

March 24, 2015

ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

Fiore Leone, Chairman, called to order a Regular Meeting of the Erie County Council at 7:00 p.m. at the Erie County Courthouse, County Council Chambers, Erie, PA. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Smith took the roll:

ROLL CALL

Members Present: Mr. Breneman
Mr. DiMattio
Dr. Foust
Mr. Horton
Mrs. Loll
Mr. Leone

Members Absent: Mr. Fatica

Also Present: Joseph Maloney, CPA
Sue Ellen Pasquale, General Accounting Manager
James Sparber, Finance Director
Gary Lee, Director of Administration

**HEARING OF
THE PUBLIC**

Shawn Graves, 411 East 22nd Street, Erie, PA; Mr. Graves is with the Erie County Cooperative Extension – 4H Educator for Erie County. Mr. Graves wanted to thank Council for allowing him to be here and wanted to take the opportunity to review what is going on with 4H. Morgan King and Julia Garren spoke about the 4H program in Erie County. 4H is the largest youth development program in the nation in which youth from the ages of 5 and 19 can join. Programs are designed to shape future leaders. 4H stands for “Head, Heart, Hand, and Help”, which is part of their pledge. There are more than 25 4H clubs and special interest groups in Erie County to meet the needs of young people, including Trailblazers, Horsin’ Around, Clover Leaf K9, Edinboro Dairy, Blazing Arrows, JFK, Cattle Drive and Teen Council. Both young ladies stated that they have gotten a lot of 4H leadership training which has helped them stand out. There are many different types of projects, including animal sciences, citizenship and civic education, communication and arts, healthy lifestyles education, and diversity, leadership, and personal development.

Mr. DiMattio added that he has met Mr. Graves numerous times and Mr. DiMattio shares a fond affinity for the Cooperative Extension. There are a lot of people in the community who think that 4H is only agriculture, pigs, and cows, but it’s a lot more

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than that. There are a lot of programs for the city as well as out in the county. He stated he received an email from the Union City Feed Mill Co-Op and they had a clinic for the farmers where they could get their certificates to apply chemicals, because a farmer must be licensed and certified and this saved travel time for the farmers and offering those services for free is a tremendous help to the local community.

Mr. Graves stated that they are going to attend future Council meetings to share highlights of their programs within the Cooperative Extension.

Mr. Horton asked Mr. Graves about the JFK Center Teen Program and Mr. Graves clarified that there are programs at the JFK Center, including Farm to Table Experiences.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Mr. Horton moved to approve the minutes from the March 10, 2015 Regular Meeting. This was seconded by Mr. DiMattio and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

REPORTS BY COUNTY OFFICIALS

Mr. Lee, Director of Administration, stated that County Executive Dahlkemper gives her regrets for not being able to attend tonight's meeting. He stated she is traveling back from CCAP in Harrisburg but has shared with Mr. Lee that she would be prepared to give an update on the requested items at the Finance/Personnel Committee meeting on April 2, 2015.

Mr. Lee then updated Council on the Summer Jobs Program. With County Council committing \$100,000, ECGRA committing \$100,000 and Erie Community Foundation signing on for \$50,000, that brings the total funding to \$250,000. Mr. Lee stated they continue to go out and meet with some of the employers that Dr. Foust and Mrs. Loll suggested. The roll out time will be the beginning of April, with informational sessions for employers and participants. The website is due to roll out the middle of April and orientation will be at the end of April.

FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Breneman reported that the Finance Committee met on March 19, 2015, and agreed to place Ordinances 34 through 41, 2015, Resolutions 17 through 20, 2015, and three Board appointments to the agenda.

PERSONNEL COMMITTEE REPORT

Mr. Horton stated that there were no items for discussion so the Personnel Committee did not meet.

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OTHER REPORTS

Mr. Breneman reported on the Rail to Trail project on the Eastside Corridor which he began last June with Mr. Brennan, along with a graduate intern from Case Western and undergraduate intern from Gannon University. They have done initial feasibility analysis of the former rail corridor that runs the entire span of the city along 19th Street, most of which is in Mr. Breneman's district, but borders along Mr. Horton's district. They have talked to many of the churches, businesses, some of the citizens in the area, and Norfolk-Southern Railroad. They believe that there is an opportunity to move forward with a rail to trail project, which will be more than just a park. There is a strong economic output in some of these areas across the country, plus the fact that this community is an island without adequate recreational outlets. Mr. Breneman stated they are moving forward with a planning phase to begin in early May that will be driven by the public. They are engaging the public and providing them with the tools to make the decisions and once a final plan is in place, they will present it for further review to see progress on it this time next year.

Mrs. Loll read the following prayer: "God, we have been invited to live the life as a servant to our constituents. Don't let us be concerned with position and prestige, being noticed and appreciated, making sure we are in the right place at the right time. Speak to our hearts that we might follow the right paths, with every need. Teach us the right balance of pride and humility. Instruct us in living with humble self-esteem that does not neglect the needs of others. We ask this in the name of our Lord. Amen."

