

AGENDA

Erie County Council

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The public is invited to attend.



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

Erie County Courthouse
140 West 6th Street Room 117
Erie, PA 16501

REGULAR MEETING

Tuesday, April 25, 2023

5:00 P.M. – Council Caucus

6:00 P.M. – Council Meeting

View Live: <https://www.youtube.com/c/eriecountypa>

1. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
2. **OPTIONAL PRAYER OR REFLECTION**
3. **ROLL CALL**
4. **HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**
 - A. Daniel Tercho
 - B. Jennie Hagerty
 - C. Lou Aliota
 - D. Other Speakers
5. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - A. April 11, 2023 - Regular Meeting
 - B. November 17, 2022-Public Hearing-Budget
 - C. November 1, 2022-Public Hearing-Budget
6. **REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS**
 - A. County Executive and/or his Designee
 - B. Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerman
 - C. Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella
 - D. Other

7. OLD BUSINESS

- A. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 29, 2023 "2023 Children & Youth Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$15,000 for the Creation of Expense Line Items due to Court Ordered Placements" (First Read 4/11/23)(Finance Committee)

Placement of children in facilities is done through court order. If new facilities are utilized, an expense line must be added to the budget for their payment.

- B. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 30, 2023, "Ninth 2023 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$60,000 for Increase in Professional Fees Line in Human Resources Department" (First Read 4/11/23)(Finance Committee)

The Human Resources Department is in continued labor negotiations to settle six remaining collective bargaining agreements, and is requesting this money in light of the projected work.

- C. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 31, 2023, "First 2023 Gaming Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,000,000 and Creation of New Line Item for Continuation of the Fire/EMS Transformational Grant Program" (First Read 4/11/23)(Finance Committee)

Of the \$26M budget, the Erie County Department of Public Safety was allocated \$1M from the 2021 American Rescue Plan Act Budget and \$300,000 from the 2021 General Fund Budget following the transfer of American Rescue Plan Act Revenue Replacement funds to the General Fund. Originally, an additional \$1M was supposed to be allocated to Public Safety from the 2022 ARPA budget, and this is why gaming funds are now being suggested. The Department of Planning and Community Development and the Department of Public Safety created the Fire/EMS Transformational Grant Program to incentivize: (1) development of merger/collaboration plans or strategies to improve service area coverage, (2) training and education, (3) recruitment/pipeline development, (4) retention strategies, and (5) innovative strategies to help address the crisis facing Erie County emergency services.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 33, 2023 "2023 Planning Fund Budget Revised Expenditure of \$10,000 and Creation of a New Line Item in the 2020 CDBG Administration Bureau for Temporary Staffing"(Finance Committee)

The position is currently vacant due to retirement and has been repeatedly posted. In the interim, the Director of Planning is intending to ask the retiree to work on an hourly basis to ensure no projects are delayed until the position is filled.

- B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 34, 2023, "First 2023 Planning Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,667,825 from DCED for a Whole-Home Repairs Grant and the Creation of the Whole-Home Repairs Bureau"(Finance Committee)
In following the application submission approved with Ordinance 2 of 2023, the County was awarded \$2,647,825 from the PA Department of Community and Economic Development for the Whole-Home Repairs Grant. The County Planning and Community Development Department will be administering the funding for home repairs or modifications for disabled or low to moderate income homeowners; workforce training programs to connect trainees to jobs in the home repair field, and for program administration. DCED is providing an upfront payment of the total funding allocation and the funds must be utilized by 12/31/2026.

- C. First Reading of Ordinance Number 35, 2023 "Waiver of the Requirements of the County Purchasing Code for Purchase of NIBIN Cartridge Cases Acquisition & Triage Package from Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc."(Finance Committee)
Ultra Electronics Forensic Technology Inc. is the sole source for the NIBIN Cartridge Cases Acquisition & Triage Package that was included in adopted Ordinance 22 of 2023.

- D. First Reading of Ordinance Number 36, 2023 "Director of Economic Development Salary Ordinance" (Personnel Committee)
Per Council's request, the Administration has brought this salary request back as an ordinance. The current base rate for this position as an NB20 is \$32.54/hour (\$66,707/year). The Administration would like the New Director's salary to stay at the 20% increase of \$41.27/hour(\$85,842/year) that was approved in Ordinance 76 of 2022.

- E. Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 17, 2023" In Support of Increase of an Additional \$99 Million in Medical Assistance(MA) Funding in the 2023-2024 PA State Budget(Finance Committee)
Similar to previous years, this request came from Pleasant Ridge Manor. It is in support of Pleasant Ridge Manor, the Pennsylvania Coalition of Affiliated Healthcare & Living Communities (PACAH), and all fourteen counties that operate a county-owned long-term care facility.

- F. Possible Adoption of Resolution 20, 2023 "Approval of Lease Agreement between the County of Erie and Lawrence Park Township for the Offices of Magisterial District Judge Lisa Ferrick"(Finance Committee)
Case numbers in Judge Ferrick's office have now surpassed previous pre-Covid statistics and space issues are adversely impacting the office. Relocating the offices would aid in providing effective services to the public and ensuring safety of the public and the staff, while saving tax payer dollars with this new lease.

- G. Possible reappointment of William Conway to the Erie County Library Advisory Board. Term to expire December 31, 2025. (Winarski)
This will be the second term for Mr. Conway.
- H. Possible appointment of Michael T. Victor, J.D., LL.D to the Erie County Community College Board of Trustees. Term to expire August 31, 2028. (Bayle)
Mr. Victor will replace David Mitchell whose term expired.
- I. Possible appointment of Bonnie Barthelmes to the Erie County Library Advisory Board. Term to expire December 31, 2025.(Scutella)
Ms. Barthelmes will replace Julie Thiess-Boam.
- J. Possible appointment of Shannon S. Lofton to the Office of Children and Youth Advisory Board. Term to expire December 31, 2025.
Mr. Lofton will replace Helen Carter-Snell whose term expired.
- K. Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 47-027-060.0-001.59 Old State Rd Lot 9 TRL
An offer of \$250 was made by KENNETH A. BURNS and DESTINY N. PETTIT for the parcel at OLD STATE ROAD LOT 9 TRL. The other taxing bodies have approved the sale. Bidders intend to utilize as a single family dwelling.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- A. *The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday, May 4, 2023 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.
*The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday, May 9, 2023 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.