

FINANCE COMMITTEE

Erie County Council

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

4:00 PM

February 25, 2021

Join Via Zoom:

Online at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86009123615?pwd=MGFvTG9BdGJLV1lOUZaT1F5VWw1IzZ09>

Or Call-in: 1-929-205-6099

Meeting ID: 860 0912 3615

Passcode: 022521

FINANCE AGENDA

1. 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" (Rec'd 1st Reading 2/16/21)
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.
2. Ordinance Number _____ "2021 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$12,020 for Temporary Increase In Wages and Hours for Acting Director of Public Health"
Since the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, the current Department of Health Director has been acting as Commander on the County COVID response. As such, the Acting Director has needed to take on a portion of the Director's duties and is also managing the Tobacco Control Program Supervisory position in the absence of said supervisor. The request for temporary salary increase to step "E" grade 20, would be retroactive to January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. From a vacancy in positions, there would be funds in the bureau 018015 line to increase with no additional cost to the County.
3. Ordinance Number _____, 2021, "_____ 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$15,753 To Reinstate Grant Revenue Reduced In the 2021 Budget Process"
During the 2021 County Budget (November 17, 2020), Council took action to reduce all non-essential supplies in all departments across the county by 5% and 10% across all county department overtime. The Erie County Department of Health was reduced by a collective \$15,753.00 in grant funded bureaus. These

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funds will be collected in full through reimbursement from federal and PADOH agencies, and as such are being requested that the funds be reinstated.

4. Ordinance Number _____, 2021, "_____ 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$343,795 for the Creation of the ELC Cares Covid-19 Funds Department.
These EL Cares Grant funds are for the 2021; another \$38,537 will come in 2022 for the total allotment of \$382,333. These funds are to be administered through the "Health Preparedness Bureau of the Health Department. They are to use for activities related to surveillance and mitigation of the "disease".
5. Ordinance Number _____, 2021, "_____ 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,055,038 for Covid-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program and Creation of New Department"
Erie County was awarded grant funds to be distributed to eligible business as defined in Act 1 of 2021 to alleviate revenue losses and pay eligible operating expenses due to COVID-19 pandemic. An administrator of funds (Erie County Redevelopment Authority) was name on February 23, 2021. Applications will be processed and the block grant funds will be disbursed until exhausted or the date of June 15, 2021, whichever occurs first.
6. Ordinance Number ___, 2021 "An Ordinance of the County of Erie ("the County") Authorizing and Directing the Execution and Delivery of a Guaranty Agreement for the Benefit of Pleasant Ridge Manor ("Pleasant Ridge")and Compliance with the Provisions Thereof and Incurring Non-electoral Debt Thereby; Approving a \$700,000 Letter of Credit Agreement from Pleasant Ridge to First National Bank of Pennsylvania; Directing the Proper Officers of the County to Take Necessary Actions; and Repealing All Inconsistent Ordinances"
This letter of Credit is a very inexpensive financial backstop for the Pleasant Ridge Manor Workers Compensation program. It has been done for many years. If the instrument is unused, it is paid back immediately.
7. Ordinance Number _____, 2021, "_____ 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$149,228 for Second Year Allotment of PCCD Covid Relief Grant and Creation of New Department"
Amount presented is a combined total of carryover (\$82,731.47) from 2020 statewide grant Erie was awarded and additional award from 2021 (\$66,497).

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Items include mostly PPE, a COVID testing machine, testing kits, COVID related overtime, Zoom, and monitors for Probation Offices.

8. Resolution Number ___, 2021 "A Resolution Establishing A Property Assessed Clean Energy Program In The County Of Erie And Taking And Authorizing Other Action In Connection Therewith"

The C-PACE program provides for the financing of energy and water conservation improvements for commercial, agricultural, and industrial properties except for residential properties which are currently excluded if the County agrees to certain administrative covenants and procedures for the tracking of affected properties and collection of taxes. Chester, Northampton and Lehigh passed similar resolutions in 2019. The Chamber, Building Trades and others are supportive. Council first reviewed this at the Finance Committee on January 14, 2021.

9. Analysis of General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance

If the all ordinances on the agenda pass the estimated Unassigned General Fund Balance is \$42,110,909. It is 22,909,443 above the estimated \$19,116,466 needed for two months of County expenditures and transfers.