

BOROUGH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

October 4, 2021

The regular meeting of the North East Borough Council was held on Monday, October 4, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Borough Hall, 31 West Main Street, North East, PA.

BOROUGH COUNCIL PRESENT: David Hall, President
Denise McCumber, Vice President
Bill Beardsley
Greg Henning
Deb Wurst

OTHERS PRESENT: Steve Gregory, Mayor
Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager
Dan Miller, Borough Solicitor
Wayne Yokom, Streets Superintendent
Terry Daughenbaugh, Water Superintendent
Sean Lam, Captain
Nancy Anderson, Administrative Assistant
Todd Luke
Ryan McGregor
Bob Behrens, Jr.
David Hirtzel
Jacob Jones
Heather Jones
Rebecca Bliss
Jon Triana
Tom Huber
Joe Schneider
Libby Rosequist

CALL TO ORDER:
President David Hall called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

MINUTES:
♦ **September 7, 2021**
The minutes from the September 7, 2021, meeting were reviewed. G. Henning motioned to approve the minutes as presented. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:
Expense Approval Report
D. McCumber motioned to approve the Accounts Payable Report as presented. G. Henning seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Joseph Schneider, 64 Eaton Drive, stated the Streets Department did a superb job of keeping the park and streets clean during the Wine Festival.

R. Behrens, Jr., 97 Wall Street, asked about the progress of fixing Clinton Street and Wall Street as well as the grant money allocated for that area. P. Gehrlein stated this project will be part of a larger project which include older water, sewer and storm sewer line replacement. The line replacements will be rectified before the ADA ramps and repaving are completed. B. Behrens then asked about more lighting and cameras. P. Gehrlein stated the cameras have been acquired and the lighting is being allocated.

Jon Triana, 50 Blaine Street, also acknowledged the superb job done by the Streets Department during the Wine Festival. J. Triana asked about twice a week garbage collection. P. Gehrlein stated garbage collection is now once a week.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

Ordinance No. 915, Amend Non-Uniform Pension Plan Administered by the PMRS Pursuant to Article IV

P. Gehrlein stated this ordinance is the reinstatement of the Borough’s pension plans; Cash Balance Plan and Defined Benefit Plan which have been in existence since 1962. P. Gehrlein stated after review, the plan is the same as previous. D. McCumber motioned to advertise Ordinance No. 915 as presented. D. Wurst seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>	Greg Henning	<u>Yes</u>
Dave Hall	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>
Deb Wurst	<u>Yes</u>		

Finance Committee Meeting Brief

P. Gehrlein discussed funds that were received from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). Based upon size, population and need, North East Borough received approximately \$422,000.00 which comes in two phases. This year we received approximately \$211,000.00 to be applied towards COVID preventative measures, healthcare accessory benefits as well as replenishing any lost revenues and community projects that will benefit a large group of people affected by COVID. B. Beardsley stated the Finance Committee met and agreed to give \$60,000.00 towards the fire departments’ training facility. G. Henning motioned to give the fire department \$60,000.00 to be used towards the fire departments’ training facility. D. McCumber seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>	Greg Henning	<u>Yes</u>
Dave Hall	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>
Deb Wurst	<u>Yes</u>		

Trick or Treat Hours 🎃 Sunday, October 31, 2021

Mayor Gregory stated Trick or Treat hours will be Sunday, October 31, 2021, from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m.

Second Monthly Meeting – October 12, 2021 Go To Meeting

P. Gehrlein stated there will be a second monthly “Go To Meeting” on October 12, 2021, prior to the Erie County Council meeting, to adopt a resolution regarding CDBG Allocation for 2021.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Borough Council acknowledged receipt of the following:

Code Enforcement Report

Police Chief’s Report

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Park Plaque Dedication

Mayor Gregory delivered a proclamation passed and adopted October 4, 2021, honoring the dedication of Mike Skrekla, Mike McCumber and Randy Culver who placed their service to the North East Community and its citizens above their own needs. Mayor Gregory also stated a plaque will be installed at Freeport Beach honoring these former North East Borough Superintendents. P. Gehrlein stated a ceremony will be forthcoming.

The meeting recessed at 7:12 p.m. to Executive Session with no action.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Personnel Matters

At 7:25 p.m., the meeting reconvened.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:26 p.m., D. McCumber motioned to adjourn the meeting. G. Henning seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Nancy Anderson (October 5, 2021)

Patrick J. Gehrlein, Borough Manager