

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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Brian Shank, Chairman
Mary Rennie, Vice Chairwoman
Charlie Bayle
André R. Horton
Ellen Schauerma
Terry M. Scutella
Jim Winarski

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 19, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Shank.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

The invocation was given by Mrs. Schauerma, from Ms. Swartzfager: "There is always light if only we are brave enough to see it, if only we are brave enough to be it" -Amanda Gorman

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chairman Shank; Vice-Chairwoman Rennie; Mr. Bayle; Mr. Horton; Mrs. Schauerma; Mr. Scutella; and Mr. Winarski

Others Present: Julie Slomski; Nicole Inan; James Sparber; Ericka Knight; Amy Swartzfager; and Megan Moore

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Kathy Schaaf, Erie: Ms. Schaaf expressed the need for the library to have Sunday hours again. She also advocated for county-wide safe places for children to go, block parent signs, and before and after-school programs to ensure safe transit for children. She also voiced the need for a county-wide "take back the guns" initiative. She stated children and the homeless are in need in the area. She concluded that the area also needs trash picked up.

Freda Tepfer, Erie: Ms. Tepfer expressed the need for the Human Relations Commission to hire a competent, people-friendly director, and hoped to see the Council move forward in a positive way with the HRC. She also voiced concern about having long-range plans, like the Transportation Plan incorporated into a comprehensive plan, and clarity of what that would mean. Finally, as Earth Day was approaching, she encouraged the County to foster a bio-diverse, friendly landscape.

Deonte Cooley, Erie: Mr. Cooley stated he was present to speak about the gun violence in the city of Erie. He asked the Council, and people of the community, to come into the community and spend time with the children where the violence is happening. He stated at this point that no one, including the community members, police, and schools knows what to do about the problem, but something needs to be done. He doesn't want his children to die, and he doesn't know what else to do anymore. He pleaded for the people and the council to help.

Brian Atterbury, Erie: Mr. Atterbury questioned if it was possible for the creation of a program or grant from the government to help stop the violence, which is happening everywhere: east side, west side, suburbs, county. He mentioned a grant that would give younger people something to do, more summer jobs, clean-up days, anything to help. He stated idle time and idle hands are tools for the devil. He hoped that something like this would deter and stop the violence that is going on right now.

James Seaman, Erie: Mr. Seaman stated that this was new to him. The latest tragedy (the death of a seven-year-old boy who was shot on the sidewalk, he was a family member) affected his family, and he expressed his need to redirect his focus, to give back to the city, and protect his children. He stated he was there to listen and learn, and find out what the city could do, and what he could do to try to figure this out.

Mr. Horton apologized for having to leave the room during Mr. Cooley's comments to Council. Due to his own family's tragedy, and losing children of his own to violence, he needed to excuse himself.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion to approve was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and passed 7-0.

April 5, 2022- Regular Meeting

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or his Designee

There was no report at this time.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerman

Mrs. Schauerman stated the Finance Committee met on Thursday April 14th and submitted to the agenda:
Old Business: A
New Business: A-E, and J-L

Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella

Mr. Scutella stated the Personnel Committee met on Thursday April 14th and submitted to the agenda:
New Business: F-I, and M

Additional

Chairman Shank thanked the public speakers and stated that the things happening in Erie and Erie County are something no parent or citizen should have to deal

with. He said they would get through it. He didn't know how, but Erie was a tough community.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 48, 2022 "2022 Library Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,500 And Creation of New Line For Temporary Staff In County Coordination Aid Bureau" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 48, 2022 "2022 Library Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,500 And Creation of New Line For Temporary Staff In County Coordination Aid Bureau". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and passed 7-0.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading of Ordinance Number 47, 2022, "Twenty-second 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$30,000 for PCorp Loss Prevention Grant" (Finance Committee) A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie to amend the agenda, and move items A,C, and F to a second reading, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma, and passed 7-0.
Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 47, 2022, "Twenty-second 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$30,000 for PCorp Loss Prevention Grant". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and passed 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 59, 2022 "Waiving Section 4 of Erie County LERTA Ordinance 59, 1980 and Approving the Revised LERTA Program in the City of Corry" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 59, 2022 "Waiving Section 4 of Erie County LERTA Ordinance 59, 1980 and Approving the Revised LERTA Program in the City of Corry".

First Reading of First Reading of Ordinance Number 60, 2022 "General Fund Budget Removal of Restriction from \$16,800 in the County Council Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 60, 2022 "General Fund Budget Removal of Restriction from \$16,800 in the County Council Budget".
Mrs. Rennie made a motion to amend the face sheet to "2022 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$16,800 For Release of Restricted Funds For County Council Office Furniture" , seconded by Mr. Winarski, and passed 7-0. Mrs. Schauerma made a motion, seconded by Mr. Horton, and passed 7-0 , as amended.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 61, 2022, "Second 2022 ARPA Fund Budget Revised Expenditure of Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 61, 2022, "Second 2022 ARPA Fund Budget Revised Expenditure of \$280,000 And To Unrestrict Community Futures Funds".

**\$280,000 And To Unrestrict
Community Futures
Funds" (Finance
Committee)**

First Reading of Ordinance Number 62, 2022 "Twenty-third 2022 General Fund Supplemental Appropriation of \$330,000 to Create Three Positions in the Business & Economic Development Bureau" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 62, 2022 "Twenty-third 2022 General Fund Supplemental Appropriation of \$330,000 to Create Three Positions in the Business & Economic Development Bureau".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 63, 2022, "Twenty-fourth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$72,735 for Court Reporters Salary Increase" (Personnel Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 63, 2022, "Twenty-fourth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$72,735 for Court Reporters Salary Increase". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Horton, and passed 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 64, 2022 "Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance, First Assistant Public Defender" (Personnel Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 64, 2022 "Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance, First Assistant Public Defender".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 65, 2022 "Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance Full Time Assistant Public Defender" (Personnel Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 65, 2022 "Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance Full Time Assistant Public Defender".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 66, 2022 "Twenty-fifth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$40,305 for the Creation of Grant Administrator Position in the Finance Department" (Personnel Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 66, 2022 "Twenty-fifth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$40,305 for the Creation of Grant Administrator Position in the Finance Department".

**Resolution Number 10,
2022 "Approval of
Amendment to the
Corrections Food Service
Contract between Trinity
Group Services Inc. and the
County of Erie" (Finance
Committee)**

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 10, 2022 "Approval of Amendment to the Corrections Food Service Contract between Trinity Group Services Inc. and the County of Erie" . A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and passed 7-0.

**Resolution Number 11,
2022 "Approval of
Amendment to the
Corrections Medical
Services Contract between
Wexford Health Sources
and the County of Erie"
(Finance Committee)**

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 11, 2022 "Approval of Amendment to the Corrections Medical Services Contract between Health Sources and the County of Erie". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and passed 7-0.

**Resolution Number 12,
2022 letter in support of an
increase of \$294M in
Medical Assistance(MA)
funding in the 2022-2023
PA State budget. (Finance
Committee)**

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 12, 2022 "Letter in Support of an Increase of \$294M in Medical Assistance (MA) Funding in the 2022-2023 PA State Budget". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and passed 7-0.

**Possible Appointment of
Suzanne Weber to the Erie
Regional Airport
Authority. Term to expire
December 31, 2025.
(Chairman Shank)
(Personnel Committee)**

Chairman Shank stated that Ms. Weber was a retired Supervisor of Millcreek who still wanted to serve the public. A motion was made by Mr. Scutella, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and approved 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Scutella. The meeting adjourned at 6:31pm.