

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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

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

SPECIAL MEETING -VETO-MINUTES

Monday, December 8, 2025

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:03pm and the Pledge of Allegiance recited.

ROLL CALL

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

Others Present: Karen Chillcott, Megan Moore, Ken Bonus and Colin Domowicz, Financial Advisors

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Public will receive 3 minutes to speak.

Art Leopold, Millcreek Township: Mr. Leopold stated support for disadvantaged people and funding them.

Jerry Servidio, Millcreek Township: Mr. Servidio stated unequivocal support for Pleasant Ridge Manner and the Council fully funding their budget.

Freda Tepfer, City of Erie: Mrs. Tepfer requested Council override any vetoes directly related to diversity for the well-being of our community.

Dr. Ben Wilson, CEO GECAC: Dr. Wilson requested Council to restore full funding for the Summer Youth Program.

Gary Lee, City of Erie: Mr. Lee requested full funding be restored for Diverse Erie.

Chelsea Oliver, City of Erie: Ms. Oliver requested Council overturn the veto and offered facts and statistics regarding the success of this program.

Gretchen Blough, Edinboro Borough: Ms. Blough commented on the veto letter written by the County Executive. She stated it was derogatory to people and

requested Council overturn the vetoes.

Elizabeth Stanton, Harborcreek: Ms. Stanton stated support for funding the Booker T. Washington Center and noted the importance of several programs housed there.

Drew Whiting, CEO, Erie Downtown Development Corporation: Mr. Whiting stated support for Erie's Black Wall Street and requested the funding be reinstated.

Jerry Roberts, City of Erie: Mr. Roberts stated racism was an Erie County emergency and requested an override of the veto to fully fund the DEIC.

Cole Shenley, City of Erie: Mr. Shenley asked that Council unite and overturn the vetoes 7-0.

Tywon Taylor, City of Erie: Mr. Taylor asked Council to overturn the veto and fully fund the youth programs to show the students they were supported by Council.

Jennifer Kennedy, City of Erie: Ms. Kennedy requested Council protect the community and keep the funding of all affected programs.

Cindy Treiber, Edinboro: Ms. Treiber urged Council to fund services, and everyone was one step away from needing those services.

Regina Gaston, City of Erie: Ms. Gaston asked Council to support Erie Black Wall Street, a positive force in the community.

Jack Campbell, Millcreek Township: Mr. Campbell, an employee of Pleasant Ridge Manor, urged Council to fund the very worthwhile and caring facility.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 76, 2025, "County Council Action to Override or Strike the Executive's Veto of November 26, 2025"

The motion to adopt was made by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mr. Copeland.

(Each veto had an individual vote.)

1. Ordinance Number 60, 2025-Action sheet 3: Mr. Copeland motioned to override. Mr. Drexel seconded the motion which failed 4-3.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella)

Nay: (Bayle, Winarski, Schauerma)

2. Ordinance Number 60, 2025- Action sheet 4.1: Mr. Copeland motioned to strike. Mr. Drexel seconded the motion which passed 5-2.

Mr. Copeland commented on the meaning to strike and relayed the Council had won their court case against the County Executive.

Yea: (Drexel, Copeland, Scutella, Horton, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerma)

3. Ordinance 60, 2025-Action sheet 4.2: Mr. Horton motioned to override, was seconded by Mr. Copeland, and failed 4-3.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman, Winarski)

4. Ordinance 60, 2025-Action sheet 5: Mr. Copeland motioned, was seconded by Mr. Drexel. Motion to strike carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

Ordinance 60, 2025-Action sheet 5: Mr. Copeland motioned, was seconded by Mr. Drexel. Mr. Copeland commented. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

5. Ordinance 62, 2025-Action sheet 2: Mr. Copeland motioned to override, Mr. Drexel seconded. Motion carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

6. Ordinance 64, 2025- Action sheet 2: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to strike passed 4-3.

Yea: (Drexel, Copeland, Horton, Scutella)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman, Winarski)

7. Ordinance 64, 2025, Action sheet 3: Mr. Drexel motioned, Mr. Copeland seconded. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

8. Ordinance 64, 2025- Action sheet 4: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Drexel seconded. Mr. Horton commented regarding the use of ARPA funds and county government was about human services. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

9. Ordinance 64, 2025, Action sheet 6: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to strike carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

Ordinance 64, 2025. Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to override passed 5-2.

Yea:(Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

10. Ordinance 65, 2025-Action sheet 5: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Mr. Scutella commented on the current success of the HRC. Motion to override carried 6-1.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Schauerman, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle)

11. Ordinance 65, 2025-Action sheet 17: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

12. Ordinance 65, 2025-Action sheet 20: So moved by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Horton. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

13. Ordinance 65, 2025-Action sheet 32: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Mr. Drexel and Mr. Horton commented their support for the Summer Jobs Program. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

14. Ordinance 65, 2025- Action sheet 33: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Drexel seconded. Mr. Scutella commented it was a small amount of money compared to the County Executives' expenses. Motion to override carried 6-1.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Schauerman, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle)

15. Ordinance 65, 2025-Action sheet 35: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to override carried 6-1.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Schauerman, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle)

16. Ordinance 65, 2025- Action sheet 36: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to override carried 6-1.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Schauerman, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle)

17. Ordinance 65, 2025- Action sheet 38: Mr. Horton motioned, Mr. Drexel seconded. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

18. Ordinance 65, 2025- Action sheet 39: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to override carried 5-2.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella, Winarski)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman)

19. Ordinance 65, 2025- Action sheet 43: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to override failed 4-3.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman, Winarski)

20. Ordinance 65, 2025- Action sheet 45: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to strike carried 4-3.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman, Winarski)

21. Ordinance 66, 2025: Mr. Copeland motioned, Mr. Horton seconded. Motion to strike carried 4-3.

Yea: (Copeland, Drexel, Horton, Scutella)

Nay: (Bayle, Schauerman, Winarski)

Mr. Copeland asked Mr. Talarico if a vote on the budget in its entirety was required. Mr. Talarico replied in the affirmative.

A motion was made by Mr. Horton to accept the budget in its entirety and was seconded by Mr. Copeland. Motion carried 7-0.

Yea: All

Nay: None

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:19pm.