

February 21, 2012 Minutes of Feb. 7, 2012 Reg. Mtg. apprvd. Agenda Amended. PS SA COPS Grant adopted. Gen Fund SA Reassess. Expend. Assoc. with Appeals adopted. Liquid Fuels SA for Springfield Twp adopted. PRM \$700,000 Line of Credit adopted; Amend Ord. 113 & Admin. Code of Erie County Purch. Code adopted; Capital Prjcts SA for Tech. Prjcts adopted. First Rdgs: Cap. Prjcts SA Storm Water Mgmt Prjct; Gen Fund SA Proth. Auto. Fees; New Per Diem Line Item in PD Ofc adopted; Exon. Taxes in Fairview Twp & SD adopted; Exon. Taxes in Girard Twp and SD adopted; Aaron Collins appt'd to D&A Alcohol Abuse Adv. Brd.

Mr. Fatica, Chairman, called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:00 p.m. in the Erie County Council Chambers, Erie County Courthouse, Erie, Pennsylvania. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Loll recited a prayer.

Roll Call

Mr. Smith, County Clerk, called the roll:

Members Present: Mr. Fatica, Chairman
Mr. Giles, Vice Chairman
Mr. Beeman
Mr. Cleaver
Dr. Foust
Mr. Leone (via telephone)
Mrs. Loll

Members Absent: None

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, County Clerk
Joseph P. Maloney, Council CPA
Jim Sparber, Director of Finance
Sue Ellen Pasquale, Manager of Accounting

Hearing of
The Public

Melissa Keating, Grove City, PA, spoke on behalf of the Pennsylvania Court Reporter's Association and requested Council not approve the allocation for the court technology project which will be used to fund installation of electronic recording equipment in the courtrooms. She pointed out the benefits of court reporters as opposed to the use of the system which she feels is inferior in many ways.

Minutes

Mr. Giles moved to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the February 7, 2012 County Council meeting. Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Finance
Committee

Mr. Giles reported the Finance Committee met on February 16, 2012 and agreed to place on the agenda Ordinances 12, 13, 14, 16, 17 and 18 for second readings along with first readings for Ordinances 21 and 22. Resolutions 14, 15 and the possible appointment of Aaron Collins to the Drug and Alcohol Advisory Board were also placed on the agenda.

Personnel
Committee

Mrs. Loll reported the Personnel Committee met immediately following the Finance Committee and agreed to place on the agenda for a first reading a revised budget expenditure of \$19,087 to create a new per diem line item in the Public Defender's Office.

Mr. Giles'
Report

Mr. Giles reported that the Northwest Planning Commission met on February 3rd for their regular Quarterly Meeting in Clarion. Janet Anderson, who had been an Erie County employee for a number of years was the Executive Director of the Northwest Planning Commission. She has resigned after ten months. The interim replacement will be Ned Goucher, who has been the

Deputy Director for the Commission for approximately 30 years. Mr. Giles stated that a contract has been authorized to a firm from Pittsburgh to search for a new director. He wished to remind everyone that there are several layers of interest including loan funds for economic development and much of the international work being reported locally is spawned, directed and guided by the Northwest Planning Commission.

Mr. Giles further reported that on Thursday, February 16, 2012, the Economic Development Corporation of Erie County met. One of the areas of concern is the future of the Lord Corporation in Erie County. Lord will move to the previous Bush Industries site and will be doing some additional development. They will be adding a second story and will have additional space to sublease. He also noted that the Inland Port has firmed up many agreements in the Albion area with a rail access and the proximity to Conneaut Harbor. This is moving forward rapidly.

At the last meeting, Mr. Giles' submitted a report about the presentation at the NACo Justice Meeting. There is a picture in the February 13th issue of the *NACo County News* with the exact text of the February 7th minutes copied under *Honoring Ambassador Young*. Mr. Giles thanked everyone who helped produce the report on Andrew Young's speech.

Pub. Safety
COPS Grant

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 12, 2012, "Second 2012 Public Safety Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$453,252 And The Creation Of New Line Items For COPS Grant Numbers #0189, #0190, And #0115." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Gen. Fund SA
For Reassess.
Assoc. w/Appeals

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 13, 2012, "Third 2012 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$13,154 And Creation Of New Line Item For Reassessment Expenditures Associated With Appeals." Mr. Leone moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Mr. Fatica explained that the County will be going through a reassessment and this will allow the process of informal appeals by homeowners to move forward.

