

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, November 1, 2022

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Shank led the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Mrs. Schauerma gave an 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, Solicitor Tom Talarico, Amy Swartzfager, C.P.A., Paul Lichtenwalter, & Chris Carroll

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

5 minutes

Danny Jones

Danny Jones, Erie, CEO GECAC: Mr. Jones stated GECAC had been an asset to the County for over 50 years, and has managed grants from federal, state, and local agencies. He revealed that GECAC brought in \$14M to Erie County through contracted services, wages, purchases, and delivery of services. He reported on the numbers of meals, transportation, and home support that GECAC delivered, that they are the only in-person GED test site around, and the youth job program. He affirmed that they had provided adequate rationale for the funds that were in jeopardy. He declared the statements of the County Executive at his press conference to be misleading: that they were hosted by GEEDC, the value of their assets, and if the money went to an intended purpose. He stated that after a meeting to prove that their reputation for being prudent with resources was well deserved, the County Executive requested information to fully understand the financial status of GECAC. He noted it was a timely process, but that they would comply to show that, contrary to the County Executive's comments, GECAC does not have the resources to maintain the same level of services if the county funds are not available. He clarified that GECAC and GEEDC were two separate organizations, with separate boards and CEOs; GEEDC is a landlord to

GECAC and GECAC does not have any access to their resources. He hoped the County Executive would change his mind with a review of the information, and continue to support GECAC's high level of services to Erie County, and build ways to enhance those services. He noted that when applying for a grant, if the money in its reserve will be the determinate factor, it should be clear and consistent for all applicants.

John Groh

John Groh, Millcreek: Mr. Groh listed his credentials as Millcreek Township Auditor and more, and stated he was troubled by the actions of the County Executive when members of the DEIC were removed. He stated there was an effort to 'clean house' due to optics, but that Solicitors Wachter and Talarico both concur there was no wrong-doing. He stated that there had been a gross misinterpretation by the County Executive in regards to what was an ethics violation. He voiced his opinion, based on the meeting minutes, that they did everything right. He hoped that they could all work together, regardless of race or party, and do the right thing. He also noted the current situation with GECAC funding, and how, in his experience of code enforcement, the services were needed as protective services. He stated any cut to GECAC funding would affect other programs on which seniors rely. He mentioned the Area Agency on Aging and the GED program, and hoped that a way to fund these programs could be worked out.

Shawnta' Pulliam-Brown

Shawnta' Pulliam-Brown, Erie, Founder and Director of Nurturing Hearts: Ms. Pulliam-Brown stated that Nurturing Hearts was a self-esteem and self-development non-profit organization for at-risk girls. She noted the programs and workshops combat negative thinking, teenage pregnancy, juvenile delinquency, and encourage drug and alcohol prevention. She maintained that this was the only organization in Erie County that specifically targets at-risk, disadvantaged girls providing evidence-based programs and proven results. She listed the results of a youth survey that contained an increase in areas of self-harm, depression, and suicide, and questioned if this program should be defunded. She maintained that the Nurturing Hearts programs had produced positive outcomes combating those statistics, according to Keystone Research Corporation. She stated graduates of Nurturing Hearts programs have become productive citizens of Erie County, overcoming obstacles to homelessness, disabilities, depression, abuse, poverty, and abandonment. She stated there were several programs in Erie County that taught leadership and life skills, but teaching young people how to believe in themselves against all odds is a prerequisite for success. She stated the needs of children must supersede politics, and listed the schools throughout Erie County that are served by Nurturing Hearts .

Nick DiPlacido

Nick DiPlacido, Waterford: Mr. DiPlacido voiced his support of GECAC, and the Summer Jams program. He stated it was designed to put money in their pockets, open doors for those who have never worked, and teach and guide them about the process of getting a job. He stated it also helped them learn how to

develop relationships and their responsibility to an employer, as well as the responsibilities an employer has to an employee. He maintained that the program was just as beneficial to the participating employer, as they were preparing the future workforce. He stated surveys showed that the participants had an overwhelming positive experience, continued their employment with the employer, and gained a mentor from the experience. He stated the participation of all contributors demonstrated the need for it. He noted the question should not be whether GECAC could get by without the money from the county, but how would this service be provided to the community without GECAC.

Valeri Raymond

Valeri Raymond, Corry: Ms. Raymond continued to read letters (also read at the Public Budget Hearing) from participants of the Corry Senior Center who urged the Council not to cut the funding for GECAC, imploring them to understand that this was where they found support, friends, food, and life. The letters were from senior center members Mary Burrows, Linda Goff, Dorothy Jackman, Pat Vogler, and Jenny Lindsey. Ms. Raymond reminded the Council that she was a voter and a veteran, as were many of those at the senior center. She recalled what life for them had been like during the pandemic, and how they declined in physical and mental health. She announced that the GECAC senior centers played a vital role throughout the Erie County community.

Karen Hund

Karen Hund, Erie: Ms. Hund stated she had been employed at GECAC, once as a counselor for Summer Jam. She shared her experience where the encouragement a student received through the Summer Jam program gave him confidence and skills needed to succeed. She shared a personal story of her son with autism, who thought his future was bleak, but the Summer Jams program taught him the skills needed in life, and he would now graduate high school and be able to get a job. She stated that she saw joy on the faces of the G.E.D. participants, and they would not be able to travel to another county for the help they needed. She shared two accounts where the Meals on Wheels program was the only companionship that the recipients had. She maintained that it wasn't just about the food, although they needed it, it was that someone cared about them. She referenced a situation where a neighbor didn't feel comfortable speaking to a meal recipient about an eviction notice they found in the trash, but called GECAC because they knew GECAC would care and help. She stated it would be a disgrace to cut GECAC funding, and the impact would be devastating.

Freda Tepfer

Fred Tepfer, Erie: Ms. Tepfer stated that cutting the GECAC funding would cause 200 people to lose their in-home care. She stated those services are not covered by Medicare or insurance. She noted they could all be in a position to need that help some day. She stated concern about the large amount of funding that would go to Project Resolve from ARP and Gaming funds if the current ordinances passed. She stated it made no sense for the county to put in more money than the state and host, and that this was not what those funds were intended to support. She also stated concern about the Summer Jam program and the GED program, and its funding. She stated concern for the Erie County Community College, homelessness services, no additional information on ARP funding, the Parks and Recreation position with no parks, the Urban Erie

Development Corporation funding for new Americans, the Cooperative Extension services that aid in soil testing, gardening, forest land owners, and water-shed protection. She stated the county should want to attract new residents and to do that beautiful walkable areas were needed (as long as they didn't cover up the Bayfront with tall buildings blocking the view), as well as a community college, and services.

Homer Smith

Homer Smith, Erie: Mr. Smith stated he has been a board member for GECAC since 1998. He stated during that time he had watched the good work of GECAC, and it changed lives. He dispelled the misnomer that this was a minority program, but instead services all races. He noted that as the designated anti-poverty agency of Erie County, it was their mission to eliminate poverty through empowerment, education, and community partnership, and to foster a better life for all. He expressed that community action changed lives, embodied the spirit of hope, and improved communities-it made Erie County a better place to live. He accredited GECAC with caring for the entire community, and is dedicated to helping people help themselves. He reiterated that GECAC would lose federal funding as well without county funds. He listed all the services that would be lost without GECAC, including but not limited to Meals on Wheels, GED services, Summer Jams, In-Home Care, Transportation Services, and Foster Grandparent Services, and how these services positively impact county residents, diminishing poverty and increasing self-sufficiency. He stated it would be a shame to cut funding for services that make a difference in County residents' lives due to lack of familiarity with programs provided, and not considering how the failure to fund would affect lives. He voiced hope on behalf of the GECAC Board, Administration, Staff, and recipients served that the County Council and Executive will revisit the proposed budget cuts, rethink the effect the cuts will have on the County, and provide the necessary funds that the designated anti-poverty agent, GECAC has requested.

Dennis Manendo

Mr. Manendo did not attend.

Beth Terp

Beth Terp, Erie: Ms. Terp recited a quote from Poor Richard's Almanac 1758. She apologized for her emotion, but it underlined the importance of these programs. She proclaimed the GED and Adult Literacy programs help all corners of Erie County, and the numbers of people who need help are on the rise. She stated that they were the only GED testing site for in-person testing, and although there was remote testing online, the requirements to do so were almost impossible for participants, such as an uninterrupted environment and high speed internet. She articulated the positive results of community members obtaining their GED, not only for themselves but for the economy of the community. She described the necessity for a GED to acquire employment in the job market, and stated the GED program lifts people out of poverty.

3 minutes

Carl Anderson, Erie: Mr. Anderson noted that the prior Council compromised to achieve a unanimous vote for what was right and best for the citizens of Erie County. He stated he had grave concerns about the direction the County of Erie was headed. He claimed the proposed 2023 budget was the most irresponsible

put forth in Erie County history, with a \$12-15M deficit, and left the County Council to fill the gaps. He stated the county government was the business of the people and should step forward when people needed help. He stated the previous ARPA money was allocated to programs that were separate from the county budget because it was one-time money that needed to be put forward in a responsible manner. He maintained that while Project Resolve may be a good project, it was at the expense of many others in the community, and that the County Executive's own consultant gave a final analysis that stated impacted industry does not qualify for funding.

