



**Luzerne County Council**  
June 25, 2019  
Luzerne County Court House  
Council Meeting Room  
200 N. River Street  
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711

**Minutes**  
**June 25, 2019 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, June 25, 2019, at 6:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim McGinley.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Present**

Patrick M. Bilbow  
Harry Haas  
Eugene Kelleher (via phone)  
Tim McGinley  
Chris Perry  
Sheila Saidman, Esq.  
Robert Schnee  
Stephen A. Urban  
Matthew Vough

**Also Present**

Romilda P. Crocamo, Chief County Solicitor  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

**Absent**

Linda McClosky Houck  
Jane Walsh Waitkus

### **Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

Mr. McGinley announced the retirements of:

Cynthia Berditus, Area Agency on Aging

Mildred Passeri, Area Agency on Aging

Patrick Toole, Domestic Relations

Letters of thanks and congratulations will be sent out to them from Council.

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

None

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

**Motion to Adopt:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Vough

**Vote:**

Nine (9) Ayes – Unanimous

**The Voting Session Agenda is adopted (9-0)**

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

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville)** asked for clarification on the Broad Street Exchange and the contract with Sobeck Management. Ms. Crocamo responded regarding the prior contract and the one under negotiation. Ms. Crocamo stated she would provide Mr. Griffith with a letter of understanding from the prior management company.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

**Motion to adopt minutes of the June 11, 2019 Voting Meeting**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Vote:**

Eight (8) Ayes by Mr. Bilbow, Mr. Haas, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry

Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, and Mr. Vough

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

**Motion Passed (8-1)**

**The June 11, 2019 Voting Meeting Minutes are Adopted**

### **1. EverGreene Presentation**

Bill Mensching, Creative Director of EverGreene Architectural Arts, provided a powerpoint presentation regarding the restorative work and repairs being performed by his company at the Courthouse.

**2. Motion to approve expenditure of Council funds for CCAP Annual Conference Registration Fee (Haas)**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Mr. Bilbow

**Mr. McGinley clarified the reimbursement was for the registration fee only. Mr. Haas confirmed that was correct.**

**Vote:**

Eight (8) Ayes - Unanimous

**Ms. Saidman was not in the room.**

**Motion Passed (8-0)**

**3. Motion to adopt resolution declaring a vacancy on the Luzerne County Board of Elections and Registration**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eight (8) Yes - Unanimous

**Ms. Saidman was not in the room.**

**Motion Passed (8-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**Public Comment**

**Steven J. Urban (Wilkes-Barre)** spoke about the election process. Specifically, accumulation of names, write ins, name variations, mistakes and insecure methods.

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville)** spoke about the \$5.00 registration fee ordinance, stating it was manipulated and amended so Council needs to take the fee away. He also suggested Council pass an ordinance amending the Administrative Code prohibiting anyone on the ballot from filling an open position on Council.

**Richard Manta (Jackson Township)** spoke about the “Rain Tax” and that something needs to be done about it. He stated he was selling signs all over the valley to raise money to hire an attorney to fight it.

**Joe McCabe (Exeter)** asked the County Manager questions about the lobbyist group Maverick Strategies. Mr. Pedri responded.

**Michelle Davies (Lake Township)** stated she was a victim of revenge porn and an abusive relationship. The county computer virus has hindered her investigation. Ms. Davies asked questions regarding the virus, computers, county employees and future measures. Mr. McGinley responded that answers to her questions would be more feasible once the computer issues are resolved.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Nine (9) Ayes - Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:47 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)