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; Ann McHale; Barbara A. Thierry; Philip D. Lauer, Solicitor to Council, and Frank E. Flisser, Clerk to Council. Absent was Lamont G. McClure, Jr.

Prayer

As Pastor Barry Webb, Fellowship Baptist Church, Palmer, had not yet arrived, Mr. Dowd led County Council in prayer to open the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Dietrich led County Council in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes

Mrs. Thierry made the following motion:

Be It Moved By the Northampton County Council that the minutes of the June 3, 2010 meeting shall be approved.

Mr. Cusick seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Bob Pfenning, 2830 Linden Street, Bethlehem, PA - stated he wanted to talk about the Bethlehem Tax Increment Financing (TIF) project. He further stated if and when the project list came before County Council for approval, he would like it to be discussed at a public meeting. He noted if County
Council did not have to approve it, he hoped they would, at least, provide some guidance to the Bethlehem Redevelopment Authority.

Mr. Angle advised that himself, Mr. Flisser, Mrs. Thierry, County Executive John Stoffa, Mr. John Conklin, Director of Administration, and Mr. Mazziotti, Director of Fiscal Affairs, have been meeting with the Mayor of Bethlehem and some of his representatives and they were making some real progress, but he felt the school district needed a little more time to catch up with everything.

In answer to Mr. Angle’s question as to whether he felt the City of Bethlehem had made some progress in redeveloping that area in the past ten years, Mr. Pfenning replied he did not.

In response to Mr. Angle’s question as to whether his concern was getting more money from the TIF to help the school district and the County or to do the TIF in a different manner, Mr. Pfenning stated if the TIF was being presented now, he did not feel, in light of the economy, that County Council would approve it. He further stated he did not believe there was anything in the TIF that indicated if the Mayor proposed a project, it had to be done. He noted he thought the projects being proposed were niceties and not necessities, but was not sure because he was not privy to the list.

Prayer from Pastor Barry Webb

Pastor Webb arrived and Mr. Angle provided him an opportunity to say a prayer.

County Executive Report

Mr. Stoffa advised in a few weeks, massive renovations were going to begin on the parking deck and the contract stipulated that the County had to free up 60 spaces, which was basically one level of the deck. He further advised Mr. Steve DeSalva, Director of Public Works, in talking with the contractor, was informed if the County could free up 120 spaces, the County could save $50,000.
Mr. Stoffa stated they were working with St. Anthony’s to work out an agreement for 85 parking spaces and they were also looking at using the Wolf Parking lot. He further stated he had talked to Easton Mayor Sal Panto about parking downtown, but there were no spaces available.

Mr. Stoffa advised if anyone had any other ideas, to present them to him as soon as possible. He further advised this project was going to take at least four months.

Confirmation of Appointments

Mrs. McHale introduced the following resolution:

R. 48-2010  RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individual shall be confirmed in her appointment as indicated hereafter:

LEHIGH VALLEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE - COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY - (CEDS)

Appointment:  Term to Expire: 12/31/12
Alicia M. Karner
129 South Second Street
Bangor PA 1013

Mrs. McHale stated this appointment was reviewed at the Personnel Committee meeting that was held yesterday and the members of the Personnel Committee present voted unanimously to recommend Ms. Karner for approval.

Mrs. Ferraro advised it would be an honor to vote for Ms. Karner, noting she had been working very hard with the General Purpose Authority and their issues.

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

The vote:  McHale, “yes”; Thierry, “yes”; Angle, “yes”;

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 8-0.

Presentation of the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC) – Northampton County Projects

Mr. Pete Reinke, Vice President of Regional Development, LVEDC, reviewed a document entitled, “Regional Development Report for Northampton County – June 17, 2010” (see Attachment #1).

Mr. Phil Mitman, President and Chief Executive Officer, LVEDC, presented the “Lehigh Valley’s 2010 Economic Development Priorities” (see Attachment #2) and then reviewed a listing of Northampton County and Lehigh County Projects (see Attachment #3). He stated there were 18 projects in Northampton County which created 1389 jobs with 267 of those being maintained.

Mr. Cusick advised last year the Lehigh Valley Arena Project was given to the City of Allentown, however, since that time there had been no subdivision or financial plans filed. He then asked if Mr. Mitman knew the status of that project.

Mr. Mitman stated as far as he knew, the project was moving forward.

