

Easton, Pennsylvania

July 16, 2020

The regular meeting of the Northampton County Council was held on the above date with the following present: Ronald R. Heckman, President; Lori Vargo Heffner, Vice President; John Cusick; Margaret L. Ferraro; Thomas A. Giovanni; Kevin Lott; William B. McGee; Kerry L. Myers; Tara M. Zrinski; Linda M. Zembo, Clerk to Council; Alene M. Shafnisky, Deputy Clerk to Council and Christopher T. Spadoni, Solicitor to Council.

Pledge of Allegiance

Mrs. Ferraro led County Council in the pledge of allegiance.

Approval of the Minutes - July 2, 2020

Mr. Myers made the following motion:

Be It Moved By the Northampton County Council that the minutes of the July 2, 2020 meeting shall be approved.

Ms. Vargo Heffner seconded the motion.

The minutes were approved by voice acclamation.

Confirmation of Reappointment

Mr. McGee introduced the following resolution:

R. 61-2020        **RESOLVED**, by the Northampton County Council that the following individual shall be confirmed in their reappointment as indicated hereafter:

LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON  
TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY

Reappointment:

Cordelia E. Miller  
2567 Lynnhurst Drive  
Bethlehem, PA 18017

Terms to Expire: 3/2/25

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

The vote: McGee, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

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

#### Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Joseph Roy, 720 Chestnut Street, Bethlehem, PA - stated he was the Superintendent of Schools for the Bethlehem Area School District (BASD) and making funding available to provide school districts and families internet access would make a significant dent in the digital divide or homework gap. He further stated even before this pandemic more and more learning opportunities at home and school were through the internet, but it was estimated that 25-35% of families had no internet or inconsistent high speed internet access. He noted during the pandemic they were able to provide all of their students with Chromebooks so they just needed the access.

Mr. Roy advised they have ordered mobile hotspots and Service Electric installed free internet for 250 families while RCN installed it for 100 families until the end of this school year. He further advised since internet was a low priority for many families, Service Electric and RCN also developed low-cost packages of approximately \$15 a month.

Mr. Roy stated some learning would occur online during the upcoming school year, but he currently did not know to what extent. He further stated they provided internet access for approximately 1,000 families, but 600 families had to get paper packets because they did not have internet access or were more comfortable with the paper packets.

In answer to Ms. Zrinski's question as to how they were preparing the teachers to teach online, Mr. Roy advised BASD had the tools already in place to do online teaching and they were holding ongoing workshops.

In response to Mr. Myers' question as to whether there were issues with second language programs, Mr. Roy stated they had a pretty good program, but it was challenging.

In answer to Ms. Zrinski's question as to how they were going to handle the busing situation, Mr. Roy advised there would be two students per seat and they would be required to wear a mask.

Mr. John Kingsley, 180 Aster Street, Nazareth, PA - stated he was the Director of Community and Economic Development for the City of Easton and the Executive Director of the Easton Redevelopment Authority. He thanked County Council and the County Executive for their continued support and all they have done to promote the City of Easton's interests.

Mr. Kingsley advised they worked closely with the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development (NCDCED) staff and this week alone he worked with them on a variety of initiatives that were of vital importance to the City of Easton and they provided valuable assistance in each and every instance.

Mr. Kingsley stated in 2018 the City of Easton in partnership with NCDCED joined the County's block grant consortium that provided them with not only increased Community Development Block Grant funding, but opened new channels for them to be able to access a host of additional funding resources.

Mr. Kingsley advised he supported the use of Emergency Shelter Grants and other resources for the Northampton County Mediation Eviction Diversion (C-MED) Plan. He further advised it was estimated that thousands of the County's residents could be evicted once the moratorium was lifted and they believed the C-MED Plan presented an excellent strategy for addressing this problem by bringing landlords, tenants and Courts together in developing a sustainable plan to assist those that merit this consideration.

Mr. Kingsley stated he also supported the use of funds being extended to lower-income households to provide broadband access because regardless of the strategies employed by the school districts as they reopen this year remote learning would be a necessary component.

Mr. Larry Laitzen, 147 Charles Street, Easton, PA - advised he was the Chairman of the Easton Area Democratic Committee and an engineer by trade so he knew when implementing new technologies there were usually a few bugs to be worked as demonstrated during last year's General Election, but fortunately the back-up paper ballots worked as they should.

With regard to this year's Primary Election, Mr. Lauitzen stated he wanted to thank the Elections Office staff and all the poll workers as there were zero issues and Northampton County was the first County to report to the State. He further stated he would like for County Council, the County Executive and the Elections Commission to do what they could to continue to educate the public and advertise with regard to mail-in voting. He added with COVID-19 still being an issue mail-in voting would be the safest option for the public, the staff and poll workers.

Mr. Joe Geist - advised he was representing a group of concerned citizens that wanted to bring to County Council's attention an issue that had been tremendously difficult for residents of Lower and Upper Mount Bethel Townships. He further stated he and his wife moved to that area in 2008 because they were attracted to the rural way of life and were supportive of local farms and businesses.

Mr. Geist stated their safety and quality of life had been severely impacted by truck traffic and traffic in general, noting trucks have been violating speed limits and going by stopped school buses. He further stated the economic benefit from the warehouse industry was great, but it had to be counter-balanced with respect for the people who lived in the communities.

Mr. Geist advised local townships within the County were having trouble coordinating efforts to take action because they had challenges with their budgets and could not afford legal representation to fight these major companies. He further advised he would like County Council to look into the situation in terms of developing some sort of regional coordination to address their concerns.

#### Council President Message

Mr. Heckman stated he wanted to thank the staff of the Department of Public Works for installing the plastic shields on the dais, which allowed County Council to conduct a more cohesive and safe meeting.

#### County Executive Report

Mr. McClure advised the Wolf Avenue parking lot was opened and provided a power point presentation (see Attachment #1). He further advised there were 104 parking spaces, including 12 one-

hour parking spaces, seven Americans with Disabilities Act accessible spaces and two charging stations for electric vehicles that would be able to charge four vehicles at a time.

