

MINUTES NORTH EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL

Second Monthly Meeting September 19, 2022

The second monthly meeting of North East Borough Council was held Monday, September 19, 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, Borough Manager
Rebecca Bliss, Administrative Assistant
Julio Pazmino, Waste Water Supervisor
Wayne Yokom, Streets Supervisor
Mark Hamman, Streets Assistant Supervisor
Joe Schneider
Nancy Schneider
Ronald Klepadlo
Tabetha Kopta

CALL TO ORDER:
Borough Council President D. McCumber called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:
There were no public comments.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

2023 MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan

P. Gehrlein stated that the 2023 MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan became available following the September 6, 2022, Borough Council Meeting. He stated that the calculation of the 2023 MMO requires an estimate of the 2022 W-2 wages of employees covered by the plan. The 2023 MMO for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan is \$77, 511. R. McGregor motioned to approve the 2023 MMO (Minimum Municipal Obligation) for the Non-Uniform Pension Plan as presented. T. Luke 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>

NEW BUSINESS:

Eaton Reservoir Request: Pennsylvania Sled Dog Club, Inc – Two Day Dryland Sled Dog Race

R. Klepadlo stated his interest in holding a two-day dryland sled dog race at Eaton Reservoir on November 19-20, 2022. He stated that marked races would include wheeled sleds, bikes, and running, to be timed and ranked over the two-day period. A. Belson motioned to approve the Eaton Reservoir Request: Pennsylvania Sled Dog Club, Inc—Two Day Dryland Sled Dog Race. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Discussion of Borough Council By-laws

H. Jones discussed proposed the following changes be made to the Borough Council By-Laws: update the Borough Council meeting time, committee names, financial report names, and commissioner assignments as necessary. D. McCumber asked if a roll call vote was required for every action item on a meeting agenda. P. Gehrlein stated that it would be beneficial but is not necessarily required for every circumstance. H. Jones motioned to approve the proposed edits to the Borough Council By-Laws. T. Luke 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>

Draft Presentation of Preliminary North East Area Comprehensive Plan

P. Gehrlein discussed the draft presentation of the preliminary North East Area Comprehensive Plan, drafted over the past 18 months by representatives from the North East Borough, North East Township, and other community stakeholders. P. Gehrlein stated that the draft plan outlines three areas of focus including improving parks, improving the downtown area, and preserving the rural characteristics of North East. P. Gehrlein also discussed the possibility of expanding the central business district and improvements to the subdivision and land use planning process. P. Gehrlein stated that a public meeting will be scheduled to review the plan before it is finalized.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

J. Triana, Mayor, asked about the lack of a crossing guard on West Main Street in front of Borough Hall. P. Gehrlein stated that Chief Lam is working to increase staffing of crossing guards. P. Gehrlein stated that a police officer is sometimes asked to cover the area in special circumstances, but a permanent crossing guard would be ideal.

P. Gehrlein stated that the North East Borough and Prism Glass Recycling will be partnering to provide a pilot curbside glass recycling program during the month of November 2022. Participation in the pilot program will help determine the long-term feasibility of offering curbside glass recycling on a regular basis, which would help reduce the landfill costs for the Borough. P. Gehrlein stated that more information will be presented to the public prior to November 2022.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:22 p.m., H. Jones motioned to adjourn. T. Luke seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Rebecca Bliss (September 20, 2022)

Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager