



**LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL
PUBLIC HEARING
May 25, 2021
Video/Teleconference via TEAMS
5:30 PM**

5:30 PM CALL TO ORDER

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

ROLL CALL

MOTION TO SUSPEND BYLAWS REGARDING THE REQUIREMENT A MAJORITY OF THOSE PARTICIPATING IN THE MEETING MUST BE PHYSICALLY PRESENT AT THE MEETING.

MOTION TO SUSPEND BYLAWS REGARDING THE CONDUCT OF PUBLIC MEETINGS TO THE EXTENT THAT THE CURRENT FORMAT IS INCONSISTENT WITH THE TERM OF THE STATE'S EMERGENCY DECLARATION.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON PROPOSED ORDINANCE amending the 2021 Fiscal Year Budget for Luzerne County (ERA).

This is an opportunity for members of the public to address the Council on the matter listed on the Agenda. Please refer to the Public Meetings Online page of County's Website at <https://www.luzernecounty.org/1279/Public-Meetings-Online> for more information on how to participate in Public Comment via technology.

ADJOURNMENT



AGENDA SUBMITTAL TO LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

ITEM TITLE	COUNCIL MEETING DATE	AGENDA NUMBER
To add an additional fund to the 2021 revenue and expense budgets for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program to reflect a revenue increase from the related to COVID-19.	04/27/2021	
Dept:	Community Development	
Contact:	Andrew Reilly, Executive Director	
Phone:	(570) 824-7214	

DEPARTMENTAL RECOMMENDATION:

The Community Development Office recommends that Luzerne County Council approve the addition of a fund to the 2021 revenue and expense budgets for the Emergency Assistance Rental Program. This increase in revenue reflects funding received from the following agency:

Commonwealth of PA Department of Human Services \$11,418,560.78

SUMMARY:

This amendment is required to accurately reflect the increase in funding awarded by the Commonwealth of PA Department of Human Services for the Emergency Rental Assistance Program.

FINANCING:

Funding was awarded to Luzerne County to administer emergency rental assistance programs for families and individuals financial assistance for rent including: rent, rental arrears, utilities and home energy costs, utility and home energy cost arrears and other expenses related to housing incurred due directly or indirectly, to COVID-19 and housing stability services to eligible households.

DISCUSSION:

This program will provide assistance to income eligible households for rent, utilities, and other expenses related to housing incurred due to Covid-19.

ALTERNATIVES:

Luzerne County Council may choose not to approve however; this is not recommended because it would deprive income eligible households the assistance they need to recover from the pandemic related emergency.

OTHER AGENCY INVOLVEMENT:

The County will enter into a sub-recipient agreement with the Commission on Economic Opportunity to administer the program with oversight performed by the Community Development Office.

No. 2021-
ORDINANCE

*An Ordinance of County Council for the County of Luzerne
Amending the 2021 Fiscal Year Budget for Luzerne County*

WHEREAS, the Luzerne County Administration received \$11,418,560.78 from the Commonwealth of PA Department of Human Services of for, the COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program to provide rent assistance for who have been impacted due to the COVID-19 global pandemic; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 5.07 of the Home Rule Charter of Luzerne County, County Council adopted the 2021 Fiscal Year Budgets which accounted for anticipated revenue and expenses; and

WHEREAS, Section 5.10.F. of the Home Rule Charter states County Council may amend any of the budgets at any time during the fiscal year by ordinance adopted by an affirmative vote of at least a majority plus one of its current members after a public hearing has been held; and

WHEREAS, County Council for Luzerne desires to amend the Budget at the appropriate line items in order to account for the receipt of funds to the 2021 Fiscal Year budget.

NOW, THEREFORE, the following is hereby ENACTED and ORDAINED by the Luzerne County Council:

SECTION ONE. Incorporation of Preamble.

The provisions set forth in the preamble to this Ordinance are incorporated herein by reference in their entirety.

SECTION TWO. Amendment of Line Items in Budget.

A public hearing having been held on _____, County Council hereby amends the following line item in the 2021 fiscal year budget in order to account for receipt of funds relative to COVID-19 Emergency Rental Assistance Program:

REVENUES:

Line Item – **140.20.4176.470.80** *Emergency Rental Income shall* be increased by \$11, 418,560.78.

EXPENDITURES:

Line Item – **140.20.4176.599.80** *Emergency Rental* shall be increased by \$11, 418,560.78.

SECTION THREE. Remainder of Budget.

All other line items in the 2021 Fiscal Year Luzerne County Budget shall remain unchanged.

SECTION FOUR. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall become effective fifteen (15) days after enactment.

ROLL CALL VOTE

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL

Tim McGinley, Chair

ATTEST:

Sharon Lawrence,
Clerk to County Council

Chris Perry, Vice-Chair