



Luzerne County Council
October 23, 2018
Hazle Township Municipal Building
101 W. 27th Street
Hazle Township, PA 18202

Minutes
Voting Session

Call to Order

The Luzerne County Council convened for a Voting Session in the Hazle Township Municipal Building on Tuesday, October 23, 2018 at 6:01 PM. The meeting was called to order by Chair Tim McGinley.

Pledge of Allegiance and Moment of Silence

Roll Call

Present

Harry Haas
Linda McClosky Houck
Eugene Kelleher
Tim McGinley
Chris Perry
Sheila Saidman, Esq.
Robert Schnee
Stephen A. Urban (arrived at 6:02 PM)
Matthew Vough
Jane Walsh Waitkus

Absent

Edward A. Brominski

Also Present

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

Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations

Mr. McGinley introduced Dr. Brian Gasper, resident of Luzerne County, Co-Lead of the Carbon Schuylkill Luzerne STEM Ecosystem and Superintendent of the Jim Thorpe School District. Mr. McGinley read the Luzerne County Council National STEM Day Proclamation and presented it to Dr. Gasper. Dr. Gasper thanked everyone and spoke briefly about the STEM Ecosystem, National STEM Day, and upcoming events and activities.

Mr. McGinley announced there will be a proclamation presented Thursday at noon at the Domestic Violence Event in the Courthouse Rotunda.

Mr. McGinley announced the retirements of:

James M. Davis, Director, Domestic Relations

Dorothy J. Evans, Alt Senior Center Operator 1, Area Agency on Aging

Mark Krakowski, Custodial Worker, Building & Grounds

Lewis Morgantini, Corrections Officer, LCCF

Alfonso L. Pellegrini, Administrative Assistant, Prothonotary

Kyong Piatt, Bookkeeper, Prothonotary

Marijo Sullivan, Program Specialist 1, Children & Youth Services

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

Additions to/Deletions from Voting Session Agenda

None

Adoption of Voting Session Agenda

Motion to Adopt: Ms. Waitkus

Second: Ms. Saidman

Vote:

Nine (9) Ayes by 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

The Voting Session Agenda is adopted (9-1)

Public Comment on Voting Session Agenda Items

Charles Olah (Edwardsville) spoke about Old Business, unanswered questions, and public hearings. Mr. Olah stated that Budget Public Hearings should be visually recorded as they are in other states and they need to be longer than ½ hour. Also, they should not be held immediately before the session in which the item(s) are voted on, there should be a 2 week lag.

Mark Rabo (Hazleton) questioned why the two LCCC appointments were done at 2 separate meetings and not done at the same time in one meeting. Mr. McGinley responded the resignations were received at different times and the timeframes required to declare a vacancy and appointment did not coincide and required separate meetings.

Old Business

None

New Business

Motion to adopt minutes of the October 09, 2018 Voting Meeting

Motion by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Ms. Waitkus

Vote:

Nine (9) Ayes by 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 (9-1)

The October 09, 2018 Voting Meeting Minutes are Adopted

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

1a. Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees (1) to complete a term expiring 12/31/2023

Motion to open nominations by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Mr. Schnee

Vote:

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

Nominations Open

Mr. Schnee nominated: Joseph Lettiere

Second: Mr. Kelleher

Ms. Houck nominated: Cecelia Chmiola

Second: Mr. Stephen A. Urban

Mr. Haas nominated: Nicole Kruczek

Second: Mr. Vough

Motion to close nominations by: Mr. Kelleher

Second: Ms. Saidman

Vote:

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

Nominations Closed

Roll Call Vote (1 name) to complete a term expiring 12/31/2023:

Mr. Haas: Kruczek

Ms. Houck: Chmiola

Mr. Kelleher: Lettiere

Mr. McGinley: Lettiere

Mr. Perry: Lettiere

Ms. Saidman: Lettiere

Mr. Schnee: Lettiere

Mr. Stephen A. Urban: Chmiola

Mr. Vough: Kruczek

Ms. Waitkus: Lettiere

Results:

Lettiere 6
Chmiola 2
Kruczek 2

Motion to adopt a resolution appointing Joseph Lettiere to the Luzerne County Community College Board of Trustees to complete a term expiring 12/31/2023

Motion by: Ms. Waitkus

Second: Mr. Kelleher

Roll Call Vote:

Nine (9) Yes by Mr. Haas, Ms. Houck, Mr. Kelleher, Mr. McGinley, Mr. Perry, Ms. Saidman, Mr. Schnee, Mr. Vough and Ms. Waitkus

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

Resolution is Adopted (9-0) with (1) Abstention

Public Comment

Mark Rabo (Hazleton) stated that Mr. Lettiere is Vice President at CANDO and Mr. McGinley confirmed it was on his ABC application. Mr. Rabo commented on the Altamont Building and grant, lack of Council approval and State involvement. Mr. Rabo spoke about the Election Office matter he brought up at a prior meeting and personal repercussions.

Stephen A. Urban cited an article from the Citizens Voice regarding County Manager David Pedri and his political activities while serving as County Manager. Mr. Urban feels the matter needs to be looked into by the Chair, Solicitor and the DA.

C. David Pedri responded to Mr. Urban's comments and stated they were falsehoods.

Motion to adjourn: Ms. Saidman

Second: Ms. Waitkus

Vote:

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

Meeting Adjourned at 6:29PM

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