Hattie Johnson, Erie: Ms. Johnson stated she was a mother, a nurse, a member of the GECAC Board, and a senior. She questioned if the Council realized how cutting the funds of GECAC would impact seniors. She maintained that GECAC assists seniors with loneliness, hunger, life changes, loss, health and medical issues, and finances. She stated that those on the Council will one day need the services of GECAC. She argued that the Council is telling the seniors who have stayed in Erie, and made Erie what it is, that they are not worth it, and GECAC is not worth it. She stated GECAC is based on what a person needs, not race, financial status, or age. She noted you can't ask others outside of Erie for funds when you won't fund yourself. She warned, it may be you that needs GECAC one day.

Cole Shenley, Erie: Mr. Shenley stated he was not shocked by the County Executive's wish to cut the DEIC funding, it was clear before the election he did not care about the most multi-racial citizens of Erie County. He noted that you can't see into a person's heart, but can judge their actions, and the County Executive's are bigoted in nature. He maintained that after viewing the proposed budget, he believed the County Executive was a true nihilist. He mentioned his mother who had served the community as a school board member, but wouldn't be able to get help because she was poor. He referenced the funding cuts, and the County Executive's reasoning that they don't do enough to grow the economy. He asserted that the County Executive's ideology of a pro-growth, pro-business economy making the community better, does nothing but give money to the wealthiest institutions and businesses rather than support a social safety net. He stated that this is a bankrupt myopic world view that hurts the needs of the many while enriching the chosen few. He ended by noting this is the largest budget in Erie County history, and funding potential projects comes before serving the needs of actual citizens.

Doris Philhower, Millcreek: Ms. Philhower articulated her duties at GECAC as a volunteer, and how, after the pandemic and being alone, how happy people were to be back, and have so many new members join.

Scott Rastetter, Washington: Mr. Rastetter referenced his time on County Council, and how the process for grant funding has changed from 'knowing someone' to having applications submitted and approved. He stated that he considered it a good idea to have control over how the money is used, and that it should be used for the good of the whole community. He questioned what had

happened to the project for homeless veterans at the former Pleasant Ridge Manor site, but was happy to hear that Family First was planning something for that purpose. He mentioned the budget and the deficit, and that people seemed scared to admit to it. He mentioned that the County Executive wanted to take over control of the whole process, and pick the places that grants go to whether they need the money or not. He stated that to take from the poor and give to the rich was not the intended purpose of the ARPA funds. He stated that although Project Resolve was a good project, they didn't apply for a grant for funding, and would continue with or without the County, and there was no guarantee of jobs or future growth. He suggested that if the County Executive wanted his name on the project, he should donate the \$5M himself. He also noted that the County Executive was trying to change the rules for members of boards.

Gary Winschel, Millcreek: Mr. Winschel stated he and his wife were on the Millcreek School Board, and wanted to thank County Council and Elections for prioritizing the safety of Millcreek students by removing voting sites from schools in Millcreek.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion to accept was made by Mr. Scutella, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0.

October 4, 2022 - Regular Meeting

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or his Designee

Mr. Lichtenwalter had a chart to share with the Council. Mr. Carroll, the Public Information Officer, stated the Administration spoke with Penn State that afternoon and they were committed to matching the County's \$5M funds to Project Resolve. He stated they did not take GECAC money to give to Project Resolve, and that it was a competitive grant process, not guaranteed money.

Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerman

Finance Committee Chairwoman Schauerman stated the Finance Committee met on Thursday October 27th and submitted to the agenda New Business: ITEMS A-Z.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella

Personnel Committee Chairman Scutella stated the Personnel Committee met on Thursday October 27th and submitted to the agenda Old Business: ITEM A.

