



**Luzerne County Council**  
July 23, 2019  
Pittston Memorial Library  
47 Broad Street  
Pittston, PA 18640

**Minutes**  
**July 23, 2019 Voting Session**

**Call to Order**

The Luzerne County Council convened for a Voting Session in the Pittston Memorial Library on Tuesday, July 23, 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  
Linda McClosky Houck (via phone)  
Tim McGinley  
Chris Perry  
Sheila Saidman, Esq.  
Robert Schnee  
Stephen A. Urban (arrived at 6:05)  
Matthew Vough  
Jane Walsh Waitkus

**Also Present**

C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager  
Romilda P. Crocamo, Chief County Solicitor  
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

### **Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

#### **Mr. McGinley announced the retirements of:**

Sharon Considine, Caseworker 2, Children & Youth Services

Steve A. Hvozdovic, Corrections Officer, LCCF

Janice M. Reindel, Caseworker Supervisor, Children & Youth Services

Robert R. Ruckle, Commissary Clerk, LCCF

Theresa M. Schobert, Bookkeeper, Licensing

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

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

Ms. Houck stated Walter Griffith sent an ordinance that was discussed at the July 9<sup>th</sup> Work Session and would like to add the ordinance to the Voting Session agenda for Introduction.

Mr. McGinley added it to the Voting Session agenda as Item 7.

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

**Motion to Adopt:** Mr. Vough

**Second:** Ms. Houck

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

None

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

#### **Motion to adopt minutes of the July 09, 2019 Voting Meeting**

**Motion by:** Mr. Vough

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

#### **Vote:**

Eight (8) Ayes by Mr. Bilbow, Ms. Houck, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

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

One (1) Abstention by Mr. Haas

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

**The July 09, 2019 Voting Meeting Minutes are Adopted**

#### **1. Motion to adopt resolution requesting a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant from the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Ms. Houck

#### **Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**2. Motion to adopt ordinance entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Butler Township for the repair and dedication of roads in accordance with the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law, Act 177 of 1996, previously adopted as Act 180 of 1972**

**Motion by:** Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Second:** Ms. Houck

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Ordinance is Adopted**

**3. Motion to adopt resolution approving a Plan of Finance by the Geisinger Authority; in accordance with section 147(f) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986, as amended, declaring that it is desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people of Luzerne County for the Geisinger Authority to undertake a project involving the issuance of Health System Revenue Bonds, Series 2019 (Geisinger Health System); and authorizing other projects involving Geisinger Health and its affiliates serving the people of Luzerne County**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

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

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**4. Motion to approve WIB Budget**

**Motion by:** None

**5. Motion to adopt resolution declaring the Elected Position of Luzerne County Council Member Vacant Due to Resignation**

**Motion by:** Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**6. Motions regarding nomination and selection of Vice-Chair of Council**

**Motion to Open Nominations by:** Mr. Bilbow

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

**Vote:** Ten (10) Ayes - Unanimous

**Nominations Open**

**Mr. Schnee nominated:** Jane Walsh Waitkus

**Second:** Mr. Bilbow

**Mr. Haas nominated:** Linda McClosky Houck

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

**Motion to Close Nominations by:** Mr. Schnee

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

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

**Mr. Bilbow:** Waitkus

**Mr. Haas:** Houck

**Ms. Houck:** Houck

**Mr. McGinley:** Waitkus

**Mr. Perry:** Waitkus

**Ms. Saidman:** Waitkus

**Mr. Schnee:** Waitkus

**Mr. Stephen A. Urban:** Houck

**Mr. Vough:** Waitkus

**Ms. Waitkus:** Waitkus

**Results:**

Waitkus 7

Houck 3

**Jane Walsh Waitkus is Vice-Chair of the Luzerne County Council.**

#### **ADDED ITEM 7**

#### **7. Motion to introduce ordinance amending the Administrative Code at Section 2.07 in accordance with the Home Rule Charter of Luzern County (“the Charter”)**

**Motion by:** Ms. Houck

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

**Roll Call Vote:**

Nine (9) Yes by Mr. Bilbow, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Stephen A. Urban, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

One (1) No by Mr. McGinley

**Motion Passed (9-1)**

**Ordinance is Introduced**

#### **Public Comment**

**Walter Griffith (Trucksville)** thanked Council for the introduction of his ordinance. He thanked Mr. Pedri for his remarks regarding Wyoming Valley West and Children & Youth and for the work being done on Chase Road. Mr. Griffith stated he was concerned about the newspaper article concerning Mr. McGinley going into a Flood Protection Authority Meeting last week and stated it was a violation of the Charter.

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** stated he was glad to see the ordinance to amend the administrative code for filling the vacancy on Council was introduced and commented on the same. Mr. Shiner stated he sent an email to Council and the press regarding Mr. McGinley’s participation in the Flood Protection Authority Intergovernmental Agreement Meeting and that it is a prohibition, interferes with the Executive Branch and needs to stop.

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Haas

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes - Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:34 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)