009.
10. Mr. Straub noted that the Recycling Center processed 290,000 pounds of materials in 2008. Mrs. Groninger commended Mr. Straub for his work at the recycling center, adding that since he has become involved, the program is well-organized. Others commented on the improvements to the center and recognized that the center has new volunteers.
11. Ms. Lark stated that she has a new appreciation for the work that is undertaken by the council members since she has been on the council. It was also noted that this council provides information to the public through the newsletters and the borough website.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:08 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Janice R. Bowman
Borough Secretary