

**MINUTES
NORTH EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL**

**Monthly Meeting
July 1, 2024**

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Amber Belson, President
Ryan McGregor, Vice President
Todd Luke, President Pro Tem
Nancy Anderson
Heather Jones
Bill Beardsley

OTHERS PRESENT:

Bobbi Jo Morey, Mayor
Dan Miller, Solicitor
Rebecca Bliss, Administrative Assistant
Sean Lam, Police Chief
Julio Pazmino, Waste Water Supervisor
Tyler Simmer, Water Supervisor
Deborah Montgomery
Diana Hanes
Ray Schaff
Nanci Haibach
Allen Dalrymple
Joseph Schneider
Sherry Reed
Debra Meehl
Eric Luke
Amy Stewart
Ben Jackson
William Rutledge
Paul Crowe
Others present, not signed in

PUBLIC HEARING:

Ordinance 933 – Ordinance Governing Use of Heard Park

Borough Council Vice President R. McGregor called the Public Hearing to order at 6:00 p.m.

There were no public comments.

The public hearing ended at 6:01 p.m.

The regular monthly meeting of North East Borough Council will be held Monday, July 1, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER:

At the conclusion of the Public Hearing, Borough Council Vice President R. McGregor called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., at which time the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

INVOCATION:

R. McGregor offered the invocation.

MINUTES:

H. Jones motioned to approve the June 3, 2024, minutes as presented. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

EXPENSE REPORT:

H. Jones motioned to approve the Expense Approval Report as presented. T. Luke seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

Nanci Haibach – North East History Museum Proposal

N. Haibach gave a brief presentation of the history of the North East Laundry Basket and the ball sign that was recently removed. She stated that the ball sign used to light up and revolve, and that it is a historical artifact that should be displayed in town. She stated that she has been in contact with Harbor Creek Township, who received the ball from the laundromat, and that they are willing to return the ball to the North East Historical Society. N. Haibach stated that the Historical Society would like to restore the ball and display it as a historical tourism attraction in town.

Sherry Reed, 1700 N Pearl St – Eaton Reservoir Restroom Petition

S. Reed stated that she is a frequent visitor to Eaton Reservoir and expressed her frustration with the lack of restroom facilities on the east side of the property. She presented a petition asking for restroom facilities to be placed on the east side of the reservoir for visitors to use. T. Simmer stated that there is a grant in-process that will be used to build a restroom facility on the east side of the reservoir. He also stated that the Game Commission currently supplies Eaton Reservoir with a portable restroom on the west side of the property and might be willing to add another on the east side of the property until the permanent restroom facility can be built.

Joseph Schneider, 64 Eaton Drive – Code Enforcement Procedures

J. Schnieder stated that he has spoken with Council and Borough employees regarding on-going problems with his neighbor over the past year and has seen no improvement. He stated that the current Borough ordinances need updated in order to streamline the process for complaints and corrective action. He asked Council to support P. Gehrlein in writing new ordinances to improve the Code Enforcement procedures in town. A. Belson stated that P. Gehrlein is also working with the solicitor in this matter.

REPORTS FROM ELECTED OFFICERS:

There were no Reports from Elected Officers.

REPORTS FROM APPOINTED OFFICERS:

There were no Reports from Appointed Officers.

REPORTS FROM STANDING COMMITTEES:

There were no Reports from Standing Committees.

REPORTS FROM SPECIAL COMMITTEES:

There were no Reports from Special Committees.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Ordinance 933 – Ordinance Governing Use of Heard Park

H. Jones motioned to approve Ordinance 933—Ordinance Governing Use of Heard Park as presented. T. Luke seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried 5-1. The vote was as follows:

Nancy Anderson	<u>Yes</u>	Todd Luke	<u>Yes</u>
Amber Belson	<u>Yes</u>	Heather Jones	<u>Yes</u>
Ryan McGregor	<u>No</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>

NEW BUSINESS:

Resolution 07012024-1: Surplus Property Disposal Procedures – North East Police Department

Chief Lam stated that four rifles and one shotgun have been removed from service and are being sold to a firearms dealer, removing liability from the Borough. He stated that the funds from the sale will be used to purchase a new rifle. T. Luke motioned to approve Resolution 07012024-1: Surplus Property Disposal Procedures—North East Police Department as presented. N. Anderson seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Nancy Anderson	<u>Yes</u>	Todd Luke	<u>Yes</u>
Amber Belson	<u>Yes</u>	Heather Jones	<u>Yes</u>
Ryan McGregor	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>

Resolution 07012024-2: DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant Application

H. Jones motioned to approve Resolution 07012024-2: DCED Multimodal Transportation Grant Application as presented, with a typo correction. B. Beardsley seconded. After a roll call vote, the motion carried unanimously. The vote was as follows:

Nancy Anderson	<u>Yes</u>	Todd Luke	<u>Yes</u>
Amber Belson	<u>Yes</u>	Heather Jones	<u>Yes</u>
Ryan McGregor	<u>Yes</u>	Bill Beardsley	<u>Yes</u>

Gibson Park: DNE, Inc – Wine Fest Stride ‘n Stomp 5k (September 28)

T. Luke motioned to approve the request for Gibson Park: DNE, Inc – Wine Fest Stride ‘n Stomp 5k (September 28) as presented. H. Jones seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Second Monthly Meeting – July 15, 2024, if needed

R. Bliss stated that there will be a second monthly meeting on July 15, 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE:

- Police Chief Report
- Code Enforcement Report
- Departmental Report
- Manager’s Report
- Commissions and Authorities

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Belson asked T. Simmer to explain what is and is not allowed at Grahamville Reservoir. T. Simmer stated that the same rules apply as Eaton Reservoir: no ATVs or motorized vehicles, no motorized boats, no driving around the property; fishing and kayaking are permitted.

A. Belson asked Chief Lam to explain the laws concerning fireworks. Chief Lam stated that fireworks are not permitted within Borough limits.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

A. Stewart, 28 Colfax Street, stated that she presented her concern to the Borough Manager in November regarding the parking and traffic on Colfax Street and has not heard of a solution. A. Belson stated that an ordinance was passed last month making Colfax a one-way street, which will be implemented once signage is obtained and residents can be notified.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:24 p.m. H. Jones motioned to adjourn. B. Beardsley seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Rebecca Bliss (July 2, 2024)

Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager