



**Luzerne County Council**  
April 24, 2018  
Luzerne County Court House  
Council Meeting Room  
200 N. River Street  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711

**Minutes**  
**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 Tuesday, April 24, 2018 at 6:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim McGinley.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Present**

Edward A. Brominski  
Harry Haas  
Linda McClosky Houck  
Eugene Kelleher  
Tim McGinley  
Chris Perry  
Sheila Saidman, Esq.  
Robert Schnee  
Stephen A. Urban  
Matthew Vough  
Jane Walsh Waitkus

**Also Present**

C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager  
Shannon Crake-Lapsansky, Esq., Assistant County Solicitor  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

### **Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

Mr. McGinley announced there was a ceremony at 5:00 in the Rotunda for three employees that reached 40 years of service. The employees are:

- Jonathan Blum, Public Defenders Office
- Jim Davis, Domestic Relations
- John Leighton, Domestic Relations

Mr. McGinley announced there was a proclamation in recognition of Conservation District Week which was April 15-21<sup>st</sup>. Matt Vough, who is on the Conservation Board, read the proclamation and stated it would be presented to the Conservation Board at the next meeting.

Mr. McGinley announced there was a proclamation in recognition of National Correctional Officers and Employees Week, which was May 6-12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. McGinley read the proclamation and asked Director Rockovich and his Correctional Staff to come forward to accept the Proclamation and be recognized. Director Rockovich commended his staff and thanked Council.

Mr. McGinley announced there was a proclamation in recognition of Megan Hannon, 911 PSAP Manager, who recently received the 2017 Communications Center Director of the Year Award. Mr. McGinley asked Ms. Hannon to come forward to accept the Proclamation and be recognized. Mr. Fred Rosencrans, 911 Executive Director, spoke about Megan and thanked her for her service.

Mr. McGinley asked Mr. Haas to read a proclamation for Chief Robert Jolley who was retiring from the Dallas Township Police Department. Mr. Haas read the proclamation and stated he would forward the proclamation on.

Mr. McGinley announced there is an Autism Vigil Ceremony on Friday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, at 6PM in the Courthouse Rotunda. A proclamation will be presented from Council.

Mr. McGinley announced William Potoski, Correctional Officer; Kevin Cooper, Correctional Officer; and Stanley Piekanski, Correctional Officer, retired from the Luzerne County Correctional Facility. Letters of thanks and congratulations will be sent out to each of them from Council.

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

None

### **Adoption of Voting Session Agenda**

**Motion to Adopt:** Ms. Waitkus

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**The Voting Session Agenda is adopted (11-0)**

### **Public Comment on Voting Session Agenda Items**

**Joe Monkoski (Dallas)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee. He stated he has seven vehicles and it does not seem right.

**Marion Marosevitch (Edwardsville)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee. She feels that Council is following in the Commissioners footsteps. Ms. Marosevitch pointed out there are vehicles with out of state plates that reside in Luzerne County and will not be affected by the Fee which is not fair.

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee and noted that there is no guarantee that the funds collected will be used as outlined. The County Manager can use the money elsewhere. Mr. Shiner spoke in support of the ordinance regarding contracts over \$25,000.00 and that it will not bring the County to a standstill, it will actually move it forward.

**Ed Gustitus (Kingston)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee and stated it was done before and referenced the Levee Fee. He stated it was a game. Mr. Gustitus spoke about the ordinance regarding contracts over \$25,000.00 and the cost of repairing bridges.

**Joe McCabe (Exeter)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee. Mr. McCabe noted Lackawanna County did not approve it because the people can't afford it. He questioned exemptions to the Fee. Mr. McCabe spoke in support of the ordinance regarding the \$25,000.00 contracts. He felt one person should not have all the say and Council should be involved.

**Charles Olah (Kingston)** commented on Old Business, the Charter creation, the \$25,000.00 ordinance and ADP.

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville)** spoke about the signatures on the resolutions and ordinances. Mr. Griffith spoke in opposition of the \$5.00 fee and that more information is needed from the County Manager as to what the money will used for. He also feels that ADP is not needed and the ordinance regarding \$25,000.00 contracts violated the Charter.

**Diane Brewster (Edwardsville)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee. Ms. Brewster stated she came to ask questions on the fee and proceeded to tell a story about certified mail that was being sent out regarding delinquent taxes to hundreds of property owners. She pointed out that if property owners can't pay their taxes they won't be able to pay the fee either.

