

**BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON**  
**PUBLIC WORKSHOP MEETING**  
**SEPTEMBER 2, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:** A Public Workshop Meeting of the Northampton Borough Council was called to order by President Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr at 7:30 PM on Thursday September 2, 2021. The meeting was held in council chambers and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Council members present at roll call were: President Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr., Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., Anthony Pristash, Julia Kutzler, Kenneth Hall, Ronald Glassic, Trevor Stone, and Mayor Thomas Reenock. Vice-president Keith Piescienski was absent. Also present were Solicitor Brian Panella, Borough Manager LeRoy Brobst, Police Chief Bryan Kadingo and acting recording secretary Keith Knoblach.

**HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT:** No one approached Council.

**Approval to Appoint Junior Council Member:**

Ms. Ryleigh Tillotson, a junior at Northampton Area High School has applied to serve as a junior council person. She lives in the Third Ward and is very active in several high school arenas.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Pristash, duly seconded by Ronald Glassic and unanimously carried to appoint Ms. Tillotson as a junior council member.

**Swearing In of Newly Appointed Junior Council Member:**

Mayor Reenock swore in Ms. Tillotson as a junior council member.

**Consider Request of Northampton Area Food Bank:**

We have received a request from the Northampton Area Food Bank to hold their Annual Food Bank Walk 2021 on Saturday October 30, 2021. The walk will begin at 9:00 AM. They are also requesting the assistance of the Northampton Fire Police to aid participants crossing Main Street.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Pristash, duly seconded by Ronald Glassic and unanimously carried to grant permission for this event and the use of the Northampton Fire Police.

**Consider Request of the Northampton Area School District:**

A request has been received by the Northampton Area School District for the assistance of the Northampton Fire Police to assist with traffic for the home football games.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Trevor Stone and unanimously carried to grant permission for the Northampton Fire Police to assist with traffic control during the home football games.

Judy Kutzler questioned if it would be all football games and if they would be compensated.

LeRoy Brobst explained it would be for the home football games.

Kenneth Hall explained that the Fire Police would be given a donation.

Tony Lopsonzski, Sr. questioned if this would include the JV games as well.

Kenneth Hall answered that it would only include the varsity games.

Judy Kutzler questioned if they were going to hire security also.

Kenneth Hall explained that security usually handles the entry into the games and a presence inside the stadium. The fire police are usually set up by 8:30 PM and are usually cleared by 10:00 PM depending on the game. He further explained that they are compensated for their time with a donation to their equipment fund at the end of the season.

**Consider Request of the Northampton Fire Department:**

The Northampton Fire Department is requesting permission to participate in two separate parades during the month of September. The first is in Pen Argyl for their Annual Labor Day parade to be held on September 6, 2021. The second is the Pennsylvania State Fire Convention parade being held in Limerick on Saturday September 25, 2021. As usual, fire coverage would still be provided while attending these events. These were voted on separately.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Judy Kutzler, duly seconded by Ronald Glassic and unanimously carried to grant permission to attend the Pen Argyl parade.

Tony Lopsonzski, Sr. inquired if they would possibly be in need of a portable bathroom.

LeRoy Brobst advised they did not as they have many fine toilets.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Judy Kutzler and unanimously carried to grant permission to attend the Pennsylvania State Fire Convention parade in Limerick, PA.

**Consider Request of Nazareth Area Chamber of Commerce:**

The Nazareth Chamber of Commerce has requested the use of the Borough's band trailer at their annual Nazareth Fall Festival being held on Saturday October 16, 2021. This will be used in conjunction with the Nazareth Halloween Parade. If permission is granted, they will be required to pay a delivery fee and provide a Certificate of Insurance naming the Borough of Northampton as additionally insured.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Pristash, duly seconded by Ronald Glassic and unanimously carried to grant the use of the portable band trailer to the Nazareth Area Chamber of Commerce.

Ronald Glassic questioned whether or not this was the item that LeRoy Brobst was commenting about considering moving and no longer renting.

LeRoy Brobst stated it was not.

Tony Lopsonzski, Sr. stated that the Borough has a wonderful portable restroom that could be used by many people.

LeRoy Brobst advised that Nazareth does not need it as they also have many fine toilets.

**Consider Certification of Police Pension Plan:**

The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the 2022 police pension plan has been calculated to be \$130,462.00. It is anticipated that the state aid for this plan will be \$108,000.00 leaving a shortage of \$22,462.00 that the Borough will need to provide.

**Motion:**

A motion was made by Tony Lopsonzski, Sr, duly seconded by Tony Pristash and unanimously carried to certify the Police Pension Plan.

LeRoy Brobst advised that in later comments he will explain where the money for the shortage is coming from.

Judy Kutzler questioned how much the shortage was.

LeRoy Brobst answered \$22,462.00.

**Consider Certification of Non-Uniformed Defined Benefit Pension Plan:**

The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the 2022 non-uniformed defined contribution pension plan has been calculated to be \$70,079.00. It is anticipated that the state aid for this plan will be \$72,000.00 leaving a surplus of \$1,921.00.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall, duly seconded by Trevor Stone and unanimously carried to certify the non-uniformed defined benefit pension plan.

LeRoy Brobst explained that the surplus in state aid would be applied to the police pension plan.

Ron Glassic requested a clarification.

LeRoy Brobst explained that it lessens the \$22,462.00 shortage by \$1,921.00 and it gets better.

**Consider Certification of Non-Uniformed Defined Contribution Pension Plan:**

The Minimum Municipal Obligation (MMO) for the 2022 non-uniformed defined contribution pension plan has been calculated to be \$24,697.00. It is anticipated that the state aid for this plan will be \$58,800.00. The overage of \$34,103.00 will be applied to the police pension plan and a prorated amount applied to the defined benefit plan as directed by the state Auditor General's Office.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Pristash, duly seconded by Tony Lopsonzski, Sr. and unanimously carried to certify the non-uniformed defined contribution pension plan.

LeRoy Brobst explained that next year all three pension plans should be covered by state aid.

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

**Administration and Finance:** Councilman Hall reported that on August 17, 2021, Mr. Edward Pany entertained a church group from Lehigh County led by Mr. Ritter, a former German teacher in the Northampton Area School District. More members of the congregation will return in October.

On August 25, 2021, Ms. Martha Capwell Fox of the National Canal Museum, led a tour with the Archaeological Industrial Society to the Atlas Cement Memorial Museum, Lafarge Cement, and various Lehigh Valley industrial sites. Visitors belonging to the Society represented approximately 10 states.

The Borough has received notification from the First Regional Compost Authority (FRCA) that they have a surplus of excellent mulch that is available to Borough residents at no cost. Residents, however, will be responsible to load the mulch into their vehicles.

Borough Manager LeRoy Brobst has been participating in interviews for a new manager at the Northampton Memorial Community Center. The current manager, Debra Brobst, will retire effective January 1, 2022.

End of report.

**Building, Land and Recreation:** Councilman Pristash reported that the final receipt from the swimming pool topped out at \$75,141.00. The Borough is waiting for a final calculation of expenses and while not anticipating a profit, it is believed that the loss should be significantly lower than in prior years.

The Farmers' Market has enjoyed a successful summer season. The last opportunity to shop will be on Tuesday September 21, 2021. Thanks goes out to volunteer manager Pat Knopf.

Registration forms are available for the Jack Frost Parade scheduled for Saturday October 23, 2021. Any council members willing to ride in the parade should let Borough Manager LeRoy Brobst know as soon as possible.

Mayor Reenock commented on the watermelons available at the market. The cantaloupes are the size of basketballs and taste more like cantaloupes than in years past. But the watermelons have been absolutely terrific.

End of report.

**Code and Police:** Councilman Pristash reported that the Planning Commission will meet on Wednesday September 8, 2021 at 7:00 PM to hear a presentation by Yost Hauling for a special use of their property located behind the CVS Drugstore.

The code officer is still busy with primarily grass and weed complaints. The response rate for rental inspections for 2021 is 96.3%.

The police department will hold CPR training on Wednesday September 1, 2021 at the fire department.

Residential parking passes for those persons living near a school were mailed.

End of report.

**Fire and Health:** Councilwoman Kutzler reported that the Northampton Fire Department is preparing for Fire Prevention Week, which will start on Sunday October 3, 2021 until Saturday October 9, 2021. The fire department will hold their annual Open House on Wednesday October 6, 2021.

Councilwoman Kutzler added that it is interesting to see all of the different equipment and apparatus

The board of health did not meet in August but will resume its meetings starting September 28, 2021.

Health Officer Ted Veresink has submitted his health report for August.

Councilwoman Kutzler added that from August 1<sup>st</sup> to August 31<sup>st</sup>, the Health Officer has been having ongoing inspections and consultations with retail food facilities and continued performing operational inspections of the vendors at the Farmer's Market. To date 11 health applications and license fees have been received. These vendors have been inspected and approved.

A follow up inspection was completed at Rita's on Main, 2015 Main St, and the facility has been found to be in compliance. The Health Officer discussed the placement of refuse containers for the facility that is an ongoing problem with the business. The containers were stored to the side of the building but moved to the front side of the building. Further action is being handled by the licensee.

There is no update on Big Dog Catering operating at the Northampton Liederkantz but the situation is being monitored.

The Health Officer began preliminary discussions with two mobile food vendors who propose to operate within the Borough, but to date no license action has been taken.

The Health Officer has been working with the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture for computer updates.

This report was submitted by the Health Officer Ted Veresink and if anybody would like to see the status of any eating establishment in the Borough and when they are inspected, all you need to do is go to the state Department of Agriculture's website and they are all listed. Thank you.

End of report.

**Public Works and Sewer:** Councilman Glassic reported that Public Works Supervisor Gregory Morey is scheduling a meeting with the Borough's Engineer to take a look at Kingston Court. There appears to be some serious problems on that street, and the hope is to get them corrected this fall.

On Wednesday August 25, 2021, Borough officials met with representatives from Allen Township, the Borough's environmental engineer and Stephen Kerbacher of the NBMA and a representative from the Department of Environmental Protection. The topic of discussion was a collective effort to prepare a joint Act 537 Plan. This is not an option; it is a requirement.

LeRoy Brobst added that it is due in 315 days and that while it may sound like a lot of time, it really is not. That will go by quickly.

Councilman Glassic added that they are looking to set a meeting up for further discussion.

Over the winter Council has been asked to give some thought to no longer renting out the portable band trailer. More to follow on that.

It is Borough's intention to return to the practice of flushing all sewer lines every year. It is time intensive, but overall, very beneficial.

Councilman Glassic added how important our sewer systems are, especially when you consider the amount of water that we had last night. It's important that we do the right thing.

Councilman Pristash asked for an explanation regarding the band shell comment.

LeRoy Brobst answered that it is more of a pain in the neck than it is worth. You have to take it someplace, then pick it up, and if it is somewhere where you get a heavy rain you have to let it sit there for a couple of extra days because the terrain is not very firm.

LeRoy Brobst asked council to take some time to think about it, not suggesting that the Borough cans it, but there are some ideas out there and it would be good to have Council's opinion.

Councilman Stone questioned if it was just for us to use and if we have to rent it out.

LeRoy Brobst answered that it is a possibility, that we would use it in town here whenever it is needed. It gets a whole lot more use outside of town then it does in town. We could raise the rates on delivery, setup, and removal. However, most of the places using it are not for profit, so we do not charge them a rental fee or they ask for the fee to be waived. So, the Borough takes in \$150.00 but it requires two to three people usually on overtime to take it somewhere and bring it back.

Mayor Reenock questioned the date on the DEP letter that Livengood was referring to.

LeRoy Brobst answered it was a letter from Gene Zarayko telling them that we have capacity for their entire development. It may have been sent five to six years ago, it could have been sent 20 years ago, it doesn't matter. DEP considers that a promise and we are held to it.

Mayor Reenock questioned if we do not have the capacity.

LeRoy Brobst answered that we need to design changes to provide capacity since the Borough told him that we have it.

Mayor Reenock added that the Borough had the capacity at the time, but now all of the capacity has been given to Allen Township.

LeRoy Brobst answered that he tried that argument with DEP but it went nowhere.

Mayor Reenock questioned when the Solicitor would be brought in to weight on the matter since it was decided a long time ago and we have nothing to do with that.

LeRoy Brobst answered that the Borough Council at the time acting through the Borough Manager at the time had everything to do with it. They told the developer at the time that the capacity was there.

Mayor Reenock questioned why there all of this squabbling over the new contract if we don't have the capacity.

LeRoy Brobst answered that it was brought to the DEP representatives' attention also and that he didn't care. DEP doesn't care. That's a separate issue. The fact that we are discussing litigating what the Borough is going to charge them for sewer service has nothing to do with the promise that was made to the developer.

Mayor Reenock questioned if this happened six years ago and they are deciding to develop it now and how many units is he going to need now.

LeRoy Brobst answered that it is approximately an additional 50 units.

Mayor Reenock advised that these are some of the questions he is going to be following up on later and just wanted to know now because it is ridiculous that developer is bugging us now about this and that DEP is even involved.



LeRoy Brobst answered that developer filed a private request with DEP. They acknowledged it and they granted it.

Mayor Reenock question if this wasn't supposed to be granted by Allen Township.

LeRoy Brobst answered no.

Several Council members questioned why the Borough granted it.

LeRoy Brobst answered that the Borough did not grant it. DEP granted it.

Mayor Reenock commented that he did not want to go father with the discussion.

LeRoy Brobst responded that he feels it needs to be hashed out. When the Borough said they had the capacity, that was it. And DEP took that as what they use to base their judgement. DEP told us and Allen Township that we have to accommodate the developer. The only way to do that is to redo the Boroughs Act 537 plan.

Mayor Reenock questioned since the current Act 537 was enacted, how many people have been placed on our system and how many spaces have we lost since then and why do we owe them if we gave Allen Township an allocation in bulk.

LeRoy Brobst answered that only a portion was for Towpath Estates. Allen Township gave us the money but the developer is the one paying for it.

Mayor Reenock stated that he feels that Allen Township should have been saving those units and 50 units is nothing but questioned why the Borough is being pushed for it.

Mayor Reenock stated that he has only been here for 40 years and he thinks he understands the process but just needs a little explanation and he will be bringing it up again in the near future.

Mayor Reenock stated he wished he had known about the meeting because he would have asked these questions and he would like to call the representative from DEP and explain it.

LeRoy Brobst stated he has the representatives' number and he will give it to Mayor Reenock when he sees him tomorrow.

Mayor Reenock questioned if he wanted to develop and it was guaranteed capacity and there is none, what do we do? In other words, we are using our capacity up.

LeRoy Brobst answered that every year we file a Chapter 94 report in which the Borough projects what is going to be happening in the next five years.

Mayor Reenock questioned why DEP is not concerned with the squabbling over a new contract for sewer service. Are they aware we do not have a contract with Allen Township?

LeRoy Brobst answered yes and the DEP representative does not care. He can tell you that directly.

Mayor Reenock questioned that 7 years ago and all over the capacity is being used what is DEP's argument. We have to develop.

LeRoy Brobst explained that the DEP representative direction to the Borough of Northampton and Allen Township is to file an Act 537 Plan jointly so that we can accommodate this. The Borough cannot say we that we are unable to do it, we have to do it.

Councilman Stone inquired what an Act 537 Plan was.

LeRoy Brobst answered is a 10- or 20-year projection on what is going to be needed. Right now, our Act 537 Plan is outdated. So is Allen Townships. Right now, they have an environmental engineer working on it as do we. But now it has come to a point where it has to be accomplished within 315 days.

Mayor Reenock commented that it will be impossible.

LeRoy Brobst stated it was not impossible.

Councilwoman Kutzler questioned why the Borough is required to pick up the cost for Allen Township residents. She stated that she did not understand why the Borough would have to build our plant and enlarge our plant and take on the cost.

LeRoy Brobst answered that 50 units equates to \$250,000.00 and that a lot of work could be accomplished with that amount of money.

Councilwoman Kutzler stated that she did not understand and thought the Borough would be responsible for footing the bill.

LeRoy Brobst further explained that each unit costs \$5,070.00 and that the Borough would not be footing the cost by itself.

Councilwoman Kutzler stated that the Borough would not be footing much of the bill.

Councilman Hall questioned where that would leave developers Deichmeister and Tepes who had similar agreements.

LeRoy Brobst answered that they have no agreement and the development on Cherryville Road has been given 11 units since 2017. That's all he had and they were given to them.

Councilman Hall explained that he thought there was an agreement for the whole tract of land.