Mr. McClure stated the small business grant program application was on the Greater Lehigh Valley Chamber of Commerce (Chamber) and WFMZ websites and should be on the County's website by tomorrow. He further stated Ms. Jessica O'Donnell from the Chamber informed him there were already 64 applications for review.

With regard to Bridge #15 (Meadows Road Bridge), Mr. McClure advised Federal Highways indicated they would not fund the replacement of the bridge because it was not consistent with their plans of action as they want to spend all Federal highway money on interstates.

Mr. McClure stated Lehigh Valley Transportation Study just sent a \$451 million plan to Washington for approval and they could not find \$3 million to help the County replace that bridge. He further stated their plan was to take down the bridge and put cul-de-sacs on either side of the creek so he called everyone he could think of to bring pressure on them to rethink that decision.

Mr. McClure advised the State had borrowed the money to partially reimburse the County for the voting equipment that was purchased.

Mr. McClure stated they received a \$375,000 grant for Environmental Protection Agency brownfield remediation of which \$160,000 would go to the Dixie property and \$107,000 would go to Easton Iron and Metal.

Mr. McClure advised the Pennsylvania Counties Risk Pool was not going to pay to defend the County and the County Commissioners Association of Pennsylvania was not going to defend anyone in President Donald Trump's lawsuit so the County was representing itself because it was the best way to protect its interest at this point in the litigation. He further advised there were a few firms, who had election law experience, looking to represent Counties so in the future he may make a proposal to join them, but it seemed some of those Counties may have divergent interests.

Mr. McClure stated in 2022, the Lehigh and Northampton Transportation Authority (LANTA) Charter would need to be renewed and negotiations have begun. He further stated LANTA would prefer the Counties kept the status quo and quickly renew the Charter for 50 years, but they were not going to do that because this was a

once in a lifetime opportunity to make sure there was equity in the funding of this bi-County venture.

Mr. McClure advised the Conservation District Memorandum of Understanding must be reviewed every five years, but it has essentially remained the same since 1961 even though the division had grown so they were looking to change it. He further advised the County put \$250,000 into the Conservation District every year and the Memorandum of Understanding should align with the Home Rule Charter and the Administrative Code. He noted there was an option for the Conservation District to be independent, but he believed they would be able to come to an understanding as the County provided health insurance, retirement benefits and a place to work.

Mr. McClure stated there were three items to be considered tonight with regard to the County's pandemic protection plan. He further stated one of them was for broadband that would make a difference in the lives of students and one was for a COVID-19 test site where a prescription was not required.

Mr. McClure advised the County's infections were going up according to the Pennsylvania Department of Health, which could lead to more hospitalizations and deaths if it was not contained. He further advised the Lehigh Valley Health Network (LVHN) did a great job in working together the Pennsylvania Department of Health to do tracing.

Mr. McClure stated the County had been very fortunate in the Jail as they have not lost anyone there like they had unfortunately at Gracedale, but the testing there had to be more robust.

Mr. McClure advised there have been no infections since employees returned full time on May 18, 2020. He further advised if employees vacationed at "hot spots" they would have to self-quarantine for 14 days upon their return, but they would be able to come back after three to five days if they exhibited no symptoms and were temperature free so they would not have to use 14 days of their time.

Mrs. Ferraro congratulated the Administration on getting the parking lot across the street completed in a timely fashion.

In response to Mr. Lott's question as to an update on the parking lot to be established on Union Street, Mr. McClure stated they were getting cost estimates to demolish the house.

In answer to Mr. Myers' question as to whether the employees were notified before they went on vacation they would have to self-quarantine, Mr. McClure stated they were not, but there would be a published policy. He further stated he understood that it felt unfair, but it was for the safety of all employees.

In response to Ms. Zrinski's question as to whether they used any of the Volkswagen grant money that was available through the Department of Environmental Protection for the charging stations in the parking lot, Mr. McClure advised they did receive a grant for it, but he could not recall at this time from whom. He further advised they would be receiving a grant from the Commonwealth Financing Agency for the crosswalk.

In answer to Mr. Myers' question as to what happened if an employee did not have any leave time to take, Mr. McClure stated they would not receive any pay.

Public Hearing on the Ordinance Entitled, "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER, SECTION 807. JOB DISCRIMINATION"

Mr. Heckman advised Messrs. Cusick and Myers introduced the following ordinance at the July 2, 2020 meeting:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER: SECTION 807. JOB DISCRIMINATION

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Home Rule Charter, Section 807 states "No individual shall be favored or disfavored with respect to any position or office because of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, or lawful activity in any employee organization."

**BE IT HEREBY ORDAINED AND ENACTED** by Northampton County Council as follows:

SECTION I - PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER SECTION 807

A. A proposed amendment to the Northampton County Home Rule Charter Section 807 shall be prepared for presentation as a referendum question at the November 3, 2020 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 electorate of Northampton County approve a change in the Northampton County Home Rule Charter, Section 807, entitled Job Discrimination to read as follows: No individual shall be favored or disfavored with respect to any position or office because of age, sex, race, color, religion, national origin, political opinions or affiliations, sexual orientation, gender identity or lawful activity in any employee organization?

#### SECTION II - Effective Date

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

#### Public Hearing

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

There were no respondents.

Mr. Cusick made a motion to change under Section I A. "November 3, 2020 General Election" to "May 2021 Primary Election".

Ms. Vargo Heffner seconded the motion.

Mr. Heckman called for the vote on the motion.

The vote: Cusick, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes" Zrinski, "no"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes" McGee, "yes" and Myers, "yes.

The motion passed by a vote of 8-1.

Ms. Zrinski stated she did not understand why this was being put up as a referendum question because this particular verbiage was already upheld by the Supreme Court. She further stated if the public did not vote for this referendum, the Home Rule Charter could not be changed and it could create problems for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) community of the County.

Mr. Cusick advised he disagreed and the Home Rule Charter should reflect it since it was already reflected in the County's policies. He further advised it was incomprehensible to him that in 2021 people would not believe that these rights should be part of the County's Home Rule Charter.

Ms. Zrinski stated this was discussed at a Lehigh and Northampton Airport Authority Board Meeting and there were a number of individuals who did not want it to be part of their by-laws so she knew there were people in the County that would not vote for this and would feel justified in doing so.

Mr. Cusick advised he felt County Council should put it up for the vote and stand up for these individuals.

Ms. Zrinski stated she also believed County Council should stand up for them, but they were protected by the Supreme Court decision.

Mr. McGee advised he believed the intent was to bring the Home Rule Charter and the County's policies into alignment, but Ms. Zrinski made a good point that if it did not pass, it would send a negative message to those individuals. He then asked if anyone had reached out to anyone in the LGBT community to see how they felt about it.

Mr. Cusick stated it was brought to his attention after the ruling by the Supreme Court that it was not included in Section 807 of the Home Rule Charter. He further stated he reached out to the Department of Human Resources and was informed that it was part of the policies so he thought a policy should align with the Home Rule Charter. He added he could not imagine at this point in time that a majority of the people in this County were that bigoted they would vote it down.

Mr. McGee advised presenting this at the Primary Election in May would give people time to reach out to the LGBT community and have them express their opinions.

Mr. Lott asked Mr. Spadoni how this would affect the employees since the Supreme Court decision would still stand.

Mr. Spadoni stated he drafted this ordinance after being contacted by Mr. Cusick. He further stated he communicated with Ms. Elizabeth Kelly, Director of Human Resources, and was informed there was documentation in the employee manual that would cover this issue.

Mr. Spadoni advised it was the intent of himself and Mr. Cusick to bring the Home Rule Charter in complete compliance with the Supreme Court decision.

In response to Mr. Heckman's question as to whether there would be a problem for the employees if the referendum was voted down, Mr. Spadoni replied the law of the land was the Supreme Court decision.

Mr. Myers stated he talked to some of his relatives who were part of the LGBT community and they said to go for it. He further stated it was already established by the Supreme Court so he did not see it as a threat to change the Home Rule Charter.

Mr. Myers advised if the minds of the people of the County were that narrow minded then they would have to change those minds. He further advised two weeks ago he brought forward a resolution addressing the racism issue and he did not see any negative reaction to it. He added things were changing in America and people were more willing to bring forth a change and be more respectful to their neighbors.

Ms. Zrinski stated the public did not vote on his resolution, but they would be voting on this referendum question. She further stated she had a brother who was gay and she would not want to expose him to potential ridicule or the vulnerability of having his sexual orientation put up for vote by the general public.

Ms. Zrinski advised it was upheld by the Supreme Court so the employees were protected. She further advised if for some reason this was voted down, it could expose County employees to potential vulnerability by other individuals and people could think this did not happen in this day and age, but it did.

Ms. Zrinski made a motion to table this ordinance until County Council could hear from members of the LGBT community about how they felt about putting this up to a vote.

Mr. McGee seconded the motion.

Mr. Heckman called for the vote on the motion.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Cusick, "no"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; Myers, "no" and Vargo Heffner, "no".

The motion was passed by a vote of 6-3.

Introduction of an Ordinance Entitled, "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER, ARTICLE II, SECTION 203. COMPOSITION AS FOLLOWS: THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS: FIVE (5) COMMISSIONERS ELECTED AT LARGE AND FOUR (4) COMMISSIONERS ELECTED BY DISTRICT"

Ms. Vargo Heffner and Mrs. Ferraro introduced the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR AN AMENDMENT TO THE NORTHAMPTON COUNTY HOME RULE CHARTER: AMENDING SECTION 203, ENTITLED COMPOSITION AS FOLLOWS: THE COUNTY COUNCIL SHALL BE COMPOSED OF NINE (9) COMMISSIONERS. FIVE (5) COMMISSIONERS ELECTED AT LARGE AND FOUR (4) COMMISSIONERS ELECTED BY DISTRICT

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 May 2021 Primary 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 electorate of Northampton County approve a change in the Northampton County Home Rule Charter, Article II, Section 203, entitled Composition that the County Council shall be composed of nine (9) Commissioners. Five (5) Commissioners elected at large and four (4) Commissioners elected by District.

SECTION II - EFFECTIVE DATE

A. This Ordinance shall become effective 30 days after the date of enactment.

Mr. Heckman stated the public hearing, debate and possible vote will be held at the August 6, 2020 meeting.

Introduction of an Ordinance Entitled, "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BUDGET"

Ms. Vargo Heffner and Ms. Zrinski introduced the following ordinance:

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE 2020 NORTHAMPTON COUNTY BUDGET

<b>2020</b>				
<b>BUDGET AMENDMENT</b>				
<b>KEY ORG</b>	<b>ACCOUNT</b>	<b>CURRENT BUDGET</b>	<b>INCREASE (DECREASE)</b>	<b>REVISED BUDGET</b>
<b>C&amp;ED - COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT GRANTS</b>				
31100	41120 Emergency Solutions Grant	0	184,798	184,798
	71093 ESG 2020	0	184,798	184,798
	41370 Community Dev Block Grant	5,872,718	108,380	5,981,098
	71051 CDBG 2020	2,104,000	108,380	2,212,380
	41475 Home Investment Partnership	1,137,799	78,231	1,216,030
	71172 HOME 2020	569,000	78,231	647,231
	41127 Emergency Solution Grant CV2	0	709,925	709,925
	71096 ESG COVID2	0	709,925	709,925
<b>C&amp;ED - COUNTYWIDE COVID-19 COUNTY RELIEF BLOCK GRANT</b>				
31050	41111 CARES Act	0	27,569,940	27,569,940
	72999 Future Grants	0	19,044,940	19,044,940
	77851 T O Drug and Alcohol	0	745,750	745,750
	77852 T O Mental Health	0	2,254,250	2,254,250
	72328 Discover Lehigh Valley	0	500,000	500,000
	72639 L&N Airport Authority	0	250,000	250,000
	72670 ArtsQuest	0	500,000	500,000
	73230 LVEDC	0	175,000	175,000
	72730 State Theatre	0	100,000	100,000
	72010 CARES Small Business Grant Program	0	4,000,000	4,000,000
<b>HUMAN SERVICES - DRUG AND ALCOHOL COVID-19 COUNTY RELIEF BLOCK GRANT</b>				
61000	77043 T I CV19 County Relief	0	745,750	745,750
62500	69999 Pooled Subcontracted Services	1,413,140	745,750	2,158,890

<b>HUMAN SERVICES - MENTAL HEALTH COVID-19 COUNTY RELIEF BLOCK GRANT</b>				
57400	77043 T I CV19 County Relief	0	2,254,250	2,254,250
58100	69999 Pooled Subcontracted Services	7,460,700	2,254,250	9,714,950
<b>Summary - Budget Amendment</b>			28,651,274	

Effective Date:

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

Mr. Heckman advised the public hearing, debate and possible vote will be held at the August 6, 2020 meeting.

