

**BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON  
REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING  
DECEMBER 16, 2021**

**CALL TO ORDER:** A Regular Public Meeting of the Northampton Borough Council was called to order by President Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr. at 7:30 PM on Thursday December 16, 2021. The meeting was held virtually via Zoom and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL:** Council Members present at roll call were: President Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr., Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., Julia Kutzler, Ronald Glassic, Anthony Pristash, Kenneth Hall and junior council person Ryleigh Tillotson. Trevor Stone and Mayor Thomas Reenock were absent. Also present were Solicitor Brian Panella, Borough Manager LeRoy Brobst, Police Chief Bryan Kadingo and Recording Secretary, Meaghan Case.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** A motion was made by Anthony Pristash, duly seconded by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., and carried to approve the Minutes of the Public Workshop Meeting held on November 2, 2021, the Special Public Meeting held on November 18, 2021 and the Regular Public Meeting held on November 18, 2021.

**HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT:**  
No public comments were received.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**RESOLUTION NO. 14-21**

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION GRANTING FINAL APPROVAL TO THE 2022 ANNUAL BUDGET.**

Resolution No. 14-21 gives Council's final approval of the 2022 annual budget.

Introduced By: Julia Kutzler

Seconded By: Ronald Glassic

Resolution No. 14-21 passed unanimously.

**ORDINANCES**

**ORDINANCE NO. 1219**

**TITLE: AN ORDINANCE FIXING THE TAX RATE FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON FOR THE YEAR 2022.**

Ordinance No. 1219 fixes the Northampton Borough property tax at 11.50 mills. All previous taxes that were enacted remain the same.

Introduced By: Anthony Pristash

Seconded By: Julia Kutzler

Ordinance No. 1219 passed unanimously.

**PRESIDENT'S REPORT:**

President Lopsonzski, Jr. had nothing to report.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Reenock was absent.

**SOLICITOR'S REPORT:**

**Solicitor Panella** said the town looks fantastic decorated for the holidays.

Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. asked Solicitor Panella about the right turn only signs at Station Alley.

Ronald Glassic asked about the ordinance not allowing tractor trailers on specific roads in the borough. Solicitor Panella said it's in the process and should be ready for approval at the next council meeting. This should also include fair warning signs and extended trailer signs. There will be exceptions to the ordinance for local deliveries and emergency vehicles.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

**Administration and Finance:** **Councilman Hall** reported that we have received notification from the Lehigh Valley Pain and Primary Care Center that they will be ending their consortium services as of December 31, 2021. They provided random drug and alcohol testing for our police department and

CDL operators. We will need to obtain these services and Mr. Brobst is in the process of researching opportunities.

--The Atlas Cement Memorial Museum Trust met on December 6, 2021 and a copy of their minutes from the meeting are included in your packet.

--The next scheduled Council meeting will be on MONDAY, JANUARY 3, 2022, AT 7:30 PM, at which time Council will reorganize.

**Building, Land and Recreation:** Councilman Pristash reported that during the first few months of the new year, we will be considering improvements to the municipal swimming pool. Several people had suggested splash areas or water attractions. We will see what the market will provide; however, the bathhouse may take precedence.

--The recreation center director, Jason Kremus, has informed Mr. Brobst that starting on December 12, 2021, the center began offering "Christmas passes" to individuals for \$75 that would be good until January 15, 2022.

**Code and Police:** Councilman Pristash reported that the Zoning Hearing Board met on Thursday, December 9, 2021, to hear the appeal of John Palencar of 124 West 14th Street. Mr. Palencar was successful in his presentation and the appeal was granted.

--The Civil Service Commission provided test materials for five candidates on Saturday, December 11, 2021. Of the five however, only four took the agility test. The test materials are on their way to Mccann Associates for evaluation and grading.

**Fire and Health:** Councilwoman Kutzler reported that last Saturday evening, Mr. Brobst went outside as the fire department passed into his neighborhood thinking he'd see Santa delivering toys. However, they were investigating a gas odor a half a block away from his house. He was reminded to value their service.

--Included in your packet is a copy of the minutes from the Board of Health meeting held on Tuesday, November 30, 2021, as well as the health officer's summary. Mrs. Kutzler reviewed the health board minutes.

**Public Works and Sewer:** Councilman Glassic reported that the office continues receiving complementary calls regarding holiday decorations throughout the Borough. He added that the tree is perfect!

--Operation of the wastewater treatment plant continues smoothly thanks to the dedication of the staff.

--A public works crew is prepared but not necessarily looking forward to the first significant snowfall of the winter season. All of the equipment is ready to go and the stockpile of rock salt is available.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS:****Approval of 2022-23 Public Works Agreement:**

At the last meeting, you were provided a list of changes that will occur within the 2022-23 public works agreement. Council will need to approve these changes so we can move forward.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Pristash, duly seconded by Ronald Glassic and unanimously carried to approve the 2022-23 Public Works Agreement.

**Approval of Towpath Estates Sewer Allocation:**

Also at the last meeting, you were provided with an agreement prepared by our solicitor to satisfy the needs of the developer of Towpath Estates -Allen Township. Pending Council approval, it will be forwarded to Allen Township for their approval. This solution is in keeping with the recommendation of the Department of Environment Protection (DEP). Solicitor Panella added that there is a requirement of DEP and the borough will be paid for it. He said it is a benefit to the borough.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Ronald Glassic, duly seconded by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. and unanimously carried to approve the agreement of Towpath Estates-Allen Township Sewer Allocation.

**Consider Resignation of Part-Time Police Officer:**

Part-time Police Officer Ahmed Elkadousy has submitted a letter of resignation from the police department. He has secured full-time employment as a police officer in the Borough of Freemansburg.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall, with regret, duly seconded by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., with regret, and unanimously carried to accept the resignation of Part-Time Police Officer Ahmed Elkadousy.

**REPORTS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**Kenneth Hall** said that the town looks great.

--He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**Ryleigh Tillotson** said that she contacted the volunteer club at the high school and they will be reaching out to Mr. Brobst to help with the community garden in Spring.

--She said she is looking forward to Christmas.

**Judy Haldeman** thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on borough council. She is looking forward to good things.

**Anthony Pristash** gave thanks to Richard Wolfe for opening the Roxy Theater for the showing of “It’s A Wonderful Life”. It was very well received. He was extremely impressed and it exceeded his expectations. Ronald Glassic was involved as well. He specifically loved looking down Main Street. He said it was a perfect Christmas picture.

--He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and said to enjoy it with family and friends.

--After 10 years, this is his last meeting as a councilman. He was elected Mayor beginning 2022. He thanked everyone for being supportive and said it was an honor serving as a councilman and will be an honor to serve as Mayor. He specifically thanked Gene Zarayko, LeRoy Brobst, Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr. and council members he served with over the years.

**Julia Kutzler** reviewed the fire police reports for November. She said most do not realize the value the fire police are to the community.

--She reviewed the police reports for November. She added that we need more police officers on board.

--She appreciates what the civil service commission has done. She added that our police department is second to none.

**Ronald Glassic** attended the showing of “It’s A Wonderful Life” at the Roxy Theater. He said it was an outstanding event and was well attended. He said they were able to donate over 15 boxes of canned goods to the food bank.

--He said the town Christmas tree is awesome! He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Holidays.

--He asked about the flashing lights for the stop signs at Howertown Road and 10<sup>th</sup> Streets and the convex mirror for Dewey Avenue and 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Mr. Brobst said both items are on back order.

--He let everyone know that he may not be attending the next council meeting because he is visiting family in Colorado and meeting his first grandchild, Reagan Grace.

**Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr.**

--He said that we might want to consider allowing council members to participate in meeting via phone.

--He said that our Christmas lights are second to none, adding that most of them are handmade.

--He suggested a parade down Main Street to recognize athletes/teams at the high school. He mentioned the current varsity football team, saying they had an amazing season and they are the best football team the high school has ever had. He said student athletes deserve the recognition. He asked Ryleigh if she thought student athletes would be interested in participating in a parade. She said they would be very interested.

--He suggested street trees be planted at uptown Main Street and also said we need more trees in our parks.

--He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

He thanked the members of council for their cooperation with the budget.

--He mentioned two grants that the borough received from the County for a new digital sign and new garage doors at the fire station.

--He wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**Motion:** Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. moved, seconded by Kenneth Hall and unanimously carried to pay the bills as listed on A/P Journal #11C, dated November 24, 2021, totaling \$24,456.80, A/P Journal #12A, dated December 14, 2021 totaling \$562.00 and A/P Journal #12B, dated December 16, 2021 totaling \$138,395.57.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Anthony Pristash, duly seconded by Kenneth Hall and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:13 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meaghan Case  
Recording Secretary