



**Luzerne County Council**  
January 28, 2020  
Luzerne County Court House  
Council Meeting Room  
200 N. River Street  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711

**Minutes**  
**January 28, 2020 Voting Session**

**Call to Order**

The Luzerne County Council convened for a Voting Session in the Council Meeting Room of the Luzerne County Courthouse on January 28 2020 at 6:20 PM. The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Tim McGinley.

**Mr. McGinley announced the moment of silence will be held in recognition of a gentleman who was a former resident of Luzerne County and recently resided in Nanticoke, Dr. Stanley Dudrick, known as the “father of intravenous feeding”. He did this at 32 years of age while a surgical resident at the University of Pennsylvania Hospital in Philadelphia. Dr. Dudrick returned to this area in 2011 and became director of the physician assistant program at Misericordia University and also worked as professor of surgery at Geisinger Commonwealth School of Medicine.**

**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 (via phone)

### **Also Present**

C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager  
Vito DeLuca, Esq.  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

### **Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

Mr. McGinley stated there was a request for a proclamation for Daniel Dimmitt, Eagle Scout, Troop 25, White Haven. The proclamation was presented to Daniel and his family on Sunday at the VFW.

Mr. McGinley announced the retirements of:

Anthony R. Alu, Director of Assessments, Assessors Office  
Rocco T. Amentler, Res Property App Mgr, Assessors Office  
Grace Bradshaw, Caseworker Manager 2, MHDS  
Richard G. Capitano, Detective, District Attorney Office  
Lynne A. Cronauer, Care Manager 2, Area Agency on Aging  
Charmayne M. Floryan, Caseworker 2, MHDS  
W. Thomas Gregory, Caseworker 2, C&Y  
Michael F. Rostkowski, Sergeant, LCCF  
Linda M. Whitehead, Auditor, Budget & Finance  
Kathleen A. Zgagowski, Case Aide 2, Area Agency on Aging  
Danielle Shaw, Telecommunicator, Luzerne County 911  
Letters of thanks and congratulations will be sent out to them from Council,

### **Additions to/Deletions from Voting Session Agenda**

Mr. Stephen J. Urban would like to strike items 8, 9 and 10 from the agenda. Mr. Urban provided Council with a document outlining 10 points not to proceed with the Authorities, Boards and Commissions appointments. Mr. Urban read the points to Council.

**Motion to remove items 8, 9 and 10 by:** Mr. Stephen J. Urban

**Second:** Mr. Haas

**Roll Call Vote:**

Six (6) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman and Mr. Stephen J. Urban

Five (5) No by Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Motion Passed (6-5)**

**Items 8, 9 and 10 are removed from the Agenda**

Mr. McGinley would like to add 2 items; ratify the 2020 Luzerne County Council Meeting Schedule and on the advice of Solicitor DeLuca, ratify the appointments made by the Council Chair to the 2020 County Council Committee List.

**Motion to add ratification of the 2020 Luzerne County Council Meeting Schedule to the agenda by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Item will be placed on the Agenda (as new item 8)**

**Motion to add ratification of the appointments made by the Council Chair to the 2020 County Council Committee List by: Ms. Radle**

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Roll Call Vote:**

Seven (7) Yes by Mr. Haas, Ms. McDermott, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

Four (4) No by Mr. Griffith, Ms. Houck, Mr. McGinley and Mr. Stephen J. Urban

**Motion Passed (7-4)**

**Item will be placed on the Agenda (as new item 9)**

**Adoption of Voting Session Agenda**

**Motion to Adopt Agenda by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**The Voting Session Agenda is Adopted**

**Public Comment on Voting Session Agenda Items**

**John Newman (Nanticoke)** commented on past practice and precedence. He is concerned with the Election coming up and not having an Election Board.

**Ronald Knapp (Nanticoke)** commented on last week's question regarding fair representation (Solicitor) for Council and asked if it would have helped if there was an assigned person in that position. Mr. McGinley responded in his personal opinion, "No".

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** commented on the Sunshine Law, LIUNA Contract, the Major lawsuit, Flood Protection Authority Applicant William Falls, ABC phone interviews, and the ratification of the 2020 County Council Committee Appointments.

**Joe McCabe (Exeter)** inquired if an acquaintance of his who applied several years ago for the LCCC Board is still on the eligibility list. Mr. McGinley referred him to the current eligibility list to see if his name is there. Mr. McCabe asked if he was ineligible if he didn't apply this time around. Mr. McGinley replied if it has been more than 2 years since he applied and interviewed, he would need to apply and interview again.

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton)** would like to see his support for the RACP Grant added to the minutes for the January 14, 2020 Voting Session and reiterated his support for the RACP Grant.

