



**Luzerne County Council  
Voting Session  
June 14, 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 June 14, 2022 at 6:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Kendra Radle.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Present**

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

**Also Present**

Randy Robertson, County Manager  
Harry Skene, Acting County Solicitor  
Shannon Crake-Lapsansky, Assistant Solicitor (virtually)  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

**Attorney Skene commented on the Executive Session. He stated prior to the meeting there was an Executive Session to discuss personnel matters.**

**Recognitions and Ceremonial Proclamations**

Chair Radle read a proclamation from Council for the Northeast Pennsylvania Philharmonic celebrating 50 years. Chair Radle stated the proclamation was presented on June 5<sup>th</sup> at the Fox Hill Country Club.

**Deletions from Voting Session Agenda**

NONE

**Adoption of Voting Session Agenda**

**Motion to Adopt Voting Session Agenda by: Mr. Bienias**

**Second: Mr. Thornton**

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**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.**

**Ron Knapp (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding drop boxes.**

**John Newman (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding Newport Township rezoning and drop boxes.**

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding the District Attorney auto lease and drop boxes.**

**Joe McCabe (Exeter) commented Verbally regarding drop boxes and wards.**

**Owen Lavery (Shickshinny) commented Verbally regarding drop boxes.**

**Chair Radle read Public Comment Email from:**

**Alison Piatt**

**Ryan Stoa**

**Claudia Glennan (Salem Twp) commented Verbally regarding drop boxes and ballots.**

**Mark Shaffer (Wilkes-Barre) commented Verbally regarding drop boxes.**

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding drop boxes, public comment and the Sunshine Law.**

**Agenda Items**

**Motion to adopt minutes of the May 24, 2022 Voting Session**

**Motion by:** Mr. McGinley

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Vote:**

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

One (1) Nay by Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Passed (9-1)**

**The May 24, 2022 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted**

**1. Motion to adopt resolution Approving the Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Nancy Hunter, et. al. v. Luzerne County**

**Motion by:** Mr. Perry

**Second:** Mr. Thornton

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**2. Motion to adopt resolution Approving the Settlement of Pending Litigation in the Matter of Laurie Hughes v. Luzerne County and Wilkes-Barre City**

**Motion by:** Mr. Thornton

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Vote:**

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

One (1) No by Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Passed (9-1)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**3. Motion to adopt resolution Designating the County Manager, Director of Operations and/or the County Engineer as Authorized Signatory for Execution of Agreements, Documents, Notices, Required Exhibits and the Management of Projects through the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation Electronic Systems, (DOT Grants)**

**Motion by:** Mr. McGinley

**Second:** Mr. Lombardo

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**4. Motion to introduce ordinance Amending the Luzerne County Zoning Map to Re-Zone Three Parcels of Property totaling 12.95 acres in Newport Township from MI, Mining District Zone to R-2, Two Family Residence District Zone**

**Motion by:** Ms. McDermott

**Second:** Mr. Lombardo

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Ordinance is Introduced**

**5. Motion to adopt resolution Authorizing the County Manager to Execute Lease Documents for District Attorney Auto Theft Task Force Vehicle**

**Motion by:** Mr. Lombardo

**Second:** Mr. Thornton

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**6. Motion to adopt resolution to Adopt Proposed Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation for the Luzerne County Transportation Authority To Increase Its Term of Existence to a Date not Exceeding Fifty (50) Years From the Date of Approval of the Articles of Amendment and to Take Any and All Other Actions Related Thereto**

**Motion by:** Mr. McGinley

**Second:** Mr. Lescavage

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**7. Motion to adopt resolution Urging the Pennsylvania State Legislature to Revise Pennsylvania Election Laws thereby Disallowing the Continued Use of No-Excuse Mail-In and Drop Box Voting and Further Instituting Measures to Restore Election Integrity**

**Motion by:** Mr. Thornton

**Second:** Mr. Lescavage

**Vote:**

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

One (1) No by Mr. McGinley

**Motion Passed (9-1)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**8. Nominations and Appointment to Luzerne County Council**

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

**Second:** Mr. Lombardo

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Nominations Open**

**Mr. SJ Urban nominated:** David Chaump

**Second:** Mr. Wolovich

**Mr. Lombardo nominated:** Matthew Mitchell

**Second:** Mr. Lescavage

**Motion to Close Nominations:** Mr. McGinley

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Nominations Closed**

**Roll Call Vote (1 name):**

**Mr. Bienias:** Mitchell

**Mr. Lescavage:** Mitchell

**Ms. McDermott:** Mitchell

**Mr. McGinley:** Mitchell

**Mr. Perry:** Mitchell

**Ms. Radle:** Mitchell

**Mr. Thornton:** Mitchell

**Mr. Stephen J. Urban:** Chaump

**Mr. Wolovich:** Mitchell

**Results:**

**Mitchell 9**

**Chaump 1**

**Motion to adopt resolution Filling the Vacancy of the Elected Position of County Council**

**Member with Matthew Mitchell by: Mr. McGinley**

**Second: Mr. Lombardo**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

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

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**Beth Hartman (Hanover Twp) commented Verbally regarding** the newly elected Council Member, Children & Youth and the County Manager office location.

**Eileen Song (C&Y Board Member) commented Verbally regarding** Children & Youth Board Members concerns and open positions.

**Kathleen McCarthy (C&Y Board Member) commented Verbally regarding** Children & Youth Board Members concerns and a future presentation to Council regarding the same.

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding** the Election Integrity vote, ARP Projects and gave Council a handout regarding Hazleton projects.

**John Newman (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding** personnel for Children & Youth, recruitment and salaries.

**Ron Knapp (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding** the vote for the new Council Member.

**Joe McCabe (Exeter) commented Verbally regarding** polling places and wards.

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding** the Sunshine Law, ZOOM callers and the Airport Board.

**Mr. SJ Urban pointed out that some of the resolutions and documents contained prior Acting County Manager names and stated Council did not make any amendments to replace those names with Mr. Robertson.**

**Motion to place Mr. Robertson's name wherever "County Manager" appears.**

**Motion by:** Mr. Thornton

**Second:** Mr. McGinley

**Chair Radle opened up Public Comment prior to the Vote:**

NONE

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Motion to adjourn:** Mr. McGinley

**Second:** Mr. Lombardo

**Vote:**

Nine (9) Ayes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) Nay by Mr. Thornton

**Motion Passed (9-1)**

**Meeting adjourned at 7:02 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)