



**Luzerne County Council
Voting Session
July 12, 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 July 12, 2022 at 6:02 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 (virtually)
Lee Ann McDermott
Tim McGinley
Matt Mitchell
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
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

Recognitions and Ceremonial Proclamations

NONE

Deletions from Voting Session Agenda

Mr. SJ Urban would like to remove Item 4 from the Voting Agenda.

Motion by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: NONE

Motion dies for lack of a second.

Adoption of Voting Session Agenda

Motion to Adopt Voting Session Agenda by: Mr. McGinley

Second: Mr. Thornton

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.

Dave Chaump (West Pittston) commented Verbally regarding the LSA loan/guarantor and bridge project.

Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding the MOU.

Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding items 3 and 4 on the Voting Agenda.

Chair Radle read Public Comment Email from:

Linda McClosky Houck

Claudia Glennan

Attorney Skene commented on the Executive Session. He stated that Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting concerning settlement of a litigation matter.

Agenda Items

Motion to adopt minutes of the June 28, 2022 Voting Session

Motion by: Mr. McGinley

Second: Mr. Bienias

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

The June 28, 2022 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted

1. Motion to adopt resolution Authorizing the Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds to Repair Sweet Valley Road in Ross and Union Townships

Motion by: Mr. Wolovich

Second: Mr. Thornton

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

2. Motion to adopt resolution Authorizing the Use of American Rescue Plan Act Funds to Make Repairs at the Luzerne County Correctional Facility

Motion by: Mr. Lombardo

Second: Mr. McGinley

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

3. Motion to adopt resolution Approving a Memorandum of Understanding between Luzerne County and the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority for the Reconstruction of the Nanticoke/West Nanticoke Bridge

Motion by: Ms. McDermott

Second: Mr. Lombardo

Motion to Amend MOU by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: Mr. Lescavage

Roll Call Vote:

One (1) Yes by Mr. SJ Urban

Ten (10) No by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Thornton and Mr. Wolovich

Motion Failed (1-10)

Motion to Table by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: NONE

Motion Fails for lack of a Second

After Further Discussion...

Motion to Table by: Mr. Lescavage

Second: Mr. SJ Urban

Roll Call Vote:

Five (5) Yes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Thornton, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

Six (6) No by Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Mitchell, Mr. Perry,

Ms. Radle and Mr. Thornton

Motion to Table Failed (5-6)

Motion to Amend MOU by: Mr. Thornton

Second: Mr. SJ Urban

Roll Call Vote:

Three (3) Yes by Mr. Lescavage, Mr. Thornton and Mr. SJ Urban

Eight (8) No by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lombardo, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Mitchell,

Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle and Mr. Wolovich

Motion Failed (3-8)

Roll Call Vote to Adopt:

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

Three (3) No by Mr. Lescavage, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Thornton

Motion Passed (7-3) with (1) Abstention

Resolution is Adopted

Mr. Lombardo lost connection.

4. Motion to adopt resolution Requesting a Luzerne County Local Share Account Grant from the Luzerne County Redevelopment Authority and the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority

Motion by: Mr. Lombardo

Second: Mr. Mitchell

Roll Call Vote:

Eight (8) Yes by Mr. Bienias, Mr. Lescavage, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Mitchell,
Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle and Mr. Wolovich

One (1) No by Mr. SJ Urban

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Thornton

Mr. Lombardo was disconnected from the call and unable to Vote.

Motion Passed (8-1) with (1) Abstention

Resolution is Adopted

5. Motion to adopt resolution declaring a Vacancy on the Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees

Motion by: Mr. Thornton

Second: Mr. McGinley

Roll Call Vote:

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

Mr. Lombardo was disconnected from the call and unable to Vote.

Motion Passed (10-0)

Resolution is Adopted

6. Motion to allow Sally Noel Toney to advertise County-owned property for sale

Motion by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Roll Call Vote:

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

Mr. Lombardo was disconnected from the call and unable to Vote.

Motion Passed (10-0)

7. Motion to adopt resolution Approving Real Estate Broker Services Related to the Sale of 1200 Susquehanna Avenue, West Pittston

Motion to Open Nominations by: Mr. McGinley

Second: Mr. Thornton

Vote:

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (10-0)

Nominations Open

Mr. Thornton nominated: Classic Properties

Second: Mr. SJ Urban

Mr. McGinley nominated: Kutz Real Estate Services, Inc.

Second: Mr. Perry

Motion to Close Nominations: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Vote:

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (10-0)

Nominations Closed

Roll Call Vote (1 name):

Mr. Bienias: Classic

Mr. Lescavage: Abstained

Ms. McDermott: Classic

Mr. McGinley: Kutz

Mr. Mitchell: Classic

Mr. Perry: Kutz

Ms. Radle: Kutz

Mr. Thornton: Classic

Mr. Stephen J. Urban: Classic

Mr. Wolovich: Classic

Results:

Classic 6

Kutz 3

Motion to adopt resolution Approving Real Estate Broker Services (Classic) Related to the Sale of 1200 Susquehanna Avenue, West Pittston by: Mr. SJ Urban

Second: Mr. Thornton

Roll Call Vote:

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

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Lescavage

Mr. Lombardo was disconnected from the call and unable to Vote.

Motion Passed (9-0) with (1) Abstention

Resolution is Adopted

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

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Chair Radle announced the Office of Law has arranged for Attorney Terry Mutchler from the Obermayer Law Firm to present a Program on the Right to Know Act and the Sunshine Act. The program is being held in Berks Auditorium at McGowan Hall, Kings College on July 19th at 6PM. It is open to the public and available through ZOOM.

Chair Radle reminded everyone about Rockin the River this coming Friday, July 16th starting at 6PM in Millennium Park. Food trucks will be there earlier.

Dave Chaump (West Pittston) commented Verbally regarding mail in voting and drop boxes.

Jess Morgan (Dallas) commented Verbally regarding the Fiscal Note and provided Council with a handout.

Greg Griffin (Swoyersville) commented Verbally regarding fentanyl programs in schools.

Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding the LSA and bridge.

Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding items 3 and 4, gaming funds, item 7 and the Real Estate Committee, 3 minute commentary and West Nanticoke Bridge.

Mr. Lombardo reconnected to the call.

Motion to adjourn: Mr. McGinley

Second: Mr. Bienias

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 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