

AGENDA

Erie County Council

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Carl Anderson, III, Chairman
Kim Clear, Vice Chairwoman
André R. Horton
Scott Rastetter
Mary Rennie
Ellen Schauerman
Brian Shank

REGULAR MEETING

3:30 P.M. – Council Caucus
4:00 P.M. – Council Meeting

February 16, 2021

Join Via Zoom:

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81559744779?pwd=S1dFOUM0Q1pMdHhpeFJsczUzRERHZz09>
or Call-in: 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 815 5974 4779

Passcode: 021621

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**
 - A. Jeff Bartlett
 - B. Jim Nuber
 - C. Margaret Taylor
 - D. Freda Tepfer
 - E. Margaret Watts
5. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

February 2, 2021 - Regular Meeting
6. **REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS**
 - A. County Executive and/or her Designee
 - B. Finance Committee -Mrs. Clear
 - C. Personnel Committee - Mrs. Rennie
 - D. Other

E. Citations in Memoria

Mr. Colten Brown

Mr. Merle Upperman

Mr. Robert Stroup

7. **OLD BUSINESS**

- A. Second Reading of Ordinance 3, 2021 "Approval of Single Vendor Contract for Court Branch Computer Assisted Legal Research Firm" (Finance Committee)

The Westlaw Court's plan provides an essential and efficient legal research system used by the judges of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas, the judicial law clerks, the Juvenile Court Master, Court Administration personnel, and the Law Librarian. The yearly cost of the Westlaw subscription is budgeted under "Fees and Services" in the 2021 Law Library Budget. The renewal contract will cover a three-year period beginning March 1, 2021 and continuing February 29, 2024.

- B. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 5, 2021 "Elected Officials Salary Ordinance 2022-2025" (Personnel Committee)

Salaries for elected County positions that will appear on the 2021 Primary ballot, must have their salaries set by County Council before the beginning of their terms in 2022. Positions include Council Seats 2, 4 & 6; County Executive, Sheriff, Clerk of Records and Tax Collector (countywide).

- C. Second Reading of Ordinance 6, 2021 "Amending Ordinance 83, 2014 'Revised Fee Schedule in Department of Corrections'" (Finance Committee)

A change to the cost recovery fee charged to inmates, from 75% to 25% of what is deposited in their inmate accounts. Since the 75% charge was instituted, the amount of inmate debt has quadrupled. Lowering the fee will bring added support from families, potentially modifying inmate behavior in a positive way.

8. **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 7, 2021 "Approving a Single Vendor Contract and Renewal of Three Year West Library Maintenance Agreement for County Law Library and Court Library" (Finance Committee)

Since only Thomson Reuters produces this product, a bid process is not viable. This waives that requirement and renews a three-year contract for a West Library Maintenance Agreement, covering the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2024. The agreement includes the collection of the Erie County Law Library and the chamber of libraries of the nine judges of the Erie County Court of Common Pleas.

- B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 8, 2021, "Fourth 2021 General Fund Budget

Supplemental Appropriation of \$102,352 and New Line Item for Late CARES Expenses" (Finance Committee)

Several items which qualified for CARES Funding were held up by production issues: 6,000 boxes of nitrile gloves which would now cost \$166,000 rather than \$78,000, and \$24,352 of furniture for social distancing of Voter Registration. The furniture is needed for the office to function.

- C. First Reading of Ordinance Number 9, 2021, "Fifth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$33,334, New Line Item and Waiver of Bid Requirements for Administration of Community College RACP Grant" (Finance Committee)

The County asked four entities to submit bids on the administrative work of the Community College RACP Grant. Two declined, and the ECRDA number was significantly less than an out of town firm. The waiver is needed because the County did an informal search for an administrator, not a full bid procedure. The ECRDA does have significant experience with RACP Grants.

- D. First Reading of Ordinance Number 10, 2021, "First 2021 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$9,521 for 2020 Balance of Beehive Innovation Network Grant Funds" (Finance Committee)

These funds were targeted in 2020 for the Idea Lab technician, however position doesn't exist now. The Library wishes to use these for their office supply line. Possible Second Reading and Vote.

- E. First Reading of Ordinance Number 11, 2021, " Second 2021 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,000 for ALA Connecting You to Coverage Grant that Lapsed in 2020 Due to COVID 19" (Finance Committee)

These funds were designated for a 2020 event that was canceled by COVID-19. It was rescheduled in January 2021. Second Reading and Vote.

