

MINUTES

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 MINUTES

Tuesday, March 2, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Councilwoman Schauerman led the optional invocation: We come to you this hour asking for your blessing and to help us as we gather together. We pray for guidance in the matters at hand, and ask that you would clearly show us how to conduct your work with the spirit of joy and enthusiasm.

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

Jim Nuber, IBEW Local 56 Mr. Nuber is from the City of Erie. He is the Business Manager at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, Local Union 56 in Erie. He represents a total of 225 journeymen electricians. Members of IBEW 56 graduate from a 5 year apprenticeship program as registered with the State of Pennsylvania. Members work in the area as Neca Electrical Contractors. He has been working with various organization for the past year to establish a C-PACE, and shared his enthusiasm for Council's consideration. Neca contractors recognize the potential C-PACE projects to increase property values and employment opportunities, and decrease energy consumption for commercial real estate. They anticipate that energy efficiency upgrades facilitated by C-

PACE will improve the experiences of businesses currently working in Erie County as well as attract new tenants who are seeking out a sustainable high tech facility. Improvements can include high efficiency lighting, building automation n controls, windows, plumbing, HVAC systems and many other creative solutions to improve commercial buildings and reduce energy consumption. He voiced that a strength of C-PACE is that it is market driven, and financed by private lenders not the tax payers. Respectfully requests a "yes" vote.

**Jeff Bartlett, Western PA
NECA**

Mr. Bartlett is from North East Township, representing Keystone Electric; employing between 75-100 Union Electricians in the Erie Area. He also serves as the Neca Local Representative. In 40 years of his career, he has watched industries trying to get to energy saving; however many cannot afford the infrastructure. He states the C-PACE program will help finance. He concurred with Mr. Nuber in that a major strength of this program is that it is financed by private lenders, not the taxpayers. He asked Council to support this endeavor.

Other

Mike Mahler, City of Erie; Co-editor for Erie Gay News (EGN) and active with various other LGTB Organizations. Erie County has had protection that includes sexual orientation and gender identity since 2002. This protection does not exist at the federal and state levels. Respectfully requests the support of Council and the County Executive in supporting the Equality Act Resolution. Thanked Mrs. Clear and Mr. Anderson for their support in this endeavor.

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS MEETING**

Councilman Rastetter moved to approve both sets of minutes from February 16, 2021 and February 23, 2021 in one motion; seconded by Councilwoman Clear; Minutes passed 7 -0.

**February 16, 2021 -
Regular Meeting**

**February 23, 2021 - Special
Meeting**

**REPORTS OF COUNTY
OFFICIALS**

**County Executive and/or
her Designee**

None to be heard.

**Finance Committee -Mrs.
Clear**

Finance Chairwoman Clear reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, February 25th and submit for the agenda Old Business item A, and

New Business items A through H.

**Personnel Committee -
Mrs. Rennie**

Personnel Chairwoman Rennie reported that the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, February 25th and submit for the agenda Old Business item B.

Other

COVID Impact & Economic Revitalization Committee Chairwoman Schauerman reported that the Committee has been reaching out; however, it has been met with negative feedback. Although the purpose is to educate and encourage the community to get their vaccinations, it seems that the team has been met with comments in regard to leaving this up the experts. Many people did not return phone calls. She reported that a number of Council Members have received their vaccination. There was some feedback that this may have been a publicity stunt for some political gain, and even with assurance, and continue to not be interested. Mrs. Schauerman reported they are not going forward.

Citations in Memoria

**Mr. John Oregia
(Councilman Shank)
Mrs. Lois Owens
(Chairman Anderson)
Attorney William Scarpitti,
Jr. (Chairman Anderson)
Mrs. Virginia Sundberg
(Chairman Anderson)**

Chairman Anderson welcomed the families of the individuals being honored. He Asked Mr. Smith to read all citations into the record this evening.

Councilman Shank spoke on behalf of Mr. Oregia: He was a well-respected man in the community. Brian thanked Mr. Oregia for his service as a volunteer fire police officer in Harborcreek, even at age 90. He named him as a great mentor and a veteran who loved his country and community. Mr. Shank shared a personal story on his behalf.

Mr. John D. Oregia (1927-2021)

WHEREAS, John Oregia passed from this world on February 18, 2021 at the age of 93 years. John was born on July 2, 1927 to the late Joseph and Marie Manning Oregia, in Homer, PA; John called Erie home most of his life; and WHEREAS, John served this country as a Navyman, serving in World War II. He was employed with Interstate Motor Company for 35 years, and then retired from Hardinger Transfer Company in 1989; and

WHEREAS, John served as a lifelong member of the Harborcreek Fire Department, and served as the Captain of the Fire Police. He previously served as a member of the Fairfield Hose Company. John was a founding member of the Special Deputy Sheriff's and worked with them for many years. He greatly enjoyed volunteering in the Harborcreek community, especially his many years of devoted service in township park security; and

WHEREAS, In addition to his parents, John was preceded in death by his brother, James Oregia. He is survived by his loving wife of 72 years, Arlene Gehrlein Oregia, one daughter, Valerie Heinrich and husband, Edward of Harborcreek, four sons, David and wife, Jacklyn of Harborcreek, Dale and wife,

Tina of Erie, Daniel and friend, Amee of Harborcreek, and Donald and wife, Susan of Youngtown, Ohio, four sisters, Mary Lou Frock of Erie, Martha Amsden of Akron, Ohio, Margaret Sprow of Pittsburgh, and Sally Johnson of Waynesburg, Pa. and one brother Joseph Oregia, of Millcreek. He is further survived by 12 grandchildren, 34 great-grandchildren, three great-great grandchildren, as well as many nieces and nephews. His good grace will be missed by the parishioners of North Harbor Baptist Church; and
 NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join Councilman Brian Shank in celebrating the life of John D. Oregia, a man who dedicated his life to serving his community and country. May he rest in peace.
 IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 2nd day of March, 2021.

Chairman Anderson spoke on behalf of Mrs. Owens: Anyone that knew Lois, could not help but be brought in by her friendliness and smile. She was an inspiration to people in living life and living it to its fullest. Mr. Anderson worked beside Lois in the Erie School District with community projects he was involved in. She was the Secretary to that Board for the School District for many years, and served that body so honorably. She will be missed Erie wide.

Mrs. Lois Elaine Owens (1937 - 2021)

WHEREAS, Lois Owens passed from this world on February 10, 2021 at the age of 83 years. Lois was born on September 7, 1937, to the late Harvey and Neva Stafford Rathbun, in Erie PA; and

WHEREAS, Lois graduated from Academy High School in 1955. In school, she sang in the chorus, played the violin in the orchestra, and was an accomplished pianist; and

WHEREAS, Lois worked as the Board Secretary for the Erie School District for many years. Lois sang in the choir at Bethel Baptist Church, enjoyed jazz music, and often listened to "Super Soul Saturdays." She enjoyed aerobics and Zumba, had a passion for fashion, and worked to raise money for several local charities; and

WHEREAS, Lois' incredible kindness toward others, her sense of humor, and unending love of her family will be sorely missed. In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her son, Gregory Owens. She is survived by her faithful husband of 63 years, Richard Owens, her sister, Mary Alice Rathbun, daughter, Lisa Owens Viani and son, Craig Owens. Lois has two beloved grandchildren, Amanda and Jonathan Owens; and

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Lois Elaine Owens, a woman whose warmth, good nature and love for her family, friends, and community will be

deeply missed. May she rest in peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 2nd day of March, 2021.

Chairman Anderson spoke on behalf of Atty. Scarpitti: Anyone involved in community service or politics in Erie County, more than likely have had some contact with Attorney Scarpitti. If anything is a testament to someone's life, it is what their children and grandchildren do to honor them; William's daughter, Alison (on the call) has too chosen the path of law, with the mentorship of her father. Mr. Anderson offered his sympathies to Alison, naming Attorney Scarpitti as a living legend in Erie. Chairman commented to Ms. Scarpitti how her dedication is much like that of her fathers.

Attorney William F. Scarpitti, Jr. (1946-2021)

WHEREAS, William Scarpitti, Jr. passed from this world on February 17, 2021 at the age of 74 years. William was born on April 12, 1946 to Dr. William F. Scarpitti and Margaret Mary (O'Connell) Scarpitti; and

WHEREAS, William followed in the faith of his grandfather, Reverend Fortunato Scarpitti, who was the founding pastor of Holy Trinity Lutheran Church; William served as an altar boy at St. Peter's Cathedral as a child. He graduated from Cathedral Prep in 1964 and went on to pursue a Bachelor of Arts degree in History from Gannon (College) University; and

WHEREAS, William served in the United States Army as a medic with the 101st Airborne Division in Vietnam, where he was promoted to Captain and awarded the Bronze Star; and

WHEREAS, after returning from serving his country, William was accepted into the Dickinson School of Law, where he graduated with honors and earned his Juris Doctorate Degree. William began practicing law with his Uncle, Attorney Richard Scarpitti, who served as his mentor. He had an avid interest in history and politics and was involved with several campaigns and with the Democratic Party in Erie. William practiced in several areas of law, but for much of his career, he was truly at home in the courtroom, enthusiastically persuading the jury to acquit his client. He was appointed by the Courts as a Guardian Ad Litem for abused and neglected children, protecting the interests of those most vulnerable. William retired from law in 2014; and

WHEREAS, William's greatest passion was that of his domestic role of husband for 35 years and father of two promising daughters, Alison and Sara. He was involved in both of his daughter's educations and social interests – recitals, travels, skiing, and coaching soccer. Years later, he carried on that love and devotion as a proud grandfather to Sadie Jane; and

WHEREAS, in addition to his parents, William was preceded in death by his loving wife, Susan Jean Biletnikoff. He is survived by his daughters Alison Scarpitti and Sara (Andrew) Kavanaugh; and one granddaughter, Sadie Jane. He is also survived by many friends and family who share in the joyous memories

of William's spirit; and

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join Chairman Carl Anderson, III, in celebrating the life of Attorney William Scarpitti, Jr., a man who embodied the ideals upon which America was founded - dedicating his life to this community, our country, and as a guiding light to his family and friends. May he rest in peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 2nd day of March, 2021.

Chairman Anderson spoke on behalf of Mrs. Sundberg: Anyone interested in education, community service, or politics, knew Ginny Sundberg or members of the family. He sent heartfelt sympathies to the family. Councilwoman Clear offered that she has known the Sundberg Family for about 15 years. They are the most loving and giving people. She offered her deepest sympathies and honored to have them in our community.

Mrs. Virginia Lee Sundberg (1930-2021)

WHEREAS, Virginia Lee "Ginny" Sundberg met her heavenly father on February 15, 2021 at the age of 90 years. Ginny was born on November 27, 1930 to the late James and Florence Marsh, in Erie, PA; and

WHEREAS, Ginny was a graduate of Strong Vincent High School, class of 1949. She continued her education at Grove City College, where she began the Orientation Committee, was a member of Sigma Theta Chi Sorority, was the Pan Hellenic Association Vice President, and was instrumental in the growth of the Buhl Library. She graduated in 1953; and

WHEREAS, Ginny taught math at Gridley Elementary until taking time to raise her family. She became a member of Wayside Presbyterian Church, participated in the Naomi Circle, sang in the choir, helped with Vacation Bible School, served as an elder and deacon and was a Sunday school teacher. After 20 years as a financial bookkeeper for Dr. Jack Utley's Orthodontics Office, Ginny retired; and

WHEREAS, Ginny's commitment to Erie County was unparalleled, devoting her time serving on the Sarah A. Reed Senior Board and Children's Center Boards from 1996-2011, serving as President in 2004-2005 and on the Finance Committee for most of her term. She was a 20 year member and past President of the Fairview Garden Club, volunteered with the Hamot Aide Society for 20 years, and served as Treasurer of the Hamot Health Foundation Board from 2001 to 2011 and was instrumental in creating the Medical Education Fund. Ginny received the Barbara F. Junker Community Service Award in 2015 for her service to the Fairview School District; and

