

January 18, 2011 Minutes of Dec. 14, 2010 Reg. Mtg. and Jan. 4, 2011 Reorg. Mtg. apprvd. Agenda Amended. First Rdgs Amend. Ord 113, 2010; Dom. Rel. SA Change in IV-D Rev. Calc; Gen Fund SA Trans. to Dom. Rel. for Change in VI-D Grant Rev. Calc; PS Revis. Rev. & Exp. for Tower Rent. Purch of Prop adopted. Intergov. Agrmt With McKean Cnty for Erie Cnty to Assume Dispatch Svcs. Appt'd Off. Salary Ord – Cnty Sol adopted; Cnty Council Sol Retainer adopted; Ass't Cnty Sol. Adopted; Pt-Time Asst PD adopted. Amend. Res. 59 tabled. Aprvg Second Amend. To Lease Agmt Btwn Crown Castle & Erie Cnty adopted; Agrmt for Forensic Path. Svcs adopted; Three Yr Agrmt Between Erie Cnty & Velocity Network adopted. Appt of Auditors for Erie Cnty adopted. Motion to Apprv. Convention Cntr Auth 2011 Budget tabled. Dr. Lynn Corder appt'd to ECGRA.

ERIE COUNTY COUNCIL – Regular Meeting

Mr. Leone, 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, the County Clerk called the roll:

Roll Call

Members Present: Mr. Leone, Chairman
Mr. Fatica, Vice Chairman
Mr. Beeman
Mr. Cleaver
Dr. Foust
Mr. Giles
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

Following the roll call, Mrs. Loll recited a prayer.

Moment of Silence

Dr. Foust asked for a moment of silence for Jarrid King. The Harborcreek Township Community, as well as the community of Erie County, suffered a great loss a few weeks ago. Dr. Foust stated that Jarrid King, a fellow alumnus of Harbor Creek High School, was killed on January 12, 2011. He was one of three Fort Drum soldiers killed in the Ghazni province of Afghanistan when their vehicle was hit by an IED on the road. During his short time of service in the United States Army, Jarrid King received numerous awards and decorations including a Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Combat Action Badge, Good Conduct Medal, Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, the National Defense Service Medal, and the NATO Medal. Unfortunately, on January 12th, Jarrid King made the ultimate sacrifice in service to his country, and Dr. Foust believes everyone needs to be grateful to him and to his memory.

Hearing of The Public

Julia Calipo, Erie, approached Council to bring attention to the civil rights violations of OCY. This organization willingly defrauds people of their children. False charges were filed against her boyfriend by his ex-wife and Ms. Calipo's children were unjustly removed by OCY. She claimed that a caseworker regularly perjures herself and misrepresents paperwork to get desired results. Ms. Calipo's court appointed attorney failed to properly represent her. She provided a packet of information to Council. She begged for a complete overhaul of OCY's systems and practices. It was outrageous for OCY to come into her life and violate her privacy based on unfounded allegations. The entire legal system is corrupt with respect to how parents are treated and parental rights terminated.

January 18, 2011

Hearing of
The Public

Mr. Leone asked to speak to Ms. Calipo after the meeting and Mr. Giles inquired about the name of her court appointed attorney. She replied Elizabeth Walbridge represented her.

Jeremiah Wodarski, Erie, stated that he is Ms. Calipo's boyfriend. He filed for divorce and for custody from his wife. OCY stepped into his life and took it apart. The reason Ms. Calipo's children were taken is because of her association with him. OCY filed indicated reports against him including Megan's Law. He stated that OCY operates outside the judicial system with their own set of rules and laws. He asked that some oversight of this agency be provided.

Maria Czulewicz formerly Foster, Harrisburg, stated that Council has not taken the appropriate actions to make the Office of Children and Youth accountable. What this agency has done is improper, illegal, and immoral. Council needs to take the appropriate actions to put this agency out of business. The police department and social workers in police departments should handle situations with abused children.

Ken Przepierski, 640 East 12th Street, Erie, stated that OCY violates the constitutional rights of people on hearsay evidence. The ombudsman position was to provide recourse for parents, but nothing has changed. Mr. Przepierski noted that there were no monetary values on the ordinances on the agenda. He does not know how much money is being spent.

Renee Vendetti, Erie, stated that the ombudsman position in OCY is to help the people that the agency abuses. She believes this person reports to the executive director of OCY. This person was hired from within the agency and Ms. Vendetti believes this position should have been given to someone not already involved with the agency. She wondered how this person, who has friends within the organization, will listen to people. This position was created for an OCY worker, not an ombudsman.

Mr. Leone's
Comments

Mr. Leone advised that Tracey McCaslin was hired for this position. Her title is Quality Assurance and Compliance Administrator. He assumes that her job is to take the position of the parent in trying to find out what the problems may be. Mr. Leone will be meeting tomorrow morning with the head of OCY and also with the administration to discuss a few issues. Mr. Leone heard Mr. Wodarski state that even the courts can't control all of OCY, which is true. This Council does not hire or fire people and has no say as to what goes on as far as OCY is concerned. Most of the funding comes from the state and federal government, not from Erie County. He recalls that one of the issues discussed about the ombudsman position was who this person was going to report to. The ombudsman was to report to the head of Human Services which is Shari Gross, and Mr. Leone hopes that is what is happening. He intends to find out more information at the meeting tomorrow.

