A regular meeting of the Northampton County Council was held on the above date with the following present: Kenneth M. Kraft, President; Ronald R. Heckman, Vice President; John Cusick; Matthew H. Dietz; Margaret L. Ferraro; William B. McGee; Lori Vargo Heffner; Robert F. Werner; Tara M. Zrinski; Linda M. Zembo, Clerk to Council and Christopher T. Spadoni, Solicitor to Council.

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of the Minutes

Mr. Cusick made the following motion:

Be It Moved By the Northampton County Council that the minutes of the December 14, 2017 meeting shall be approved.

Mr. Dietz seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Dale Sourbeck, 3211 Oakland, Bethlehem, PA - advised he was representing Lehigh Valley for All (LV4ALL) and Northampton County Meals on Wheels.

Mr. Sourbeck stated during the campaign, LV4ALL members knocked on over 3500 doors, made more than 4500 telephone calls and manned several polling locations. He further stated they had approximately 225 active members that participated in this election.

Mr. Sourbeck advised Mr. Dave Harrington, President of LV4ALL wanted him to extend his congratulations.

Mr. Sourbeck stated Ms. Joann Nenow, Executive Director of Northampton County Meals on Wheels, wanted to extend her congratulations. He further stated through the Community
Development Block Grant that County Council approved they were able to purchase a large freezer and fresh food from local farmers.

Mr. Sourbeck advised they currently produced 500,000 meals a year and by 2020, they estimated it would increase to 700,000. He further advised the drivers not only delivered meals, but checked on the well-being of the individuals receiving the meals.

Mr. Sourbeck stated he wanted to invite County Council to join them at the March for Meals that would be held on March 23, 2018 when local officials and business leaders accompanied the drivers on their routes.

County Executive Report

Mr. Lamont G. McClure, County Executive, advised earlier in the day he publicly announced several cabinet nominations that he would be presenting to County Council for approval.

Mr. McClure stated there had not been a Warden at the Jail for almost two years, but he was going to fill that position because he felt the facility should be managed by a Corrections Career Service professional. He further stated Mr. Todd Buskirk, who served 33 years at the County’s Jail, some of which was in the Warden position, would be returning for a six-month part-time temporary basis until he could find a suitable candidate. He added he anticipated having someone in the Warden position by May.

Mr. McClure advised at this time he was not nominating a Director of Corrections because he was looking for an individual that would be advising him on corrections policies. He further advised some of the challenges he wanted to address were an after-care program for drug treatment and recidivism, as well as having the Jail part of the Opioid Crisis Task Force.

Mr. McClure stated he also did not announce a nomination for Director of Court Services and until he finds the right individual he would be filling the role himself.

Mr. McClure advised he hired several Deputy Directors and Assistant Solicitors so the County was working and he was present every day.
Mr. Cusick applauded Mr. McClure for moving quickly to fill these positions and felt he was off to a good start.

In answer to Mr. Heckman's question as to whether he would be providing County Council with a presentation on his plans for the Jail and would he be working in conjunction with the Judges on them, Mr. McClure stated nothing could be done without the Courts. He further stated he would be bringing his plan to County Council and would be seeking their opinions as well.

In response to Mr. Cusick's question as to whether he had a nomination for the Sheriff position, Mr. McClure advised he did not have anyone in mind and would be going through the proper procedure.

Public Hearing on the Ordinance Providing for the Monocacy Creek Watershed Act 167 Stormwater Management Plan Water Quality Update

Mr. Kraft advised this ordinance was introduced by himself and Mr. Phillips at the December 14, 2017 meeting and the public hearing, debate and possible vote will be held at this meeting.

Public Hearing

Mr. Kraft asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

There were no respondents.

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

The vote: Ferraro, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Kraft, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Werner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes" and Dietz, "yes".

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

Mr. Cusick made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Vargo Heffner seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by acclamation.

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Linda M. Zembo
Clerk to Council