

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, June 7, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Shank.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

The invocation was led by Chairman Shank.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chairman Shank, Vice-Chairwoman Rennie, Charlie Bayle, Andre Horton, Ellen Schauerma, Terry M. Scutella, and Jim Winarski
Also Present: Julie Slomski, Jim Sparber, Ericka Knight, Tom Talarico, Solicitor, Amy Swartzfager, CPA, and Megan Moore

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Freda Tepfer, Erie: Ms. Tepfer expressed the importance of getting the HRC restored and operating. She also stated that she reviewed the National Association of Counties guidelines on ARPA money. She defended the previous work done by the Council and County Executive to allocate the funds. She expressed concern over the establishment of an ad hoc committee to reallocate those funds, and contended that their purpose was to help the disenfranchised community members and those affected by Covid-19.

Sean Lynch, Erie: Mr. Lynch voiced his dissatisfaction at the different reporting style on the website for election night. He thought the previous excel sheet was better. The new version was too long, having over 400 pages. He wanted to bring it to the Council's attention.

Margaret Watts, Washington Township: Ms. Watts expressed her displeasure with the County Executive's plan for the regional economic partnership plan and subverting the ARPA money. She maintained that risking the ARPA funds, and taking away humanitarian relief from those most in need, was amoral and unconscionable. She stated the plan was based off non-existent and unproven partnerships. She also stated it defied risk assessment capability by anyone, including the selective and secretive ad hoc committee.

Pam Nolan, Washington Township: Ms. Nolan stated that she voted for a county executive, not a regional executive. She contends the ARPA funds were for those entities in Erie County affected by Covid-19, not regional projects. The money

was allocated by the previous Council and Executive in good faith. She stated Mr. Davis does not have permission to get rid of those plans just because he does not like them; it is childish and silly.

Cindy Purvis, Erie: Ms. Purvis thanked the members for their service to Erie County. She stated she was against an ad hoc committee discussing ARPA funding; it was a settled issue, and should remain that way. She also stated it is ridiculous that those who suffered the most would have to beg for the help intended by ARPA. She noted if there is an ad hoc committee to discuss ARPA funding, it should be made public so everyone sees and hears the same things, and members can be held accountable.

Kevin Pastewka, Erie: Mr. Pastewka noted he was finishing the statement of Ms. Watts, as her time had run out. He stated the comment that the Executive's plan would invest in generational areas was nebulous. He questioned how many generations would have to wait to receive Covid-19 help. He noted that ARPA funds can enable our youth now, assist first responders and essential workers, help community members who lost family breadwinners, and the elderly. He finished by stating the County Executive had green lit his way out of answering tough questions.

Christine Park, Erie: Ms. Park stated she expects her taxes to come back to benefit the community in which she resides. She expressed the need for ARPA funding to be used for the immediate needs for public health, human services, healthcare workers, and infrastructure in the Erie community, and Erie tax dollars to stay in Erie.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting on May 24, 2022 was made by Mr. Scutella, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.

A motion to approve the minutes of the public hearing on May 24, 2022 was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.

May 24, 2022 - Regular Meeting

May 24, 2022-Public Hearing

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or his Designee

Mr. Sparber stated there was no report at that time.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerman Mrs. Schauerman stated the Finance Committee met on Thursday, June 2nd and submitted to the agenda:
Old Business: A-C and New Business: A-F & I-L.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella Mr. Scutella stated the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, June 2nd and submitted to the agenda:
New Business: G & H.

Other

OLD BUSINESS Vice-Chairwoman Rennie made a motion to remove items B and C from the table, and to strike item C from the agenda. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and carried 7-0.

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 70, 2022 "Twenty-Seventh 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$25,000 For Creation of Safety And Training Bureau in Courts Budget" Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 70, 2022 "Twenty-Seventh 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$25,000 For Creation of Safety And Training Bureau in Courts Budget".
A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

For Creation of Safety And Training Bureau in Courts Budget" (1st Read 5/24/22) (Finance Committee) Vice-Chairwoman Rennie stated there was a great deal of discussion on the location of the position, and the scan of services offered. She asserted it would need to be brought up again to clean up, but would support this ordinance.

Mr. Horton stated he would support this, but he still had many questions. He questioned the annual supplement and who it was benefiting in the county. He stated training was the bedrock of any organization, but with decency and order.

Chairman Shank thanked Mr. Bayle, as liaison for the Sherriff's Department, for his time and effort to answer the questions of the Council. He stated there was great discussion, and they identified some problems, but they would take care of them.

