

AGENDA

Erie County Council

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Public is invited to attend.



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

Millcreek Township Building
3608 W. 26th Street
Erie, PA 16506

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

5:00 P.M. – Council Caucus

6:00 P.M. – Council Meeting

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**
 - A. 3 Minutes
5. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

July 19, 2022- Regular Meeting
6. **REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS**
 - A. County Executive and/or his Designee
 - B. Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerma
 - C. Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella
 - D. Other
7. **OLD BUSINESS**
 - A. Second 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) (First Reading 7-19-22)
The creation of this position will play a crucial role in providing the information to make data-driven decisions for the County, especially in the area of community development.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 97, 2022, "Second 2022 Capital Projects Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$235,514 to Move the Location of the Match for Keystone Grant For Blasco Library Renovations to the Capital Projects Budget" (Finance Committee)

This companion ordinance is the first of three to move the Keystone Grant monies, appropriated by Ordinances 50 & 51 of 2022, to the Capital Projects Fund Budget. This placement will alleviate the funds from lapsing when renovations continue into the new year.

- B. First Reading Ordinance Number 98, 2022, "Ninth 2022 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$235,514 to Move the Location of the Match for Keystone Grant For Blasco Library Renovations to the Capital Projects Budget" (Finance Committee)

This companion ordinance is the second of three to move the Keystone Grant monies, appropriated by Ordinances 50 & 51 of 2022, to the Capital Projects Fund Budget. This placement will alleviate the funds from lapsing when renovations continue into the new year.

- C. First Reading Ordinance Number 99, 2022, "Thirty-Eighth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$117,757 to Move the Location of the Match for Keystone Grant for Blasco Library Renovations to the Capital Projects Budget" (Finance Committee)

This companion ordinance is the third of three to move the Keystone Grant monies, appropriated by Ordinances 50 & 51 of 2022, to the Capital Projects Fund Budget. This placement will alleviate the funds from lapsing when renovations continue into the new year.

- D. First Reading Ordinance Number 100, 2022, "Thirty-Ninth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$100,000 and Creation of Bureau and Budget Lines for FY 2021-2024 Operation Stone Garden Grant" (Finance Committee)

The District Attorney Detectives Bureau applied for and was awarded a FY 2021-2024 Operation Stone Garden PEMA grant for \$100,000. This ordinance would appropriate the funding and add the revenue and expenses lines to the 2022 budget. They respectfully request a second reading.

- E. First Reading Ordinance Number 101, 2022, "Fortieth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$63,018 and Creation of Budget Lines for AOPC Security Grant In Courts - MDJ Bureau" (Finance Committee)

This is an appropriation of grant funds and creation of budget lines to complete this project. This is considered an essential security equipment upgrade project and it will consist of lighting, ballistic panels, doors, 3M film, prisoner benches, cameras, and monitors. The expenses will be reimbursed by the Administrative

Office of Pennsylvania Courts.

