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

Pledge of Allegiance

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

Approval of the Minutes – September 5, 2019

Mr. Dietz made the following motion:

Be It Moved By the Northampton County Council that the minutes of the September 5, 2019 meeting shall be approved.

Mr. McGee seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Presentation of Proclamation

Ms. Zrinski presented a proclamation to the DiFebo Family Harvest Home Farms recognizing their dedication to improving the quality of land, their long-term agricultural conservation practices and their continued efforts to preserving the County’s agricultural heritage, bettering the land and inspiring conversation.

Mr. Richard DiFebo stated he wanted to thank County Council for recognizing them for the conservation practices they have implemented on their farm. He further stated agriculture still played a big part in this County and good conservation practices played a big role in clean air and water.

Mr. DiFebo advised he wanted to also thank County Council for their continued support of the County’s Conservation District in their efforts to educate farmers and landowners so
they could implement these same types of conservation practices.

Confirmation of Appointments

Mr. McGee introduced the following resolution:

R. 99-2019 RESOLVED, by the Northampton County Council that the following individuals shall be confirmed in their appointments as indicated hereafter:

AREA AGENCY ON AGING BOARD

Appointments: Elaine A. Arnts
2700 John Street
Easton, PA 18045

Robert Pretopapa
3842 Fairlee Ct.
Bethlehem, PA 18020

Terms to Expire: 06/30/21

HOUSING AUTHORITY BOARD

Appointment: Leona Demko
129 Mill St. Apt 309
Bath, PA 18014

Term to Expire: 02/09/20

PERSONNEL COMMISSION

Appointment: Marvin Boyer
1304 Howard Lane
Easton, PA 18045

Term to Expire: 12/31/21

As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.
Courtesy of the Floor

Ms. Angela Vullo stated she was here to speak on behalf of the Coalition for National Infrastructure Bank. She further stated there was now a resolution circulating in 17 State legislatures, including Pennsylvania, and passed in South Carolina, Illinois and Alabama.

Ms. Vullo advised they have gotten the Democratic Municipal Officials, the Akron City Council and Trenton City Council to pass a resolution. She further advised she did not think she had to underscore the urgency of why State and cities needed Federal funds to build critical infrastructure.

Ms. Vullo stated her bank was calling for a policy similar to what was done by President Franklin Roosevelt in the New Deal and was modeled on a bank that was originated by Mr. Alexander Hamilton. She further stated this was something that was done four times before in United States history and it was how the country was built. She added there was no proposal in the United States Congress to address the magnitude of this crisis.

Mr. Stanley Forczek advised he had previously mentioned the bank would need to be funded for $4 trillion, but the infrastructure was so poor that if it was not addressed within five to eight years, that amount would be increased to $16-20 trillion. He further advised it was time to move forward and create legislation to create the bank and start doing some projects.

Mr. Forczek stated they had a meeting in Harrisburg with several people who were asking if their constituents knew what was going on and if they endorse this type of resolution so that was why they were here tonight.

Ms. Lisa Ditalia advised she was the local representative of the coalition and they were working to get a National Infrastructure Bank resolution implemented in Congress. She further advised they have met with many legislative bodies that were supportive of the resolution.

Ms. Ditalia stated there was a major infrastructure crisis that was going to cost a lot more money if it was not tackled as soon as possible and local support was necessary to help achieve support on the State and Federal levels.
Ms. Ditalia advised this model worked by monetizing the Federal debt while not creating additional debt and paying the interest so loans could be given to people at a very low interest rate that enabled them to get projects completed.

County Executive Report

Mr. Lamont McClure, County Executive, was unable to be at the meeting so there was no report.

Consideration of a Resolution Supporting the Creation of a National Infrastructure Bank

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R.100-2019 WHEREAS, there is a widely acknowledged shortfall in infrastructure spending in the nation. The American Society of Civil Engineers gave the Country a D+ in its 2017 Report Card and said the nation needs to spend $4.6 trillion to repair current infrastructure; the United States Chamber of Commerce reports that the infrastructure shortfall is over $3.7 trillion and the North American Building Trades Union state that the deficit is $4 trillion; and

WHEREAS, the nation can create a new National Infrastructure Bank which would be capitalized at $3-4 trillion with no new Federal appropriations. It would be done as Alexander Hamilton created the First Bank of the United States; and

WHEREAS, similar national banks helped build the infrastructure of our country. The First Bank of the United States, created by Alexander Hamilton, helped fund all the early canal, bridge and road projects; the Second Bank built the early railroad system and expanded the canal and road projects; the Lincoln National Banking Acts helped fund all-out industry in the 19th Century and Franklin Roosevelt used the Reconstruction Finance Corporation as a National Bank to help build the New Deal projects; and

WHEREAS, a National Bank has been endorsed by many organizations. Sixteen State legislatures introduced resolutions in support of this policy this year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council hereby requests the Congress of the United States to introduce and pass the appropriate legislation to create a
National Infrastructure Bank.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Clerk of Northampton County Council shall send a copy of this resolution duly enacted by Northampton County Council to members of Congress who represent the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and the Pennsylvania State legislators representing Northampton County.

Ms. Zrinski stated she brought forward this resolution after speaking to this group because it made so much sense to her. She further stated there were people who wanted to invest in debt and turn it into infrastructure.

Ms. Zrinski advised this model had a proven track record in the rebuilding of this country. She further advised if anyone travelled the roads and bridges, they understood the need for high speed rail and that there were large projects that could not get done on the local or State level. She added this was an important step to move the country forward and into the future so she fully supported it.

Mr. Lott stated infrastructure was a national problem and the Commonwealth was cutting its infrastructure funding. He further stated he did not know if this was the answer, but at the very least a message had to be sent to the State and Federal governments that something had to be done. He noted he would be supporting it in an effort to raise awareness to the issue.

Mr. McGee advised with the truck traffic in the Lehigh Valley, a program was necessary so he would be supporting it because at least someone was taking an initiative to do something about infrastructure.

As there were no further questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Dietz, "yes" and Ferraro, "no".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 5-1.

Consideration of an Application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania - Career Service/Civil Service Resolution

Mr. McGee introduced the following resolution:
R. 101-2019 WHEREAS, on September 13, 2019, County Council received a request to approve an application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for the use of Career Service as a Local Merit Personnel System in lieu of the State Civil Service Code.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED that County Council does hereby approve the application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania as set forth in the attached documentation (see Attachment "A").

As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.

The vote: McGee, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Dietz, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Consideration of an Employee Referral Incentive Payment Policy Resolution

Mr. McGee introduced the following resolution:

R. 102-2019 WHEREAS, on September 10, 2019, County Council received a request to approve the Employee Referral Incentive Payment Policy.

NOW, THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby approve the Employee Referral Incentive Payment Policy as set forth in the attached documentation.

Mr. McGee stated at the Finance Committee meeting, it was recommended that the policy be changed to include all County employees not just Gracedale.

As there were no further questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.

The vote: McGee, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes" and Lott, "yes".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.
Consideration of Amendments to the Mental Health, Early Intervention and Developmental Programs Advisory Board By-Laws Resolution

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

R. 103-2019 Whereas, the Northampton County Mental Health/Early Intervention/Developmental Programs Advisory Board operates under the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Public Welfare Mental Health and Mental Retardation Act of 1966; and

WHEREAS, Northampton County Charter Section 1004.(b) Rules of Procedure, provides that "Each authority, board, and commission shall have the power to establish its rules of procedure, including methods of requiring regular attendance at meetings; such rules of procedure shall not become effective unless the County Council by resolution approves them."; and

WHEREAS, the Mental Health/Early Intervention/Developmental Programs Advisory Board has recently approved an amendment to its By-Laws.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by County Council of Northampton County that the amended By-Laws of the Mental Health/Early Intervention/Developmental Programs Advisory Board are hereby approved this 19th day of September 2019 as reflected on Exhibit "A".

As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.

The vote: Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Lott, "yes" and McGee, "yes".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Ms. Vargo Heffner advised the next three resolutions were discussed at the Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee meeting yesterday, but no action was taken as a quorum was not present; however, they were being presented tonight for consideration.
Consideration of the Dally Property Acquisition - Bushkill Township Resolution

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Open Space Initiative 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 Dally Property Acquisition, located in Bushkill Township; and

