

August 26, 2014

ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

Dr. Foust, Chairman, called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:00 p.m. at the Northwestern High School Auditorium, 200 Harthan Way, Albion, PA. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Loll recited the following prayer:

“Let us pray. As fall bursts forward into our lives, we marvel at the gifts our Lord Jesus has won for us. Let us run with endurance the race that is set before us. We need to use the spirit in us to accomplish all that our responsibilities are. We want to realize our purpose and move forward to obtain the end. As God has revealed His kindness and love we need to look within and reveal our compassion and concern for our fellow citizens. Lord give us confidence that our past was constructive, our present is moving into a good direction, and our future is secured in the knowledge that we have learned to do things right. Amen.”.

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Dr. Foust, Chairman
Mr. Leone, Vice Chairman
Mr. Breneman
Mr. DiMattio
Mr. Fatica
Mr. Horton
Mrs. Loll

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, County Clerk
Joseph Maloney, CPA
Sue Ellen Pasquale, General Accounting Manager
James Sparber, Finance Director

Mrs. Loll thanked the superintendent, Dr. Downie, and the principal, Dan Shreve, along with the custodial staff from the Fuller Company, and the citizens who came out to view the meeting to see how government is run on the county level. She recognized the elected officials and prior elected officials and thanked them for attending.

**HEARING OF
THE PUBLIC**

Mr. Randy Barnes, Harborcreek Township; Mr. Barnes spoke about the inland port. He stated that of the \$7 million spent on the inland port so far, just over \$3 million was spent in Albion. He stated that landowners received two times to eight times the assessed value of their land for the inland port. He stated that this money was obtained from government loans and government grants, tax dollars. He stated there were promises of a pellet plant and a smelting plant. He referred to a letter dated June 25, 2013, from the North Atlantic Iron Corporation, parent company of Muskrat Minerals. The letter stated that the funding decision to begin development at this site would be made in August, 2013. They are not going to build a smelting plant in Albion. The \$3

August 26, 2014

million spent purchased \$630,000 worth of land. He commented that there has been no job creation from the \$7 million spent on the inland port. He further commented that \$1.4 million has been spent on staff at DevelopErie and the GEIDC. He stated that elected officials are the ones who should be held accountable for tax dollars being spent on economic development.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Leone moved to approve the minutes from the July 15, 2014, regular meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Horton and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE AND/OR HER DESIGNEE

Mr. Sparber stated there was no report this evening.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Fatica reported that the Finance Committee met on August 21, 2014, and agreed to move the following items onto the agenda: under Old Business, a second reading of Ordinance 83, 2014; under New Business: Ordinances 94, 95, 97-100, Resolutions 47 through 54, 2014, a board reappointment to the Human Relations Commission and an appointment to the Erie County Library Board, as well as sale of parcels from the repository.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. DiMattio reported on the Personnel Committee meeting that immediately followed the Finance Meeting on August 21, 2014. He stated that the Personnel Committee agreed to add the following items to the agenda: under Old Business, a second reading of Ordinance 92, 2014, and under New Business – Ordinances 101 and 102, 2014.

REPORTS BY COUNCIL

Mr. Fatica recognized Sue Ellen Pasquale, Joe Maloney, and James Sparber on the receipt of an accounting award for excellence, for the 21st year in a row. Mrs. Pasquale stated that it is an award of excellent in financial reporting from the Government Finance Officer's Association. Mr. Fatica stated that Mr. Maloney was also recognized for his outstanding work with Presque Isle Partnership in the transformation of the Presque Isle Lighthouse to a museum and not just a residence. Mr. Maloney was a key person in bringing that idea to fruition.

Mr. Fatica thanked his colleagues for their help on drafting the response to the Three Year Operational and Capital Plan.

Mr. Fatica further discussed an email that was forwarded from the Health Department summarizing where they stand with accreditation. They are positioned to receive accreditation in September of this year. The Erie County Health Department would become the only accredited Health Department in the state of Pennsylvania.

Dr. Foust applauded Mrs. Pasquale, Mr. Maloney, and Mr. Sparber for the information received on a continual basis that is accurate and honest and allows Council to make good decisions on behalf of the people of Erie County.

