

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, October 4, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited, led by Chairman Shank.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Mrs. Schauerma led the invocation.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Chairman Shank, Vice Chairwoman Rennie, Charlie Bayle, Andre Horton, Ellen Schauerma, Terry M. Scutella, and Jim Winarski

Others present: Julie Slomski, Megan Moore, Paul Lichtenwalter, Chris Carroll, Solicitor Tom Talarico, and Amy Swartzfager, CPA

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Freda Tepfer

Freda Tepfer, Erie: Ms. Tepfer stated she doesn't think that the Inclusive Growth Playbook is an inclusive planning document. She also stated she didn't agree with supporting Project RESOLVE or using ARPA money. She disagreed with the actions of the ARPA ad hoc Committee not reporting to the Council, and deciding as a whole how ARPA money should be distributed.

Carl Anderson

Carl Anderson, Erie: Mr. Anderson stated that by a unanimous vote, the Council distributed the ARPA money after many hours of work and with intentionality to what the ARPA money was to be used for in the community, and not at the cost of the people in need. He stated the County Executive had gone back on every promise he made during the transition of administrations, a committee on which he served. He also expressed his concern with 100% of the transformative grants money going to Project RESOLVE, a project he supports. He stated the Council is responsible for the financial commitments of the community.

Art Leopold, Millcreek: Mr. Leopold recited some of the allowances for ARPA funds, and stated the biggest focus of the update was affordable housing. He also articulated that the ARPA ad hoc committee and the Council should be allocating money, not the County Executive or his representative. The report should come back to the Council for their decision. He reiterated the statement of the County

Solicitor, that this would be the usurpation of the Council's power by the County Executive, and every bit illegal. He urged the Council to take their time and follow the process.

Gary Lee, Erie: Mr. Lee stated his thanks to the Council for creating the DEI Commission. The vision is to create an environment where all people of color feel welcome and included, and to advance equity in Erie County. He referenced a prior initiative that asked students about their dreams, and the future of Erie. He stated many had achieved their goals, but had left Erie. He requested the County Council to continue to support the BIPOC community and invest the 3.5 million pledged in December of 2021.

Kathy Schaaf, Erie: Ms. Schaaf urged the Council to invest in the marginalized and homeless in Erie County. She shared a personal story of a homeless man she had met downtown in the park, and his friend Timothy L. Smith, 80 years old. She described their struggles, and how the programs meant to help people like them are losing their funding. Due to these circumstances, Mr. Smith was back on the streets, and killed in August 2022. She was there in his memory, and all those on the streets and those in homes but struggling, to urge the Council to help with ARPA funding, and address the bigger problem.

Gerald Blanks, Millcreek: Mr. Blanks identified himself as the Chairman of the DEI Commission. He recited part of Ordinance 72, 2021. He stated 3 million was cut after its passage, and the DEIC is still trying to recoup the funds. He stated monies are always "reallocated" at the expense of the minority community.

Aaron and Camille Crenshaw, Erie: Ms. Crenshaw stated they were there in support of the DEIC from the GMS Development Group, which was a grant recipient. She stated she wanted to speak on the subject of generational wealth, and quoted a study that said the city of Erie was one of the worst places for African Americans in 2017, 2019-2021. She stated that without substantial support they will never know generational wealth. Mr. Crenshaw stated there was a huge labor shortage currently, and the best option was the minority community, and that GMA helps through training and housing, which is a key point in generational wealth. Ms. Crenshaw stated GMA Development Group assists the underserved and overlooked, to pave the way to generational change.

Fiore Leone, Erie: Mr. Leone expressed his disappointment with the actions of the current County Council. He stated they all took an oath to follow the rules of the state and county. He also declared the actions of the County Executive illegal; to commit funds before they are approved by the County Council. He stated it was just as illegal to condone or vote on that illegal action. He was dismayed to hear that the JAMS and AAA programs had been cut from the budget. He urged the Council to review where they were at, and how they were voting. He stated it was not about party, and that affiliation needed to be left at the door. The Council were all representatives of the community, and needed to start talking to each other, and with the County Executive. He stated that the Council was the only board that controlled Pleasant Ridge Manor, and the

County Executive was only a titular head that did not vote or speak. Mr. Leone concluded that the Erie County Council was considered one of the best previously, and that they needed to get back to that status.