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Property Owners:</th>
<th>Bushkill Highlands, LLC</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Site Location:</td>
<td>1473 Broad Road, Wind Gap, PA 18091</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Parcel Identification:</td>
<td>F7143, F752, F75A1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Site Information:</td>
<td>71.10 acres, natural areas of meadows, woodlands, wetlands, headwaters and tributary streams of Sobers Run, an Exceptional Value Watershed. Contiguous forest woodlands of critical habitat for songbirds are adjacent to the Blue Mountain or regional Kittatinny Ridge. It is part of the Supporting Landscape of State Significance of the Knechts Vernal Pools and Broadway Road Fields, and the Supporting Landscape of Regional Significance of the Bushkill Creek Watershed. The Bushkill Creek Watershed and the Kittatinny Ridge are both significant greenway corridors in the Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Appraised Value:</td>
<td>$675,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>County Grant Request:</td>
<td>$300,000 (44%) Fee Simple Acquisition</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other Grants:</td>
<td>$375,000 (6%) Bushkill Township</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Description of Project:

Fee Simple Acquisition of 71.10 acres of natural resources and critical habitat including headwater tributaries in the Sober's Run Watershed, woodlands, meadows and wetlands. The property will help protect the nearby Knechts Vernal Pools, a Natural Areas Inventory Supporting Landscape of State Significance. This acquisition supports Bushkill Township's open space goals including: Proposed Greenways to be preserved due to the property's high ecological value, increased threat of development, conserving contiguous woodlands, connecting to other important natural areas and to preserve critical wildlife habitat and species of concern. Bushkill Township plans to establish this property as a passive recreation park with non-motorized activities.

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Dally Property Acquisition. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Program, or his 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 $300,000 of Open Space Initiative - Environmentally Sensitive funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Dally Property Acquisition. Should an amount be less than the sum approved by County Council, the remaining balance shall be placed back into the appropriate fund from which it was allocated.

Ms. Zrinski made a motion to remove the words "with non-motorized activities" from the Description of Property section of the resolution.

Mr. McGee seconded the motion.
Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote on the motion.


The motion passed by a vote of 5-0. (Mrs. Ferraro was disconnected)

Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote on the following amended resolution:

R. 104-2019 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Open Space Initiative 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 Dally Property Acquisition, located in Bushkill Township; and

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

Property Owners: Bushkill Highlands, LLC
Site Location: 1473 Broad Road, Wind Gap, PA 18091
Parcel Identification: F7143, F752, F75A1
Site Information: 71.10 acres, natural areas of meadows, woodlands, wetlands, headwaters and tributary streams of Sobers Run, an Exceptional Value Watershed. Contiguous forest woodlands of critical habitat for songbirds are adjacent to the Blue Mountain or regional Kittatinny Ridge. It is part of the Supporting Landscape of State Significance of the Knechts Vernal Pools and Broadway Road Fields, and the Supporting Landscape of Regional Significance of the Bushkill Creek Watershed. The Bushkill Creek Watershed and the Kittatinny Ridge are both significant greenway corridors in the Lehigh Valley Greenways Conservation Landscape.

Appraised Value: $675,000
County Council Minutes

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County Grant Request: $300,000 (44%) Fee Simple Acquisition

Other Grants: $375,000 (%6%) Bushkill Township

Description of Project: Fee Simple Acquisition of 71.10 acres of natural resources and critical habitat including headwater tributaries in the Sober's Run Watershed, woodlands, meadows and wetlands. The property will help protect the nearby Knechts Vernal Pools, a Natural Areas Inventory Supporting Landscape of State Significance. This acquisition supports Bushkill Township's open space goals including: Proposed Greenways to be preserved due to the property's high ecological value, increased threat of development, conserving contiguous woodlands, connecting to other important natural areas and to preserve critical wildlife habitat and species of concern. Bushkill Township plans to establish this property as a passive recreation park.

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Dally Property Acquisition. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Program, or his 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 $300,000 of Open Space Initiative - Environmentally Sensitive funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Dally Property Acquisition. Should an amount be less than the sum approved by County Council, the remaining balance shall be placed back into the appropriate fund from which it was allocated.

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Consideration of the Russell Property Conservation Easement - Williams Township Resolution

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 105-2019 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Open Space Initiative 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 Russell Property Conservation Easement Project located in Williams Township; and

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

Property Owners: Walter and Ligaya Russell

Site Location: 180 Ballek Road, Riegelsville, PA 18077

Parcel Identification: Q9-1-5-0836, Q9-1-5E-0836, Q9-1-4-0836

Site Information: 29.25 acres, unfragmented deciduous forest, riparian buffer, woodlands, native grass meadows, hayfields and orchard; part of the Supporting Landscape of Regional Significance of the Delaware River - Fry's Run Watershed, Delaware River in Northampton County and the Saucon Creek Watershed in the Natural Heritage Inventory; within the Fry’s Run Conservation Greenway, and the greenway corridors of the PA Highlands and Lehigh Valley Greenway Conservation Landscape.

