



**Luzerne County Council
Voting Session
March 08, 2022
Council Meeting Room
Luzerne County Court House
200 N. River Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18701
AND
Video/Teleconference via ZOOM**

Minutes

Call to Order

The Luzerne County Council convened for a Voting Session in the Council Meeting Room of the Luzerne County Courthouse on March 08, 2022 at 6:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Kendra M. Radle.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Roll Call

Present

Carl Bienias
Kevin Lescavage
John Lombardo (virtually)
Lee Ann McDermott
Tim McGinley (virtually)
Chris Perry
Kendra M. Radle
Robert Schnee
Brian Thornton
Stephen J. Urban
Gregory S. Wolovich, Jr.

Also Present

Romilda P. Crocamo, Esq., Acting County Manager (virtually)
Shannon Crake-Lapsansky, Acting County Solicitor (virtually)
Vito DeLuca, Esq., Assistant Solicitor (virtually)
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

Attorney DeLuca commented on the Executive Session. He stated Council met in Executive Session from 5PM until about 5:50PM. Received a report from the District Attorney related to the Election Board litigation, also gave a report on the Election Investigation. No deliberation took place and no decisions were made.

Recognitions and Ceremonial Proclamations

NONE

Deletions from Voting Session Agenda

NONE

Adoption of Voting Session Agenda

Motion to Adopt Voting Session Agenda by: Mr. Wolovich

Second: Mr. Lombardo

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes - Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

The Voting Session Agenda is Adopted

Public Comment on Agenda Items

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

Rick Nardone (Wapwallopen) commented Verbally regarding the Board of Elections petition filed, appointment to the Board and various Election Board matters.

Alyssa Fusaro (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding Ballot Drop Boxes and appointment to the Board of Elections.

John Newman (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding removal of Public Comment.

Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding Items 1,3,6,7,8,and 9 and items not being on the work session first.

Greg Brannan (Mountaintop) commented Verbally regarding roads, grants and questions for Acting County Manager Crocamo.

Agenda Items

Motion to adopt minutes of the February 22, 2022 Voting Session

Motion by: Mr. Thornton

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Vote:

Nine (9) Ayes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Thornton and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) Nay by Mr. SJ Urban

One (1) Abstention by Mr. McGinley

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

The February 22, 2022 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted

1. Motion to adopt ordinance Amending the 2022 Fiscal Year Budgets for Luzerne County (Convention & Visitors)

Motion by: Mr. Perry

Second: Mr. Schnee

Roll Call Vote:

Seven (7) Yes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle and Mr. Schnee

Four (4) No by Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Thornton, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

Motion Passed (7-4)

Ordinance is Adopted

2. Motion to adopt ordinance Amending the 2022 Fiscal Year Budgets for Luzerne County (ERA)

Motion by: Mr. Schnee

Second: Mr. Lombardo

Roll Call Vote:

Nine (9) Yes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Thornton and Mr. Wolovich

Two (2) No by Mr. Lescavage and Mr. SJ Urban

Motion Passed (9-2)

Ordinance is Adopted

3. Motion to adopt resolution Authorizing the Acting County Manager to Execute a Lease Agreement with the Flower Tent for a Portion of Land at the Luzerne County Annex

Motion by: Mr. Lombardo

Second: Ms. McDermott

Roll Call Vote:

Nine (9) Yes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Thornton and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) No by Mr. Lescavage

One (1) Abstention by Mr. SJ Urban

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

Resolution is Adopted

4. Motion to adopt resolution Requesting a Statewide Local Share Account Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority (Roads)

Motion by: Mr. Schnee

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

5. Motion to adopt resolution Requesting a Statewide Local Share Account Grant from the Commonwealth Financing Authority (YMCA)

Motion by: Mr. Wolovich

Second: Mr. Schnee

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

6. Motion to adopt resolution Providing Prior Approval for the Execution of Utility Supply Contracts

Motion by: Mr. Lombardo

Second: Mr. SJ Urban

Motion to Table by: Mr. Lescavage

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Roll Call Vote to Table:

Nine (9) Yes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Thornton, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

Two (2) No by Mr. McGinley and Mr. Perry

Motion Passed (9-2)

Resolution is Tabled

7. Motion to adopt resolution Amending Resolution 2022-18 Which Approved a Budget Transfer to Allot Funds to the County Manager Search Committee

Motion by: Mr. Schnee

Second: Mr. SJ Urban

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

8. Motion to adopt resolution Approving a Budget Transfer to Allot Funds Related to the Settlement of Litigation (Hazzouri)

Motion by: Mr. Perry

Second: Ms. Radle

Roll Call Vote:

Four (4) Yes by Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle and Mr. Schnee

Six (6) No by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Thornton

Motion Failed (4-6) with (1) Abstention

Motion to Reconsider by: Ms. McDermott

Second: Mr. Schnee

Roll Call Vote:

Five (5) Yes by Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle and Mr. Schnee

Five (5) No by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Lombardo, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Thornton

Motion Failed (5-5) with (1) Abstention

9. Motion to amend Bylaws (remove 2nd public comment from Voting Session)

Motion by: Mr. Thornton

Second: NONE

Motion Failed for Lack of a Second

10. Nominations and Appointments to Boards and Commissions

10a. Board of Elections and Registration (1-Republican)

Motion to Open Nominations by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: Mr. Thornton

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Nominations Open

Mr. SJ Urban nominated: Alyssa Fusaro

Second: Mr. Lescavage

Mr. Schnee nominated: Richard Nardone

Second: Mr. McGinley

Motion to Close Nominations: Mr. Wolovich

Second: Mr. Thornton

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Nominations Closed

Roll Call Vote (1 name):

Mr. Bienias: Fusaro

Mr. Lescavage: Fusaro

Mr. Lombardo: Fusaro

Ms. McDermott: Nardone

Mr. McGinley: Nardone

Mr. Perry: Nardone

Ms. Radle: Nardone

Mr. Schnee: Nardone

Mr. Thornton: Fusaro

Mr. Stephen J. Urban: Fusaro

Mr. Wolovich: Fusaro

Results:

Fusaro 6

Nardone 5

Motion to adopt resolution Appointing a Member to the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

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Brian Shiner (Kingston) commented Verbally regarding removal of Public Comment.

Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding DA Presentation and Hazzouri.

John Newman (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding the Blue Cup LERTA.

Greg Brannan (Mountaintop) commented Verbally regarding roads.

Tom Dombroski (Dallas) commented Verbally regarding FPA Projects and the documentation provided to Council.

John Suchoski (Wilkes-Barre) commented Verbally regarding the Kings Pilot.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. McDermott

Second: Mr. Thornton

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:09 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