



**Luzerne County Council
Voting Session
October 11, 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 October 11, 2022 at 6:07 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
Lee Ann McDermott
Tim McGinley
Matt Mitchell
Chris Perry
Kendra M. Radle
Brian Thornton
Stephen J. Urban (initially virtual-arrived in person at 6:57)
Gregory S. Wolovich, Jr.

Also Present

Randy Robertson, County Manager
Harry Skene, Chief County Solicitor
Shannon Crake-Lapsansky, Assistant Solicitor (virtually)
Sharon Lawrence, Clerk of Council

Attorney Skene commented on Executive Session. Attorney Skene stated that before the meeting today there was an Executive Session concerning personnel and a legal issue.

Recognitions and Ceremonial Proclamations

NONE

Deletions from Voting Session Agenda

NONE

Adoption of Voting Session Agenda

Motion to Adopt Voting Session Agenda by: Mr. Lombardo

Second: Mr. McGinley

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.

Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding the FY2023 Budget Ordinance millage, the Position Budget and Ordinance, the 8.5 mil increase and requested copies of the Budgets.

Theodore J. Fitzgerald (Wilkes-Barre) commented Verbally regarding a copy of the Budget and better management.

Mark Rabo (Hazleton) commented Verbally regarding the proposed Budget, format and revenue.

Laura Pinero (Wyoming) commented Verbally regarding the Budget and roads.

Motion to adopt minutes of the September 27, 2022 Voting Session

Motion by: Mr. McGinley

Second: Ms. McDermott

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

The September 27, 2022 Voting Session Minutes are Adopted

Agenda Items

1. Introduction of Ordinance Adopting the 2023 Fiscal Year Budget for Luzerne County

Motion to open discussion by: Mr. Thornton

Second: Mr. Lombardo

NO VOTE REQUIRED - automatically introduced by the County Manager

Ordinance is Introduced

2. Motion to adopt resolution Approving the Recommendations of Zigmund & Company Ltd. Regarding Security/Bond Limits to Protect Luzerne County Against Risks of Loss for Calendar Year 2023

Motion by: Mr. Thornton

Second: Mr. Lombardo

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Resolution is Adopted

3. Motion to adopt Ordinance Amending the Luzerne County Zoning Map to Re-Zone One Parcel of Property totaling 41.17 acres in Newport Township from MI, Mining District Zone to R-2, Two Family Residence District Zone

Motion to adopt ordinance by: Mr. McGinley

Second: Mr. Wolovich

Roll Call Vote:

Eleven (11) Yes – Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Ordinance is Adopted

Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items:

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Stan Garbacik (Mountaintop) commented Verbally regarding Kirby Avenue and drainage.

Walter Griffith (Trucksville) commented Verbally regarding the Budget, money for the Ethics Commission, the slush fund, Berks County vs. Luzerne County, and Budget Books.

Greg Griffin (Swoyersville) commented Verbally regarding the proposed tax increase and sources of revenue.

Theodore J Fitzgerald (Wilkes-Barre) commented Verbally regarding fixing problems with money, inflation and cutting costs.

Scott Bussinger (Mountaintop) commented Verbally regarding Kirby Avenue and drainage, the 20 positions the County Manager is cutting and public access to the Budget.

Jess Morgan (Dallas) commented Verbally regarding cutting costs and new sources of revenue.

Chair Radle read Public Comment Email from:

Susan Banks

Cindy Brannan

Louise Gowran

Valerie Laning

Marie O'Reilly

Frank Polidora

Carol Rosser

Mr. McGinley commended the staff for their work on the Human Service Agencies Event at the Woodlands, commented on Children & Youth, and the Ethics Commission funding.

Mr. Lombardo recognized the Arena Board. A tour of the arena was provided to Council Members and it will be opening soon for its 25th Anniversary.

Motion to adjourn: Mr. McGinley

Second: Ms. McDermott

Vote:

Eleven (11) Ayes - Unanimous

Motion Passed (11-0)

Meeting adjourned at 7:11 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