Lou Aliota, Millcreek: Mr. Aliota stated he had great difficulty trying to understand the County Executive making statements without the approval of the County Council. He questioned whether there were any connections between the County Executive and any other individuals of that organization that he said money would be allocated. He complimented Solicitor Talarico for saying 'in my legal opinion, because it is critical to the County Council's job. He mentioned the Erie Airport Authority Board having an opening and no person of color, an announcement by the citizens about the FAA investigation, and his plethora of emails.

Mel Witherspoon, Erie: Mr. Witherspoon expressed concern over the DEIC and asked the Council to reconsider replacing 3.5 million to the Commission. He stated ARPA funds were meant to help those most affected by the pandemic, and those from the minority communities knew what was best and needed in their communities. He noted that Erie was built with the help of the minority population and that they want to continue to do so. He referenced the term 'We the People', and asked the Council to reaffirm the minority community's faith and trust.

LeAnna Nieratko, Erie: Ms. Nieratko voiced her support for the DEIC, which was omitted from the iteration of the budget by the County Executive. She stated that it is even more concerning that the County Executive referred to the budget as a framework, and the BIPOC community is being excluded as a priority of this framework. She stated that the spirit of the ARPA funding was to help those most affected by the pandemic, and urged that these funds be used for the purpose intended.

Parris Baker, Erie: Mr. Baker stated that reallocating any ARP money from black and brown communities is an egregious abuse of government power and community trust. He noted the \$3.5M is 35% of the original money allocated, and is a huge part of the budget. He questioned what the reaction of the Council and the County would be if 35% of the original money was redirected to projects associated with black and brown communities. He respectfully submitted that the reallocation proposal be rejected totally, and the original appropriation be implemented as designed.

Michael Keys, Erie: Mr. Keys stated that racism in Erie had been deemed a public health crisis, and the city of Erie was noted as the worst place to live for African Americans. He said the Council had the opportunity to help, and the funds from the federal government were supposed to be for those most hurt by Covid, disenfranchised, and the marginalized. He stated that now there is a paradigm shift to funding big businesses. He proclaimed that money should be allocated to the small businesses, as they are the economic engine of the County.

Tiffany Lavette, Erie: Ms. Lavette announced that she was sickened and disheartened to have this conversation, after all the discussions, allocations, resolutions, and putting a commission into place. She asked the Council to do something different, end the conversation and put things into action for BIPOC people to stay in Erie. She requested an end to racism, and to let it start with the Council.

Marcus Atkinson, Erie: Mr. Atkinson stated it was embarrassing and frustrating for a city and a county. He maintained that he had given much of his life to servicing the community, especially the youth, of an area largely ignored. He stated it was a shame that now things are being done in these areas to help those with the least, that it is a problem how the money was allocated. He stated people were finally hopeful that everyone was on the same page, and could be seen by various agencies serving communities in the margins. He stated that these were all funded by the same pot of money, and now someone wants to rescind it, and send it to an area where there is nowhere near the need these agencies represent. He stated this says something, without saying it overtly; we need to move past that for Erie to be one Erie the way we all claim we want it to be.

Jenny Tompkins, Meadville, Crawford County: Ms. Tompkins stated her work focused on the Lake Erie watershed; she is an environmental policy advocate with Pennfuture. She addressed Project Resolve and Project Neptune, and not being able to find convenient information on either. She asked that there be more transparency, to better understand these investments by the public. She questioned what data is referenced to demonstrate the impact on the industry regarding Project Resolve. She stated she was the campaign manager for Our Water Our Future, fighting for environmental justice. She stated threats to water quality disproportionately impact BIPOC communities. She asked that environmental issues not be pitted against other issues faced by the BIPOC communities.

Cheryl Jones, none given: Ms. Jones stated that one is not always given the opportunity to correct something, but the Council has one to do the right thing.

