



**Luzerne County Council**  
January 12, 2021 Meeting  
Video/Teleconference via TEAMS  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

The Luzerne County Council convened for a Voting Session on January 12, 2021, at 6:01PM via TEAMS Video/Teleconference. The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Tim McGinley.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Present**

Walter L. Griffith, Jr.  
Harry Haas  
Linda McClosky Houck  
Lee Ann McDermott  
Tim McGinley  
Chris Perry  
Kendra M. Radle  
Sheila Saidman, Esq.  
Robert Schnee  
Stephen J. Urban  
Matthew Vough

**Also Present**

C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager  
Romilda P. Crocamo, Chief County Solicitor  
Vito DeLuca, Esq.  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

**Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

None

**Additions to/Deletions from Meeting Agenda**

**Mr. SJ Urban would like to add to the agenda a motion to recall the Chair and take a vote. Mr. McGinley indicated it will be added as number 1.**

**Mr. Griffith would like to move items 5 & 6 from the Work Session to the Voting Session. Mr. McGinley indicated they will be moved to the Voting Agenda as items 5 & 6.**

**Mr. Griffith would like to delete item 1 from the agenda. After further discussion, Mr. Griffith withdrew his request.**

**Adoption of Voting Session Agenda**

**Motion to Adopt Voting Session Agenda by: Ms. Saidman**

**Second: Ms. McDermott**

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**The Voting Session Agenda is Adopted**

**Motions**

**Motion to suspend Bylaws regarding the requirement a majority of those participating in the meeting must be physically present by: Ms. Houck**

**Second: Mr. Perry**

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**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**

**by: Ms. Saidman**

**Second: Ms. McDermott**

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes by Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Vough

One (1) Nay by Mr. Griffith

**Motion Passed (10-1)**

### **Public Comment on Agenda Items**

**Due to COVID-19 all meetings are currently held via Video/Teleconference.**

**WRITTEN comments are submitted electronically via EMAIL or TEAMS. A copy of the full written comment for each speaker is posted under the corresponding meeting agenda. VERBAL comments, in their entirety, can be heard by accessing the public comment portion of the meeting recording posted next to the meeting agenda.**

**Ron Knapp (Nanticoke) commented Verbally** regarding the Solid Waste ordinance and resolution, a solicitor for Luzerne County Council and Council Member visibility during virtual meetings.

**Richard Manta (Back Mountain) commented Verbally** regarding a solicitor for Luzerne County Council.

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally** regarding a separate solicitor for Luzerne County Council and the two Charter amendments.

### **ADDED ITEM**

#### **Motion to recall the Chair Mr. McGinley and appoint Harry Haas**

**Motion by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

Four (4) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. SJ Urban

Seven (7) No by Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Motion Failed (4-7)**

#### **Motion to adopt Minutes of the December 15, 2020 Voting Session**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Perry

#### **Vote:**

Nine (9) Ayes by Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

Two (2) Nays by Mr. Griffith and Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Passed (9-2)**

**The December 15, 2020 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted**

### **OLD BUSINESS**

None

## **AGENDA ITEMS**

### **1. Motion to adopt ordinance Designating Processing and/or Disposal Facilities; Providing Waste Flow Control Requirements to Direct Municipal Waste to Designated Processing and/or Disposal Facilities and Providing Penalties for Violation of this Ordinance**

**Motion by:** Mr. Perry

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Mr. Griffith noted the dates in the ordinance are incorrect.**

**Motion to correct/change all 2020 dates to 2021, change the ordinance number to 2021-01 and change the Effective Date to read “15 days after adoption” by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Ordinance is Amended**

**The Clerk of Council, Ms. Lawrence, asked what date was to be placed in the blank indicating approval by the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection in paragraph 4.**

**After discussion, a motion to table was made by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

**Roll Call Vote:**

Two (2) Yes by Mr. Griffith and Mr. SJ Urban

Nine (9) No by Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Motion to Table Failed (2-9)**

**Motion to amend ordinance and remove paragraph 4 by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Mr. McGinley confirmed the motions by Mr. Perry and Mr. Schnee on the Amended Ordinance.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eight (8) Yes by Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

Three (3) No by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas and Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Passed (8-3)**

**Ordinance is Adopted**

### **2. Motion to adopt resolution adopting the Luzerne County 2021 Solid Waste Management Plan**

**Motion by:** Ms. McDermott

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eight (8) Yes by Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

Three (3) No by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas and Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Passed (8-3)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**3. Luzerne County Council Member Nominations and Appointments to:  
REMOVED ITEM**

**3a. ~~Luzerne-Wyoming Counties Mental Health and Developmental Services Program  
Advisory Board~~**

**3b. Luzerne Conservation District Board of Directors**

**Motion to Open Nominations by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Nominations Open**

**Ms. Saidman nominated:** Walter Griffith

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Motion to Close Nominations by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Vough

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Nominations Closed**

**Motion to adopt resolution appointing Walter Griffith to the Luzerne Conservation**

**District Board of Directors by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**4. Motion to adopt resolution Declaring a Vacancy on the Luzerne County Accountability  
Conduct and Ethics Commission**

**Motion by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**5. Motion to introduce ordinance placing a question on the May 18, 2021 primary ballot  
to amend Article VIII Section 8:04 of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter**

**Motion by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

**Roll Call Vote:**

Four (4) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. SJ Urban

Seven (7) No by Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr.

Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Ordinance is Introduced (4-7)**

**6. Motion to introduce ordinance placing a question on the May 18, 2021 primary ballot to amend Article VI Section 6:04 A of the Luzerne County Home Rule Charter**

**Motion by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

**Roll Call Vote:**

Four (4) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. SJ Urban

Seven (7) No by Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Ordinance is Introduced (4-7)**

**Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:**

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**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally** regarding the votes for the two ballot ordinances amending the Charter and the State Capital Building event.

**Richard Manta (Back Mountain) commented Verbally** regarding Solid Waste Management, DEP and the votes for the two ballot ordinances amending the Charter.

**Brian Shiner (Kingston) commented Verbally** regarding the Charter, changes to the Charter and the Washington event.

**Ron Knapp (Nanticoke) commented Verbally** regarding the Washington event and the ballot items.

**Brian Dwyer (Larksville) commented Verbally** regarding Charter changes and Council.

**Walter Griffith** asked about the \$5.00 fee and if PennDOT was notified. Atty Crocamo responded and will look into the correspondence.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:20 PM**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sharon Lawrence  
Clerk of Council

\* Audio of this meeting can be found in its entirety on the County Council webpage <http://www.luzernecounty.org/county/luzerne-county-council> or by contacting the Office of the Clerk of Council at (570) 825-1634 or via email to [sharon.lawrence@luzernecounty.org](mailto:sharon.lawrence@luzernecounty.org)