Public Hearing on the Ordinance Amending the 2010 Northampton County Budget

Messrs. Dietrich and Gilbert introduced the following ordinance at the meeting held June 3, 2010.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2010 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BUDGET: DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANT, PASS THROUGH GRANT; DEPARTMENT OF ADMINISTRATION - ELECTIONS, HAZARDOUS MATERIALS RESPONSE; DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC WORKS - PARKS & RECREATION; DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES - PASS THROUGH GRANTS, HOMELESS ASSISTANCE, DEVELOPMENT FUND, CHILDREN, YOUTH &
### 2010 BUDGET AMENDMENT

<table>
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<tr>
<th>KEY</th>
<th>ACCOUNT</th>
<th>ACCOUNT TITLE</th>
<th>CURRENT</th>
<th>INCREASE</th>
<th>REVISED</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ORG</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>ACCOUNT</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### C&ED - Community Development Grant

| 31100 | 41120 | Emergency Shelter Grant | 27,000 | 51,972 | 78,972 |
|       | 71086 | ESG 2009 | - | 51,972 | 51,972 |

#### C&ED - Pass Through Grant

| 31202 | 41360 | Commonwealth | 4,200,000 | 750,000 | 4,950,000 |
|       | 71280 | St Luke's Hospital | 4,200,000 | 750,000 | 4,950,000 |

#### Administration - Elections

| 43700 | 45030 | Miscellaneous | 500 | 19,800 | 20,300 |
|       | 63999 | Pooled Admin Supplies | 31,700 | 19,800 | 51,500 |

#### Administration - Hazardous Materials Response

| 44101 | 42460 | County Cost Reimbursement | 0 | 138,622 | 138,622 |
|       | 66999 | Pooled Professional Services | 30,000 | 138,622 | 168,622 |

#### Public Works - Parks & Recreation

| 40700 | 41393 | DCNR Grant | 50,000 | (50,000) | 0 |
|       | 66999 | Pooled Professional Services | 100,000 | (50,000) | 50,000 |

#### Human Services - Pass Through Grants

<p>| 31200 | 41110 | Child Care Info Svs | 11,144,800 | (255,800) | 10,889,000 |
|       | 71100 | Child Care Info Svs | 11,144,800 | (255,800) | 10,889,000 |</p>
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Line 1</th>
<th>Line 2</th>
<th>Line 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>41520</td>
<td>MATP</td>
<td>827,400</td>
<td>500,000</td>
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<td>71200</td>
<td>Metro Plus</td>
<td>827,400</td>
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**Human Services - Homeless Assistance**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
<th>Line 1</th>
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<tr>
<td>50600</td>
<td>Interest on Investment</td>
<td>1,800</td>
<td>(800)</td>
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<tr>
<td>41480</td>
<td>Homeless Assistance</td>
<td>442,500</td>
<td>(55,500)</td>
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<tr>
<td>69999</td>
<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
<td>444,300</td>
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**Human Services - Development Fund**

<table>
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<tr>
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<tr>
<td>51100</td>
<td>Human Services Development</td>
<td>518,700</td>
<td>(68,700)</td>
<td>450,000</td>
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<tr>
<td>69999</td>
<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
<td>519,300</td>
<td>(68,700)</td>
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**Human Services - Children, Youth & Families**

<table>
<thead>
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<th>Code</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>51000</td>
<td>Railroad Retirement</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>14,200</td>
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<td>TANF</td>
<td>915,400</td>
<td>223,500</td>
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<tr>
<td>41220</td>
<td>Title IV E</td>
<td>93,600</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>103,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>42210</td>
<td>Custody Evaluation Fee</td>
<td>74,800</td>
<td>(30,400)</td>
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<tr>
<td>42580</td>
<td>Parental Payments</td>
<td>500,000</td>
<td>(184,600)</td>
<td>315,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>42505</td>
<td>HealthChoices</td>
<td>30,200</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>41,700</td>
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<td>52100</td>
<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
<td>3,506,200</td>
<td>60,600</td>
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**Human Services - Area Agency On Aging**

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<td>54000</td>
<td>State Allocation</td>
<td>676,200</td>
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<td>41650</td>
<td>State Block Grant</td>
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<td>5,731,400</td>
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<tr>
<td>42457</td>
<td>Cost Sharing</td>
<td>54,000</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>56,500</td>
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<td>42560</td>
<td>Nutrition Program Meal Contribution</td>
<td>170,000</td>
<td>10,700</td>
<td>180,700</td>
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<td>44010</td>
<td>Interest on Investment</td>
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<td>(4,500)</td>
<td>15,500</td>
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<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
<td>814,600</td>
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**Human Services - Mental Health**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
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<tr>
<td>57400</td>
<td>Base Allocation</td>
<td>3,319,000</td>
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<td>3,547,600</td>
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<tr>
<td>41350</td>
<td>CHIPP</td>
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<td>41550</td>
<td>Medical Assistance</td>
<td>4,300</td>
<td>(2,100)</td>
<td>2,200</td>
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<tr>
<td>42505</td>
<td>HealthChoices</td>
<td>30,200</td>
<td>11,500</td>
<td>41,700</td>
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<td>58100</td>
<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
<td>2,027,800</td>
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<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
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### Human Services - Developmental Programs

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<thead>
<tr>
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<th>Category</th>
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<tr>
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<td>Early Intervention</td>
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<td>41570</td>
<td>DP Waiver</td>
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<td>14,000</td>
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<td>60100</td>
<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
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<td>14,000</td>
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<td>60200</td>
<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
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### Human Services - Drug & Alcohol

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<tr>
<th>Code</th>
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<td>School District SDFS &amp; C</td>
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<td>41240</td>
<td>Treatment Block Grant</td>
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<td>Act 152</td>
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<td>Base Allocation</td>
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<td>BHSI</td>
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<td>PCCD</td>
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<td>DUI Fines</td>
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<td>292,000</td>
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<td>Pooled Subcontracted Services</td>
<td>1,072,800</td>
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</table>

County of Northampton Budget: 332,659,819 4,428,094 337,087,913

### Summary - Budget Amendment

Effective Date:

In accordance with Northampton County Home Rule Charter 705 (e) this ordinance shall become effective upon the date of enactment.

Mr. Angle asked Mr. Conklin to provide a brief explanation of the ordinance.

Mr. Conklin advised budget amendments were presented periodically during the year which mostly dealt with intergovernmental pass throughs for the Human Services
Department. He further advised one of the items in this budget amendment was the receipt of monies from the spillage that occurred last year on Route 33.

Public Hearing

Mr. Angle asked if there was anyone from the public who wished to offer comments regarding this ordinance. There were no respondents.

As there were no questions or comments from the members of County Council, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The ordinance was adopted by a vote of 7-1.

Consideration of the License to Carry a Firearm Resolution

Mr. Angle stated this resolution was introduced by Mr. McClure and tabled at the meeting held on May 20, 2010 to allow Sheriff Randall Miller the opportunity to be present. He further stated it was not addressed at the meeting held June 3, 2010, because Mr. McClure was not present. He noted even though Mr. McClure was again not present and Sheriff Miller was, that the matter should be addressed.

Mr. Dowd made a motion to remove the resolution from the table.

Mr. Cusick seconded the motion.


The motion was passed by a vote of 7-1.
WHEREAS, the Northampton County Sheriff (the Sheriff) is responsible for processing applications for a Pennsylvania license to carry a firearm for individuals who reside in Northampton County (County); and

WHEREAS, as part of the application process, and in conjunction with 18 Pa C.S. Section 1609 (d), the Sheriff is required to conduct an investigation of the applicant for the license to carry a firearm; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff, as part of the background investigation, routinely contacts an applicant’s employer, even though not statutorily required to do so.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council acknowledges and recognizes that the background investigation process for a license to carry a firearm is of the utmost importance to all County residents and can never be minimized. However, it is the stated opinion of the Northampton County Council that an applicant’s employer should only be undertaken as a reference of last resort. It is felt that contacting an employer has the distinct potential to create an unjustifiable chill on the employer/employee relationship in this time of economic hardship and uncertainty.

Sheriff Miller advised he took the issuance of this license very seriously and the basis of the title permit system was from Title 18, Pa.C.S. § 6109 (see Attachment #4), which he provided along with a copy of the license application. He further advised Pennsylvania was a little different from some other states because it was considered a “shall issue State,” which meant when it came time to issue a License to Carry, the burden of issuing it was 100% on the Sheriff.

Sheriff Miller stated the application was a State application, not a County application and only the information on the application could be used to gauge an applicant. He further stated the law did not indicate that an employer had to be contacted and most of the time, the employer was only contacted just to confirm an employment. However, there were times when an employer might be asked about the status of an employee and if there had ever been any problems.

Sheriff Miller advised the law also indicated that the
Sheriff, and thereby the County, was given immunity from liability resulting or arising from the action or misconduct with a firearm committed by any individual to whom a License to Carry a Firearm had been issued if the Sheriff complied with law. He further advised if this resolution were to pass, he would follow it, but he could not guarantee what might happen if something were to occur. He noted so far this year, more than 1250 permits had been issued with no complaints from any employers, but they did have one complaint from an applicant.

Sheriff Miller stated since he was new to the job, he thought perhaps he was misinterpreting the law incorrectly so he contacted all the 67 counties and from the responses he received, all of them indicated that they checked employment information.

In conclusion, Sheriff Miller advised the State application requested employer information and it was his duty to check the accuracy of the application. He further advised the application indicated that the information provided would be checked and the applicant signed it with that knowledge.

In response to Mrs. Thierry’s question as to whether the applicant had to list an employer, Sheriff Miller replied the State determined what information was necessary to receive a permit and it was his job to verify that information.

Mr. Phil Lauer, County Council Solicitor, stated the statute itself required the Sheriff, after receiving the application and within 45 days, had to either issue or refuse to issue a license. He further stated it also stated that he was required to determine the accuracy of the information contained on the application. Therefore, he did not know how that could be done without confirming with the employer that the individual was an employee.

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


The resolution failed by a vote of 0-8.
Introduction of the Ordinance Providing for Compensation of the Members of the Northampton County Council

Mr. Dietrich presented the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR COMPENSATION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COUNCIL

WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 106. Compensation provides that, “The County Council shall have the power by ordinance to set the salary of each elected official. No ordinance shall increase or decrease the salary of an elected official during his term of office. No ordinance which increases or decreases the salary of an elected official shall take effect less than one (1) year after its date of enactment.”

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED, By the Northampton County Council that:

I. Effective January 1, 2012, the members of the Northampton County Council shall be compensated on a per annum basis in the amount of seven thousand dollars ($7,000.00). The President of County Council shall receive an additional five hundred dollars ($500.00) per annum as compensation for his/her responsibilities as presiding officer.

As there was no cosponsor for this ordinance, it could not be properly introduced.

Introduction of Ordinance Providing for an Amendment to the Home Rule Charter - Section 104 General Prohibitions

Mr. Cusick advised three times in his four and half years as a member of County Council, the issue of dual office holding
had been raised. He further advised several opinions had been received and he felt it was time for County Council, through the voters, to make Section 104 of the Home Rule Charter perfectly clear.

Mrs. Thierry stated there was an appeal in the process so she felt County Council should wait until that was resolved before moving forward with this ordinance.

Mrs. McHale advised she agreed with Mrs. Thierry and felt there was no reason to rush to judgement at this time.

Mr. Dietrich stated he felt this ordinance would allow the electorate to make their opinion known.

Mrs. Ferraro advised she also agreed that they should wait until the appeal process was concluded.

In answer to Mr. Angle’s question as to whether County Council could trump State law, Mr. Lauer stated the Home Rule Charter could trump what happened in the Courts, but it would have to clearly articulate what the provision meant. He further stated he did not know whether it was wise to present this ordinance while the case was pending before the Supreme Court.

Messrs. Cusick and Dietrich introduced the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER, ARTICLE I ELECTED OFFICIALS, SECTION 104.

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED by the Northampton County Council that:

SECTION I - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER

A. A proposed amendment to the Northampton County Home Rule Charter shall be prepared for presentation as a referendum question at the November 2, 2010 General Election, said referendum question shall be prepared and acted upon in accordance with the Northampton County Home Rule Charter,
Article XI, and all applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

B. The proposed question is:

“Shall the electorate of Northampton County approve a change in the Northampton County Home Rule Charter, ARTICLE I, Section 104. General Prohibitions, so that it reads as follows:

Section 104. General Prohibitions

(a) During his term of office no elected official shall hold any other elective public office.

(b) During his term of office no elected official shall hold other employment with the County for which he receives compensation.

(c) During his term of office no elected official, except any member of the County Council, shall serve as an official, other than as a candidate of a political party.”

SECTION II - EFFECTIVE DATE

A. This ordinance shall become effective thirty days after the date of enactment.

Introduction of Ordinance Providing for an Amendment to the Home Rule Charter - Section 105 Vacancies in Office (b)(1),(2)

Mr. Cusick advised also during his time here, there had been several incidents wherein issues were raised regarding the vacancies in elected offices.

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER, ARTICLE I ELECTED OFFICIALS, SECTION 105. VACANCIES IN OFFICE (b) (1) and (2)

BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED, by the Northampton County Council that:
SECTION I - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER

A. A proposed amendment to the Northampton County Home Rule Charter shall be prepared for presentation as a referendum question at the November 2, 2010, General Election, said referendum question shall be prepared and acted upon in accordance with the Northampton County Home Rule Charter, Article XI, and all applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

B. The proposed question is:

"Shall the electorate of Northampton County approve a change in the Northampton County Home Rule Charter Article I Elected Officials, Section 105. Vacancies in Office (b) Filling of a Vacancy, Sections (1) and (2), so that they read, as indicated hereafter? (Sections marked with **bold underline** have been added):

(1) If a vacancy in the office of an elected official occurs during the last two (2) years of the term of office, the County Council within thirty (30) days after the occurrence shall appoint an individual, **of the same political party affiliation as the person who vacated said office**, to fill the vacancy by resolution. If the County Council fails to appoint an individual to fill the vacancy within thirty (30) days after the occurrence of the vacancy, the Court, upon the petition of any member of the County Council or any five (5) registered voters of the County, shall appoint an individual, **of the same political party affiliation as the person who vacated said office**, to fill the vacancy within fifteen (15) days after the filing of the petition. The individual appointed to fill the vacancy shall take office immediately upon appointment and shall serve the unexpired term of office of the elected official.

(2) If a vacancy in the office of an elected official occurs during the first two (2) years of the term of office, an individual, **of the same political party affiliation as the person who vacated said office**, shall be appointed in accordance with the preceding paragraph of this subsection to serve only until the certification of the results of the next **municipal** election to be held in the County no sooner than sixty (60) days
after the occurrence of the vacancy. At this election the registered voters of the County shall elect an individual to fill the vacancy. The individual elected to fill the vacancy shall take office immediately upon the certification of the results of the election and shall serve the unexpired term of office of the elected official.”

SECTION II - EFFECTIVE DATE

A. This ordinance shall become effective thirty days after the date of final enactment.

As there was no cosponsor for this ordinance, it could not be properly introduced.

Consideration of the Administrative Code Article XIII Contract Approval Resolution - Genesis Eldercare Rehabilitation Services

Mr. Angle introduced the following resolution:

R. 49-2010 WHEREAS, Northampton County Administrative Code Article XIII Procurement and Disposition of County Property, Section 13.16 Contracts and Agreements c.(1) requires approval of County Council for “...any contract exceeding $100,000, which was awarded using the Competitive Negotiation, Negotiation After Competitive Sealed Bidding, and Non-Competitive Negotiation source selection methods. For contracts with renewal clauses, the entire potential payout if all renewal clauses are exercised under the terms of the contract must be considered when determining if Council approval is necessary.”

WHEREAS, on May 20, 2010, the Northampton County Council received a request on behalf of the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a contract in the amount of $2,300,000 (annualized cost) with the total potential 5 year contract cost of cost of $11,600,000 with Genesis Eldercare Rehabilitation Services for physical, occupational and speech therapy services for Gracedale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation, to award
a contract to Genesis Eldercare Rehabilitation Services for physical, occupational and speech therapy services for Gracedale.

Mr. Angle stated this contract was reviewed at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday and the members of the Finance Committee present voted unanimously to recommend it to the whole of County Council for approval.

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


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 8-0.

Consideration of the Administrative Code Article XIII Contract Approval Resolution - Continental Flooring Company

Mr. Angle introduced the following resolution:

R. 50-2010 WHEREAS, on March 18, 2010, the Northampton County Council adopted resolution No. 24-2010 which approved a contract, in the amount of $100,580.00, with the Continental Flooring Company for the Courthouse floor tile project; and

WHEREAS, upon further investigation, it was determined that the scope of the project needed to be changed so as to properly complete the project; and

WHEREAS, Northampton County Administrative Code Article XIII Procurement and Disposition of County Property, Section 13.16 Contracts and Agreements c.(2) requires approval of County Council for “any contract where costs are to be funded with monies outside of the County’s General Fund, such as those funded through bonded indebtedness.”

WHEREAS, on June 11, 2010, the Northampton County Council received a request on behalf of the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution endorsing an amendment to contract No. 10-01108, with the Continental Flooring Company for the
Courthouse floor tile project, with the cost of the contract increasing from $100,580.00 to $118,670.00.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation, to award a revised contract to the Continental Flooring Company for the Courthouse floor tile project.

Mr. Angle advised this contract was also reviewed at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday and the members of the Finance Committee present voted unanimously to recommend it to the whole of County Council for approval.

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


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 8-0.

Consideration of Personnel Vacancies - CDBG Program Coordinator and Benefits Administrator

Mr. Angle stated there was a hiring freeze at the County, however, it was agreed there may be some positions that had to be filled. He further stated two of these positions were the Community Development Block Grant Program Coordinator in the Department of Community and Economic Development and the other was the Benefit Administrator in the Department of Human Resources.

Mr. Angle introduced the following resolutions:

R. 51-2010 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive to fill the vacant position of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Coordinator, pay grade 21, salary range $35,345 - $51,396, Department of Community and Economic
Development. It is duly noted that the position is 100% funded through intergovernmental revenues (non-County funding) and further, that the position provides vital and necessary services to low-income neighborhoods and residents throughout boroughs and townships in Northampton County.

R. 52-2010 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive to fill the vacant position of Benefits Administrator, pay grade 23, salary range $38,756 - $56,356, Department of Human Resources. It is duly noted that the position provides vital and necessary services to all County employees, retirees and their families.

After it was agreed that these positions could be voted on together, Mr. Angle called for the vote.


The resolutions were adopted by a vote of 8-0.

Economic Development Committee Report

Mr. Dowd advised the Economic Development Committee meetings were scheduled for the first Thursday of the month at 5:00 p.m., however, the meeting for July 1, 2010 was being moved to 5:30 p.m. because at 4:00 p.m., Mr. Cusick was holding an Open Space Committee meeting.

Mr. Dowd stated he was pleased to hear that the Easton Main Street Project was listed as the number two Main Street Project in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania because he participated in that program for a long time. He further stated he was also pleased to hear that the Borough Business Revitalization Program was voted as number one program in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

Human Services Committee Report

Mr. Dietrich advised the Human Services Committee would be
Finance Committee Report

Mr. Gilbert stated Mr. Angle had given him the task to meet with the Administration in an effort to determine some of the County’s long term goals and how to accomplish them.

Mr. Gilbert advised he would also like to recognize Mr. Al Jordan, ACS Director for Information Services, for his paper cost reduction initiative. He further advised he saw this as a way to put money back into the pockets of the taxpayers.

Prison Liaison Report

Mrs. Thierry stated meetings were being held every month with the representatives of the food service in an effort to resolve some of the issues that have occurred.

Farmland Preservation Board Liaison Report

Mr. Cusick advised there was a vacancy for a farmer and someone from the general public on the Farmland Preservation Board.

In answer to Mr. Cusick’s question as to whether they have received any applications, Mr. Stoffa replied they did, but he was not going to appoint anyone who did not believe in a cap.

Conservation District Liaison Report

Mrs. Ferraro stated the Conservation District held a seminar in the Fall for teachers and they would also be holding some very interesting tours as well if anyone was interested.
Ag Extension Liaison Report

Mr. Dietrich advised the representatives of the Ag Extension were always available for anyone with agricultural problems.

9-1-1 Liaison Report

Mr. Dietrich stated they had their meeting at the Fire School, which he noted provided an excellent service in training the firefighters of this County.

Council Clerk’s Report

Mr. Flisser advised the Lehigh Valley Health Commission, which consisted of the Lehigh County Commissioners and the Northampton County Council, would be meeting at 6:30 p.m., on July 19, 2010, in the Northampton County Council Meeting Room.

Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Lauer provided a legal opinion regarding the upgrading of a clerical position in the District Attorney’s Office (see Attachment #5). He stated when the request was presented, a few members of County Council questioned what authority the District Attorney had with regard to the request. He further stated during his review of the matter, it appeared that a desk audit was performed and it determined this individual was working out of class. He noted it was also learned that this was a union position so there was the potential that a grievance could have been filed.

Mr. Lauer advised his conclusion was that the District Attorney did have the power to formally “upgrade” the position or change the applicable salary range for any position within his office without the approval of County Council, however, the approval of the County Executive was not required.

Mr. Angle stated he felt the issue was not whether the District Attorney could run his office the way he wished, but when it involved monies being spent, it had to go through the
Mr. Lauer provided his opinion regarding the amending of the Home Rule Charter (see Attachment #6).

Mr. Lauer advised he was asked if the Court could direct County Council not to fill Mr. Angle’s seat if, in fact, he was removed. He further advised he believed if Mr. Angle was not able to appear after six months, County Council would have the ability to remove him as he would effectively be considered absent.

Mr. Lauer stated another question was whether County Council should take a position in this matter and he thought since it did affect County Council, they could take a position if they so wished. He further stated if they did wish to take a position, he would be happy to put together a list of what the issues and litigations were.

Adjournment

Mr. Angle made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Cusick seconded the motion.

The motion passed by acclamation.

Frank E. Flisser
Clerk to Council