

March 25, 2008

Minutes of March 11, 2008 Reg. Mtg. aprvd.; \$1,000,000 Line of Credit from PRM to PNC Bank adopted; \$2,200,000 Ltr of Credit Agrmt from PRM to PNC Bank adopted; Lease of Veh. For Coroner adopted; Gen. Fund SA for Restitution from Clk of Cts adopted; EMA SA for Donation of Various Technical Assets adopted; EMA SA for Donation of Sked Stretchers adopted; EMA SA for Donation of Radiation Resp Equip adopted; Dom. Rel. SA for Moving Costs adopted; Gen Fund SA for Transfer to Dom. Rel. adopted; Gen Fund SA for Grant from City to Adult Prob. adopted; Gen. Fund SA for Transfer to E911 adopted; E911 SA Creation of New Positions for Public Safety Consolidation adopted. First Rdgs. Capital Projects SA for Architect Fees for Dom. Rel.; Revised Exp. Forensic Pathologist in DA Ofc; PH SA for Water Damage Repair; Gen Fund SA Transfer to PH for Water Damage Repair; C&Y Transfer of Human Svcs from Gen Fund Budget; Gen Fund SA for Transfer to C&Y for Change in OCY Position; Gen Fund Transfer of Human Svcs to C&Y Svs Fund; C&Y Rev. Rev & Exp for Change of Position in OCY Adm; Gen Fund SA for Reorg and Creation of Two New Positions in Gen Acctg; Gen Fund Rev. Exp. For Creation of Position in Economic Development for Gaming Adm. In Sprt of Final Revision of MOU Btwn City of Erie, County of Erie and Erie Municipal Airport Auth. adopted; Aprvl of PILOT Agrmt adopted; Exon. Taxes in Fort LeBoeuf SD adopted; Exon. Taxes in LeBoeuf Twp and Fort LeBouef SD adopted; Exon. Taxes in Summit Twp and Fort LeBoeuf SD; Exon. Taxes in Elk Creek Twp and NW SD adopted; Exon. Taxes in Conneaut Twp and NW SD adopted; Chris Shalles apptd to Regional Asset Funding Committee; Joanne Snyder reaptd. to Board of Tax Assess. Appeals.

#### ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

Mr. Giles called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:06 p.m. in Council Chambers, Erie County Courthouse, Erie, Pennsylvania. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, the County Clerk called the roll:

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

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, County Clerk  
Joseph P. Maloney, Council CPA  
Mark A. DiVecchio, County Executive  
Sean Wiley, Director of Administration  
James Sparber, Director of Finance  
Sue Ellen Pasquale, Manager of Accounting

Mr. Giles apologized for the delay in the start of the meeting. Council was involved in a long distance telephone conference regarding the airport.

Hearing of  
the Public

Kenneth Przepierski, 640 East 12<sup>th</sup> Street, Erie, wished to question items on the agenda. He referred to the Letter of Credit Agreement in the amount of \$2,200,000 noting that other papers state the amount as being \$2,600,000. The other item is a note for \$1,000,000 and asked whether a better interest rate than 18% couldn't be found. He then stated his topic of discussion this evening was about a new scourge that can be purchased in the stores by children called salvia. This is a ten minute hallucinogenic linked to suicide in teenagers and adults. It is a potent herbal extract. Mr. Mitchell once spoke about methamphetamine, and Mr. Przepierski asked that this be looked into as well.

Mr. Mitchell inquired about the spelling of salvia. Mr. Giles explained that salvia is a flowering vine and this just happens to be a very specific kind of salvia. There are several types in the area that don't have this potency, but there is a specific type that is beginning to spread. He further noted that some states are banning the production of seeds. This is primarily coming from the west to the east.

Renee Vendetti, Erie, approached Council and expressed her appreciation for receiving the agenda in the mail since it is hard to get online or go to the Council Office since she works full-time. Mr. Giles explained that he provided the stamps himself, and Ms. Vendetti thanked him. She stated it was funny how the County will hire a new person for the gaming revenue at \$30,000 per year, but won't provide stamps at a cost of \$9.84 per year for the agenda. Ms. Vendetti stated that after the last meeting Mr. Cleaver told her he wasn't laughing at her, just smiling. She believes it was a smirk, not a smile and asked Council to pay attention when people speak before them and to take them seriously.