Motion to Amend Agenda

Mr. Leone moved to amend the agenda and move Ordinances 94, 95, 97, 98, 99, 100, and 101 to second readings. This was seconded by Mr. Fatica and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

August 26, 2014

Dr. Foust explained to the audience that Old Business on the agenda as second readings have already been heard in a previous meetings. Periodically, things will be moved under New Business from a first reading to a second reading as there is no incentive to wait to move on it. Regarding resolutions, Dr. Foust explained that they require only one reading.

OLD BUSINESS

Ord. 83, 2014 – 2014
Rev. Fee Schedule in
Dept. of Corrections

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 83, 2014, “2014 Revised Fee Schedule in the Department of Corrections”. This was moved by Mr. DiMattio, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a 6-1 roll call vote, with Mr. Horton voting no.

Ord. 92, 2014 – 2014
Gen. Fund SA for
Reorg. Of Procurement,
Facilities & Ops. Dept.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 92, 2014, “Twenty-Second 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$10,756 for Re-organization of Procurement, Facilities, and Operations Departments”. This was moved by Mr. Leone and seconded by Mr. DiMattio.

Mr. Leone moved to amend the ordinance by lowering the position salary to \$50,000. This was seconded by Mr. Breneman, and the amendment carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Ordinance 92, 2014, as amended, carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Prior to moving on to New Business, Dr. Foust explained that there would most likely be a lack of debate or discussion on the upcoming information and the reason for that is most discussion is done at the Finance and Personnel Committee meetings held prior to the regular meeting. Dr. Foust further explained that the County accepts grants and other funds from the state and are a conduit to get those funds out. He stated a lack of debate is not necessarily a lack of activity, it is the way that County government operates.

Ord. 94, 2014 – 2014
Library Fund SA of
\$30,000 & Waiver
Of Purch. Code for
Bookmobile Repairs

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 94, 2014, “Third 2014 Library Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$30,000 and Waiver of the Purchasing Code for Bookmobile Repairs”. This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Ord. 95, 2014 – 2014
Gen. Fund SA of
\$30,000 To Library
for Repairs to
The Bookmobile

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2014, “Twenty-Third 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$30,000 to Library for Repairs to the Bookmobile”. This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

August 26, 2014

Ord. 96, 2014 – 2014
Gen. Fund SA of
\$25,000 For Coroner
Add'l Fees
And Svcs.
Expenditure

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 96, 2014, "Twenty-Fourth 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$25,000 for the County Coroner Additional Fees and Services Expenditures".

Ord. 97, 2014 – 2014
Gen. Fund SA of \$8,000
For County Solicitor
Add'l Prof. Fees

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 97, 2014, "Twenty-Fifth 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$8,000 for County Solicitor for Additional Professional Fees". This was moved by Mr. Breneman, seconded by Mr. Fatica, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Ord. 98, 2014 – 2014
Pub. Safety SA of Donated
\$4,937 Datacard ID Printer,
Camera, Supplies from
NWPA ERG

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 98, 2014, "Ninth 2014 Public Safety Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of Donated \$4,937 Datacard ID Printer, Camera, and Supplies from NWPA Emergency Response Group". This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Dr. Foust clarified that any donation over \$1,000 in value must be handled through ordinance.

Ord. 99, 2014 – 2014 Gen.
Fund SA for Donation of
\$4,990 Ballistic Barriers
To the Sheriff Dept. from
NWPA ERG

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 99, 2014, "Twenty-Sixth 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$4,990 Ballistic Barriers to the Sheriff Department from the NWPA Emergency Response Group". This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Ord. 100, 2014 – 2014 Gen.
Fund SA for Donation of
\$3,500 Utility Trailer to
Sheriff Dept.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 100, 2014, "Twenty-Seventh 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation for Donation of \$3,500 Utility Trailer to the Sheriff Department from Great Lakes Auto Sales and the Lake Erie Chapter of International Blue Knights". This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Ord. 101, 2014 – 2014
Public Health Fund SA
Of \$11,004 for Safe &
Healthy Comm. Bureau
& Alloc. For New Position
In Tobacco Grant Bureau

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 101, 2014, "Eighth 2014 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$11,004 for Safe and Healthy Communities Bureau and Reallocation for New Position in Tobacco Grant Bureau". This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

August 26, 2014

Ord. 102, 2014 – 2014
Gen.Fund SA
of \$20,769 for
Court Admin.

