
From: Houck, Linda McClosky
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 9:23 PM
To: Kathy Dobash; Luzerne County Council Members
Cc: Lawrence, Sharon
Subject: RE: agenda items for 8/25

Ms. Dobash,

Since our August 25 agendas are quite full, I ask your indulgence in deferring this item for discussion at the September 8 work session.

Thanks -

Linda Houck

Chair,

Please also add to this list the required 990 form required by companies.
We need to review conflicts of interests for staff , board members and excessive administrative salaries before contracts are given to the same companies year after year.

The excessive administrative salaries should be questioned, especially the CEO and President salaries of non profit organizations.

County Council owes the tax payer to not just keep renewing contracts to those who benefit. Non profit companies own property and receive tax relief or do not pay taxes on property.

Some CEO individuals push around paper while earning high salaries out of line with the average salary for the County and the State.

Kathy Dobash

Ms. Chair,

Could you ask the manager to please address these issues in his report on 8/25?

1) The status of the county Hazardous Materials Preparedness application to FEMA.

2) The process and timeline for submitting all contracts/applications/reimbursements. Specifically, which offices(s) must evaluate and sign off on the paperwork and in which order? What is the current processing timeframe from beginning to end compared to the ideal?

My reason for asking is that it has come to my attention that inefficiencies exist in the process, and I'd like to see the county expedite it.

Thank you,
Harry

Harry Haas
Luzerne County Councilman

On Friday, August 14, 2015 7:04 AM, "Haas, Harry" <hhaas@luzernecounty.org> wrote:

From: Brominski, Edward
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 1:45 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members
Subject: RESPONSE TO PEDRI
Attachments: SERVICE ELECTRIC.docx

From: Brominski, Edward
Sent: Friday, August 21, 2015 11:30 AM
To: Lawton, Robert; Luzerne County Council Members
Cc: Lawrence, Sharon
Subject: RE: Penn Place

Since I am a conduit between the public and the County Government, I do not feel that every letter I receive should contain anything but the issue. I am not seeking to make anything but a notification of a public concern. If read any other way, it is not my intention to be negative, rather , helpful.

I am sure the manger knows he is not blocked by me as I am no longer blocked by him.

-----Original Message-----

From: Lawton, Robert
Sent: Thu 8/20/2015 6:31 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members
Cc: Lawrence, Sharon
Subject: RE: Penn Place

Dear Chair Houck:

Thank you for forwarding to me the email Council Member Brominski shared with your Council Colleagues.

The safety and comfort of County employees and visitors to our facilities is a prime concern of your County Manager.

According to Council Member Brominski's correspondent, "...[t]he third floor Juvenile side of the Penn Place building has not has AC for 3 days and when the supervisor called again today, she was told that the plumber is off."

The facts presented to me by the Division of Operational Services are that the Division was first made aware of Penn Place air conditioning issues on Wednesday morning.

Division staff contacted the system contractor, who responded within 30 minutes. On their arrival, it was determined that the AC unit motor was inoperative.

By yesterday evening, a new motor had been brought from Scranton, the motor was installed and the system was back in working order by Thursday evening.

Throughout the day Wednesday, Division staff provided the Director of Probation and the Court Administrator with email reports regarding repair status. This morning, the Director and Administrator had advised that the system was operating properly.

Looking forward in the interest of improved customer services, getting to the facts of this matter would be most helpful.

If Council Member Brominski's correspondent is correct, "the supervisor" called for three days before being "told that the plumber is off."

Allegations of such indifference on the part of County staff are deeply troubling, and, I hope, are not casually made.

On the one hand, I have a report from a County employee known to me, who offers documentable supporting evidence of their account.

On the other hand, I am deeply grateful to Council Member Brominski for sharing these vague, second-hand anonymous statements; although unverifiable, his distribution of them at least created an opportunity to respond.

These two accounts might not, in fact, be as mutually exclusive as they appear.

Assuming - for the sake of discussion - that to be the case, may I ask Council Member Brominski to have his anonymous correspondent contact me so that I learn more from their point of view?

By copy of this email I am requesting Council Clerk Lawrence to forward it to Council Member Brominski; I'm not certain if he still blocks my emails.

Best regards,
Robert C. Lawton
County Manager,
Luzerne County, Pennsylvania

-----Original Message-----

From: Houck, Linda McClosky
Sent: Thursday, August 20, 2015 3:18 PM
To: Lawton, Robert
Cc: Brominski, Edward
Subject: FW: Penn Place

Mr. Lawton,

Please see Mr. Brominski's email below and respond at your earliest convenience.

Thanks -

Linda Houck

-----Original Message-----

From: Brominski, Edward
Sent: Wed 8/19/2015 3:27 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members
Subject: FW: Penn Place

Chair:

This is a mail I received today from a citizen. Could you please forward and send to me a response from Management?

Thank you Edd Brominski

Subject: Penn Place

Edd, just a quick note to let you know what's going on. The third floor Juvenile side of the Penn Place building has not had AC for 3 days and when the supervisor called again today, she was told that the plumber is off. Apparently there is only one plumber and no backup. Lawton really does need a shake up.

The county continues to move offices into Park Place and now they are going to sell the Station Complex and that leaves absolutely no parking for courts, county offices, visitors, etc. How can they continue to consolidate offices into that building when there is no parking and a terrible AC unit.

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To: Lawton, Robert
Cc: Brominski, Edward
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Linda Houck

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From: Brominski, Edward
Sent: Wednesday, August 19, 2015 3:28 PM
To: Luzerne County Council Members
Subject: FW: Penn Place

Chair:

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Thank you Edd Brominski

Subject: Penn Place

Edd, just a quick not to let you know what's going on. The third floor Juvenile side of the Penn Place building has not has AC for 3 days and when the supervisor called again today, she was told that the plumber is off. Apparently there is only one plumber and no backup. Lawton really does need a shake up.

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From: Houck, Linda McClosky
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 11:05 PM
To: Kathy Dobash; Lawrence, Sharon; Luzerne County Council Members
Subject: RE: Laptop

It is highly unlikely that any Council member would take the laptop - including the Chair.

It is good to see that the missing laptop was located.

Thanks -

Linda Houck

-----Original Message-----

From: Kathy Dobash [mailto:kathydobash@yahoo.com]
Sent: Tue 8/11/2015 3:07 PM
To: Lawrence, Sharon; Luzerne County Council Members
Subject: Re: Laptop

Sharon,

I did not know we could borrow a laptop. I think it is highly unlikely a council member would take the laptop unless it was the Chair.

Kathy

On Tuesday, August 11, 2015 11:08 AM, "Lawrence, Sharon" <Sharon.Lawrence@luzernecounty.org> wrote:

Good Morning!

Did anyone borrow the laptop that is usually hooked up to the projector in the copy room?

Thanks,
Sharon

Sharon Lawrence
Clerk of County Council
Luzerne County Courthouse
200 North River Street
Wilkes-Barre, PA 18711
Email: sharon.lawrence@luzernecounty.org Phone (570) 825-1634

From: Haas, Harry
Sent: Tuesday, August 11, 2015 6:41 AM
To: Houck, Linda McClosky
Subject: RE: agenda items for 8/11

Hi Linda,

I figured exactly that...not a problem, and see you tonight.

Harry

Harry Haas
Luzerne County Councilman

-----Original Message-----

From: Houck, Linda McClosky
Sent: Fri 8/7/2015 11:20 PM
To: Haas, Harry
Cc: Lawrence, Sharon
Subject: RE: agenda items for 8/11

Harry -

Sorry, didn't see this email until just now. The agendas were already approved for posting on Thursday afternoon - with Sharon away, we just wanted to make sure we got them posted on time. These items can be added to the work session for discussion at the beginning of the work session.

Thanks -
Linda

-----Original Message-----

From: Haas, Harry
Sent: Fri 8/7/2015 6:38 AM
To: Houck, Linda McClosky
Cc: Lawrence, Sharon
Subject: agenda items for 8/11

Hi Linda,

Could you place these items on Tuesday's agenda?

1) summary of the CCAP conference

2) 9-1-1 director presentation (we need to approve the new funding legislation by month's end)

Thank you,
Harry

Harry Haas
Luzerne County Councilman