

March 11, 2008 Minutes of Feb. 19, 2008 Pub. Hrg. and Reg. Mtg. approved. PH Creation of New Temp. Staff Line Items adopted; Amend. Ord. 157, 2007 adopted. First Rdgs. \$1,000,000 Committed Line of Credit Note; \$2,200,000 Letter of Credit Agrmt; Gen. Fund S.A. for Lease of Veh. For Coroner; Gen. Fund SA Restitution from Clk of Cts Activity; EMA SA for Donation of Tech. Assets; EMA SA Donation of Sked Stretchers; EMA SA Donation of Radiation Resp. Equip; Dom. Rel. SA for Moving Costs; Gen Fund SA for Transfer to Dom. Rel; Gen. Fund SA Grant from City to Adult. Prob.; Gen. Fund SA for Pub. Safety Consol. Plan; E911 SA Creation of Positions for Pub. Safety. Auth. to file App. For Funds with Pa DCED Housing & Rehab. Assist. And Repealing Res. 1, 2008 adopted; Exoneration of Del. RE Taxes adopted; Exoneration of Del. RE Taxes adopted; Approv. GEIDC as Prjct. Adm. For Land Dev. Prjct adopted; In Sprt of Rev. MOU Betw. City, County and Mun. Arpt Auth failed; Advancing Airport Runway Ext. adopted; Plaza 38 Tax Assess. Appeal Settlement approved; Thelma Iavarone appt'd. to OCY Brd; Peggy Richardson, Dr. Lynn Corder, Christopher Borgia, Barbara J. Hauck, Lucille Eberlein, Mary Gamble appt'd to Regional Asset Funding Committee.

ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

Mr. Giles, Chairman, called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:00 p.m. in Council Chambers, Erie County Courthouse, Erie, Pennsylvania. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Maloney called the roll:

Members Present: Mr. Giles, Chairman
Mr. Cleaver, Vice Chairman
Mr. Fatica
Mr. Foust
Mr. Leone
Mrs. Loll
Mr. Mitchell

Also Present: Joseph P. Maloney, Council CPA
Thomas Talarico, Council Solicitor
Sean Wiley, Director of Administration
James Sparber, Director of Finance
Sue Ellen Pasquale, Manager of Accounting

Hearing of the Public

William Vassen, 9934 Meadville Street, Cranesville Borough, a member of the Cranesville Borough Council, approached Council to request support for a system of dispatching in Erie County that does not completely centralize. This is not in the best interest of taxpayers, residents or first responders. He stated taxpayers deserve the best emergency dispatching at the most cost effective price and this can best be achieved by the County partnering with the local municipalities to support the dispatching now in place. He suggested the County pay the existing centers to dispatch the 42 percent of the county covered instead of creating a new, expensive dispatching labor force which will cost the taxpayers more.

Vernon Frye, 2100 Cemetery Road, North East, is a North East Township supervisor, and stated that dispatching is not the responsibility of county government. Local municipalities have sole discretion to decide whether to continue emergency services through their local centers or to centralize through the county. He stated that local governments have been extremely efficient at providing dispatching service for decades. Both East and West County have top notch facilities and have mutual aid agreements within Erie County among themselves as well as centers in Ohio, New York, Crawford and Warren counties. These relationships provide a depth of backup that will be lost with one central dispatch location.

William Kuhn, 9607 Franklin Center Road, Platea, a member of Platea Borough Council, stated that 911 is a phone system for people to access emergency systems which the County is responsible for by state law. Dispatching is the communication of a call to action to first responders, and by state law, local municipal governments are responsible for this. To dispatch calls for all of Erie County, expenditures have been estimated to be \$3 million. These funds will pay for the estimated 30 new personnel positions needed plus the significant operational costs required. Mr. Kuhn explained that municipalities fear that when these county dollars get tight, services and personnel not required by statute will be cut.

