A regular meeting of the Northampton County Council was held on the above date with the following present: Ron Angle, President; John Cusick, Vice President; Thomas H. Dietrich; J. Michael Dowd; Margaret L. Ferraro; Bruce A. Gilbert; Lamont G. McClure, Jr.; Ann McHale; Barbara A. Thierry and Frank E. Flisser, Clerk to Council, and Philip D. Lauer, Solicitor to Council.

Prayer

Pastor Bob McIntyre, Olivet United Presbyterian Church, Easton, led County Council in prayer to open the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Former County Executive, County Council Member and Veteran Gerry Seyfried led County Council in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. McClure made the following motion:

Be It Moved By the Northampton County Council that the minutes of the December 2, 2010 meeting shall be approved.

Mrs. Thierry seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Justus James, 8762 South Loop Road, Slatington, PA - stated he heard that County Council could not put the Gracedale issue on the ballot, but it did put the Open Space Referendum on it. He further stated the citizens of Northampton County had a right to vote on this issue.

Mr. Ken Wildrick, 79 Central Drive, Easton, PA - advised he
was here in support of continuing the Board of Health so it could finish its work especially since there would be no cost to the County. He further advised he felt a health department was an intricate component to the fabric of health care.

Mr. Wildrick stated a health department did not duplicate services provided by a physician community or local hospitals and had expertise and knowledge in areas that they did not have. He further stated it did not provide direct patient care through clinics or various care facilities.

Mr. Wildrick advised a health department would track patterns of community illnesses and attack them by developing and coordinating responses to them, as well as to get vaccines to areas in need. He further advised a health department guided responses to natural disasters and kept and maintained updated information of health issues that resulted from such disasters.

Mr. Wildrick stated health departments developed and subsequently coordinated the health care community responses to medical issues arising from home-grown terrorism and international terrorism perpetrated here at home. He further stated these included such things as biological terrorism, radiation and dirty bomb terrorism. He noted there needed to be a knowledgeable, organized and coordinated body that could mobilize and effectively direct community wide medical providers.

Mr. Wildrick advised a health department did this by being the central resource of all the critical information required that would allow them to facilitate prompt and effective action during a health crisis. He further advised when something occurred, they would be able to disseminate information quickly, articulately and effectively to those individuals who needed to know.

Mr. Wildrick respectfully asked County Council to support the continuance of the Board of Health’s work until it was completed. He stated a health department was important for the good of the public and should be established.

Ms. Joan Dean, 1277 Briarwood Lane, Easton, PA - stated she
was President of the League of Women Voters of Northampton County and on behalf of the League, she was present to urge County Council’s continued support and consideration of the plan for a bi-County health department. She further stated for more than 30 years, the League had been actively campaigning for a health department that would serve all the citizens of Northampton County. She noted they considered it to be an investment in the future, as well as the health and welfare of the County’s residents. She further noted the work of the Board of Health was not costing the County any money and the County would be falling short of its duties to protect its citizens should an epidemic or disaster strike.

Ms. Marlou Belyea, 12537 Firethorne Drive, Easton, PA - advised she had lived here for 12 years and loved her new State, but was disappointed that there was no health department to turn to as there were in many other states. She further advised Pennsylvania had a very poor public health record, therefore, she asked County Council to allow the Board of Health to continue its work and hopefully, within the next year establish a health department.

Ms. Patricia Felix, 1721 Millard Street, Bethlehem, PA - stated she was opposed to a bi-County health department, not because it could be beneficial, but because this country and State were in a situation where it could no longer afford to have everything that would be nice to have. She further stated, in a few years, if the current economic situation improved, maybe it could be reconsidered.

Ms. Marylou Zimmer, 3305 Marwood Lane, Easton, PA - advised her husband addressed County Council at another meeting and asked if they felt it was morally right to make a profit off of someone who could not defend for themselves and each one, except Mr. McClure who was not present, agreed it was not, but that was exactly what they were doing by selling Gracedale to a private company. She then provided County Council with rating lists of nursing homes in Northampton, Dauphin, Lehigh and Luzerne Counties, which she reviewed.

Ms. Zimmer stated she and many others could not understand why the members of County Council were planning to move with the sale of Gracedale if they really wanted what was best for the residents. Therefore, she asked County Council, for the sake of
the residents and their care, to rethink their plan to sell Gracedale.

Mr. Mario Martinez, 2555 Chestnut Lane, Forks Township, PA - advised he was not present today just representing the members of the Coalition of Alzheimer Families, but the approximately 20,000 County residents who have signed their petition. He further advised they have 10,000 signatures that have already been verified by the Election Commission so they would complete their goal. He noted the petitions represented the desire of the people.

