

MINUTES

Erie County Council

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

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

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, March 24, 2026

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m.

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR REFLECTION

A reflection was offered by Mrs. Schauerman.

ROLL CALL

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

Others Present: Karen Chillcott, Megan Moore, Tom Talarico, Esq., Jay Stranahan, Esq., and Colin Domowicz, Financial Advisor

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

February 26, 2026 -
Regular Meeting
March 10, 2026 - Regular
Meeting

A motion to accept the minutes was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mrs. Schauerman, and carried 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or
Designee

The County Executive presented information to the Council regarding upcoming projects and events as well as happenings since the last Council meeting with the administration and within the County of Erie.

Finance Committee - Chris Drexel	The Chair of the Finance Committee, Mr. Drexel, reported on the items moved to the Council's meeting agenda from the committee.
Personnel Committee - Rock Copeland	The Chair of the Personnel Committee, Mr. Copeland, reported on the items moved to the Council's meeting agenda from the committee.
Other	Mr. Copeland made a motion to move Ordinances 26, 27, 32, and 33 and Resolution 20 to a second reading. Mr. Winarski seconded the motion which carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None

OLD BUSINESS

Resolution Number 16, 2026, "Approval of Tentative Lease Agreement with Troyer Growers Inc. and the County of Erie for Lease of Four Parcels, also known as County Farmland" (First Read 3/10/26) (Finance Committee)	A motion to adopt Resolution Number 16, 2026 was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Copeland, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
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NEW BUSINESS

First Read Ordinance Number 25, 2026, "First 2026 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$40,943 for Additional Opioid Settlement Funds Received from the Office of Drug and Alcohol Abuse" (Finance Committee)	Ordinance Number 25, 2026 was read in title only.
First Read Ordinance Number 26, 2026, "First 2026 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$127,811 for Additional Local, District, and County Coordination- State Aid Funds and Creation of a	A motion to adopt Ordinance Number 26, 2026 was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Wertz, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None

New Line Items" (Finance Committee)

First Read Ordinance Number 27, 2026, "Second 2026 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$71,897 for Deferred Revenue from 2025-2026 State Aid-District Fiscal Budget" (Finance Committee)

A motion to adopt Ordinance Number 27, 2026 was made by Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mrs. Schauerma, and carried 7-0.
Yea: All
Nay: None

First Read Ordinance Number 28, 2026, "Third 2026 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,000 for Donation from VistErie" (Finance Committee)

Ordinance Number 28, 2026 was read in title only.

First Read Ordinance Number 29, 2026, "2026 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$8,227 and Creation of New Line Items in Various Departments" (Finance Committee)

Ordinance Number 29, 2026 was read in title only.

First Read Ordinance Number 30, 2026, "2026 Appointed Official Salary — Director of Human Resources" (Personnel Committee)

Ordinance Number 30, 2026 was read in title only.

First Read Ordinance Number 31, 2026, "2026 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$6,678 for Reorganization of the Human Resources Department and Reclassification of Three Positions" (Personnel Committee)

Ordinance Number 31, 2026 was read in title only.

First Read Ordinance Number 32, 2026, "2026 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,094 and Waiver of the Human Resources Code for Change in Starting Salary for Full-Time Civil Rights Investigator in the Human Relations Commission" (Personnel Committee)	A motion to adopt Ordinance Number 32, 2026 was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Wertz, and carried 6-1. Yea: Copeland, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Wertz, Winarski Nay: Bayle
First Read Ordinance Number 33, 2026, "2026 Appointed Official Salary - Part-Time Assistant Public Defender" (Personnel Committee)	A motion to adopt Ordinance Number 33, 2026 was made by Mr. Winarski, seconded by Mr. Copeland, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
First Read Ordinance Number 34, 2026, "2026 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$40,788 for Salary Increases and Approval of a One-Year MOU/Agreement between the Lieutenants and the County of Erie" (Personnel Committee)	Ordinance Number 34, 2026 was read in title only.
First Read Ordinance Number 35, 2026, "2026 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$18,849 for Salary Increases to the Prison Fund Budget" (Personnel Committee)	Ordinance Number 35, 2026 was read in title only.
Resolution Number 18, 2026, "Approving the Agreement of June 17, 2023, and Amendment Thereto, Between the County of Erie and Palmetto Postings, Inc." (Finance Committee)	A motion to adopt Resolution Number 18, 2026 was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Bayle, and carried 6-1. Yea: Bayle, Drexel, Schauerman, Scutella, Wertz, Winarski Nay: Copeland

Resolution Number 19, 2026, "Approval of an Application to the Municipal Assistance Program with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) for Erie County Land Use Plan" (Finance Committee)	A motion to adopt Resolution Number 19, 2026 was made by Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
First Read Resolution Number 20, 2026, "Approving the Two-Year Courthouse Café Agreement between the County of Erie and Krystal Robinson, d.b.a. Taste and See" (Finance Committee)	A motion to adopt Resolution Number 20, 2026 was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
Possible appointment of Cynthia Dropcho to the Erie County Children and Youth Advisory Board. Term to expire December 31, 2027. (Schauerman)	A motion to appoint Cynthia Dropcho to the Children and Youth Advisory Board was made by Mrs. Schauerman, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
Possible appointment of Kylie Morris, DO to the Erie County Human Relations Commission. Term to expire December 31, 2029. (County Executive)	A motion to appoint Kylie Morris, DO to the Human Relations Commission was made by Mr. Copeland, seconded by Mr. Wertz, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
Possible appointment of Chelcie Alcorn to the Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority. Term to expire December 31, 2030. (County Executive)	A motion to appoint Chelcie Alcorn to the Erie Metropolitan Transit Authority was made by Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Copeland, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None
Possible waiver of the Administrative Code Article II Section 5 A 1 (e) and appointment of Mapu Boayue to the Erie County	A motion was made to wave the Administrative Code Article II Section 5 A 1(e) and appoint Mapu Boayue to the Planning Commission by Mr. Wertz, seconded by Mr. Winarski, and carried 7-0. Yea: All Nay: None

**Planning Commission.
Term to expire December
31, 2029. (Wertz)**

ADJOURNMENT

**The next Finance/Personnel Committee Meetings are
Thursday, April 2, 2026.
The next Regular Meeting
of County Council is
Tuesday, April 7, 2026.**