

**BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON  
REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING  
JANUARY 3, 2022**

**CALL TO ORDER:** A Reorganizational Meeting of the Northampton Borough Council was called to order by Mayor Anthony Pristash at 7:30 PM on Monday, January 3, 2022. The meeting was held in Borough Council Chambers and began with the Pledge of Allegiance.

Anthony Pristash was sworn in as Mayor of the Borough of Northampton on the afternoon of January 3, 2022 by the Honorable Superior Court Justice Jack Panella in council chambers. He was surrounded by his family, friends and borough office staff who witnessed the ceremony.

**SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

Mayor Anthony Pristash swore in Council Members-elect Kenneth Hall, Bonnie Almond and Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr. All terms of office are for four years.

**ROLL CALL:** Council Members present at roll call were: Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr., Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., Judith Haldeman, Julia Kutzler, Kenneth Hall, Bonnie Almond. Trevor Stone and Ronald Glassic were absent. Also present were Mayor Pristash, Solicitor Robert Eyer, Borough Manager LeRoy Brobst, Police Chief Bryan Kadingo and Recording Secretary, Meaghan Case.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT:**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall, duly seconded by Judith Haldeman to reelect Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr. as President of Borough Council. After a roll call vote, the decision was unanimous.

Solicitor Eyer reminded council that a motion to close the nominations was not needed.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF VICE PRESIDENT:**

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr, duly seconded by Judith Haldeman to elect Julia Kutzler as Vice President of Borough Council. After a roll call vote, the decision was unanimous.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr., duly seconded by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. and unanimously carried to close the nominations.

**NOMINATION AND ELECTION OF PRESIDENT PRO TEM:**

**Motion:** A motion was made seconded by Julia Kutzler, duly seconded by Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr. to elect Kenneth Hall as President Pro-Tem of Borough Council. After a roll call vote, the decision was unanimous.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Judith Haldeman and unanimously carried to close the nominations.

Mayor Anthony Pristash handed over the gavel to Council President Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr., who then took charge of the meeting. President Lopsonzski, Jr. thanked the members of Council for the opportunity to continue to serve as Council President.

**RESOLUTION NO. 1-22:**

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING DEPOSITORIES FOR BOROUGH FUNDS.**

Resolution No. 1-22 would designate the depositories for the Borough of Northampton, which is done on an annual basis.

Introduced By: Kenneth Hall  
Seconded By: Julia Kutzler

Unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 1-22 as written.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2-22:**

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING FEES FOR THE FILING OF APPLICATIONS, PERMITS AND LICENSES FOR THE BOROUGH OF NORTHAMPTON.**

Resolution No. 2-22 establishes fees for permits and licenses.

Introduced By: Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr.  
Seconded By: Bonnie Almond

Unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 2-22.

**RESOLUTION NO. 3-22:**

**TITLE: A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE APPOINTMENT OF A SEWAGE ENFORCEMENT OFFICER FOR 2022, ALSO THE APPOINTMENT OF AN ENGINEERING FIRM, INCLUDING FEES, FOR 2022.**

Resolution No. 3-22 appoints the sewage enforcement officer and allows us to charge potential developers for engineering fees that are incurred by the Borough. We use Lehigh Engineering Associates, Inc. for these services.

Introduced By: Kenneth Hall  
Seconded By: Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr.

Unanimously carried to approve Resolution No. 3-22 appointing Lehigh Engineering Associates, Inc. for these services.

**APPOINTMENT TO VACANCY BOARD:**

Mr. Ronald Spengler has submitted a request to be reappointed for another two-year term on the Vacancy Board, which will expire on December 31, 2023.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Julia Kutzler and unanimously carried to reappoint Ronald Spengler to the Vacancy Board for a two-year term.

**APPOINTMENT TO ZONING HEARING BOARD:**

There is one opening on the Zoning Hearing Board. Mr. Jerome Kroboth is requesting to be reappointed for another three-year term, which will end on December 31, 2024.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall, duly seconded by Julia Kutzler and unanimously carried to reappoint Jerome Kroboth to the Zoning Hearing Board for a three-year term.

**APPOINTMENT TO CIVIL SERVICE COMMISSION:**

Mrs. Bonnie Almond is requesting to be considered for a six-year term on the Civil Service Commission, which will end on December 31, 2027. She is the only applicant.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Julia Kutzler, duly seconded by Judith Haldeman and unanimously carried to reappoint Bonnie Almond for another six-year term on the Civil Service Commission.

Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. announced his resignation from the Civil Service

Commission effective immediately. This is due to the fact that two borough council members may not both serve on the Civil Service Commission.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall with regret, duly seconded by Julia Kutzler with regret and unanimously to accept the resignation of Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. from the Civil Service Commission.

**APPOINTMENT TO BOARD OF HEALTH:**

Mr. John Yurish is seeking reappointment to a five-year term on the Board of Health. This term will expire on December 31, 2026 and he is the only applicant.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Kenneth Hall and unanimously carried to reappoint John Yurish for another five-year term on the Board of Health.

**APPOINTMENT TO NORTHAMPTON BOROUGH MUNICIPAL AUTHORITY BOARD:**

Mr. Gerald Deily has asked to be reconsidered for another five-year term on the Northampton Borough Authority Board. This term expires on December 31, 2026. He is the only applicant.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Judith Haldeman, duly seconded by Julia Kutzler and unanimously carried to reappoint Gerald Deily for another five-year term on the Northampton Borough Municipal Authority Board.