**Jim Malavage (Shavertown)** spoke in support of the \$5.00 Fee.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

#### **1. Motion to adopt minutes of the April 10, 2018 voting meeting**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

#### **Vote:**

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

Two (2) Nays by Mr. Brominski and Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Motion Passed (9-2)**

**The April 10, 2018 Voting Meeting Minutes are Adopted**

**2. Motion to introduce ordinance of the County of Luzerne for the implementation of a fee for local use as provided by 75 Pa.C.S. §1935 allowing a County to impose a County Fee of \$5.00 for each non-exempt vehicle registered to an address located within its borders**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Roll Call Vote:**

Seven (7) Yes by Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

Four (4) No by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. Stephen A. Urban

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

**3. ADP Items**

**3a. Actions regarding ordinance authorizing an amendment to the 2018 Budget to allow for a transfer from the Reserve Fund (\$150,000.00 Transfer for ADP)**

**(i) Motion to remove ordinance from table**

**Motion by:** Ms. Waitkus

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Seven (7) Ayes by Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

Four (4) Nays by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Ordinance is Removed from Table (7-4)**

**Ms. Houck asked Mr. Swetz to clarify the period the funds would cover. After some discussion, she suggested the \$150,000.00 be reduced to \$92,800.00**

**(added) Motion to amend Ordinance to \$92,800.00**

**Motion by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Mr. Haas

**Roll Call Vote:**

Four (4) Yes by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. Stephen A. Urban

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

**Amendment Failed (4-7)**

**(ii) Motion to adopt ordinance**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Mr. Vough

**Roll Call Vote:**

Seven (7) Yes by Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

Four (4) No by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. Stephen A. Urban

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

**3b. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a contract with ADP for payroll services (ADP 18 month contract extension)**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Kelleher

**Vote:**

Seven (7) Yes by Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

Four (4) No by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck and Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Resolution is Adopted (7-4)**

**4. Electronic Poll Book Items**

**4a. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a sales contract with Election Systems and Software (ES & S) for a Five Year Lease to Purchase Agreement for Electronic Poll Books**

**4b. Actions regarding Purchase of Electronic Poll Books**

**(i) Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a sales contract with Election Systems and Software (ES & S) for the Purchase of Electronic Poll Books**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Mr. Vough

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (11-0)**

**(ii) Introduction of ordinance authorizing an Amendment to the 2018 Budget to allow for a Transfer from the Reserve Fund**

**Motion by:** Ms. Waitkus

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Ordinance is Introduced (11-0)**

**5. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a contract with Correct Care Solutions, LLC for Inmate Medical and Behavioral Services (1 year contract extension)**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (11-0)**

**6. Motion to adopt resolution committing a local match for State Operating Assistance for the Luzerne County Transportation Authority**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Mr. Vough

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (11-0)**

**7. Motion to adopt ordinance amending the Administrative Code to require contracts or obligations requiring more than \$25,000 in one year or \$75,000 in two or more years to be itemized by line in the annual Budget and to have a defined scope of work**

**Motion by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Mr. Brominski

**Roll Call Vote:**

Five (5) Yes by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Mr. Stephen A. Urban and Mr. Vough

Six (6) No by Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee

and Ms. Waitkus

**Ordinance Failed (5-6)**

**8. Motion to adopt resolution declaring a vacancy on the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (11-0)**

**Public Comment**

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee, questioned the Airport and Penn State Coop contributions to the retirement fund, and about the discussion that takes place as well as votes required to introduce an ordinance.

**Charles Olah (Kingston)** spoke about how to evaluate a buy vs. lease, the time value of money and ADP.

**Joe McCabe (Exeter)** spoke about the Water St. Bridge and the lights that are not working.

**Ed Gustitus (Kingston)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee, the reserve, the WB Chamber, development grants, and GIS online.

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee and that it is not going to fix any streets that are not owned by the County. The public need to fully understand what is going on. He also spoke about ADP, Electronic Poll Books, the Retirement Fund and 911 Equipment Updates.

**Marion Marosevitch (Edwardsville)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee and stated she did not understand Mr. Haas suggestion on property tax refunds. She also questioned Ms. Waitkus about the people who indicated they were in favor of the fee.

**Joe Monkoski (Drums)** commented on the \$5.00 Fee and suggested it be put on the individual driver and not on each vehicle.

**Chris Zomerfeld (Larksville)** spoke about tax issues and the \$5.00 Fee.

**Mr. Stephen A. Urban** commented on pay raises and the effect on the Pension Fund.

**Motion to adjourn:** Mr. Haas

**Second:** Ms. Waitkus

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 8:15 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)