

February 9, 2016

ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

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

“We need to stop the destruction of our environment. When the soil won’t support, the air can’t be breathed, and the water can’t be drunk, then will we wake up? Will we see the big picture and pay attention before we do unrepairable damage. We need to prepare for change, not to ignore but read the signs of devastating change. We must care for the gift of our earth. We do not really own anything, it is a gift of use and we are the caretakers, not the ones who possess. We need to know the cost of human greed and reach out more and see the truth. We could learn and feel more secure in the beauty and wonder of our earth. Isn’t it amazing, the growth of a seed into a beautiful flower, tree, vegetable or fruit and the beginning of human being from child to adult? We are the guardians of our surroundings. Just tidying up our area is not enough. We are going too far too fast. Thank you Lord for the gift of our earth. We will be better custodians going forward. Amen.”.

**Roll Call**

The County Clerk called the roll:

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

Members Absent: None.

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, County Clerk  
Thomas Talarico, Solicitor  
Joseph Maloney, Council CPA  
Sue Ellen Pasquale, Manager of Accounting

**Hearing of  
The Public**

None.

**Approval of  
Minutes**

Mr. Leone made a motion to approve the minutes from the January 26, 2016 regular meeting. This was seconded by Dr. Foust and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Reports of  
County Officials**

Dr. Foust stated that the Finance Committee met on February 4, 2016, and agreed to place Ordinance 6, 2016, on the agenda for a second reading; Ordinances 8 through 10, 2016 on the agenda for a possible second reading. The committee also agreed to place the reappointment of Dawn DiPaolo-Romeo on the agenda.

Mr. Breneman stated that the Personnel Committee met immediately following the Finance Committee meeting and agreed to place Ordinance Number 11, 2016, on the agenda.

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Mrs. Loll gave the following report:

“I attended the McKean Firefighters dinner meeting and installation of officers, on Saturday, January 30<sup>th</sup>. It was a celebration of the 75 year anniversary. It was well attended by other fire companies and dignitaries.

I drove in to attend the COG meeting on the 3<sup>rd</sup> of this month. I was given the wrong location and was not able to attend. I since then have requested to be on the notification list so there won't be a repeat.

I attended the Lake City Firefighters dinner meeting and installation of officers on the 6<sup>th</sup> of this month. It was also well attended. I really enjoy attending the firefighters events, as I admire them for the volunteering of time and effort that they put into the organizations. Their families also deserve a lot of credit for their sacrifices. They all have expressed their gratitude for the effort and monies put into the new radio system to be in place in the near future. They are looking forward to not having the problems they have at this time with communication.

I was contacted by Lake City Borough about a water problem they have to solve and do not have the money to cover the cost. They need a water dechlorination of the system and to clean the water tank. They were requesting a grant of \$150,000, which I was not able to find. I contacted several water authorities for their advice and input. I was told there are no grants for what they are trying to do, but Pennvest may be a place to contact. I also found a business called Utility Services, which can serve the system for them possibly with payment over time. I have not heard how the conversation with that company went.”.

Mr. Breneman stated that he attended the Northwest Commission meeting on Friday, February 6, 2016, in Sagertown. He stated there was a presentation given by Mercer County Entrepreneur Academy. There was also discussion of increasing the maximum amount under the revolving loan program, which will finance up to 50% of total eligible project costs, or \$200,000, whichever is less. These loans can be used for land acquisition, preparation and associated expenses, building acquisition, construction, or renovation, machinery and equipment purchases (new or used), and related expenses; working capital (major expansions only); manufacturing or industrial, business, hospitality, enterprise, commercial and service child day-care enterprise; agriculture enterprise or agriculture producer. He also explained the application to USDA Rural Development Intermediary Re-Lending Funds provides 1% low-interest loans to local intermediaries that re-lend to businesses for community development projects in rural communities.

Mrs. Fatica stated that she met with John Grappy, Public Safety Director, to get up to speed with the department. She commented that the department has applied for four grants totaling \$2.5 million which, if received, would be used towards the capital costs of the Next Generation Radio system. She stated that the County should know in June of this year whether they have been awarded the grants.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

##### **Ord. 6, 2016 – Rev. Fee Schedule In Tax Claim**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 6, 2016, “2016 Revised Fee Schedule in Tax Claim”. This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. Foust moved to make Ordinance Numbers 8, 9, and 10, 2016, to second readings. This was seconded by Mr. Leone and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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**Ord. 8, 2016 –  
PH SA of \$70,000  
For Risk Factor  
Survey**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 8, 2016, “First 2016 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$70,000 for Behavioral Risk Factor Survey for Erie County”. This was moved by Mr. DiMattio, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 9, 2016 –  
Planning SA of  
\$18,703 & Creation  
Of Line Items**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 9, 2016, “First 2016 Planning Fund Budget Supplemental appropriation of \$18,703 and Creation of Line Items for 2015 Funds Frozen During State Budget Impasse”. This was moved by Mr. Breneman, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 10, 2016 –  
Gen. Fund SA of  
\$9,681 for Tx  
To Planning Budget**

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 10, 2016, “Fourth 2016 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$9,681 for Transfer to Planning Fund Budget”. This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

**Ord. 11, 2016 –  
Public Health  
Rev. Revenue &  
Exp. – Refugee  
Health Coord.**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 11, 2016, “2016 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Revenue and Expenditures of \$59,097 for Release of Restricted Funds for Refugee Health Case Coordinator”.

**BOARD/AUTHORITY  
APPOINTMENTS**

Mr. Leone moved to approve the reappointment of Dawn DiPaolo-Romeo to the Children and Youth Advisory Board to represent his district. This was seconded by Dr. Foust and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

County Clerk Douglas Smith notes District One resident Joseph Curlett contacted the Council Office and suggested use of the term “delinquent” when describing properties such as those involved in Resolution Number 4, 2016, which was on the January 26, 2016 agenda to have the taxes exonerated. Mr. Curlett felt the term would remove any misunderstanding as to the reason for the exoneration. The Council office is appreciative and will use the clarifying term going forward.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary  
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