WHEREAS, Ginny was a true matriarch, balancing her active civic contributions with her true passion of supporting her family. She shared great joy in gathering her entire family for weekly Sunday dinner, attending sporting events of her children, grandchildren, and great-grandchildren, and never missing the

recognition of a friend or family member's birthday by sending a card. Ginny was an avid reader, and borrowed over 300 books from the Lincoln Community Center Library since its inception in fall of 2009; and
 WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, Ginny was preceded in death by her husband, Eugene C. Sundberg, Sr. in 1987, and her brother-in-law, Carl Sundberg. She is survived by her five children and their families: Keith and Barbara Sundberg, Karen Sundberg, Eugene and Jami Sundberg Jr., Kurt and Linda Sundberg, and Kristen and Michael Kenosh; 14 grandchildren: Karen (Andrew) Potocki, David (Kylie) Sundberg, Jill (Matthew) McGill, Kristen (Aaron) Taylor, Matthew (Elizabeth) Sundberg, Brian (Elizabeth) Sundberg, Kathryn Sundberg (fiancé Nic Jones), Michael (Jessica) Sundberg, Jack Sundberg, Kendall Sundberg, Nicholas Sundberg, Andrew Kenosh, Thomas Kenosh and Brady Kenosh; 12 great-grandchildren: Katherine, Ethan and Collin Potocki, LeRoy, Rhett and Noel Sundberg, Madeline, Elizabeth and Josephine McGill, Charles and Ean Taylor, and Grant Sundberg; her siblings: Linda Lorah, Ritchie T (Mary) Marsh, and James E. (Mardith) Marsh, Jr. She was a sister-in-law to Wilda Sundberg, Lee (Janice) Sundberg and Adina Morehouse. She leaves behind several dearly loved nieces and nephews as well; and
 NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Virginia "Ginny" Sundberg, a woman whose soulful good nature and love for her family, friends, and community will be deeply missed. May she rest in peace.

Chairman Anderson spoke on behalf of Coach Bill Flaherty: Chairman naming Mr. Flaherty as a friend and mentor. Dr. Bill Garvey once commented "Bill Flaherty was perhaps the second best coach in all of Erie County (of course next to himself)." Chairman Anderson gave personal reference, stating his children too had the honor of being coached and taught by him. He went on to share a personal story of Mr. Flaherty's interaction with his daughter, Autumn. Sympathies to the Flaherty family on behalf of Mr. Anderson's entire family go out.

William J. Flaherty, Jr. (1943-2021)

WHEREAS, William "Bill" Flaherty, Jr. passed from this world on February 25, 2021 at the age of 78 years. Bill was born on January 30, 1943 the late William and Myrtle (Smith) Flaherty, in Erie, PA; and

WHEREAS, Bill was a lifelong resident of Erie, graduating from Cathedral Preparatory School in 1960. Bill dedicated most of his professional career to educating and coaching; contributing to the development and character building of hundreds of youth he worked with over the years; and

WHEREAS, Bill coached basketball for over thirty years, from grade school to high school varsity. During his thirteen years as head coach at Cathedral Prep, his 1980 Ramblers team won Erie's first ever state championship. Bill was

inducted into the Northwestern PA Sports Hall of Fame and the Cathedral Prep Hall of Fame in 1994. He was the founding director of Grandview and Great Lakes Camps for Boys and Girls and was co-founder of the McDonald's Charity Basketball Classic; and

WHEREAS, Bill served as the esteemed coach of the Ramblers, then went on to work in the consulting and accounting fields until his retirement. Throughout his career he also served on many local, state and regional boards. Above all, Bill valued time with his family, gardening, and traveling. Among his favorite past times was watching his own children and grandchildren pursue their own athletic achievements; and

WHEREAS, Bill came out of retirement to teach and coach at Mercyhurst Prep and be part of a father-son team, as his son Pat Flaherty led the Mercyhurst Prep boys' basketball team. Pat taking great mentorship from his father, has reached a 300 career winning record of his own as he now leads the Fairview Tigers; and

