

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#); [Luzerne County Council Members](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Date: [EXTERNAL]: Requests Reading at Jan 24th County Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 24, 2023 12:41:36 AM

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I, Carol Rosser, of Sweet Valley Respectfully ask that my following statement be read and submitted to the record at January 24th 2023 Luzerne County Council Meeting before the main session, at 6pm.

Dear County Council:

I thank you for your time in serving our County, and for allowing me to take this time to draw your attention to my concerns. I know your agenda is full tonight; hopefully it will be very productive-benefitting the most Luzerne County residents possible in a positive way. So, I will get right to the point- I see a lot of missteps in the handling of many facets of our local government, and I am angered by the lack of leadership and accountability. I applaud the motion being considered tonight to pose the ballot question to our voting public about forming a Government study commission to recommend changes to our home rule charter. Residents of Luzerne County are definitely fed up with the status quo, and are looking for change.

Change was what we thought we were getting when Randy Robertson took the County Manager position in 2022, but sadly, that was another disappointment. We residents were looking for actual progress and support in our fight for much better infrastructure, especially our county ROADS! We have heard for decades many excuses-not enough money, not enough workers, not enough information. Since 2019, our county has had many challenges, but also lots of opportunity for funds coming into the county from various sources-grants/loans.

I am aware of the \$54 million loan that was recently secured by your council, against LSA funds to be paid back over 25 years, and earmarked distinctly for the West Nanticoke Bridge. May I refresh your memory about your Resolution 2022-120, attached to this letter, that states Randy Robertson as County Manager, the designated sole official to execute documents and agreements for these funds/project with the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority and Community Financing Authority? Perhaps that resolution is now null and void, and needs revisiting. The resolution also clearly states that these funds include replacement of West Nanticoke Bridge **AS WELL AS maintenance upgrades throughout the county? I would expect that phrase to mean ANY county road that needs upgrading! Council has a responsibility to address these discrepancies-Go back to the drawing board- before moving forward on this plan. Resubmit a more balanced plan of revitalization of our roads to the Redevelopment Authority!** I also see from tonight's agenda that you are entertaining a motion to have the County Manager/Director of Operations and /or County Engineer sign off on items pertaining to Intermodal Transportation Grant Reimbursements. So you must understand that several key county positions are responsible for the betterment of our county infrastructure, and all positions should be keenly aware of the actions necessary to correct our deplorable roads. Passing the buck to another position is not acceptable any longer.

It is not lack of funding the county is suffering from- it is the will of the county government to not utilize the funds in the most efficient way. For instance, Council has \$96 million set aside in ARP funds, for at least a year, has gotten \$65,000 in interest and then "donated" that money to the Salvation Army-WHY?? Instead of hiring another road department person to help fix potholes- like the ones I have reported on Hillside Road in November. In November, there were 2 large holes on that road, now there are 6 large ones. Hillside is one of the worst roads in the county, by your own assessment; again see attached road list. You know all these roads that have been repeatedly reported as dangerous- Blytheburn Rd, Hobbie Rd,

St Mary's Rd, etc. **Council HAS to step up and make ALL 120 miles of Luzerne County fit to drive!** Maybe you haven't driven your Mercedes or Lexus over these roads lately, but let me tell you, if you did you would feel ever rough patch and pothole that is destroying my Hyundai, and resulting in a new set of tires EVERY YEAR! The drainage problems and recent rock slides on some of these problem roads make them more treacherous with each passing day. At least allow the \$96 million to be given out directly and immediately to our residents, so they can afford alignments and tires. Do not just designate 75 well-connected organizations as the recipients of that money. OR, **hire qualified project managers and employees, buy paving equipment, and upgrade our roads- each resident would surely be benefitting then.**

I am disgusted that you feel the only answer to our repeated requests for better road conditions would be a tax increase. Since Home rule, this county has raised taxes every 3 years- 2014,2017,2020 and proposed once again for 2023. Is this because the county payroll goes up every 3 years, so we taxpayers must foot that expense? I believe Council could definitely find ways to trim budget items in some categories, while still raising budget items for roads and bridges, and STILL have a balanced budget- it takes effort, and will, but that is what you ultimately signed onto when you became Council members. Please do your best for our County, tonight and EVERY DAY!

Carol Rosser
Sweet Valley, Ross Township

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**RESOLUTION R-2022-120
LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL**

A Resolution by the Luzerne County Council Requesting a Luzerne County Local Share Account Grant from the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority and the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority

WHEREAS, Luzerne County hereby requests a Local Share Account grant of \$54.9 million from the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for a Luzerne County Public Infrastructure Program which will include the replacement of the West Nanticoke Bridge as well as maintenance upgrades to roadways throughout the County; and

WHEREAS, the Applicant does hereby designate Randy E. Robertson, County Manager, as the official to execute all documents and agreements between Luzerne County and the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority and the Commonwealth Financing Authority to facilitate and assist in obtaining the requested grant.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council does approve the request of the submission.

This resolution shall become effective six days after adoption.

ADOPTED at a meeting of the Luzerne County Council held on July 12, 2022.

