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**ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – BUDGET Public Hearing – 2016 Budget**

Fiore Leone, Chairman, called to order a Public Hearing on the 2016 Budget Proposal at 6:00 p.m. in the County Council Chambers at the Erie County Courthouse, 140 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 117, Erie, PA. There being no hearing of the public, Chairman Leone adjourned the meeting at 6:01 p.m.

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**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 County Council Chambers in the Erie County Courthouse, 140 West 6<sup>th</sup> Street, Room 117, Erie, PA.

Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mrs. Loll read the following prayer:

“Let us pray. We are stewards of the monies collected for the services we provide for our residents. We will be setting in place a budget to maintain these services. As we move into our responsibilities of our work, we ask guidance and leadership to do it well. We have many decisions to make that may or may not make people pleased. Hear us as we ask for your consideration in Jesus’ name. Amen.”.

Mr. Smith then took the roll:

**ROLL CALL**

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

Also Present: Thomas Talarico, Esquire  
Joseph Maloney, CPA  
Sue Ellen Pasquale, General Accounting Manager  
James Sparber, Finance Director

**HEARING OF  
THE PUBLIC**

Bishop Dwane Brock, Erie, PA; Bishop Brock wanted to give Council a brief report on the Eagles Nest Employability initiative which is something that was instituted several months ago. Bishop Brock was very happy and excited to announce that as of today, there are 36 young people between the ages of 18 to 24 working full time employment with benefits at Hamot UPMC Hospital. He stated that this is something that is unprecedented within the city of Erie. He wanted to thank Councilman Horton for his counsel, Chairman Leone and all of Council for their personal involvement, prayers and good wishes. They are very excited about the program and do plan to expand it in the future. They have met with several bank presidents and they are looking to open up two to three positions at each of the banks for other young people to be involved in the program. On November 12, 2015, at 4:30 p.m. at UPMC Hamot Hospital, there will be an event showcasing the

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bonding between the young people and the administration and nurses, which is something phenomenal that he had never seen in all his travels for youth ministry. He commented that this type of program is what solves the issue of violence and uncivil behavior in the community. He wanted to invite Council to this event and hope that they can attend; the program would last about an hour and a half and Council members would have an opportunity, if they so choose, to address the participants and attendees.

Dr. Foust wanted Bishop Brock to know there is a Finance meeting that night so they will be in attendance at the event as soon as possible from the Finance meeting.

Mr. Horton wanted to thank Bishop Brock publicly for such a wonderful gift to the County and the City, but he is very pleased to have that program originate in the 2<sup>nd</sup> legislative district and he offered anything he could do to continue in this manner, he is just a phone call away. He congratulated Bishop Brock on a job well done.

Randy Barnes, Harborcreek Township; Mr. Barnes thanked Mrs. Loll for her words before the meeting. He stated it's nearly the new year and that the rest of County could have listened to Bishop Brock. Mr. Barnes understands that at the first of the year the meetings will go live and have the meetings broadcast and repeated on cable. He stated that there are probably a vast majority of people in the County who have never heard of the Eagles Nest. If the meetings were live today like Councilman Breneman was prepared to do back in March or April, the rest of the County would have heard of the success that Bishop Brock has had. He then went on about the County Executive's budget and the statement that if a person rents, the tax increase doesn't affect them. Mr. Barnes countered saying that he doesn't know any landlord that would not take that expense and roll it into the rent for the tenant to cover. He stated that this additional tax will affect employers in Erie, grocery stores, etc. He felt that the theme going forward is there is no leadership in the County, but because in the 30+ municipalities, it is tough to find a strong leader. He then talked about the Next Generation Radio Project study and the "grant funding" available for the mobile portables and pagers. He asked how many grants have been applied for to help defer the cost of the radio project. He then asked if the County measures the transgender, sexual orientation so the County is aware of where they are going with this racial, ethnic, and gender diversity position that the County Executive wants. Is there a mark in the sand as to the diversity in the county right now so that if this position comes in, they know where to improve?

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Dr. Foust made a motion to approve the minutes from the October 20, 2015 regular meeting. This was seconded by Mr. DiMattio and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

#### **REPORTS BY COUNTY OFFICIALS**

None.

#### **FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT**

Mr. Breneman stated that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, October 29, 2015, and agreed to move Ordinances 102, 103, 106-128, 2015 along with Resolutions 51 and 52, 2015 to the agenda.

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**PERSONNEL  
COMMITTEE  
REPORT**

Mr. Horton stated that there were no items for the Personnel Committee to review and thus no meeting was held.

**OTHER  
REPORTS**

Mr. Fatica want to clear some things up for Council and the community. He stated that Melissa Plyler commented that there was a bill due because of the RELCO. That was a mis-statement. It had to do with the state and nothing to do with the RELCO. Mr. Fatica further commented that from Rick Morris and the MPO that because of the extreme cold weather we had this winter and the spring rains, the work got backlogged a little bit; however, there are 55 of the 57 receives installed in Millcreek, Fairview, Summit, Lawrence Park, and Harborcreek. Tom Berlin from Harborcreek completed Lawrence Park's receivers and installations about a week ago. The corridors are now available for emergency vehicles to enter the city and the need to provide signal pre-emption within the city, which has not been easy to get going. Approximately 40 brand new receivers are on the shelf ready to be installed at existing intersections to increase emergency vehicle response times and motorist safety because every second counts. He thanked the communities that helped to keep this moving forward and thanked Mr. Grappy as well.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 102, 2015, "First 2015 Debt Service Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$19,516,355 and Creation of Line Items for Bond Issue Proceeds". This was moved by Mr. DiMattio, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a 6-1 vote, with Mr. Horton voting no.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 103, 2015, "Seventh 2015 Capital Projects Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$19,407,317 and Creation of Line Item for Next Generation Public Radio Project". This was moved by Mr. Breneman, seconded by Mr. DiMattio and carried in a 6-1 vote, with Mr. Horton voting no.