- F. First Reading Ordinance Number 102, 2022 "Adoption of the Local Tax Collection Law, as Amended, Act of July 11, 2022, P.L. 701, No. 57" (Finance Committee)
This adopts the most recent amendments to the local tax collection law as passed by the Pennsylvania General Assembly and approved by Governor Wolf.
- G. First Reading of Ordinance 103, 2022 "Ratifying Erie County Board of Elections Resolution 7, 2022"
Pursuant to ACT 2022-88, the Erie County Board of Elections authorized and directed the County Clerk to apply and submit the application for the Election Integrity Grant Program funding, on or before August 15th 2022.
- H. First Reading of Ordinance Number 104, 2022 "Approving the Sales Proposal for Services to be Rendered by Opex Corporation"
The Erie County Board of Elections authorized and directed the purchase of two ballot extractors from Opex Corporation as Resolution 9 of 2022 on August 11th 2022, with delivery prior to General Election Day 2022 with a cost of \$81,205.
- I. First Reading Ordinance Number 105, 2022 "2022 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$14,932 for Elimination of Epidemiological Research Assistant Position and Creation of Public Health Preparedness Coordinator Position" (Personnel Committee)
This position will work in partnership with the current Public Health Preparedness Coordinator to expand the Health Department's capacity for emergency responses, conducting drills and exercises, participating with the County, community partners for preparedness planning, as well as working with the State Department of Health for emergency preparedness. There is enough savings from elimination of this vacant position in bureau 018015 to cover the creation of the position.
- J. First Reading Ordinance Number 106, 2022, "2022 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,756 for Job Reclassification in the General Accounting Office" (Personnel Committee)
The Accountant-Payroll position(002350-003) has taken over additional job duties over the past few years. This request will take the position to the title of Payroll Specialist and from an NB 12 making \$21.68/hour(step E) to a 6% increase, which would be \$22.98/hour. However, to fit the matrix, it would be NB14 at \$23.65/hour(step D). This was generated through a recommendation by J.L. Nick & Associates Inc.
- K. First Reading Ordinance Number 107, 2022, "Forty-First 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$3,277 for Elimination of Risk Coordinator Position and Creation of Sr. HR Generalist/Risk Management Position in Human Resources" (Personnel Committee)

This is part of an overall restructuring of the Human Resources office, as the position is currently occupied and the incumbent would then fulfill this new role with an annual salary of \$42,218/year. The responsibilities of this position have developed and grown substantially over the years. The HR department feels it is important to prioritize and request a second reading for this ordinance, as there is currently a vacancy that needs to be filled. Without this approval, the HR structure and this open position do not properly fit. In addition, with a vacancy, HR is not able to function at full capacity.

- L. First Reading Ordinance Number 108, 2022 "2022 Office of Children and Youth Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,824 for Edmund L Thomas Detention Center Administrative Assistant I and II Pay Increases" (Personnel Committee)

The job duties and responsibilities have changed for both positions due to the new requirements and increased daily census. The Administrative Assistant I would be increased from \$15.75/hour to \$17.21/hour and the Administrative Assistant II would be increased from \$16.88/hour to \$18.78/hour. These increases commensurate with the enhanced job duties, workload, responsibilities, and significant length of service.

- M. Resolution Number 23, 2022 "Approval of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant Application and the Cooperation Agreement between the General Authority, Impact Corry, and the County of Erie for the Corry Tech-Accelerator" (Finance Committee)

This is a \$2,500,000 grant from the Office of the Budget of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in which the ECRDA is working with Impact Corry on the Corry-Tech Accelerator, job training facility.

- N. Resolution Number 24, 2022 "Approval of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant Application and the Cooperation Agreement between the General Authority, Impact Corry, and the County of Erie for the Green Junction Park Project" (Finance Committee)

This is a \$1,000,000 grant from the Office of the Budget of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in which the ECRDA is working with Impact Corry on the Green Junction Park project.

- O. Resolution Number 25, 2022 "Abatement and Exoneration of Taxes and Fees for Union City Pride Inc." (Finance Committee)

Per Councilman Bayle, we are revisiting this resolution to provide tax relief on the three parcels owned by Union City Pride for the years of 2020 and 2021 in the amount of \$1980.34. When these properties were purchased, there were back taxes on each of the properties. The other taxing bodies(School District and Borough) and the Erie County Board of Assessment Appeals have approved their tax exempt status effective January 1, 2022.

- P. Resolution Number 26, 2022 "County of Erie Fair Housing Resolution" (Finance

Committee)

A Fair Housing Resolution must be passed each year for the annual allocation of funds from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development.

- Q. Resolution Number 27, 2022 "Approving Agreements between Thirteen County School Districts, the Tri-County Intermediate Unit and the Erie County Department of Health" (Finance Committee)

The Health Department seeks to support the mental healthcare side of the COVID 19 pandemic as it has affected students in all thirteen County school districts. The overall cost of the grant shall not exceed \$1,050,000, with District's allowable expenses not to exceed \$75,000. The fully grant funded contract runs from August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2023.