Mr. Martinez stated farmland preservation mattered, but did it matter more than life preservation which was what they were talking about when speaking about Gracedale. He further stated he was not here as an enemy of County Council, but simply to ask that they do what the people were asking them to do before they had to do it themselves.

Mr. Chris Miller, 983 Bushkill Center Road, Nazareth, PA - advised it was his understanding that it was not just the Gracedale building that was a burden to the County, but the salaries and benefits as well. He further advised it was also his understanding that it was still going to be a nursing home after it was sold. He noted if County Council did reconsider the sale, it may find itself in the same situation or possibly worse, down the road.

Mr. Miller stated that Mr. Cusick had suggested putting back into the budget the position of Director of Court Services, at a salary of approximately $100,000 even though that position was created a number of years ago so it could be given to someone as a political favor.

Mr. Cusick advised he was not here at the time the position was established so he could not speak as to it’s creation and Mr. Miller would have to ask the person who created it.

Mr. Miller stated he believed that was the case so he hoped County Council would vote against putting it back into the budget because that money could be used elsewhere.

In answer to Mr. Miller’s question as to why he suggested lowering the taxes, Mr. Dietrich replied that there were some
members of County Council who planned to use some of the proceeds from the sale of Gracedale to fund open space so he felt if the County was going to cut spending and money was taken from taxpayers to do repairs that were not going to be done, they should get a reduction in their taxes.

Mr. Miller advised he did not think that any employee of the County should be involved in negotiating contracts for other employees of the County, especially politicians because it was a known fact that politicians have made deals with unions in order to gain votes and support of the union.

Mr. Miller then read several quotes of various individuals regarding the issue of debt. In conclusion, he urged County Council to continue with the process of selling Gracedale.

County Executive Report

Mr. John Stoffa, County Executive, advised he had no report.

Confirmation of Appointment

Mrs. McHale stated these appointments and re-appointments were not reviewed by the Personnel Committee, but were being presented directly to County Council.

Mrs. McHale introduced the following resolutions:

R. 121-2010  RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individual shall be confirmed in his appointment as indicated hereafter:

CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES ADVISORY BOARD

Appointment: William Pysher
Term to Expire: 12/31/12
4185 Greenwood Drive
Bethlehem PA 18020
R. 122-2010  RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individuals shall be confirmed in their re-appointment/appointment as indicated hereafter:

CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Re-appointment:                                      Term to Expire: 12/31/14
Donald Mack
1665 Mack Road
Pen Argyl PA 18072

MENTAL HEALTH, EARLY INTERVENTION & DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS ADVISORY BOARD

Appointments:                                      Terms to Expire: 12/9/13
Cheryl A. Dougan
253 East Church Street
Bethlehem PA 18018

Renzo Viscardi
418 Linden Street
Bethlehem PA 18018

Marion W. “Bonnie” Pearce
124 South 9th Street
Easton PA 18042

PRISON ADVISORY BOARD

Appointment:                                      Terms to Expire:
12/31/14
Harvey Joseph
958 Rainbow Drive
Bethlehem PA 18017

Re-appointment:
Daniel W. Hood
As there were no questions or comments regarding these appointments or re-appointments, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The resolutions were adopted by a vote of 9-0.

Comments Regarding Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. McClure advised he did not like to interrupt individuals during Courtesy of the Floor because he felt that was their time to speak, but he did want to respond to Mr. Miller’s comments. With regard to Gracedale, he noted that over the last twenty years, Gracedale gave to the County approximately $2.2 million.

Mr. McClure stated the $300,000 figure that Mr. Miller was questioning referred to money that was motioned to be put back into the budget of the Courts.

Introduction of the Ordinance Amending Northampton County
Mr. Angle advised the public hearing, debate and possible vote for this ordinance would be scheduled for the first business meeting in January, presumably January 6, 2011.

Mr. Angle and Mrs. Thierry introduced the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY
ADMINISTRATIVE CODE: ARTICLE V, DEPARTMENT
OF COURT SERVICES

WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter provides that the County Council shall adopt an ordinance which adopts or amends the Administrative Code.

IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED BY the Northampton County Council that:

I. The Administrative Code, Article V, Department of Court Services, shall be amended as indicated hereafter (Sections marked with **bold and underline** have been added; Sections marked with strikeout have been deleted):

   ARTICLE V
   DEPARTMENT OF COURT SERVICES

   Section 5.01
   Organization 5.02 Duties

Section 5.01 Organization

a. The Department of Court Services shall be headed by a Director **the Northampton County Director of Administration** who shall be responsible to the County Executive for administration of the Department.

b. The purpose of the Department of Court Services is to provide services for the management of court records and related
documents and to provide such other appropriate support for the operation of the Court as required by law and the Charter. Specifically, the Department includes all functions formerly performed by the Clerk of Court, Criminal Division; by the Clerk of Court, Civil Division (also referred to as Prothonotary); the Register of Wills and the Clerk of Orphan's Court.

c. The Director shall be responsible for continuous cooperation and coordination between this Department and the Court.

d. The Department shall be organized into the following Divisions:

(1) Clerk of Courts, Criminal Division;
(2) Clerk of Courts, Civil Division (also referred to as Prothonotary);
(3) Register of Wills;
(4) Clerk of Courts, Orphans' Court Division (also referred to as Clerk of Orphans' Court); and
(5) Archives Division.