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance 102, 2014, “Twenty-Eighth 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$20,769 for Court Administration, the Elimination of a Part Time Court Reporter Position, and the Change of Another to Full Time”.

RESOLUTIONS

Dr. Foust explained that Resolutions 47 and 48 are from the General Authority and the Erie County Community Services Financing Authority, which are County authorities, but access funds to be able to fund construction projects throughout the County. There is no obligation on the part of the taxpayers for these funds, but they do need Council approval, which is why they are on the agenda tonight.

Res. 47, 2014 – ECGA
2,300,000 Tax-Exempt
Note – Erie Art
Museum Project

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 47, 2014, “Erie County General Authority Not to Exceed \$2,300,000 Tax-Exempt Note (Erie Art Museum Project). This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Res. 48, 2014 – ECCFSA
\$8,500,000 Tax-Exempt
Note (Presbyterian
Homes in the
Presbytery of Lake
Erie Project)

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 48, 2014, “Erie County Community Services Financing Authority Not to Exceed \$8,500,000 Tax-Exempt Note (Presbyterian Homes in the Presbytery of Lake Erie Project”. This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Res. 49, 2014 –
Combining
the CHA & ECHA

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 49, 2014, “Combining the Corry Housing Authority and the Erie County Housing Authority. This was moved by Mr. DiMattio, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Res. 50, 2014 –
Approving
Tax Exoneration
of 2013 Real Estate
Taxes on MCRC
Parcels

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 50, 2014, “Approving Tax Exoneration of 2013 Real Estate Taxes on Multicultural Community Resource Center Parcels #15-20-26-127, 15-20-26-125, and 15-20-26-125.99”. This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

August 26, 2014

Res. 51, 2014 –
Exonerating
Taxes on
Trailer/Property
In Conneaut Twp.
& NWSD

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 51, 2014, “Exonerating Taxes on One Abandoned Trailer/Property #04-018-049.0-017.50 in Conneaut Township and the Northwestern School District”. This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Res. 52, 2014 –
Exonerating
Taxes on
Trailer/Property
In Elk Creek Twp.
& NWSD

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 52, 2014, “Exonerating Taxes on One Abandoned Trailer/Property #13-003-007.003.50 in Northwestern School District and Elk Creek Township”. This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Res. 53, 2014 –
Exonerating
Taxes on
Trailer/Property
In M’creek Twp
& MTSD

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 53, 2014, “Exonerating Taxes on One Abandoned Trailer/Property #33-034-172.0-023.25 in Millcreek Township and the Millcreek Township School District”. This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Res. 54, 2014 –
Approving the
County Council
Response to
The 2015-2017
Erie County
Operational &
Capital Plan

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 54, 2014, “Approving the County Council Response to the 2015-2017 Erie County Operational and Capital Plan”.

Dr. Foust thanked Mr. Fatica for chairing the committee which drafted the response, as well as Mr. DiMattio and Mr. Horton who served on the committee. Mr. Fatica thanked his colleagues for their help, and he explained to the audience that the County Executive submits a three year plan each year and Council has a chance to respond to it..

This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**BOARD/
AUTHORITY
APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Breneman moved to reappoint Amy Danzer to a four-year term on the Human Relations Commission to represent Dr. Foust’s District. This was seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Mr. DiMattio moved to appoint Christine Matheis to the Erie County Library Board to represent Dr. Foust’s District. This was seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

August 26, 2014

**SALE OF
PARCELS**

Mr. Leone moved to approve the Sale of Parcels from Repository for Unsold Property at Index Numbers:

- 15-020-015.0-104.00
- 15-020-020.0-218.00
- 15-020-020.0-221.00
- 24-012-036.1-074.32
- 28-002-002.3-005.39

This was seconded by Mrs. Loll and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:35 p.m.

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary
