

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, July 19, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Chairman Shank.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Chairman Shank thanked Harborcreek Municipal for hosting the County Council, and recited a quote by Winston Churchill.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chairman Shank, Vice Chairwoman Rennie, Charlie Bayle, Ellen Schauerma, Terry M. Scutella, and Jim Winarski
Others Present: Julie Slomski, Jim Sparber, Tom Talarico, Esq., Amy Swartzfager, and Megan Moore

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Julio Reyes

Julio Reyes, Business Owner in District 2 and 3: Mr. Reyes gave background information on himself: not affiliated with any political party, California resident, Mexican immigrant and U.S. citizen, capitalist with a social conscience, and invested in Erie. He expressed his frustration that there is no discussion or action plan in place for a high speed rail system in Erie County. He encouraged all Council members and the County Executive to put aside politics, and seize this opportunity for future generations and all citizens of Erie County.

Jerry Servidio

Jerry Servidio, Millcreek: Mr. Servidio stated he had missed several meetings due to Covid, and wanted to revisit the Fusion Center decision. He believes it is duplicitous and overlapping. He hopes the employees of it are hired in a fair manner, remain independent, and remember it is about the needs and wants of the people. He also questioned the County policy of elected officials and employees vocalizing support of candidates on TV and in the media. He stated that businesses do not allow politicizing, and the County should not allow it either, as it was a conflict of interest.

Patrick Deck, Fairview: Mr. Deck gave an update of the RELCO system in Erie County, and it is working great. He stated more work needed to be done, and more intersections to be added in the city of Erie. He expressed the need now for the transmitters. They need approximately 150, and are short, approximately

\$1000 per transmitter; roughly \$150,000. He asked the County for help in whatever way possible.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

June 21, 2022 - Regular Meeting The meeting minutes for June 21, 2022 were approved 7-0 on a motion by Mr. Scutella, and second by Mr. Winarski.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or his Designee There was no report from the County Executive.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerman Finance Committee Chairwoman Schauerman stated the Finance Committee met on Thursday July 14th and submitted to the agenda: New Business: A-C, I J, & K, and N-X.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella Personnel Committee Chairman Scutella stated the Personnel Committee met on Thursday July 14th and submitted to the agenda: New Business: D-H, L, & M.

Citation to Alan L. Paulhamus - presented by Chairman Shank Chairman Shank stated the citation is a representation of a man's life, and this loss was tough for him, and Mr. Paulhamus could never be replaced.

Presentation by Chairman Shank Chairman Shank stated this guy has done a lot for his community, and presented a framed copy of Resolution 7, 2022 to Dr. Foht for his work with the Perry Class Frigate Project.

Other Reports

OLD BUSINESS There was no Old Business.

NEW BUSINESS Vice Chairwoman Rennie made a motion to amend the agenda to move items A-F and H to a second reading, and items N-X as one vote; seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and approved 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 89, 2022 "Waiver of Purchasing Code to Subcontract with PA DOH Funds" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 89, 2022 "Waiver of Purchasing Code to Subcontract with PA DOH Funds". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 90, 2022, "First 2022 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$9,913,702 for Additional State and Federal Revenue for Calendar Year 2022" (Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 90, 2022, "First 2022 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$9,913,702 for Additional State and Federal Revenue for Calendar Year 2022". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 7-0.
First Reading of Ordinance Number 91, 2022, "Thirty-Fourth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,311 and Creation of Budget Lines for FY 2018-2021 Operation Stone Garden Grant Extension" (Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 91, 2022, "Thirty-Fourth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,311 and Creation of Budget Lines for FY 2018-2021 Operation Stone Garden Grant Extension". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.
First Reading of Ordinance Number 92, 2022, "Thirty-Fifth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$357 For Deputy County Clerk Salary Increase" (Personnel Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 92, 2022, "Thirty-Fifth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$357 For Deputy County Clerk Salary Increase". A motion was made by Mr. Winarski, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 7-0.
First Reading of Ordinance Number 93, 2022 "Waiver of Human Resources Code to Change the Hours of the Council & Elections Office Administrator position" (Personnel Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 93, 2022 "Waiver of Human Resources Code to Change the Hours of the Council & Elections Office Administrator Position". A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie to amend the language to include "Promotion of Steno Clerk/Receptionist to Council & Elections Office Administrator", seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0. A motion to adopt, as amended, was made by Mr. Winarski, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.
First Reading of Ordinance Number 94, 2022 " Amendments to the Erie County Human Resources Code" (Personnel Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 94, 2022 " Amendments to the Erie County Human Resources Code". A motion was made by Mr. Scutella, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 6-1. Mr. Horton stated he would not support this item, although it pains him not to support it. He does not feel they did their due diligence in researching the unintended cost consequences, and would have preferred to table the item, and not send it through a second reading.

