Easton, Pennsylvania March 17, 2016

A regular meeting of the Northampton County Council was held on the above date with the following present: John Cusick, President; Seth Vaughn, Vice President; Mathew M. Benol; Matthew H. Dietz; Glenn A. Geissinger; Kenneth M. Kraft; Hayden Phillips; Robert F. Werner; Linda M. Zembo, Clerk to Council, and Philip D. Lauer, Solicitor to Council. Absent was Margaret L. Ferraro.

Prayer

Mr. Cusick led County Council in prayer.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Kraft made the following motion:

Be It Moved By the Northampton County Council that the minutes of the February 18, 2016 meeting shall be approved.

Mr. Dietz seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor

As no one signed up for Courtesy of the Floor, Mr. Cusick asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

There were no respondents.

Confirmation of Appointments

Mr. Kraft introduced the following resolution:
R. 31-2016 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individuals shall be confirmed in their appointments/re-appointments as indicated hereafter:

ELECTION COMMISSION

Appointment: Republican Party

Judith E. Ladonis
6357 Airport Road
Allentown, PA 18109

Term to Expire: 12/31/17

Re-appointments:
Republican Party
Mary K. Diggs
926 Merrivale Road
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Terms to Expire: 12/31/17

Joshua Weinstein
170 Augusta Terrace
Easton, PA 18042

Democratic Party
Marques S. Grundy
1103 West Berwick Street
Easton, PA 18042

George H. Treisner, Jr.
236 East Ettwein Street
Bethlehem, PA 18018-4137

GRACEDALE ADVISORY BOARD

Re-appointments: Reverend David H. DeRemer
2165 Girard Avenue
Bethlehem, PA 18015

Terms to Expire: 4/19/18

MaryAnn McEvoy
1351 Verona Drive
Pen Argyl, PA 18072

Ruth Ann Terres
1580 Chaucer Lane
Bethlehem, PA 18017
Mr. Phillips stated he spoke with Ms. Joan Rosenthal, who previously served on the Election Commission, and she indicated she felt it was time to leave.

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

The vote: Kraft, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes" and Cusick, "yes".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 7-0.

Controller’s Report

Mr. Barron was not present at the meeting due to another commitment.

County Executive’s Report

Mr. Luis Campos, Director of Administration, advised the Administration had not fully vetted the 911 Study conducted by MCM and they were testing the model out with regard to
recommendations that were made. He further advised he would forward the study to County Council for their review.

Consideration of Gracedale Volunteer Fund Donation Waiver Resolution

Mr. Geissinger arrived at the meeting at this time.

Mr. Cusick stated this resolution was introduced by Mr. Vaughn at the meeting on March 3, 2016 and tabled on a motion made by Mr. Kraft and seconded by Mr. Geissinger so an opinion could be received by Mr. Lauer.

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

Mr. Werner seconded the motion.

Mr. Cusick called for the vote on the motion.

The vote: Benol, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Geissinger, "yes"; Kraft, "no"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Cusick, "yes" and Dietz, "yes".

The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

Mr. Vaughn re-introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 202 (10) provides that 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 Department of Human Services Gracedale Division requests they be allowed to accept donations for the Gracedale Volunteer Fund up to $500 per donation; and

WHEREAS, an account of all funds either deposited or withdrawn will be provided on an annual basis and upon request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby direct the Department of Human Services Gracedale Division to accept donations for the Gracedale Volunteer Fund up to $500 per donation.
Mr. Lauer advised the authority for County Council to accept gifts was contained in the Home Rule Charter (Charter) Section 202, subsection 10 and there was nothing in the Charter preventing County Council from accepting gifts in this manner.

In answer to Mr. Kraft’s question as to how the accounting of what was received would occur, Mr. Lauer stated he did not know, but the resolution only gave this agency the permission to accept gifts without having County Council approve every dollar.

Mr. Kraft made a motion to amend the resolution to indicate an accounting would be done on a quarterly basis rather than an annual one.

Mr. Benol seconded the motion.

Mr. Cusick called for a vote on the motion.

The vote: Kraft, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Geissinger, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "no"; Cusick, "yes" and Dietz, "yes".

The motion passed by a vote of 7-1.

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

R. 32-2016 WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 202 (10) provides that 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 Department of Human Services Gracedale Division requests they be allowed to accept donations for the Gracedale Volunteer Fund up to $500 per donation; and

WHEREAS, an account of all funds either deposited or withdrawn will be provided on a quarterly basis and upon request.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby direct the Department of Human Services Gracedale Division to accept donations for the Gracedale Volunteer Fund up to $500 per donation.
The vote: Vaughn, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes" and Geissinger, "yes".