Julia Gorniak, 5400 Station Road, North East, is the Vice Chairperson of the East County Communications Center, and stated that in a centralized system, county labor rates will cause taxpayers of all areas except Erie and Millcreek to pay two or more times the tax dollars for the same dispatch service they now receive. She proposed the elimination of the duplicated call takers, instead call taking and those dollars should be shifted to local dispatch centers reducing the estimated per capita cost for a county operated dispatch center by half. Under a centralized system, she asked who will guarantee that dispatch services will continue to be performed at no cost to the local municipalities or will their dispatch centers have to handle these services.

Robert "Doc" Orr, 434 Mechanic Street, Girard, a member of Girard Borough Council, stated that EmergencyCare wishes to discontinue dispatching of fire departments and police departments. East and West County Communication Centers can and will dispatch these departments. Staff has been added to handle this load. If the county would like to assist local municipalities with their dispatching responsibilities, the most cost effective way would be to commit General Fund revenues in an equal amount per capita to each local municipality and allow them to continue using their agencies for dispatching. Taxpayers deserve the best emergency dispatching at the most cost effective price which can be achieved by partnering with the local municipalities and supporting the agencies now in place.

David Henderson, President, West County Communications Center, stated that for 50 years local municipal governments have been providing dispatching services for their citizens in a cost effective manner. He asked why the county would take an efficient taxpayer expense and turn it into a high cost county expense. The county is facing the possibility that it will have to fund increasing portions of the 911 system from general fund revenues. He pointed out that if interoperability has been achieved, the dispatching system works effectively and efficiently and asked what will be gained by consolidation. To provide the best value for the taxpayer's money, the county should partner with the local municipalities.

Bill Taylor, 9033 Filinger Road, Cranesville, took a poll in his municipality and 90 percent of those polled say they are interested in keeping with West County Dispatch.

Gloria McCabe, is a member of the West County Communications Board and knows intimately the workings of West County Communications and can testify that it works well and offers the best protection to our area and for the best possible price to taxpayers. The County can help this center continue to do this by partnering with them.

Renee Vendetti, Erie, stated that if Council violates the Sunshine Law, she will object. She referred to a letter she received from County Council Office advising her that the agenda will no longer be mailed to her as it is available on the website in an effort to save taxpayer dollars. This costs \$9.84 a year to have the agenda mailed to her. Some people don't have a computer and can't get to the library. She pointed out that Mr. DiVecchio drives a vehicle at a cost of \$650.99 per month along with registration and insurance costs. Pay raises were approved; taxes were increased. Ms. Vendetti is a taxpayer as well. She noted there is money in the budget for mailing.

Maria Foster, 2301 Peach Street, Erie, read a piece regarding ethics standards and disclosure. She stated she comes before Council week after week, bringing issues to Council's attention that they choose to ignore. She stated the Domestic Relations issue will cost \$1million. With the expense for that and the CCIS rent being paid for the Sumner Nichols building, the County should just buy the

building. It seems like Council wastes taxpayer money all the time. She observed it will cost Mr. Przepierski \$2.10 for the agenda because he will have to take a bus to the library. Council's spending is erratic. She does not believe the 911 call center is necessary when there are capable and willing people to meet these needs.

Kenneth Przepierski, 640 East 12th Street, Erie, read a conflict of interest clause, and asked who is making all the money at Pleasant Ridge. There is a line item for \$365,000 for 337 pieces of furniture. The kitchen exhaust system upgrade cost \$30,000, in the 2003 budget, the line item for that was \$200,000. He stated a kitchen exhaust system is a fan with a hole in the wall. Kitchen dehumidification cost \$90,000. Activity fees and volunteers line item is \$365,000 and activities and volunteer services was \$18,000 which he believes sounds more realistic. He stated someone is making money. He asked why no names from Pleasant Ridge appear on his list of employees that receive county paychecks. A management team at Pleasant Ridge is making a gross amount of money.