Chairman Shank stated the HR Department is having a hard time recruiting people, and this will help them.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2022, "Thirty-Sixth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$37,101 For Creation of GIS Manager Position in Director of Administration Bureau" (Personnel Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2022, "Thirty-Sixth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$37,101 For Creation of GIS Manager Position in Director of Administration Bureau".
First Reading of Ordinance Number 96, 2022, "Thirty-Seventh 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$21,093 For Creation of Administrative Officer II Position in Public Defender's Bureau" (Personnel Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 96, 2022, "Thirty-Seventh 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$21,093 For Creation of Administrative Officer II Position in Public Defender's Bureau". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0. Chairman Shank stated they do a great job, and when they ask for help, we listen, and want to give them the tools to do their job.
Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 20, 2022 "Abatement and Exoneration of Taxes and Fees for Union City Pride Inc." (Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 20, 2022 "Abatement and Exoneration of Taxes and Fees for Union City Pride Inc.". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and failed 2-5. Mrs. Rennie stated she would support this, as it has been duly vetted, and the other taxing bodies and the Board of Assessment and Appeals have already approved it. The group itself is highly responsible and well regarded in their area. They do good work that they need in Union City. This is necessary, and shows confidence in the Board of Assessment and Appeals with a yea vote. Mr. Horton stated he was going to follow the opinion of the Solicitor, Tom Talarico. The title and narrative describe different things. They are removing property from the tax rolls, and asking forgiveness for back taxes. If a private citizen doesn't pay taxes, they lose their house. He stated he wouldn't support it. Mrs. Rennie stated Union City Pride is not in business for themselves, but are doing work for the good of the community. This has been well vetted, and the Council should show confidence in the Board that they appointed.
Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 21, 2022 "Allocating Program Income Monies to Supplement the FY 2020 Community Development	Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 21, 2022 "Allocating Program Income Monies to Supplement the FY 2020 Community Development Block Grant Funded Wattsburg Borough Main Street Sidewalks and Curbs Improvement Project-Phase I". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

**Block Grant Funded
Wattsburg Borough Main
Street Sidewalks and Curbs
Improvement Project-
Phase I" (Finance
Committee)**

**Possible Adoption of
Resolution Number 22,
2022 "Creation of an
American Rescue Plan Act
(ARPA) Funding Ad Hoc
Committee" (Finance
Committee)**

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 22, 2022 "Creation of an American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Funding Ad Hoc Committee".

Mr. Winarski made a motion to amend to "BE IT RESOLVED, by County Council of the County of Erie, pursuant to Article V, Section 10 of the Administrative Code, that a committee consisting of three, Chairman Brian Shank, Ellen Schauerman and James Winarski, is hereby appointed to review the Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, Final Rule of January 6, 2022, effective April 1, 2022, the U.S. Treasury Guidelines and FAQ's promulgated under the American Rescue Plan Act of 2021, to review and re-evaluate the ARPA funding previously appropriated by Council under the County's 2022 budget and to report back to Council as a whole with its findings and recommendations.", seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 7-0.

A motion to adopt was made by Mr. Winarski, seconded by Mr. Scutella, and carried 5-2.

Mr. Scutella stated he trusted his colleagues. He wanted the public to know the ad hoc committee would meet and report to the entire Council, and the Council would, as a whole, make any decisions to change funding.

Chairman Shank stated the rules have changed since the pandemic. Things aren't the same as three, two, one years ago. We aren't tearing the building down, we're just putting new windows in it. It will be transparent. We are working with the County Executive, and our colleagues on the County Council.

**Possible appointment of
Martha Knuth to the Erie
County Public Library
Advisory Board. Term to
expire December 31, 2024
(County Executive)
(Personnel Committee)**

Mr. Bayle endorsed the appointment of Martha Knuth to the Erie County Public Library Advisory Board. A motion was made by Mr. Bayle, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.

Mr. Bayle stated, Ms. Knuth was an outstanding educator, and can't think of anyone better for this position.

**Possible appointment of
Ryan D. McGregor to the
Erie County General
Authority. Term to expire
December 31, 2025.
(County Executive)
(Personnel Committee)**

The County Executive endorsed the appointment of Ryan D. McGregor to the Erie County General Authority. A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.

Chairman Shank stated he knew Mr. McGregor; he was a Councilman for North East, a real go getter.

Possible Sale of a Parcel

The Parcel Sales were approved 7-0 on a motion by Mrs. Schauerman, and

from the Repository for second by Mr. Horton.
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 41-011-038.0-
009.00 HEMLOCK ST
99X165 IRR (Finance
Committee)

Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 27-079-195.0-
063.00 STATION RD
FUTURE R/W 109.62 X 20
(Finance Committee)

Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 40-010-066.0-
015.00 SHADY AVE LT
173-175 60 X 144.45 I
(Finance Committee)

Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 40-010-066.0-
011.00 SHADY AVE LT
168 20 X 121.42 IRR
(Finance Committee)

Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 40-008-069.0-
017.00 SHADY DR L 20 40
x 150 (Finance Committee)

Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 33-016-019.0-
268.62 565 ADIUTORI DR
TRL (Finance Committee)

Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index

**Number: 15-020-031.0-
108.00 643 E 9ST 26.5x165
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-031.0-
223.00 616 E 9 ST
41.25X165 (Finance
Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-031.0-
119.00 609 E 9 ST 49.5X165
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-031.0-
109.00 641 E 9 ST 26.5X165
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 44-021-034.0-
004.01 HASKELL HILL
RD RT 734 200 X 60 X200
TRI (Finance Committee)**

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Shank adjourned the meeting at 6:48pm on a motion by Mr. Horton.

**-The next Finance/Personnel
Committee Meetings are Thursday,
August 11, 2022 at 4pm in room
114A, Erie County Courthouse or
via Zoom.**

**-The next Regular Meeting of
County Council is Tuesday August
16, 2022 at 6pm at the Millcreek
Township Building.**

**-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.