Minutes

Mr. Giles moved to approve the minutes of the December 14, 2010 Regular Meeting and the January 4, 2011 Reorganization Meeting. Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Finance
Committee

Dr. Foust reported the Finance Committee met on January 13, 2011 and agreed to place Ordinances 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, and 6 along with Resolutions 1, 2, 3, 4, and 5 on the agenda. There is also a possible motion to approve the Convention Center Authority's budget and the possible appointment of Lynn Corder to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. Dr. Foust noted that a discussion was held to move Ordinances 5 and 6 to second readings.

January 18, 2011

Personnel
Committee

Mr. Cleaver reported that the Personnel Committee met on January 13, 2011 following the Finance meeting and agreed to place Ordinances 7 8, 9, 10 and 11 on the agenda, possibly for second readings.

Dr. Foust's
Report

Dr. Foust reported that he participated in the Martin Luther King march on Monday, January 17, 2011. He noted there were approximately three to four hundred other people marching for diversity, human rights, and equal rights in the memory of Dr. King. He was told that this is the second longest running Martin Luther King parade in Pennsylvania. He hoped that was true as it speaks well of this community, and he also expressed his hope that this continues in the future in an effort to achieve those goals.

Mr. Giles'
Report

Mr. Giles reported that Bruce Wright and his orchestra performed a memorial concert for Martin Luther King on Friday evening which was well attended. On Saturday evening, the King Center and the committee held a dinner to celebrate local heroes at the Convention Center. Mr. Giles stated that on Monday there was both a parade and a two hour presentation in which young students, throughout the region who had written essays, were awarded prizes for their writing ability and in keeping to the spirit of Martin Luther King.

Mr. Giles noted that these events brought together a variety of different people and the audience at each of these events was a completely different set of folks from the community. In total, this made for a very impressive weekend.

Agenda
Amended

Mr. Giles moved to amend the agenda to include Ordinances 5 through 11 for second readings, as well to table Resolution Number 1, 2011, "Amending Resolution Number 59 of 2010 And The Bylaws Of Erie County Care Management" and to table the approval of the budget of the Erie County Convention Center Authority. Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

First Rdgs

Mr. Smith gave first readings of the following ordinances:

Ordinance Number 1, 2011, "Amending Ordinance Number 113, 2010 And Article II, Section 5 II A(1) Of The Administrative Code"

Ordinance Number 2, 2011, "First 2011 Domestic Relations Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation For Change In IV-D Revenue Calculation"

Ordinance Number 3, 2011, "First 2011 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation For Transfer To Domestic Relations Fund Budget For Change In IV-D Grant Revenue Calculation"

Ordinance Number 4, 2011, "2011 Public Safety Fund Budget Revised Revenue & Expenditures And Creation Of New Line Items For Tower Rent"

Purchase of
Prop. at 459
East 16th St

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 5, 2011, "Second 2011 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation For Purchase Of Property At 459 East 16th Street Index Number 15-20-25-201 And Creation Of New Line Item." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mrs. Loll seconded and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

January 18, 2011

Agrmt with McKean
Borough for Cnty of
Erie for Dispatch
Svcs through 911

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 6, 2011, "Approving An Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement With McKean Borough For The County Of Erie To Assume Dispatch Services For McKean Borough Through The 911 Call Center At The Erie County Public Safety Building." Mrs. Loll moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Appt'd Off Salary
Cnty Solicitor

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 7, 2011, "2011 Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance – County Solicitor." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded.

Dr. Foust pointed out that this ordinance and the following ordinances deal with salaries. These ordinances reflect no increase from last year's salaries. Council was criticized earlier because the amounts were not in the title of the ordinances on the agenda. However, they are currently being displayed on the wall with information as to what is being spent or appropriated. Mr. Leone called for a vote on the ordinance, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Cnty Council
Solicitor Retainer

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 8, 2011, "2011 County Council Solicitor's Retainer." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Appt'd Off. Salary
Asst Cnty Solicitors

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 9, 2011, "2011 Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance For Assistant County Solicitors." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Appt'd Off. Salary –
Pt. Time PD

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 10, 2011, "2011 Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance – Part Time Assistant Public Defender." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Adult Prob. Temp.
Staff To Cover
Unpaid Med. Leaves

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 11, 2011, "2011 General Fund Budget Revised Expenditures And Creation Of A New Line Item For Adult Probation Temporary Staff To Cover Two Unpaid Medical Leaves." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mr. Cleaver seconded, and it carried in a roll call vote of 6-1, Mr. Beeman voting no.

Amend. to Lease
Agrmt Btwn Crown
Castle & Erie Cnty

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 2, 2011, "Approving A Second Amendment To The Lease Agreement Between Crown Castle GT Company LLC And Erie County Government." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Agmt for Forensic
Pathology Svcs

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 3, 2011, "In Support Of Agreement For Forensic Pathology Services Dated January 1, 2011." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

January 18, 2011

Three Yr Agrmt
Btwn Erie Cnty
& Velocity

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 4, 2011, "In Support Of The Three Year Agreement Between Erie County And Velocity Network (VNET)." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Mr. Fatica seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Appt Auditors
To Perform
Audit For
Erie County

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 5, 2011, "Appointment Of Auditors To Perform Comprehensive Single Audit For Erie County And For Related Funds For the Year Ending December 31, 2010." Mr. Giles moved to adopt; Dr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Dr. Lynn Corder
Appt'd to
ECGRA

Mrs. Loll moved to appoint Dr. Lynn Corder to the Erie County Gaming Revenue Authority. Dr. Foust seconded, and it carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

Ann M. Bruno, Council Secretary