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

Consideration of a Resolution Amending Resolution #28-2016

Mr. Cusick advised Resolution #28-2016, was adopted at the last meeting and was being amended to add a Repealer statement.

Mr. Dietz introduced the following resolution:

R. 33-2016    WHEREAS, on April 1, 2015, the Northampton County Council adopted Resolution #20-2015 in which it stated "WHEREAS, the matching grant funding of $30,000 from the County of Northampton would be taken out of Act 13 Marcellus Shale Legacy Funding, which the County has already incorporated into the 2015 Budget"; and

WHEREAS, on March 3, 2016, the Northampton County Council adopted Resolution #28-2016 in which it stated "WHEREAS, Northampton County will have available $60,000 from the Act 13 - Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund and will receive 50% or up to $30,000 as a reimbursement from DCNR as a grant award at the completion of the project."

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that Resolution #28-2016 will be amended to add a paragraph (see bold and underline) repealing Resolution #20-2015 and shall read as follows:

Number 28-2016

WHEREAS, at the meeting held January 7, 2016, the Northampton County Council adopted Ordinance #603-2015; the ordinance titled "AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING "THE LIVABLE LANDSCAPES" - AN OPEN SPACE PLAN PROGRAM FOR NORTHAMPTON COUNTY AND FURTHER PROVIDING FOR THE ADMINISTRATION OF THE 21ST CENTURY OPEN SPACE INITIATIVE; and

WHEREAS, at a meeting held April 1, 2015, Northampton County Council adopted Resolution #20-2015; approving the funding for a matching grant and for the Wildlands Conservancy to administrate an approved grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) for the Northern Tier Trail Feasibility Study from the Act 13-Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund; and
WHEREAS, Northampton County desires to undertake the Northern Tier Trail Feasibility Study; and

WHEREAS, Northampton County desires to apply to DCNR for a grant for the purpose of carrying out this project; and

WHEREAS, the application package includes a document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant" and a document entitled "Signature Page for Grant Application and Grant Agreement"; and

WHEREAS, Northampton County understands that the contents of the document entitled "Terms and Conditions of Grant," including appendices referred to therein, will become the terms and conditions of a Grant Agreement between the applicant and DCNR if the applicant is awarded a grant; and

WHEREAS, Northampton County understands that by signing the "Signature Page for Grant Application and Grant Agreement" and submitting it to DCNR as part of the grant application the applicant agrees to the terms and conditions of the grant and will be bound by the Grant Agreement if DCNR awards a grant; and

WHEREAS, Northampton County will have available $60,000 from the Act 13-Marcellus Shale Legacy Fund and will receive 50% or up to $30,000 as a reimbursement from DCNR as a grant award at the completion of the project.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council:

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Northern Tier Trail Feasibility Study grant application to the DCNR. Further the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Program, 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 "Signature Page for Grant Application and Grant Agreement" may be signed on behalf of the applicant by the official who, at the time of signing, has the title of Open Space Coordinator.

(3) If this official signed the "Signature Page for Grant Application and Grant Agreement" prior to the passage of this resolution, this grant of authority applies retroactively to the date of signing.

(4) If the applicant is awarded a grant, the "Signature Page for Grant Application and Grant Agreement," signed by the above official, will become the applicant/grantee's executed signature page for the Grant Agreement, and the
applicant/grantee will be bound by the Grant Agreement.

(5) Any amendment to the Grant Agreement may be signed on behalf of the grantee by the official who, at the time of signing of the amendment, has the title specified in paragraph 2 and the grantee will be bound by the amendment.

Repealer. All other County resolutions, or parts thereof, that were adopted prior to this resolution and are in conflict with this resolution are hereby repealed.

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

The vote: Dietz, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Geissinger, "yes" and Kraft, "yes".

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

Introduction of an Ordinance Amending Home Rule Charter Article VI Legislation, Section 602. Ordinances (b) Introduction, (d) Publication, (h) Final Publication Section 606. Public Record of Acts (c) Codification; Article VII Finance, Section 702. Capital Improvements Plan (c) Hearing and Notice, Section 704. Action on Budget (a) Hearing and Notice

Mr. Cusick stated this ordinance was being presented to amend the Charter to reflect changes in advertising and distribution of documents. He further stated the public hearing, debate and possible vote will take place at the April 7, 2016 meeting.

In response to Mr. Kraft's question as to whether this was legal because State law indicated there must be advertisement in newspapers, Mr. Lauer advised the County currently advertised in two newspapers and this would allow for advertising in only one paper so it did not eliminate newspaper advertising.