- R. Resolution Number 28, 2022 "Sole Vendor Contract between Gannon University and Erie County for the Conduct of Viral Sequencing to Improve Regional Response Through Identification of COVID Variants" (Finance Committee)

The partnership between the Health Department and Gannon University will expand the County's capacity for identification of COVID 19 variants through viral sequencing, increase our County's ability to recognize and respond to surges in cases, and recognize the entry of emerging variants into our community. The project is fully funded through an Enhancing Detection Grant of \$1,200,000, that runs from August 1, 2022 through July 31, 2024.

- S. Resolution Number 29, 2022 "Approving Sole Vendor Contract between Erie County and Infinity Resources Inc." (Finance Committee)

The Administration is in the process of negotiating four union contracts, and sculpting a non-bargaining agreement in one of the most difficult labor markets in memory. Central to those efforts and part of the ongoing work, is to make the County a more competitive and efficient employer. There are only a few firms in Erie capable of doing labor market analysis, position research, and HR consulting. The Administration's research led them to choose Infinity Resources, as they have a very experienced and knowledgeable team and a reasonable hourly rate. Infinity Resources was chosen to help the review of positions, their grades, and their pay. They are also assisting in the re-boot of the County pay plan, which is cumbersome and out of date in our current employment market. Infinity completed Phase I in a small window for just under \$20,000.

- T. Resolution Number 30, 2022 "Supporting the Pennsylvania Commission for the United States Semiquincentennial" (Finance Committee)

The American 250PA Commission was created in 2018 to plan, encourage, develop, and coordinate the commemoration of the 250th anniversary of the United States in 2026. The Commission is asking that we join with the 34 counties, and counting, across the Commonwealth in support of their mission.

- U. Resolution Number 31, 2022 "Approving the 25 year extension to the Erie Metropolitan

Transit Authority(EMTA) Charter" (Finance Committee)

This resolution is a declaration of support for a 25 year Charter extension.

- V. Resolution Number 32, 2022 "Approval of Job Description and Ordinance for Deputy Solicitor" (Personnel Committee)

As approved in the 2022 General Fund Budget, the approval of this job description and ordinance provides the opportunity to recruit applicants for the position.

- W. Possible appointment of Robert W. Merrill to the Erie County Community College Board of Trustees. Term to expire on August 31, 2028. (Councilwoman Schauerman) (Personnel Committee)

This will be a first term for Mr. Merrill, representing District 7. Mr. Merrill will replace Mr. Tom Benson whose term has expired.

- X. Possible Waiver of Administrative Code Article II Section 5 A (1)(e) and Appointment of David J. Basnak to the Children and Youth Advisory Board. This appointment will run concurrent with Councilman Winarski's term and will expire on December 31, 2025. (Councilman Winarski) (Personnel Committee)

This will be the first term for Mr. Basnak, representing District 4.

- Y. Possible appointment of Brandy Cortes to the Erie County Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Commission. Term to Expire December 31, 2024. (Chairman Shank) (Personnel Committee)

Ms. Cortes will replace Denise Pekelnicky who has resigned.

- Z. Possible appointment of Robert S. Oberlander to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. This term will expire December 31, 2026. (Councilman Bayle) (Personnel Committee)

This will be the first term for Mr. Oberlander, representing District 6. Mr. Oberlander will replace Mr. David Sample whose term expired.

- AA. Possible reappointment of John Gennaro to the Erie County Hospital Authority. Term to expire December 31, 2027. (County Executive) (Personnel Committee)

This will be the second term for Mr. Gennaro, of the Erie Veterans Affairs Medical Center.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- A. -The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Wednesday, August 31, 2022 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.
-The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday September 6, 2022 at 6pm at the McKean Township Municipal 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.