

AGENDA

Erie County Council

View More at
www.eriecountypa.gov

Public is invited to attend.



Brian Shank, Chairman
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, August 15, 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. Susan Kraft
 - B. Randy Barnes
 - C. Valerie Pesta
 - D. Judy Lynch
 - E. Mary Rennie
 - F. Others
5. **MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**
 - A. July 11, 2023 - Regular Meeting
 - B. July 28, 2023 - Special Meeting
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 59, 2023, "Waiver of Bid Requirements and Approval of Contract with Strategy Solutions"
(First Read 7/11/23) (Finance Committee)

This will allow the County to enter into a contract with Strategy Solutions, Inc. to define, develop, and execute a collaborative solution to sustain the EMS system in Erie County. In an attempt to research other qualified professional consulting services, the area of expertise is limited or cost prohibitive in comparison to Strategy Solutions, Inc. Strategy Solutions, Inc. is a local provider of professional consulting services with over 25 years experience and a proven track record working with governments and over 400+ non-profit organizations. The total cost including engagement, planning and implementation support, is \$89,750. There is not a request for a supplemental appropriation to fund this project as County Executive Davis has authorized the Department of Planning and Community Development and the Department of Public Safety to utilize funds from the transformational grant program.

- B. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 60, 2023, "Twelfth 2023 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$250,000 For Creation of New Line Item and Reappropriation of Revenue Replacement Funds to be Used in 2023 to the Public Safety Department" (First Read 7/11/23) (Finance Committee)

County Council approved the budget for the County's first tranche of Coronavirus State and Local Fiscal Recovery Fund (CSLFRF) monies on August 5, 2021. Of the \$26 Million budget, the Erie County Department of Public Safety was allocated \$1 Million 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. The \$300,000 was to support grants to 501c4 Fire/EMS agencies; 9 of the 36 eligible agencies are 501c4 nonprofit organizations.

According to the Home Rule Charter, appropriations lapse at year end. The monies that were appropriated and the encumbrances still exist and therefore the Department of Planning and Community Development and the Department of Public Safety are asking that the remaining balance of the revenue replacement funds in the amount of \$250,000 to be carried over to the Public Safety grant program for the 2023 budget. Under the public safety grant program, the County has awarded and is thereby contractually obligated to fund 4 operational support reimbursement grants and 1 transformational reimbursement grant totaling \$190,000. In addition, the remaining balance of \$60,000 includes a portion of the proposed professional services contract with Strategy Solutions, Inc.

- C. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 61, 2023, "2023 Children and Youth Services Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$15,000 for the Creation of Expense Line Items due to Court Ordered Placements" (First Read 7/11/23) (Finance Committee)

These line items are requested to be created due to court ordered placements of children into a facility that was not used during the creation of the budget.

Budget transfers will be used to transfer funds for these newly created line items. This is a common occurrence with the Children and Youth Fund budget. Court

ordered placements of children often occur to facilities that have never been used, thus requiring a new line item. Budget transfers from existing placement expense lines that are either being underutilized or not used this year will fund these new placement expenses.

- D. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 63, 2023, "2023 Planning Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$300,000 For Transfer of Demo Fees" (First Read 7/11/23) (Finance Committee)
This Ordinance is similar to Ordinance 167 of 2022 in which Act 152 (PA Act 152 of 2016) Demo Fees Fund was established by Ordinance 139, 2017, to allow the Recorder of Deeds of a County to collect a fee of no more than \$15.00 for each deed and mortgage reported. The fees are used for the demolition of blighted property. The current Restricted fund balance for the Demo fund is \$300,673.31 and an appropriation of \$300,000 from the Restricted demo fee fund balance to cover the cost of the 2023 demolitions.

- E. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 64, 2023, "2023 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$300,000 For Transfer of Demo Fees to Planning" (First Read 7/11/23) (Finance Committee)
This is a companion to the previous ordinance showing the transfer of \$300,000 from the General Fund to the Planning Fund.

- F. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 65, 2023, "Waiver of Bid Requirements and Approval of Contract Extension with ECCA" (First Read 7/11/23) (Finance Committee)
ECCA and Erie County entered an agreement for payroll services in 2012 and this would approve an extension of the ongoing relationship.

- G. Second Reading of Ordinance Number 69, 2023, "2023 General Fund Budget Revised Revenue & Expenditure of \$1,224 for the Elimination of Director of Procurement Position and the Creation of Manager of Procurement Position" (First Read 7/11/23) (Personnel Committee)
As a follow up to Ordinance 42 of 2023 in the reorganization of the Procurement Department, this creates the Manager of Procurement Position.

8. NEW BUSINESS

- A. First Reading of Ordinance Number 70, 2023 "Fifth 2023 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$5,000 for the Grant Award from the Network of National Libraries of Medicine for the Advertising of *All of Us*" (Finance Committee)
This ordinance allows awarded grant money to be appropriated to the Library for reimbursement of provided advertising for the Health Screening Fair on April 22, 2023 and books purchased to add to the Library's collection.

- B. First Reading of Ordinance Number 71, 2023, "Sixth 2023 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$6,000 for a Grant Received from the Housing Authority of the City of Erie" (Finance Committee)
This ordinance will reimburse the Library Fund Budget with \$6,000 of awarded grant funds for book collections, lost or damaged bookmobile materials, and summer programming costs from the Housing Authority of the City of Erie.
- C. First Reading of Ordinance Number 72, 2023, "Fourteenth 2023 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$762,696 for the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Grant to the District Attorney's Office for Local Law Enforcement Support and the Creation of a New Position" (Finance Committee)
This ordinance allocates grant funding from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime to the District Attorney's Office. It also allows for the creation of a new position in the District Attorney's office, Digital Forensics Examiner.
- D. First Reading of Ordinance Number 73, 2023 "Repeal of Resolution Number 22, 2023 and Rescission of Agreement Between the County of Erie and the Redevelopment Authority of the County of Erie" (Finance Committee)
This ordinance has been brought forward by member of Council Andre Horton. It would repeal Resolution 22, 2023 which allowed the transfer of Erie County property to the Erie County Redevelopment Authority.
- E. First Reading of Ordinance Number 74, 2023, "Third 2023 ARPA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$33,000 and Creation of a New Line Item for the Gaines Community Center Roof" (Finance Committee)
This ordinance will allocate ARPA funds to the Gaines Community Center for a new roof. The total payment for the project is \$62,895; half, \$31,447.50, to be paid by ARPA funds and the other half through GEEDC.
- F. First Reading of Ordinance Number 75, 2023, "Reclassification of Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator Position from NB14 to NB15" (Personnel Committee)
This ordinance will change the grade level of the Assistant Emergency Management Coordinator position in alignment with Director Grappy's reorganization of the Emergency Management Division.
- G. First Reading of Ordinance Number 76, 2023, "Reclassification of Emergency Management Specialist Position, Grade Level NB9, to Emergency Management Planner, Grade Level NB 12" (Personnel Committee)
This ordinance will reclassify the position of Emergency Management Specialist to an Emergency Management Planner in alignment with Director Grappy's reorganization of the Emergency Management Division.

- H. Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 26, 2023 "Approving the Financial Statements and Independent Auditor's Report for the County of Erie and Related Funds for the Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2022" (Finance Committee)
The Erie County Council engaged Zelenkofske Axelrod LLC to perform a comprehensive single Audit of Erie County Government and its related funds for the year ending December 31, 2022 in accordance with Article IV Section 12 of the Administrative Code.
- I. Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 27, 2023 "To Prohibit the Censorship of Reading Materials in the Erie County Library System" (Finance Committee)
This resolution was brought forth by member of Council Andre Horton. The resolution addresses the act of removing an LGBTQ+ display at the Library, and the act being a discriminatory violation of rights under state and federal law.

9. ADJOURNMENT

- A. *The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday, August 24, 2023 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.
*The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday, August 29, 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.