Section 5.02 Duties

The Director of Court Services, in person or through subordinates, shall:

(1) organize, administer and provide the services and records required for the operation of the various divisions of the Court of Common Pleas, the Register of Wills and the Archives;

(2) develop and maintain effective communication and liaison with the Court so that services provided by the Department are in accord with legal requirements and the needs of judicial processes; and
III. Effective Date - This ordinance shall become effective January 1, 2011.

Consideration of Open Space Projects: A. Open Space/Natural Features: (1) Groff Property, B. Municipal Park Acquisition and Development: (1) East Bangor Borough, (2) Freemansburg Borough, (3) Hellertown Borough, (4) Lower Mount Bethel Township and (5) Lower Saucon Township

Mr. Cusick stated these were six Open Space projects that were already funded. He further stated all these projects were reviewed at the Open Space Committee meeting and they were unanimously approved by the members present.

Mr. Cusick introduced the following resolutions:

R. 123-2010  WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended the conservation easement acquisition by the Wildlands Conservancy of the Groff property, Moore Township, County of Northampton, which is described more fully in Exhibit “A” (a copy of which is attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County funding will be used to acquire properties as follows:

Property Owner(s): Ray and Patricia Groff
Site Location: 2080 West End Road, Moore Township, Northampton County
Parcel Identification G6-4-2
Site information: approximately 41.22 acres, wooded, tributary to the Bushkill Stream runs through parcel

Appraised Value: $202,000.00

County Grant Request: $101,000.00

Other Grants: $107,000.00 Moore Township

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED By the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby directs the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his/her designee, to take any and all steps necessary to complete the conservation easement acquisition by the Wildlands Conservancy of the Groff property, Moore Township, County of Northampton, located at 2080 West End Road, Moore Township, Northampton County being approximately 41.22 acres, and also known as Northampton County Uniform Parcel Identifier #G6-4-2.

(2) The Northampton County Council hereby directs the Northampton County Executive to appropriate $101,000.00 as consideration for the conservation easement acquisition by the Wildlands Conservancy of the Groff property.

R. 124-2010 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended approval of the East Bangor Borough Blaine Reimel Memorial Park Rehabilitation Project, which is described more fully in Exhibit “A” (a copy of which is attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County funding will be used as follows:

Property Owner: East Bangor Borough

Site Location: Park Road, East Bangor
County Council Minutes -12- December 9, 2010

Borough, Northampton County

Parcel Identification D10-14-1

Park Development Description: Security cameras, picnic tables, serving tables, basketball court, ADA-compliant toilets, aluminum overhead garage door

Appraised Value: No acquisition involved

Municipal Allocation: $35,286

County Grant Request: $35,286

Other Grants: $11,762 East Bangor Borough

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the East Bangor Borough Blaine Reimel Memorial Park Rehabilitation Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his designee, is directed to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

(2) The Northampton County Council further directs the Northampton County Executive to appropriate $35,286.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the East Bangor Borough Blaine Reimel Memorial Park Rehabilitation Project.
R. 125-2010 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended approval of the Freemansburg Borough Municipal Park Public Recreation Improvements Project, which is described more fully in Exhibit “A” (a copy of which is attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County funding will be used as follows:

- Property Owner: Freemansburg Borough
- Site Location: Cambria Street, Freemansburg Borough, Northampton County
- Parcel Identification: N7SW3D-13-10A
- Park Development Description: New perimeter walking path, basketball court reconstruction, drainage improvements, restroom facilities, a picnic area and sidewalks
- Appraised Value: No acquisition involved
- Municipal Allocation: $54,309.00
- County Grant Request: $54,309.00
- Other Grants: $160,000.00 CDBG, $22,691.00 Freemansburg

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Freemansburg Borough Municipal Park Public Recreation Improvements Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive,
through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his designee, is directed to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

(2) The Northampton County Council further directs the Northampton County Executive to appropriate $54,309.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the Freemansburg Borough Municipal Park Public Recreation Improvements Project.

WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended approval of the Hellertown Borough Municipal Recreation Project (Splash Pad at Dimmick Pool and Rail Trail Road Crossings), which is described more fully in Exhibit “A” (a copy of which is attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County funding will be used as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Owner:</th>
<th>Hellertown Borough</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Location:</td>
<td>Splash Pad - Durham Street; Rail Trail Road Crossings - Water Street and Walnut Street, Hellertown Borough, Northampton County</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parcel Identification</td>
<td>Splash Pad at Dimmick Pool Q07SW2C-07-001</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Development Description:</td>
<td>Splash Pad at Dimmick Pool - interactive water play area adjacent to pool Rail Trail Road Crossings - Water Street includes surfacing job, traffic signs and striping/road markers</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appraised Value:</td>
<td>No acquisition involved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Allocation:</td>
<td>$131,165.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Grant Request:</td>
<td>$ 50,343.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Hellertown Borough Municipal Recreation Project (Splash Pad at Dimmick Pool and Rail Trail Road Crossings). Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his designee, is directed to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

(2) The Northampton County Council further directs the Northampton County Executive to appropriate $50,343.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the Hellertown Borough Municipal Recreation Project (Splash Pad at Dimmick Pool and Rail Trail Road Crossings).

WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended approval of the Lower Mount Bethel Township Riverton Field Playground, Pavilion and Trail Project, which is described more fully in Exhibit “A” (a copy of which is attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County funding will be used as follows:

Property Owner: Lower Mount Bethel Township

Site Location: Martins Creek-Belvidere Highway, Lower Mount Bethel Township, Northampton County

Parcel Identification: F12-2-7H and F12-2-7J

Park Development Description: Install a playground, pavilion and trails at Riverton Field
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Lower Mount Bethel Township Riverton Field Playground, Pavilion and Trail Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his designee, is directed to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

(2) The Northampton County Council further directs the Northampton County Executive to appropriate $46,100.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the Lower Mount Bethel Township Riverton Field Playground, Pavilion and Trail Project.

R. 128-2010 WHEREAS the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended approval of the Lower Saucon Township Steel City Park Development Project, which is described more fully in Exhibit “A” (a copy of which is attached hereto); and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County funding will be used as follows:

Property Owner: Lower Saucon Township

Site Location: Riverside Dr. & Matthew Ave., Lower Saucon Township, Northampton County

Parcel Identification: N7SE4-4-7, N7SE4-4-6C, N7SE4-4-6B,
Park Development Description: Rehabilitation and/or relocation of existing facilities and new amenities for Steel City Park - parking, a trail, perimeter fencing, upgraded baseball field, sport court, sand volleyball court, landscaping

Appraised Value: No acquisition involved

Municipal Allocation: $219,811.00

County Grant Request: $127,771.00

Other Grants: $148,264.55 Lower Saucon Township

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Lower Saucon Township Steel City Park Development Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his designee, is directed to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

(2) The Northampton County Council further directs the Northampton County Executive to appropriate $127,771.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the Lower Saucon Township Steel City Park Development Project.

As there were no questions or comments regarding these resolutions, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The resolutions were adopted by a vote of 9-0.

Mr. Cusick advised they anticipated seven other municipal park projects to be coming before County Council early next year which would complete the Municipal Park portion of the Open
Consideration of the 2011 County Council Meeting Schedule

Mr. Angle introduced the following resolution:

R. 129-2010 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that: (1) In accordance with Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 206(a), the Northampton County Council organizational meeting will be held on Monday, January 3, 2011, and will begin at 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the third floor meeting room, room #3116, Northampton County Courthouse, 669 Washington Street, Easton, Pennsylvania.; (2) The regular schedule of meetings for the year 2011, shall be conducted on the first and third Thursday of each respective month, beginning at 6:30 p.m., prevailing time, in the third floor meeting room, room #3116, Northampton County Courthouse, 669 Washington Street, Easton, Pennsylvania, with the following exceptions: (1) for the month of April 2011 the meetings scheduled for April 7, 2011 and April 21, 2011 are canceled and rescheduled for April 14, 2011 and April 28, 2011, and are to begin at 6:30 p.m., prevailing time, in the third floor meeting room, room #3116, Northampton County Courthouse, 669 Washington Street, Easton, Pennsylvania; (2) for the month of July 2011, the meetings normally scheduled for July 7, 2011 and July 21, 2011 are cancelled and rescheduled for July 14, 2011 and July 28, 2011 and (3) for the month of December 2011, the meeting normally scheduled for December 15, 2011 is canceled and rescheduled for December 8, 2011 and will begin at 4:00 p.m., prevailing time, in the third floor meeting room, room #3116, Northampton County Courthouse, 669 Washington Street, Easton, Pennsylvania.