Liquid Fuels SA
Springfield Twp

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 14, 2012, "First 2012 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation Of \$19,900 In Emergency Liquid Fuels Passed By The Emergency Liquid Fuels Board For Springfield Township." Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

\$700,000 PRM
Line of Credit

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 16, 2012, "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 \$1,700,000 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." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded.

Mr. Giles moved to amend the face sheet of the ordinance and all accompanying materials to reflect the revised amount of \$700,000. Dr. Foust seconded and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. Fatica called for a vote on Ordinance Number 16, 2012, as amended, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Amend. Ord
113, 2010
& Admin. Code

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 17, 2012, "Amending Ordinance Number 113, 2010 And The Administrative Code Of Erie County Article III, Section 1 Purchasing Code." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded

Mr. Leone inquired as to whether this would amend the Purchasing Code to \$18,500. Mr. Fatica clarified that the amount would be \$25,000. Mr. Leone assumed that since Erie County is a Home Rule County, it can go right to the amount of \$25,000. Mr. Fatica noted that was correct.

Mr. Giles noted that language referencing this particular change was put into the budget approved last November. The Administrative Code will be consistent based on the budget approval. Mr. Giles pointed out that this has been reviewed by Council Solicitor Talarico and the language presented has been approved by legal staff.

Mr. Fatica called for a vote on Ordinance Number 17, 2012 and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Creation of New Line
Item for Technol. Prjcts.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 18, 2012, "2012 Capital Projects Fund Supplemental Appropriation of \$104,102 And Creation Of A New Line Item For County Technology Projects." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Cleaver voting no.

Mr. Fatica explained that this issue is the result of the Courts' request.

Agenda Amended

Mr. Giles moved to amend the agenda to include Ordinance Number 23, 2012, "2012 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures Of \$19,087 And Creation Of A New Per Diem Line Item In Public Defender Office" for a second reading. Dr. Foust seconded.

Mr. Leone stated that he did not have an opportunity to review this particular ordinance in its entirety and asked Council Members to hold off until he has read this ordinance. Mr. Giles explained that this involves a position being vacated in the Public Defender's Office due to military service. There is no financial effect. Council is simply allowing the office to replace this person. The office has a workload that is getting behind and needs a replacement. The difference between what the employee would have been paid and will no longer receive will go the use of this per diem. If this individual returns from duty to work, there is no possibility that the per diem position will continue.

Mr. Leone asked how long ago the employee gave notification that he was leaving for military duty. He understands Mr. Giles' explanation, but he would like to know how long the department knew about the employee's pending leave.

Mrs. Pasquale explained that she does not know the exact date notice was given, but the employee left January 10th and was paid the 30 days military time through February 10th. The Public Defender's Office did not request to fill the position until after the paid leave. Mr. Leone replied he will accept this explanation.

Mr. Fatica called for a vote on the amendment to move this ordinance to a second reading and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

First Readings

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of the following ordinances:

Ordinance Number 21, 2012, "2012 Capital Projects Fund Supplemental Appropriation Of \$192,398 For Storm Water Management Project"

Ordinance Number 22, 2012, "Fifth 2012 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation And Release Of \$35,048 In Prothonotary Automation Fees From Non-Spendable Fund Balance"

New Per Diem
Line Item in PD's

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 23, 2012, "2012 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures Of \$19,087 And Creation Of A New Per Diem Line Item In Public Defender Office." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Exon. Taxes in
Fairview Twp

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 14, 2012, "Exonerating Taxes On One Abandoned Trailer/Property In Fairview Township And The Fairview School District." Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Cleaver voting no.

Exon Taxes in
Girard Twp

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Resolution Number 15, 2012, "Exonerating Taxes On One Abandoned Trailer/Property In Girard Township And The Girard School District." Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Cleaver voting no.

Aaron Collins
Appt'd to D&A Brd

Dr. Foust moved to appoint Aaron Collins to the Erie County Drug & Alcohol Abuse Advisory Board. Mr. Giles seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Ann M. Bruno, Council Secretary