Dan Galena, East Springfield, stated he has been unable to attend Council meetings because he has been busy working to pay for the outrageous pay raises Council recently handed out to employees of Erie County already making in excess of \$62,000. He stated Mr. Mitchell supported those raises when Corry has a 9% unemployment rate and median wage of approximately \$32,000. Mr. DiVecchio drives a \$650.99 per month leased vehicle which gets 12 miles to the gallon and taxpayers paying for the insurance, registration, taxes and car washes. Yet, Council wants to deny a taxpayer a 41 cent stamp twice a month. It's time Council became fiscally responsible.

Scott Cleaver, 43 Park Avenue, Albion, is President of the Albion Borough Council and stated the West County people who spoke earlier have given Council a plan that will save taxpayers money, and he believes Council should look at it.

Gil Rocco, 2903 West 33rd Street, Erie, stated that if what he has read in the paper is true, he wished to commend Council on their decision to leave the golf course out of the deal and get focused. This is a savings of \$1.6 million. He never saw the linkage, but this is a complicated deal and sometimes one must make complicated deals in an effort to accomplish something. He again commended Council for their wise decision.

Ray Schaaf, 49 Gibson Street, North East, has been a member of the North East Fire Department for over 40 years. He wished to reinforce what speakers tonight have said about the East County West County system. North East had its own dispatch system years ago, but the previous administration decided that consolidation needed to be done, and it was a benefit. Unfortunately, he stated, that as things go farther away from the homeland, the homeland people don't get much say. East County West County serves a tremendous amount of people.

Minutes

Mr. Leone moved to approve the minutes of the Public Hearing and the Regular Meeting held on February 19, 2008. Mr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Finance
Committee

Mr. Mitchell reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, March 6, 2008 and placed Ordinance 29, which deals with the creation of a temporary staff line item for switchboard, and Ordinance 32 regarding changes in the Assessment Office fees, on the agenda for second readings. Placed on the agenda for first readings are Ordinance 33, the line of credit for PNC bank; Ordinance 34, a companion piece to Ordinance 33; Ordinance 35 deals with a vehicle for the Coroner; Ordinance 36, restitution from Clerk of Courts activity fee and creation of new line item; Ordinances 37, 38 and 39 which all deal with the E911 center and donations from the NWPAT Terrorism Task Force; Ordinance 40 involves the move for Domestic Relations; Ordinance 41 is the companion ordinance to 40; Ordinance 42 is an appropriation for grant from the city to Adult Probation for training, education and employment programs; Ordinance 43 is the transfer to E911 fund for public safety consolidation plan.

Also on the agenda is the possible adoption of Resolution 10 which deals with DCED housing and rehabilitation assistance and repealing Resolution 1, 2008; Resolution 11, supporting the exoneration of real estate taxes on property and Resolution 12, another exoneration of taxes on property. Mr. Mitchell noted that Council is the last body to do this; the School District and

local government first exonerates the taxes. Also on the agenda is the possible adoption of Resolution 13, approving the GEIDC as project administrator for Erie County General Authority Land Development Project; Resolution 14, in support of the MOU between the City, County and Municipal Airport Authority; Resolution 15, advancing the Erie International Airport Runway Project, as well as a possible motion to approve Plaza 38 Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement; and several appointments, Thelma Iavarone to the OCY Advisory Board; Peggy Richardson, Dr. Lynn Corder, Christopher Borgia, Barbara J. Hauck, Lucille Eberlein and Mary Gamble to the Regional Asset Funding Committee.

Personnel Committee

Mr. Cleaver reported the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, March 6, 2008, and agreed to place for a first reading on the agenda Ordinance 44, a supplemental appropriation for creation of new positions for public safety consolidation and creation of new line items.

Mr. Giles' Report

Mr. Giles reported that on Monday, February 25, 2008, a cold, wintery evening, he attended a free concert at the Blasco Library given by the Edinboro University Chamber Players. He expected a light turnout, but the crowd was a large one, and to see this type of turnout on a cold and blistery night was impressive. This took Mr. Giles back to the debate over the location of the library. He observed that half of the people in the audience were elderly. The concert lasted approximately an hour and a half, was well done and well attended. Mr. Giles explained that Carol Gettinger has worked in the library system her entire career, and one of the special projects she started about ten years ago was this free concert series in the Hirt Auditorium with a series of ten to twelve concerts in which musicians throughout the community volunteer to perform. These concerts are well attended. Mr. Giles commented that this is a nice program Ms. Gettinger has handled and he wished to thank her as she retires from the county. Ms. Gettinger has been there from the beginning and has promoted this program and done an outstanding job. This kind of dedication and service on the part of an employee should be remarked upon and appreciated for that kind of dedication.

MLK Awards

Mr. Giles also reported that the 12th annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Awards were held at Edinboro University on February 22, 2008. The reason he mentions this is that the awards went to two individuals, one being John Horan from the City of Erie Housing Authority for the extensive programming that he has done in terms of providing people affordable and adequate housing as well as providing supplemental programs in an effort to help them out of public housing. Mr. Horan does an outstanding job. John Foster received the second award. He was a chauffeur for Martin Luther King and is a minister with a church on 4th and Cherry Streets; his entire family is involved in religion. Mr. Giles noted it was nice to see this award go from Edinboro to these two city people, both of whom he has known for a number of years.

NACo

Mr. Giles further reported that NACo held its annual legislative conference at the beginning of March:

Erie County, PA helps counties "Restore the Partnership" with Congress, Administration

NACo Legislative Conference brings together 2,000 county officials to strengthen the voice of county government in the nation's capital

WASHINGTON, D.C. — Joseph F. Giles, Chairman of Erie County Council brought the concerns of Erie County to the nation's capital as part of the National Association of Counties' (NACo) 2008 Legislative Conference March 1-5 in Washington, D.C. The theme of this year's conference was "Restore the Partnership."

NACo President Eric Coleman, commissioner, Oakland County, Mich., led more than 2,000 elected and appointed county officials during the conference to help strengthen the voice of county government and "Restore the Partnership" with Congress and the administration.

For decades, the county and federal governments have worked together to answer the challenges facing the nation. But in recent years, that partnership has begun to wane. To combat this, NACo has launched the 2008 Presidential Election Project to get each candidate to commit to restoring the federal—county partnership and to address the problems facing counties and their residents. During the 2008 Legislative Conference, participating county officials helped to bring that message to Capitol Hill.

“I want to thank every elected and appointed county official who participated in this year’s Legislative Conference in the nation’s capital,” Coleman said. “I am so proud of the men and women who represent county governments all across the country who came to Washington this week to help strengthen the voice of county government.”

During the five-day conference, NACo members discussed legislative issues and programs important to counties and communities, met with members of Congress, attended professional development and educational workshops, and heard from nationally prominent political leaders and commentators.

The NACo Board and the community and Economic Development Steering Committee unanimously adopted a resolution supporting legislation by Congressman Phil English that would permit the use of Federal Home Loan Bank standby letters of credit on tax-exempt bonds.

Special guest speakers at the conference included U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Ed Schafer, U.S. Commerce Secretary Carlos M. Gutierrez, Maryland Lieutenant Governor Anthony G. Brown on behalf of presidential candidate Sen. Hillary Clinton (D-NY), Washington, D.C. Mayor Adrian M. Fenty on behalf of presidential candidate Sen. Barack Obama (D-Ill.), of political analysts Paul Begala and Pat Buchanan, Tom Siebel of the “Montana Meth Project,” and Rep. James Clyburn (D-S.C.).

The primary purpose of the Legislative Conference is for county officials who sit on NACo’s 11 steering committees to review and make recommendations on issues and legislation important to counties and communities. The policy development process initiated by the steering committees leads to the publication of the American County Platform, which NACo uses as a guide to deliver the county government message to the administration, Congress and the American public.

NACo’s steering committees consider issues such as justice and public safety, agriculture and rural affairs, taxes, environment and energy, telecommunications, economic and community development, healthcare, human services, education, labor and employment, public lands, and transportation. In addition, NACo has organized caucuses to perform targeted advocacy efforts focused on specific needs of large urban counties and rural counties. The Rural Action Caucus and the Large Urban County Caucus adopt their priority issues from NACo’s Legislative Platform.

In addition, several pre-conference seminars designed to help county officials strengthen their leadership skills were held.

Mr. Giles reported that Congressman English had a piece of legislation that he was very interested in securing the National Association of Counties’ endorsement and was shepherded through the subcommittee, Economic Development Committee and through the Board Meeting and now has the endorsement of 2,356 counties in this country. Congressman English was very excited by the fact that he got NACo’s support for an important piece of legislation regarding investments in counties and municipalities across the country.

Academic Sports League

Mr. Fatica wished to recognize the schools representing Erie County in the Academic Sports League this past weekend. These schools, McDowell, Fairview and Collegiate Academy, distinguished themselves and placed very high on the list. Collegiate Academy, which is truly an Erie County School since it draws from all the municipalities in Erie County, finished first beating their own score and moving on to the national competition to be held at a later date.

We the People Team

Mr. Mitchell noted that a celebration was held in the Courthouse this past week for the Corry High School “We The People” team. This is the third straight year they have won the state championship and will be competing in Washington, DC in early May. Mayor Sanford of Corry was present as well to honor them. Mr. Mitchell appreciated Council’s participation in honoring these students, as well as the administration for setting up a nice ceremony for the students.

Mr. Giles’ Comments

Mr. Giles reported that the State has approved the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority and that will be moving forward. The lawsuit and its entanglements do not affect this issue. The Regional Asset Board has also been approved and that will be moving forward as well. There is a large panel of individuals from the Community College Initiative, and it is expected that will materialize by the end of the month with at least one formal meeting. Mr. Giles also reported that the Mental Health and Criminal Justice Group continue to meet and will be rolling out its work product very soon. These are just a few of the issues on the horizon which will occupy much time and energy. He observed that it is one thing to adopt a plan and policy, and another to actually make them real. Council and Administration are providing their full support to help these issues move forward and produce positive results in the community.

Mrs. Loll's
Report

Mrs. Loll submitted the following report:

On February 21, 2008, Mrs. Loll attended the Erie County Planning Commission meeting. The Executive Board Nominating Committee reported the re-appointment of members as well as the addition of Jan Cornwell to the board. Mark Corey will be chairperson and Gerry Dahl will serve as vice-chairperson. Mr. Giles, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Fatica along with Mrs. Loll were present on behalf of County Council. Mr. Giles and Mr. Mitchell reported extensively to the board about the distribution of gaming funds.

On February 25, 2008, Mrs. Loll attended the Erie County Department of Health Board meeting. Not enough members were present for a quorum, so information about department activities was shared and discussed. The Tires to Energy Plant was discussed as the DEP had requested an opinion from the department. Those members present decided to have the Health Department look into this matter and hold discussions with experts to help form an opinion regarding the safety and pollution effects to the population of Erie County and the surrounding areas. The Department of Health recognizes that it does not have the expertise to regulate the plant, but can possibly form an opinion after consultation with experts on the subject. Mrs. Loll wished to point out as a side note, that there are only ten health departments in Pennsylvania, six county departments and four city departments.

Tablet computers have been purchased for the employees in the field to use for feeding information to the department more accurately and timely.

Due to the proxies sent in by the missing board members, it was decided that Paul Burroughs will be Chairman and Dr. Ortoski will be Vice Chairman for the upcoming year. This decision will be ratified at the next meeting when a quorum will be present.

On March 10, 2008, Mrs. Loll attended the public meeting of the Lake City Borough. The recent snow storm and plowing of the streets were discussed.

Mr. Foust's
Report

Mr. Foust submitted the following report:

On February 24, 2008, Mr. Foust attended the Greene Township Lions Club ham dinner.

On March 1, 2008, Mr. Foust attended the Name That Tune dinner. Proceeds benefited the Sisters of St. Joseph.

On March 3, 2008, Mr. Foust read to Third Graders at Iroquois Elementary as part of the Read Across America Program.

