

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 7, 2021

The regular meeting of the North East Borough Council was held on Monday, June 7, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, 31 West Main Street, North East, PA.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENT: Denise McCumber, Vice President
Heather Barnett, President Pro Tem
Bill Beardsley
Greg Henning
Deb Wurst

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Gregory, Mayor
Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager
Dan Miller, Borough Solicitor
Julio Pazmino, Wastewater Superintendent
Wayne Yokom, Streets Superintendent
Mark Hamman, Assistant Streets Superintendent
Terry Daughenbaugh, Water Department
Sean Lam, Captain
Lori Sosnowski, Administrative Assistant
Todd Luke
Joe and Cindy Sell
Larry Morton Sr.
Ed and Hazel Prather
Brenton Davis
Bob Belson
Michael Hamman
Jon Triana
Jack DiOrazio, Sr.
Tom Huber
Allen Dalrymple
Robert Hoyt, Jr.
Corwin Quinby
David Hirtzel
Chris Skrekla
Bill Klenz
Mike Carlstrom
Daniel Wilkinson
Heather Jones
Nathan Niles
Heather Kelly
Roy Bemiss
Ken Snyder
William Aulenbacher
Jeff Stritzinger

CALL TO ORDER:

Vice President Denise McCumber called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES:

♦ **May 3, 2021**

The minutes from the May 3, 2021, meeting were reviewed. H. Barnett motioned to approve the minutes as presented. G. Henning seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

Expense Approval Report

G. Henning motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented. H. Barnett seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

No public comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business:

NEW BUSINESS:

Request for Financial Support for NEFD Annual Insurance Premiums – Officers and Members of NEFD

Chris Skrekla read the memorandum from the North East Fire Department that was sent to Borough Council and Township Supervisors. The memorandum states the fire department will not “achieve the revenue of a traditional Cherry Festival. As a result, we will be short on our fundraising goal. The purpose of this correspondence is to respectfully request that the Borough and Township of North East once again help Fuller Hose Co. #1 and Crescent Hose Co. #2 with the \$39,832 necessary to cover the cost of our annual vehicle, building and liability insurance premiums.” D. McCumber stated she does not understand how the fire department knows they will not reach their goal. C. Skrekla stated he will get back to her on that. Mayor Gregory suggested that some firemen, Pat Gehrlein and some council members meet together to review the figures and discuss a strategy before revisiting the request. Council was in agreement.

Resolution No. 06072021-1; Borrowing Resolution - Wastewater

P. Gehrlein stated Resolution No. 06072021-1 is for a 2020 Mack Truck that will be used to haul sludge to the landfill. H. Barnett motioned to approve Resolution No. 06072021-1 as presented. B. Beardsley seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Heather Barnett	<u>Yes</u>	Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>
Greg Henning	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>
Deb Wurst	<u>Yes</u>		

Letter of Resignation – Patrolman Alec Colosimo

Letter of Resignation – Partolman Zachery Buell

Captain Lam stated Patrolman Alec Colosimo has accepted a full-time position with the Millcreek Police Department and Patrolman Zachery Buell has accepted a full-time position with the City of Corry Police Department. G. Henning motioned to accept A. Colosimo’s letter of resignation. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously. B. Beardsley motioned to accept Z. Buell’s letter of resignation. D. Wurst seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

1st Quarter 2021 Shut Off Register

H. Barnett motioned to approve the 1st Quarter 2021 Shut Off Register. D. Wurst seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Heard Park Request – Michael Spellman

Michael Spellman is requesting use of Heard Park on August 7, 2021, from 12:00 p.m. until 2:00 p.m. to host a water gun fight. B. Beardsley motioned to approve the request as presented. G. Henning seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Street Request – Edyie Reed

Edyie Reed is requesting closing Lowry Lane on August 14, 2021, from 3:30 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. for a wedding reception. H. Barnett motioned to approve the request as presented. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Heard Park Request – Corwin Quinby

Corwin Quinby is requesting use of Heard Park on July 23, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. until 12:00 a.m. for a musical event to bring awareness to mental illness. P. Gehrlein asked if they could retract the request for now and he would call C. Quinby to discuss the details regarding the request. Council agreed that it is a great cause but the event needs to be positive for everyone.

Gibson Park Request – Patti Stempka, Powerful Pink Warriors

Patti Stempka is requesting use of Gibson Park on October 2, 2021, from 6:30 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. for the annual NE Light Up Night for Making Strides Against Breast Cancer. B. Beardsley motioned to approve the request as presented. D. Wurst seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

All Borough facility, parks and streets requests have been granted subject to COVID-19 restrictions and guidelines at the time of the scheduled event. However, dependent on the coronavirus pandemic, all events are subject to change or cancellation.

Second Monthly Meeting – June 21, 2021

P. Gehrlein stated there will not be a second monthly meeting.

P. Gehrlein stated the discussion with the landlords was very productive. Inspections of the properties will begin soon.

P. Gehrlein stated the walk around town went well with approximately 10 individuals in attendance.

P. Gehrlein stated there is a public meeting being held on June 22nd at 6:00 p.m. at Heard Memorial Park regarding the North East Area Comprehensive Plan Update. Everyone is welcome to attend and voice their opinions.

P. Gehrlein mentioned the Erie Philharmonic will be in Gibson Park on June 23rd for the first in a series of four concerts.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Borough Council acknowledged receipt of the following:

Police Captain's Report

Code Enforcement Report

Prior to Executive Session, there was discussion regarding the property inspections.

The meeting recessed at 7:45 p.m. to Executive Session with action to be taken.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel Matters

At 7:58 p.m., the meeting reconvened.

B. Beardsley motioned to promote Mark Kaday as the Water Department Assistant Superintendent with a salary of \$75,000.00. G. Henning seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried. The vote was as follows:

Heather Barnett	<u>No</u>	Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>
Greg Henning	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>
Deb Wurst	<u>Yes</u>		

B. Beardsley motioned to increase the salary of Terry Daughenbaugh, Water Department Superintendent, to \$83,500.00. D. Wurst seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Heather Barnett	<u>Yes</u>	Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>
Greg Henning	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>
Deb Wurst	<u>Yes</u>		

ADJOURNMENT:

At 8:02 p.m., G. Henning motioned to adjourn the meeting. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Lori Sosnowski (June 8, 2021)

Patrick J. Gehrlein, Borough Manager