

May 6, 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 Erie County Council Chambers, Erie County Courthouse, Erie, Pennsylvania. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mr. Smith called the roll:

Roll Call

Members Present: Dr. Foust, Chairman
Mr. Leone, Vice Chairman
Mr. Breneman (**via telephone**)
Mr. DiMattio
Mr. Fatica
Mr. Horton

Members Absent: Mrs. Loll

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, County Clerk
James Sparber, Director of Finance
Gary Lee, Director of Administration

Hearing of
The Public

Randy Barnes, Harborcreek Township; Mr. Barnes discussed the use of public funds such as \$3 million to buy a business park in Albion that isn't worth that much. He stated that this \$3 million bond was for a multi-million dollar logistics hub in western Erie County. He commented that in 2012, two companies signed letters of intent to build a pellet plant at this logistics hub, as well as an iron ore company. There has been nothing done in Albion to date. He commented that Mr. Elliott and the GEIDC have spent over \$4 million on this initiative to date. He was asking where the money came from and was concerned that taxpayers are paying taxes on this \$4 million bond and there is nothing to show for it.

Bill Sinclair, Harborcreek Township; Mr. Sinclair discussed his meeting with a CSX source. He stated this source, "CSX wants some time to internally discuss and look at a possible other place that might be acceptable, if it proves to be worthwhile, to do an intermodal terminal based upon the community and the officials." Mr. Sinclair commented that there has only been one conversation with someone from DevelopErie and CSX. This source stated that no one has asked CSX to look at an alternative site. He again cited his concerns with the potential Walbridge Road intermodal site. Mr. Sinclair offered his services to all if they wanted to meet him at any of the railroad sites for a course in "Railroad 101".

Michael X. Anderson, city of Erie; Mr. Anderson expressed his perspective on what is occurring in the city with the young adults and violence. He feels that the thought is that there is a massive teen violence problem, and it's a young adult problem. He commented that the summer teen job

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program has merit, but if there is no plan, people will view it suspiciously and look at it as a hustle and a scam. He sees the failure of family, education, and church on a regular basis and if there is no actual plan in the best interest of everyone, it won't work. He felt that if the planning started now, by next year there might be something in place that everyone can benefit from. He further commented that there is no one individual who speaks for County Council, and that is the same in the Black community – there is no one individual or organization speaks for the community. He expressed that the art of negotiation is to bring something to the table. If he was to come to Council and ask for money that he, himself, would not be willing to give any money towards it, that would be a problem. He felt that the churches and organizations should be willing to pool their resources and sacrifice for the community.

Gary Horton, city of Erie; Mr. Horton stated that he was not at the meeting to speak for anyone other than the people he has been meeting with – the YMCA, GECAC, CareerLink, etc. He commented that the first 15 minutes of the news had to do with rape, robbery, home invasion, drug deals, and as a Black man in Erie, he was saddened by the news only focusing on those problems with there only being a police approach to it. He stated that the community needs Council's help and support. A plan has been presented to employ 700 county-wide youth. He felt that only public sector funds will give hope and opportunity for the young people who need and want a job.

Approval of
Minutes

Mr. Leone moved to approve the minutes from the April 22, 2014, regular meeting. This was seconded by Mr. Fatica and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

County Executive
and/or her Designee

Mr. Lee stated there was no report for this meeting.

Finance Committee
Report

Mr. Fatica reported that the Finance Committee met on May 1, 2014, and agreed to move the following items onto the agenda: Under New Business - Ordinances 59 and 60, and Resolution 32.

Personnel Committee
Report

Mr. DiMattio reported on the Personnel Committee meeting that immediately followed the Finance Meeting on May 1, 2014. He stated that the Personnel Committee agreed to add the following items to the agenda: Ordinance 58, 2014 under Old Business (second reading), and Ordinances 61, 62, and 63 under New Business.

Motion to Amend
The Agenda

Mr. DiMattio moved to amend the agenda and move Ordinances 59 and 63 to a second reading. This was seconded by Mr. Fatica, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

2nd Reading –
Ord. 58, 2014
ECCM Chng of
3 PT HIFI Positions
To FT & Creation
Of Full Time Position

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance 58, 2014, "2014 Erie County Care Management Change of Three Part Time HIFI Support Positions to Full Time and Creation of Full Time Position.". This was moved by Mr. DiMattio and seconded by Mr. Leone. Mr. Fatica noted that there are no County dollars in this ordinance. It carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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2nd Reading -
Ord. 59, 2014 –
Planning Fund SA
\$2,411 & Creation
Of Overtime Line
Item for Add'l hours
At Recycling Ctr &
Composting Seminars

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance 59, 2014, “First 2014 Planning Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,411 and Creation of *Overtime* Line Item for Additional Hours at Recycling Center and Composting Seminars”. This was moved by Mr. Leone, seconded by Mr. DiMattio, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

FIRST READINGS

Ord. 60, 2014 –
Planning Fund Rev.
Exp. Of \$30,016 for
Conduct of Local
Asset Inventory

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance 60, 2014, “2014 Planning Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$30,016 for Conduct of Local Asset Inventory”.

Ord. 61, 2014 –
Public Health Fund
SA of \$8,682 for
Cont'd Budgeting of
7 Positions in Health
Dept.

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance 61, 2014, “Third 2014 Public Health Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$8,682 for Continued Budgeting of Seven Positions in the Health Department.”.

Ord. 62, 2014 –
Gen. Fund SA of
\$8,682 for Tx to
Public Health Fund
For Cont'd Budgeting
Of 7 Positions in
Health Dept.

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 62, 2014, “Eleventh 2014 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$8,682 for Transfer to Public Health Fund for Continued Budgeting of Seven Positions in the Health Department”.

SECOND READING

Ord. 63, 2014 –
Pub. Health Fund
Rev. Exp. Of
\$11,367 for West
Nile Virus Grant
Bureau

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 63, 2014, “2014 Public Health Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$11,367 for West Nile Virus Grant Bureau and Creation of Temporary Staff Line Item.”. This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

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Res. 32, 2014 –
Exon. Of Taxes

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 32, 2014, “Exonerating Taxes on Six Abandoned Trailers/Properties in Millcreek Township and the Millcreek Township School District.” This was moved by Mr. Fatica, seconded by Mr. Leone, and carried in a unanimous roll call vote.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:24 p.m.

Deneé M. Breter, Council Secretary
