Easton, Pennsylvania                                      June 19, 2014

A regular meeting of the Northampton County Council was held on the above date with the following present: Margaret L. Ferraro, President; Glenn A. Geissinger, Vice-President; Mathew M. Benol; Kenneth M. Kraft; Lamont G. McClure, Jr.; Scott Parsons; Hayden Phillips; Seth Vaughn; Robert F. Werner; Frank E. Flisser, Clerk to Council, and Philip D. Lauer, Solicitor to Council.

Prayer

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

Pledge of Allegiance

Mr. Phillips 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 June 5, 2014 meeting shall be approved.

Mr. Kraft seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Stephen Barron, Lincoln Street, Bethlehem, PA - advised at the Personnel and Finance Committees meeting yesterday, he talked about the ServiceMaster contract at the Human Services Building. He further advised he expressed concern about data protection and certain items that were stored in employee desks on the second and third floors.
Mr. Barron stated after talking to some individuals regarding this issue, he learned there were thefts in the building starting on or about April 8, 2014, but it could not be determined if it was the cleaning staff. He further stated he spoke with ServiceMaster today and learned the Sheriff’s Department did look into these thefts. He noted since May 12, 2014 when the ServiceMaster staff was switched, there have not been any more thefts.

Mr. Barron advised there was a Confidentially Agreement in the works to be signed. He further advised he suggested that since there could be children in the building, the ServiceMaster staff should have ChildLine clearances.

Mr. Barron stated ServiceMaster was very forthcoming with information regarding their contract, what services they provided and had no problem with having their staff get ChildLine clearances.

In response to Mr. McClure’s question as to what he was talking about because this was the first time he heard anything, Mr. Barron advised some money and knickknacks were missing from desks and the contents of a bag were removed and the bag was missing. He further advised a pair of jeans were reported missing, but it turned out they were left in the ladies room for a period of time and eventually tossed out. He noted a lost and found box was established so the cleaning staff had a place to put items they found.

In answer to Mr. McClure’s question as to whether he knew if this was reported to the Bethlehem Township Police Department and what the result was, Mr. Barron stated he did not know if it was reported.

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission: “Land Development in Northampton County”; Becky Bradley, Executive Director

Mrs. Ferraro advised Ms. Becky Bradley, Lehigh Valley Planning Commission (LVPC) Executive Director was present to report on land development in Northampton County.

Ms. Bradley provided a power point presentation that addressed the top ten questions they received entitled “Lehigh Valley Population and Development” (see Attachment #1).
Ms. Bradley advised LVPC was the official planning agency for Northampton and Lehigh Counties, as well as the metropolitan planning organization that managed more than $1 million in road and bridge pooled funding and allocated resources out. She further advised they did all the official planning for water, sewer, other infrastructure and housing.

Ms. Bradley stated in addition to the Livable Landscape Plan, they were also working on a series of other plans, including a freight plan. She further stated they have written more than $40 million worth of grants to assist private businesses this year.

Ms. Bradley advised they were working on a regional housing plan and looking at the future of energy in the region. She further advised they were working on a return of environment plan that would answer questions such as what was the value of a tree canopy to do properties next to parks and open space have a higher value.

Ms. Bradley stated they were part of a 16 member sustainable community’s consortium to answer questions regarding the economic resiliency of the region.

Ms. Bradley advised during the last 30 years, the region grew approximately 1% per year in terms of population and they anticipated it growing to at least 800,000 people, but it could be as high was 873,000, by 2040. She further advised they anticipated a significant increase in the number of 65+ individuals over the next 20 years, as well as more 20 and under individuals.

Ms. Bradley stated there had been a significant increase in the Hispanic and African American population over the last decade. She further stated they have started to see a significant expansion in employment in health care positions and predict a large growth in construction, professional positions and technical trades, but not a lot in manufacturing.

Ms. Bradley advised there were approximately 89,000 individuals who worked in the region, but lived elsewhere and approximately 187,000 individuals who lived and worked here. She further advised there were approximately 104,000 individuals that lived here, but worked outside the region with the largest number being from Northampton County.
Ms. Bradley stated there was a slight decrease in family households. She further stated the average number of individuals in a household was 2.53 and they expected that to decline to 2.46 by 2040, which was better than national predictions.

Ms. Bradley advised approximately 6800 individuals have moved to the region from New Jersey, but approximately 1500 were lost to New Jersey. She further advised 4300 individuals from New York have moved into the area, with 1700 moving out.

Ms. Bradley stated they monitored all subdivisions and land development, as well as building permits. She further stated they have found since 2005 and 2011, there was an approximate 80% decrease in the total number of permits. She noted the biggest growth year for the region was 2005.

Ms. Bradley advised building permit numbers were important to look at because they did not just focus on new development, but also housing rehabilitation, electrical work and how people were actually investing in their businesses and homes.

Ms. Bradley stated there were hardly any new housing sales in 2012, which was the worst economic year in the region and Northampton County, but there was some increase in 2013 and 2014. She further stated the size of houses increased between 1960 and 2000, but have recently been decreasing.

Ms. Bradley advised in 2013, there was an increase of 20.2% in plan submissions, an increase of 91.4% in lots, a decrease of 4% in approved lots, an increase of 136% in approved lots and an increase of 28% in approved non-residential square footage over 2012.

Ms. Bradley stated Lower Nazareth had the greatest number of lots proposed, followed by Lehigh Township, Bethlehem Township and Bethlehem City. She further stated there were a total of 56 non-residential and 647 residential lots approved in Northampton County. She further stated Lehigh County received a larger percentage of the residential development during the boom, but Northampton County was receiving a lot more residential development post-recession.
Ms. Bradley advised non-residential development consisted of commercial, expansion of educational institutions and assisted living facilities. She further advised the top two commercial developments occurred in Northampton County last year. She noted total non-residential new construction in Northampton County was more than 3.8 million square feet. She noted most of the subdivision activity occurred in the rural and urban areas.

Ms. Bradley stated they found Northampton County’s growth was largely due to migration and the increase in the rehabilitation of existing homes and mixed-use buildings, which was good for economic stability.

Ms. Bradley advised the demand for industrial, flex and warehousing was continually growing and they believed it was going to further increase once the Chrin interchange was completed. She further advised LVPC was working on the Monroe County connection to support freight development on Route 33 North.

Ms. Bradley provided a document entitled “LVPC Annual Subdivision and Building Activity Report” (see Attachment #2).

In answer to Mr. Benol’s question as to whether LVPC worked with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) regarding the additional truck traffic from commercial development, Ms. Bradley stated all land use decisions were local so it was the local government that was obligated to insure the developer put the adequate investment into the existing infrastructure to support its new business. She further stated PennDOT would give as many resources as it could to things, but they were exceptionally limited.

In response to Mr. Kraft’s question as to how the prospect of rail transportation was moving along, Ms. Bradley advised the majority of people leaving Northampton County were going to New Jersey to work and did not go past Newark.

Ms. Bradley stated she read the rail study that was done by the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation five years ago and believed it was something that should be looked at again. She further stated the Federal government had to reauthorize the Map 21 Bill and/or change it and authorize some other bill that more readily favored transit because 80% of all
road and bridge projects were paid for by the Federal government.

Ms. Bradley advised the only way rail transportation would work was if everyone came together because there was the fear that it would draw people out of the region.

Mr. Kraft commented that people were moving out of the region in order to have that rail connection.

In answer to Mr. Werner's question as to whether she knew how many of the new industrial projects have been done in some form by incentives, Ms. Bradley stated the majority of them have not received any subsidies.

Presentation/Briefing on Northampton County Bridges: Richard Young, Director of Public Works

Mr. Phillips advised as Mr. Richard Young, Director of Public Works, gave a detailed presentation on the County's capital budget, including bridges, at the Capital Projects and Operations Committee meeting, it was decided that he would not present one tonight. He further advised a copy of his report was provided to the members of County Council.

Confirmation of Appointments

Mrs. Ferraro stated the Personnel Committee met on June 18, 2014, to review the County Executive's appointments/re-appointments to the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board, the Gracedale Advisory Board and the Drug & Alcohol Advisory Board.

Mr. Kraft introduced the following resolution:

R. 55-2014  RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individuals shall be confirmed in their appointments/re-appointments as indicated hereafter:
County Council Minutes - 7 - June 19, 2014

Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board

Appointment:
Ruth Ann Terres
1580 Chaucer Lane
Bethlehem PA 18017

Term to Expire: 7/1/16

GraceDALE Advisory Board

Appointment:
Rosemarie Fehr
99 Birchwood Drive
Nazareth PA 18064

Terms to Expire: 3/15/15

Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board

Appointments:
Pamela L. B. Clark, MPH, CHES, CPS
2701 Fleetwood Street
Easton PA 18045

Andrea McCarthy
1521 Irene Street
Bethlehem PA 18017
Patricia A. Reihl
4235 Fieldstone Drive
Easton PA 18045

Terms to Expire: 6/30/16

Re-appointments:
John R. Judd
548 North New Street
Bethlehem PA 18018

Mary Tirrell
189 Treeline Drive
Pen Argyl PA 18072

As there were no questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called the vote.
County Council Minutes -8-       June 19, 2014

The vote: Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes" and Geissinger, "yes".

