

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

Tuesday, June 8, 2021

Join Via Zoom:

Online: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83690515383?pwd=Y2VxQndzbmNGcGJZYXdVUjhMWVhpdz09>

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

Meeting ID: 836 9051 5383

Passcode: 060821

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**
5. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

May 25, 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

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Resolution Number 10, 2021 "Approving A Professional Services Contract For Zelenkofske & Axelrod, Certified Public Accountants For Consultation On Pandemic Related State And Federal Funding" (Tabled 3/16/21)

Item was tabled owing to conflict of interest concerns. ZA is the currently the County's Auditing firm. Hiring them to provide advice in the funding arena sets up a scenario wherein they" review their own advice". Council has asked the Administration to explore other firms for this service.

- B. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 26, 2021, "Fifth 2021 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$105,500 for Libraries' Historic Newspaper Digitization Project and Approval of a 6 Year Purchase Agreement with NEWSBANK" (Finance Committee)(1st Reading 4/6/21) (Tabled 5-4-21)

The Library desires a six-year agreement with the NEWSBANK Company, which OWNS the rights to historic Erie newspapers going back from 1888 to 1994. This contract will provide purchase of a perpetual license for Erie County's rights to this material. Council has concerns over the lack of a clear and precise contract between the parties; something that protects the County's investment.

- C. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 27, 2021, "Ninth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$105,500 for Library's Historic Newspaper Digitization Project" (Finance Committee)(1st Reading 4/6/21) (Tabled 5-4-21)

This is a companion to the previous ordinance showing the General Fund side of the financial transaction. This item was also tabled on 5-4-21 due to the lack of a clear and concise contract between parties. The Administration has not pursued such an instrument.

- D. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 43, 2021, "Sixteenth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$300,776 and New Line for Demolition of Former PRM East Building" (First Read 5-25-21)(Finance Committee)

The County had a public bid process to find a firm to handle the demolition of this now empty building. a local firm, Empire Excavation & Demo Inc had the low bid of \$294,000. The firm has agreed to remove asbestos floor tiles, and roofing, flashing compounds prior to demolition.

- E. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 44, 2021 "2021 Children and Youth Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$811,466 for Creation of 29 New Positions Approved in the State's Needs Based Budget" (First Read 5-25-21)(Personnel Committee)

In October 2020 the State redefined the type of "referrals" that require investigation by OCY, as a result there has been a 30% increase in caseload. The State has approved these positions so Erie County may provide the the of oversight and attention required by PA Human Services. There are no County funds in this request.

- F. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 45, 2021, "Seventeenth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$19,953 for Creation of New Position in the Erie County Prison" (First Read 5-25-21)(Personnel Committee)

The creation of this NB5 Clerical position would primarily be responsible for inmate mail and the inmate tablet program and electronic messaging duties, along with back up of the other clerical positions.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 46, 2021 "Comprehensive Revision and Re-enactment of the Erie County Government Administrative Code" (Finance Committee)

The Home Rule Charter for the County requires that every four years, the Erie County Administrative Code, a generalized "operating manual" for Erie County Government, must be updated and re-approved via ordinance by Erie County Council.

- B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 47, 2021, "Seventh 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$4,274 for Continued Mosquito -Borne Disease Control" (Finance Committee)

The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection has awarded additional West Nile Grant Revenue to Erie County Department of Health toward Mosquito-borne Disease Control for additional training, program expenses, and software.

- C. First Reading of Ordinance Number 48, 2021, "Eighteenth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$40,380 and New Line Items for Remainder of 2020 Department of Justice Grant for District Attorney Office" (Finance Committee)

Grant awarded to the District Attorney's office by the Department of Justice (DOJ). The total grant award was \$58,080, to be dispersed for specific needs in needs and preparedness of Erie County Law Enforcement Agencies in Response to Critical Incidents involving Infectious Disease and/or HAZMAT incidents. The first appropriation of the grant was approved under Ordinance 37, 2020 for \$28,961; only \$17,699.96 was expended. The remainder of the grant is \$40,380.

- D. First Reading of Ordinance Number 49, 2021, "General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$1,000 and Creation of Temporary Staff Line Item in General Accounting" (Finance Committee)
- General Accounting is requesting a per diem line in order to accommodate extensive training to ease the transition of losing the 30-year expertise of the current Manager of General Accounting. The training would allow for support and smoother transition for current staff.**
- E. First Reading of Ordinance Number 50, 2021, "Nineteenth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$44,177 for Creation of New Position in the District Attorney's office for Domestic Violence Cases" (Personnel Agenda)
- The Erie County District Attorney's office is seeking to dedicate a position as Domestic Violence Prosecutor to head a newly created Domestic Violence Unit. With the pandemic, there has been a noticeable rise in domestic conflict as individuals were forced to isolate in their homes.**
- F. Resolution 19, 2021 "Erie County Hospital Authority \$10,000,000.00 Tax Exempt Obligations (Saint Mary's Home Of Erie Project)" (Finance Committee)
- Saint Mary's Home of Erie, intends to finance a project consisting of (1) the current refunding of the outstanding balances of the Erie County Hospital Authority's Health Facility Revenue Bonds, Refunding Series A of 2006 (the "2006A Bonds") and the Erie County Hospital Authority's Health Facilities Revenue Note (Saint Mary's Home of Erie Project) Series B of 2013 (the "2013B Note"); (2) the payment of any termination fees in connection with the termination of the SWAP related to the 2013B Note; (3) the payment or reimbursement for capital expenditures or improvements, including the construction or renovation of carriage homes, on the Institution's Asbury Ridge Campus; (4) the funding of a capitalized interest reserve account for the Obligations; and (5) the payment of all or a portion of the costs and expenses incident to the issuance of the Obligations.**
- G. Possible Appointment of Dr. Quyen Aoh to serve District 7 on the Erie County Library Advisory Board for an unexpired term ending December 31, 2022. (Mrs. Schauerma)
- H. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 45-031-047.3-001.44 52; Franklin Drive Lot F-13, Washington Township (Finance Committee)
- An offer of \$250 by Sean Pregent for the parcel at 52 Franklin Dr., Washington Township, PA, Lot F-13 TRL. Other taxing bodies have approved the sale.**

- I. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 07-025-052.0-002.00 Grand ST TR 51, Corry, PA (Finance Committee)
An offer of \$250 by Michael Tebalt for the parcel at Grand ST TR 51, Corry, PA. Other taxing bodies have approved the sale.

- J. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 41-013-053.0-002.00 Lot #71, Elm Street, Union City PA (Finance Committee)
An offer of \$250 by Clarence Robinson for the parcel at Lot #71, Elm Street, Union City PA. Other taxing bodies have approved the sale.

- K. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 15-021-027.0-219.00 E 17 ST Lots 4&5, City of Erie, PA (Finance Committee)
An offer of \$250 by Lance Christopher Beard for the parcel at E 17th St, Lots 4 & 5, City of Erie, PA Other taxing bodies have approved the sale.

9. ADJOURNMENT

The next Finance & Personnel Committee Meetings will occur June 24, 2021 at 4:00pm via zoom conference.

In-person meetings will commence with the next Regular Meeting of Council on June 29, 2021 at 6:00pm. at Andover Bank (rear) 53 East State Street, Albion PA 16401. Caucus will begin at 5:30pm.

Visit www.eriecountypa.gov, click on Departments then County Council. See agendas, zoom information, and schedules including the upcoming On-the-Road Series.

Call the Council office at 451-6303 for specific inquiries.