- F. First Reading of Ordinance Number 12, 2021, "2021 Library Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,600 for Elimination of Part-Time Position and Creation of Full Time Position" (Finance Committee)

The Library desires this position to better serve the increased demands for digital products. This would be a Digital Collections Librarian. The position elimination and two vacancies allow most of the costs to be absorbed by the current Library budget.

- G. First Reading of Ordinance 13, 2021 "Assignment of an Administrator for COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program" (Finance Committee)(attached)

The Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has awarded \$3,055,038 in COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recover Grant Funds to the County of Erie to help hotels, motels, restaurants, and bars. Grants in increments of \$5,000 to \$50,000 will be

awarded. A certified CDFI/CEDO must be selected by March 1, 2021 leaving insufficient time for a bidding process as dictated in the Purchasing Code. There are only two within Erie County. Both organizations will be contacted to determine interest and cost. A Special Meeting may be required for this process to unfold and meet the deadline.

- H. Resolution Number 6, 2021 "The Administration, Council and the Community College Board Working in Unity with to Move Community College Funding Forward for the Benefit of the Institution and Erie County Citizens" (Finance Committee)(attached)
Proposes formation of a Multi-Branch Committee to keep open lines of communication and consult with College Board as funding and spending targets are established.
- I. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 03-016-029.0-005.00, Concord Road. (Finance Committee)
An offer of \$250 by Travis and Stephanie Bennett for the parcel (Land lot 268 x 220 x 53.26 - Map Attached) at Concord Rd., Corry, PA 16407. Land would be adjacent to the buyer's current property at 11888 Concord Rd. Other taxing bodies have approved the sale.
- J. Possible reappointment of Caitlyn Strohmeier to a second four-year term to the Erie County Human Relations Commission Advisory Board. This term will expire December 31, 2024. (District 2 - Councilman Horton)(Personnel Committee)
- K. Possible reappointment of Christine Rush to a second five-year term to the Erie County Land Bank. This term will expire December 31, 2025. (District 2 - Councilman Horton)(Personnel Committee)
- L. Possible appointment of Ann Villella to the Erie County Board of Elections to serve until Certification of the May Primary Election (Election Board Chairwoman Rennie) (Personnel Committee)
Since five Members of the Election Board are seeking elected office, the Chairwoman Rennie is appointing an additional Member to bring the Board complement to three.
- M. Possible reappointment of Chief Dan Spizarny, of the Erie City Police Department, to a three-year term to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. Chief Spizarny's initial partial term expired December 31, 2020. This term will expire December 31, 2023. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)
- N. Possible appointment of John Bonnett to as member-at-large to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. Mr. Bonnett would fill the vacancy of Jamie Neumaier, whose

term expired December 31, 2019. This partial term will expire December 31, 2022.
(County Executive)(Personnel Committee)

- O. Possible appointment of Joseph Walko, of the Erie City Fire Department, to a three-year term to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. Mr. Walko will be replacing Mr. Guy Santone. This partial term will expire December 31, 2021. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)
- P. Possible appointment of Jessica Horan-Kunco to a three-year term to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. This term will expire December 31, 2023. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)
- Q. Possible appointment of Ms. Pat Davis, of Edinboro Borough Council, to a three-year term to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. This will be Ms. Davis' first full term. Her partial term expired December 31, 2019. This term will expire December 31, 2022. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)
- R. Possible appointment of Bob Gandley, of Erie County Local Emergency Planning Committee, to a three-year term to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. This term will expire December 31, 2023. (County Executive) (Personnel Committee)
- S. Possible appointment of Andrew Pennock, of West County Emergency Management, to a three-year term to the Public Safety Advisory Committee. He will be filling the unexpired term of Chuck Kanaar. This term will expire December 31, 2021. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)
- T. Possible appointment of Tina M. Freeman to a five-year term to the Erie County Housing Authority Board. Ms. Freeman will represent the City of Corry. She will be replacing Ms. Doris Gernovich, whose term will expire March 31, 2021. This term will expire March 31, 2026. (County Executive)(attached)(Personnel Committee)
- U. Possible reappointment of Ron Jones to a five-year term to the Erie County Industrial Development Authority. This will be Mr. Jones' second full term. This term will expire December 31, 2025. (County Executive)(attached)(Personnel Committee)

9. **ADJOURNMENT**

- A. The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meetings will occur February 25, 2021 at 4:00pm via zoom conference.

The next Regular Meeting of Council will occur March 2, 2021 at 4:00pm. Caucus will begin at 3:30pm.

For social-distancing measures and consistency with CDC Guidelines, meetings will be held via zoom conferencing (zoom.us). Agendas and zoom information available at www.eriecountypa.gov. Call the Council office at 451-6303 for specific inquiries.