WHEREAS, Bill is survived by his wife Maryann and his brother Mike (Ruth). He was the proud father of Stephen (Amy), Sarah (Kevin), Nora (Ray) and Patrick (Natalie) and devoted grandfather of Mariah, Declan, Jane, Sarah, Henry, and Charlie. He is also survived by many nieces, nephews, and cousins. They are joined by the Rambler Community Family who share in the memories of a great coach and mentor; and

WHEREAS, Bill shared a special relationship with so many Erie families, including that of Council Chairman Carl Anderson, III, as a friend and mentor to Chairman Anderson's daughter, Autumn Anderson, and as a teacher and coach to his son, Carl Anderson IV. His spirit for living, expectation achievement, and kindness to people, will never be forgotten; and

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join Chairman Carl Anderson, III, in celebrating the life of William J. Flaherty, Jr., a man who stood for integrity, leadership, and heart. May he rest in peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 2nd day of March, 2021.

Chairman Anderson spoke on behalf of Ms. Corinne Farina: He recognized her relationship as Aunt with former Councilwoman Kathy Fatica.

Mrs. Corinne V. (Adams) Farina (1925 - 2021)

WHEREAS, Corinne Farina departed this world on February 28, 2021 at the age of 95 years. Corrine was born on May 30, 1925 to the late Roy and Ida (Quinlisk) Adams, in Erie, PA; and

WHEREAS, Corrine was a graduate of Academy High School, class of 1943, and always known as "Teenie"; and

WHEREAS, Corrine worked as a dispatcher on the Repair Wheel at General

Telephone & Electronics Corporation (GTE) until her retirement in 1989; and WHEREAS, Corrine enjoyed bowling, dominoes, and cooking for her family – welcoming all to family spaghetti night; and WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, Corinne was preceded in death by her loving husband of 52 years, Andrew M. Farina; a daughter Sue Bernardini; an infant grandson, Ryan Dudley; four brothers, Kenneth, Donald, John, and Edward Adams and two sisters; Helen "Bootsie" Nordin and Margaret "Peggy" Fitzgerald. She is survived by three daughters, Judy Burkevich (Joe) of Ariz.; Bonnie Bowman (Jeff) of Erie and Cheryl Dudley (Richard) of Texas; a son, Andrew D. Farina (Michele) of Erie; a sister, Sue Weist of Erie along with nine grandchildren and 20 great-grandchildren; and NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join former Councilwoman Kathy Fatica in celebrating the life of her aunt, Mrs. Corinne V. Farina, a woman whose smile lit up a room, and whose heart touched all. May she rest in peace. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 2nd day of March, 2021.

Chairman Anderson addressed the families of those being honored in memoria, offering thoughts and prayers from all of Council. He thanked the families for joining the meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

Second 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" (Rec'd 1st Reading 2/16/21)(Finance Committee)	Mr. Smith gave a Second 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." Councilwoman Clear moved to Amend the Ordinance to reflect: 1. Under "Be It Enacted": "...for the selection of the Erie County Redevelopment Authority as an Administrator..." 2. Under "Be it Enacted": "...on the attached Exhibit A & B" - This will reflect the contract with the Redevelopment Authority. 3. Addition of: "BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, that the intent of the grant funds is for the Erie County Community College (ECCC) as beneficiary. To assure the autonomy and independence of the
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Erie County Community College Board of Trustees (ECCC-BOT):

1. **The County Administration will affect or cause to affect the designation of the Erie County Community College as the sub-grantee of the RACP funds especially the immediate amendment of the RACP Grant application in the Governor's grant office so that it reflects the ECCC as sub-grantee.**
2. **The ECCC-BOT shall maintain the authority to select Administrators, Contractors, and Facilitators as required to carry out the duties associated with the RACP grant; following all program guidelines.**
3. **Promote collaboration and unity within County government by appointing the Erie County Redevelopment Authority (ECRDA) as an administrator which will work in tandem with the ECCC-BOT and any service providers the Board chooses.**
4. **Through additional agreement and collaboration the ECRDA and ECCC-BOT will work together to define the roles of each particular entity; as envisioned by ECCC-BOT and when needed enter in to agreements with administrators hired by ECCC-BOT.**
5. **ECCC-BOT will maintain full authority to determine location of the college and responsibility for site-search and related college plans."**

4. Strike out the first paragraph of Exhibit B page 2 under Proposed Compensation.

Seconded by Councilwoman Schauerman. Amendment of language passed 5 to 2; Mr. Horton & Mrs. Rennie voting no. The Ordinance, as amended, passed 7 to 0.