Gil Rocco, 2903 West 33<sup>rd</sup> Street, Erie, approached Council to speak regarding the airport. Although the airport could benefit from an additional 1,000 feet, the 920 foot runway the airport indicates funding is already in place for is probably fine. The Airport Authority is not cooperating, and Mr. Rocco suggested letting them put their money where their mouth is to see if they can deliver. The meeting with the FAA is scheduled for April 3<sup>rd</sup>. He understands it would be more economical to do this project in one phase than two, but he advised Council to be patient.

Fr. Jerry Priscaro, 921 East Avenue, Erie, referred to a March 12<sup>th</sup> newspaper article stating that Erie County was one of 345 counties out of 3,077 counties with air too dirty to breathe. A document from the Erie County Department of Health shows that Erie County has a high rate of lung cancer, neonatal and infant deaths, heart disease and stroke death rates. He encouraged each member of Council to be concerned about the environment and do all they can to clean the air in Erie County for all those who have suffered and are suffering. He advised Council to seriously look at companies locating in Erie County who want to bring nothing but dirty air.

Minutes

Mr. Leone moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 11, 2008; Mr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

County Executive  
Comments

Mr. DiVecchio submitted the following comments for inclusion in the minutes:

Last year, Erie County was asked to contribute up to \$25.7 million to the Airport Runway Extension Project. In return, the County hoped to have a project which would give Erie County and Northwest Pennsylvania an economic resource that would retain the current business base and a tool to attract new businesses to the area.

Since the County of Erie is granting these funds to the EMAA, it is appropriate that the County set the terms as to when and how much will be contributed to the project. Any good steward of funds ensures that the funds are spent wisely and effectively.

The County of Erie was to receive four seats on the Erie Municipal Airport Authority. The City of Erie would continue to appoint five, or the majority, of the board.

The County, in its effort to make this project viable, had pledged its full credit to a bond issue which, in addition to the County's \$25.7 million contribution, included \$8 million to be utilized as EMAA's \$6 million capital contribution and to retire EMAA's \$2 million debt. This act of faith on the County's part would have saved the EMAA over \$5 million in interest costs. Since the County is taking on the debt of \$34 million, it is liable for all the debt. The County will assume the liability on these bonds should the EMAA for some reason not be able to repay them.

On March 11<sup>th</sup>, Mr. DiVecchio established the County's conditions and a deadline that would facilitate the meeting scheduled for April 3, 2008 with the FAA.

The County provided the Mayor, the City Solicitor, the President of City Council, and the legal firm for the EMAA with a copy of the County's MOU last Friday afternoon, March 14, 2008. The only changes made to the document since that time were the changes requested by Mayor Sinnott on March 17, 2008.

The County of Erie has suspended attempts to secure bond proceeds for this project as a result of the City's and EMAA's failure to act on their part of the project. This will now result in further delays in the project and increasing costs.

The business community is very interested in this project. Mr. DiVecchio established a committee to overlook the process, and would ask Jim Dible to comment on this.

Finance  
Committee

Mr. Mitchell reported the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, March 19, 2008, and agreed to place the following ordinances on the agenda for second readings: Ordinance 33 and 34 dealing with Pleasant Ridge Manor; Ordinance 35 dealing with lease of a vehicle for the coroner; Ordinance 36 which is a new line item for the Clerk of Courts; Ordinance 37, a donation of technical assets to EMA; Ordinance 38 which is a donation of sked stretchers to EMA; Ordinance 39 which is a donation of radiation response equipment; Ordinance 40 dealing with the moving costs for Domestic Relations; Ordinance 41, a companion piece to Ordinance 40; Ordinance 42, an appropriation grant from the city to Adult Probation for training, education, and employment; and Ordinance 43, a General Fund Budget supplemental appropriation transfer for E911 fund for public safety consolidation plan.

Under New Business, the Committee agreed to place on the agenda Ordinance 45, a first reading of Capital Projects Fund supplemental appropriation for architect fees for domestic relations renovations; Ordinance 46, medical services forensic pathologist for the District Attorney's Office; Ordinance 47, an appropriation for water damage repair and renovation of office space at the Health Department; Ordinance 48, is a companion piece to Ordinance 47; Ordinance 49 transfers Human Services Bureau to the General Fund; Ordinance 50 is a supplemental appropriation transfer from Children & Youth Fund for change in OCY position. Also on the agenda are several resolutions: Resolution 16 which is the airport MOU; Resolution 17, the approval of a PILOT agreement with First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant in Erie; Resolutions 18, 19, 20, 21, and 22 deal with the exoneration of taxes on abandoned trailers. Mr. Mitchell explained this is done periodically after the other two taxing bodies have approved their exonerations to get them off the books. Also on the agenda are the possible appointment of Chris Schalles to the Regional Asset Funding Committee and the possible reappointment of Joanne Snyder to the Erie County Board of Tax Assessment Appeals.

Personnel  
Committee

Mr. Cleaver reported the Personnel Committee met on Wednesday, March 19, 2008 and agreed to place on the agenda Ordinance 44 for a second reading which creates new positions for public safety consolidation and creation of new line items. Also on the agenda for first readings are Ordinance 51, a budget transfer for Human Services for Children and Youth; Ordinance 52, Children and Youth Fund Budget revised revenue expense for a change of position in OCY; Ordinance 53, General Fund Budget supplemental appropriation for reorganization and creation of two positions for General Accounting; and Ordinance 54, a position in Economic Development for gaming administration.

Mr. Leone's  
Comments

Mr. Leone wished to thank Mr. Rocco for his comments regarding the Airport Authority. Council will be passing their Memorandum of Understanding that was agreed to, not City Council's or the Airport Authority's.

Mr. Leone then addressed Mr. Giles and Ms. Vendetti who stated it only costs \$9.84 a year to mail out the agenda to her. He explained that if Council mails 100,000 agendas to people who are entitled to receive it, that would cost \$984,000 per year.

Mr. Leone's  
Comments

Mr. Leone also wished to address the comments made about members of Council smiling, frowning, or laughing. He noted that was his privilege to do so. Council listens to people that speak before them and takes these individuals seriously, but if any member of Council feels like smiling, they will smile. Mr. Leone will not be intimidated. He hoped Mr. Cleaver takes offense as well to those comments. Occasionally, individuals speaking before Council may joke, and Council will smile; perhaps, Council should wait to be told to smile or frown. Mr. Leone stated that was not his way.

Mr. Giles' Report

Mr. Giles placed a vase with paper flowers for all to see and explained that today he was the Head Start Celebrity Reader and read for a group of wide eyed four year olds. The children gave him this bouquet. Each flower is the child's handprint with their name on it, and is representative of each child. Mr. Giles noted the experience was as enjoyable for him as for the children, and reminded him of how precious life is. He observed this was quite a different experience from other issues that Council deals with on a daily basis such as gaming or the airport authority.

Mr. Foust's Report

Mr. Foust submitted the following report:

On March 12, 2008, Mr. Foust attended the meeting of elected officials with former President Bill Clinton at the Erie County Convention Center. Mr. Foust was able to ask the President a direct question regarding additional funding for counties in regard to infrastructure and human services needs.

Mr. Foust also attended the Barber Institute Ladies Auxiliary St. Patrick's Day Luncheon on March 12<sup>th</sup>.

On March 15, 2008, Mr. Foust marched in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in Erie.

On March 18, 2008, Mr. Foust attended the KEEP meeting at East High School to discuss issues surrounding the proposed tire plant on the old International Paper site.

Mr. Fatica's Report

As liaison to the Erie County Conservation District, Mr. Fatica wished to provide some insight as to what this agency is doing. Events the Conservation District is currently involved with are outlined below:

**Erie County Conservation District**  
1927 Wager Road  
Erie, PA 16509

Ph: 814-825-6403  
Fax: 814-825-6033  
[www.erieconservation.com](http://www.erieconservation.com)

- I. Erosion and Sedimentation
  - A. Continue delegated 102 and 105 permitting
  - B. Addressing complaints and providing assistance on soil retention and water quality and quantity issues
  - C. Pre-application and pre-construction meetings
  - D. Consultant assistance
  
- II. Education
  - A. Green Tip of the week
  - B. Pennsylvania Farm Bureau Agricultural Science Lab
  - C. Great Lakes Carnival
  - D. Cooperative Efforts with Northwest Tri-county Intermediate Unit
  - E. St. Lukes after school program
  - F. Villa Maria consuming wholesome foods
  - G. Assessment of all Schools in Erie County
    - 1. Creating a compendium of resources for environmental education
    - 2. Working with schools on energy efficiency
  
- III. Watershed Programs
  - a. Cascade Creek Stabilization Project
  - b. Presque Isle Advisory Committee
  - c. Walnut Creek Targeted Watershed Project
  - d. Trout Run Implementation Plan
  - e. County wide Storm water Management Ordinance
  
- IV. Current Agricultural Projects and Partnerships
  - f. State Funding
    - 1. Growing Greener – Agricultural Best Management Practices (AG BMP) \$300,000.00
    - 2. Resource Enhancement and Protection Program (REAP)
      - a. Erie County had 4 applications and 3 that were funded before funding depleted; State Tax Credits of \$47,728.00
  - B. Erie County Funding
    - 1. Growing Greener (County Economic Initiative)
      - a. \$75,000.00 for AG Best Management Practices
      - b. \$20,000.00 for Trout Run Best Management Practices
  - C. Federal Funding
    - 1. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)
      - a. Technical Design of Ag BMP
      - b. \$255,730.00 for AG BMP and Integrated Pest Management (IPM) to establish ecological based practices in the fruit and grape crops

\$1,000,000  
Committed Line of  
Credit Note from  
PRM to PNC Bank

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of 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.” Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

\$2,200,000 Letter  
of Credit from  
PRM to PNC  
Bank adopted

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of 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.” Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Lease of Vehicle  
For Coroner

Mr. Smith gave a second 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.” Mr. Cleaver moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded.

Lease of Vehicle  
For Coroner

Mr. Foust stated that he would vote in favor of this particular ordinance because it will be less costly in the long run than having Mr. Cook, the Coroner, turn in mileage. Mr. Foust encouraged his colleagues to vote in favor of this ordinance. Mr. Fatica agreed that this will save the County money and noted that it has been admirable of Mr. Cook for not having requested mileage in the past.

Mr. Leone expressed doubt that adopting this ordinance will save the county any money. There is an issue of paying mileage, but he wondered about the cost of gasoline at the present time, and he wished to reiterate his concerns regarding this particular area. He is further concerned about the possibility of other elected officials requesting a vehicle as well. Mr. Foust replied that he would agree with Mr. Leone in not approving every request for a vehicle; however, Mr. Cook is on call 24 hours a day, and such provisions are made for other officials.

Mr. Giles called for a vote on Ordinance 35, 2008, and it carried in a roll call vote of 5-2, Mr. Leone and Mrs. Loll voting no.

Gen. Fund SA for  
Restitution from  
Clk of Cts adopted

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of 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. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Mitchell seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

EMA SA for  
Donation of Various  
Technical Assets

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 37, 2008, “Second 2008 EMA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Donation of Various Technical Assets.” Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

EMA SA for  
Donation of Sked  
Stretchers adopted

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 38, 2008, “Third 2008 EMA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Donation of Sked Stretchers from the NWPA Terrorism Task Force.” Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

EMA SA for  
Donation of Radiation  
Response Equip.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 39, 2008, “Fourth 2008 EMA Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for the Donation of Radiation Response Equipment from the NWPA Terrorism Task Force.” Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Dom. Rel. SA for  
Moving Costs, Rent

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 40, 2008, “Second 2008 Domestic Relations Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Moving Costs, Rent, and the Creation of New Line Items.” Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Transfer to Dom. Rel.  
For Moving Costs

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 41, 2008, "Fifteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Transfer to Domestic Relations Fund for Moving Costs." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Grant from City to  
Adult Probation

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 42, 2008, "Sixteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Grant from City to Adult Probation for Training, Education and Employment Program." Mr. Cleaver moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Gen. Fund SA  
For Transfer to  
E911 for Consol.  
Plan adopted

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 43, 2008, "Seventeenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Transfer to E911 Fund for Public Safety Consolidation Plan." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mrs. Loll voting no.

Creation of  
New Positions  
For Public  
Safety

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of 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." Mr. Cleaver moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mrs. Loll voting no.

First Rdgs.

Mr. Smith gave first readings of the following ordinances:

Ordinance Number 45, 2008, "2008 Capital Projects Fund Supplemental Appropriation for Architect Fees for Domestic Relations Renovation Project and Creation of a New Line Item"

Ordinance Number 46, 2008, "2008 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures for Medical Services for a Forensic Pathologist in the District Attorney Office"

Ordinance Number 47, 2008, "Second 2008 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Water Damage Repair and Renovation of Office Space"

Ordinance Number 48, 2008, "Eighteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Transfer to the Public Health Fund for Water Damage Repair and Renovation of Office Space"

Ordinance Number 49, 2008, "2008 Children & Youth Services Fund Budget Transfer of Human Services Bureau from the General Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 50, 2008, "Nineteenth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Transfer to Children & Youth Fund for a Change in OCY Position"

Ordinance Number 51, 2008, "2008 General Fund Budget Transfer of Human Services Bureau to Children & Youth Services Fund"

Ordinance Number 52, 2008, "2008 Children & Youth Fund Budget Revised Revenue and Expenditures for a Change of Position in OCY Administration"

Ordinance Number 53, 2008, "Twentieth 2008 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Reorganization and Creation of Two New Positions in General Accounting"

Ordinance Number 54, 2008, "2008 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures for Creation of Position in Economic Development for Gaming Administration"

In Sprt of Final  
Revision of MOU  
Btwn City of Erie,  
County of Erie  
And EMAA

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 16, 2008, "In Support of the Final Revision of the Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Erie, the County of Erie, and the Erie Municipal Airport Authority."

Mr. Foust encouraged his colleagues to vote in favor of this particular resolution. He noted this keeps in line with the spirit and letter of the agreement approved by this Council on February 5, 2008 which the other bodies did not see fit to approve. The Memorandum of Understanding which the other two bodies agreed to is not in alignment with what this Council had agreed to back in February. Mr. Foust cautioned that a point of no return is becoming perilously close. He believes County Council wants to be supportive of this project; otherwise, they would not have put \$25.7 million on the table when there was no legal obligation to do so; nor would they have tried to retire some of the debt for the City of Erie's golf course issue. Mr. Foust maintained that County Council has acted to move the community forward. This Memorandum of Understanding must be supported so this very important issue can move forward.

Mr. Cleaver stated he will vote against this particular resolution. He explained he has been involved in numerous meetings with the Airport along with County Council personnel. Even with the signing of this Memorandum, he feels this will come back to the table again. Mr. Cleaver believes and hopes that this Council would support and pursue Senator Earll's legislation to restructure the Airport Authority. This would be a step in the right direction to move this issue forward.

Mr. Fatica stated that by approving this Memorandum, Council is reaffirming what has been adopted previously. This would be an affirmative vote at this particular point in time. Mr. Fatica noted that this is the bank of the county financing this issue. He explained that if an individual goes to a bank to buy a house, the bank explains the rules under which the money is given to that individual. That particular individual cannot go to the bank to change the rules and terms.

Mr. Foust added that perhaps sooner or later, it will be said that this Council walked away from a deal already in place. What has been agreed to by other bodies has never been agreed to by this Council. He emphasized that this Council has not walked away from anything to which it has agreed. Mr. Fatica added that this Council is being characterized as rejecting something it has never agreed to in the past.

Mr. Leone noted that Council has gone through this process enough, and he wholeheartedly agrees with Mr. Cleaver's concept; although he hopes that a final decision is made. He does not want to see this come back again and hold another vote on a different MOU. Mr. Leone agrees that this Memorandum of Understanding has to be passed and he agrees with this MOU. However, in the Joinder Agreement, appointees were to be placed on the Airport Authority, and that hasn't been done yet either. As far as he's concerned, good faith has not been shown.

Mrs. Loll feels that County Council has done everything possible to make this agreement work. They have only asked for four seats on the Airport Authority to provide some guidance as to how the money is being spent. She believes this is a fair

and honest document. Council should have the Memorandum of Understanding and four seats on the Airport Authority.

Mr. Mitchell explained that there are two states of mind in Erie County; I-90 and above state of mind, and I-90 and below state of mind. He commented that as a representative of Erie County below I-90, efforts have made to merge, and people have worked hard to make sure this is one county. He wished to point out that this is Erie County, not the City of Erie, not the lakefront; this is also the people of Union City, Corry, Albion, Edinboro, Wattsburg, Waterford, and many others. Everyone has a stake in this particular project. Local business depends on air travel; citizens depend on air travel and its convenience from Erie. These citizens are also joining by putting their good faith and money behind this project through their taxes. Mr. Mitchell expressed his hope that, in the interest of all Erie County residents, these bodies come together and forge a new direction. He is not trying to be critical, however, there are many people working very hard from the City, the Airport Authority, and the County to make this work. Everyone has to rise above, and make this work for every single citizen of Erie County.

Mr. Giles wished to recognize the presence of City Councilman Joe Schember present this evening. Mr. Schember was also in Council Caucus before the meeting, and Mr. Giles expressed his appreciation for both Mr. Schember's presence and the comments he made during that meeting. Last evening, County Council was invited to participate in a discussion with the City Council and the Mayor regarding this issue. City Council afforded County Council Members a great deal of time, and Mr. Giles believes there may be an agreement on the major pieces of this issue. This is not identical to what the County wanted, but as long as the door is open for dialogue and discussion, it is possible to move forward in a spirit of cooperation. Mr. Giles believes that by adopting this resolution this evening, County Council is stating where they stand on this issue and describing in detail what they believe is fair and equitable from the County's perspective. This is important because without this in place, the proposal advanced by a somewhat tightly run board meeting of the Airport Authority, and then further ratified by City Council, is all that is before them. Mr. Giles reiterated that as long as dialogue and exchange moves forward, an agreement can be reached that all parties can adopt and advance. With the support and help of Jim Dible, Mr. Giles feels there are enough players and reasonable individuals that can come up with a solution that captures the central idea of improving the airport for all citizens of Erie County.

Mr. Giles then called for a vote on Resolution Number 16, 2008, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Cleaver voting no.

PILOT Agrmt  
With First  
Prebyterian  
Church

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 17, 2008, "Approval of PILOT Agreement with First Presbyterian Church of the Covenant, Erie, Pennsylvania." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Exoneration of  
Taxes on Prop.  
Fort LeBoeuf S.D.

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 18, 2008, "Exonerating Taxes on Two (2) Abandoned Trailers/Properties in the Fort LeBoeuf School District." Mr. Mitchell moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Taxes exon. on  
Prop. In LeBoeuf  
Twp & Fort  
LeBoeuf S.D.

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 19, 2008, "Exonerating Taxes on Six (6) Abandoned Trailers/Properties in LeBoeuf Township and the Fort LeBoeuf School District." Mr. Mitchell moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Exon. Taxes on  
Prop. in Summit Twp  
& Fort LeBoeuf S.D.

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 20, 2008, "Exonerating Taxes on Twenty-Five (25) Abandoned Trailers/Properties in Summit Township and the Fort LeBoeuf School District." Mr. Fatica moved to adopt; Mr. Mitchell seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Exon. Taxes in Elk  
Crk Twp & NW S.D.

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 21, 2008, "Exonerating Taxes on Five (5) Abandoned Trailers/Properties in Elk Creek Township and the Northwestern School District." Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Exon. Taxes on Prop.  
In Conneaut Twp &  
NW S.D.

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 22, 2008, "Exonerating Taxes on Ten (10) Abandoned Trailers/Properties in Conneaut Township and the Northwestern School District." Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Mr. Leone seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Chris Schalles Appt'd  
To Regional Asset  
Funding Committee

Mr. Mitchell moved to appoint Chris Schalles to the Regional Asset Funding Committee; Mr. Cleaver seconded.

Mr. Giles advised members of the audience that the first meeting of the Regional Asset Funding Committee will be held on Thursday, March 27, 2008. This will be an organizational meeting with a review of the policies adopted and an application proposal form so that process may begin. Also, the first meeting of the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority will be held on Friday, March 28<sup>th</sup>. At the request of Wally Knox, County Solicitor, this will include not only a review of the policies adopted by Council, but also a review of the Summit lawsuit. Based on the recommendation of Council Solicitor, Tom Talarico, it is expected that both bodies will move ahead with the application process, and those applications will go out to the townships and boroughs. Mr. Giles further noted that it is expected that the lawsuit may take longer than anticipated. One of the comments made on this issue is that the county doesn't have all the mechanisms in place so there is time to spend on this issue. Mr. Giles also noted that the gaming position approved by Council will be in place soon as well.

Mr. Giles then called for a vote on the appointment of Chris Schalles to the Regional Asset Funding Committee, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Joanne Snyder  
Reappt'd. to Brd.  
Of Tax Assess.  
Appeals

Mr. Foust moved to reappoint Joanne Snyder to the Erie County Board of Tax Assessment Appeals; Mr. Mitchell seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

Ann M. Bruno, Council Secretary

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