

From: [Ed Motovidlak](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Agenda5 work session 6
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 2:12:54 PM

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Hello,

I am Mr Motovidlak West Pittston. I would like my comments to be heard agenda 5 work session 6, regarding the District Attorney and her so called discretion to ask for an outside review.

I believe hiring an outside law firm is a direct measure to cover up corruption and incompetence in the Mackey case. I would like to know why the DA refuses to get Attorney General Shapiro involved, whose investigation would not include taxpayer funds, and bypass a clear conflict of interest the DA had in reviewing this case from the start. Being married to a former Corrections Officer is a clear bias and conflict of interest on the matter, whereas her findings should be discounted and reviewed by another reputable source.

It's clear to me there is a coverup, and we do not need more politics protecting the good ol boy system. All eyes in America are viewing this case and we need to make sure this is handled correctly. We do not need more riots and protests.

Thank you.

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From: [Sue Ellen Feuerstein](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Justice
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:51:46 PM

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WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to request the District of Attorney of Luzerne County to use her discretion to request the Office of Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mackey's death.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council here by requests the District of Attorney of Luzerne County to use her discretion to request the Office of Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mackey's death. "

If Josh Shapiro's office did an investigation for FREE ..ONLY THE DA CAN ASK FOR THIS, then we take what he finds and move forward with an investigation if needed. AND that investigation should be of County Councils choosing/or doing? NOT the County Manager. Whats the old saying " Don't let the fox watch the hen house? "To keep the investigation clean and free from scrutiny, Isn't this how it should be handled?

Again If the DA refuses to request Josh Shapiro to come in and do the investigation, the money for the independent investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the general fund and County Council should be picking who does the Investigation?

Sue Ellen Feuerstein
Lewisburg, PA

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: LCCM public comment section Voting session
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 1:22:49 PM

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Elizabeth Hartman
Hanover Township

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL VOTING SESSION August 25, 2020 6:01PM
Public comment section NON AGENDA items
As these are both really tied together

5. Discussion regarding resolution Requesting the Luzerne County District Attorney to Request the Office of the Attorney General to Conduct an Investigation into the Death of Shaheen Mackey at the Luzerne County Correctional Facility.

6. Discussion regarding resolution Authorizing the Retention of Outside Counsel to Conduct a Review and Evaluation into the Policies, Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols of the Luzerne County Correctional Facility

Thank you Council

Why would we Pay for an Independent review? When one could be done at no COST FIRST? By the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office [Josh Shapiro](#). MR. McGinley says there's no set cost yet, since it will be an hourly rate, but \$75,000 has been asked for as a starting point.

If the DA refuses the money for the investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the General fund, she is the one costing the county the money, when this could be done at no cost.

If Council modifies the current resolution on Agenda #5

ASKING council To REMOVE the following words from current resolution's wording "to use her discretion" with this wording in this resolution we are wasting everyone's time. It appears that the current resolution is being done to cover Councils Backs.

"WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to request the District of Attorney of Luzerne County to use her discretion to request the Office of Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mackey's death.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council here by requests the District of Attorney of Luzerne County to use her discretion to request the Office of Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mackey's death. "

If Josh Shapiro's office did an investigation for FREE ..ONLY THE DA CAN ASK FOR THIS, then the county would take what his office finds and move forward with an investigation if needed. AND that investigation should be of County Councils choosing/or doing? NOT the County Manager. Whats the old saying " Don't let the fox watch the hen house? "To keep the investigation clean and free from scrutiny, Isn't this how it should be handled?

Again If the DA refuses to request [Josh Shapiro](#) to come in and do the investigation, the money for the independent investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the general fund and County Council should be picking who does the Investigation?

Thank you for your Time and dedication

Elizabeth Hartman

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: LCCM public comment section work session August 25,2020
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 1:22:37 PM

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Elizabeth Hartman
Hanover Township

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL WORK SESSION August 25,2020

6. Discussion regarding resolution Authorizing the Retention of Outside Counsel to Conduct a Review and Evaluation into the Policies, Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols of the Luzerne County Correctional Facility

Thank you Council

Asking to table this UNTIL DA's course of action is clear. Why spend \$75,000 from General Fund this should come from DA's funds? If she is still refusing to bring in AG office.

Why would we Pay for an Independent review? When one could be done at no COST FIRST? By the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office Josh Shapiro. MR. McGinley says there's no set cost yet, since it will be an hourly rate, but \$75,000 has been asked for as a starting point. (this taken from news article)

If the DA refuses the money for the investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the General fund, she is the one costing the county the money, when MOST of this could be done at no cost.

If Josh Shapiro's office did an investigation for FREE ..ONLY THE DA CAN ASK FOR THIS, then the county would take what his office finds and move forward with an investigation if needed and should be less expensive.

AND that investigation should be of County Councils choosing/or doing? NOT the County Manager. Whats the old saying " Don't let the fox watch the hen house? "To keep the investigation clean and free from scrutiny, Isn't this how it should be handled?

Again If the DA refuses to request Josh Shapiro to come in and do the investigation, the money for the independent investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the general fund and County Council should be picking who does the Investigation?

Thank you for your Time and Dedication

Elizabeth Hartman

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From: [REDACTED]
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL WORKSESSION August 25,2020
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 1:21:35 PM

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Elizabeth Hartman
Hanover Township

LUZERNE COUNTY COUNCIL WORKSESSION August 25,2020

5. Discussion regarding resolution Requesting the Luzerne County District Attorney to Request the Office of the Attorney General to Conduct an Investigation into the Death of Shaheen Mackey at the Luzerne County Correctional Facility.

Thank you Council

Asking Council modify the current resolution on Agenda #5

ASKING council To REMOVE the following words from current resolution's wording "to use her discretion" with this wording in this resolution we are wasting everyone's time. It appears that the current resolution is being done to cover Councils Backs. She has Repeatedly used her discretion and said NO!

"WHEREAS, Luzerne County Council desires to request the District of Attorney of Luzerne County **to use her discretion** to request the Office of Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mackey's death.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, the Luzerne County Council here by requests the District of Attorney of Luzerne County **to use her discretion** to request the Office of Attorney General to conduct a criminal investigation into the circumstances surrounding Mr. Mackey's death. "

If Josh Shapiro's office did an investigation for FREE ..ONLY THE DA CAN ASK FOR THIS, then the county would take what his office finds and move forward with an investigation if needed.

AND that investigation should be of County Councils choosing/or doing? NOT the County Manager. Whats the old saying " Don't let the fox watch the hen house? "To keep the investigation clean and free from scrutiny, Isn't this how it should be handled?

If the DA refuses to request [Josh Shapiro](#) to come in and do the investigation, the money for the independent investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the general fund and County Council should be picking who does the Investigation?

Thank you for your Time and dedication

Elizabeth Hartman

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From: [Nicole Dante](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Mackey
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 8:34:19 AM

WARNING: This message is from an external email address. Do not click any links or open any attachments unless you recognize the sender **AND** you know that the contents of the email are safe to open.

Hello.

My name is Nicole Dante from Hanover Twp. I am very concerned about the murder of Mackey while in our prison.

Agenda Items 5 and 6 of the work session say its going to cost \$75,000 for a starting point cost for a review. Why would we Pay for an Independent review when one could be done at no COST FIRST by the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office Josh Shapiro.

McGinley says there's no set cost yet, since it will be an hourly rate, but \$75,000 has been asked for as a starting point. If the DA refuses the money for the investigation it should come out of the DA's budget not the General fund. She is the one costing the county the money.

If Council modifies the current resolution on agenda #5 available on <https://www.luzernecounty.org/Agenda/Luzerne-County-Council-2> by removing the words "to use her discretion" in this resolution we would be able to expedite the review.

If Josh Shapiro's office did an investigation for FREE ..ONLY THE DA CAN ASK FOR THIS, then we take what he finds and move forward with an investigation if needed. AND that investigation should be of County Councils choosing/or doing? NOT the County Manager. It is your duty to keep the investigation clean and free from scrutiny. A man died on their watch. Even if its found that they did follow protocol then protocol needs to be changed! A man died!

Again If the DA refuses to request Josh Shapiro to come in and do the investigation, the money for the independent investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the general fund and County Council should be picking who does the investigation. When organizations that work closely with eachother are involved in the investigation it clouds the judgement and prohibits the justice. Please consider my request for timeliness and fairness regarding the death of Mackey.

Ty
Nicole Dante

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From: [Lilbutch P](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Public comments for tomorrow's Council Meeting
Date: Monday, August 24, 2020 12:24:30 PM

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From: Laura Pinero, Exeter

Luzerne County Council - public comments segment of Tuesday August 25th County Council meeting

Citizens are approaching the County Council to strongly urge to NOT SPEND \$75,000 to the law firm on an investigation that the County Manager is picking to do the investigation.

Agenda Items 5 and 6 work session THIS Tuesday the 25th is proposing a cost of \$75,000 as a starting point.

Why would tax payers pay for an Independent review, when one could be done at no COST, by the Pennsylvania Attorney General's office Josh Shapiro.

McGinley stated there is no set cost yet, since it will be an hourly rate, but \$75,000 has been stated as a starting point.

If the DA refuses to ask the State Attorney General's Office for an investigation; then the money for the investigation should come out of the DA's budget not the General fund, she is the one costing the county the money!

With recent severe unemployment rates, this is not the right time for the county to ask citizens to assume increased taxes. We need to utilize fiscal initiatives that keep our tax bills lower!

