



Luzerne County Council
October 09, 2018
Luzerne County Court House
Council Meeting Room
200 N. River Street
Wilkes-Barre, Pa. 18711

Minutes
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, October 09, 2018 at 6:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim McGinley.

Mr. McGinley announced there were special guests in attendance and asked Sean Duesler to introduce them.

Mr. Duesler introduced the Girl Scout Heart of Pennsylvania Junior Troop 30250 from Mountaintop, PA and their troop leader Ms. Donna Good.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Girl Scout Heart of Pennsylvania Junior Troop 30250 led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present

Harry Haas
Linda McClosky Houck
Eugene Kelleher
Tim McGinley
Chris Perry
Sheila Saidman, Esq.
Robert Schnee
Stephen A. Urban (arrived at 6:09 PM)
Matthew Vough
Jane Walsh Waitkus

Also Present

C. David Pedri, Esq., County Manager
Mark Makowski, Esq., Assistant County Solicitor
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

Mr. McGinley announced Mr. Brominski is on the phone and is calling in to the meeting due to a health issue. Due to the number of times Mr. Brominski has called in to date, the Bylaws require a vote by Council to allow him to participate in the Meeting.

Motion to allow Mr. Brominski to participate by phone

Motion by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Ms. Waitkus

Roll Call Vote:

Mr. Stephen A. Urban had not arrived yet.

Nine (9) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (9-0)

Mr. Brominski is present and will participate in the meeting.

Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations

Mr. McGinley announced there was there was a ceremony in the Courthouse Rotunda at 5:30 to recognize the Hazleton Challenger Little League.

Additions to/Deletions from Voting Session Agenda

None

Adoption of Voting Session Agenda

Motion to Adopt: Mr. Schnee

Second: Ms. Saidman

Vote:

Mr. Stephen A. Urban had not arrived yet.

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

The Voting Session Agenda is adopted (10-0)

Public Comment on Voting Session Agenda Items

Mr. Stephen A. Urban arrived at 6:09PM during Public Comment

Charles Olah (Edwardsville) commented on the FY2019 Budget. Due to the lack of an assumption page he recommended the budget be rejected. He stated there were missing pieces from the Capital Plan when it was submitted and would like to know when they will be delivered. Mr. Olah brought up Old Business, specifically, who put in the County roads leading to the Hanover Industrial Park and when are we going to sue.

Sam Troy (Wilkes-Barre) commented on the resolution authorizing the County Manager to sell property in Hazle Township. He felt that before Council votes on it, specifics should be released to the public. Mr. Troy also commented on the Budget and the Ordinance to adopt it.

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion to adopt minutes of the September 25, 2018 Voting Meeting

Motion by: Ms. Waitkus

Second: Ms. Saidman

Vote:

Ten (10) Ayes by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

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

Motion Passed (10-1)

The September 25, 2018 Voting Meeting Minutes are Adopted

1. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute the sale of County-Owned Property located in Hazle Township to Walter Bevans

Motion by: Mr. Schnee

Second: Ms. Saidman

Roll Call Vote:

Ten (10) Yes by Mr. Brominski, Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

One (1) No by Mr. Stephen A. Urban

Resolution is Adopted (10-1)

2. Motion to adopt resolution a declaring a vacancy on the Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees (Slusser)

Motion by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Mr. Stephen A. Urban

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes - Unanimous

Resolution is Adopted (11-0)

3. Authorities, Boards, & Commissions nominations and appointments to:

3a. Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees (1) to complete a term expiring 12/31/2018

Motion to open nominations by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Mr. Haas

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Nominations Open

Mr. Kelleher nominated: Holly Evanoski

Second: Ms. Saidman

Ms. Houck nominated: Cecelia Chmiola

Second: Mr. Stephen A. Urban

Motion to close nominations by: Mr. Haas

Second: Mr. Kelleher

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Nominations Closed

Roll Call Vote (1 name) to complete a term expiring 12/31/2018:

Mr. Brominski: Chmiola

Mr. Haas: Evanoski

Ms. Houck: Chmiola

Mr. Kelleher: Evanoski

Mr. McGinley: Evanoski

Mr. Perry: Evanoski

Ms. Saidman: Evanoski

Mr. Schnee: Evanoski

Mr. Stephen A. Urban: Chmiola

Mr. Vough: Evanoski

Ms. Waitkus: Evanoski

Results:

Evanoski 8

Chmiola 3

Motion to adopt a resolution appointing Holly Evanoski to the Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees to complete a term expiring 12/31/2018

Motion by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Ms. Saidman

Roll Call Vote:

Ten (10) Yes by Mr. Brominski, Ms. Houck, Mr. Haas, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

One (1) No by Mr. Stephen A. Urban

Resolution is Adopted (10-1)

4. Introduction of Ordinance Adopting the 2019 Fiscal Year Budgets for Luzerne County
NO VOTE - automatically introduced by the County Manager

Public Comment

Greg Griffin (Swoyersville) spoke about the opioid epidemic and provided a handout to the Clerk for distribution to Council.

Charles Perez (Hanover Township) spoke about the opioid epidemic and showed a video of his son, who he lost to a heroin fentanyl overdose. Mr. Perez asked Council to help and find a way to come up with funds to fight the epidemic.

Ron Dombroski (Trucksville) spoke about the wait time to reach 911 and an issue he had when calling 911 for his tenant.

Dr. Gere Reisinger (Kingston) spoke about Riverfront Safety Development. He is concerned with the overgrowth and the danger it presents. Dr. Reisinger referenced a newspaper article that stated the overgrowth will not allow the levee to prevent a flood. He asked to form a Committee to discuss the problem and have it on a Work Session.

Charles Olah (Edwardsville) commented on the FY2019 Budget.

Brian Shiner (Kingston) commented on the FY2019 Budget.

Fred Javer (Edwardsville) commented on the opioid epidemic.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Waitkus

Second: Mr. Kelleher

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned at 7:34PM

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