

**MINUTES  
NORTH EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Second Monthly Meeting  
July 18, 2022  
6:00 p.m.**

The second monthly meeting of North East Borough Council was held Monday, July 18, 2022, at **6:00 p.m.** in Council Chambers.

**BOROUGH COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Denise McCumber, President  
Bill Beardsley, Vice President  
Todd Luke, President Pro Tem  
Heather Jones  
Ryan McGregor  
Amber Belson

**OTHERS PRESENT:**

Jon Triana, Mayor  
Patrick Gehrlein, via phone  
Rebecca Bliss, Administrative Assistant  
Dan Miller, Solicitor  
Sean Lam, Police Chief  
Terry Daughenbaugh, Water Supervisor  
Mark Kaday  
David Hirtzel  
Allen Dalrymple  
Dave Meehl  
Robert Behrens  
Ray Schaff  
Ann Schaff  
Dan Adamus  
Chris Skrekla  
Eric Luke  
Bob Hamman  
Others present, not signed in

**CALL TO ORDER:**

Borough Council President D. McCumber called the meeting to order at 5:59 p.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

D. McCumber asked for a motion to approve the revised agenda, stating the need for an Executive Session regarding personnel matters occurred over the weekend. B. Beardsley motioned to approve the revised agenda as presented. T. Luke seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

R. Behrens, 97 Wall Street, asked who is responsible for the sidewalks along Route 89 and other state roads. P. Gehrlein stated that the state is accountable to sidewalks, curbs, aprons, etc. on state roads. He also stated that PennDOT provides specs and regulations for their maintenance and repair.

B. Hamman, township resident, thanked the Borough for removing the fishing signs from the road/bridge at Smith Reservoir, but stated that fishing is still a problem in the area. T. Daughenbaugh confirmed that fishing is not permitted in the area due to safety concerns. D. McCumber suggested looking for ways to safely create a designated fishing area, but reminded those present of the safety and liability concerns.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

**Request for Insurance Premium – North East Fire Companies**

D. McCumber stated that both fire companies submitted the necessary information to Borough Council regarding their request for insurance premium coverage. D. McCumber stated that the Cherry Festival was a big success, thanking the firemen for their efforts, and recognized that there will not be a finalized total for weeks to come. B. Beardsley motioned to approve the request to pay half of the insurance premium, contingent upon the North East Township’s agreement to pay the other half. C. Skrekla stated that the North East Township denied the request earlier that day. B. Beardsley rescinded his motion to approve half payment contingent upon the North East Township’s agreement. A. Belson and H. Jones expressed their support for financially helping the fire companies to allow them to use their fundraising proceeds to pay other bills, improve training, and maintain vehicles. H. Jones motioned to approve the request for insurance premium made by the North East Fire Companies to pay \$26,458.50, representing half of the quoted insurance premium. A. Belson seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Heather Jones	<u>Yes</u>	Ryan McGregor	<u>Yes</u>
Todd Luke	<u>Yes</u>	Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>
Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>	Amber Belson	<u>Yes</u>

D. McCumber stated that future requests for insurance premium coverage by the North East Fire Companies must be made to Borough Council no later than the first week of October in order to be considered for inclusion in next year’s budget.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

**Resolution No. 07182022-1, Application to DCED – Keystone Communities Grant**

P. Gehrlein stated the purpose of this resolution is to allow the submission of a grant application for a downtown streetscape grant. The proposed grant funding would cover improvements to sidewalks and walkways, curbing, and aprons in a portion of the Borough along Routes 89 and 20, at approximately \$485,000, to be awarded late summer or early fall of 2022. B. Beardsley motioned to approve Resolution No. 07182022-1, Application to DCED – Keystone Communities Grant. A. Belson seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Heather Jones	<u>Yes</u>	Ryan McGregor	<u>Yes</u>
Todd Luke	<u>Yes</u>	Denise McCumber	<u>Yes</u>
Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>	Amber Belson	<u>Yes</u>

**Request for Borough Streets: Downtown North East, Inc – 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Fest Stride ‘n Stomp 5k run/walk**

A. Belson motioned to approve the Request for Borough Streets by Downtown North East, Inc for the 11<sup>th</sup> Annual Wine Fest Stride ‘n Stomp 5k run/walk to be held on Saturday, September 24, 2022. T. Luke seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

**CORRESPONDENCE:**

There was no correspondence.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

J. Triana thanked the North East Police Department and North East Fire Department for their work during the Cherry Festival.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

D. Meehl, Fire Chief, thanked the Borough and the North East Police Department for their support during the Cherry Festival.

D. Slater, 150 Grahamville Street, requested that North East switch to a fully paid fire department with competitive wages in order to reduce the number of missed emergency calls. D. McCumber stated that Crescent Hose is in the process of hiring part-time EMS workers to cover day shifts. R. Schaff confirmed that two EMS personnel should be starting the day shift in the near future, stating that they are working on scheduling.

D. Hirtzel, 186 South Washington Street, asked if it would be possible to have Porta-Potties available during the Cherry Festival Parade next year. A. Belson agreed and suggested looking into companies and pricing for next year.

R. Schaff, 49 Gibson Street, presented a letter from Judge Nygaard's chambers stating that a film crew will be in town on Friday, July 22, 2022, to film a documentary on Judge Nygaard's 50 years of service. Chief Lam stated that barricades will be set up to only allow local traffic through that section of Gibson Street during the filming.

R. Behrens, 97 Wall Street, asked if electric golf carts were allowed to be driven on the road. Chief Lam stated that they are not allowed on public streets according to the Vehicle Code. R. Behrens stated that non-vehicle traffic should be following all traffic rules to improve safety on the roads.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:****Personnel Matters**

The executive session convened at 6:48 p.m. regarding personnel matters, and ended at 7:08 p.m.

Following the reconvening of the regular meeting, D. McCumber stated that no action would be taken after the Executive Session.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

At 7:08 p.m., T. Luke motioned to adjourn. R. McGregor seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

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Rebecca Bliss (July 19, 2022)

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Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager