Easton, Pennsylvania

May 16, 2013

A regular meeting of the Northampton County Council was held on the above date with the following present: John Cusick, President; Margaret L. Ferraro, Vice President; Thomas H. Dietrich; Kenneth M. Kraft; Lamont G. McClure, Jr.; Scott Parsons; Barbara A. Thierry; Robert F. Werner; Frank E. Flisser, Clerk to Council, and Philip D. Lauer, Solicitor to Council. Absent was Bruce A. Gilbert.

Prayer

Mr. Cusick led County Council in prayer to open the meeting.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Cusick 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 May 2, 2013 meeting shall be approved.

Mrs. Thierry seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Tom O’Donnell, 401 Heritage Lane, Nazareth, PA - advised he was a candidate for the Northampton County Council this year. He then read the following statement:

I never intended to speak at these meetings unless asked, but I realized that was unfair to the residents of Northampton County because some of what I have to say may stimulate real interest in serving the residents. Also, voters may think twice about candidates’ true experience and their ability to do the job because talk can be misleading. At this time, I will not name names, but you will know who I am talking about, but I will
name names if I am chosen to represent the residents after the primary. You know if you are not part of the solution, you’re part of the problem. I have only attended five or six of the last meetings, but what I have learned. I found it very interesting that you asked DPW to spend tens of millions of taxpayer dollars to change their name. Have you thought why, at this time, a name change is needed. I have and this is an issue for another time, but much more important for the residents you represent you did not take the time to ask DPW about how the hundred million dollars of increased Medicaid expansion and implementation of the Federally facilitated health insurance program PA would affect our residents and specially Gracedale reimbursement under the program if Governor Corbett were to approve it. You may choose to stand on your party’s so called principles, but the residents deserved better. I spoke with some current and past members of Northampton County Council and found that only one past and two current members ever heard of a MA-11 cost report. This cost report is how the County received reimbursement for medical assistance for Gracedale is calculated. It is a step down cost report that identifies reimbursable and non-reimbursable costs. This a very simple explanation. I have not seen a signed contract or how the privatized management at Gracedale calculates the saving, but if they took the total salaries and fringe benefits given up by the Union employees at Gracedale, then their savings are overstated and the figures should be reduced by the amount of the loss medical assistance reimbursement. The net amount of savings as opposed to the gross amount is a truer measure of their ability to save Northampton County real tax dollars, but was the Administration was smart enough to include it in its signed contract. If elected, I will look into this and more because I have the experience and ability to do so for the residents of Northampton. I also believe the Gracedale’s Advisory Board was nothing more than a rubber stamp for the Administration, but could have served the interests of the residents of Northampton if they had chosen better people to serve, especially the chairperson, but did they want to, I think not or did they want someone who would just glory in the title. If this person needed open heart surgery or cancer was found, I’m sure that person would have asked for a second opinion, but chose to only listen to the Administration at the residents’ expense. I say this because I spoke with a Commissioner from Lehigh County who informed me that no one from Northampton County spoke with Lehigh County about their nursing home especially since Lehigh County nursing home also has privatized management. At the last meeting, I heard one of the members of Council talk about making revenue by using the laundry facility at Gracedale to do laundry services for outside vendors. This move may increase the privatized management’s cost savings, but it also decreased
medical assistance reimbursement to Gracedale. The Lehigh County Commissioner I spoke with could not tell me how the savings were calculated either. You have to understand that what you do or don’t do could affect medical assistance reimbursement at Gracedale if it is not directly related to patient care at Gracedale. Over the years, this Administration has chosen to increase non-reimbursable areas and items at Gracedale campus at the expense of medical assistance reimbursement for Gracedale. Is it all a lack of knowledge or by design and then complain about medical assistance reimbursements. Other concepts you must know about lower cost of charges, per diem, levels of care mix, County allocated costs, ceiling by levels of care and many others. I understand that I have a lot of years auditing County nursing homes, but this was part of your job you asked to do and not like the older County Councils, all this information is on the internet and yours for the asking. If nothing else you would been able to ask the right questions and been able to determine if the answers you got were right. I hope you don’t believe it because privatization is very important for some of you and also, I find it a big disservice to the residents of Northampton County when you consider the large percentage of the budget Gracedale represents. It looks like Northampton County Council will not permit the usurper to put the EMS competitive bid in effect without questioning the legality of this act of usurping the power of this body because Lamont McClure had the foresight to get the Solicitor’s opinion in the ability of the County Executive to usurp the legislative body’s duty of checks and balances because if the usurper could it would set a dangerous precedent for future Northampton County Councils. I also believe that the new building the County Executive plans to lease is another problem caused by him at the expense of the residents of Northampton County. As with Gracedale, the Executive did nothing then yelled fired and I believe used it as an excuse to do what he wanted to do in the first place. I believe if this leasing is done, the next Administration will face financial problems that will be caused by this Administration. In this age of fiscal problems, my background of 37 years in government auditing and fiscal matters on the State level would prove valuable to the residents of Northampton County, including the last 12 years as a licensed certified fraud examiner. I can say the following because of my 12 years of experience auditing County nursing homes for MA reimbursements, however, I did not audit Gracedale because I pleaded a conflict of interest.

Stephen Barron, Northampton County Controller - stated every three years, their office had a peer review, which looked at the Government Auditing Standards and the standards set up by
the Association of Local Government Auditors. He further stated people from outside of his office came in and reviewed their documents, work papers, policies and procedures and then gave them a rating based on the review.

Mr. Barron advised the last time they got the highest rating, which was unqualified. He further advised this was important because when they did work for the County with regard to the external auditors they had to have this peer review in place so they could show they were following the Government Auditing Standards and meeting the criteria for independence and training.

Mr. Barron advised this year the standards changed to passed with no qualifications, passed with certain notes of where things were deficient and failed. He further advised this year they again received the highest standard.

Confirmation of Appointments

Mr. Cusick stated the Personnel Committee met on May 15, 2013, and reviewed the County Executive's re-appointments/appointments to the Farmland Preservation Board and the Personnel Appeals Board.

Mr. Kraft introduced the following resolution:

R. 18-2013 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individuals shall be confirmed in their appointments/re-appointments as indicated hereafter:

FARMLAND PRESERVATION BOARD

Re-Appointments:

Farmer Director
Todd Gulick
6504 Koehler Road
Bangor PA 18013

Public Director
Andrew Thierry
682 Rose Inn Avenue
Nazareth PA 18064

Term to Expire: 7/6/16
Term to Expire: 6/30/16
As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.

The vote: Kraft, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Werner, "yes" and Cusick, "yes".

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

County Executive's Report

Mr. John Stoffa, County Executive advised due to the lengthy agenda, he would forego his report.

Consideration of the Gracedale Medical Transport - LifeStar Resolution

Mr. Cusick stated at the request of Mr. McClure, a resolution was prepared directing the County Council Solicitor to take action in the Courts that would enjoin the County Executive from signing the LifeStar contract.

Mr. McClure introduced the following resolution:

R. 19-2013 WHEREAS, on Friday, May 10, 2013, the Northampton County Executive provided the Northampton County Council with notification of his intent to sign a sealed bid contract with LifeStar Response for medical transport services for non-emergent transportation of Gracedale residents to and from area hospitals, physicians offices, clinics, group activity transport and to other destinations when specialized or wheelchair accessible transportation is required.
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that the Northampton County Council Solicitor is directed to forthwith file: (1) an action in equity to enjoin the County Executive from entering into a contract with LifeStar Response, and/or (2) a declaratory judgment action to have the Court determine whether the proposed action by the County Executive was proper, or (3) whatever relief the County Council Solicitor deems appropriate.

Mr. McClure advised Section 201. Title and Status of the Home Rule Charter reads as follows: "The County Council shall be the governing body of the County which shall exercise the legislative power of the County, including the power to make laws and to exercise any residual powers of a County and any powers conferred on a County or County official by the law of Pennsylvania, subject to the provisions of this Charter".

Mr. McClure stated Section 13.08 Competitive Sealed Bidding of the Administrative Code read, in part as follows: "a. This method shall be used for the purchase or rental of materials, supplies, furnishings, equipment, or other personal property and services by independent contractors where price is the only determining factor in the awarding of the contract".

Mr. McClure asked Mr. Barron to come forward to help explain what these statements meant with regard to the County Executive’s action.

Mr. Barron advised in 2011, one of the things his office reviewed was Article XIII of the Administrative Code. He further advised these bids actually went through a proposal process previously so the bids were not really sealed.

Mr. Barron stated these bids did not pertain to price only because the County wanted to be sure they could provide a level of quality and medical services. He further stated this was a usurpation of the Administrative Code and would set a dangerous precedent for future contracts. He added he felt any money expended under this particular contract was a clear and willful violation of the law.

In answer to Mr. McClure’s question as to whether this contract was discussed at the Human Services Committee meeting that was held earlier in the evening, Mr. Dietrich advised it
was discussed at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday due to the financial aspect of the contract. He further advised the original Request for Proposal (RFP) was strictly for medical transport service and then once they spoke with the vendors, they redefined it and included additional services.

In response to Mr. McClure's statement that this included many factors other than price, Mr. Dietrich stated that was correct and, in fact, during the first round of RFPs another firm was the lowest bidder and then during the second round, the RFP included many other services that were not in the first one.

Mr. McClure advised sometimes co-equal branches of government disagreed on the interpretation of the Home Rule Charter or Administrative Code and that was why there were Courts. He further advised the reason he drafted this resolution and thought it should be passed was so County Council could receive guidance.

Mr. Kraft stated he fully supported this resolution because he felt the County Executive did circumvent County Council's authority and it would set a precedent for future County Executives to just take the lowest bidder for any service.

Mrs. Ferraro advised she also supported this resolution because she felt the County Executive's action was a blatant disregard for County Council.

Mr. Kraft stated this was not about Nazareth Ambulance, but about County Council's function and how the County Executive usurped its authority.

Mr. Cusick advised he supported the LifeStar bid, but he did not understand how a contract that was competitively negotiated bid twice became a sealed bid. He further advised he agreed this was not an issue of Nazareth Ambulance versus LifeStar, but dealt with the branches of government and how business was conducted. Therefore, he would reluctantly support this resolution.

As there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.
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The resolution was adopted by a vote of 7-1.

Consideration of the Tower One Lease Ordinance: a. Consideration of the Appraisal Waiver Resolution; b. Introduction of the Tower One Lease Ordinance

Mr. Cusick stated the Finance Committee met yesterday and reviewed the Tower One appraisal waiver resolution and lease ordinance.

Appraisal Waiver Resolution

Mr. Cusick introduced the following resolution:

R. 20-2013 \WHEREAS, Northampton County Administrative Code Section 13.15 b. provides that, “The County shall not purchase, sell, or lease real estate without first obtaining sealed appraisals from two (2) professional real estate appraisers.”; and

\WHEREAS, the County of Northampton currently leases County-owned land located at 255 Levis Road, in Upper Nazareth Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania; and

\WHEREAS, the County Executive is requesting approval of another lease for a portion of this property; and

\WHEREAS, the County Executive has requested that County Council waive the Administrative Code Section 13.15 b. requirement for appraisals; and

\WHEREAS, Administrative Code Section 13.15 b. 2. allows for the waiver of the aforementioned appraisal requirement if certain conditions are met.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby concur with the County Executive’s request to waive the requirement for appraisals for 255 Levis Road, in Upper Nazareth Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, due to the provisions of Northampton County
Administrative Code Section 13.15 b.1 & 2., which read as follows: "1. The costs of the appraisals are likely to exceed the value of the properties or project to which the appraisals pertain; and 2. The nature of the project requiring a purchase, sale or lease of real estate does not justify the cost of appraisals or is otherwise deemed unnecessary."

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

The vote: Cusick, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

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

Tower One Lease Ordinance

Mrs. Ferraro and Mr. Dietrich introduced the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AUTHORIZING NORTHAMPTON COUNTY TO LEASE A PORTION OF COUNTY OWNED PROPERTY AT 255 LEVIS ROAD, UPPER NAZARETH TOWNSHIP, NORTHAMPTON COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA, TO T-MOBILE NORTHEAST LLC

WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Article 602 (a)(6) provides that the Northampton County Council shall enact an ordinance for any act which "conveys or leases or authorizes that conveyance or lease of any real property of the County"; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED by Northampton County Council that it does hereby authorize Northampton County to lease to Tower One Partners LLC, a portion of County-owned property at 255 Levis Road (identified as Tax Parcel No. J7-13-9-PKB-242-Ac), Upper Nazareth Township, Northampton County, Pennsylvania, for an initial annual rent of $100 per year, plus 60% of the $3,000.00 monthly sublease rental rate, in accordance with the terms of the lease agreement, attached hereto and made a part hereof as Exhibit "A". 
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IT IS FURTHER ORDAINED AND ENACTED that the tenant shall add the County of Northampton as an additional insured on their liability policy.

Mr. Cusick advised the public hearing, debate and possible vote would be held at the June 6, 2013 County Council meeting.


Mr. Cusick stated the Finance Committee reviewed these contracts at yesterday’s meeting.

County’s General Liability and Property Insurance Coverage

Mr. Cusick introduced the following resolution:

R. 21-2013 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"; and

WHEREAS, on May 3, 2013, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a one year contract, totaling $961,676.00, with the County Commissioner’s Association of Pennsylvania for property and liability insurance.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive to award a contract to the County Commissioner’s Association of Pennsylvania for property and liability insurance.
As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.

The vote: Cusick, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Kraft, "yes" and McClure, "yes".

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

Highway Interchange Lighting Maintenance and Repairs

Mr. Cusick introduced the following resolution:

R. 22-2013 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"; and

WHEREAS, on May 1, 2013, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a three year contract estimated to be $80,000 per year, with a total payout of $240,000 (the actual expenditure is based on services required), with Slate Belt Plumbing, Heating and Electric for highway interchange lighting, maintenance and repairs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive to award a contract to Slate Belt Plumbing, Heating and Electric for highway interchange lighting, maintenance and repairs.

As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.
The vote: Cusick, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes" and Thierry, "yes".

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

Consideration of Personnel Requests - Sheriff

Mr. Cusick advised the Personnel Committee met yesterday to review the Sheriff's request for new positions.

Mr. Kraft introduced the following resolution:

R. 23-2013 RESOLVED, By the Northampton County Council that six new full-time positions of Deputy Sheriff, pay grade DS-23, salary range $43,206-$58,798, shall be created in the Sheriff's Department, effective this 16th day of May 2013.

Sheriff Randall Miller stated his department's workload had increased more than 400% and they lost 10% of their manpower during the last five years so they were unable to keep up with their obligations and were losing revenue. He further stated they were working the part-time deputies longer and more often than they had ever previously done.

Sheriff Miller advised it was not unusual to have 12 deputies on transport duty at one time. He further advised the License to Carry Permit applications have already exceeded the total for 2012.

Sheriff Miller stated overtime was occurring due to the increased workload, but he believed that would decrease with the new positions.

In answer to Mr. McClure's question as to where his department was with regard to overtime to date, Sheriff Miller advised they were currently over their normal percentage and if the trend continued, they would be 50% over.

In response to Mr. McClure's question as to how much were they currently over, Sheriff Miller stated they were approximately 30%-40% over, noting he anticipated being out of overtime funds by October.
Mr. McClure advised he felt this request should be presented during the budgetary process so County Council could look at the entire budget.

Mr. Parsons stated he supported this request, but he would be checking the Sheriff Department’s revenues in the future for increases.

In answer to Mr. McClure’s question as to what dictated how many deputies had to be in the Courtrooms, Sheriff Miller advised the Pennsylvania Sheriff’s Association and the Federal Marshall Service issued guidelines as to the number and he worked with the judges to determine what they want.

Mr. Cusick stated that Sheriff Miller did submit his request for positions at budget time and it was County Council’s decision to set those aside and have him come back after the contract was settled.

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

The vote: Kraft, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Thierry, "yes" and Werner, "yes".

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

Consideration of Open Space Initiative Project Resolutions: a. Greenway Plaza and Pavilion– City of Bethlehem (Municipal Park Program); b. Community Park Security Upgrade – Forks Township (Municipal Park Program); c. Community Park Skate Park – Forks Township (Municipal Park Program); d. Memorial and Pennico Park Rehabilitation Project – Bangor Borough (Municipal Park Program).

Mr. Cusick advised at the request of Mr. Parsons, resolutions were prepared relative to the open space projects approved by the Open Space Advisory Board at their meeting held May 16, 2013.
Greenway Plaza and Pavilion - City of Bethlehem  
(Municipal Park Program)

Mr. Parsons introduced the following resolution:

R. 24-2013  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 City of Bethlehem Greenway Plaza and Pavilion Project; and

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Owner:</th>
<th>City of Bethlehem</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Location:</td>
<td>South Bethlehem Greenway, City of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parcel Identification:</td>
<td>P7-19-2C</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Park Development Description:</td>
<td>Continuation of development to South Bethlehem Greenway &amp; Skateplaza. Amenities will include: restrooms, a shade pavilion, picnic tables, seating and greenscape/landscaping.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appraised Value:</td>
<td>No acquisition involved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Municipal Allocation:</td>
<td>$130,304.00 (36%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Grant Request:</td>
<td>$172,000.00 (50%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grants:</td>
<td>$30,000.00 Non-Utility Capital Budget Funds (9%)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>$12,000 Vision 2014 (5%)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the City of Bethlehem Greenway Plaza and Pavilion Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his/her 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 $172,000.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the City of Bethlehem Greenway Plaza and Pavilion Project.

Ms. Maria Bentzoni, Farmland Preservation Administrator, introduced Mr. Bryan Cope, the new Open Space Coordinator, who provided a document summarizing the Phase 1 projects, as well as documents regarding these projects (see Exhibit #1).

Ms. Bentzoni stated this was a continuation of the development of the South Bethlehem Greenway. She further stated this project was consistent with the City of Bethlehem's Comprehensive and Park Plans.

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


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

**Community Park Security Upgrade - Forks Township**

(Municipal Park Program)

Ms. Bentzoni advised this project was consistent with the Forks Township's Comprehensive Plan. She further advised the Chief of Police for Forks Township was in favor of this project because it would enhance the current security system that had proven to be a deterrent to crime in the park.

Mr. Parsons introduced the following resolution:

R. 25-2013 **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 Forks Township Community Park Security Upgrade Project; and

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

Property Owner: Forks Township

Site Location: Community Park, 500 Zucksville Road, Easton, PA 18040 (Forks Township)
Northampton County

Parcel Identification:

Park Development Description: Support video streams from IP video cameras, add an encoder and switch that will allow for the existing cameras to be used until funding for upgrades and addition of 1.3 MPX IP cameras that will capture high resolution images

Appraised Value: No acquisition involved

Municipal Allocation: $21,000.00 (50%)

County Grant Request: $21,000.00 (50%)

Other Grants:

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Forks Township Community Park Security Upgrade Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his/her 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 $21,000.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the Forks Township Community Park Security Upgrade Project.
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As there were no further questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.

The vote: Parsons, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

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

Community Park Skate Park - Forks Township (Municipal Park Program)

Mr. Parsons introduced the following resolution:

R. 26-2013 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 Forks Township Community Park Skate Park Project; and

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

Property Owner: Forks Township
Site Location: Community Park, 500 Zucksville Road, Easton, PA 18040 (Forks Township) Northampton County
Parcel Identification:
Park Development Description: Development of the pad and skate
Appraised Value: No acquisition involved
Municipal Allocation: $50,000.00 (50%)
County Grant Request: $50,000.00 (50%)
Other Grants:
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Forks Township Community Park Skate Park Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his/her 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 $50,000.00 as the Northampton County contribution to the Forks Township Community Skate Park Project.

Ms. Bentzoni stated this project was a continuation of the development of the Community Park in Forks Township. She further stated this is the second grant that Forks Township was submitting under their allocation for this year.

Ms. Bentzoni advised this was consistent with Forks Township’s Comprehensive and Park Plans. She further advised Forks Township engaged the citizens, including youths, and the police department in the development of this project.

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

The vote: Parsons, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes" and Kraft, "yes".

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

Memorial and Pennico Park Rehabilitation Project – Bangor Borough (Municipal Park Program)

Mr. Parsons introduced the following resolution:

R. 27-2013 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Initiative by enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5,
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2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board has recommended approval of the Borough of Bangor Memorial & Pennico Park Rehabilitation Projects; and

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

Property Owner: Borough of Bangor

Site Location: PA Route 512, Bangor, PA 18013

Parcel Identification:

Park Development Description: Rehabilitation of 3 basketball courts at Memorial Park, rehabilitation of one volleyball court at Memorial Park, pool entrance repaving at Memorial Park, repoint and reset stones at gateway to park at Memorial Park, ballfield fencing at Pennico Park, play equipment at Pennico Park and one volleyball court at Pennico Park.

Appraised Value: No acquisition involved

Municipal Allocation: $89,740.30 (50.4%)

County Grant Request: $88,551.90 (49.6%)

Other Grants:

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Borough of Bangor Memorial & Pennico Park Rehabilitation Projects. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative, or his/her 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 $88,551.90 as the Northampton County contribution to the Borough of Bangor Memorial & Pennico Park Rehabilitation Projects.
Mr. Cusick advised looking at the pictures, there was no doubt Pennico Park was in need of rehabilitation.

Mr. Parsons stated that Pennico Park was located in a lower income neighborhood and was used a lot.

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

The vote: Parsons, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes" and Dietrich, "yes".

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

Ms. Bentzoni advised there were eleven outstanding Phase 1 grants and letters were recently sent out to all those municipalities to get an update on the projects.

Ms. Bentzoni stated they were meeting with officials from Allen Township to discuss the dog park next week. She further stated Hanover Township was working on the construction of the entrance and were awaiting final approval.

Ms. Bentzoni advised they have received no response from the letter that was sent to the Borough of Hellertown. Messrs. Dietrich and Kraft both indicated they have seen the progress that was made and it was substantial.

Ms. Bentzoni stated they had no response from Lower Nazareth Township or Lower Saucon Township to their letters. She further stated everyone was aware of the status of the Nazareth Pool.

Ms. Bentzoni advised they would be re-presenting a project from Palmer Township on June 13, 2013, because they had to withdraw their pool grant so they want to redirect those funds to another project.

Ms. Bentzoni stated permitting was being finalized for the Borough of Stockertown project. She further stated they have not received a response to their letter from Williams Township.
Consideration of the Coroner’s Fee Schedule Resolution

Mr. Cusick advised the Finance Committee discussed the Coroner’s fee schedule at yesterday’s meeting.

Mr. Parsons introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Northampton County Ordinance #17-79 provides that the fees charged by agencies and offices of Northampton County shall be set by the Northampton County Council by means of a resolution at such times and at such rates as deemed necessary.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the Coroner’s Fee Schedule shall be amended to read as indicated hereafter, effective July 1, 2013:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Current</th>
<th>Proposed</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Coroner’s Report</td>
<td>$50.00*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Toxicology Report</td>
<td>$50.00*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Autopsy Report</td>
<td>$100.00*</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cremation Permit Fee ($75.00 if invoicing is required)</td>
<td>$50.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Slides/Microscopic Studies (Call for availability and Number) Each Slide</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Creation of Tissue Slides (Call for availability time Restricted) Plus Cost Per Slide</td>
<td>$550.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Body Removal Transportation on Cases Not Requiring Transport for Forensic Testing</td>
<td>$325.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administration/Shipping Fee (Packaging/Mailing or Transfer of Specimens or Other Samples to Other Labs for Testing)</td>
<td>$50.00/ hr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Fee</td>
<td>$100.00/hr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disposition/Appearance</td>
<td>$50.00/ hr.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Administrative Processing Fee</td>
<td>$45.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Electronic Device Analysis</td>
<td>$600.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-Sufficient Funds Check Returned Fee</td>
<td>$25.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Photographic Documentation if Approved by Coroner (Price per Print)</td>
<td>$15.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Maximum Amount Allowed by State Law (Currently)

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED that any other fee schedule inconsistent herewith is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this fee schedule.

Mr. Parsons stated the Coroner, Mr. Zachary Lysek, was not present, however, he had indicted he checked with other Counties to see the fees they were charging to bring Northampton County more in line with them.
Mr. McClure made a motion to table this resolution as he had some questions regarding these fees and Mr. Lysek was not present.

Mr. Kraft seconded the motion.

Mr. Cusick called for the vote on the motion to table.

The vote: McClure, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Parsons, "yes".

The motion passed by a vote of 8-0.

Consideration of the Human Services Block Resolution

Mr. Cusick advised the Human Services Committee met earlier in the evening to review this resolution.

Mr. Dietrich introduced the following resolution:

R. 28-2013  WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and its 67 Counties have a long-established partnership for the provision of essential human services to Pennsylvania's most fragile residents; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has felt it necessary to reduce its support of County-based human services over the past several years; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania created a Human Services Block Grant, consisting of seven grant programs, and made it available to 20 Counties; and

WHEREAS, participating Counties are reporting the Block Grant has given them additional flexibility that has enabled them to provide more effective human services and has helped them in dealing with the recent budget reductions; and

WHEREAS, whenever the reimbursements from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania do not keep up with the costs of the programs, it becomes an added burden to Northampton County and its taxpayers.
County Council Minutes -23- May 16, 2013

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that County Council joins the County Administration in calling on Northampton County's legislative delegation to the General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to support the expansion of the Human Services Block Grant to include all interested Counties.

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

The vote: Dietrich, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes" and Thierry, "yes".

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

Consideration of the Gift Acceptance Resolution

Mr. Cusick stated at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday, County Council discussed the acceptance of a heavy duty specialized Ford F-550 truck.

Mr. Cusick introduced the following resolution:

R. 29-2013 WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 202 (10) provides that the County Council shall have, among others, the following powers: "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 Northeast Pennsylvania Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force has donated a 2013 Ford F-550, 4x4 Crew-Cab truck ($112,783.76 purchase price) to the Northampton County Division of Emergency Management Services.

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, the donation of the 2013 Ford F-550, 4x4 Crew-Cab truck from the Northeast Pennsylvania Regional Counter Terrorism Task Force.
As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.

The vote: Cusick, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Thierry, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Dietrich, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

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

Consideration of the General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2013 Resolution

Mr. Cusick advised the 2013 Bond Issue was reviewed at yesterday's Finance Committee. He further advised a preliminary 2013 Bond Issue resolution was prepared for consideration indicating it was the County's intent to undertake a Bond Issue to include the refinancing of the 2006 Bond Issue and taking on $11.4 million in new projects that would include generators for the Courthouse and Gracedale, naming the County's Financial Advisor (Valco Capital - Mr. Gary Pulcini) and the County's Bond Counsel (King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Paul - Mr. Kevin Reid). He noted if the process (resolution adoption) did not begin at this meeting, the County could lose its ability to refinance the 2006 debt and to save $1 million over a seven year period.

Mr. Cusick introduced the following resolution:

R. 30-2013 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton, Pennsylvania (the "County") may realize significant interest cost savings in the current market by refinancing its General Obligation Bonds, Series of 2006 (the "2006 Bonds"); and

WHEREAS, the County is considering financing various capital projects (the "Projects") in an amount up to $11.4 million and it may be more efficient to issue its general obligation bonds to finance such capital projects in connection with the refunding of the 2006 Bonds.

WHEREAS, it is necessary and desirable that the County now engage its professional advisors to assist with the development and structuring of the refunding of the 2006 Bonds, and, to the extent determined to be desirable, the financing of the Projects, and to authorize various preliminary actions necessary to effectuate the issuance of its general obligation bonds (the
NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the County Council of the County of Northampton as follows:

1. The County hereby authorizes its staff, Financial Consultant (described below), Bond Counsel (described below) and Solicitor to proceed with the planning, preparation and structuring of the refunding of the 2006 Bonds and, if applicable, financing of the Projects, including, but not limited to: (i) establishment of a financing timetable; (ii) if a competitive solicitation is to be utilized, preparation of a Notice of Sale and other materials utilized in a competitive solicitation of proposals to purchase the Bonds; (iii) if a negotiated sale is to be utilized, negotiation of a bond purchase agreement with the underwriter to purchase the Bonds; (iv) preparation of a Preliminary Official Statement and appropriate disclosure materials for the Bonds; (v) determination of the most efficient structure for refinancing of the 2006 Bonds and the financing, if so determined, of the Projects; (vi) communication with and presentations to the rating agencies rating the County's general obligation bonds and (vii) other matters with respect to the authorization and issuance of each series of Bonds.

2. The County's staff together with its Financial Consultant, Solicitor and Bond Counsel are hereby authorized and directed to proceed with the competitive solicitation of proposals or a negotiated proposal to purchase the Bonds and to present to the County at a future meeting of the County Council a specific bond purchase proposal for the Bonds.

3. The County hereby appoints VALCO Capital, Ltd. to serve as the County's Financial Consultant with respect to the Bonds and King, Spry, Herman, Freund & Faul to serve as the County's Bond Counsel with respect to the Bonds.

4. This Resolution does not legally obligate the County to refinance the 2006 Bonds, to finance any Projects or to incur any debt. The issuance of the Bonds will require further action of the County Council as required under the Pennsylvania Local Government Unit Debt Act and other applicable law.
In response to Mr. McClure’s question as to what was the purpose of Number 4, Mr. Cusick stated the County had a lot more work to do and the main purpose of this resolution was to appoint a finance advisor and bond counsel.

In answer to Mr. McClure’s question as to how the advisor was chosen, Mr. Cusick advised the suggestion was made by the Administration and the County had dealt with them in the past.

In response to Mr. McClure’s question as to how the bond counsel was chosen, Mr. Cusick stated the County Executive had initially proposed using the same counsel that assisted in getting the County out of its Swaption deal, but it was his preference not to use that specific type of counsel and to obtain someone local, noting the County had done business with this firm previously.

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


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

Human Services Committee Report

Mr. Dietrich advised a Human Services Committee meeting was held earlier in the evening where the Human Services Block Grant resolution was discussed.

Legislative Breakfast

Ms. Ferraro stated the Legislative Breakfast has been scheduled for May 30, 2013, at Gracedale and she hoped everyone would be able to attend.
Finance Committee Report

Mr. Cusick advised the Finance Committee met yesterday and most of the items on the agenda today were discussed. He further advised they received an update on the software installation by Tyler Technologies in the Assessor’s Division, which should be completed by November 1, 2013.

Gracedale Advisory Board Liaison Report

Mr. Werner stated there will be a new admissions office and family conference room opening up very shortly. He further stated they were on par with their census with the residents, Southeast II wing would be opened shortly and they talked about possibly opening some Serenity Suites.

Mr. Werner advised 111 letters were sent out with regard to the beds at Gracedale and there was a buyer interested in all 37 beds.

Mr. Werner stated new brochures were being printed with a larger font. He further stated they reduced the admission time down to 14 minutes.

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Liaison Report

Mr. Cusick advised that Mr. Mike Kaiser was retiring at the end of this month as Executive Director after approximately 50 years of service. He further advised they were in the process of interviewing and selecting his replacement.

Mr. Cusick stated they were also going to be voting to retain their lease for an additional ten years at the current location.

Open Space Advisory Board Liaison Report

Mr. Parsons advised the Open Space Advisory Board would be meeting on May 30, 2013, to review a number of projects.
Adjournment

Mrs. Thierry made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Kraft seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by acclamation.

Frank E. Flisser
Clerk to Council
Phase I Municipal Grant Projects

The following is a summary of Phase-I projects. This outline will show which municipalities still have an open grant, how much money is still allocated, project description and where the project stands.

**Municipality:** Allen Township  
**Project Name:** Village View Park Development  
**Approved:** January 20, 2011  
**Resolution Number:** 13-2011  
**Money Requested:** $69,498  
**Project Description:** Construction of a dog exercise area, asphalt and concrete pathways utilizing a portion of the County’s property by the Township for recreation purposes. Project will connect spur trails to the Nor-Bath Trail, have sectioned dog areas (large and small breed areas) and include fencing, gates, water fountains, benches, trash and pet waste receptacles.  
**Project Status:** Insurance between the County and the Township are being negotiated. A meeting has been set for May 23, 2013.

**Municipality:** Hanover Township  
**Project Name:** Village View Park Development  
**Approved:** July 15, 2010  
**Resolution Number:** 57-2010  
**Money Requested:** $213,160  
**Project Description:** Construction of the entrance, soccer/multi-purpose fields, baseball fields and playground areas.  
**Project Status:** Hanover Township needed to resubmit permits due to changes at the State level. The Township is now awaiting final approval and will begin construction shortly thereafter.

**Municipality:** Borough of Hellertown  
**Project Name:** Dimmick Park Grandstand Rehabilitation  
**Approved:** July 15, 2010  
**Resolution Number:** 58-2010  
**Money Requested:** $80,000  
**Project Description:** The rehabilitation of the historic grandstand within Dimmick Park. This iconic historical structure, originally constructed in the 1930’s, now has safety hazards such as flaking lead paint and rotted wooden floorboards and bleachers.  
**Project Status:** Project was has correspondence dated June 20, 2012 which indicates Phase I construction should be completed in Spring 2013. Letter was sent on May 1, 2013, no response to date.
Phase I Municipal Grant Projects

**Municipality:** Borough of Hellertown  
**Project Name:** Rail Trail / Dimnick Park  
**Approved:** December 9, 2010  
**Resolution Number:** 126-2010  
**Money Requested:** $50,343  
**Project Description:** Construction of safe intersection crossings along the Saucon Valley Rail-Trail. The first intersection, Water Street, requires substantial construction, including a gate, flashing warning signs, guide rails and fencing. The second crossing at Walnut Street requires traffic signs and striping/road markers. The grant also involves the creation of an interactive water play area, known as a splash pad, adjacent to the swimming pool. The splash pad will extend services to handicapped and disabled persons, as well as young children.  
**Project Status:** Letter was sent on May 1, 2013, no response to date.

**Municipality:** Lower Nazareth Township  
**Project Name:** Newburg Community Park  
**Approved:** January 20, 2011  
**Resolution Number:** 9-2011  
**Money Requested:** 123,974  
**Project Description:** Phase I of Newburg Park construction. Development of two (2) soccer, football and overlay fields, three (3) roadways, seventy (70) parking spaces, open space area and landscaping.  
**Project Status:** Letter was sent on May 1, 2013, no response to date.

**Municipality:** Lower Saucon Township  
**Project Name:** Polk Valley Park  
**Approved:** July 10, 2008  
**Resolution Number:** 42-2008  
**Money Requested:** $92,040  
**Project Description:**  
**Project Status:** Letter was sent on May 1, 2013, no response to date.

**Municipality:** Lower Saucon Township  
**Project Name:** Steel City Park  
**Approved:** December 9, 2010  
**Resolution Number:** 128-2010  
**Money Requested:** $127,771  
**Project Description:** Improvements will include paved walkways, improved playgrounds, improved ball field and backstop, sand volleyball court, off-street parking, and better restroom facilities.  
**Project Status:** As of October 27, 2011 – bids were being prepared and construction was scheduled for 2012. Letter was sent on May 1, 2013, no response to date.
Phase I Municipal Grant Projects

**Municipality:** Borough of Nazareth

**Project Name:** Nazareth Park Pool Rehabilitation Project

**Approved:** January 20, 2011

**Resolution Number:** 12-2011

**Money Requested:** $139,806

**Project Description:** Pool filtration system replacement.

**Project Status:** Project is currently on hold due to aging system of pool. Borough is currently in process of devising a plan to rehab or replace the existing pool.

---

**Municipality:** Palmer Township

**Project Name:** Chrin Community Center Development

**Approved:**

**Resolution Number:**

**Money Requested:** $243,308

**Project Description:**

**Project Status:** Originally submitted under Palmer Township Community Pool Rehabilitation. Will be presented June 13, 2013.

---

**Municipality:** Borough of Stockertown

**Project Name:** Stockertown Recreation Trail

**Approved:** July 15, 2010

**Resolution Number:** 59-2010

**Money Requested:** $29,236

**Project Description:** Design, survey (if needed), trail and trailhead construction, drainage improvements, rain garden development, trail amenities, signage, native plant enhancements, sidewalk installation and improvements, road crossings.

**Project Status:** Permitting is being finalized after alterations for crossings at Industrail Boulevard. Plainfield Township Supervisors agreed to allow development on the north trailhead (property was found to be in their ownership). The Borough secured a donation for stone material from a local quarry. Construction of the trail will be done by Borough workers and started this summer. The north and south trailhead will be bid in the Summer 2013 with the anticipation of completion by the end of 2013.
Phase I Municipal Grant Projects

Municipality: Williams Township
Project Name: Improvements and Renovations – Williams Township Municipal Park and Raubsville Park
Approved: January 20, 2011
Resolution Number: 14-2011
Money Requested: $32,625
Project Description: Williams Township Park - Installation of new safety surface at playground and extend and repair the existing primitive trail. Raubsville Park – Extend parking area, replace pavilion roof, adding bleachers at the athletic fields, and adding picnic tables at the pavilion.
Project Status: Project was scheduled to be completed at the end of 2012. Letter was sent on May 1, 2013, no response to date.
Northampton County Council  
Northampton County Government Center  
669 Washington Street  
Easton, PA 18042-7475

Re: Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative  
Municipal Park Acquisition and Development Application  
Development of a Greenway Plaza and Pavilion – City of Bethlehem

Dear Members of Council:

The Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board met in regular public session on May 9, 2013, at 4:00 PM. As stated in the minutes, the Board voted unanimously to recommend that Northampton County Council provide funds for Development of a Greenway Plaza and Pavilion located in the City of Bethlehem.

**Project Information:**
- **Property Owner:** City of Bethlehem  
- **Site Location:** South Bethlehem Greenway  
- **Phase II Municipal Allocation:** $934,371.17  
- **County Grant Request:** $172,000.00 (50%)  
- **Other grants:**  
  - $130,304.00 City of Bethlehem (36%)  
  - $30,000.00 Non-utility Capital Budget Funds (9%)  
  - $12,000.00 Vision 2014 (5%)

**Park Development Description:**
- Continuation of development to the South Bethlehem Greenway & Skateplaza  
- Focal point for the Eastern Gateway to the City of Bethlehem  
- Amenities will include  
  - Restrooms,  
  - A shade pavilion,  
  - Picnic tables,  
  - Seating, and  
  - Greenscape / Landscaping  
- Consistency with the City's Comprehensive Plan and Park Plan

We respectfully request your approval and funding for this project.

Yours Truly,

R. Michael Topping, Chair

Enclosure
PROJECT NAME: Develop a Greenway Plaza and Pavilion

PROJECT DESCRIPTION:

Proposed Park Development/Rehabilitation:

The City of Bethlehem is requesting support from the Northampton County Open Space Initiative in the amount of $172,000 toward the continued development of the South Bethlehem Greenway and Skateplaza. A funding match has been approved in the City's 2013 Non-Utility Capital Budget along with a grant from South Bethlehem Vision 2014, municipal recreation funds, and charitable contributions.

The project site is located in the City’s south side urban core. The Greenway has transformed a blighted abandoned rail property into a green open space and recreation corridor. The South Bethlehem Greenway, approximately 34 acres and three miles in length, bisects the densely populated residential and downtown areas of South Bethlehem from east to west. The Bethlehem Skateplaza, located at the eastern trail head of the South Bethlehem Greenway, is considered not only as an anchor of the Greenway but also of the Eastern Gateway. The Gateway design plans for this area include a plaza near the front of the Skateplaza that will complement and be a focal point of the Eastern Gateway. The plaza amenities will include restrooms, a shade pavilion, picnic tables, seating, and greenscape. This built space will provide people with a place to relax in the shade, enjoy the outdoors, and socialize with others. Because the tremendous need for these amenities, Northampton County Open Space funding will allow project construction to begin mid-2013.

The Skateplaza itself was originally planned to be constructed in three phases. Phase I was completed in July 2010 and Phase II was completed in November 2012. The construction of a formal entrance with appropriate supporting amenities was envisioned for Phase II construction, but it made good economic and design sense to delay this work and incorporate the project with Eastern Gateway improvements.

A recent public survey conducted by the City showed a resounding desire of the community for more high quality public places for people of all ages to gather, play, recreate, and gain access to nature. This Greenway plaza area will be a major recreational component for the neighborhood and for the City.
How the Proposed Development is Consistent With the Municipality's Park Plan and/or Comprehensive Plan:

The Southside Vision 2012 recommendations include:

- Create a strong open space network
- Improve the gateways leading into Bethlehem, especially the Eastern Gateway
- Develop positive recreational activities for youth

The South Bethlehem Eastern Gateway Vision recognized that:

"Seating will be needed for people to have a place to stop and eat, or simply to watch the activity at the Skateplaza. This will help allow family and friends of Skateplaza users to enjoy the area as well as the skaters themselves."

"The Skateplaza is a major destination and focal point of the Eastern Gateway District, and a recreational and social resource for the neighborhood." It recommends that we "Locate seating along Steel Avenue with good views of the Skateplaza; provide shade along Daley Avenue within the Skateplaza area, and provide public restrooms and water fountains".
Development of a Greenway Plaza and Pavilion

Aerial, Parks

Applicant: Bethlehem City
Parcel ID: P7-19-2C
Acreage: Approx. 0.25 acre
Location: Steel Ave
Date: May 8, 2013

Project Area
Park, Open Space, or Outdoor Recreation
Parcel Boundary
PHOTOGRAPHIC LOG

Greenway/Skateplaza

Site Location:
City of Bethlehem, Northampton County

Project No.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Photo No.</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>2013</td>
<td>Plaza Concept Design</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

SOUTH BETHLEHEM EASTERN GATEWAY - SKATEPARK PLAZA
SCHEME D - REVISION 2

PLAZA AREA WITH SPECIAL PAVEMENT

PROPOSED CANOPIES
PROPOSED TREES, TYP.
PROPOSED SCULPTURE LOCATION
POSSIBLE SIGNAGE / KIOSK LOCATION
PROPOSED BENCHES, TYP
SIGNAGE OR MURAL
RELOCATE EXISTING PLAQUE
SKATE PARK
EXISTING CANOPY
PROPOSED FIXED TABLES AND CHAIRS
PROPOSED WIDE PEDESTRIAN RAMP

EXISTING LIGHT POLE
EXISTING UTILITY POLE
PROPOSED BIKE RACKS
PUBLIC RESTROOM
CONCESSION

STEEL AVE
PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA FOR MUNICIPAL PARK ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Rehabilitation projects are not subject to the ranking criteria and therefore will not be ranked against this criteria.

Municipality: BETHLEHEM CITY

Presentation Date: 9-May-2013

Project Name: DEVELOPMENT OF A GREENWAY PLAZA AND PAVILION

Project Type: (circle one) Acquisition Development

Acreage: (land acquisition only) N/A

In order to be eligible for funding for a municipal park acquisition, development or rehabilitation grant, the applicant must show that the proposal meets the objectives of the municipality’s park and recreation plan. If the municipality does not have an adopted park and recreation plan, some other form of justification for the project must be shown. This can include a special needs study, a plan for the land acquisition, development, or rehabilitation or similar documentation.

BASE CRITERIA VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Intended use of land to be acquired (maximum 7 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Active Recreation ......................................................... 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Passive Recreation ......................................................... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Project does not involve the acquisition of land .................. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Acreage of the land to be acquired (maximum of 6 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Over 75 acres ...................................................................... 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 25 - 74 ............................................................................... 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Under 25 acres .................................................................... 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. No land will be acquired .................................................... 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Suitability of the site for its intended purpose (maximum 8 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Parcel’s characteristics are ideally suited for its intended use ........ 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Parcel’s characteristics are moderately suited for its intended use .......... 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Parcel is not suited for its intended use ................................... 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Suitability of the site for a variety of recreation activities (maximum 5 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. High (7 or more activities) .................................................... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Medium (4-6 activities) ......................................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Low (1-3 activities) .............................................................. 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Parcel links recreation areas (maximum 5 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Parcel links two or more existing recreation areas ....................... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Parcel is adjacent to an existing recreation area .......................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. No linkage or expansion of an existing recreation area ................... 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Municipal park and open space plan or special needs study (maximum 5 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. The municipality has an adopted park and open space plan .......... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. The municipality has done a special needs study or has documentation</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
  showing the need for the project ............................................. 3 |
| c. The municipality is not preparing a park and open space plan ........... 0 |
7. The amount of municipally-owned park acreage is below the suggested standard of 6.25 acres of local, close to home space per 1,000 residents (maximum 6 points)
   There are less than 3 acres per 1,000 persons ..................................................6
   There are less than 3.0-5.9 acres per 1,000 persons ............................................4
   There are less than 6.0-8.0 acres per 1,000 persons ............................................2
   There are over 8.0 acres per 1,000 persons ................................................................0

8. Project partnerships (maximum 3 points)
   a. Project is in cooperation with another public agency (i.e. other municipality, public authority, school district, etc.) ..................................................3
   b. There are no municipal partnerships involved .......................................................0

9. Non-county funding available for the project (maximum 5 points)
   a. Over 75% ...............................................................................................................5
   b. 60% - 75% ...........................................................................................................3
   c. More than the required 50% match but less than 60% ...........................................1
   d. Local match is no more than the required 50% .....................................................0

10. The land to be acquired provides access to a river or stream (maximum 4 points)
    a. The land provides access to the Lehigh River, Delaware River or a major Stream (Bushkill, Monocacy, Hokendauqua, Saucon) ...........................................4
    b. Land provides access to a minor stream ...............................................................2
    c. Land to be acquired does not contain or have access to any streams ...................0

11. Quality and completeness of the application (maximum of 5 points)
    a. High ......................................................................................................................5
    b. Medium ................................................................................................................3
    c. Low .......................................................................................................................0

12. Expansion Potential (maximum 5 points)
    Land has potential to expand facilities/activities in the future ....................................5
    No potential for future expansion ...............................................................................0

Total Ranking Score: (64 points maximum) ..................................................................26
Northampton County Open Space Initiative
14 Gracedale Avenue, Nazareth, PA 18064
610-746-1993  610-746-5262 Fax

May 10, 2013

Northampton County Council
Northampton County Government Center
669 Washington Street
Easton, PA 18042-7475

Re: Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative
Municipal Park Acquisition and Development Application
Community Park Security Upgrade – Forks Township

Dear Members of Council:

The Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board met in regular public session on May 9, 2013, at 4:00 PM. As stated in the minutes, the Board voted unanimously to recommend that Northampton County Council provide funds for Community Park Security Upgrade located in Forks Township.

Project information:
Property Owner: Forks Township
Site Location: Community Park, 500 Zucksville Road, Easton, PA 18040
Phase II Municipal Allocation: $247,216.48
County Grant Request: $21,000.00 (50%)
Other grants: $21,000.00 Forks Township (50%)

Park Development Description:
  • Support video streams from IP video cameras
  • Add an encoder and switch that will allow for the existing cameras to be used until funding for upgrades
  • Addition of 1.3MPX IP cameras that will capture high-resolution images.
  • Consistency with the City’s Comprehensive Plan and Park Plan

We respectfully request your approval and funding for this project.

Yours Truly,

[Signature]

R. Michael Roppin, Chair

Enclosure
Forks Township Parks and Recreation
Forks Township Community Park
Security Camera Upgrade Project

Mission:
To create alternative leisure, enrichment, and recreational opportunities for personal growth and enhancement for all ages; Section 607 of the Second Class Township Code which provides the duties of township supervisors states “to secure the health, safety and welfare of the citizens of the township”.

To meet the Parks and Recreation Goal of the Forks Township Comprehensive plan as adopted on February 18, 2010.

To achieve this, the Parks and Recreation Department and Recreation Board shall develop diverse services and programs that promote resident involvement and strong sense of community. Such services and programs shall strive to increase social, cultural, and physical well-being of Forks residents and visitors.

Description:
The Forks Township Community Park is the most heavily used park with in Parks and Trail System. It is nearly impossible to quantify the number of people who visit the park annually, it is known that with the planned events and reservations alone, more than 100,000 visitors spent time in recreation in Community Park in 2012.

Due to the budgeting limitations, it is impossible to staff the park with adequate security at all times. More than 10 years ago, Forks Township felt the need to protect its multi-million dollar investment with the installation of a Closed-Circuit Television (CCTV) system. With a CCTV system in place, the hope was and still is that it changes the offender’s perception so the offender believes if a crime is committed the perpetrator will be caught. Knowing that a facility is under surveillance provides visitors with a perceived sense of security, allowing them to enjoy their experience and return in the future.

At the time the CCTV system was installed it was state-of-the-art. However, technology is constantly changing, and the current system can no longer serve the needs adequately.

With significant limitations, the current system does allow the park staff to investigate crimes. The current analog system is not capable of being integrated into the IP system — allowing for remote, live monitoring/playback of recorded video, it is not capable of high-definition/high-resolution images, and it does not provide for remote autofocus focusing.

The security system upgrade, will replace the current video recorders with ones that are designed to support video streams from IP video cameras, add an encoder and switch that will allow us to use the analog cameras that are still adequate until we can afford to replace them, and add several 1.3MPX IP Cameras that will capture high-resolution images. With this upgrade, the park will be able to be monitored by law enforcement and recreation staff from virtually anywhere — on 3G Phones, Tablets, Computers, etc. The upgrade will permit security to be proactive instead of strictly reactive.

In the last three years, the Police have had more than 50 reported incidents in Community Park. These incidents ranged from vandalism, fights, drug use/sales, and calls for medical assistance. In a quarter of these cases, the cameras were able to assist in the detection and arrest of the offenders. With the
upgrades, it is anticipated the number of incidents will be reduced and that the number of detections and arrests will increase. Considering the majority of the incidents are related to vandalism, it will also help to cut down on expenses related to material costs, labors costs, and equipment costs in repairing vandalism.

Within the multi-million dollar park, the Township is continuously improving and adding new facilities. Last year, Forks Township constructed a half a million dollar amphitheater and is currently in the process of developing a skatepark. More than ever, it is important to protect the visiting public and the park facilities to provide attractive, safe, and well-maintained parks and public facilities.

**Itemized Cost Estimate:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Video Surveillance System</th>
<th>Total:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Ethernet Line</td>
<td>$10,400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head-End Equipment</td>
<td>$11,341</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Outdoor Cameras</td>
<td>$10,791</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor/Contingency</td>
<td>$9,468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td><strong>$42,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Master Plan:**
The Security System project is part of the Forks Township Parks and Recreation Comprehensive 5-Year Strategic Plan that was adopted on June 21, 2012. The objective is to provide quality recreational opportunities and facilities to meet a wide variety of needs and interests.

To provide places where an entire family can in a safe and protected manner enjoying various types of recreation, such as a teenager playing on a baseball field, while a younger sibling plays on playground equipment, parents play tennis, and grandparents walk around the trail.

Forks Township Community Park strives to meet the State mandated responsibility to protect the health, safety and welfare of the community. Grant approval for this project will permit the Township to continue to meet these goals.

Lastly, the Forks Township Comprehensive Plan encourages the township to take full advantage of state and county grant funds and thanks to the Northampton County Open Space Initiative; we are able to do just that.
March 1, 2013

Rachel Sulzbach
Director of Parks and Recreation
Forks Township

Rachel,

In reference to your inquiry regarding police calls for service that took place within the Township Park, a query of the department's record management system has revealed more than fifty incidents reported over the past three years. Those calls are of a variety of reasons. They have ranged from vandalism, fights, drug use/sales, and calls for medical assistance. Of great concern to me is the current status of our CCTV system that exists in our park. The system is dated and in dire need of updating. As you are well aware, it is impossible to station an officer in the park at all times. The CCTV system is another tool that the police can use to help deter and investigate crime. It does not limit access to certain areas, make an object harder to steal or a person more difficult to assault or rob. It seeks to change offender perception so the offender believes if he commits a crime, he will be caught. In other words, CCTV aims to increase the perceived risk of capture; a factor which, assuming the offender is behaving in a rational manner, will demotivate the potential offender. The cameras may be able to assist in the detection and arrest of offenders. This crime prevention mechanism requires that police can respond in a timely manner to any significant incidents identified by camera operators, and that the police department can pursue the offenders' conviction. Our current system is no longer adequate to serve the Township as newer, more modern technology exists that would allow officers to monitor the system from a laptop in their police vehicles. Our current system does not allow monitoring by police and is strictly reactive in nature. I would ask that you support an effort to purchase a more modern CCTV system for our Township Park. I believe a major benefit of such a system is a reduced fear of crime. Reduced fear of crime in an area may increase the number of people using the area, which is the obvious goal of any public park. It may also encourage people to be more security conscious. Ultimately, we want to ensure our residents and all who frequent our park that there time spent there will be enjoyable and safe. I truly believe we need to upgrade our current CCTV system to further make this possible.

Respectfully,

Gregory F. Dorney
Chief of Police

"An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency built upon Pride and Professionalism"
Northampton County Council
Northampton County Government Center
669 Washington Street
Easton, PA 18042-7475

Re: Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative
Municipal Park Acquisition and Development Application
Community Park Skate Park--Forks Township

Dear Members of Council:

The Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board met in regular public session on May 9, 2013, at 4:00 PM. As stated in the minutes, the Board voted unanimously to recommend that Northampton County Council provide funds for Community Park Skate Park, located in Forks Township.

Project information:
Property Owner: Forks Township
Site Location: Community Park, 500 Zucksville Road, Easton, PA 18040
Phase II Municipal Allocation: $247,216.48
County Grant Request: $50,000.00 (50%)
Other grants: $50,000.00 Forks Township (50%)

Park Development Description:
- Development of the pad and skate surface
- 6’ high galvanized fence
- Installation of various obstacles
- Community cooperation between residents, park users, police and the township
- Consistency with the City’s Comprehensive Plan and Park Plan

We respectfully request your approval and funding for this project.

Yours Truly,

R. Michael Topping, Chair

Enclosure
Forks Township Parks and Recreation
Forks Township Community Park
Skatepark Project

Mission:
To create alternative leisure, enrichment, and recreational opportunities for personal growth and enhancement for all ages, and

To meet the Parks and Recreation Goal of the Forks Township Comprehensive plan as adopted on February 18, 2010.

To achieve this, the Parks and Recreation Department and Recreation Board shall develop diverse services and programs that promote resident involvement and strong sense of community. Such services and programs shall strive to increase social, cultural, and physical well-being of Forks residents and visitors.

Description:

Forks Township is in the process of developing a skatepark - a place where people who are not attracted to traditional team sports can go and express themselves in an individual and athletic manner. They can meet, socialize, and develop friendships based on a common, healthy interest.

Skateboarding is physically active and requires, at times, great concentration. It encourages people of all ages to spend time outdoors, tests their endurance, sharpens their senses, and develop their creativity. It requires no coaches and suggests no standardized approach to riding — allowing them to be free to ride in their own way, to their own abilities, and encourages them to pursue their own styles.

The Township is looking to provide a place where primarily kids (and adults) can go locally to enjoy what they love. This means that they’re not skating in the pavilions, on the basketball courts or other areas where they are seen as a nuisance, a menace, or causing damage to structures. The previously disenfranchised skaters, who once ran from the police, now find themselves working with the police, the township, and the community as a whole. Without skateparks, skateboarders are often treated as outsiders and are repeatedly told to leave the area. In Forks Township they have had to deal with law enforcement for doing something that they feel is essentially harmless. The cumulative effects of this treatment instill a sense of disconnection to their community.

When a park is built right—with local skater input and involvement throughout the process—the participants develop a sense of ownership, pride, and community engagement. The very existence of the park is the result of their hard work and interaction with the broader community. Forks Township has been fortunate to have the local skate community involved in the planning process — and will continue to have them involved in the park development.

Having a skatepark will allow the broader community to see the skateboarders for what they truly are: Passionate, dedicated athletes that voluntarily seek out physical recreation.
Forks Township is working with a design firm made up of world-class professional skateboarders with years of municipal skate park designing experience. The pad will be 60’ x 120’ with modular skate park equipment. Phase 1 is expected to be completed Spring/Summer 2013 and then Phase 2 in the Spring/Summer 2014. Design phases are attached, but are subject to change as we continue in the design and development process.

**Itemized Cost Estimate:**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Skatepad Construction</th>
<th>Total: $33,480</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>6” 2B Stone Subbase</td>
<td>$2,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.5” 25mm Asphalt Base</td>
<td>$5,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.15” 9.5mm Asphalt Wearing Course</td>
<td>$5,200</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hockey/Skate Surface - 4 Coat System</td>
<td>$8,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6’ High Galvanized Fence</td>
<td>$7,700</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Labor/Contingency</td>
<td>$5,580</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Skatepark Equipment</strong></td>
<td><strong>Total: $66,520</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 1 Obstacles</td>
<td>$29,485</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Phase 2 Obstacles</td>
<td>$29,320</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contingency</td>
<td>$7,715</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Overall Total</strong></td>
<td><strong>$100,000</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Master Plan:**

The project listed above is part of the Forks Township Parks and Recreation Comprehensive 5-Year Strategic Plan that was adopted on June 21, 2012 as a way to help meet the Parks and Recreation goal of the Forks Township Comprehensive plan. That goal is to provide quality recreational opportunities and facilities to meet a wide variety of needs and interests.

The goal was to have places where an entire family can enjoy various types of recreation at the same time, such as a teenager riding the equipment in the skatepark, while a younger sibling plays on playground equipment, parents play tennis, and grandparents walk around the trail.

Forks Township Community Park meets the vision and role of the township to provide a safe and healthy environment for recreation for residents of all ages. This project is one of many that will continue to allow us to provide attractive, safe, and well-maintained parks and public facilities.

Lastly, the Forks Township Comprehensive Plan encourages the township to take full advantage of state and county grant funds that are available to acquire and improve public recreation areas and trails and thanks to the Northampton County Open Space Initiative, we are able to do just that.
3/1/2013

Rachel Sulzbach
Parks and Recreation Director
Forks Township

Rachel,

On behalf of the Forks Township Police Department, please accept this letter as our support for the addition of a skatepark added to the Forks Township Community Park. The police have been tasked with handling many issues that revolve around skateboarding in both the Township Park and on private properties primarily owned by local businesses. Most of the issues deal with damage sustained to property and loitering. In taking the time to examine the police reports and actually speaking with many of the area youth, it is clear to me that there is a demand for such a park based upon the level of interest in the sport of skating. Skateparks are unusual in being purposefully built, free-to-use, public spaces that cater, often primarily, for adolescents. Giving young people somewhere to go, somewhere that they have designed, worked for and are stewards of, leading to a sense of ownership. There is anecdotal evidence suggesting that skateparks can have a positive and sometimes dramatic effect on crime rates. A fundamental benefit to the users of these facilities is the education of important social values. In order to take part it is essential that they learn patience and respect as well as concern for their own and each other’s safety. These places offer young people the chance to relax, to exercise, and to enjoy activities together; they give them somewhere of their own to go to. It is ultimately my hope that by giving those interested in skating, a designated area to participate in their chosen activity that the demand upon the police and the financial burdens impacted upon the Township will be diminished. We currently offer places to recreate in many other types of sports and activities. I assume those offering are because of a legitimate demand within our community. I believe that same demand exists for many in our community that have chosen skating as their passion. I ask you to please consider the addition of a skate park to be added to the Township Park system.

Respectfully,

Gregory F. Dorney
Chief of Police

"An Accredited Law Enforcement Agency built upon Pride and Professionalism"
Devon Schielock of 390 Ramblewood Drive commented, “You are questionable about making it because you don’t know if we’ll like it or if it’s big enough or we won’t like it. I’d like to say, on behalf of all of us, that we are grateful for anything because, at this point, we’ve been hassled by everyone and we just want to do what we love.” He stated that the Township has provided a place for basketball players, hockey players, and baseball players to excel in what they do and that they ask that the same be done for those interested in the sport of skateboarding. “All we ask is that you can think harder about what you can do with a skate park and that you can help us...whatever you give us is what we’ll use...we’re grateful for anything, like I said, at this point. Thank you.”

Ed Reagan of 1364 Fox Ridge commented, “We have a finite amount of land for the parks. You have a ton of swales in the Township that the Township owns. Why not just use a shotcrete gunite skate park in one of the swales...cap a swale to keep it from having sinkholes...make it park land so its covered under liability, gunite in a skate park but also have it work as a swale when it’s raining.”

Daniel Lawrence of 2500 Brian Lane commented, “I’ve lived here my whole life and I’ve played plenty of sports. I’ve played soccer, lacrosse, and as I came into my teen years, I decided that I wanted to start skateboarding. I played soccer on the soccer fields, basketball on the basketball courts, when I started skateboarding. I was skateboarding at Giant skateboarding at the basketball courts. Even if it’s not for us...even kids 20 years from now that live here, I still feel that there should be something there for the kids who like to do something other than normal organized sports, so they still have somewhere to go...we’d be happy with anything.”

No motion was made regarding this agenda item.