Julia Kutzler asked how many council members could serve on the Northampton Borough Municipality Authority Board. Mr. Brobst said there is nothing that specifies the number of council members serving on the NBMA Board.

**RATIFICATION OF NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:**

Following are the names of the newly elected officers for the Northampton Fire Department. Chief- Keith Knoblach; Deputy Chief - Andrew Marzen; Assistant Chiefs - Robert Smale and Joshua Abraham; Battalion Chief - Thomas Gehringer; Captains - Michael Booke and Nick Keller; Lieutenants - Angel Maury and Dylan Archer; Safety Officers - Michael Bernini and Chris Crush; Engineer - James Kunkel; Fire Police Captain - Kenneth Hall; and Lieutenants - Keith Beil and Bruce Miller. It has been customary for Borough Council to accept the officers as presented and ratify the same.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr., duly seconded by Bonnie Almond and unanimously carried to accept and ratify the Fire Department officers as presented.

Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. asked that Keith Piescienski's name be added to list

above.

Julia Kutzler thanked the fire department for their service and dedication to the borough and surrounding communities.

**SWEARING IN OF NEW FIRE DEPARTMENT OFFICERS:**

At this time, the newly elected officers of the Northampton Fire Department were sworn in by Mayor Anthony Pristash.

Kenneth Hall abstained from this motion.

**APPOINTMENT OF EARNED INCOME TAX COLLECTOR:**

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires that each county names an earned income tax collector. Northampton County has selected Keystone Collections Group. We need to ratify their selection.

**Motion:** A motion was made by Julia Kutzler, duly seconded by Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. and unanimously carried to appoint Keystone Collections Group as the earned income tax collector for the Borough of Northampton.

**PRESENTATION OF GOLD CEMENT BAG AWARD:**

This year's recipient of the Gold Cement Bag Award is Mark Laub of the fire department. He has been instrumental in securing several grants for the fire department, including the Tom Car. Currently he has two grants in the offing, which are for a new electronic sign at the fire station and new garage doors for the entire building.

Mayor Pristash presented the Gold Cement Bag Award to Mark Laub.

**HEARING OF PERSONS PRESENT:**

**William Leiner, reporter of the Northampton Press,** said he has been around of a lot of boroughs and municipalities and acknowledged the extreme success of the Northampton Fire Department. He thanked them for all that they do.

**REPORT FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS:**

**Kenneth Hall** congratulated the newly and re-elected officials.

--He hoped everyone had a happy and healthy New Year.

--He congratulated Anthony Pristash on his appointment as Mayor and wished him good luck.

**Judith Haldeman** thanked the fire department for all that they do.

**Mayor Anthony Pristash** said that January 3<sup>rd</sup> was a very exciting day for him as he was sworn in as Mayor. He said it all became very real and gave him a different light and perspective on things. He commended the fire department for a tremendous job.

--He said he was excited to see the new faces on borough council.

--He said he hoped everyone had a Happy New Year and reminded everyone that Ukrainian Christmas was coming up.

--He said it's honor and privilege to serve as the Mayor of Northampton.

**Anthony Lopsonzski, Jr.** congratulated the newly and re-elected officials.

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**Bonnie Almond** congratulated Mayor Pristash on his new position.

--She thanked the fire department for all that they do.

**Julia Kutzler** welcomed all of the newly elected officials.

--She thanked council for the vote of confidence for naming her Council Vice President.

--She said she is looking forward to growing the police department, adding that the department will be adding two officers this year.

--She thanked Mr. Brobst for his work on the budget and thanked him for all that he does.

**Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr.** questioned the large storage pod on Main Street. Chief Kadingo confirmed that they did obtain a permit.

--He said that we are witnessing history having three women occupying council seats. He added that there are four new faces on council some with only a few months' experience. He said he will help guide the herd.

--He asked Mayor Pristash to do a proclamation honoring Thomas Reenock for his 46 years of service to the borough.

Anthony Pristash and Mr. Brobst agreed with Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. in recognizing Thomas Reenock. Mr. Brobst added that he has purchased a watch from Foster's Jewelers for Thomas Reenock honoring his years of service.

--Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. added that he has a lot of respect for the members of the fire department. He added that Keith Piescienski had a hand in training many of the members of the fire department.

--He said that our police department does one hell of a job. They deal with a lot and lately there is just blatant disrespect for police officers. He commended them for their service.

--He also commended our emergency services department adding that they are the best in the valley.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Mr. Brobst congratulated all of the newly elected and reelected officials

--He informed everyone that he and Mayor Pristash have a meeting scheduled with Lori Metz on Wednesday, January 5<sup>th</sup> at 10:00AM to discuss the possibility of her involvement in the plans for the rose/butterfly garden at Canal Street Park.

--He thanked the men and women in uniform.

--He is looking forward to 2022.

**APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

**Motion:** Anthony Lopsonzski, Sr. moved, seconded by Bonnie Almond and unanimously carried to pay the bills as listed on A/P Journal #12C, dated December 20, 2021, totaling \$4,590.28, A/P Journal #12D, dated December 29, 2021 totaling \$134,636.57 and A/P Journal #1 dated January 3, 2022, totaling \$156,069.38.

**ADJOURNMENT:** A motion was made by Kenneth Hall, duly seconded by Bonnie Almond and unanimously carried to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,

Meaghan Case  
Recording Secretary