

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, December 10, 2024

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 pm by Chair Scutella and the Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR REFLECTION

An inspirational quote was offered by Mrs. Schauerman.

ROLL CALL

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

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

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Freda Tepfer, City of Erie: Ms. Tepfer relayed her displeasure that during the lake effect snow storm the county Facebook page was not updated, but instead citizens were told to go to the County Executive's re-election page during press conferences to gather pertinent information, and questioned the public information officer and IT department. Ms. Tepfer discussed the GIS department mapping hydrants and suggested storm drains also be added. She reviewed the election report from the Board of Elections meeting and stated that the behavior exhibited by the County Executive and IT and lack of cooperation during the 2024 Presidential Election was childish with regard to not giving the assistance needed to the Council and Elections staff, and their purpose was for the people, not to make themselves look good. She stated her inability to comprehend why she couldn't work in her polling location while running for the elected position of Judge of Elections.

Cole Schenley, City of Erie: Mr. Schenley discussed his attempts to stay informed and engaged on the Budget, as well as current events within county government. He announced his displeasure at the opaqueness and political gamesmanship displayed by the government officials. He noted he understood there were different perspectives, but found it appalling that economic

development was more important to the County Executive than human beings. He noted investing in the residents of the County should be the main focus.

Others - 3 Minutes

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

A motion to approve the minutes of October 29, 2024 was made by Schauerman, seconded by Drexel, and carried 7-0.

October 29, 2024- Regular Meeting

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or his Designee No report was offered by the County Executive.

Finance Committee - Mr. Copeland Mr. Copeland gave a report on items moved from the Finance Committee to the agenda.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Winarski Mr. Winarski gave a report on items moved from the Personnel Committee to the agenda.

Other

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 85, 2024, "Approval of the 2025 Erie County Non-Bargaining Employees Pay Plan" (First Reading 11/21/24)(Personnel Committee) After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Drexel, and passed 5-2.
Yea: Bayle, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Copeland, Horton

Ordinance Number 86, 2024, "2025 Appointed Official Salary Ordinance - Director of Administration" (First Reading 11/21/24)(Personnel Committee) After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 5-2.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Drexel, Horton

Ordinance Number 87, 2024, "2025 Appointed Official Salary Ordinance - Director of Finance" (First Reading After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 4-3.
Yea: Bayle, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Copeland, Drexel, Horton

**11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

**Ordinance Number 88,
2024, "2025 Appointed
Official Salary Ordinance -
Director of Human
Resources" (First Reading
11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

**Ordinance Number 89,
2024, "2025 Appointed
Official Salary Ordinance -
County Solicitor" (First
Reading
11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

**Ordinance Number 90,
2024, "2025 Appointed
Official Salary Ordinance -
First Assistant County
Solicitor" (First Reading
11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

**Ordinance Number 91,
2024, "2025 Appointed
Official Salary Ordinance -
Two Assistant County
Solicitors" (First Reading
11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 4-3.
Yea: Bayle, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Copeland, Drexel, Horton

**Ordinance Number 92,
2024, "2025 Appointed
Official Salary Ordinance -
Public Defender" (First
Reading
11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

**Ordinance Number 93,
2024, "2025 Appointed
Official Salary Ordinance -
Full and Part-Time
Assistant Public Defenders"
(First Reading**

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

**11/21/24)(Personnel
Committee)**

Ordinance Number 94, 2024, "2025 Appointed Official Salary Ordinance - First Assistant Public Defender" (First Reading 11/21/24)(Personnel Committee)

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

Ordinance Number 95, 2024, "2025 Appointed Official Salary Ordinance - County Clerk" (First Reading 11/21/24)(Personnel Committee)

After a second reading by the Clerk, a motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 97, 2024, "2024 Appointed Official Salary Ordinance-Full Time Assistant Public Defender" (Personnel Committee)

A first reading was completed by the Clerk.

Resolution Number 33, 2024, "Approving the 2025 Solicitor Contract for the Office of the Erie County Controller" (Finance Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

Resolution Number 34, 2024, "Approving the 2025 Solicitor Contract for the Office of the Erie County Sheriff" (Finance Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

Resolution Number 35, 2024, "Approving the 2025 Solicitor Contract for the Office of the Erie County Clerk of Records" (Finance Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

- Resolution Number 36, 2024, "Approval of Tentative Lease Agreement with Moxie Fore Real Estate for Office Space Located at 809 West 12th Street, Erie, Pennsylvania for Magisterial District Judge Alison Scarpitti" (Finance Committee)** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None
- Resolution Number 37, 2024, "Approving the Tax Exoneration of 33-053-225.0-0-001.76" (Finance Committee)** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None
- Resolution Number 38, 2024, "Approving the Tax Exoneration of 33-055-247.0-009.85" (Finance Committee)** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None
- Resolution Number 39, 2024, "Approval of Exoneration of Penalty and County Fees at Index Number 07-026-081.0-002.00" (Finance Committee)** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None
- Resolution Number 40, 2024, "Approving the Tax Exoneration of Multiple Parcels Owned by the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Erie" (Finance Committee)** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None
- Possible appointment of Jeffrey Horneman to the NWPA Job Connect Board - Workforce Development Board. Term to expire June 30, 2028. (County Executive) (Personnel Committee)** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton
- Possible reappointment of** A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 6-1.

Robert Buhl to the Erie County Conservation Board. Term to expire December 31, 2028. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)

Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

Possible reappointment of Timothy M. Zieziula, JD to the Erie County Board of Health. Term to expire December 31, 2028. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 4-3.
Yea: Bayle, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Copeland, Drexel, Horton

Possible appointment of Patricia Pfadt to the Erie County Agricultural Land Preservation Board. Term to expire December 31, 2027. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 6-1.
Yea: Bayle, Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Winarski
Nay: Horton

Possible appointment of Dean Curtis to the Erie County Land Preservation Board. Partial term to expire December 31, 2025. (County Executive)(Personnel Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Bayle, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 07-014-038.0-011.00 (Finance Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 16-030-026.0-236.00 (Finance Committee)

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 40-033-015.0-
002.00 (Finance
Committee)**

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 47-026-084.0-
026.00 (Finance
Committee)**

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 47-026-084.0-
027.00 (Finance
Committee)**

A motion was made by Schauerman, seconded by Winarski, and passed 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

ADJOURNMENT

A motion to adjourn was made by Andre Horton. Chair Scutella called for adjournment at 6:26pm.

***The Reorganization
Meeting of County Council
is Tuesday, January 2, 2025
at the Erie County
Courthouse or streamed
live at the link provided on
the County website.**