Scott Rastetter, Washington Township: Mr. Rastetter stated he received a lot of flak for his support of the Community College, but it turns people into career-driven tax payers. He maintained that instead of cutting the benefits of tax payers, the amount of tax payers should be increased to not raise taxes; instead of generational assistance, a way to earn a living should be offered. He expressed his concern about the militarization of the county government, and candidates that bragged about their service. He referenced Jake Banta, the Proud Boy, who brought machine guns and rifles to a peaceful march in Edinboro of college students and professors. He also mentioned the rise in support of Putin and the blame placed on Ukrainians. He stated it was an endorsement of stupidity if you are against education.

Peter Burton, Girard: Mr. Burton stated he is the mayor of Girard as well as the President of Burton Funeral Home. He expressed his support of ECGRA, the and

the positive way that it has affected his community with synergy and rebirth, as well as the downtown areas. He is a strong supporter.

Gary Horton, Erie: Mr. Horton stated it was a challenge for him, wearing many hats, one as president of the local chapter of the NAACP. He noted that it was a privilege to have the opportunity in America to come to a meeting and disagree, without fear of retribution to life or family, like many of the people he served in his position have endured. He stated the Council had supported his efforts for the project at Joyce Savocchio park, an aquaponics greenhouse to serve disadvantaged people, create jobs, and aid the food desert, and the County Executive wanted to cut the funding. He also stated that the Urban Erie Community Development Corporation, his organization that serves new Americans, was the only community-based organization that the County Executive had proposed not funding. He stated the Summer Jobs Program was yet another project cut by the County Executive, and it gave young people the opportunity to stay off the streets and out of trouble. He pleaded that they not cut the funding. He finished by thanking the Sheriff's Department for their patience and going beyond the call of duty to enable everyone access to the meeting.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

September 6, 2022 - Regular Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes of the September 6, 2022 meeting was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or his Designee

No report was given by the County Executive.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerma

Finance Chair Schauerma stated the Finance Committee met on Thursday September 29th and submit to the agenda:
New Business : Items A-P.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella

Personnel Chair Scutella stated the Personnel Committee met on Thursday September 29th and submit to the agenda:
Old Business: Item A.

Citation- Ann Grunewald

A citation was presented to the family of Ann Grunewald.
WHEREAS, Anna Mae Herman Grunewald passed from this world on September 20, 2022 at the age of 89 years. Mrs. Grunewald was born on August 7, 1933 to the late Earl Herman and Alice Bitters; and

WHEREAS, Ann was a graduate of Strong Vincent High School, Class of 1952. She was a life member of the Siebenbuerger Club Ladies Auxiliary. She served as President for 28 years, and just ended her presidency this past March, 2022. She also served as an Elder, Usher, and Auditor of the Elmwood Avenue Presbyterian Church. Ann was also an avid bowler, and was inducted into the PA Bowling Hall of Fame in 2004; and

WHEREAS, Ann was a political pioneer for women and the Erie Republican Party. She was the first woman to run for mayor of the City of Erie in 1985. She was also the first woman Chairperson of the Erie County Republican Committee. Mrs. Grunewald also served as the President of the Erie Council of Republican Women, Vice President of the Republican Foundation, and was a member of the Erie and State Republican Committees; and

WHEREAS, Ann now joins her husband, Kenneth R., her son, Kenneth A., as well as her sister Dorothy, brothers Robert and Richard, and step-brother Vernon. She leaves behind daughters Cheryl (John) and Lisa (John), five grandchildren, ten great-grandchildren, as well as sisters Polly and Phyllis, and brother David; and

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Anna Grunewald, an Erie political original and dedicated community member.

Chairman Shank stated that this was one of the best parts of their job, being able to thank the people who helped to build Erie; he presented the citation to her daughters.

Other

Mr. Horton welcomed everyone to Erie County government and democracy. He stated there were items on the agenda he did not think should be there. He stated ARPA money was being used inappropriately to fund the rich and well off. He stated the proposed budget was \$40M over the previous budget. He noted the long term Finance Director was dismissed just a few weeks ago, before the budget was proposed, and it was a huge leap of faith to think the Council could be confident with this budget, and not have problems with it. He maintained the proposed budget is a wish list of the County Executive's promises or pledges. He noted the budget cuts were what benefited the people in the margins trying to survive. He stated he would be the voice for those people. He noted that when programs are cut that affect Erie citizens' lives in favor of big business, it doesn't bid well for the entire community. He stated he was the poor person's councilman. He noted Penn State was not the enemy. He said Erie County's first charge should always be human services. He stated there were 13-year-olds killing each other in the streets, and they want to cut the DEIC. White folks own 97% of the housing stock, and we're talking about cutting GECAC. He stated they spent \$30M on renter and utility assistance last year, and the homeless problem got worse. He stated there was nothing in the budget for youth, instead

of cutting the summer jobs program, they should be adding year-round jobs. He said southeast Erie is a killing field, and they want to spend \$5M out of \$26M on one project. He stated they gave a great presentation, but it was personally insulting to him as a person of color. He stated the census pissed him off, and it's built on the backs of black and brown people and they never see funding. He stated they were arguing about \$3.5M and the budget last year was \$540M; this year \$570M, and nothing for black and brown, no money for GECAC, no money for child development center, no money for UECD. He stated it was embarrassing and criminal. He stated he was glad to see his city counterparts. They have the majority. He declared the County Executive had made it abundantly clear what he thinks about black and brown communities, and if the County Executive doesn't care about black and brown communities, he doesn't have to tailor his remarks to satisfy the County Executive. He stated this was an assault on black and brown communities and they should march up the County steps, and tell him it was a new day. He stated ARPA funds were intended for those negatively impacted by the pandemic, and those communities that were historically disadvantaged. He wants to help the Nepali, but they haven't been here long enough to be historically disadvantaged. He then stated when putting forth the ordinance his colleagues stated they'd help everybody and stretched it out to include Pacific Islanders. He stated anybody of color that comes into this country is treated differently, they're immigrants when their skin tone isn't like mine, they're a nuisance when their skin looks like mine. He said there are all types of poor people, including Croats, Syrians, Ukrainians, and Serbs. They live on the east side with no supermarket or affordable housing. He spoke of people sleeping in a parking lot, and everyone else going home, and then ride back to their new job, use the city facilities, and talking about how low their taxes are. He stated poor people have a voice, and he was going to raise it. He stated it was absurd, mean spirited, and probably a little illegal.

Mr. Scutella stated he thought most people knew his stance on the issues, and he thanked all those that came to speak that night. He stated the sad thing was, they had questions, but the County Executive was missing, and couldn't be asked these questions. He said they had a meeting, and the County Executive had a consultant for ARPA, paid by the County, who stated it was okay to use ARP funds, but he represents the County Executive. He stated the Council had been advised by their Solicitor that the County could be responsible for repayment of ARPA funds if they were misallocated. He asked what \$5M dollars could do, and we all know someone that has suffered from the pandemic. He noted that no one told him in the county or anywhere that everyone is healed. They were not. He agreed with Mr. Horton, that this money would go away, and asked then what would they do? He stated his vote would be...he would not vote on the \$5M to send it on to Penn State or Wabtec. He maintained that he thought Wabtec was a hero in the area because they saved the company and jobs, and all the people they had laid off, they called them back and then had to go out to the street to hire people. He stated they don't need our money, you do.

Mrs. Rennie stated she would make comments about the \$5M at the vote, and would vote no, not because it's a bad project but because it is bad government.

She thanked those in attendance, who have lives and families, but came to speak. She stated the power is not with the Council, but was them, the people, and it is what they brought into the chambers-it was electric. People don't have to agree, but this is a government of by and for the people, she stated and was proud of all those who came that night, and thanked them for being part of the process and standing up for good government. She stated it wasn't over yet, there was some time before the budget would be voted on, and more information to come out in the interest of good government.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 133, 2022, "Reclassification of the Director of Business & Economic Development Position from NB20-K to NB20-M Grade Level" (First Read 9/20/22) (Personnel Committee)

Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 133, 2022, "Reclassification of the Director of Business & Economic Development Position from NB20-K to NB20-M Grade Level". A motion was made by Mr. Horton to table, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 6-1.

Mr. Horton stated he didn't think it was wise to place a salary for someone they did not know, and they should wait until the Administration provided the documents requested.

