

## MINUTES

### Erie County Council

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## **10-2-25 BOARD OF ELECTIONS MEETING MINUTES**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Drexel at 3:00 P.M.

### **Roll Call**

Present were Chairman Chris Drexel, Vice Chairman Rock Copeland, Ellen Schauerma and Terry Scutella.  
Also present were Karen Chillcott, Megan Moore, Tonia Fernandez and Tom Talarico, Esq.

### **Hearing of the Public**

No members of the public have requested to be heard.

### **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting**

#### **June 9, 2025 Board of Election Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma to accept minutes dated 6/9/2025. Motion carried, 4-0.

.  
Yea: All  
Nay: None

#### **August 7, 2025 Board of Elections Minutes**

A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma to accept minutes dated 8/7/2025. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All  
Nay: None

### **Election Report**

A report was given by Karen Chillcott. Ms. Chillcott went over various ballot numbers with brief explanations. She stated that the logic and accuracy testing was completed on the polling machines and everything was going well. Information has been sent to the state. Next week they will be working on the poll pads. Poll worker's training was successful, and there will be additional training for those who couldn't make the original dates. The online training program is set to launch on October 20, 2025. Ms. Chillcott stated that there are still some vacancies to fill for poll worker positions. Ms. Fernandez will finalize a list of areas where they are needed the most. The I Voted sticker contest has been receiving some interest and applications. Ms. Chillcott concluded with a round up of important dates for the upcoming election.

### **Old Business**

|                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
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| <b>Motion to Take from Table Resolution 3, 2025, "Authorizing the Purchase of Sentinel Smart Mail Ballot Drop Boxes from Runbeck Election Services" (Tabled 06/09/25)</b> | <p>A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma n to Take from the Table Resolution 3, 2025. Motion carried, 4-0</p> <p>Yea: All<br/>Nay: None</p> <p>Discussion was had, led by Mr. Talarico concerning the contract and the responsibilities of each party. Chairman Drexel stated that because this does not concern the upcoming election, it may be best to table this subject until after more research is done. He did believe that it is still possible to have these in place by the spring primary of 2026 if that is what the board finds acceptable, but only after more information and discussion is had.</p>                                                                                      |
| <b>Motion to Table Resolution 3, 2025, "Authorizing the Purchase of Sentinel Smart Mail Ballot Drop Boxes from Runbeck Election Services"</b>                             | <p>A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma n to table Resolution 3, 2025. Motion carried, 4-0.</p> <p>Yea: All<br/>Nay: None</p> <p>Chairman Drexel stated that Ms Tepfer wanted to speak but was late joining the meeting. He would let her speak at this time.</p> <p>Freda Tepfer:City of Erie, Ms. Tepfer stated that she did not know that Resolution 3, 2025 would be untable d but wanted to express her concern about the reasoning behind the need for a more sophisticated machine that could potentially have more problems. She has called around to other counties, and they have drop boxes, but nothing like the ones that were being discussed. She stated that these were unnecessary.</p> |

### New Business

|                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Official Polling Location Change of Erie Ward 04 District 06 from Strong Vincent Middle School, 1330 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16502 to St. Andrew's Parish Chapel Building, 1116 West 7<sup>th</sup> St., Erie, PA 16502</b> | <p>A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Scutella. Mr. Drexel asked for clarification on the change of polling locations. Ms. Chillcott stated that due to change in leadership to Saint Andrew's Parish Chapel building, the space would not be available, so the change was made to Strong Vincent Middle School. Due to another change in leadership at the Parish, both the church and the poll workers would like to have it moved back. Motion carried, 4-0.</p> <p>Yea: All<br/>Nay: None</p> |
| <b>Official Polling Location Change of Erie Ward 04 District 07 from Strong Vincent Middle School, 1330 W 8th St, Erie, PA 16502 to St. Andrew's Parish Chapel Building,</b>                                              | <p>A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma n. Mr. Drexel stated that he assumed that it was for the same reason as the last change noted in New Business B. Ms. Chillcott stated that it was. Motion carried, 4-0.</p> <p>Yea: All<br/>Nay: None</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

**1116 West 7<sup>th</sup> St., Erie, PA  
16502**

**Approval of the November  
4, 2025 Municipal Election  
Ballot**

Chairman Drexel stated that the next thing on the agenda was the approval of the Municipal Ballot dated 11/4/2025. As this was being discussed a fire bell rang at 3:26 P.M. and all were evacuated. After approximately 43 minutes, everyone reassembled and the meeting was called to order by Mr. Drexel. A motion was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman to accept the ballot. Motion carried, 4-0.

Yea: All  
Nay: None

**Questions and Comments  
from the Board**

No one had questions or comments at this time.

**Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn was made by Mrs. Shauerman. Meeting adjourned at 4:10 P.M.