**Second 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" (Rec'd
1st Reading
2/16/21)(Personnel**

Mr. Smith gave a Second 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." This was moved by Ellen Schauerman, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 6 - 1 vote.

Committee)

NEW BUSINESS

Councilwoman Clear moved to Amend the Agenda to move items B, C, D, & E to Second Readings; Seconded by Councilman Horton; passed 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 14, 2021 "2021 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$12,020 for Temporary Increase In Wages and Hours for Acting Director of Public Health" (Finance Committee) Mr. Smith gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 14, 2021 "2021 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$12,020 for Temporary Increase In Wages and Hours for Acting Director of Public Health"

First Reading of Ordinance Number 15, 2021, "Second 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$15,753 To Reinstate Grant Revenue Reduced In the 2021 Budget Process" (Finance Committee) Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 15, 2021, "Second 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$15,753 To Reinstate Grant Revenue Reduced In the 2021 Budget Process" This was moved by Ellen Schauerma, seconded by André Horton.

Councilman Horton emphasized that during the budget review for the County, Council took all of the measures possible to have a balanced budget. At that time there was much conversation about this, and those grant allocations were in fact decreased. As he said then, it is never a good idea to send back grant monies. He is pleased to see this on the agenda, as it may have been something that should not have been touched in the first place.

Vote carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Chairman Anderson clarified for the public, that Council addresses Ordinances in two readings; many times moving an item to a Second. The majority of times this is done with revenues coming in. Resolutions are presented in one reading. Many times by the time Members get to the meeting, parties have agreed or are aware of stances.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 16, 2021, "Third 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 16, 2021, "Third 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$343,795 for the Creation of the ELC Cares Covid-19 Funds Department." This was moved by André Horton, seconded by Kim Clear.

Appropriation of \$343,795

for the Creation of the ELC Cares Covid-19 Funds Department" (Finance Committee)

Councilman Horton thanked Director Lyon, Nurse Berringer, and the entire Health Department for their hard work, and under very little State guidance. He offered that he has met with Dr. Clark and Representatives from UPMC Hamot and they were full of compliments and gratitude for all the work being done in the Health Department.

Ordinance carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 17, 2021, "Sixth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,055,038 for Covid-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program and Creation of New Department" (Finance Committee)

Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 17, 2021, "Sixth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,055,038 for Covid-19 Hospitality Industry Recovery Program and Creation of New Department" and the Agenda sub-description on the Agenda: "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 named 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."

This was moved by Ellen Schauerman, seconded by André Horton.

Councilwoman Clear voiced her enthusiasm. She thanked the Redevelopment Authority for their organization in this matter. She stated that previously they were able to help so many businesses and feels this is a great extension of that effort.

Councilman Shank echoed Mrs. Clear's comments. He is proud to be able to distribute these funds to local businesses.

Chairman Anderson congratulated Council and the Administration in being able to bring some relief to small businesses in the Erie community. He pointed out that the State has been presenting these business grants within very small windows of time. He appreciates ECRDA stepping forward to act as an active CDFI. The only other CDFI available in the area is through the Erie Gaming and Revenue Authority (Bridgeway), who was unable to consider this undertaking at this time.

