

MINUTES

Erie County Council

View More At
www.eriecountypa.gov



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

SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, February 23, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Councilwoman Schauerman led the optional invocation: Your past does not determine who you are, your past prepares you for who you are to become.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chairman Anderson; Vice Chairman Clear; Mr. Horton;
Mr. Rastetter; Mrs. Rennie; Mrs. Schauerman; Mr. Shank

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, James Sparber, Tracey Fugagli,
Thomas Talarico; Nicole Inan; Amy Swartzfager

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Amy Murdock, Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership: Ms. Murdock thanked Council for their support in consideration of the agenda item. The Chamber advocated to the state delegation to get to businesses as soon as possible. The business and hospitality industries are in much need of extra financial support. She stated there is a 28% small business closure in the region.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING -- NONE

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

None to be heard.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance 13, 2021 "Assignment of an Administrator for COVID- 19 Hospitality Industry

Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance 13, 2021 "Assignment of an Administrator for COVID-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program." This was motioned by Mrs. Clear & Seconded by Mr. Horton.
Mr. Smith clarified that the Ordinance will need to be amended to assign the

**Recovery Program" (Rec'd Administrator and the rate.
1st Reading 2/16/21)**

Councilman Shank asked for clarification of where \$400 per application originated. Chairman Anderson stated that under the program guidelines it allows for the administrator to charge between \$300 to \$500 per application for administrative fee. Chairman Anderson and Tina Mengine concur that the fees are submitted off of the grant and the grantee is not charged. Confirmed by Amy Swartzfager, CPA.

Motion to amend by Councilwoman Clear to include the Enterprise Development Center of Erie County at a rate of \$400/application per approved; Seconded by Councilwoman Schauerman.

Councilman Horton reminded that the solicitor is available for clarification. Attorney Talarico confirms the amendment is proper.

Vote on amendment: 7 to 0

Mr. Smith inquired if there will be a contract for services. Attorney Talarico feels like the 2 page attached exhibit can suffice. Application should have a contract with applicant. Tina Mengine confirmed that each person would fill out a grant agreement and the ECRDA is amenable to contact direct contract with County if requested. Jim Sparber of Finance stated that County is responsible for the application and to work with the CDFI/CEDO. Mr. Horton and Mr. Chuck Crane both agree they feel the two page letter will suffice.

Ms. Mengine - would like to roll out next week. Still modifying application. Advertising online.

Chairwoman Clear suggested utilizing Melissa Dixon to put information on the Erie County Website.

Ms. Mengine shared that the last time (hospitality plus) helped nearly 280 businesses. The second emergency round was 100 businesses. She encourages businesses to get the applications in early because the funds will disperse quickly.

Chairman Anderson thanked the Administration and Mr. Sparber and Procurement Office Director Chuck Crane in the work they have done. He thanked Tina Mengine for the further explanations. It is important to let the tax payers of Erie County know they are receiving the fiscal accountability and responsibility that Council was elected to do. Proud to allow a local business to disseminate the funds and get them out to the businesses quickly.

On Ordinance 13, as amended, passed 7 to 0.

NEW BUSINESS --- NONE

ADJOURN Councilman Shank moved to adjourn at 4:42pm.

MENT

Meeting available

at: <https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/gIIEJcbpizeYiXmZjfnFCJjDjSFTn0b5656IgSufTweBpVVY507hlFqHoKNjPPac.VAqRmA26NAewNbgB> Passcode: 2@+p*iU9

**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.**