As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 9-0.
Consideration of the Resolution Accepting the Bequest from the Estate of Louise Moore Pine

Mr. Angle stated over the years, Mrs. Moore Pine and her late husband, Mr. Moore, have been very generous to the County and according to the Home Rule Charter, this resolution would allow the County to accept monies that she had bestowed to the County upon her passing.

Mr. Angle introduced the following resolution:

R. 130-2010

WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 202 (10) provides that the County Council shall have, among others, the following powers: (10)”to accept on behalf of the County any gifts of real property and to provide for the acceptance by any agency on behalf of the County of other gifts;” and

WHEREAS, the estate of Louise Moore Pine, deceased, has bequeathed to the County of Northampton the sum of two million dollars ($2,000,000) in memory of Louise W. Moore, to be used in connection with maintaining Louise Moore Park and to maintain and preserve the 1822 farmhouse at Slate Post Farm.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby direct the County Executive to accept on behalf of the County of Northampton, from the estate of Louise Moore Pine, the $2,000,000 bequest, $500,000 of which has been received to date.

As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

Consideration of 2010 Northampton County Council Contingency Requests: A. Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company, EMS 17,
Mr. Angle advised there was $98,000 left in County Council’s Continency Fund and he believed this money should be rolled over to the General Fund so the taxpayers received the benefit of it.

Mr. McClure stated he could not disagree with Mr. Angle more because traditionally the Contingency Fund had provided an opportunity for County Council to help the community in need in a non-traditional way. He further stated he would like to review each of these requests separately.

Mrs. McHale advised she wanted County Council to keep in mind that the requests exceeded the dollar amount available so one of the requests would have to be adjusted.

Mrs. Ferraro stated she felt the Bethlehem Township request was out of the realm of County Council, however, Stephen’s Place and Butterfly House dealt with people and would hopefully prevent recidivism at the prison.

Mr. Gilbert advised he agreed with Mrs. Ferraro because statistically when a community took the time to transform an individual back into a productive member of society, three things happened. First, you gave that individual their life back; secondly, you add productive value to the community which was also profitable for the community and thirdly, that individual had a positive affect on other individuals. He further advised when a community stood on it’s own two feet to help each other, it was statistically shown there was a reversal of the current recidivism rate than with an institution. Therefore, he was a proponent of Stephen’s Place and Butterfly House.

Mrs. McHale stated she was also a proponent of the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company because they were in the business of saving lives and that was just as important, if not more so, as the work done by the other two entities.

Mr. McClure advised he wanted to join Mrs. McHale in her support of the request by Mr. Dietrich, but he wanted to know
why Mr. Dietrich felt it was important to make his request at this time. He further advised a grant in the amount of $50,000 was a large one so he wondered if Mr. Dietrich would consider amending the amount to $25,000.

Mr. Dietrich stated as he was the 911 Liaison, he was concerned about the technology used by the County’s emergency services personnel and after seeing a demonstration, he was amazed by it, but also concerned about the funding for it. He further stated Bethlehem Township thought they were going to receive their funding from the gaming revenues, however, they were at the bottom of a list and when it got down to them, the funding was not there.

Mr. Dietrich advised he went to Bethlehem Township to see what could be done and then he remembered the commitment this County had made toward emergency management and knowing the broad area Bethlehem Township covered as either a primary or secondary responder, he felt this was something County Council would be willing to support.

Mr. Cusick stated the problem he had with granting their request was it would open up the door for every other volunteer fire company and emergency squad to come to County Council for funding. He further stated he took offense to the way the funding was doled out by the Gaming Authority because he felt this was a big priority and worthwhile. Further, when he was a Williams Township Supervisor, their emergency personnel were always before them asking for funding so he wondered where Bethlehem Township was on this.

Mr. Cusick advised he did not know much about Stephen’s Place, but was inclined to support it. As far as the Butterfly House, he thought that was a good idea, but he was not sure about the zoning and whether this neighborhood was suitable for it. He further advised he wanted to know if it received the support of the City Council and/or the Mayor.

Mr. Angle stated he believed he read an article with regard to the Butterfly House wherein a reporter asked about tax monies for this project and the representative indicated it was totally funded through private funds.

Mr. Dowd advised he was willing to support the Butterfly House because it was a worthwhile project until he learned they
indicated it was going to be privately funded.

Mrs. McHale made a motion to table the following resolution regarding the Butterfly House until a representative could be present to make a presentation to County Council.

Mrs. Ferraro seconded the motion.

WHEREAS, the Butterfly House, a transitional living center for female Northampton County Prison inmates to help with their reentry into the community.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that the sum of $50,000 shall be transferred from the 2010 Contingency account #05000-76050 and allocated to the Butterfly House, this 9th day of December 2010.

As there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote to table the resolution.


The motion to table the above resolution was passed by a vote of 7-2.