**MOTION TO  
AMEND AGENDA**

Mr. Breneman moved to amend the agenda and move Ordinances 124 and 126, 2015, to second readings. This was seconded by Mr. Fatica and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**NEW  
BUSINESS**

**BUDGET ORDINANCES**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading to the following budget Ordinances:

Ordinance Number 106, 2015, "2016 General Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 107, 2015, "2016 Debt Service Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 108, 2015, "2016 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 109, 2015, "2016 Health Choices Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 110, 2015, "2016 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget"

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Ordinance Number 111, 2015, "2016 Drug & Alcohol Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 112, 2015, "2016 Children & Youth Services Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 113, 2015, "2016 Domestic Relations Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 114, 2015, "2016 Planning Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 115, 2015, "2016 Library Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 116, 2015, "2016 Public Health Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 117, 2015, "2016 Public Safety Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 118, 2015, "2016 Gaming Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 119, 2015, "2016 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 120, 2015, "2016 Pleasant Ridge Manor Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 121, 2015, "2016 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Reserve Fund Budget"  
Ordinance Number 122, 2015, "2016 Erie County Care Management Budget"  
Ordinance Number 123, 2015, "2016 Real Estate Tax Levy"

**Ord. 124, 2015 –  
IT Rev. Revenue  
& Exp.**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 124, 2015, "2015 IT Fund Budget Revised Revenue & Expenditures of \$10,000 and Creation of Computer Equipment & Software Line Items". This was moved by Mr. Breneman, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 125, 2015 –  
GF SA for Add'l  
Prof. Fees Required  
For County Borrowing**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 125, 2015, "Thirty-Seventh 2015 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$6,000 for Additional Professional Fees Required for County Borrowing".

**Ord. 126, 2015 –  
GF SA for Rel.  
Of Restricted Fund  
Balance from  
Divorce Masters  
Bureau**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 126, 2015, "Thirty-Eighth 2015 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$15,127 from Release of Restricted Fund Balance from Divorce Masters Bureau". This was moved by Mr. DiMattio, seconded by Mr. Breneman, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 127, 2015 –  
Tax-Exempt Rev.  
Anticipation Note**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 127, 2015, "Authorizing The Issuance Of A Tax-Exempt Revenue Anticipation Drawdown Note In A Principal Amount Of Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000); Providing For The Issuance Date, Interest Rate, Maturity Date, Payment And Place Of Payment In Respect Of The Note; Accepting The Proposal Attached Hereto From The Financial Institution Or Entity Named Therein For The Purchase Of The Note; Naming A Sinking Fund Depository/Paying Agent; Authorizing The Authorized Officers Of The County To Execute And Deliver The Note And Certain Other Documents And

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Certificates In Connection Therewith; Authorizing And Directing The Preparation, Certification And Filing Of The Necessary Documents With The Department Of Community And Economic Development Of The Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania; Setting Forth A Form Of This Note”.

**Ord. 128, 2015 –  
GO Bond of  
\$30 Million**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 128, 2015, “Authorizing The Incurring Of Non-Electoral Debt To Finance The Cost Of The Refunding Of The County’s Revenue Anticipation Note, Series Of 2015 By The Issuance Of A General Obligation Note In The Amount Not To Exceed Thirty Million Dollars (\$30,000,000); Establishing The Form And Terms Of The Note; Covenanting To Pay Debt Service On The Note And Pledging The Full Faith, Credit And Taxing Power To The Extent Permitted By Law For The Payment Thereof; Authorizing The Execution Sale And Delivery Of The Note And The Preparation And Filing Of A Debt Statement, Borrowing Base Certificate, And A transcript Of The Proceedings For The Issuance Of The Note; Establishing A Sinking Fund; Appointing A Sinking Fund Depository; Awarding The Sale Of The Note To The Purchaser Thereof; Fixing The Form, Interest Rate, Maturity, Redemption And Other Provisions For The Payment Thereof; Directing Certain Actions Of Officers Setting Forth Covenants, And Repealing Conflicting Ordinances”.

**RESOLUTIONS**

**Res. 51, 2015 –  
3 year contract  
w/Waste Mgmt. Inc.**

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 51, 2015, “Approving a Three Year Contract between the County of Erie and Waste Management, Inc.”. This was moved by Mr. Horton, seconded by Dr. Foust, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Res. 51, 2015 –  
Exon. Taxes in  
NE Twp &  
And NESD**

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 52, 2015, “Exonerating Taxes on One Abandoned Trailer/Property #37-025-088.0-015.54 in North East School District and North East Township. This was moved by Dr. Foust, seconded by Mr. Horton, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary

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