Other

Vice Chairwoman Rennie stated for the record that the problems the Council was

addressing are larger than the funding of GECAC, but have to do with the entire County's operational budget. She stated the budget was presented to the Council with a lot of short term solutions to plugging the deficit, but it still exists. She noted the Council members are responsive and responsible to the citizens of Erie County. She affirmed her support for GECAC, and corrected earlier comments that "it was a competitive grant process". She stated that there were projects and entities on the grant list that were previously part of the operational budget, but moved to the gaming revenue funds budget when it was made available, including the libraries, GECAC, and the EMTA. She stated that the Gaming Revenue was based on a foundation of sand, and at some point the County Council and County Executive would have to resolve the issue together. She noted it was fair and appropriate to question a group's funding, but wrong to misinform or suggest half-truths about an organization or person's handling money effectively or ethically. She upheld that it was a shame to justify defunding and disbanding or dismissals by destroying reputations and brow beating. She said there were hard choices to make, but you don't have to take people down to make decisions. She stated that GECAC and GEEDC are two entirely different organizations. She maintained that many if not all Area Agencies on Aging are funded by the counties they are located in and then leverage monies to acquire more funding from other sources. She noted that the County had great, expanded services for veterans, which she supports, but the majority are also elderly. She noted she did not want the County to balance the budget on the backs of the elderly. She maintained that although human services can be a black hole for funding, and there are tough decisions to make, some basic programs deserve the County's attention, funding, and thanks.

Mr. Horton stated that everyone within the County has been impacted in a positive way, directly or indirectly, by the services provided by GECAC. GECAC is the foundation of the safety net for people in the community. He noted his own experience with the Summer Jams as a youth, and the lessons he learned from his time at GECAC about being trustworthy and responsible. He stated it was a difficult budget, and it was troublesome for him hearing the community had received an unprecedented amount of money, a once in a lifetime opportunity. He stated they don't have once in a lifetime problems. He asserted that the ARPA funding is for those most affected by the pandemic, and to invest in communities that have been historically discriminated against. He asked the County Council Solicitor to render a written opinion on the possible uses of ARPA funds for Project Resolve. He noted that Project Resolve was a great project, but found it hard to believe that senior leadership staff at Penn State would want to fund their project at the expense of all others in the community such as the homeless, youth, elderly, and assistance programs, and it was all relative and all tax dollars. He stated the homeless problem was increasing. He stated there are new problems now, with the recession and the war in the Ukraine, an increase in daily living expenses, and limited incomes, especially in the black and brown communities. He mentioned the discussions being had between the Council and the Sheriff's office about cellphones in the building, and that Judge Walsh had rendered an opinion. He stated the community is the landlord of the brick and mortar building of the Courthouse, and thanked the

citizens for their patience. He said no one should be asked to violate their Constitutional protections by securing their phones, and asked the Solicitor to review Judge Walsh's order and return a written opinion to Attorney Sala.

Chairman Shank stated that the GECAC issue is a complicated issue. He commended GECAC on what they had done in past, and for the great tactical assault that they put together on the Council, they appreciated the 50 emails and hundred letters. He stated the fear-mongering caused by GECAC that was in those letters should be rethought because they scare a lot of people. He proclaimed they had a record amount of applications for the grants that year, and GECAC wanted half of the money. He questioned who should get cut, GECAC that has a lot of money and assets, or others that started projects by themselves? He stated for GECAC to fear-monger the most vulnerable citizens, the grandma and grandpas and the aunts and uncles--he didn't like it one bit. He stated if they wanted to have a discussion with them, that would have been great, until we had you come in and hold your feet to the fire, we had no idea.

Mr. Jones, CEO GECAC, asked to respond to the Chairman's comments.

Chairman Shank responded no, he had his chance to speak at the podium, and it was his time.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 144, 2022, "Agreement to Render Legal Services of a Deputy Solicitor for Erie County Council and Associated Bureaus"(First Read 10/18/22)(Personnel Committee)

Ms. Slomski gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 144, 2022, "Agreement to Render Legal Services of a Deputy Solicitor for Erie County Council and Associated Bureaus". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 6-1 (Horton).

Mr. Horton stated he would not support it because it was not the best use of County funds. It would be better in professional services, and hire on an as-needed basis.

NEW BUSINESS

First Reading of Ordinance Number 145, 2022 "2022 American Rescue Plan Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,500,000 and Creation of New Line Item for Project Resolve"(Finance Committee)

Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 145, 2022 "2022 American Rescue Plan Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,500,000 and Creation of New Line Item for Project Resolve".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 146, 2022 "First

Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 146, 2022 "First 2022 Gaming Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,500,000 from

2022 Gaming Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,500,000 from Unrestricted Gaming Funds and Creation of New Line Item for Project Resolve"(Finance Committee) Unrestricted Gaming Funds and Creation of New Line Item for Project Resolve".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 147, 2022 "2023 Erie County Community College Budget"(Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 147, 2022 "2023 Erie County Community College Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 148, 2022 "2023 Debt Service Fund Budget"(Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 148, 2022 "2023 Debt Service Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 149, 2022 "2023 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget"(Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 149, 2022 "2023 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 150, 2022 "2023 Health Choices Fund Budget"(Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 150, 2022 "2023 Health Choices Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 151, 2022 "2023 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget"(Finance Committee) Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 151, 2022 "2023 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 152, 2022 "2023 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Fund Budget"(Finance Committee) Ms., Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 152, 2022 "2023 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 153, 2022 "2023

