

FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Erie County Council**

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Public invited to attend



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

Erie County Courthouse  
140 West Sixth Street – Room 114A  
Erie, PA 16501

July 15, 2021  
4:00 PM

**FINANCE AGENDA**

1. Update from Amy Murdock and James Grunke from the Erie Regional Chamber & Growth Partnership
2. 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) (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 had concerns over the lack of a clear and precise contract between the parties; something that protects the County's investment.**  
**Item would need to be taken off the table and amended to reflect the appropriation decrease to \$102, 217.**
3. Ordinance Number 27, 2021, "Ninth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$105,500 for Library's Historic Newspaper Digitization Project" (Finance Committee) (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 Council Solicitor, the Library Director and Newsbank have been working in collaboration on this item.**  
**Item would need to be taken off the table and amended to reflect the appropriation decrease to \$102, 217.**

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4. Ordinance Number 55, 2021, "Twenty-First 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$300,000 and Creation of New Line Items for Additional Election Costs" (1st Read 6/29/21)

**The amount required for ballot printing in 2021 was severely underestimated during the budget process. The four ballot questions on the Primary ballot led to a 50% increase in per ballot cost, which also raised costs. Funds from other lines were needed to pay for printing costs. This action provides funding for printing 85% of registration in every district. That level will provide enough ballots for regular, mail and provisional voters; and avoid shortages on Election Day. It also refills the Election Fees line for paying poll workers, the temporary work line for per diems, and the new postage line in conduct of elections. The new postage line in conduct will allow for better budgeting in the future. Voter Registration has mailings pertinent to its mission, while conduct will cover the cost of mailing ballots. Additionally, a reserve fund of \$25,000 is created. The money cannot be used unless County Council releases it through official action.**

5. Ordinance Number 56, 2021, "Twenty-Second 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,000 for Creation of Temporary Staff Line Item in the County Executive's Office" (1st Read 6/29/21)

**County Executive Dahlkemper desires to use temporary help for the Administrative Assistant duties in her office, rather than hire a full time employee who may not be retained when the County Administration changes.**

6. Ordinance Number \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, "\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$26,315,751 and Creation of American Rescue Plan Act Fund Budget"

**Erie County was granted \$26,315,751 from the American Rescue Plan, designed to deliver immediate relief for American workers, encourage nation-wide vaccination for the COVID pandemic, deliver immediate relief to American families, and support communities that are struggling in the wake of the pandemic.**

7. Ordinance Number \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, "\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$7,092,000 and Creation of New Items for Transfer from American Rescue Plan Act Fund for Revenue Replacement"

**Ordinance reflects funds anticipated for spending of public sector revenue loss.**

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8. Ordinance Number \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, "\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$17,639 in Additional Funds from Safe & Healthy Communities Grant"  
**Additional unspent grant block funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Health are being offered with stipulation to spent by September 30, 2021. The Erie County Department of Health is respectfully requesting consideration for a second reading due to the limited time to spend the budgeted funds.**
9. Ordinance Number \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, "\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$93,314 for EMTA Local Match Shortfall in 2021-2022"  
**Act 89, the enabling legislation for EMTA's operating assistance grant, requires that state operating assistance be matched by local cash funding. The required amount of local funding for EMTA in fiscal year 20-21 is \$1,153,888. The EMTA has collected \$946,520 of local funding, 82% of the requirement. The Ordinance will make up the difference to maintain compliance.**
10. Ordinance Number \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, "\_\_\_\_\_ 2021 Mental Health\Intellectual Disabilities (MHID) Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,835,469 and Creation of New Line Item for Receipt of Additional Grant Funds"  
**Revenue from the Department of Community and Economic Development, the PA Housing and Affordability and Rehabilitation Enhancement Grant, and the Emergency Rental Assistance Federal will be expended in Homeless Assistance. No County funds are projected for use at this time.**
11. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 39-006-007.2-007.54  
**An offer of \$250 by Dawn Griffith for the parcel at 2947 Happy Valley Rd Lot 29, TRL.; other taxing bodies have approved the sale.**
12. Resolution Number \_\_\_\_\_, 2021, "Approving a Professional Services Contract for a Certified Public Accountant for Consultation on Pandemic Related State and Federal Funding"  
**The County of Erie wishes to name a Certified Public Accountants to provide technical assistance and advice in relation to the policies, procedures, accountability and monitoring of pandemic related State and federal funding initiatives on a periodic basis.**

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13. Analysis of General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance

**If all the ordinances pass, the estimated General Fund Unassigned Fund Balance is \$45,555,142. That is \$26,438,676 above the \$19,116,466 needed to cover two months of County expenditures and transfers; required by ordinance.**

\* Analysis may differ due to some unknown amounts at time of print.