**Old Business**

None

**New Business**

**1. Motion to adopt minutes of the January 14, 2020 Voting Session**

**Motion by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Vote:**

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

One (1) Nay by Mr. Stephen J. Urban

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Vough

**Motion Passed (9-1) with (1) Abstention**

**The January 14, 2020 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted**

**2. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing Luzerne County Council to accept Redevelopment Assistance Capital Program (RACP) Grant on behalf of Lehigh Valley Health Network, Inc. and its Affiliates**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**3. Motion to introduce ordinance Amending the Luzerne County Zoning Map to Re-Zone a 2.95 acre Parcel of Property in Hughestown Borough from Light Industrial District (M-2) Zone to Community Business District (B-2) Zone**

**Motion by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Ordinance in Introduced**

**4. Motion to adopt resolution Approving the Settlement of Pending Litigation the Matter of Deleon Major, Administrator of the Estates of Devon Major and Ezekiel Major v. Luzerne County Children and Youth Services, et al.**

**An Executive Session was requested by Vito DeLuca, Esq. regarding items 4 and 5.**

**Motion to move to Executive Session by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Mr. Vough

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Council exited for an Executive Session in the Council Conference Room at 7:16PM**

**Council returned to the Council Meeting Room from Executive Session at 8:07PM**

**Mr. McGinley apologized to the public for the length of time Council was in Executive Session. He explained Council is trying to work the Solicitors Office to make sure they are following the guidelines, Sunshine Law, etc...and in that regard changes will be made going forward beginning now.**

**Point of Order**

**Motion to come out of Executive Session by: Ms. Houck**

**Second: Mr. Schnee**

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted in the Council Conference Room at 7:16 PM**

**Mr. McGinley asked Mr. DeLuca to comment on the Executive Session dealing with items 4 and 5.**

**Mr. DeLuca stated it is his position that the public has the right to have information regarding the agreements and at the very least an overview that includes discussion of the economic terms. He stated Ms. Crocamo is prepared to give a report on the litigation and Mr. Rockovich will give a summary of the proposed agreement with LIUNA. The public will then have a right to speak after the summaries and then Council will vote.**

**Ms. Crocamo gave a summary regarding the settlement of pending litigation in the Matter of Deleon Major, Administrator of the Estates of Devon Major and Ezekiel Major v. Luzerne County Children and Youth Services, et al.**

**Public Comment:**

**Joe McCabe (Exeter)** asked if the figures provided by Ms. Crocamo were for the 3 children.

Ms. Crocamo confirmed it was.

**Motion by: Mr. Schnee**

**Second: Mr. Vough**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**5. Motion to adopt resolution approving the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Luzerne County and LIUNA Public Service Employees' Union, Local 1300**

**Mr. Rockovich gave a summary regarding the Collective Bargaining Agreement between Luzerne County and LIUNA Public Service Employees' Union, Local 1300**

**Public Comment:**

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** asked about “switching”. Mr. Rockovich responded.

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton)** asked about cost increases and the budget. Mr. Pedri responded.

**John Newman (Nanticoke)** asked about differentials. Mr. Rockovich responded.

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

One (1) No by Mr. Stephen J. Urban

**Motion Passed (10-1)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**6. Motion to adopt resolution Declaring a Vacancy on the Luzerne County Children & Youth Advisory Board (Bartoli)**

**Motion by:** Mr. Perry

**Second:** Ms. Houck

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**7. Motion to adopt resolution Declaring a Vacancy on the Luzerne County Children & Youth Advisory Board (Camoni)**

**Motion by:** Mr. Vough

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**ADDED:**

**8. Motion to ratify the 2020 Luzerne County Council Meeting Schedule**

**Motion by:** Mr. Vough

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Schedule is Ratified**

**ADDED:**

**9. Motion to ratify of the appointments made by the Council Chair to the 2020 County Council Committee List**

**Motion by:** Ms. Radle

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Mr. Haas asked about appointing a Vice-Chair on each Committee.**

**Mr. McGinley indicated the second name under each Committee is the Vice-Chair and will update the list to reflect the same.**

**Vote:**

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

One (1) Nay by Ms. Houck

**Motion Passed (10-1)**

**The 2020 County Council Committee List is Ratified**

**Public Comment:**

**The following citizens spoke about the Storm Water Fee (Rain Tax):**

**Ronald Knapp (Nanticoke)**

**Benjamin Kovaleski (Forty-Fort)**

**Mike Stash (Lehman Township)**

**Jean Morgan (Dickson City)**

**John Newman (Nanticoke)**

**Ralph Minella (Pittston)**

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) also spoke about the \$5.00 Fee**

**Joe McCabe (Exeter)**

**Brian Dwyer (Larksville)**

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Vough

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 9:25PM**

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)