Consideration of a Personnel Request Resolution: Elections

Mr. McGee introduced the following resolution:

R. 62-2020 **RESOLVED**, by the Northampton County Council that one (1) full time position of Elections Technician, pay grade RU16, Step 1A, salary \$31,460, shall be created in the Elections Office, effective the 16th day of July 2020.

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

The vote: McGee, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes" and Heckman, "yes".

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

Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Financial Contributions to County School Districts, Seniors and Veterans to Assist with WI-FI and Electronic Equipment Needs Via the COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

R. 63-2020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICTS, SENIORS AND VETERANS TO ASSIST WITH WI-FI AND ELECTRONIC EQUIPMENT NEEDS VIA THE COVID-19 COUNTY RELIEF BLOCK GRANT

**WHEREAS**, Act 24 of 2020 was signed by Governor Tom Wolf on May 29, 2020, and provides \$625 million in CARES Act funding by means of block grants for counties in the commonwealth through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, this funding is authorized to be used for the following purposes:

1. Offsetting the costs of direct County response, planning and outreach efforts related to COVID-19.
2. Small Business Grant Programs to support businesses with fewer than 100 employees and to support businesses and other entities primarily engaged in the tourism industry.
3. Grant programs to support the following for costs related to assisting businesses during COVID-19 Disaster Emergency: Certified Economic Development Organizations, Local Development Districts Industrial Resource Center, Small Business Development Centers and Economic Development Corporations.
4. Assistance to cities, boroughs, incorporated towns or townships within eligible counties for response and planning efforts related to COVID-19.
5. Behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment services.
6. Nonprofit assistance programs for entities that are an exempt organization under section 501(c) (3) or 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
7. Broadband internet deployment with priority given to unserved or underserved areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Northampton County was awarded \$27,569,940 of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant Funding by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Northampton County is desirous to make grants to the following school districts in the amount of \$100,000 as an educational entity: Bethlehem, Easton, Bangor, Northampton and Nazareth. School districts will utilize grant money to purchase Wi-Fi and electronic equipment for students in underserved areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Northampton County is desirous to make grants to the following school districts in the amount of \$50,000 as an educational entity: Wilson, Saucon Valley and Pen Argyl. School districts will utilize grant money to purchase Wi-Fi and electronic equipment for students in underserved areas; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Northampton County is desirous to make grants to the Northampton County Department of Human Services in the amount of \$175,000. The department will utilize grant money to purchase Wi-Fi annual vouchers and electronic equipment for underserved senior citizens and veterans within the county.

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

1. That the sub grants of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant totaling \$825,000.00 is approved.
2. That the County Executive of the County of Northampton is authorized to execute any and all necessary grant agreements with the sub grantees not to exceed the approved amounts.

In answer to Ms. Vargo Heffner's question as to whether the vouchers would only go to Northampton County residents, Ms. Tina Smith, Director of the NCDCED, replied they would.

In response to Mr. Myers' question as to how the process to get vouchers to Veterans be handled, Ms. Susan Wandalowski, Director of Human Services, stated Mr. Freddie Ramirez, Director of Veterans Affairs, had a lot of contracts and different levels of outreach, but they were also going to work with NCDCED.

In answer to Mr. Myers' comment that there were different levels of services a Veteran could receive, Ms. Wandalowski advised they would use the standards Mr. Ramirez currently used.

In response to Mrs. Ferraro's question as to whether the vouchers would only be for public school children, Ms. Wandalowski and Ms. Smith both indicated only public school children.

In answer to Mrs. Ferraro's question as to why it only applied to public school students because there were needy students in private and charter schools, Ms. Smith stated if they met the income requirements they could reach out to those schools.

Mr. Myers advised money was pulled out of school district budgets for private schools.

In response to Mr. Cusick's question as to whether there was an income guideline for the senior citizens, Ms. Wandalowski stated they would be using the Housing and Urban Development eligibility guidelines.

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

The vote: Vargo Heffner, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes" Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes" and Lott, "yes".

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

Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Financial Contributions for a Northampton County COVID Testing Site Via the COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

R. 64-2020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR A NORTHAMPTON COUNTY COVID TESTING SITE VIA THE COVID-19 COUNTY RELIEF BLOCK GRANT

**WHEREAS**, Act 24 of 2020 was signed by Governor Tom Wolf on May 29, 2020, and provides \$625 million in CARES Act funding by means of block grants for counties in the commonwealth through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, this funding is authorized to be used for the following purposes:

1. Offsetting the costs of direct County response, planning and outreach efforts related to COVID-19.
2. Small Business Grant Programs to support businesses with fewer than 100 employees and to support businesses and other entities primarily engaged in the tourism industry.
3. Grant programs to support the following for costs related to assisting businesses during COVID-19 Disaster Emergency: Certified Economic Development Organizations, Local Development Districts Industrial Resource Center, Small Business Development Centers and Economic Development Corporations.
4. Assistance to cities, boroughs, incorporated towns or townships within eligible counties for response and planning efforts related to COVID-19.
5. Behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment services.
6. Nonprofit assistance programs for entities that are an exempt organization under section 501(c) (3) or 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.
7. Broadband internet deployment with priority given to unserved or underserved areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Northampton County was awarded an allocation of \$27,569,940 of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant Funding by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Northampton County is desirous to allocate the amount of \$300,000 to provide a Coronavirus testing site for Northampton County residents who are displaying at least one symptom of the Coronavirus. This drive thru test site will be established through a partnership with Lehigh Valley Health Network and will be located at Coordinated Health, 3100 Emrick Boulevard, Bethlehem, Pennsylvania.

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

1. That the sub grants of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant totaling \$300,000 is approved.

2. That the County Executive of the County of Northampton is authorized to execute any and all necessary grant agreements with the sub grantees not to exceed the approved amounts.

Mr. Myers advised he received ten text messages last night thanking the County Executive for establishing the test site.

Mr. McClure stated it was due to the efforts of Mr. Todd Weaver, Director Emergency Management, and the staff at NCDCEd that it was established.

In answer to Mr. Myers' question as to whether they could fit in some late evening or Saturday hours into the schedule, Ms. Smith advised they would have a final schedule of hours once they determined what the site would look like and the flexibility of the LVHN staff.

Mr. McClure stated they would do any schedule LVHN would be agreeable to, but it would cost more for the off hours.

In response to Mr. Lott's question as to whether it would cost the County \$100 if someone did not have insurance, Ms. Smith replied that was correct.

Mr. McClure advised he would like to keep the test site open as long as possible since schools would be opening.

When Mr. Lott stated he was impressed that they could do a two-day turnaround, Mr. McClure commented he was more impressed that they did contact tracking.

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

The vote: Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes" and McGee, "yes".

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

Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Financial Contributions for a Proactive COVID-19 Testing Program at Northampton County Prison Via the COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant

Ms. Vargo Heffner introduced the following resolution:

R. 65-2020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS FOR A PROACTIVE COVID-19 TESTING PROGRAM AT NORTHAMPTON COUNTY PRISON VIA THE COVID-19 COUNTY RELIEF BLOCK GRANT

**WHEREAS**, Act 24 of 2020 was signed by Governor Tom Wolf on May 29, 2020, and provides \$625 million in CARES Act funding by means of block grants for counties in the commonwealth through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, this funding is authorized to be used for the following purposes:

1. Offsetting the costs of direct County response, planning and outreach efforts related to COVID-19.
2. Small Business Grant Programs to support businesses with fewer than 100 employees and to support businesses and other entities primarily engaged in the tourism industry.
3. Grant programs to support the following for costs related to assisting businesses during COVID-19 Disaster Emergency: Certified Economic Development Organizations, Local Development Districts Industrial Resource Center, Small Business Development Centers and Economic Development Corporations.
4. Assistance to cities, boroughs, incorporated towns or townships within eligible counties for response and planning efforts related to COVID-19.
5. Behavioral health and substance use disorder treatment services.
6. Nonprofit assistance programs for entities that are an exempt organization under section 501(c) (3) or 501 (c) (19) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

7. Broadband internet deployment with priority given to unserved or underserved areas; and

**WHEREAS**, Northampton County was awarded an allocation of \$27,569,940 of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant Funding by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development; and

**WHEREAS**, the Council of Northampton County is desirous to allocate the amount of \$200,000 to provide for proactive COVID-19 testing program at the Northampton County Prison.

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

1. That the allocation of COVID-19 County Relief Block Grant totaling \$200,000 is approved.
2. That the County Executive of the County of Northampton is authorized to execute any and all necessary grant agreements to effectuate testing proactive testing at the Northampton County Prison not to exceed the approved amounts.

Mr. James Kostura, Director of Corrections, advised they were looking for ways to keep their residents and staff safe. He further advised they have been very fortunate, but they need to test going forward as Court cases were picking up.

Mr. Kostura stated they were still using quarantine measures, but the testing would help them improve the intake process. He further stated they were following the guidelines of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), PrimeCare and the Pennsylvania State Department of Corrections.

In answer to Mr. Myers' question as to the turnaround time for test results, Mr. Kostura replied they were looking at two days.

In response to Ms. Vargo Heffner's question as to what the procedure was for new inmates, Mr. Kostura advised they were quarantined for 14 days, noting none of the inmates have tested positive.

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

The vote: Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes" and Myers, "yes".

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

Consideration of a Resolution Approving the Substantial Amendment to Northampton County's FY-2019 Annual Action Plan to Include CARES Act Emergency Solutions Grant II Funding

Mr. Lott introduced the following resolution:

R. 66-2020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING THE SUBSTANTIAL AMENDMENT TO NORTHAMPTON COUNTY'S FY-2019 ANNUAL ACTION PLAN TO INCLUDE CARES ACT EMERGENCY SOLUTIONS GRANT II FUNDING

**WHEREAS**, under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, as amended, the Secretary of the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) is authorized to extend financial assistance to communities in the prevention or elimination of slums or urban blight, or activities which will benefit low and moderate-income persons or other urgent community development needs; and

**WHEREAS**, under a special allocation of Emergency Solutions Grant funding for the prevention, preparing for and responding to the COVID-19 virus. This allocation was authorized by the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) Act, Public Law 116-136. The CARES Act authorizes the HUD Secretary to grant waivers of statutes and regulations for the FY-2019 and FY-2020 program years use of CDBG funds; and

**WHEREAS**, HUD has advised the County of Northampton that under the CARES Act, the County will receive an additional entitlement under the Emergency Solutions Grant (ESG II) Program in the amount of \$709,925; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) has prepared a Substantial Amendment to the FY-2019 Annual Action Plan allowing for inclusion of CARES Act ESG II funding into the County's Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program. In accordance, with Northampton County's Citizen Participation Plan and ESG II program's regulations, the County is allowed to make Substantial Amendments to its Annual

Plans and Budgets using a process. The Citizens Participation plan is being modified to accommodate the need to quickly inform residents, public agencies and other interested parties on the use of these funds. Northampton County has advertised the Substantial Amendment with a public notice beginning July 10, 2020 and on the County's website at: <https://www.northamptoncounty.org/CMTYECDV/Pages/default.aspx>

**WHEREAS**, as part of Northampton County's process to include CARES Act ESG-II funding of \$709,925 into the County's FY-2019 Action Plan, a request will be made to HUD for a series of waivers regarding certain regulations. The County has requested a waiver on the public notice requirement allowing the Substantial Amendment be displayed for a period of five (5) days following notice.