Messrs. Geissinger and Phillips introduced the following ordinance:
AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AMENDMENTS TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER: ARTICLE VI LEGISLATION, SECTION 602. ORDINANCES (b) INTRODUCTION, (d) PUBLICATION, (h) FINAL PUBLICATION, SECTION 606. PUBLIC RECORD OF ACTS (c) CODIFICATION; ARTICLE VII FINANCE, SECTION 702. CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS PLAN (c) HEARING AND NOTICE AND SECTION 704. ACTION ON BUDGET (a) HEARING AND NOTICE

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

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

A. A proposed amendment to the Northampton County Home Rule Charter shall be prepared for presentation as a referendum question at the November 8, 2016 General Election, said referendum question shall be prepared and acted upon in accordance with the Northampton County Home Rule Charter, Article XI, and all applicable laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

B. The proposed question is:

Shall the electorale of Northampton County approve changes in the Northampton County Home Rule Charter Article VI Legislation and Article VII Finance to provide that any pertinent advertisement may be placed in one (1) newspaper of general circulation as well as posted electronically and to have the Codification, Capital Improvements Plan, and Budget posted on Northampton County’s website instead of being distributed to each elected official, public libraries and offices of each city, borough and township in Northampton County.

Article VI Legislation Section 602. Ordinances (b) Introduction shall be amended to reflect the following:

Any two (2) members shall have the power to introduce a proposed ordinance at any meeting of the County Council. No second to this sponsoring shall be required. The Clerk of Council within seven (7) days after such introduction shall cause to be posted electronically a copy of the proposed ordinance. A copy of the proposed ordinance shall be
retained in the Office of Clerk of Council for public inspection at reasonable times.

Article VI Legislation Section 602. Ordinances (d) Publication shall be amended to reflect the following:

Within seven (7) days after the introduction of a proposed ordinance, the Clerk of Council shall cause to be published in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the County and electronically --

(1) the proposed ordinance or a summary of it,

(2) that a copy of the proposed ordinance would be retained in the Clerk of Council's office and the times when it is available for public inspection; and

(3) a notice specifying the place and time for a public hearing on the proposed ordinance.

Article VI Legislation Section 602. Ordinances (h) Final Publication shall be amended to reflect the following:

Promptly after the enactment of an ordinance, the Clerk of Council shall cause to be published in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation and electronically, a summary of the ordinance, the effective date of the ordinance and a record of the vote of each member of the County Council on whether to adopt the ordinance and whether or not the ordinance was vetoed. A copy of the entire enacted ordinance shall be made available for public inspection in the Office of Clerk to Council and shall be distributed or sold to the general public at a price not to
exceed the cost of reproduction.

Article VI Legislation Section 606. Public Record of Acts (c) Codification shall be amended to reflect the following:

The County Council shall provide by resolution for a codification of all ordinances, as amended, having the force and effect of law, and of this Charter, as amended. This codification shall be kept current on an annual basis. Each ordinance amending this codification shall be in a form suitable for integration therein. The County Council shall cause this codification to be published electronically. This codification shall be distributed or sold to the public at a reasonable price determined by the County Council.

Article VII Finance Section 702. Capital Improvements Plan (c) Hearing and Notice shall be amended to reflect the following:

After submission of the capital improvements plan by the County Executive, the County Council shall hold at least one (1) public hearing on the capital improvements plan. The Clerk of Council within seven (7) days after such submission shall cause to be published in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the County and electronically a notice specifying the place and time of the public hearing and place and time when a copy of the capital improvements plan will be available for inspection. The Clerk of Council, within seven (7) days after such submission and at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the public hearing shall post electronically a copy of the capital improvements plan.
Article VII Finance Section 704. Action on Budget (a) Hearing and Notice shall be amended to reflect the following:

After the submission of the budget by the County Executive, the County Council shall hold at least one public hearing on the budget. The Clerk of Council within seven (7) days after such submission shall cause to be published in at least one (1) newspaper of general circulation in the County and electronically a notice specifying the place and time of the public hearing and place and times where a copy of the budget will be available for inspection. The Clerk of Council within seven (7) days after such submission and at least fourteen (14) days before the date of the public hearing shall post electronically a copy of the budget.

SECTION II - EFFECTIVE DATE

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

Consideration of Resolution Accepting Donation to Area Agency on Aging

Mr. Vaughn introduced the following resolution:

R._34-2016 WHEREAS, Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 202 (10) provides that 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

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Northampton County Council that it does hereby accept the donation of $25.00 to the Area Agency on Aging in memory of Ms. Joan E. Pysher.

As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.
The vote: Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Geissinger, "yes"; Kraft, "yes" and Phillips, "yes".