Ordinance carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 18, 2021 "An Ordinance of the County of Erie

Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 18, 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

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 Nonelectoral 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" (Finance Committee)	Ridge Manor ("Pleasant Ridge")and Compliance with the Provisions Thereof and Incurring Nonelectoral 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 was moved by Kim Clear, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.
First Reading of Ordinance Number 19, 2021, "Seventh 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$149,228 for Second Year Allotment of PCCD Covid Relief Grant and Creation of New Department" (Finance Committee)	Mr. Smith gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 19, 2021, "Seventh 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$149,228 for Second Year Allotment of PCCD Covid Relief Grant and Creation of New Department"
Resolution Number 7, 2021 "A Resolution Establishing A Property Assessed Clean Energy Program In The County Of Erie And Taking And Authorizing Other Action In Connection Therewith" (Finance Committee)	Mr. Smith gave a Reading of Resolution Number 7, 2021 "A Resolution Establishing A Property Assessed Clean Energy Program In The County Of Erie And Taking And Authorizing Other Action In Connection Therewith." This was moved by Kim Clear, seconded by André Horton. Councilwoman Rennie offered her enthusiasm about this project. She feels that there is much assessed value of commercial assessed clean energy, across many platforms - improve building values, improved property values, energy efficiency, local jobs, and more jobs. The only issue she has with the Resolution is that County Council is the final approver; seems harmless but unorthodox and unnecessary.

Councilman Horton is equally enthused. He stated there is much talk about clean energy, climate change, infrastructure, the need to go green, and blight. Won't come as a cost to tax payers. The responsibility stays with the building owner. He echoes Mrs. Rennie's comments.

Councilman Shank is enthused about bringing new jobs to the area, especially in the area of trades. He supports cutting energy and conserving energy. He encourages looking at energy efficient home options.

Chairwoman Clear echoed the comments of all, and voiced her enthusiasm.

Chairman Anderson echoed the excitement for this progressive opportunity on showing community how there are other ways on gaining revenue and gaining tax base in a very efficient manner. He addressed the individuals who had worked so diligently on the project; however, he reaffirmed that it is Council's duty to look at everything and make sure the most fiscally responsible choices are being made. He thanked Attorney Talarico, CPA Swartzfager, Lynn Armel, and the Planning Department for their due diligence.

Resolution carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Resolution Number 8, 2021
"Joining Together In
Unity, With Compassion,
Fairness, Justice And
Equality As The Basis For
Our Democratic Form Of
Government And With The
Protection Of All Civil
Rights We Urge Congress
To Enact The Equality Act
Swiftly Into Law" (Finance
Committee) (Attached)**

Mr. Smith gave a Reading of Resolution Number 8, 2021 "Joining Together In Unity, With Compassion, Fairness, Justice And Equality As The Basis For Our Democratic Form Of Government And With The Protection Of All Civil Rights We Urge Congress To Enact The Equality Act Swiftly Into Law." This was moved by Ellen Schauerma, seconded by André Horton.

Councilwoman Clear shared that as a teacher at McDowell, and the Advisor for the Gay/Straight Alliance there, she is glad to support this. She often sees students who seek to feel safe and accepted. She strongly urges the description of equality in the US (specifically State and Federal regulations) to conform. She stated she is proud to tell students that we are all different, and that different is okay.

Councilman Shank emphasized the phrase "We the People," reiterating the "We."

Councilman Horton expressed the pride he shares with his colleagues in supporting equal rights in Erie County. Erie was the first in the State to enact any equality language, both LGTBQ and criminally. He voiced the Constitution should work for everyone. He also thank Mike Mahler for assisting him in education in this area. He continues to encourage equity.

Chairman Anderson compared the makeup of Council, and their representations of 7 different districts which represent varied make up of Erie County, to this act. Together there may be much difference, but together form an entirety. Proud to be able to collaborate for the best of Erie County. He complimented Mayor Schember's efforts and leadership in bringing light to the LTGBQ+ of Erie County.

Resolution carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Anderson thanked the County Council staff (Doug, Nicole, & Jill) for the work done daily.

Mr. Shank moved to adjourn at 5:45pm.

View this meeting at: https://us02web.zoom.us/rec/share/WhCml2JXmLjeK-iG5NFS2L70fIdVdkui5r4ctPz8BqQB7u6tanpbjxxtjz2_hbZL.40-RbwmgWVuFhECH Passcode: W=i57+Xp

The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meetings will occur March 11, 2021 at 4:00pm via zoom conference.

The next Regular Meeting of Council will occur March 16, 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.