

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING MINUTES

Call to Order

Board of Elections Meeting was called to order at 3:37 by Chairman Drexel.

Roll Call

Roll Call was taken by County Clerk Karen Chillcott. Present were Chairman Drexel, Councilwoman Schauerman and Councilman Copeland. Also present, by phone, Councilman Scutella.

In addition, County Clerk Karen Chillcott, Attorneys Talarico and Stranahan and Financial Advisor Domowicz as well as Director of Elections, Tonia Fernandez.

Hearing of the Public

Freda Tepfer-City of Erie, Ms Tepfer wanted council to note that any changes to a person's voter information has to be made in person using a birth certificate or a passport. She asked if the voter registration office was prepared to handle this? She stated that you have to keep your passport up to date to make these changes, which is costly, and then this becomes a pay to vote tax. Her next concern was that she is happy with the new Ballot Boxes that the council are hoping to get in place soon. She stated that the Designated Agent form is a lot of work and is asking that it be available electronically.

No other persons asked to speak at this time.

Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting

March 13, 2025 Board of Elections Meeting

Motion made by Mrs. Schauerman to approve the minutes of the last meeting dated March 13, 2025. Seconded by Mr. Copeland. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All
Nay: None

New Business

Official Polling Location Change of Millcreek 4 from Kury Hall, 512 Kelso Dr, Erie PA 16505 to Erie Community College, 2403 W. 8th Street, Erie, Pa 16505

Chairman Drexel read New Business A. Mr. Copeland asked County Clerk Chillcott to clarify for the public. She stated that the old location had a water main break that they are unable to recover from at this time so the polling location has moved to the Erie County Community College, located about one mile away. Mr. Copeland would like plans to continue to look for a permanent polling location for this area. Mr. Copeland then called for the Motion, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All
Nay: None

Official Polling Location Change of Union Township from Union Twp. - Municipal Bldg. 16300 Rt 8, Union City, PA 16438 to 16450 Route 8, Union City, PA 16438

Motion to approve the polling change made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All
Nay: None

Possible Approval of Resolution 2 of 2025 Approving the Ballot Layout and Offices for the 2025 Erie County Municipal Primary Election

Motion was made by Mr. Copeland to approve Resolution 2, 2025, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All
Nay: None

Possible Approval of Resolution 3 of 2025 Authorizing the Purchase of Sentinel Smart Mail Ballot Drop Boxes from Runbeck Election Services, Inc.

Resolution 3, 2025 concerning the purchase of Smart Ballot Drop Boxes was discussed. Some questions arose about the Designated Agent Form and how that would work. Also, some discussion was held about being state compliant and how the voter registration office maintains these forms. It was also discussed the importance of public education when it comes to using these new ballot boxes. Some questions arose about the timing of these boxes and how soon things needed to be approved. Mr. Copeland stated that perhaps this should be tabled until additional discussions could be had. Seconded by Mrs. Schauerman. Motion carried, 3-1

Yea: 3 (Copeland, Schauerman, Scutella)
Nay: 1 (Drexel)

Possible Approval of Resolution 4 of 2025 Approving Increased Rates for Drivers Delivering Election Supplies

Motion was made to approve Resolution 4, 2025 by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Copeland. Some information was presented by Ms. Chillcott about the resolution including some savings that will make these deliveries cost effective. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All
Nay: None

Election Report

Election report was given by Ms. Chillcott. Dates were reviewed.

Questions and Comments from the Board

Chairman Drexel called for questions and comments from the Board. None noted at this time.

Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 4:20.