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

Consideration of Administrative Code Article XIII Contract Approval Resolutions a) Construction Masters Services LLC - Replacement of Bridges 103 and 187; b) Construction Masters Services LLC - Replacement of Bridge 213; c) Timothy Haahs & Associates, Inc. - A & B Services - Repair and Upgrade to Courthouse Parking Deck; d) Ballard Spahr; Flamm Walton Heimbach and Lamm; Norris McLaughlin & Marcus - Outside Legal Counsel for Labor and Employment Matters

Construction Masters Services LLC - Replacement of Bridges 103 and 187

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 35-2016 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 February 22, 2016, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution endorsing a contract for one year in the amount of $917,510.25 with Construction Masters Services LLC for the replacement of Bridges 103 and 187.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation, to approve a contract with Construction Masters Services LLC for the replacement of Bridges 103 and 187 to be funded through the 2013 Bond Issue.

In answer to Mr. Kraft's question as to why the bid was so low, Mr. Geissinger advised Mr. Stan Rugis, Director of Public Works, had indicated at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday that each of the bids were equally fulfilling of the various items of the contract and it was felt they could do the job
equally as well as the other bidders.

Mr. Cusick stated he was also concerned because in the past the County would accept a low bid only to be faced with change orders throughout the project.

Mr. Werner advised there was now more oversight regarding change orders and in the new contracts, contractors were being held to a time line and if things were not done correctly, the County would not hesitate to ask for remuneration.

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

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Kraft, "no"; Phillips, "yes"; and Vaughn, "yes".

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

Construction Masters Services LLC - Replacement of Bridge 213

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 36-2016 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 February 22, 2016, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution endorsing a contract for one year in the amount of $374,969.25 with Construction Masters Services LLC for the replacement of Bridge 213.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation, to approve a contract with Construction Masters Services LLC for the replacement of Bridge 213 to be funded through the 2013 Bond Issue.
Mr. Kraft reiterated his same concern regarding this contract.

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

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Kraft, "no"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes" and Werner, "yes".

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

Timothy Haahs & Associates, Inc. - A & E Services - Repair and Upgrade to Courthouse Parking Deck

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 37-2016 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 March 10, 2016, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a two year contract in the amount of $101,240 with Timothy Haahs & Associates, Inc. for architecture and engineering services for repair and upgrade to the Courthouse parking deck.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation to approve a two year contract in the amount of $101,240 with Timothy Haahs & Associates, Inc. for architecture and engineering services for repair and upgrade to the Courthouse parking deck.

As there were no questions or comments, Mr. Cusick called for the vote.
The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes" and Benol, "yes".

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

Ballard Spahr; Flamm Walton Heimbach and Lamm; Norris McLaughlin & Marcus - Outside Legal Counsel for Labor and Employment Matters

Mr. Geissinger introduced the following resolution:

R. 38-2016  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 March 10, 2016, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a two year contract with two additional one (1) year renewals in the estimated amount of $700,000 with Ballard Spahr; Flamm Walton Heimbach and Lamm and Norris McLaughlin & Marcus for outside legal counsel for labor and employment matters.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation to approve a two year contract with two additional one (1) year renewals in the estimated amount of $700,000 with Ballard Spahr; Flamm Walton Heimbach and Lamm and Norris McLaughlin & Marcus for outside legal counsel for labor and employment matters.

Mr. Geissinger stated at the Finance Committee meeting yesterday it was discussed that Ballard Spahr’s hourly rate was significantly higher than the others, but it was pointed out that they have proven to be an exceptional firm and the judgments they were able to negotiate for the County have been
significantly in line with their hourly rate.

Mr. Cusick advised he would like to vote on each firm separately, which was acceptable to the majority of County Council.

Ballard Sphar

Mr. Phillips stated the Administration noted yesterday that the County had a successful history with Ballard Sphar.

Mr. Ryan Durkin, Northampton County Solicitor, advised he had worked against Ballard Sphar in a number of cases and they were at the top of the field and have saved the County between $5-6 million.

In response to Mr. Kraft’s question as to how long Ballard Sphar had been engaged by the County, Ms. Catherine Allen, Deputy Director of Administration, stated this Administration had worked with them since July of last year, but they have been used by the County for arbitration for at least 6-8 years.

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

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes" Benol, "yes" and Cusick, "no".

This firm was approved by a vote of 7-1.

Flamm Walton Heimbach and Lamm

Mr. Kraft recused himself from this vote as he was a friend of Mr. Walter Flamm.

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

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Benol, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Kraft, "abstain"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes" and Werner, "yes".

This firm was approved by a vote of 7-0-1 abstain.

Norris McLaughlin & Marcus

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

The vote: Geissinger, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; Phillips, "yes"; Vaughn, "yes"; Werner, "yes" and Benol, "yes".

This firm was approved by a vote of 8-0.

Based on the votes, the resolution was adopted.

Capital Projects and Operations Committee Report

Mr. Phillips advised at the Capital Projects and Operations Committee meeting on March 10, 2016, it was determined that the Louise Moore farmhouse would be used by the Penn State Agricultural Extension.

Human Services Committee Report

Mr. Vaughn stated at the Human Services Committee meeting held earlier this evening, Mr. Albert Jordan, Xerox Director of Information Services, discussed some of the issues with the implementation of the NTT electronic medical record system. He further stated some options were discussed such as whether the County should continue with the cloud based system or bring the system in house. He noted it concluded that Mr. Jordan conduct a test to determine whether the system could be brought in house.

Mr. Vaughn advised Mr. David Holland, Gracedale Interim Administrator, the downtimes with the NTT system have gone down dramatically. He further advised Mr. Holland provided a copy of the Dashboard and there was a discussion regarding the overtime hours that were justified as being snow related.

Mr. Vaughn stated Mr. Kraft requested a breakdown of the Family and Medical Leave Act hours. He further stated former Wilson Borough Mayor Kenn Dunn, a current Gracedale resident, brought forth some concerns regarding security in the lobby.

In answer to Mr. Cusick's question as to an update on the bed sale, Ms. Allen advised the County received the first installment that was placed in an escrow account. She further
advised the facility was working on getting the 40 more beds that were required.

Mr. Cusick stated Gracedale received a grant from the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania (CCAP) for security work so he wanted to know the status of the work.

Ms. Allen advised doors that had previously been left unlocked for the convenience of the employees could now only be opened by using either a swipe card or combination. She further advised they were also looking at what measures could be taken to secure the lobby.

County Council Subpoena Power

Mr. Benol stated a request was made to have a representative from NTT present at a Human Services Committee meeting to discuss the issues with the electronic medical records system and they have chosen not to appear. He then asked Mr. Lauer if he could review the Charter and determine County Council's power to issue a subpoena to have a representative appear.

Mr. Lauer advised County Council did have the power to compel the presence of anyone at an investigative hearing so to the extent that County Council wanted to investigate some aspect of the NTT contract they did have the right to convene a hearing and issue a subpoena.

In response to Mr. Cusick’s question as to what the process would entail, Mr. Lauer stated County Council would have to adopt a resolution indicating that it was embarking on an investigation and its purpose and then County Council could issue a subpoena.

Mr. Cusick suggested the members of the Human Services Committee should determine if this was the course of action they wanted to pursue and if so, they should contact Mr. Lauer.

Gracedale Advisory Board Liaison Report

Mr. Werner advised for several years, County Council had debated about how to control and reduce operational costs and he wanted to let everyone know that the Intergovernmental Transfer Program (IGT), which 22 Counties have not expressed interest in,
would bring in $2 million. He further advised House Bill 1062 was still pending, but if passed, would bring in $2 million and the sale of the beds would bring in approximately $800,000.

Mr. Werner stated Gracedale was meeting its efficiencies and Case Mix Index so it would earn a performance bonus of approximately $200,000. He further stated if Gracedale continued on its current path, it could be revenue neutral by the end of the year.

Airport Authority Liaison Report

Mr. Geissinger advised there was an Executive Committee meeting and plans were put forward for initial concepts with reference to the expansion of the air strip at Braden Airpark.

Mr. Geissinger stated in the near future a request would be made to County Council for an extension that was more in line with a time line which would be more comfortable for both the Lehigh County Commissioners and Northampton County Council.

In answer to Mr. Cusick’s question as to whether Forks Township and Lafayette College have participated in the discussions regarding Braden Airpark, Mr. Geissinger advised there have been informal discussions with them. He further advised Chair J. Michael Dowd was making a point of keeping everyone advised of what was going on.

CCAP Conference

Mr. Cusick stated he, Mrs. Ferraro, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Kraft, Mr. Campos and County Executive John Brown attended the CCAP conference this past weekend. He further stated he had an opportunity to remain on the Assessment Taxation Committee.

Mr. Cusick advised they heard Governor Tom Wolf, Secretary of Revenue Eileen McNulty and Department of Human Services Secretary Ted Dallas speak during the general session.

Mr. Cusick stated he and Mr. Phillips discussed the progress of House Bill 1062 and the IGT with some CCAP representatives and received a positive report.
Adjournment

Mr. Benol made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Geissinger seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by acclamation.

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Linda M. Zembo
Clerk to Council