Appraised Value: $175,000

County Grant Request: $81,750 (50%) conservation easement of approximately 29.25 acres

$4,087.50 acquisition related costs
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(up to 5% of County grant request)

$85,837.50 Total Grant Award

Other Grants:

$81,750 (50% Williams Township)

Description of Project: Conservation easement of 29.25 acres of diversity of habitat and natural resources including headwater tributary in the Fry’s Run Watershed, designated as High Quality Waters, groundwater recharge areas, forested riparian buffer, woodlands, hayfields, native grassland meadows and a fruit tree orchard. The property will help protect amphibian populations in the nearby vernal pools of the Granite Hill Vernal Pools County Natural Area, a Natural Areas Inventory Supporting Landscape. It supports the goals of Williams Township Open Space due to increased threat of development, conserving contiguous woodlands and connecting other important natural areas to preserve critical wildlife habitat, water quality, vernal pools, scenic landscapes and rural character of Williams Township.

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Russell Property Conservation Easement Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Program, or his 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 $85,837.50 of Open Space Initiative - Environmentally Sensitive funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Russell Property Conservation Easement Project. Should an amount be less than the sum approved by County Council, the remaining balance shall be placed back into the appropriate fund from which it was allocated.
As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Consideration of Return of Valley View Overlook Fee Simple Acquisition Project Funds Request Resolution

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 106-2019 WHEREAS, the County of Northampton implemented the Northampton County Open Space Initiative enacting the Northampton County Open Space Ordinance #423-2004 on November 5, 2004; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board recommended approval of the Valley View Overlook Fee Simple Acquisition Project on May 10, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Northampton County Council approved $150,000.00 by Resolution #81-2018 for the Valley View Overlook Fee Simple Acquisition Project on June 21, 2018; and

WHEREAS, the Conservation Fund has, by written notice, requested the funds be returned to Northampton County due to Federal funding restrictions pertaining to deed language.

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

(1) The Northampton County Council hereby approves return of $150,000 from the Valley View Overlook Fee Simple Acquisition Project.

(2) The Northampton County Council further directs the Northampton County Executive to unencumber $150,000.00 from Resolution #81-2018 within the Open Space Initiative - Livable Landscape funds.

As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.
The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Dietz, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes" and Vargo Heffner, "yes".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Consideration of Article XIII Contract Resolutions: a) Slate Belt Plumbing, Heating and Electric; b) CMR Construction; c) Atlantic Culinary Environments

Slate Belt Plumbing, Heating and Electric

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

R. 107-2019 WHEREAS, Northampton County Administrative Code Article XIII Procurement and Disposition of County Property, Section 13.15 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 August 29, 2019, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a three year contract in the estimated amount of $80,000 per year with total payout of $240,000 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, as set forth in the attached documentation, to approve a contract with Slate Belt Plumbing, Heating and Electric.

As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.

The vote: Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes" and Dietz, "yes".
The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

**CMR Construction**

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

*R. 108-2019*  **WHEREAS,** Northampton County Administrative Code Article XIII Procurement and Disposition of County Property, Section 13.15 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 September 10, 2019, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution endorsing a one year contract in the amount of $126,900.00 with CMR Construction for EWP Fry's Run.

**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 CMR Construction.

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


The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

**Atlantic Culinary Environments**

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

*R. 109-2019*  **WHEREAS,** Northampton County Administrative Code Article XIII Procurement and Disposition of County Property, Section 13.15 Contracts and Agreements c. (1) requires approval of County Council for "...any contract exceeding $100,000, which was awarded using the 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 September 10, 2019, the Northampton County Council received a request from the County Executive for County Council to adopt a resolution approving a three month contract in the amount of $147,870 with Atlantic Culinary Environments for 32 Stainless Steel Mobile Carts for Gracedale.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Northampton County Council does hereby concur with the recommendation of the County Executive, as set forth in the attached documentation, to approve a contract with Atlantic Culinary Environments.

As there were no questions or comments, Ms. Vargo Heffner called for the vote.

The vote: Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Dietz, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

The resolution was adopted by a vote of 6-0.

Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee Report

Ms. Zrinski stated a presentation was given by Ms. Amy Hoffman, the 4-H Coordinator, regarding the programs they offered. She further stated Ms. Allison Zapp, Director of Buy Fresh, Buy Local, talked about Agritourism.