<b>Amount</b>	<b>Activity</b>
<b>Rapid Rehousing Needs</b>	
Funded with \$310,000 of CARES ESG II	Housing and utility (water, electric) assistance.
<b>Support for Homeless Prevention</b>	
Funded with \$328,933 of CARES ESG II	Funding for the County's program providers providing services in order to prevent Tenants & Homeowners at-risk of becoming homeless.
<b>Covid-19 Administration Support</b>	
Funded with ESG CARES \$70,992	Funding to offset administration costs incurred.

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

1. That the Substantial Amendment towards the FY-2019 Annual Action Plan is hereby approve.
2. That it is cognizant of the conditions that are imposed in the undertaking and carrying out of emergency solutions grant activities with Federal financial assistance.
3. That the County Executive is authorized to execute and file the financial assistance application with HUD which has indicated its willingness to make available funds to carry out the ESG II Program in the amount of seven

hundred nine thousand, nine hundred twenty five dollars (\$709,925) and is further authorized to act as the authorized representative of Northampton County to sign any and all documents in regards to these programs.

4. That the County Executive and DCED are hereby authorized to provide assurances and/or certifications as required by HUD and also provide any additional documents that may be requested.

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

The vote: Lott, "yes"; Zrinski, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes" and Vargo Heffner, "yes".

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

Consideration of a Resolution Approving to Apply For and Accept Funds Through the Blight Remediation Program

Mr. Lott introduced the following resolution:

R. 67-2020

A RESOLUTION APPROVING TO APPLY FOR AND ACCEPT FUNDS THROUGH THE BLIGHT REMEDIATION PROGRAM

**WHEREAS**, Section 1726-K (E) of the act of June 28, 2019 (P.L. \_\_\_\_, No. 20), under the Fiscal Code creates within the Commonwealth Financing Authority (Authority) the Blight Remediation Program for blight remediation, including hazard mitigation, within the Commonwealth, and authorizes the Authority to adopt guidelines to ensure that grants are made available to all geographic areas of the Commonwealth; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Department of Community and Economic Development (NCDCEd) has identified a Blight Remediation Grant opportunity through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (PADCEd) to apply for \$300,000 for costs associated with the demolition and site preparation at the former Glendon Hotel site; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County General Purpose Authority at its July 6, 2020 regular meeting agreed to provide the required 10% local match if awarded.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** the County of Northampton hereby requests a Blight Remediation Program grant in the amount of \$300,000 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for blight remediation of the Glendon Hotel Property located at 124-126 Main Street in Glendon Borough, Northampton County, Pennsylvania.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT** the Council of Northampton County does hereby designate the County Executive to execute all documents and agreements between the County of Northampton and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

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

The vote: Lott, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes" and Zrinski, "yes".

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

Consideration of Open Space Project Resolutions: a) Bushkill Township; b) City of Easton; c) Hellertown Borough; d) Heritage Conservancy - Upper Mount Bethel Township; e) Lower Nazareth Township; f) North Catasauqua Borough; g) Palmer Township

Bushkill Township

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 68-2020 **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 County of Northampton adopted Ordinance #673-2019 on July 18, 2019 enacting the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation and Open Space Advisory Board (Advisory Board) has recommended approval of the Bushkill Township grant application for Albert Ponds Stormwater Management at the July 14, 2020 Advisory Board meeting for a 2020 Livable Landscapes Grant Award; and

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

Applicant:	Bushkill Township
Project Name:	Albert Ponds Stormwater Management
Type of Project:	Municipal Park Acquisition, Development and Rehabilitation
Site Location:	Albert Ponds, a 60-acre passive Recreation area
Municipality:	Bushkill Township
County Grant Request:	\$20,800.00 (50%)
Other Funding:	\$20,800.00 (50%) Bushkill Township
Description of Project:	To install stormwater basins, vegetated swale, fencing, and native wetland plantings in the park to eliminate eroded park land and manage stormwater at the Albert Ponds passive recreation area. Best Management Practices (BMPs), erosion and sediment control improvements, native plants, and fencing will be used to address soil sedimentation, natural filtration, support aquatic habitat, and improve water quality of the ponds and Bushkill Creek.
Grant Expiration:	December 31, 2022
County Funding Source:	OSI Municipal Parks (Org. Key 40731)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Albert Ponds Stormwater Management. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator

of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

2. The Northampton County Council further authorizes the Northampton County Executive to appropriate \$20,800.00 of Open Space Initiative - OSI Municipal Park funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Albert Ponds Stormwater Management. 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, Mr. Heckman called for the vote.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes" and Cusick, "yes".

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

#### City of Easton

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 69-2020            **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 County of Northampton adopted Ordinance #673-2019 on July 18, 2019 enacting the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board (Advisory Board) has recommended approval of the City of Easton grant application Two Rivers Trailway Trail & Bridge Feasibility Study at the July 14, 2020 Advisory Board meeting, for a 2020 Livable Landscapes Grant award; and

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

Applicant: City of Easton

Project Name: Two Rivers Trailway Trail & Bridge Feasibility Study

Type of Project: Municipal Park Acquisition, Development and Rehabilitation

Site Location: City of Easton, D&L Trail, Two Rivers Area Trailway, Delaware Canal State Park at the confluence of the Delaware & Lehigh Rivers

Municipality: City of Easton

County Grant Request: \$40,000 (50%)

Other Funding: \$40,000.00 (50%) City of Easton (DCNR Grant Application)

Description of Project: To complete a Trail and Bridge Feasibility Study to connect the D&L Trail at the confluence of the Delaware & Lehigh Rivers, Delaware Canal State Park, Two Rivers Area Trailway Trail, and the City of Easton. To evaluate infrastructure improvements and safety of the existing trail including sidewalk, sides of road, and pedestrian bridge. To evaluate all alternative trail routes including the feasibility of a pedestrian bridge across the Lehigh River. A final written report of trail route assessments, recommended improvements, schematic or concept designs, pedestrian bridge feasibility analysis and phased implementation strategy.