Resolution Number 13, 2022 "Re-Appointment of Zelenkofske Axelrod, LLC to Perform Comprehensive Single Audit for Erie County and Related Funds for the Year Ending December 31, 2021" (Tabled 5/24/22) (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 13, 2022 "Re-Appointment of Zelenkofske Axelrod, LLC to Perform Comprehensive Single Audit for Erie County and Related Funds for the Year Ending December 31, 2021". A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and carried 7-0.

Possible Sale of a Parcel This item was struck.

from the Repository for
 Unsold Property at Index
 Number: 18-051-016.0-
 201.00 PEAR ST- C K SUB
 LOT 15 46 X 141 (Tabled
 5/24/22) (Finance
 Committee)

NEW BUSINESS

Vice-Chairwoman Rennie made a motion to move items A-H to a second read, which was seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 78, 2022, "Thirtieth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$15,000 And Creation of New Line for Reimbursable Overtime In Sheriff's Department" (Finance Department) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 78, 2022, "Thirtieth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$15,000 And Creation of New Line for Reimbursable Overtime In Sheriff's Department". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 79, 2022, "Fifth 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,000 for Donations from Friends of Library and Erie Regional Library Foundation" (Finance Department) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 79, 2022, "Fifth 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,000 for Donations from Friends of Library and Erie Regional Library Foundation". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 80, 2022, "Sixth 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$102,456 for The Institute of Museum and Library Sciences American Rescue Plan Grant Funds" (Finance Department) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 80, 2022, "Sixth 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$102,456 for The Institute of Museum and Library Sciences American Rescue Plan Grant Funds". A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 81, 2022, "Seventh 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$52,691 for 2021 Deferred State Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 81, 2022 "Seventh 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$52,691 for 2021 Deferred State Aid-District From July - December 2021". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 7-0.

**Aid-District From July -
December 2021" (Finance
Department)**

- First Reading of Ordinance Number 82, 2022, "Eighth 2022 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$14,851 for Creation of Grants Line Item in Environmental Bureau at Public Health" (Finance Department)** Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 82, 2022, "Eighth 2022 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$14,851 for Creation of Grants Line Item in Environmental Bureau at Public Health". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 83, 2022 "Amending Ordinance 56, 2022 "2022 Planning Fund Budget Waiver of HR Code to Increase Salary of Vacant Planning Director Position"" (Finance Department)** Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 83, 2022 "Amending Ordinance 56, 2022 "2022 Planning Fund Budget Waiver of HR Code to Increase Salary of Vacant Planning Director Position"". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 84, 2022, "Thirty-First 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$7,264 for Chief Court Reporter Increase and waiver of Section 9C of the Personnel Code." (Personnel Committee)** Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 84, 2022, "Thirty-First 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$7,264 for Chief Court Reporter Increase and waiver of Section 9C of the Personnel Code". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 7-0.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 85, 2022, "Thirty-Second 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$4,586 for Information Technology Elimination of IT Specialist I And Creation of IT Specialist II Position in Public Safety" (Personnel Department)** A motion was made by Vice-Chairwoman Rennie to amend the agenda and face sheet to include Exhibit B, which was seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and carried 7-0.
Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 85, 2022, "Thirty-Second 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$4,586 for Information Technology Elimination of IT Specialist I And Creation of IT Specialist II Position in Public Safety". A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, an carried 7-0.
- Resolution Number 15,** Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 15, 2022 "Designation of Grant Agent For

2022 "Designation of Grant Agent For District Attorney's Office for 2023 PENNDOT Police Traffic Safety (PTS) Grant" (Finance Department) District Attorney's Office for 2023 PENNDOT Police Traffic Safety (PTS) Grant". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

Resolution Number 16, 2022 "Amending the transfer of the sale of Repository Property, Index Number: 18-051-016.0-201.00 C K RIBLET SUB LOT 15 46X141, from Timothy G Ward to Mount EBAL Missionary Baptist Church" (Finance Department) Vice-Chairwoman Rennie made a motion to amend the face sheet body as presented to the Council, which was seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and carried 7-0.
Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 16, 2022 "Amending the transfer of the sale of Repository Property, Index Number: 18-051-016.0-201.00 C K RIBLET SUB LOT 15 46X141, from Timothy G Ward to Mount EBAL Missionary Baptist Church". A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 12-011-005.0-002.01 PLEASANT ST 150x250 (Finance Department) A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 7-0.

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 07-026-068.0-007.00 320 EAGLE ST TR 51 87X76X118 (Finance Department) A motion was made by Mr. Scutella, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Scutella. The meeting adjourned at 6:37pm.

-The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday, June 16, 2022 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.

-The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday June 21, 2022 at 6pm at McLane Church, Edinboro.

-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, no later than the end of business 5 days prior to the meeting. The public must be present at the meeting to speak.