

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

5:30 P.M. – Council Caucus

6:00 P.M. – Council Meeting

Public invited to attend

Erie County Courthouse, 140 W. Sixth Street

Room 117

Erie, PA 16501

Tuesday, October 12, 2021

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**
 - A. Presentation by City Councilman Mel Witherspoon to Erie County Detectives Todd Manges & Mark Rosenthal
 - B. Citation In Memoriam for Robert Finnell
 - C. Citation In Memoriam for Patrick Malone
5. **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**
6. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

September 28, 2021 - Regular Meeting
7. **REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS**
 - A. County Executive and/or her Designee
 - B. Finance Committee -Mrs. Clear
 - C. Personnel Committee - Mrs. Rennie / Mr. Shank
 - D. Councilman Rastetter - Report on High Speed Rail and Transportation Committee
 - E. Other

8. OLD BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 82, 2021 "Amending Ordinance 45, 2018 to Revise the Erie County Human Relations Commission Ordinance" (Finance Committee)

Council will take no action on this ordinance. Proposed amendments are under review by Council Solicitor Talarico.

9. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 83, 2021 "2022 Revenue/Tax Claim Fee Schedule Revision" (Finance Committee)

The Revenue /Tax Claim Bureau seeks to increase costs of certain activities beginning in 2022. The last increase was in 2016. The activities relate to tax sales and default notices. Specifics are available in the agenda packet.

- B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 84, 2021, "Eleventh 2021 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$546,000 Workforce Development Grant and Transfer of Existing Position into This New Bureau" (Personnel Committee)

ECDH received a Workforce Development grant from the PA Department of Health in the amount of \$1,507,000 for the period July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2023. This ordinance will establish a new bureau for the receipt and disbursement of the grant monies. The existing Workforce Development Coordinator budget position number 018015-057 will be transferred to the new bureau.

- C. First Reading of Ordinance Number 85, 2021, "Second 2021 Planning Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$250,000 from Release of Restricted Act 152 Demolition Fees" (Finance Committee)

The Act 152 Demolition Fees fund was established to allow the Recorder of Deeds of a County to collect a fee of no more than \$15.00 for each deed and mortgage reported. The fees are used for the demolition of blighted property. Erie County began collecting this fee in 2018. In 2021, many property demolitions have been identified, and through this process we will exceed our current 2021 budgeted amount balance of \$150,310. The projected amount of funding needed for 2021 demolition is approximately \$400,000. Likely Second Reading and Vote.

- D. First Reading of Ordinance Number 86, 2021 "Fourteenth 2021 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$250,000 from Release and Transfer of Restricted Act 152 Demolition Funds to the Planning Fund" (Finance Committee)

This is a companion to the previous ordinance showing the transfer of \$250,000 from the General Fund to the Planning Fund. Likely Second Reading and Vote.

- E. First Reading of Ordinance Number 87, 2021, " First 2021 Gaming Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$4,326,531 in FY 2019 Interactive Gaming Fees and Approval of Community Projects" (Finance Committee)

Gaming revenue fees from interactive games resulted in Erie County Receiving \$2,913,507 and

ECGRA receiving \$2,279,592. Erie County's is returning \$633,915 of its share to Fund Balance. Projects to receive funding are Rail Commission (\$1,000,000), Hagen History Center Grant (\$250,000), Erie County Redevelopment Authority(\$395,677), and Enterprise Fund (\$100,000). There will be a separate vote on each project when it appears for a second reading at a later date.

- F. First Reading of Ordinance Number 88, 2021, " Ninth 2021 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$22,450 for Friends of the Library Donation" (Finance Committee)
A donation from the Friends of the Library. \$17,450 of the donation will be utilized for library programming, with the remaining \$5,000 going towards the Friends' portion of the EGCRA Beehive Innovation Network grant match. Likely Second Reading and Vote.

- G. First Reading of Ordinance Number 89, 2021, " Tenth_2021 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$158 for Erie Regional Library Foundation Book Endowment" (Finance Committee)
Appropriation of donation for memorial books from the Erie Regional Library Foundation. Likely Second Reading and Vote.