Grant Expiration: December 31 2022

County Funding Source: OSI Municipal Parks (Org. Key 40731)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Two Rivers Trailway Trail & Bridge Feasibility Study. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant

Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

2. The Northampton County Council further authorizes the Northampton County Executive to appropriate \$40,000.00 of Open Space Initiative - OSI Municipal Park funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Two Rivers Trailway Trail & Bridge Feasibility Study. 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.

Mr. Cusick stated he did not think a study regarding a pedestrian bridge across the Lehigh River was feasible.

Ms. Zrinski advised she felt Ms. Sherry Acevedo, Conservation Coordinator, explained the feasibility of the study at the Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee Meeting.

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

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes" and Ferraro, "yes".

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

#### Hellertown Borough

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 70-2020        **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 County of Northampton adopted Ordinance #673-2019 on July 18, 2019 enacting the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board (Advisory Board) has recommended approval of the Borough of Hellertown grant application Dimmick Park Swale

Greening Phase II at the July 14, 2020 Advisory Board meeting, for a 2020 Livable Landscapes Grant Award; and

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

Applicant:	Borough of Hellertown
Project Name:	Dimmick Park Swale Greening Phase II
Type of Project:	Municipal Park Acquisition, Development and Rehabilitation
Site Location:	Dimmick Park, off of Magnolia Road, adjacent to the parking lot
Municipality:	Borough of Hellertown
County Grant Request:	\$50,000.00 (50%)
Other Funding:	\$50,000.00 (50%) Hellertown Borough
Description of Project:	To demolish an existing impervious stormwater channel and establish a vegetated swale. To restore an additional 375 linear feet of swale in Dimmick Park north of the project's Phase I stair replacement and swale improvements. To excavate, grade, and rake boulders, rocks, and stabilization fabric to secure the channel sides. To install a check dam, plant native plant species, and other green infrastructure improvements for swale restoration to manage stormwater in the park.
Grant Expiration:	December 31, 2022
County Funding Source:	OSI Municipal Parks (Org. Key 40731)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Dimmick Park Swale Greening Phase II. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

2. The Northampton County Council further authorizes the Northampton County Executive to appropriate \$50,000.00 of Open Space Initiative - OSI Municipal Park funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Dimmick Park Swale Greening Phase II. 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, Mr. Heckman called for the vote.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes" Cusick, "yes" Ferraro, "yes" and Giovanni, "yes".

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

Heritage Conservancy - Upper Mount Bethel Township

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 71-2020        **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 County of Northampton adopted Ordinance #673-2019 on July 18, 2019 enacting the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board (Advisory Board) has recommended approval of the Heritage Conservancy grant application Zeigafuse Property Conservation Easement at the July 14, 2020 Advisory Board meeting, for a 2020 Livable Landscapes Grant Award; and

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

Applicant:	Heritage Conservancy
Project Name:	Zeigafuse        Property        Conservation Easement
Type of Project:	Land Preservation

Site Location: 1819 Lake Minsi Drive

Owner of Property: Roger and Darlene Zeigafuse

Tax Parcel ID: C10-17-11A  
Acres: 53 acres

Municipality: Upper Mount Bethel Township

County Grant Request: \$50,000.00 (48%) Conservation Easement  
\$2,500.00 Administrative Related Costs

Total County Grant Request: \$52,500.00

Other Funding: \$57,500.00 (52%) Upper Mount Bethel  
Township

Total Project Cost: \$110,000.00

Description of Project: To place a conservation easement on the 53-acre property to permanently protect it from further development, preserve critical habitat, and enhance the Greater Minsi Lake Greenway Corridor. The property consists of agricultural fields and sensitive natural resources of woodlands and forested wetlands located along the East Branch of the Martins Creek, a High Quality Cold Water Fishery. It is adjacent to the 251-acre Bear Swamp Park and Archery Complex within the Greater Minsi Lake Corridor Greenway, and provides greenway connectivity of conserved lands in Northampton County. According to the Pennsylvania Natural Heritage Areas Inventory, the property has significant species of special concern identified in the Bear Swap County Natural Area and Minsi Lake Vernal Pools Natural Area. It connects to contiguous woodlands within the Corridor to the globally recognized Kittatinny Ridge.

Grant Expiration: December 31, 2022

County Funding Source: OSI Environmentally Sensitive (Org. Key 40732)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Zeigafuse Property Conservation Easement. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

2. The Northampton County Council further authorizes the Northampton County Executive to appropriate \$52,500.00 of Open Space Initiative - OSI Environmentally Sensitive funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Zeigafuse Property Conservation Easement. 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, Mr. Heckman called for the vote.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes" and Heckman, "yes".

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

Lower Nazareth Township

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 72-2020        **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 County of Northampton adopted Ordinance #673-2019 on July 18, 2019 enacting the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board (Advisory Board) has recommended approval of the Lower Nazareth Township grant application Surrey Glen Park Development Phase I at the July 14, 2020 Advisory Board meeting, for a 2020 Livable Landscapes Grant Award; and

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

Applicant: Lower Nazareth Township

Project Name: Surrey Glen Park Development Phase I  
Type of Project: Municipal Park Acquisition,  
Development and Rehabilitation

Site Location: Surrey Glen Park, Georgetown Rd.,  
Nazareth

Municipality: Lower Nazareth Township

County Grant Request: \$100,000.00 (43%)

Other Funding: \$131,951.00 (57%) Lower Nazareth  
Township

Description of Project: To develop Surrey Glen Park as Phase I  
park development to provide recreation  
amenities and accessibility. To  
construct a 1,700 linear foot  
perimeter ADA-accessible walking  
trail, connector trail conduit, and  
accessible walkway route to the  
playground. To install a stream  
aquatic themed playground with  
additional traditional playground  
structures that are ADA-accessible  
with compliant playground mulch. To  
restore and enhance the trail and  
playground area by planting PA native  
plant species.