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

County Executive's Report

Mr. John A. Brown, County Executive, advised he did not have anything to report.

In response to Mr. Werner’s question as to whether County Council was made aware of the thefts at the Human Services Building when they occurred, Mr. Brown stated he did not know, but the matter was handled by the Sheriff’s Department.

Acting Sheriff Chris Zieger advised sometime in April, he was contacted by Mr. Thomas Harp, former Director of Administration, who informed him that there were some issues going on in the Human Services Building.

Since there was a fine line as to what his department could investigate, Acting Sheriff Zieger stated he spoke to someone in the District Attorney’s Office to let them know about the allegations and to find out how they wanted his department to proceed. He further stated he was instructed to review any video available and if it provided any evidence to turn it over to the District Attorney’s Office so the County Detectives could handle it.

Acting Sheriff Zieger advised as it was alluded to earlier, one or two individuals were let go from the cleaning company involved and the thefts dropped down. He further advised most recently there was an incident wherein an individual reported something missing, but later stated they did not know if it was taken or just misplaced.

Acting Sheriff Zieger stated from the information they had, they were not able to help resolve the issue. He further stated since then, the Bethlehem Township Police have been notified of any incident that occurred. He noted the Sheriff Department did not get involved in anything without first conferring with the District Attorney’s Office.
In answer to Mr. Kraft’s question as to why nothing was revealed by the cameras, Acting Sheriff Zieger advised cameras were not set up everywhere inside the facility. He further advised it was a secure building, noting their focus was on people coming in and leaving the building.

In response to Mr. Kraft’s question as to whether the Sheriff Department had a presence in the building 24 hours a day, Acting Sheriff Zieger stated there were two deputies assigned to the building from 8:00 a.m. until 5:00 p.m. when the building was locked up.

In answer to Mr. McClure’s question as to when the Bethlehem Township Police were notified of the situation, Acting Sheriff Zieger advised they were called directly in the most recent incident, but not in the other incidents. He further advised if any proof would have been found in those incidents, it would have been turned over to the District Attorney’s Office for further action. He noted he wanted to apologize for not bringing these incidents to County Council’s attention and would make sure they were informed in the future.

Public Hearing on the Ordinance Providing for Amendments to the 2014 Budget

Mrs. Ferraro advised the following budget amendment ordinance was introduced by Messrs. Geissinger and Phillips at the meeting held June 5, 2014. She further advised all of the amendments to the budget involved changes in Federal and State funding, none involved County tax dollars. She noted the ordinance was reviewed at the Finance Committee.

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2014 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BUDGET: COURTS – JUVENILE PROBATION; DEPARTMENT OF HUMAN SERVICES – HOMELESS ASSISTANCE; HUMAN SERVICES FACILITY; BLOCK GRANTS; CHILDREN, YOUTH AND FAMILIES, AREA AGENCY ON AGING; MENTAL HEALTH, DEVELOPMENTAL PROGRAMS; DRUG AND ALCOHOL

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**Summary - Budget Amendment**

|                        |         |                         |          |         | 1,818,700 |

**Effective Date:**

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

Mrs. Ferraro asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

There were no respondents.

Mrs. Ferraro asked if any member of County Council had any questions or comments.

Mr. Geissinger stated the overall summary budget amendment had an effect of $1.818 million and were all Federal and State pass through funds.

As there were no further questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called for the vote.

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

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


Mrs. Ferraro advised these contract requests were reviewed by the Finance Committee at its meeting.

Gillan & Hartmann: Emergency Generator Project

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 56-2014 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, Northampton County Administrative Code Article XIII Procurement and Disposition of County Property, Section 13.16 Contracts and Agreements c.(2) requires approval of County Council for "any contract where costs are to be funded with monies outside of the County's General Fund, such as those funded through bonded indebtedness."

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2014, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving an eighteen month contract, totaling $105,615.00, with Gillan and Hartmann, Inc. for architectural and engineering services for the design, specification and construction administration for the Emergency Generator Project.

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 Gillan and Hartmann, Inc. for architectural and engineering services for the design, specification and construction administration for the Emergency Generator Project.

As there were no questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called for the vote.

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Kraft, "yes" and McClure, "yes".

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

TuWay Communications: 9-1-1 Telephone System Upgrade

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 57-2014 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 June 4, 2014, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a five year contract, totaling $1,335,943.00 with TuWay Communications for 9-1-1 telephone system upgrades.

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 TuWay Communications for 9-1-1 telephone system upgrades.

As there were no questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called for the vote.


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

Nazareth Ambulance Corps: Medical Transport Services (non-Emergency) Gracedale

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 58-2014 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
WHEREAS, on June 9, 2014, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a three year contract totaling $641,700.00, with a potential five year payout of $1,069,500.00, with Nazareth Ambulance Corps for medical transport services (non-emergency) for Gracedale residents.