- H. First Reading of Ordinance Number 90, 2021 "To Create and Establish the Erie County Rail Future Commission" (Finance Committee)
The Commission will establish relationships with all rail-oriented organizations in the Northeast and work to promote rail service of all kinds throughout Erie County. They will work to leverage funding through state and federal sources. The production of lower emission engines by WABTEC will further create economic possibilities for workers and related industries. This ordinance will likely be complete by meeting time for a first reading.

- I. Resolution Number 39, 2021 "A Resolution in Support of Senate Bill 698, Amending Section 5602 of Title 53, the Municipal Authorities Act" (Finance Committee)
The Resolution supports a proposed Senate Bill allowing the formation of Public Safety/Fire Authorities. In concept, such structures would facilitate fund-raising and the increased attraction of personnel for volunteer companies. This resolution will of itself have no effect of law.

- J. Resolution Number 40, 2021 "Section 504 and ADA Designation of Coordinator" (Finance Committee)
As the recipient of an annual allocation of CDBG funds from PA DCED, the County must pass a Resolution each year identifying its Section 504/ADA Coordinator and how an individual who believes they have been subjected to unlawful discrimination on the basis of a disability can file a complaint.

- K. Resolution Number 41, 2021 "Approval of Payment in Lieu of Taxes Agreement between the County of Erie, the City of Erie, the City of Erie School District and the Lutheran Home for the Aged" (Finance Committee)
The Village at Luther Square is a non-profit agency that cares for the aged. The agreement,

approved by the City and the City of Erie School district binds them to pay 50% of the annual real estate millage for certain properties and 75% of the annual real estate millage for others. The Assessment Board is reviewing this agreement. If they approve it, Council will likely take action. If they do not, this will likely be placed on the table for further review.

- L. Resolution Number 42, 2021 "Resolution Approving The FY 2021 Community Development Block Grant Application and Authorizing its Submission to the Pennsylvania Department Of Community And Economic Development" (Finance Committee)

The County has applied for funds on behalf of the non-entitlement communities listed in the resolution. The projects must principally assist people with low to moderate incomes. The statute requires approval of all such projects by the legislative body of the County where such communities are located.

- M. Resolution Number 43, 2021 "County of Erie Fair Housing Resolution" (Finance Committee)
As the recipient of an annual allocation of CDBG funds from PA DCED, the County must pass a Fair Housing Resolution each year and submit it with its application for funding.

- N. Resolution Number 44, 2021 "Resolution Approving a Revision to Erie County's FY 2018 Community Development Block Grant Program" (Finance Committee-Attached)

Leftover funds totaling \$18,982 from the Union City Borough Family Housing Project are being proposed to supplement the Wesleyville Borough Sanitary Sewer Project. State law requires that any change in project funding must be approved by County Council.

- O. Possible Appointment of Katrina L. Byrd to the Erie County Human Relations Commission representing District 2. This appointment will fill the remainder of the term held by Caitlyn Strohmeyer. Term to expire December 31, 2022. (Personnel Committee)

- P. Possible Appointment of Cindy Wells to the Erie County Planning Commission representing District 6, filling a current vacancy. Term to expire December 31, 2022. (Personnel Committee)

- Q. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 18-051-016.0-201.00 (Finance Committee)

An offer of \$250 by Timothy Ward for the parcel at C K Riblet Sub Lot 15, a 46 x 141 lot located near 27th and Pear Streets, in the City of Erie. The other taxing bodies have approved the sale. Bidder intends to utilize it as a community garden and parking area.

10. **ADJOURNMENT**

- A. The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday October 21, 2021 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via zoom. The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday October 26, 2021 at 6pm in room 117, County Courthouse.

Members of the public wishing to speak at an upcoming Regular Meeting of Council or those requiring specific accommodation are encouraged to call or email the Council Office at (814) 451-6303 or Councilrequests@eriecountypa.gov.

