

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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Terry M. Scutella, Chairman
Chris Drexel, Vice Chairman
Charlie Bayle
Rock Copeland
André R. Horton
Ellen Schauerma
Jim Winarski

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Wednesday, December 18, 2024

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chairman Scutella called the meeting to order at 12:02pm.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Terry M. Scutella, Chair, Chris Drexel, Vice Chair, Charlie Bayle, Rock Copeland, Andre Horton, Ellen Schauerma, and Jim Winarski

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

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

There were no members of the public who wished to speak.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 98, 2024 "County Council Action to Override the Executive's Veto of Ordinance Number 64, 2024"

A motion to approve Ordinance 98, 2024 was made by Schauerma and seconded by Copeland.

Chair Scutella opened up the discussion for Ordinance 98, 2024. Mr. Winarski said he now disagreed with limiting the involvement of the County Executive. Solicitor Talarico suggested that the Council amend the ordinance to replace the word *restricted* with *approved* in the last paragraph, and to strike the rest starting with *and disallowed*. Mr. Copeland asked how this vote would affect the budget allocation. Mr. Talarico stated he was not aware of anything in the budget pertaining to the Fly Erie Fund. Mr. Talarico also stated that the County Executive did not have the authority to veto the language that restricted the County Executive from serving on the board and following the rule of law of the Home Rule Charter of Erie County. Mr. Copeland questioned if the County Executive could appoint a person to the Fly Erie board instead. Mr. Talarico responded that that power remained with the Fly Erie board. Mr. Winarski asked if allocating funds could be revisited in 2025. Mr. Horton replied, and stated as a supplemental appropriation. Chair Scutella presented the elucidation of the vote; to not override the vote would be to not allocate the funds to Fly Erie.

A motion to amend was made by Horton, seconded by Copeland, and carried 5-2. (Bayle, Schauerman)

A motion to approve as amended was made by Horton, seconded by Drexel, and failed 4-3 (Bayle, Schauerman, Winarski) as a majority plus one was needed to override.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 12:20pm on a motion by Copeland.