On March 8, 2008, Mr. Foust attended the Juvenile Diabetes Research Foundation benefit at the Bayfront Convention Center. NFL Hall of Famer (and shirt tail relative of Mr. Foust's) Fred Biletnikoff was the featured guest and speaker.

PH Rev. Exp.
For Creation of
Temp. Staff Line
Item

Mr. Maloney gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 29, 2008, "2008 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures for Creation of New Temporary Staff Line Items to Cover for Switchboard Receptionist." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Giles noted for any members in the audience who may be attending a Council meeting for the first time that Mr. Smith, County Clerk, is away this week and Mr. Maloney, Council CPA, who typically handles the financial issues, is filling in.

Amending Ord.
157, 2007

Mr. Maloney gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 32, 2008, "Amending Ordinance 157, 2007, '2007 General Fund Budget Changes in Particular Assessment Office Fees' to Establish a Governmental and Non-Profit Rate Policy for GIS Data Requests." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

First Readings

Mr. Maloney gave first readings of the following ordinances:

Ordinance Number 33, 2008, "An Ordinance of the County of Erie, Pennsylvania (The "County") Authorizing and Directing the Execution and Delivery of a Guaranty Agreement for the Benefit of Pleasant Ridge Manor ("Pleasant Ridge") and Compliance with the Provisions Thereof and Incurring Lease Rental Debt Thereby; Approving a \$1,000,000 Committed Line of Credit Note from Pleasant Ridge to PNC Bank, National Association; Directing the Proper Officers of the County to Take Necessary Actions; and Repealing all Inconsistent Ordinances"

Ordinance Number 34, 2008, "An Ordinance of the County of Erie, Pennsylvania (The "County") Authorizing and Directing the Execution and Delivery of a Guaranty Agreement for the Benefit of Pleasant Ridge Manor ("Pleasant Ridge") and Compliance with the Provisions Thereof and Incurring Lease Rental Debt Thereby; Approving a \$2,200,000 Letter of Credit Agreement from Pleasant Ridge to PNC Bank, National Association; Directing the Proper Officers of the County to Take Necessary Actions; and Repealing all Inconsistent Ordinances"

First Reading of Ordinance Number 35, 2008, "Thirteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Lease of a Vehicle for the Coroner and the Creation of a New Line Item"

Ordinance Number 36, 2008, "Fourteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Restitution from Clerk of Courts Activity and Creation of a New Line Item"

Mr. Giles advised the audience that Council does not vote on first readings. These ordinances are only read and then typically voted on in approximately two weeks at a later meeting when a second reading is held.

First Readings

Mr. Maloney gave first readings of the following ordinances:

Ordinance Number 37, 2008, "Second 2008 EMA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Donation of Various Technical Assets"

Ordinance Number 38, 2008, "Third 2008 EMA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Donation of Sked Stretchers from the NWPA Terrorism Task Force"

Ordinance Number 39, 2008, "Fourth 2008 EMA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Donation of Radiation Response Equipment from the NWPA Terrorism Task Force"

Ordinance Number 40, 2008, "Second 2008 Domestic Relations Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Moving Costs, Rent, and the Creation of New Line Items"

Ordinance Number 41, 2008, "Fifteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Transfer to Domestic Relations Fund for Moving Costs"

Ordinance Number 42, 2008, "Sixteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Grant from City to Adult Probation for Training, Education and Employment Program"

Ordinance Number 43, 2008, "Seventeenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Transfer to E911 Fund for Public Safety Consolidation Plan"

Ordinance Number 44, 2008, "First 2008 E911 Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation and Creation of New Positions for Public Safety Consolidation and Creation of New Line Items"

Auth. to File App. With
PA DCED & Repealing
Res. 1, 2008

Mr. Maloney gave a reading of Resolution Number 10, 2008, "Authorization to File Application for Funds with the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development Housing and Rehabilitation Assistance and Repealing Resolution Number 1, 2008." Mr. Mitchell moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded.