As there were no further questions or comments regarding the other two resolutions, Mr. Angle called for the vote on the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company, EMS 17, resolution.

WHEREAS, the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company, EMS 17, has requested a Northampton County Council 2010 Contingency allocation of $50,000 for the purchase of five mechanical chest compression devices.

WHEREAS, the devices will allow for the most efficient and effective CPR to be done on patients.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that the sum of $50,000 shall be transferred from the
2010 Contingency account #05000-76050 and allocated to the Bethlehem Township Volunteer Fire Company, EMS 17, this 9th day of December 2010.


The resolution failed by a vote of 3-6.

Mr. Angle called for the vote on the Stephen’s Place resolution.

R. 131-2010 WHEREAS, in October 1994, Stephen’s Place (Bethlehem, PA) officially opened its doors to provide residential support services to non-violent adult males coming out of prison with a history of substance abuse. The program helps these men to succeed in their recovery and in their reintegration from prison back to society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that the sum of $5,000 shall be transferred from the 2010 Contingency account #05000-76050 and allocated to Stephen’s Place, this 9th day of December 2010.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

Consideration of the Board of Health Resolution

Mr. Dowd stated the following resolution was being presented at the urging of the members of the Board of Health and representatives of the funding entities to allow them to continue their work, with no financial support coming from the
County. He further stated he spoke to representatives of the Two Rivers Health and Wellness Foundation and they had assured him that funds would be in place to allow the Board of Health to continue for a period of time and expected no funding to come from the County.

WHEREAS, throughout this past year, the Northampton County Council has actively been engaged in discussions with the Lehigh County Commissioners concerning the formation of a Bi-County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, questions have recently arisen as to the intentions of the Northampton County Council as to future and further discussions on the formation of a Bi-County Department of Health.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it will support the continuing activity of the Bi-County Health Board, with no financial support from Northampton County, until such time that there is a final resolution concerning the future of Gracedale. Further, the Northampton County Council supports the re-appointment of the two Board of Health members whose terms of office is about to expire.

Mrs. Ferraro advised she would like to make a motion to amend the resolution by deleting the wording “until such time that there is a final resolution concerning the future of Gracedale”.

Mr. McClure seconded the motion.

As there were no questions or comments regarding the motion, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The motion passed by a vote of 9-0.

Mr. Angle asked if there were any questions or comments on the amended resolution:
R. 132-2010  WHEREAS, throughout this past year, the Northampton County Council has actively been engaged in discussions with the Lehigh County Commissioners concerning the formation of a Bi-County Health Department; and

WHEREAS, questions have recently arisen as to the intentions of the Northampton County Council as to future and further discussions on the formation of a Bi-County Department of Health.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it will support the continuing activity of the Bi-County Health Board, with no financial support from Northampton County. Further, the Northampton County Council supports the re-appointment of the two Board of Health members whose terms of office is about to expire.

Mr. McClure asked to be forgiven for his maximum discomfort at the notion that this body who rejected the principle and actually the practice of creating a bi-County health department because it could not afford it now sought, after it sold Gracedale, to pick the bones of Gracedale. He stated even with the wording regarding Gracedale omitted from the resolution, he could not support it because he felt it was very offensive that it would even be suggested. He further stated all this resolution did was put off the decision as to whether the County was willing to move forward with a bi-County health department. He noted he had stated at numerous meetings what it would take to sway his decision and he had never heard from any of the stakeholders regarding his concerns.

Mr. Dowd advised the issue was whether County Council wanted to close the door or to allow the Board of Health to continue with its work and provide another chance for them to come back with a proposal. He further advised he felt these were very knowledgeable individuals who have volunteered to do the research so he felt they should be able to continue.

As there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote on the amended resolution.

The vote: Dowd, “yes”; Ferraro, “yes”; Gilbert, “yes”;

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5-4.

Consideration of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC)/Borough Business Revitalization Program (BBRP)Resolution

Mr. Angle stated there had always been discussion regarding the relationship between LVEDC and the County, but one thing they did that the County liked was to agree to provide money for the BBRP. However, to date, LVEDC had not provided the funding so he and Mr. Cusick went over there and a proposal was made to have $50,000 per year for three years to go to this program.

Messrs. Cusick and Angle introduced the following resolution:

R. 133-2010 WHEREAS, The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce (The Chamber) has developed a Community Partnership Proposal (CPP) with the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC) that will advance LVEDC's strategic plan and priorities while improving the business climate of the Lehigh Valley; and

WHEREAS, a combination of The Chamber's community development efforts with LVEDC's economic development expertise will help create vibrant downtowns and Main Streets in large and small municipalities throughout the Lehigh Valley; and

WHEREAS, the Borough Business Revitalization Program (BBRP) is a joint effort in Lehigh and Northampton Counties as well as a key component of the CPP that seeks to assist participating communities in their efforts of providing economically healthy, vibrant, pedestrian-friendly, and aesthetically pleasing downtowns for their residents by promoting their events and providing technical assistance and financial resources on a regional level; and

WHEREAS, the BBRP is the only program in the Lehigh Valley that is dedicated exclusively toward the revitalization of multiple boroughs, and
WHEREAS, by partnering with The Chamber on the financing and execution of this program, LVEDC will be positioned to take advantage of the relationships that the BBRP has built with local stakeholders, including government officials, businesses, property owners and community leaders.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it hereby requests that LVEDC dedicate a financial commitment of $50,000 per year over each of the next three years (2011, 2012, and 2013) in support of the Borough Business Revitalization Program of The Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce as outlined in the Community Partnership Proposal (a copy of which is attached hereto and labeled as Exhibit “A”).

Mr. McClure advised there were requests made tonight from three entities for funding because they needed the money. However, he did not believe The Chamber needed any money and he felt the BBRP could be funded by them. He further advised he would not support it because he felt this proposal was a back door way of the County beginning to unravel its relationship with LVEDC.

Mr. Angle stated this program was already established and was administered by the County’s Department of Community and Economic Development. He further stated it had received funding from LVEDC in the past and they were not opposed to giving the money now, but they just wanted to know if County Council supported it.

Mr. Cusick advised some of these smaller boroughs did not have the resources to do what the cities and larger townships could do and this program assisted them in moving forward with some of their beautification projects. He further advised the funding proposal was satisfactory and all sides agreed it was worthwhile and an endeavor worth undertaking.

Mrs. McHale stated she did not understand how County Council could dictate to LVEDC how they spent their money and she wanted to know if the Board of Directors of LVEDC took a vote on this.

Mr. Phil Mitman, President and CEO of LVEDC, advised there
was a consensus that LVEDC did want to work with The Chamber to make this partnership proposal work because the regionalism of the Lehigh Valley was so important. He further advised he and Mr. Anthony Iannelli, President of The Chamber, were going to be meeting to iron out some of the issues and then a vote would be taken by the Executive Committee.

Mrs. McHale made a motion to table this resolution until such time as the Executive Committee voted on the proposal.

Mr. McClure seconded the motion.

As there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The motion failed by a vote of 3-5 with 1 abstention.
In response to Mr. Angle’s question as to whether he supported the program, Mr. Mitman stated they wanted to see the program succeed, however, the proposal they were going to suggest to The Chamber took portions of the proposal The Chamber gave to LVEDC and it was only for the BBRP.

As there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote on the resolution.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5-3 with 1 abstention.

Mrs. Ferraro advised she just wanted to inform everyone why she voted against the resolution and that was because she wanted to make sure that the Executive Committee agreed to the $50,000 amount.

Mr. Angle stated they were not voting on it until next
Wednesday, but he presented the resolution so he could determine what County Council wanted to do.

Mr. Dowd advised he had every confidence that everyone would be able to work together and appreciated everyone’s effort to that end.

Mr. Mitman stated that he understood the County was looking at its Department of Community and Economic Development and he had assured the Administration that he would assist in any way he could. He further stated his judgement was that the more collaboration there was around the Lehigh Valley, the more the Governor-Elect was going to pay attention to them. Therefore, everyone needed to keep this collaboration and partnership going.

Consideration of the 2009 Bond Issue Parking Deck Resolution

Mr. Angle advised the 2009 Bond Issue Juvenile Justice Center project cost less than was originally anticipated and it was suggested that money be put toward the Parking Deck project. He further advised this resolution allowed for the transference of that money, but before any money was spent, it had to be approved by County Council.

Mr. Angle introduced the following resolution:

