



**Luzerne County Council**  
September 08, 2020 Meeting  
Video/Teleconference via TEAMS  
**Minutes**

**Call to Order**

The Luzerne County Council convened for a Voting Session on September 08, 2020 at 6:01PM via TEAMS Video/Teleconference. The meeting was called to order by Council Chair Tim McGinley.

**Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence**

**Roll Call**

**Present**

Walter L. Griffith, Jr.  
Harry Haas  
Linda McClosky Houck  
Lee Ann McDermott  
Tim McGinley  
Chris Perry  
Kendra M. Radle  
Sheila Saidman, Esq.  
Robert Schnee  
Stephen J. Urban  
Matthew Vough

**Also Present**

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

**Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

None

**Additions to/Deletions from Meeting Agenda**

Mr. Griffith requested the order of agenda items 9 and 10 be switched. Mr. McGinley confirmed.

**Adoption of Voting Session Agenda**

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

**Second: Mr. Perry**

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**The Voting Session Agenda is Adopted**

**Motions**

**Motion to suspend Bylaws regarding the requirement a majority of those participating in the meeting must be physically present by: Ms. Houck**

**Second: Ms. Saidman**

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Motion to suspend Bylaws regarding the conduct of public meetings to the extent that the current format is inconsistent with the term of the State's Emergency Declaration**

**by: Ms. Radle**

**Second: Mr. Schnee**

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes by Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Vough

One (1) Nay by Mr. Griffith

**Motion Passed (10-1)**

**Public Comment on Agenda Items**

**Due to COVID-19 all meetings are currently held via Video/Teleconference.**

**WRITTEN comments are submitted electronically via EMAIL or TEAMS. A copy of the full written comment for each speaker is posted under the corresponding meeting agenda. VERBAL comments, in their entirety, can be heard by accessing the public comment portion of the meeting recording posted next to the meeting agenda.**

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding KBJ and the (3) LCCF resolutions.**

**Richard Manta (Back Mountain) commented Verbally regarding a jury and the Shaheen Mackey matter.**

**Ron Knapp (Nanticoke) commented Verbally regarding a study of the Shaheen Mackey matter.**

**Brian Shiner (Kinston) commented Verbally regarding a conflict with the DA investigating the Shaheen Mackey matter.**

**Jason Carr (Saylorsburg) commented Verbally regarding the Shaheen Mackey matter.**

**Motion to adopt Minutes of the August 25, 2020 Voting Session**

**Motion by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

One (1) Nay by Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Passed (10-1)**

**The August 25, 2020 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted**

**OLD BUSINESS**

None

**AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Motion to adopt ordinance entering into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Hanover Township for the Repair and Dedication of the Division Street Bridge in Accordance with the Pennsylvania Intergovernmental Cooperation Law, Act 177 of 1998, previously adopted as Act 180 of 1972**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Ordinance is Adopted**

**2. Motion to adopt ordinance Amending the 2020 Fiscal Year Budget for Luzerne County (Human Services)**

**Motion by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Ms. McDermott

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Ordinance is Adopted**

**3. Motion to adopt ordinance Amending the 2020 Fiscal Year Budget for Luzerne County (Aging)**

**Motion by:** Ms. Houck

**Second:** Mr. Schnee

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Ordinance is Adopted**

**4. Motion to adopt ordinance Amending the 2020 Fiscal Year Budget for Luzerne County (DA)**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Ordinance is Adopted**

**5. Motion to adopt resolution Requesting a Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant from the Pennsylvania Commonwealth Financing Authority**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**6. Motion to adopt resolution Approving KBJ Real Estate Investment LLC's Cooperation/Indemnity Agreement for Grant Funding for the KBJ Startup Community Project, and Authorizing Luzerne County to Reimburse the Commonwealth for the Commonwealth's Share of Ineligible Costs Incurred**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Motion to Table by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Mr. Haas

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eight (8) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Vough

Three (3) No by Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry and Ms. Saidman

**Motion Passed (8-3)**

**Resolution is Tabled**

**7. Motion to adopt resolution Transferring \$210,000.00 from Account 100.20.4176.445.10 Other Income to County Reserve Fund Account 100.99.4940.585.10 Reserve Fund**

**Motion by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**8. Motion to adopt resolution Requesting the Luzerne County District Attorney to Request the Office of the Attorney General to Conduct an Investigation into the Death of Shaheen Mackey at the Luzerne County Correctional Facility**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

**Motion to Table by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Mr. McGinley

**Roll Call Vote:**

Two (2) Yes by Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

Nine (9) No by Mr. Griffith, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman and Mr. SJ Urban

**Motion Failed (2-9)**

**Motion to Amend resolution by removing the words “to use her discretion” from the resolution by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Roll Call Vote:**

Four (4) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Ms. Houck, Ms. Saidman and Mr. SJ Urban

Seven (7) No by Mr. Haas, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Motion Failed (4-7)**

**Motion to Amend resolution by adding after the Office of Attorney General “and/or Pennsylvania State Police Bureau of Criminal Investigation” to the resolution by:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Second:** Mr. Griffith

**Roll Call Vote:**

Two (2) Yes by Mr. Griffith and Mr. SJ Urban

Nine (9) No by Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Motion Failed (2-9)**

**Mr. McGinley confirmed the Motion by Ms. Saidman and the Second by Mr. Griffith.**

**Roll Call Vote:**

Four (4) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Ms. Houck, Ms. Saidman and Mr. SJ Urban

Seven (7) No by Mr. Haas, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee and Mr. Vough

**Motion Failed (4-7)**

**Resolution is not Adopted**

(WAS ITEM 10)

**9. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the creation of a Luzerne County Correctional Facility Investigation Committee to investigate, review and evaluate the conduct, policies, standard operating procedures and protocols of the Luzerne County Correctional Facility regarding the recent deaths at that facility**

**Motion by:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Mr. SJ Urban

**Roll Call Vote:**

Three (3) Yes by Mr. Griffith, Ms. Houck and Ms. Saidman

Eight (8) No by Mr. Haas, Ms. McDermott, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Radle, Mr. Schnee, Mr. SJ Urban and Mr. Vough

**Motion Failed (3-8)**

**Resolution is not Adopted**

(WAS ITEM 9)

**10. Motion to adopt regarding resolution Authorizing the Retention of Outside Counsel to Conduct a Review and Evaluation into the Policies, Standard Operating Procedures and Protocols of the Luzerne County Correctional Facility**

No Motion was Made

No Action was Taken

**11. Motion to adopt resolution Declaring a Vacancy on the Luzerne/Schuylkill Workforce Investment Board**

**Motion by:** Ms. Saidman

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Roll Call Vote:**

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (11-0)**

**Resolution is Adopted**

**Mr. Griffith commented regarding his lack of a motion, second or vote for agenda item 10.**

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

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**Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding oversight boards/committees and the Lattimer Massacre Project.**

**Ron Knapp (Nanticoke) commented Verbally** regarding the District Attorney, Shaheen Mackey, the mandate by Governor Wolf increasing the number of people at social gatherings and in person County Council Meetings.

**Richard Manta (Back Mountain) commented Verbally** regarding the Rain Tax.

**Mr. McGinley read Public Comment EMAILS received from:  
Jeffrey Warchal**

**Brian Shiner (Kingston) commented Verbally** regarding votes for an investigation.

**Mr. Griffith asked questions regarding a contract approved by the Office of Law for software. Ms. Crocamo responded.**

**Motion to Adjourn:** Mr. Griffith

**Second:** Ms. Radle

**Vote:**

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:28 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)