Mr. Giles informed members of the audience that resolutions are read once and then voted on at that time. He then called for the vote on Resolution 10, 2008, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

In Sprt. Of Exoneration
of Del. Taxes

Mr. Maloney gave a reading of Resolution Number 11, 2008, "In Support of the Exoneration of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes on Property Number 09-007-004.1-011.85." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

In Sprt. Of Exoneration
of Del. Taxes

Mr. Maloney gave a reading of Resolution Number 12, 2008, "In Support of the Exoneration of Delinquent Real Estate Taxes on Property Number 23-012-032.0-027.50." Mr. Cleaver moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

GEIDC as Prjct
Adm. For Land
Dev. Prjct

Mr. Maloney gave a reading of Resolution Number 13, 2008, "Approving GEIDC as Project Administrator for the Erie County General Authority Land Development Project." Mr. Mitchell moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded.

Mr. Giles explained that at the Finance Meeting held March 6, 2008, Members of Council met with Monica Brower from the GEIDC and discussed this money that was advanced quite a while ago. Council explained that the clock is running and the expenditure needs to occur and movement needs to be made expeditiously to complete this. Mr. Giles further explained that this was money advanced for GEIDC to develop a huge land parcel somewhere close to one of the interstates to provide some warehousing opportunities for someone in the market for a giant piece of land for either warehousing or trucking purposes. He noted the situation looks hopeful that it may happen in 2008.

Mr. Foust wished to remind everyone of the possibility that this project could bring 600 to 1,000 jobs, and provide a huge economic impact.

Mr. Giles called for a vote on Resolution Number 13, 2008, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Revised MOU
Fails

Mr. Maloney gave a reading of Resolution Number 14, 2008, "In Support of the Revised Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Erie, the County of Erie, and the Erie Municipal Airport Authority." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded.

Mr. Leone stated that this Memorandum of Understanding was one that was adopted by City Council and the Airport Authority, and certainly not what this Council had expected.

Obviously, the reason it has been put on the agenda is to send a message. Mr. Leone expressed his hope that Members of Council will vote no to this particular resolution.

Mr. Giles explained that this issue was sent forward previously and it came to Council with language that was initially not in place and was in relationship to approximately \$1.6 million regarding the debt associated with the golf course, which may or may not have anything to do with this by the time it is finished. Council is hoping and optimistic that an agreement can still be worked out among the three parties minus Millcreek. Following this resolution is another resolution that details the county's concerns and stipulations about moving forward.

Mr. Giles called for a vote on Resolution Number 14, 2008, and it failed in a roll call vote of 0-7.

Mr. Giles observed, for the young people in the audience, that having been on Council for 27 years, this is the first time he has seen a unanimous vote of no; this is certainly an historical vote.

Mr. Foust asked the name of the school students present in this evening's audience, and they replied Villa.

Advancing
Airport Runway
Ext. Prjct

Mr. Maloney gave a reading of Resolution Number 15, 2008, "Advancing the Erie International Airport Runway Extension Project." Mr. Foust moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded.

Mr. Foust commented that these last two resolutions indicate that this Council and this County have stepped up in an effort to move this important project forward. It is hopeful that an agreement can be reached as soon as possible.

Mr. Giles added that bond counsel is in place and the Request for Proposals has moved forward so the financing side of this issue has been approved. He called for a vote on Resolution Number 15, 2008, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Plaza 38 Tax
Assess Appeal
Approved

Mr. Leone moved to approve the Plaza 38 Tax Assessment Appeal Settlement; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Appointments
Approved

Mr. Fatica moved to approve the appointments of:

Thelma Iavarone, RN, to the Office of Children & Youth Advisory Board

Peggy Richardson to the Regional Asset Funding Committee

Dr. Lynn Corder to the Regional Asset Funding Committee

Christopher Borgia to the Regional Asset Funding Committee

Barbara J. Hauck to the Regional Asset Funding Committee

Lucille Eberlein to the Regional Asset Funding Committee

Mary Gamble to the Regional Asset Funding Committee

Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

Ann M. Bruno, Council Secretary