LeRoy Brobst answered that the agreement was only for 11 units.

Mayor Reenock questioned if all the developer needs 50 units, we give him 50 units and make money on it, if we currently do not have the 50 to give him, is the developer even ready to go ahead with 50 units.

LeRoy Brobst answered that was a question they asked and the DEP representative stated we still needed the Act 537 Plan even if we could squeeze those 50 units in.

Mayor Reenock questioned if the Borough was still able to provide the 50 units.

LeRoy Brobst answered that if the Borough had to, yes.

Mayor Reenock questioned if the developer is ready to go now or does the Borough have to send him a letter asking him to wake up and start developing.

LeRoy Brobst answered that the Borough needs to take it one step at a time and get together with Allen Township...

Mayor Reenock interrupted that he has been here a while and knows the process.

LeRoy Brobst answered that this is what they have to do.

Councilman Glassic asked for clarification by stating that there are two separate issues. One being DEP saying the Borough and Allen Township need to come together jointly and get the ACT 537 done. The second issue is that Allen Township does not have a contract with the Borough and thus is overloading us with a bunch of their "you know what". The problem is that when you see what our sewer system goes through, you do not want to just grant out there until we have a contract.

LeRoy Brobst answered that the first issue takes priority and the Borough is under pressure to do that. The other issue to get a contract with Allen Township is not actually necessary. The Borough never entered into another contract with them that would limit their development. They would either need to take it to Catasauqua or build their own plant.

Mayor Reenock stated that Allen Township is doing that now and he wants to know why. He feels the Borough is getting a screw job.

LeRoy Brobst answered that there is no screw job. DEP rules the roost. DEP has prescribed a procedure and we need to follow it.

Mayor Reenock stated that others also have to follow procedure. The Borough, Allen Township.

LeRoy Brobst agreed and stated that why NBMA Director Steve Kerbacher was invited to the meeting since the Borough Sewer Plant receives all of the NBMA's filtration plant.

Mayor Reenock stated he still wants to know how many units the developer is ready to go with.

LeRoy Brobst stated that is unknown at this time.

Mayor Reenock commented that it is a guessing game right now.

LeRoy Brobst commented that it is a guessing game as to when the developer will be ready to go, but it is known that they plan to build the additional units.

Mayor Reenock questioned whether or not the DEP representative was aware they have been working on this plan for the last three years.

Mayor Reenock also commented that he did not want to put Mr. Brobst under the gun or anything, but is just trying to use some common sense to figure things out.

Mayor Reenock stated that he is trying to avoid receiving 1000 phone calls on this.

LeRoy Brobst acknowledged and added that the Boroughs back is against the wall and needs to move forward.

Mayor Reenock stated that he would write them a letter stating that if you started tomorrow, you can have them.

LeRoy Brobst stated that it would not be advisable. A meeting needs to be held with Allen Township and the NBMA.

Mayor Reenock stated that he understands everything Mr. Brobst is doing and thanked him for his responses.

LeRoy Brobst acknowledged and asked Mayor Reenock to stop in the office tomorrow and get Scotts' (DEP) phone number, adding that he is an interesting character to talk to.

Mayor Reenock stated that he will get his number and talk to him, that he is tired of playing games.

### **REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**Kenneth Hall** welcomed Junior Councilwoman Ryleigh Tillotson to the board.

-- Beil Alley took a long time to complete but has received several compliments about it.

-- He questioned whether or not the homeowner was billed for the trimming of their arborvitaes since they were causing issues for the equipment or other large necessary vehicles from coming down the alleyway. LeRoy Brobst answered that it was the Borough's right of way and so they trimmed them. As a result, they cannot charge the homeowner for the work completed.

-- He thanked the Fire Department and Public Works for their contributions during the storm last night. He stated that the Sewer Department handled everything well and they were pumping and doing what they could. LeRoy Brobst added that there was limited spill over, but it was already reported. He stated that he was on several incidents himself until the early morning hours and when he finally got home, he had to head out again.

-- He reported that due to the flooding conditions the apartment building at 1038-50 Canal Street almost required evacuation, but fortunately it was limited to a voluntary evacuation, especially for vehicles located on the property.

-- He reported that Bank Street fared well and the Dry Run stayed within its banks. He stated that the tributaries actually dropped before the river did. Despite this the river flooded the roadways on both sides of Hungarian Hall. Kudos to everyone who helped out.

End of report.

**Trevor Stone** stated that he visited the sewer plant and was given a tour.

-- He stated that he was in support of creating an internship program at the sewer plant.

-- He stated that based on his experience working in the cement industry the two most important things are power, water and sewerage.

**Ryleigh Tillotson** thanked the Borough Council for the opportunity to be a Junior Council Member.

-- She stated that she grew up in Northampton her entire life and it made her who she is.

-- She stated she is glad for the opportunity to try to make the Borough better for people her age, older people, and people in general

End of report.

**Mayor Reenock** had nothing to report.

**Solicitor Panella** reported that the finished draft of the loitering ordinance is ready for review.

-- He reported that the nuisance ordinance is next for an amendment as it pertains to noise and decibel meters.

End of report.

**Tony Pristash** reported that on Saturday September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2021 the 32<sup>nd</sup> Annual Chamber of Commerce Street Fair will be held from 21<sup>st</sup> Street down to the Gin Mill. There are plenty of activities and this year axe throwing has been added. The hours are 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM. Let's all hope for good weather!

-- He brought up the idea of bringing the Northampton Borough Council up to the 21<sup>st</sup> Century by live streaming the meetings. It will be beneficial to the residents who are unable to attend regular meetings to at least be able to tune in and follow along with the Borough activities. He would like to see the Borough explore the idea and see what the cost would be to achieve it. He thinks it would be a good idea and allow residents extra access. He would like to see this in the near future.

End of report.

**Judy Kutzler** advised that she feels better about the sewer issue knowing that it is not going to be coming down really heavy on the Borough residents. She did not realize until the prior discussion that this was the case. She was under the impression that the Borough was required to build the whole sewer plant and not be reimbursed by Allen Township. Mr. Brobst advised that the Borough no longer has the capacity for expansion, Allen Township does and the means to fund the needed upgrades. He continued that it would be to the Boroughs advantage to work with them. Councilwoman Kutzler agreed, but not if it was going to come down on the Borough taxpayer.

-- She reported that she is really impressed with the Borough Code Enforcement Officer and how the rat infestation issue in the 2400 block of Dewey Avenue was handled. He filed 17 charges and the defendant was found guilty of eight counts resulting in \$6916.00 in fines, fees and restitution to the Borough in whole. Nine of the charges were negotiated which is not unusual. She explained that the Code Enforcement Officer's plan is to sit tight and monitor this property. Further plans will be formulated depending on what happens with this property. It is not forgotten and is going to be monitored regularly. It is worth noting that the Borough has not received any additional complaints since Ehrlich set up bait stations. It was a struggle in the beginning and Councilwoman Kutzler hopes that the Borough residents in that area are happy with the results. They are encouraged to let Mr. Knoblach know if there are any problems in the future.

-- She reported that the group "People Standing Up" have harvested over 400 pounds of fresh fruits and vegetables from the Community Garden. Additional volunteers are always welcome. Maybe Ms. Tillotson would like to work with Kathy Novogratz and get a group of people together.

-- She reported that she is happy that the Fire Department is attending the parades and she will be in Pen Argyl looking for them right behind the bagpipe band.

Solicitor Panella added that in conversation during the hearing LeRoy Brobst advised a message needed to be delivered. He thinks the message was received. This ruling does not stop the Borough from pursuing any actions in the future should they be required.

Councilwoman Kutzler added that the weeds on Main Street are still pretty high in the 1000 block of Main Street.

Councilman Hall added that the Code Office did well over all with the weeds and Cherryville Road corridor looks at least 95 percent better.

End of report.

**Ron Glassic** expressed interest in a Borough newsletter stating he has an example from 2008. It can be done and can simply be a front and back of a page. Perhaps Ms. Tillotson would be interested in helping to create this newsletter that would be distributed once per

quarter as a way to get information out to the residents. This is a great opportunity that has been brought forward by several residents.

-- He thanks Councilman Tony Lopsonzski, Sr. for his work checking on the lights in the area of West 10<sup>th</sup> Street and Canal Street. While unable to get down to the area due to the flooding, he would like to get a count of how many lights would be needed to provide more safety for the residents coming off of the Canal Walk along West 10<sup>th</sup> Street towards Newhard Pharmacy.

-- He offered kudos to the Farmers Market and Swimming Pool staff for their efforts this summer.

-- He requested that starting in January that the Borough begin to start looking for pool personnel to get ahead of the hiring curve to avoid having to close the pool early. He stated that maybe the Junior Councilwoman could go to the school or the swim club and garner employment interest.

-- He mentioned Kingston Court, but stated he would offer no further comment since it will be discussed later.

-- He stated that the Act 537 Plan has really struck a nerve. He will be working with Councilman Stone to really dig into it to gain a full understanding. See if it makes sense. See if it is the right thing to do or if the Borough residents are going to wind up paying more. He agrees with Mayor Reenock that they need to keep moving forward because standing still is not making progress. He stated that it does no good to argue for three years and make no progress.

-- He advised that the pump stations were operating. He stated he was on the phone with Mr. Urban and personnel were working at midnight. He stated that until something happens, you don't realize how important the Borough workers, firefighters and police officers come into play. Kudos to all of them.

-- He reported that a suggestion for the Boroughs' website to email LeRoy Brobst at [www.northamptonboro.com](mailto:www.northamptonboro.com) as an add on, and also at [norboro@enternet.com](mailto:norboro@enternet.com). If any resident has any issues or suggestions, please email him. It makes it easier to involve our community.

-- He stated in reference to the band shelter that it is a great suggestion and he can see the reasons for it.

End of report.

**Tony Lopsonzski, Sr.** stated that there should be a right turn only allowed at the intersection of Main Street and Station Alley. It will become a nightmare when people come out to that intersection and try to make a left turn. With all of the car and truck traffic in that area it has the potential to be a dandy of a situation. He stated that he feels that the Borough needs to do

whatever it needs to do to get that intersection posted for a right turn only. Perhaps Public Works can paint the roadway with a turn indicator to southbound Main Street.

Councilman Hall added that the same marking need to be included in the PNC Bank drive through because that is the same, if not worse issue. It would be shooting yourself in the foot if you only do the alley and not the drive through.

Councilman Lopsonzski Sr. added that this would be a more favorable situation for drivers. Trying to make a left turn from this area require you to have a death wish.

-- He welcomed Ms. Tillotson to the board and offered the advice to have thick skin or to develop thick skin. He also welcomed her to bring any ideas or issues that she hears while attending school back to the Council. Council can look at it and see if they can incorporate a solution that would benefit everyone.

End of report.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Brobst advised that the Borough is going to be applying for the 2021 Grow NorCo grant with the hopes of purchasing a brand new fully equipped police car for about \$18,000.00 and the county would pick up the rest of the expense.

-- He advised that as in the past, the Council President will sign the needed documentation because he is authorized to sign by the very nature of this bond. He wanted this to be in the record so there are no issues with the County in reference to his authorization to sign documents.

-- He welcomed Ms. Tillotson to the board and that it will be nice to have someone offer a fresh perspective. Don't be shy or afraid to bring things up, we're all family.

-- He stated that the response to the weather event was exceptional. When he woke up in the morning the first thing that came to mind was "how many things went wrong?". He got into his vehicle and took a drive to the sewer plant, Dry Run, he was unable to get down to Canal Street since the river was coming down Canal Street. The pump stations were all good. He received no calls regarding back ups into people basements. Thanks to the Police. Thanks to the Fire Department. Thanks to the Public Works. Thanks to the Fire Police. Everything went well except for the tree outside of Borough Halls that blocked Laubach Avenue all day long. It was hard to get PPL to come and remove the wire from it so public works could remove it. Thank you to NASD Superintendent Joseph Kovalchik for coming down and directing traffic for two hours.

End of report.



Councilman Tony Lopsonzski, Sr. made a recommendation that each department; police, fire, fire police, code be allowed to submit an article explaining information regarding their specific job functions. It will help create awareness.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Tony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Tony Pristash and unanimously carried to pay the bills as listed on A/P Journal #9, dated September 2, 2021 totaling \$327,105.53.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall, duly seconded by Tony Pristash and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:32 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Keith Knoblach', written in a cursive style.

Keith Knoblach

Acting Recording Secretary