

MINUTES
NORTH EAST BOROUGH COUNCIL

Monthly Meeting
December 2, 2024

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Amber Belson, President
Ryan McGregor, Vice President
Todd Luke, President Pro Tem, via phone
Nancy Anderson
Heather Jones
Bill Beardsley

OTHERS PRESENT: Bobbi Jo Morey, Mayor
Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager
Dan Miller, Solicitor, via phone
Rebecca Bliss, Administrative Assistant
Sean Lam, Police Chief
Julio Pazmino, Waste Water Supervisor
Tyler Simmer, Water Supervisor
Paul Crowe
Amy Burniston

The regular monthly meeting of North East Borough Council will be held Monday, December 2, 2024, at 6:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

CALL TO ORDER:

Borough Council President A. Belson 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:

B. Beardsley motioned to approve the November 4, 2024, minutes as presented. R. McGregor 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>

EXPENSE REPORT:

H. Jones motioned to approve the Expense Approval Report as presented. 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>

CITIZENS TO BE HEARD:

There were no Citizens to be Heard.

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:

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

2025 Proposed Budget

P. Gehrlein stated that the Finance Committee met several times to review the proposed budget, which is comprised of six total funds: the general fund, water fund, sewer fund, shade tree fund, gas tax fund, and the Krefl fund. He stated that the proposed budget is balanced as presented with no increases in water, sewer, or garbage rates. N. Anderson motioned to advertise the 2025 Proposed Budget as presented. H. Jones 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>

2025 Tax Ordinance

A. Belson stated that the proposed 2025 Tax Ordinance was a difficult consideration after ten years of no tax increases in the Borough. She stated that the proposed increase would affect the average household by approximately \$37 per year, stating that the minimal tax increase is necessary in order to avoid cutting other services to residents as already provided by the Borough. B. Beardsley stated that, if delayed, a future tax increase would likely be more substantial. R. McGregor motioned to advertise the 2025 Tax Ordinance as presented. H. Jones 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>

North East Community Marina Authority: Resignation of Board Member – Eric Urbanowicz

A. Belson stated that E. Urbanowicz has submitted his resignation from the North East Community Marina Authority citing health concerns. She thanked him for his service to the Marina and wished him good health.

B. Beardsley motioned to approve the North East Community Marina Authority: Resignation of Board Member – Eric Urbanowicz as presented. R. McGregor 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>

3rd Quarter 2024 Water Shut Off List – To be presented

H. Jones motioned to approve the 3rd Quarter 2024 Water Shut Off List as presented. 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>

Second Monthly Meeting – December 16, 2024, if needed

A. Belson stated that there will be a second monthly meeting on December 16, 2024.

CORRESPONDENCE:

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

A. Belson stated that the National Guard is in town due to the snow emergency, but that they will not shovel, plow, or help with snow removal, but that they may bring food and water. She stated that their focus is on the elderly and those with special needs.

A. Belson thanked the Streets Department and first responders for their hard work during the snowstorm.

A. Belson stated that the Chamber’s Tree-mendous Night of Lights has been rescheduled for December 7, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

P. Crowe, 8739 Windy Lane, asked when the sunset camera will be back online from Freeport Beach. P. Gehrlein stated that they are aware of the issue but are waiting on the repair technician.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:31 p.m. H. Jones motioned to adjourn. N. Anderson seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Rebecca Bliss (December 3, 2024)

Patrick Gehrlein, Borough Manager