ROLL CALL VOTE (8-1) with (1) Abstention

YES: Bienias, Lescavage, McDermott, McGinley, Mitchell, Perry, Radle and Wolovich

NO: SJ Urban

ABTAINED: Thornton

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

By: Kendra Radle
Kendra Radle, Chair

LUZERNE COUNTY MANAGER

By: Randy Robertson
Randy Robertson, County Manager

Attest: Sharon Lawrence
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council



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#	ROAD #	COMMON NAME (DOCKET NAME)	LOCATION	Length	Cost	Total
1		MAIN (HUNLOCK-ROSS)	HUNLOCK-ROSS TWP.	7.74	\$3,870,000	\$3,870,000
63		SWEET VALLEY (SWEET VALLEY-MUHLENBURG)	ROSS TWP.	3.11	\$1,555,000	\$5,425,000
64		BLOOMINGDALE (BLOOMINGDALE)	ROSS TWP.	3.28	\$1,640,000	\$7,065,000
65		BROADWAY (BROADWAY)	ROSS-UNION TWP.	4.56	\$2,280,000	\$9,345,000
12		LOWER DEMUNDS (FERNBROOK-DEMUNDS)	DALLAS TWP.	4.00	\$2,000,000	\$11,345,000
19		TUNNEL ROAD (FAIRVIEW-WHITE HAVEN)	WRIGHT TWP.	1.5	\$750,000	\$12,095,000
23		BLYTHEBURN (BLYTHEBURN-NUANGOLA)	RICE-DORRANCE-SLOCUM TWP.	2.75	\$1,375,000	\$13,470,000
20		NUANGOLA (ALBERT-BLYTHEBURN)	WRIGHT TWP.	1.41	\$705,000	\$14,175,000
18		HUNTSVILLE EXTENSION (HILLSIDE-HUNTSVILLE EXT.)	JACKSON-LEHMAN TWP.	0.93	\$465,000	\$14,640,000
11		RANSOM (ORANGE-DALLAS)	DALLAS-FRANKLIN TWP.	2.98	\$1,490,000	\$16,130,000
14		ORANGE (ORANGE-SICKLER)	FRANKLIN TWP.	2.30	\$1,150,000	\$17,280,000
28		ST. MARY'S (DORRANCE-HOBBIE)	HOLLENBACK-DORRANCE TWP.	4.18	\$2,090,000	\$19,370,000
29		BLUE RIDGE (DORRANCE-SLOCUM)	DORRANCE TWP.	2.92	\$1,460,000	\$20,830,000
30		HOBBIE / WAPWALLOPEN (DORRANCE-HOLLENBACK)	DORRANCE-HOLLENBACK-SALEM	6.57	\$3,285,000	\$24,115,000
31		ST. JOHN'S MOUNTAIN (ST. JOHN'S MILETS)	DORRANCE-HOLLENBACK-BUTLER	5.65	\$2,825,000	\$26,940,000
37		EAST COUNTY (BEISELS-SYBERTSVILLE)	BUTLER TWP.	1.68	\$840,000	\$27,780,000
40		WEST COUNTY (SYBERTSVILLE-ROCKGLENN)	SUGARLOAF-BLACK CREEK	4.51	\$2,255,000	\$30,035,000
24		KIRBY AVE. (S. FAIRVIEW-GLEN SUMMIT)	FAIRVIEW TWP.	1.19	\$595,000	\$30,630,000
8		UPPER DEMUNDS (DALLAS-FRANKLIN)	DALLAS-FRANKLIN TWP.	1.89	\$945,000	\$31,575,000
45		OAK HILL (OAK HILL)	WRIGHT TWP.	1.49	\$745,000	\$32,320,000
50		STEWART (STEWART)	HANOVER INDUSTRIAL PARK	1.19	\$595,000	\$32,915,000
51		LASLEY AVE (LASLEY AVE)	HANOVER INDUSTRIAL PARK	0.82	\$410,000	\$33,325,000
52		ROBINSON CIRCLE (ROBINSON CIRCLE)	HANOVER INDUSTRIAL PARK	0.81	\$405,000	\$33,730,000
53		YOUNG STREET (YOUNG STREET)	HANOVER INDUSTRIAL PARK	0.43	\$215,000	\$33,945,000
56		SPENCER LANE (SPENCER LANE)	HANOVER INDUSTRIAL PARK	0.26	\$130,000	\$34,075,000
9		HUNTSVILLE (DALLAS-HUNTSVILLE)	DALLAS-LEHMAN-JACKSON	2.21	\$1,105,000	\$35,180,000
10		SUTTON CREEK (EXETER-FRANKLIN)	EXETER-FRANKLIN TWP.	4.03	\$2,015,000	\$37,195,000
15		FOLLIES (FOLLIES)	JACKSON TWP.	3.00	\$1,500,000	\$38,695,000
21		CHURCH (WRIGHT-SLOCUM)	WRIGHT TWP.	2.75	\$1,375,000	\$40,070,000
25		CRESTWOOD DRIVE (FOSTER-WHEELER)	WRIGHT TWP.	1.73	\$865,000	\$40,935,000
2		SILO-GRANGE (MUHLENBURG-BROADWAY)	UNION-ROSS TWP.	2.51	\$1,255,000	\$42,190,000
3		SORBERTOWN (SORBERTOWN)	HUNLOCK-LEHMAN TWP.	3.81	\$1,905,000	\$44,095,000
58		WILLIAM O. SWORD DRIVE	WRIGHT TWP.	0.32	\$160,000	\$44,255,000
57		HANOVER STREET (HANOVER)	HANOVER INDUSTRIAL PARK	2.08	\$1,040,000	\$45,295,000
32		OLD AIRPORT (OLD AIRPORT)	BUTLER TWP.	1.20	\$600,000	\$45,895,000
31		POLICE GROVE (ST. JOHN'S MILETS)	BUTLER TWP.	1.25	\$625,000	\$46,520,000
41		HONEY HOLE (MT. YEAGER)	BUTLER-DENNISON TWP.	8.30	\$4,150,000	\$50,670,000

TOTAL COUNTY LENGTH: 101.34



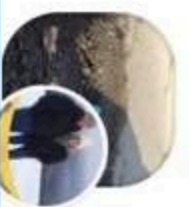
Laura Ide and 10 others

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