

I would like to personally thank Louise Campbell for serving as Mayor in 2011 I know that she had many challenges and decisions this past year her guidance on Council was very much appreciated. I would also like to welcome Rovenna Overton as our Deputy Mayor and I look forward to working closely with Mrs. Overton and the entire Council during 2012.

2012 will bring about many changes for our town; we are exciting that in the coming weeks when we will be appointing a new Township Manager. This change has been painstakingly long for all of Council and our decision will be a positive change for Eastampton. We have been fortunate to have the professional services of Mr. George Heuber, and I thank him for continuing on with us until our final decision is announced.

We have felt the pressures of new world economy in our world economy in our personal lives as well as here in Eastampton. We are very lucky because our small town and the entire township staff have been able to plan and react quickly to the changes in state funding and our professionals have guided us with sound advice. Our Police, Public Works Department and Manor House personnel have the resident's best interests and care about this town and I thank them for all they do.

Eastampton has remained strong and resilient through these economic tidal waves without compromising any of our services, I am proud to have been a part of that strategic planning that have kept us from having any layoffs and still providing 24/7 police protection, leaf and branch removal, public parks that are second to none, a summer recreation program, continual improvement on safe walking routes, bicycle lanes and a 15 year plan for residential municipal street maintenance. Most large towns in our area can't boast these accomplishments. Smaller is better and Eastampton residents have a lot to be proud.

My goals for 2012 are to stay the course watch our spending and working within our means financially. We will continually search for economic development opportunities. We will continue our redevelopment planning using the Burlington County Bridge Commission Economic Development Department - who has come to be an intricate part of our redevelopment planning. I would also like to thank the redevelopment Ad-Hoc Committee for their work this past year and for the work that has yet to come in 2012.

I plan on staying the course with our long range plans that were started in 2011, some of which include

- Redevelopment of the Gregory's Site
- Completion of the Monmouth Road Sidewalk project
- The start of the Buttonwood Nature Preserve trail
- Continuing our paving program to maintain our residential streets
- Closely looking for all grant and financial opportunities to enhance our towns infrastructure

I invite you to walk around Eastampton, come and participate in our meetings, volunteer and be part of a proud stable Eastampton. I know that you'll be a proud as I am of our town and its accomplishments.

Keith Nagler, Mayor