R. 134-2010  WHEREAS, on June 4, 2009, the Northampton County Council enacted Ordinance No. 505 of 2009, (a copy of which is attached hereto and labeled as Attachment “A”), which is more commonly referred to as the General Obligation Bond Issue Series 2009, which is titled, "AN ORDINANCE OF THE COUNCIL OF THE COUNTY OF NORTHAMPTON, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE OF GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES OF 2009 (THE "BONDS") IN THE AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF $16,115,000 PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, 53 PA. C.S. CHS. 80-82 (THE ACT); PROVIDING THE PROCEEDS OF THE BONDS SHALL BE APPLIED TO FUNDING OF CERTAIN COUNTY IMPROVEMENTS (INCLUDING THE REIMBURSEMENT OF COSTS THEREOF), DESCRIBING THE COUNTY IMPROVEMENTS (THE IMPROVEMENTS), AND TO CARRYING OUT THE REFUNDING OF A PORTION OF THE REMAINING OUTSTANDING GENERAL OBLIGATION BONDS, SERIES OF 1999 (THE 1999 BONDS), SETTING FORTH
UPON RECEIPT OF PROPER PAYMENT OF THE BALANCE DUE THEREFOR, AND
ONLY AFTER SPECIFIED APPROVAL, AS REQUIRED, OF THE DEPARTMENT OF
COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF
PENNSYLVANIA; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN COVENANTS RELATING TO THE
FEDERAL TAX STATUS OF THE BONDS; PROVIDING FOR COMPLIANCE WITH
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE 15c2-12; COVENANTING TO
PAY OVER AT SETTLEMENT SUFFICIENT MONIES TO PROVIDE FOR THE
PAYMENT OF THE PRIOR 1999 BONDS TO BE REFUNDED IN ACCORDANCE
WITH THE REFUNDING PROGRAM AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING CERTAIN
OTHER ACTIONS AND APPROVING DOCUMENTATION WITH REGARD TO THE
REFUNDING, AND ESTABLISHING A SINKING FUND FOR THE BONDS BEING
REFUNDED AND APPOINTING AN ESCROW AGENT FOR THE 1999 BONDS;
PROVIDING FOR THE USE OF AND MAKING A COVENANT AS TO THE
ADEQUACY OF THE PROCEEDS TO BE PAID OVER TO THE ESCROW AGENT FOR
PURPOSES OF THE REFUNDING; PRESCRIBING CERTAIN CONDITIONS OF THE
1999 BONDS ESCROW AGREEMENT AND AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING
ACTIONS OF THE ESCROW AGENT, AND SETTING FORTH THE DEFINITIVE
FORM OF SAID ESCROW AGREEMENT; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN COVENANTS
WITH RESPECT TO THE ADEQUACY OF REVENUES TO BE AVAILABLE UNDER
THE SAID ESCROW AGREEMENT; PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE OF
IRREVOCABLE INSTRUCTIONS TO THE PAYING AGENT FOR THE 1999 BONDS
SUBJECT TO EARLY OPTIONAL REDEMPTION TO CALL SAID BONDS FOR
REDEMPTION ON A CERTAIN SPECIFIED DATE, AND ESTABLISHING THE
FORM OF SUCH IRREVOCABLE INSTRUCTIONS AND THE NOTICE OF
REDEMPTION; PROVIDING FOR NOTICE TO ANY BOND INSURER; PROVIDING
FOR COMPLIANCE WITH SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION RULE
15c2-12; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS OF THE
ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR REPEAL OF ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF
ORDINANCES SO FAR AS THE SAME SHALL BE INCONSISTENT; PROVIDING
WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE”; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 505 of 2009 identifies County
Capital Projects for which the bonds were issued and included
$8,000,000 for (i) parking garage renovations ($1,500,000), (ii)
reconstruction of County bridges ($1,000,000) and (iii)
expansion of the Juvenile Justice Center (the "County
Improvements") ($5,500,000); and

WHEREAS, on December 9, 2010, the Northampton County
Executive requested the reallocation of approximately $900,000,
of an original $5,500,000 2009 General Obligation Bond Issue
allocation for the expansion of the Juvenile Justice Center, to
the parking garage renovations project.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED By the Northampton
County Council that the Northampton County Council authorizes and approves the reallocation of approximately $900,000, of an original $5,500,000 2009 General Obligation Bond Issue allocation for the expansion of the Juvenile Justice Center, to the parking garage renovations project.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that none of the funding shall be expended without further express written approval (adoption of a resolution) by the Northampton County Council.

As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 9-0.

Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Lauer stated he had nothing to report on at this time.

Prison Liaison Report

Mrs. Thierry asked Mr. Al Jordan, ACS Director of Information Services, to come forward to speak to the problems that have been occurring with the time clock at the Prison.

Mr. Jordan advised initially the time clocks were being damaged and there were some issues with the software program. He further advised they have been working on these issues and they should be resolved by the end of January.

Archives and Records Committee Liaison Report

Mr. Cusick stated the Archives and Records Committee will
Farmland Preservation Liaison Report

Mr. Cusick advised for the second month in a row the Farmland Preservation Board did not meet due to lack of a quorum and he was hoping there would be a quorum for January because there was some business that had to be conducted.

Gracedale Union Meeting

In answer to Mr. Angle’s question as to whether anything was accomplished at the Gracedale Union meeting, Mr. John Conklin, Director of Administration, stated no offers were made, but planned to have another meeting after the January deadline.

Adjournment

Mr. McClure made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Angle seconded the motion.

The motion passed by acclamation.

Frank E. Flisser
Clerk to Council