Ms. Zrinski advised Ms. Sharon Pletchan, Conservation District Manager, talked about her office staff and some concerns they had about the Greystone building. She further advised the three resolutions presented tonight were discussed.

9-1-1 Report

Mr. Dietz stated he attended a meeting with the Bath Fire Department and they indicated they were having some issues getting calls over their pagers since the switchover. He further stated due to bridges being out their responding firefighters were being wrongly directed by 9-1-1 so they wanted to know if the 9-1-1 Center had a list of the bridges that were out.
Mr. Dietz advised some municipalities had an agreement with neighboring municipalities to back up calls, but sometimes the closer station to respond was not in the agreement so maybe they could call the closer station to respond.

Mr. Dietz stated he was bringing this up so when their budget hearing occurred some answers could be provided. He further stated he planned to e-mail the 9-1-1 Center and Administration, as well as reach out to other municipalities to see if they had the same concerns.

In answer to Mr. McGee’s question as to whether they reached out to 9-1-1, Mr. Dietz advised they did, but the issues were not resolved. He further advised they understood due to where they were located some of the frequencies did not reach them.

Mr. Dietz stated the problems seemed to occur at the same time of the switchover so they did not know if that had anything to do with it. He further stated Verizon was putting in a tower so there could be some feeders that could be on. He noted Verizon would not charge anything to put anything on the antenna, but there would be a cost for the equipment.

Mr. Charles Dertinger, Director of Administration, advised since the new console did not have all the bugs worked out, they were still operating off the old consoles. He further advised there were some elements they were maintaining so they did not run into these problems, but in some instances it had to do with the department’s equipment.

Mr. Dertinger stated waiting to bring these problems up during the budget hearings was not prudent and should have been brought up during the consolidation.

Mr. Dietz advised they had brought them up, but they did not get an answer from the 9-1-1 Center until just a few days ago so they had reached out to him as their representative on County Council. He further advised it was his feeling that the 9-1-1 Center would be able to address these concerns before the general public at their budget hearing.

Mr. Dertinger stated if these concerns could be e-mailed to his office, he would take a look at them.

Airport Authority Liaison Report
Ms. Zrinski advised they were doing some upgrades to add some amenities to the airport. She further advised they have fixed many of the escalators, they put in a Smart Market after the checkpoint and were thinking of putting one in Hangar 7 and in October Dunkin was opening a kiosk to make the airport better for travelers.

At Braden Airpark, Ms. Zrinski stated signage had been added, a flight school and maintenance were brought in, more hangars were being built and they were working with the Northampton Community College to potentially hold flying school classes.

Ms. Zrinski advised a lot was going on and they have been in the black for several months.

Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation Liaison Report

Mr. McGee stated a discussion was held with regard to their marketing plan and received a report on some of their results. He further stated they would be holding a Meet the Buyers Expo from 8:30 a.m. to noon on October 23, 2019, at ArtsQuest.

General Purpose Authority Liaison Report

Ms. Vargo Heffner advised at the meeting there was a motion passed to pay the remainder of the milestone payment upon the agreement of completion of Bridges 63 and 143 by the end of 2019. She further advised Watt Tieder was hired as Special Counsel to negotiate with Krieger on restructuring the contract for completion on behalf of the General Purpose Authority to more accurately reflect the work that was done, redirect the work and reduction of removed bridges and timelines for completion.

In response to Mr. Dietz's question as to whether Krieger was receptive to renegotiation, Mr. Dertinger stated they recognized that it had to be done. He further stated the two sides had been working diligently to find some common ground and everyone recognized they had to get moving on this project again. He noted a lot of discussion had to do with putting this year behind them and getting these bridges back on track and moving forward.
Ms. Vargo Heffner advised the General Purpose Authority had not paid the August milestone payment nor was the invoice submitted.

Ms. Vargo Heffner stated they reviewed plans to demolish and redevelop the Glendon Hotel. She further stated a motion was made to approach Glendon Borough with the plans and discuss zoning approval.

In answer to Ms. Zrinski's question as to whether it was still for affordable housing and whether they resolved the issue of setbacks from the road, Ms. Vargo Heffner advised it was and the setback issue would be discussed with the zoning board.

Adjournment

Mr. Dietz made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Ms. Zrinski seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by acclamation.

______________________________
Linda M. Zembo
Clerk to Council