Grant Expiration: December 31, 2022

County Funding Source: OSI Municipal Parks (Org. Key 40731)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Surrey Glen Park Development Phase I. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.



Type of Project: Municipal Park Acquisition,  
Development and Rehabilitation

Site Location: D&L Trail, 10<sup>th</sup> and Canal Street,  
Northampton

Municipality: North Catasauqua Borough &  
Northampton Borough

County Grant Request: \$500,000.00 (38%)

Other Funding: \$650,000.00 (50%) DCNR C2P2 2020  
Grant Application \$166,000.00  
(12%) DCED GRTP 2020 Grant  
Application

Description of Project: To widen and resurface 1.56 miles  
of D&L Trail to connect  
Northampton Borough to the  
boundary of Lehigh County. To  
construct an ADA compliant non-  
motorized, multi-modal trail in  
North Catasauqua and Northampton  
Boroughs. To de-construct,  
repair, and replace a small bridge  
at the Lehigh Canal Lock #35  
across the canal at the southern  
boundary of Northampton Borough.  
To install identification and  
interpretative signage and  
revegetate the adjacent disturbed  
areas with PA native plant species  
including native grasses.

Grant Expiration: December 31, 2022

County Funding Source: Livable Landscapes (Org. Key  
40750)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the D&L Trail: Northampton & North Catasauqua Improvements. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

2. The Northampton County Council further authorizes the Northampton County Executive to appropriate \$500,000.00 of Open Space Initiative - Livable Landscapes funds as the Northampton County contribution to the D&L Trail: Northampton & North Catasauqua Improvements. 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, Mr. Heckman called for the vote.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Myers, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes" and McGee, "yes".

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

Palmer Township

Ms. Zrinski introduced the following resolution:

R. 74-2020        **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 County of Northampton adopted Ordinance #673-2019 on July 18, 2019 enacting the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program Guidelines; and

**WHEREAS**, the Northampton County Parks, Recreation, and Open Space Advisory Board (Advisory Board) has recommended approval of the Palmer Township grant application Penn Pump Park Rehabilitation Project at the July 14, 2020 Advisory Board meeting, for a 2020 Livable Landscapes Grant Award; and

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

Applicant:	Palmer Township
Project Name:	Penn Pump Park Rehabilitation Project
Type of Project:	Municipal Park Acquisition, Development and Rehabilitation

Site Location: Penn Pump Park

Municipality: Palmer Township

County Grant Request: \$139,367.00 (50%)

Other Funding: \$139,367.00 (50%) Palmer Township

Description of Project: To upgrade park amenities for recreation, accessibility and visitor's enjoyment. To remove the wooden front exterior wall of the bathroom under the pavilion and reconstruct a block wall. To demolish and reconstruct the concrete slab pavilion floor. To build a rain garden adjacent to the outside pavilion wall. To construct a new ADA accessible masonry block restroom adjacent to the pavilion with an accessible ramp. To pave an accessible route as a trail and ADA accessible access from the existing parking lot to the pavilion and planned ADA accessible masonry block restroom. To construct ADA accessible parking spaces and loading area adjacent to the pavilion. To revegetate with PA native plants.

Grant Expiration: December 31, 2022

County Funding Source: OSI Municipal Parks (Org. Key 40731)

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

1. The Northampton County Council hereby approves the Penn Pump Park Rehabilitation Project. Further, the Northampton County Executive, through the office of the Program Administrator of the Northampton County Livable Landscapes Grant Program, or his designee, is authorized to take any and all steps necessary to administer and complete Northampton County's obligations in this project.

2. The Northampton County Council further authorizes the Northampton County Executive to appropriate \$139,367.00 of Open Space Initiative - OSI Municipal Park funds as the Northampton County contribution to the Penn Pump Park Rehabilitation 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, Mr. Heckman called for the vote.

The vote: Zrinski, "yes"; Vargo Heffner, "yes"; Cusick, "yes"; Ferraro, "yes"; Giovanni, "yes"; Heckman, "yes"; Lott, "yes"; McGee, "yes" and Myers, "yes".

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

#### Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee Report

Ms. Zrinski stated the Energy, Environment and Land Use Committee met earlier this evening and discussed the projects that were just approved.

Ms. Zrinski advised a presentation entitled, "Bushkill Stream Fish Kill", was given by Mr. John Mauser that explained how fish in the Bushkill Stream have been killed 14 times in the last 21 years so she was looking for input for a resolution to find a way to keep it from happening again.

#### Economic Development Committee Report

Mr. Lott stated since the last meeting the committee to review small business grant applications met and set down guidelines on how the process was going to proceed and set a meeting schedule.

#### Personnel Committee Report

Mr. McGee advised they discussed the full time position in the Elections Office that was approved tonight.

#### Information Service Governance Liaison Report

Mr. Giovanni stated as County Council had noticed the video screens on the dais have been installed and were working well.

Mr. Giovanni advised the dual-factor testing had been completed and it should be pushed out by the end of this month with instructions being provided.

Mr. Giovanni stated the Information Technologies Division was moving forward on their projects now that all their employees were no longer working from home.

#### General Purpose Authority Liaison Report

Ms. Vargo Heffner advised they learned this month that Glendon Borough had approved the zoning and she was appreciative that County Council approved the project to move forward. She further advised she believed five units would be built in place of the Glendon Hotel.

Ms. Vargo Heffner stated the P3 Bridge project was moving ahead.

Mr. Charles Dertinger, Director of Administrator, advised they should be reaching a point where they would be just a year behind.

In answer to Mr. Heckman's question as to whether the County could replace the Meadows Road Bridge if there was a consensus to do so and if so, would that be something the General Purpose Authority would handle, Mr. McClure stated they could possible handle it, but it would cost \$3,000,000 to \$5,000,000, which the County did not have.

#### Adjournment

Mr. Myers made a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Mr. Lott seconded the motion.

The motion to adjourn passed unanimously by acclamation.

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Linda M. Zembo  
Clerk to Council