

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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Brian Shank, Chairman
Terry M. Scutella, Vice Chairman
Charlie Bayle
André R. Horton
Ellen Schauerman
Tom Spagel
Jim Winarski

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 31, 2023

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Shank led the Pledge of Allegiance.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR REFLECTION

Mrs. Schauerman recited an inspirational quote.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Chair Brian Shank, Vice Chair Terry Scutella, Charlie Bayle, Ellen Schauerman, Thomas Spagel and Jim Winarski (via phone)
Members Absent: Andre Horton

Others Present: Karen Chillcott, Megan Moore, and Tom Talarico, Esq.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Others

Issy Lawrie, Girard: Ms. Laurie expressed her deep connection to libraries, describing their importance in her formative years, her children's lives, and her current regular use. She voiced three concerns related to the lease of the Blasco Library space to Gannon University. She expressed concern that, despite numerous people sharing their feelings on the matter, it seemed that the Council had already made up their minds when it came time to vote. She emphasized the importance of representing the people and considering their views in decision-making. She questioned the value of public input if it did not influence decisions. She raised an issue with the three working days of notice given to the public about the decision. She felt that this was insufficient time for people to become aware and participate in the decision-making process, and she questioned whether the Sunshine Law required better public awareness before decisions were made. She challenged the characterization of the space in question as "unused and underused." She argued that the space in question housed librarians' offices, public computer spaces, and private workrooms created by the Library for public use. She disputed the claim that it was unused and underused, stating that Gannon University would be taking over spaces actively utilized by the public and Library staff. She proposed rescinding the lease. She urged further investigation into the matter and recommended consulting the people of Erie before making decisions about public spaces.

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS MEETING**

October 17, 2023 - Regular Meeting A motion to accept previous meeting minutes was made by Schauerman, seconded by Scutella, and passed 6-0.

**REPORTS OF COUNTY
OFFICIALS**

**County Executive and/or
his Designee**

Finance Committee - Mrs. Schauerman Mrs. Schauerman reported that the Finance Committee met on October 17th and submitted to the agenda Old Business: A and B and a New Business: A, D-Z.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Scutella Mr. Scutella reported that the Personnel Committee met on October 17 and submitted to the agenda New Business: B and C.

Other

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 90, 2023 "2023 General Fund Budget Waiver of County Purchasing Code for a Two Year Contract for Westlaw Subscription for Judges' Library" (First Read 10/17/23)(Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a Second Reading of Second Reading of Ordinance Number 90, 2023 "2023 General Fund Budget Waiver of County Purchasing Code for a Two-Year Contract for Westlaw Subscription for Judges' Library". A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Spagel and passed 6-0.

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 92, 2023 "Approval of Waiver of the Erie County Purchasing Code for the Libraries Integrated Library System (Polaris)" (First Read 10/17/23)(Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 92, 2023 "Approval of Waiver of the Erie County Purchasing Code for the Libraries Integrated Library System (Polaris)." A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Spagel, and passed 6-0.

NEW BUSINESS

A motion to move items A, B, and C to a Second Reading was made by Scutella, seconded by Schauerman, and passed 6-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 93, 2023 "Seventh Ms. Chillcott gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 93, 2023 "Seventh 2023 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$41,609 for a

- 2023 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$41,609 for a Matching Grant from the Keystone Grant Award" (Finance Committee)** Matching Grant from the Keystone Grant Award". A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-0.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 94, 2023 "Approval of Agreement between the County of Erie and Erie Court Association of Professional Employees (ECAPE)" (Personnel Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 94, 2023 "Approval of Agreement between the County of Erie and Erie Court Association of Professional Employees (ECAPE)". A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-0.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2023 "Approval of Agreement between the COUNTY OF ERIE AND AFSCME LOCAL 2666 (CLERICAL/TECHNICAL) APPENDIX 1 DEPUTY SHERIFF" (Personnel Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2023 "Approval of Agreement between the COUNTY OF ERIE AND AFSCME LOCAL 2666 (CLERICAL/TECHNICAL) APPENDIX 1 DEPUTY SHERIFF". A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Scutella, and passed 6-0.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 96, 2023 "Approving the 2024 Erie County Community College Budget" (Finance Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 96, 2023 "Approving the 2024 Erie County Community College Budget".
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 97, 2023 "2024 Debt Service Fund" (Finance Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 97, 2023 "2024 Debt Service Fund".
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 98, 2023 "2024 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget" (Finance Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 98, 2023 "2024 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget".
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 99, 2023 "2024 Health Choices Fund"** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 99, 2023 "2024 Health Choices Fund Budget".

**Budget" (Finance
Committee)**

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 100, 2023 "2024
Mental Health/Intellectual
Disabilities Fund Budget"
(Finance Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 100, 2023 "2024 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 101, 2023 "2024
Drug and Alcohol Abuse
Fund Budget" (Finance
Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 101, 2023 "2024 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 102, 2023 "2024
Children and Youth
Services Fund Budget"
(Finance Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 102, 2023 "2024 Children and Youth Services Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 103, 2023 "2024
Planning and Community
Fund Budget" (Finance
Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 103, 2023 "2024 Planning and Community Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 104, 2023 "2024
Domestic Relations Fund
Budget" (Finance
Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 104, 2023 "2024 Domestic Relations Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 105, 2023 "2024
Library Fund Budget"
(Finance Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 105, 2023 "2024 Library Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 106, 2023 "2024
Public Health Fund
Budget" (Finance
Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 106, 2023 "2024 Public Health Fund Budget".

**First Reading of Ordinance
Number 107, 2023 "2024
Public Safety Fund
Budget" (Finance
Committee)** Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 107, 2023 "2024 Public Safety Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 108, 2023 "2024 Gaming Fund Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 108, 2023 "2024 Gaming Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 109, 2023 "2024 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 109, 2023 "2024 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 110, 2023 "2024 Pleasant Ridge Manor Operating Fund Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 110, 2023 "2024 Pleasant Ridge Manor Operating Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 111, 2023 "2024 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Fund Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 111, 2023 "2024 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 112, 2023 "2024 Erie County Care Management Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 112, 2023 "2024 Erie County Care Management Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 113, 2023 "2024 American Rescue Plan Fund Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 113, 2023 "2024 American Rescue Plan Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 114, 2023 "2024 General Fund Budget" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 114, 2023 "2024 General Fund Budget".

First Reading of Ordinance Number 115, 2023 "2024 Real Estate Tax Levy" (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott gave a First Reading of Ordinance Number 115, 2023 "2024 Real Estate Tax Levy".

Possible Adoption of Resolution Number 37, 2023 "Approval of Tentative Lease Agreement" Ms. Chillcott read Resolution Number 37, 2023 "Approval of Tentative Lease Agreement with North East Township for Office Space Located at 10300 West Main Road, North East, Pennsylvania for Magisterial District Judge Scott".

**with North East Township Hammer". A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed for Office Space Located at 6-0.
10300 West Main Road,
North East, Pennsylvania
for Magisterial District
Judge Scott Hammer"
(Finance Committee)**

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 08-034-133.0-005.00 (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott announced the Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 08-034-133.0-005.00. A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Scutella, and passed 6-0.

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 08-034-133.0-004.00 (Finance Committee) Ms. Chillcott announced the Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 08-034-133.0-004.00. A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Spagel, and passed 6-0.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 6:17pm on a motion by Scutella.

***The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are Thursday, November 16, 2023 at 4pm in room 114A, Erie County Courthouse or via Zoom.**

***The next Regular Meeting of County Council is Tuesday, November 28, 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.**