Chairman Shank reminded the gallery there were no comments from the public during the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading of Ordinance Number 136, 2022, "Fifty-First 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,000 for State Grant and Creation of New Line In Veterans Affairs Bureau" (Finance Committee)

Vice Chairwoman Rennie made a motion to amend the agenda by moving items A, B, and E to a second reading, and to include items H-P as one vote, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 7-0.

Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 136, 2022, "Fifty-First 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,000 for State Grant and Creation of New Line In Veterans Affairs Bureau". A motion was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 137, 2022 "Fifty-Second 2022 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditure of \$88,753 and Creation of New Lines for PCCD VIP Grant in District Attorney Bureau" (Finance Committee)

Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 137, 2022 "Fifty-Second 2022 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditure of \$88,753 and Creation of New Lines for PCCD VIP Grant in District Attorney Bureau". A motion was made by Mr. Winarski, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma, and carried 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 138, 2022, "Fifty-Third 2022 General Fund

Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 138, 2022, "Fifty-Third 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$196,300 and Creation of New Line for Replacement of Prison Fire Alarm System".

**Budget Supplemental
Appropriation of \$196,300
and Creation of New Line
for Replacement of Prison
Fire Alarm System"
(Finance Committee)**

First Reading of Ordinance Number 139, 2022, "Fifty-Fourth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$19,588 and Creation of New Line for AOPC Grant in Courts Bureau for Courthouse Security" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 139, 2022, "Fifty-Fourth 2022 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$19,588 and Creation of New Line for AOPC Grant in Courts Bureau for Courthouse Security" .

First Reading of Ordinance Number 140, 2022, "Tenth 2022 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$30,342 for Additional PA DHS Funding in Nurse Family Partnership Bureau" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 140, 2022, "Tenth 2022 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$30,342 for Additional PA DHS Funding in Nurse Family Partnership Bureau" . A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.

Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 39, 2022 "Supporting Erie's Inclusive Growth: A Framework for Action" (Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 39, 2022 "Supporting Erie's Inclusive Growth: A Framework for Action" . A motion was made by Mrs. Rennie, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 6-1.

Mrs. Rennie stated that the intentions behind and work that went into the playbook, bodes well for the community and offers a lot of hope. She stated the playbook is not ranked, and is a living document. It is meant for community participation and input. The word inclusiveness was not by accident. This was a long time in the making. She stated that once, in the lines of the ARPA funding, there was a Community Futures organization; it was about hope, collaboration, and working together. She voiced her belief that the playbook was representative of that, and had room for all to take part in it. She was happy to support it, although everyone could not agree completely on everything in it, and there was a whole lot of good in it. She noted the good work done with housing and communities in the city. She thanked Kim Thomas for being in attendance.

Mr. Horton recognized the work of the committee that worked on the playbook. He stated he could not support it in good faith, not because he doesn't think there is a lot of good in it, but because he doesn't think it's inclusive enough. He also noted he doesn't know who all the investors are in the projects.

**Possible Adoption of
Resolution Number 40,
2022 " In Support of a
\$5,000,000 ARP Grant for
Project RESOLVE"
(Finance Committee)**

A motion to table the ordinance was made by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and failed 4-3.

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 40, 2022 " In Support of a \$5,000,000 ARP Grant for Project RESOLVE" . A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and failed 4-3.

Mrs. Rennie stated she voted against tabling it because it was a bit of a dodge with everyone in attendance. She cited the resolution as bad government. She stated that Penn State is an economic powerhouse, and has raised over \$100M dollars for research and development. She referenced plastic businesses, small to large, that are valued businesses, but didn't come to the Council hat in hand. She stated every council member, as well as those representing the County Executive, should be uncomfortable with the fact that the money for the project was promised before coming to Council; the money was promised because he had votes in his pocket. She stated the approach to getting funding from the administration is always 'hurry the building is burning'. She stated this resolution should be voted down in no uncertain terms. She maintained that the tough questions are not being asked, and the fine details are being glossed over and ignored. She stated the Council could always put forth a piece of legislation in support of Project RESOLVE. She affirmed she would vote against it; it was bad government, even mismanagement of county government.

Mr. Horton referred to comments made by the administration that the Council needed to act fast because of the latest economic forecast which stated Erie was average or below average, and a list of states we have to compete against because they're working fast at it. He countered that the entire state's economic forecast was poor, not just the county of Erie, and those states were right to work. He also referred to the administration's comments about supporting mining, but that this project is for electric batteries, and questioned when would the fracking start here? He stated that the fact of the matter was that the County Council did not appropriate this money, and the County Executive went way beyond the scope of his authority in doing so. He said this was the first reason to decline it. He said it had merit, but not more merit than human dignity and soul. He stated the Erie Gaming Revenue had been a great partner for the county. He stated Penn State had its own ARPA appropriation. The county's money needed to go to children and schools. He stated it was a killing field in southeast Erie, and lost two of his own sons. There are gang problems and the median income is \$17K. We are sitting in the heart of the 16501, the city seat, the state seat, the county seat, the federal seat, all being gentrified. There is no way this institution should get \$5M out of \$26M of taxpayer's money. If money doesn't go to DEIC there are businesses suffering, mental health issues, and crime.

Chairman Shank stated he wanted to make one thing clear, that no one on the Council walks around with votes in their pockets. He stated each person was duly elected by the people, and we make decisions on why we vote. He addressed Vice-Chair Rennie and stated that for all her grandstanding and name-calling that you love to do, it is inappropriate and it will not happen again in this chamber.

You say whatever Mary Rennie wants to say, however she wants to say it. No one walks around with votes in their pockets. I have the floor, you had the floor. Vice Chair Rennie stated this was a personal attack.

Chairman Shank stated so was accusing us of walking around with votes in our pockets. He asked how many more times are you going to stand up and grandstand, and call people illegal and for investigations.

Mr. Horton replied, as many times as she wanted.

Chairman Shank stated he had the floor.

Mr. Horton replied that he was out of order.

Chairman Shank declared he would clear the room, that there were no comments back, he had the floor. She had made a comment that councilmen had votes in their pockets and it was inappropriate and unfounded. I'm done. We're moving forward.

Vice-Chair Rennie replied she was not referring to Council members, and she was sure everyone understood that.

Chairman Shank told Mr. Winarski to go ahead and speak.

Mr. Winarski stated he is 100 percent behind Project RESOLVE. He expressed his belief that it had a great chance of working in Erie County, partnering with Wabtec and Penn State. He stated they weren't giving them money, they were investing with them in a partnership to help create jobs, jobs of the future, jobs for our kids. He noted that four of his children work elsewhere because there weren't jobs there. He stated there were some legal aspects, with everyone having different opinions, what was legal and what was not. They needed it on paper, if they could use ARPA funds. He stated they should do their due diligence. The project had great potential to work, and it would be great for Erie and Erie County. They had to work together to make it happen. He would vote no tonight for those reasons.

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-025.0-
227.00 438 E 17th St
(Finance Committee)**

A motion was made to approve the parcel sales by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 5-2.

Mr. Horton stated he would vote no, although the Solicitor had given his legal opinion. It had been brought to his attention that this same company was brought in by the city of Erie because of similar purchases. He stated it was problematic for him to see a California company buy property like that on a city block.

Mrs. Rennie stated she appreciated Mr. Horton's statements, but legally there was nothing they could do. She would vote in favor because of the legality, and not doing so would cause legal jeopardy for the citizens of Erie County, but she did understand the concern about it.

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 14-010-022.0-
342.00: 752 54 E. 7th St
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 14-010-016.0-
139.00 548 E 8th St
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-021.0-
202.00 820 Wallace St
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-036.0-
204.00 745 E 13 St (Finance
Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-034.0-
217.00 721 23 E 8 St
(Finance Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-031.0-
219.00 821 Ash St (Finance
Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-036.0-207
739 E 13 St (Finance
Committee)**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-046.0-
110.00 1043 E 11 St**

(Finance Committee)

ADJOURNMENT

- The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday, October 13, 2022 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.** A motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Bayle, and the meeting ended at 7:55pm.
- The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday, October 18, 2022 at 6pm in room 117, Erie County Courthouse or streamed live at the link provided on the County website.**
- 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.**