

From: [Griffith Jr., Walter](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Members](#); [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: Public Comment on Agenda item, Resolution for tonight
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Council

I am absolutely shocked that the Office of Law has provided a redline version of a Resolution that County Council is required to vote on tonight.

The problems with the resolution 2021-52 was explained at two sessions of County Council, yet the Office of Law and Budget and Finance still present a dysfunctional resolution for this County Council to consider and adopt. This is again the reason you need your own attorney.

The County Controller identified several problems with the 2021-52 resolution and they are “fatal flaws”.

The one major flaw is the language that states Tax Collectors “Shall open a separate non interest bearing bank account for the collection of Luzerne County Taxes”

This language is very difficult for a Tax Collector to be able to be compliant, when the Tax bills are issued with the municipal and county taxes together. The Tax Collector would be required to receive two separate checks and therefore the property tax bills would be required to be separated for the property owners, which would be a huge increase in cost.

The language should state the following:

“ All Municipal elected Tax Collectors and those appointed to collect the real estate property taxes of any municipality and Luzerne County, shall place all funds in a separate, non interest bearing, bank account. The account shall be titled in the name of the elected Tax Collector, and not as an individual, and shall include their Tax Identification Number and the EIN Number and name of the Municipality and EIN number and name of Luzerne County”

To be clear, no payment of taxes shall be deposited into an account bearing only an individuals name and social security number.

Walter L Griffith Jr
Luzerne County Controller
“Your Voice of the People”

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