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at Cybersecurity@LuzerneCounty.org

From: [RONALD KNAPP](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Cc: [REDACTED]
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Thank You Letter
Date: Wednesday, August 19, 2020 9:35:53 AM

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To Whom it may concern:

When I attended the last teleconference council meeting I suggested Luzerne County Council write a thank you letter to Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House, Kevin McCarthy, House Minority Leader, Charles Schumer, Mitchell McConnell, Senate Majority Leader, United States Senate Minority Leader and most importantly President Trump and Vice President Pence. The importance of this letter comes at an extremely critical time when bipartisanship is an absolute necessity in these trying days the nation is facing. It would encourage the same bipartisan requirement for a second round of installments for the American people who are still hurting financially during this ongoing crisis. To be clear we should recognize Washington's ability to meet on common ground for the American people and Luzerne County residence.

I'm a resident of Nanticoke and I would like this read during the Non-agenda items unless it has been placed on Agenda items for consideration during the next County Council Meeting

Thank You,

Ronald D Knapp

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From: [Martha Shebosky](#)
To: [Luzerne County Council Meeting Public Comments](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Voting session
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 6:05:17 PM

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I would like to commend the county manager and staff for the wonderful job they are doing. My name is .Martha Shebosky, I live in the Ridgewood section of Hazel Twp. Being the. ripe old age of ninety two, I follow the going on of Luzerne county and want it to be successful in every which way. Continue with your good works always. Especially a heartfelt thank you for mail in ballots. Martha Shebosky.
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From: [McGinley, Tim](#)
To: [Lawrence, Sharon](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]: Investigate the Murder of Shaheen Mackey
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:48:17 PM

From: Kim Umbriac [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:29 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members <LCCM@luzernecounty.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Investigate the Murder of Shaheen Mackey

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Hello,

I'm writing to express my support for Mr. Pedri & the rest of the County Council's decision to support an independent investigation into the Murder of Shaheen Mackey. Anyone watching that video knew that he was dead before leaving that prison.

If I along with countless others are wrong, then it should not be a problem for Troutman Pepper to investigate.

As a woman of color, living in Luzerne County I want to be assured that ANY elected official will make sure that everyone receives justice, no matter the color of their skin.

Kimberly Frink-Umbriac

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From: [McGinley, Tim](#)
To: [Lawrence, Sharon](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]: Request for Independent investigation
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:48:05 PM

From: Francisco Torres [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:36 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members <LCCM@luzernecounty.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Request for Independent investigation

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To whom it may concern,

My name is Francisco Torres-Aranda and I am a member of the Hazleton Human Relations Committee and the Governors Advisory Commission for Latino Affairs and I am writing you today to encourage you to appoint an independent authority to investigate the recent deaths in the Luzerne county correctional facility. It is through this independent investigation that the community will be able to resort their confidence in this important institution.

Thank you for your consideration in this matter and best regards,

Francisco Torres-Aranda
Commissioner, GACLA
PA Human Relations Committee

I am writing the Luzerne County Council to encourage you to appoint
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From: [McGinley, Tim](#)
To: [Lawrence, Sharon](#)
Subject: FW: [EXTERNAL]: Shaheen Mackey
Date: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:05:08 PM

From: Elaine Maddon Curry [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, August 25, 2020 4:01 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members <LCCM@luzernecounty.org>
Subject: [EXTERNAL]: Shaheen Mackey

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As Chairperson for the Hazleton Advisory Council of the PA Human Relations Commission, I would like to go on record that our organization strongly advises the Luzerne County Council to seek a thorough, independent investigation into the death of Shaheen Mackey.

It is now a well-documented fact that inmate Shaheen Mackey died while being restrained by a number of correctional officers at the Luzerne County prison in 2018. The video of the final minutes of Mr. Mackey's life released by the family raises a number of questions as to the way correction officers and medical personnel handled the situation.

District Attorney Salavantis's internal investigation raises many questions that members of our community are continuing to ask. If, in fact, there was "no wrongdoing by anyone involved," as Ms. Salavantis suggests, why on earth did the county settle the case for such a large sum of money? And the most basic question: If there was no wrong doing, why not have an independent investigation conducted so the public can feel confident that everyone is treated equally and there is nothing to hide,

There is no question that we are living in troubled times and we simply cannot allow even a shred of doubt enter the public arena where the fairness of the entire criminal justice system is brought into question. The local chapter of the NAACP shares this opinion as does County Manager, Dave Pedri.

For these reasons the Hazleton Advisory Council of the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission fully supports an independent review into the death of Luzerne County inmate Shaheen Mackey. In our opinion it is the only way that either the Mackey family or the people in our region will find any closure regarding this tragic occurrence.

Elaine Maddon Curry
Chair, Hazleton Advisory Council, PHRC

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