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 Nazareth Ambulance Corps for medical transport services (non-emergency) for Gracedale residents.

As there were no questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called for the vote.

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Phillips, "yes" and Vaughn, "yes".

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

Consideration of the Listing of County Depositories

Mrs. Ferraro stated the request by the Administration to add Wayne Bank to the listing of County depositories was reviewed by the Finance Committee at its meeting.

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 59-2014  WHEREAS, Northampton County Administrative Code Section 12.06 a. Depositories of Funds of the County provides that "the County Council, after the evaluation of written proposals, shall by resolution, select a depository or depositories for County monies."

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that the following shall constitute the current and updated listing of County Authorized Depositories (sections marked with **bold underlining** have been added, sections marked with **strikeout** have been deleted), effective this 19th day of
June 2014:

1. Bank of America
2. Bank of New York Mellon
3. First Commonwealth Federal Credit Union
4. Fulton Financial Advisors
5. First Niagara Bank
6. JP Morgan Chase Bank
7. Lafayette Ambassador Bank
8. M & T Bank
9. Merchants Bank of Bangor
10. National Penn Bank
11. Pennsylvania Local Government Investment Trust (PLGIT)
12. PNC Bank
13. Santander Bank
14. Susquehanna Patriot Bank
15. TD Bank
16. Wayne Bank
16-17. Wells Fargo Bank

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any resolution, or any part thereof, conflicting with the provisions of this resolution, is hereby repealed insofar as the same affects this resolution or is inconsistent with this resolution.

As there were no questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called for the vote.


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

Consideration of the Human Services Personnel Request

Mrs. Ferraro advised the Personnel Committee reviewed this Human Services personnel request at their meeting on June 18, 2014.

Mr. Kraft introduced the following resolution:
R. 60-2014 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the one (1) full-time position of Caseworker III, pay grade PS-37 A, salary range $43,471 to $70,839, shall be eliminated in the Information & Referral/Emergency Services Division of the Department of Human Services, effective June 20, 2014.

IT IS FURTHER RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that the one (1) full-time position of Caseworker II, pay grade PS-35, salary range $39,466 to $63,400, shall be created in the Information & Referral/Emergency Services Division of the Department of Human Services, effective June 20, 2014.

As there were no questions or comments, Mrs. Ferraro called or the vote.

The vote: Kraft, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Geissinger, "yes"; McClure, "yes"; Parsons, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes" and Benol, "yes".

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

Capital Projects and Operations Committee Report

Mr. Phillips stated at the Capital Projects and Operations Committee meeting, there was a discussion regarding the emergency generator. He further stated they also reviewed the status of all the bridges in the 2013 Bond.

Mr. Phillips advised if the County used some of the money from the 2013 Bond to cover the design work for approximately 8-12 additional bridges, they could be submitted to the State in order to possibly receive 100% funding through the Federal Transportation Improvement Program.

Mr. Phillips stated the broken generator at Gracedale had been fixed and they were in the process of returning the rental generator.

In response to Mr. Werner's question as to whether Mr. Tom Kohler, Department of Public Works - Bridges, had been involved in these discussions, Mr. Young advised he was very much involved in the selection of the priorities of the bridges.
Finance Committee Report

Mr. Geissinger stated CliftonLarsonAllen appeared at the Finance Committee meeting and indicated the County expended approximately $14 million in excess of its revenues last year and as such, it had used some of its reserve funds. He further stated Mr. Doran Hamann, Acting Director of Fiscal Affairs, indicated serious consideration had to be given to the County’s 2015 budget process.

Human Services Committee Report

Mr. Vaughn advised the Human Services Committee met earlier in the evening and Mr. Millard D. Freeman, Gracedale Administrator, provided an update on Gracedale. He further advised Mr. Freeman would be creating and generating monthly reports for County Council showing where money was being spent operationally at Gracedale to assist them in their decisions during the budget process.

Information Services Governance Committee Liaison Report

Mr. Phillips stated he attended the Information Services Governance Committee meeting where they reviewed all the internal processes used to govern the Information Technology Department. He further stated they talked about the program being used to keep track of their projects.

Solicitor’s Report

Mr. Lauer advised he received an inquiry regarding his Sunshine Act document, which he answered and would be willing to answer any other questions if necessary.

Council’s Clerk Report

Mr. Flisser stated County Council meetings would be held on July 1, 2014 and July 17, 2014. He further stated the first meeting was changed due to the 4th of July holiday.
Adjournment

Mr. Parsons made a motion to adjourn.

Mr. Kraft seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by acclamation.

Frank E. Flisser
Clerk to Council