



**Luzerne County Council**  
November 27, 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, November 27, 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 6:04)  
Matthew Vough  
Jane Walsh Waitkus

**Also Present**

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

**Absent**

Edward A. Brominski

### **Recognitions/Ceremonial Proclamations**

Mr. McGinley announced the retirements of:

Paul Binker, Maintenance Repairman, Road & Bridge

Ronald Miller, Equipment Operator, Road & Bridge

Susan Tomulaitis, Deputy Sheriff, Sheriff's Department

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:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Nine (9) Ayes – Unanimous

**Mr. Stephen A. Urban had not arrived yet.**

**The Voting Session Agenda is adopted (9-0)**

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

**Mr. Stephen A. Urban arrived at 6:04 during Public Comment**

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** commented on the MCM Consulting Contract and felt “it was putting the cart before the horse” since Council has not voted on the 20 million dollar 911 project or funding for it.

### **Old Business**

None

### **New Business**

**Motion to adopt minutes of the November 13, 2018 Voting Meeting**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**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 November 13, 2018 Voting Meeting Minutes are Adopted**

**1. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute an Agreement with MCM Consulting Group, Inc. for P25, Phase II Digital Radio System Project Management**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Mr. Perry

**Motion to take all the costs involved in the contract out of the 2018 Reserve by:**

Mr. McGinley

**Second:** Mr. Kelleher

**Roll Call Vote on Amendment:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Roll Call Vote on Amended Resolution:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (10-0)**

**Motion to take the full \$234,000.00 that came in from the Planning Commission from the State and put it in the 2018 Reserve by:** Mr. Stephen A. Urban

**Second:** Mr. Kelleher

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes – Unanimous

**Motion Passed (10-0)**

**2. Motion to adopt resolution designating the County Manager as Agent for the Purposes of the Hazard Mitigation Grant Program**

**Motion by:** Mr. Schnee

**Second:** Ms. Waitkus

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (10-0)**

**3. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a Lease Agreement between Luzerne/Wyoming Counties Area Agency on Aging and Butler Township for the Butler Township Active Adult Center**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Ms. Waitkus

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (10-0)**

**4. Motion to adopt resolution authorizing the County Manager to execute a Lease Agreement between Luzerne County and Shickshinny Borough for premises located at 35 West Union Street, Shickshinny, Pennsylvania, 18655**

**Motion by:** Mr. Haas

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

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (10-0)**

**5. Motion to adopt resolution declaring a vacancy on the Luzerne County Convention Center Authority (Conyngham)**

**Motion by:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Roll Call Vote:**

Ten (10) Yes - Unanimous

**Resolution is Adopted (10-0)**

**Public Comment**

**Greg Griffin (Swoyersville)** gave an update on what his Opioid Committee has done in the past few weeks. He asked the Chair appoint Council members to meet with the Drug Task Force in order to see what they need. Mr. McGinley responded he would check with the Drug Task Force and follow up with Mr. Griffin.

**Brian Shiner (Kingston)** commented on the Position Budget and cited Home Rule Charter Section 503 regarding the Budget format. He stated it is on the website as a Position List. Mr. Shiner did not understand why penalties were not included in Ordinances and why the District Attorney does not pursue Charter violations.

**Joe McCabe ((Exeter)** commented on tax assessment reductions, personnel, the number of new employees in the County, tourism new hires, the sewer authority run off tax starting in January, offsetting taxes with the Reserve, and borrowing 20 million dollars. Mr. McGinley reminded Mr. McCabe that Council does not vote on tax assessment reductions and any questions regarding tax assessment or the sewer authority needs to be directed to those entities.

**Mark Rabo (Hazleton)** commented on the MCM Consulting Contract and associated costs. He questioned if the Courts reached out to the AOPC for more money and if it was factored in to the Budget. Mr. Rosencrans responded regarding the 9 County Next Generation 911 Phone System.

**Martin Dartoe (Wilkes-Barre)** stated the public is crying out that things are not getting done and Council needs to speed things up and move on this.

**Motion to adjourn:** Mr. Kelleher

**Second:** Ms. Saidman

**Vote:**

Ten (10) Ayes – Unanimous

**Meeting Adjourned at 6:46PM**

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)