Number 153, 2022 "2023 Children and Youth Services Fund Budget".
Children and Youth
Services Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 154, 2022 "2023
Number 154, 2022 "2023 Planning Fund Budget".
Planning Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 155, 2022 "2023
Number 155, 2022 "2023 Domestic Relations Fund Budget".
Domestic Relations Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 156, 2022 "2023
Number 156, 2022 "2023 Library Fund Budget".
Library Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 157, 2022 "2023 Public
Number 157, 2022 "2023 Health Fund Budget".
Public Health Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 158, 2022 "2023 Public
Number 158, 2022 "2023 Safety Fund Budget".
Public Safety Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 159, 2022 "2023
Number 159, 2022 "2023 Gaming Fund Budget".
Gaming Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 160, 2022 "2023 Liquid
Number 160, 2022 "2023 Fuels Fund Budget".
Liquid Fuels Fund
Budget"(Finance
Committee)

First Reading of Ordinance Number 161, 2022 "2023 Pleasant Ridge Manor Operating Fund Budget"(Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 161, 2022 "2023 Pleasant Ridge Manor Operating Fund Budget"(Finance Committee).
First Reading of Ordinance Number 162, 2022 "2023 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Fund Budget"(Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 162, 2022 "2023 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Fund ".
First Reading of Ordinance Number 163, 2022 "2023 Erie County Care Management Budget"(Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 163, 2022 "2023 Erie County Care Management Budget".
First Reading of Ordinance Number 164, 2022 "2023 American Rescue Plan Fund Budget"(Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 164, 2022 "2023 American Rescue Plan Fund Budget".
First Reading of Ordinance Number 165, 2022 "2023 General Fund Budget"(Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 165, 2022 "2023 General Fund Budget".
First Reading of Ordinance Number 166, 2022 "2023 Real Estate Tax Levy"(Finance Committee)	Ms. Slomski gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 166, 2022 "2023 Real Estate Tax Levy".
Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 44, 2022 "Resolution of the County of Erie, Pennsylvania to approve the Feasibility Assessment: Planning for New Parks and Recreation Coordinator Position"(Finance	Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 44, 2022 "Resolution of the County of Erie, Pennsylvania to approve the Feasibility Assessment: Planning for New Parks and Recreation Coordinator Position". A motion was made to amend the ordinance to add the language that upon exhaustion of grant funds, the position would be eliminated, by Mrs. Rennie, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0. A motion was made, as amended, by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mrs. Rennie, and carried 7-0.

Committee)**Possible Adoption of Resolution 45, 2022" Approving the application for a PA DCNR Circuit Rider Grant"(Finance Committee)**

Ms. Slomski read Possible Adoption of Resolution 45, 2022" Approving the application for a PA DCNR Circuit Rider Grant ". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.

Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 46, 2022 "Approval of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant Application and the Cooperation Agreement among the Erie County General Authority, Gannon University, and the County of Erie for the Gannon University Athletics Complex Project"(Finance Committee)

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 46, 2022 "Approval of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant Application and the Cooperation Agreement among the Erie County General Authority, Gannon University, and the County of Erie for the Gannon University Athletics Complex Project". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0.

Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 47, 2022 "Approval of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant Application and the Cooperation Agreement among the Erie County General Authority, Gannon University, and the County of Erie for the Gannon University IHACK Project"(Finance Committee)

Ms. Slomski read Resolution Number 47, 2022 "Approval of the Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant Application and the Cooperation Agreement among the Erie County General Authority, Gannon University, and the County of Erie for the Gannon University IHACK Project". A motion was made by Mrs. Schauerma, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Shank stated he wanted people to know that he went to Penn State to see Project Resolve, and there is a misconception that they are taking money from them (GECAC) and taking it up the hill. It doesn't work that way. He stated he was excited about Project Resolve, but it's controversial. He stated that their experts said it was okay . He said that the Gaming money was to invest in the community, and hopefully it will build jobs.

Mr. Horton stated it should be mentioned that no matter what line the money comes from, it's ARPA , and is intended for those communities that are most impacted. He said they should ask the upstairs Solicitor for a written opinion as well, to have it memorialized so when it comes back and we have to pay for it we

have some justification.

The meeting adjourned at 7:41pm on the motion of Mr. Horton.

-The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday, November 17, 2022 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.

-The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Wednesday, November 23, 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.