**MOTION TO AMEND
AGENDA**

Dr. Foust made a motion to amend the agenda and move Ordinances 34, 35, 36, 38, 39, 40, and 41, 2015, to second readings. This was seconded by Mrs. Loll and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

**Ord. 34, 2015 – Gen.
Fund SA Of \$32,234,
Creation of Line in
Adult Pro. For Veteran
Diversion Program
Through PCCD Grant**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 34, 2015, "Fifteenth 2015 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$32,234 and Creation of Line Item in Adult Probation for Veterans Diversion Program through PCCD Grant". This was moved by Dr. Foust and seconded by Mr. DiMattio

Mr. Breneman commented that this is a great program and he applauds their efforts in partnering with Safe Harbor Behavioral Health to make this happen. He would like to see more collaborations like this to better serve the county's veteran population.

Ordinance 34, 2015 then carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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**Ord. 35, 2015 – PS
Fund SA of \$12,000
& Creation of
Vacation Line**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 35, 2015, “First 2015 Public Safety Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$12,000 and Creation of *Vacation* Line Item”. This was moved by Dr. Foust, seconded by Mrs. Loll, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 36, 2015 – Gen.
Fund SA of \$12,000
For Tx to PS Fund**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 36, 2015, “Sixteenth 2015 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$12,000 for Transfer to public Safety Fund to Create *Vacation* Line Item”. This was moved by Mrs. Loll, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 37, 2015 – Cap.
Project SA of
\$1,001,681 & Creation
Of PS Radio Project
Line**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 37, 2015, “Second 2015 Capital Project Fund Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,001,681 and Creation of *Public Safety Radio Project* Line Item”.

**Ord. 38, 2015 – Gen.
Fund Rev. Exp. Of
\$12,000 & Creation
Of New Lines for City
Of Erie CDBG Grant to
HRC**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 38, 2015, “2015 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$12,000 and Creation of New Lines for City of Erie CDBG Grant to Erie County Human Relations Commission”. This was moved by Dr. Foust, seconded by Mr. Breneman, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 39, 2015 – Gen.
Fund Waiver of Purch.
Code for Renewal of
3 yr West Library Agmt**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 39, 2015, “2015 General Fund Budget Waiver of County Purchasing Code for Renewal of Three Year West Library Maintenance Agreement for County Law Library and Court Library”. This was moved by Mr. Horton, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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**Ord. 40, 2015 – Gen.
Fund Waiver of Admin.
Code for Purch. Module
Software from Single
Vendor**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 40, 2015, “2015 General Fund Budget Waiver of County Administrative Code for Acquisition of Purchasing Module Software from Single Vendor”. This was moved by Dr. Foust, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 41, 2015 – Gen.
Fund Waiver of Admin.
Code for Library
Collection Maint.
Software from Sole
Vendor**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 41, 2015, “2015 General Fund Budget Waiver of County Administrative Code for Acquisition of Library Collection Maintenance Software from Sole Vendor”. This was moved by Mr. Horton and seconded by Mrs. Loll.

Dr. Foust commented that in cases where the Purchasing Code is waived is not to avoid anything but oftentimes it is proprietary software and there is really only one vendor affiliated so it saves a little bit of time in the process.

Ordinance 41, 2015, then carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS

**Res. 17, 2015 –
ECGA Not to
Exceed \$2,800,000
(Emergycare, Inc.
Project)**

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 17, 2015, “Erie County General Authority Not to Exceed \$2,800,000 Tax-Exempt Note (Emergycare, Inc. Project)”. This was moved by Mr. Breneman and seconded by Dr. Foust.

Mrs. Loll then commented that she received a complaint that the County was giving tax money to Emergycare and she called the person back once she did her homework so she could explain it properly. Mrs. Loll stated that this has nothing to do with tax dollars of Erie County at this point. Erie County General Authority has okayed this loan to Emergycare at 2.2% interest and they are to pay this money back. This is not a gift or a grant and she wanted this on the record because of the phone call she received.

Resolution 17, 2015, then carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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Dr. Foust moved to approve Resolutions 18 through 20, 2015, in one vote. This was seconded by Mrs. Loll.

Resolution 18, 2015, “Exonerating Taxes on One Abandoned Trailer/Property #24-007-024.0-002.54 in the Girard School District and Girard Township”.

Resolution 19, 2015, “Exonerating Taxes on One Abandoned Trailer/Property #39-002-001.0-009.54 in Springfield Township and the Northwestern School District”.

Resolution 20, 2015, “Exonerating Taxes on Two Abandoned Trailers/Properties #33-053-225.0-001.90 and #33-113-640.0-002.40 in Millcreek Township and Millcreek Township School District”.

These resolutions carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Dr. Foust moved to approve the following appointments:

Possible reappointment of James McGoey to a second term on the Erie County Housing Authority.

Possible appointment of Doris Gernovich to an unexpired term on the Erie County Housing Authority.

Possible appointment of Kim Stucke to an unexpired term on the Erie County Housing Authority.

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

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary
