

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, October 21, 2025

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Chair Scutella called the meeting to order and led the Pledge of Allegiance at 6:00 P. M.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR REFLECTION

Mrs. Schauerman offered a reflection.

ROLL CALL

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

Other present: Karen Chillcott, Megan Moore, Tom Talarico, Esq., Jay Stranahan, Esq.

Absent: Bonus Accounting.

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Others

Freda Tepfer-City of Erie: Spoke out in support of the Marchello Woodard case and would like new information. She went on to say that we all want justice so it is important to vote. Ms. Tepfer went on to say that the last day to register to vote has passed and anyone with questions should call the Voter Registration Office. She stated that it's important to sign your envelope, keep close watch on the rejected ballots list and make sure that your address is correct on the registration website because the Post Office will not forward a ballot.

Matt Texter-City of Erie: Mr. Texter thanked County Council members for helping the citizens to better understand the proposed 2026 Budget. He offered support for Ordinance Number 46, 2025, especially considering the federal and state budget shortfalls. Mr. Texter asked Council to fulfill their duties and recommit to reigning in the current administration.

Deonte Cooley, City of Erie: Mr. Cooley remarked on the Marchello Woodard

case and Council taking “sides” in other events like the County Executive race but not the Woodard case, and people online were divided and fighting. He questioned if civil rights were violated and whether a civil suit should be brought against the County Executive and County Council because of budget issues.

Marcus Pulliam, City of Erie: Mr. Pulliam spoke in support of Marchello Woodard. He stated there was a disconnect in the community. He remarked that a white man murdered a black man, and no one stepped up to resolve the case. He also stated the parole agent should be arrested for the community to be set right again.

Peter Sigler, City of Erie: Mr. Sigler stated that he was a postal employee and offered a public service announcement regarding the South Erie Post Office located at 36th and Poplar streets. He noted the Post Office would close at the end of October for renovations, but the lobby at the Post Office located on East 38th Street was opened 24 hours, and there was an office on Legion Road with limited hours as well.

Heidi Shaddeck, Millcreek Township: Ms. Shaddeck stressed the contract between the Department of Homeland Security and Erie County Prison should end. She requested the County Council take measures to protect its residents from the federal government and listed ways that they could help.

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

September 23, 2025 - Regular Meeting

A motion was made by Ms. Schauerma to accept the minutes, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or Designee

No report was offered by the County Executive or a designee.

Finance Committee - Mr. Copeland

Mr. Copeland reported on the items from the Finance Committee that were moved to the Council's meeting agenda.

Personnel Committee - Mr. Winarski

Mr. Winarski reported on the items from the Personnel Committee that were moved to the Council's agenda.

Other

A motion was made by Mr. Copeland to move Ordinance 46, 2025 to a second reading. This was seconded by Mr. Horton and carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

OLD BUSINESS

**Ordinance Number 41,
2025, "Second 2025
Planning Fund Budget
Supplemental
Appropriation of \$601,724
for Act 13 Greenways
Grant Distribution" (First
Read 9/9/25)(Tabled
9/23/25) (Finance
Committee)**

**Ordinance Number 43,
2025, "2025 General Fund
Budget Waiver of County
Purchasing Code for a
Three-Year Contract for
Westlaw Subscription for
Judges Library" (First
Read 10/7/25) (Finance
Committee)**

A motion to adopt Ordinance Number 43, 2025 was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0.

All: Yea

Nay: None

NEW BUSINESS

**Ordinance Number 44,
2025, "Eleventh 2025
General Fund Budget
Supplemental
Appropriation of \$75,000
for Release and Transfer of
Restricted Act 152
Demolition Funds to 2025
Planning Fund" (Finance
Committee)**

Ordinance Number 44, 2025 received a first reading by Ms. Chillcott.

**Ordinance Number 45,
2025, "Third 2025 Planning
Fund Budget Supplemental
Appropriation of \$75,000
from Act 152 Demolition
Funds for Professional
Fees" (Finance Committee)**

Ordinance Number 45, 2025 received a first reading by Ms. Chillcott.

**Ordinance Number 46,
2025, "Stopping Payments
Made In Excess of
Budgeted Appropriations"
(Finance Committee)**

A motion was made to adopt Ordinance 46, 2025 by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

Ordinance Number 47, 2025 "2025 Appointed Official Salary Ordinance - Full-Time Assistant Public Defender" (Personnel Committee)

Ordinance Number 47, 2025 received a first reading by Ms. Chillcott.

Resolution Number 26, 2025, "A Resolution of the County of Erie, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, Authorizing the Submission of an Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for Funding through the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) Program, as Authorized under the Housing and Community Development Act [42 USC 5301 and 24 CFR Part 570], and Further Certifying Compliance with the Requirements of Said Program" (Finance Committee)

A motion to adopt Resolution Number 26, 2025 was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Copeland, and carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

Resolution Number 27, 2025, "In Support of Operation Green Light"

A motion to adopt Resolution Number 27, 2025 was made by Mr. Bayle, seconded by Mr. Copeland, and carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

Possible appointment of Scott Harris to The Erie County Land Bank. Term to expire 12/31/2025. (Horton)

A motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. Drexel to approve the appointment of Scott Harris to the Erie County Land Bank. The motion carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 15-020-048.0-231.00

A motion was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mrs. Schauerman to approve the sale of parcel 15-020-048.0-231.00. The motion carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

ADJOURNMENT

The next Finance/Personnel The meeting adjourned at 6:27pm on a motion by Mr. Copeland.

Committee Meetings are

Thursday, October 30,

2025.

The next Regular Meeting

of County Council is

Thursday, November 6,

2025.