03. BCAF – Sign Grant:
BCAF would like to partner with the Township to install gateway signs bearing the slogan “You’re in Good Company”, to promote the Township as business friendly. An application for a grant through the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation was presented, which requires a 50% cash match, up to $2,000.00 (reimbursed upon completion of the project). BCAF has stated that they can commit $1,000.00 toward the project and is requesting that the Township contribute the remaining $1,000.00 toward the project.

Supervisor Egolf and Supervisor Billings both agreed that the slogan printed on the signs, as well as the design, would need to be publicly discussed and approved by the Board. Supervisor Billings expressed concern about paying for the signs, as it was not stated by BCAF prior to this that the Township would incur any cost related to the signs. Supervisor Martyak added that he thinks that the signs are a good idea but that more time would be needed for review.

Chairman Cluss made a motion to approve contributing $1,000.00 toward the welcome signs, in conjunction with the $1,000.00 that BCAF is offering, for application for a grant from the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce Foundation. Motion was seconded. Motion failed.

COMMENSURATE: The Board went into executive session at 9:40 p.m. The Board returned from executive session at 9:55 p.m. Assistant Solicitor Goudsouzian reported that the purpose of the executive session was to discuss a possible litigation matter. No official action was taken
PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA FOR MUNICIPAL PARK
ACQUISITION AND DEVELOPMENT GRANTS

Rehabilitation projects are not subject to the ranking criteria and therefore will not be ranked against this criterion.

Municipality: FORKS TOWNSHIP  Presentation Date: 9-May-2013

Project Name: FORKS TOWNSHIP COMMUNITY PARK – SKATE PARK

Project Type: (circle one) Assembly  Development

Acreage: (land acquisition only) N/A

In order to be eligible for funding for a municipal park acquisition, development or rehabilitation grant, the applicant must show that the proposal meets the objectives of the municipality’s park and recreation plan. If the municipality does not have an adopted park and recreation plan, some other form of justification for the project must be shown. This can include a special needs study, a plan for the land acquisition, development, or rehabilitation or similar documentation.

BASE CRITERIA VALUE

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>POINTS</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1. Intended use of land to be acquired (maximum 7 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Active Recreation .............................................................. 7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Passive Recreation .............................................................. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Project does not involve the acquisition of land ...................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2. Acreage of the land to be acquired (maximum of 6 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Over 75 acres ................................................................. 6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. 25 - 74 ................................................................. 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Under 25 acres ................................................................. 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>d. No land will be acquired ...................................................... 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3. Suitability of the site for its intended purpose (maximum 8 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Parcel’s characteristics are ideally suited for its intended use ........ 8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Parcel’s characteristics are moderately suited for its intended use ...... 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Parcel is not suited for its intended use ................................ 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4. Suitability of the site for a variety of recreation activities (maximum 5 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. High (7 or more activities) .................................................. 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Medium (4-6 activities) ...................................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. Low (1-3 activities) .......................................................... 1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5. Parcel links recreation areas (maximum 5 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. Parcel links two or more existing recreation areas ....................... 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. Parcel is adjacent to an existing recreation area ............................. 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. No linkage or expansion of an existing recreation area ..................... 0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6. Municipal park and open space plan or special needs study (maximum 5 points)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>a. The municipality has an adopted park and open space plan ................ 5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>b. The municipality has done a special needs study or has documentation showing the need for the project ...................................................... 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>c. The municipality is not preparing a park and open space plan ............. 0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
7. The amount of municipally-owned park acreage is below the suggested standard of 6.25 acres of local, close to home space per 1,000 residents (maximum 6 points)
   There are less than 3 acres per 1,000 persons ............................................. 6
   There are less than 3.0-5.9 acres per 1,000 persons ........................................... 4
   There are less than 6.0-8.0 acres per 1,000 persons ........................................... 2
   There are over 8.0 acres per 1,000 persons .................................................................. 0

8. Project partnerships (maximum 3 points)
   a. Project is in cooperation with another public agency (i.e. other municipality, public authority, school district, etc.) ........................................... (3)
   b. There are no municipal partnerships involved ......................................................... 0

9. Non-county funding available for the project (maximum 5 points)
   a. Over 75% ................................................................................................................ 5
   b. 60% - 75% ............................................................................................................... 3
   c. More than the required 50% match but less than 60% ........................................... 1
   d. Local match is no more than the required 50% ....................................................... 0

10. The land to be acquired provides access to a river or stream (maximum 4 points)
    a. The land provides access to the Lehigh River, Delaware River or a major Stream (Bushkill, Monocacy, Hokendauqua, Saucon) ........................................... 4
    b. Land provides access to a minor stream .................................................................. 2
    c. Land to be acquired does not contain or have access to any streams ................. 0

11. Quality and completeness of the application (maximum of 5 points)
    a. High ....................................................................................................................... 5
    b. Medium .................................................................................................................. 3
    c. Low ......................................................................................................................... 0

12. Expansion Potential (maximum 5 points)
    Land has potential to expand facilities/activities in the future ................................... 5
    No potential for future expansion .............................................................................. 0

Total Ranking Score: (64 points maximum) ......................................................... 33
Northampton County Council  
Northampton County Government Center  
669 Washington Street  
Easton, PA 18042-7475  

Re: Northampton County 21st Century Open Space Initiative  
Municipal Park Acquisition and Development Application  
Memorial & Pennico Park Rehabilitation Projects – Borough of Bangor  

Dear Members of Council:  

The Northampton County Open Space Advisory Board met in regular public session on May 9, 2013, at 4:00 PM. As stated in the minutes, the Board voted unanimously to recommend that Northampton County Council provide funds for Memorial & Pennico Park Rehabilitation Projects located in the Borough of Bangor.  

Project Information:  
Property Owner: Borough of Bangor  
Site Location: PA Route 512, Bangor, PA 18013  
Phase II Municipal Allocation: $88,551.90  
County Grant Request: $88,551.90 (49.6%)  
Other grants: $89,740.30 Borough of Bangor (50.4%)  

Park Development Description:  
• Rehabilitation of 3 basketball courts at Memorial Park  
• Rehabilitation of one volleyball court at Memorial Park  
• Pool entrance re-paving at Memorial Park  
• Repoint and reset stones at gateway to park at Memorial Park  
• Ballfield fencing at Pennico Park  
• Play equipment at Pennico Park  
• One volleyball court at Pennico Park  

We respectfully request your approval and funding for this project.  

Yours Truly,  

[Signature]  
R. Michael Oppling, Chair  

Enclosure
BOROUGH OF BANGOR
NORTHAMPTON COUNTY OPEN SPACE INITIATIVE II
PROJECT SELECTION CRITERIA
FRIDAY, MARCH 1, 2013

MUNICIPALITY: Borough of Bangor
PROJECT NAME: Memorial and Pennico Park Rehabilitation Project
PROJECT TYPE: Rehabilitation
THE PROJECT DOES NOT INVOLVE LAND ACQUISITION WITH ANY COUNTY MONEY

BASE CRITERIA VALUE

A. The intended use of the land is active recreation. FULL public access currently exists.
B. No land will be acquired under this project.
C. The two parcels are ideally suited for their intended use; as this is a rehabilitation of existing municipal recreation space.
D. Both Memorial and Pennico Parks are perfectly suitable for a variety of recreation activities.
E. The proposed work occurs at two separate and distinct park sites.
F. The municipality has a Borough Park and Recreation Master Plan dated in December 2009. The municipality also may be acquiring additional open space and a planning process continues for that new area but it is not to be used for this project.
G. There are over 8 acres per 1,000 persons. (Roughly 62 acres for 5,273 people.)
H. Partnerships with the Bangor Area School District have been paramount through the years at Bangor Me4morial Park (and football stadium).
I. Bangor will supply between 50 and 60 percent of the cash match (50.4% borough; 49.6% county).
J. No land will be acquired.
K. All questions in the application have been answered along with a supplemental description.
L. Pennico Park MAY expand in the future.

The Borough of Bangor understands that this initiative is a reimbursable fund; that is, the municipality must expend the monies and submit receipts in order to obtain funding. There will not be any phased payments, only payment upon completion.

This project is immediately shovel-ready. Both the playground area and the court spaces are “ready to go”. All estimates are recent and valid. The project is an eligible activity as it represents development of recreation facilities of municipal land already intended for park and recreation use. It also rehabilitates existing municipal owned park and recreation facilities that are in need of improvement.
BANGOR PARKS
1. Bangor Memorial Park (41.5 acres)
2. Pub. X Athletic Field (4.5 acres)
3. Roy's Dam Park (22.1 acres)
4. Prentice Park (2.4 acres)
5. Front & Market St. Open Space (0.12 ac)
6. Martin's Creek Open Space (0.39 acres)

Legend
Path, Path

PARK MAP
Bangor Borough, Northampton County, PA
Bangor Memorial & Pennico Park
Rehabilitation Project
Volleyball Courts
Bangor Memorial & Pennico Park
Rehabilitation Project
Pennico Park Existing Facilities

Bathrooms

Lights

Basketball Court

Basketball Surface