

MINUTES

**Erie County Council**

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André R. Horton, Chairman  
Carl Anderson, III, Vice Chairman  
Kim Clear  
Scott Rastetter  
Mary Rennie  
Ellen Schauerman  
Brian Shank

**REGULAR MEETING MINUTES**

**Tuesday, May 19, 2020**

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION**

Ellen Schauerman offered some words pertinent to the current situation: "Accept what is, let go of what was, but have faith in what will be."

**ROLL CALL**

Members Present: Mr. Anderson; Mrs. Clear; Mr. Horton; Mr. Rastetter; Mrs. Rennie; Mrs. Schauerman; Mr. Shank

Also Present: Douglas R. Smith, James Sparber, Tracey Fugagli, Thomas Talarico; Nicole Inan

**HEARING OF THE PUBLIC**

None to be heard.

**MINUTES FROM PREVIOUS MEETING**

**May 5, 2020 - Regular Meeting**

Brian Shank moved to approve the minutes from the May 5, 2020 Regular Meeting. This was seconded by Ellen Schauerman and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS**

**County Executive and/or her Designee**

None to report.

- Finance Committee -Mrs. Clear** Mrs. Clear reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, May 14, 2020 and present Resolution Number 24, 2020 "Designation of Grant Agent for District Attorney Office for 2021-2022 Year PennDOT DUI Enforcement Grant," and Ordinance Number 24, 2020 "Thirteenth 2020 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$295,500 and New Line Items for CARES Grant & Election Security Grant in Conduct of Elections."
- Personnel Committee - Mrs.Rennie** Mrs. Rennie reported that the Personnel Committee has no new business.
- Other**
- Mr. Shank thanked ECGRA and Perry Wood. He reported a situation in Harborcreek in which the teachers at the high school were creating "mask extenders" to distribute at no charge. However, the school was running low on funds, so ECGRA assisted in paying \$1000 towards the effort, to help ensure that health care professionals and first responders received these.
- Mr. Anderson presented a citation for Mr. James (Jerry) Schwartz, requesting the citation be placed on the minutes. You can tell, simply by looking at his picture, his kind, gentle, and welcoming person that he was. Mr. Anderson stated that, as a close friend, he will deeply be missed. Mr. Anderson expressing his sympathies to the Schwartz family. He helped so many young people in the Erie Community through his work in the juvenile division of Erie Police for 38 years. We will never know the extent of lives he has touched over the years.
- Mr. James M. "Jimmy" Schwartz, Sr. (1943-2020)  
 WHEREAS, James M. "Jimmy" Schwartz, Sr. passed from this world on May 7, 2020 at the age of 76 years. Jimmy was born July 20, 1943, to the late Stanley and Betty (Borkowski) Schwartz; he remained a lifelong loyal Eastsider; and WHEREAS, Jimmy was a graduate of Mercyhurst College; served in the United States Army Reserves for over 30 years; and served as a Lieutenant in the Juvenile Division for the City of Erie Police for over 38 years before retirement. In this role he affected the lives of so many youth throughout Erie County; and WHEREAS, Jimmy had the gift of effortlessly connecting with others through his smile, his laugh and his strong and commanding presence; His father, Stan, served as Erie County Democratic Chairman and Jimmy possessed the same sense of Community Service, volunteering for many organizations and Community Causes, as well as supporting many candidates for elective office - including members of his own family; and WHEREAS, Jimmy was a lifelong member of the Polish Falcons (serving the term at the 19th Street Nest), and member of the Erie Maennerchor Club, where he was an avid duckpin bowler for many years; Jimmy organized and participated in many traveling duckpin bowling tournaments to other Maennerchor clubs in the Scranton Area, Pittsburgh Area, Cleveland Area and other parts of Ohio, New York State, as well as hosting Tournaments in Erie; Jimmy was elected several times as a

Board of Director of the Erie Maennerchor Club and served a term as Board Vice President and then President; He was an active member and officer of the Erie Fraternal of Police; and WHEREAS, In addition to his parents, Jimmy is preceded in death by son, James "Jimbo" M. Schwartz, Jr. in 1993, and a sister, B.J. Serrins. He is survived by his son, Shawn Schwartz, wife Lisa, of Palm Harbor, Fla.; a daughter, Mary Jane Byers, husband Matt, of Tampa, Fla.; four grandchildren, Delaney, Logan and Brennan Schwartz and Avery Byers; a brother, Ronald Schwartz, wife Dena, of Erie; a sister, Cindy Hickey, husband Tom of Erie; and several nieces and nephews; and WHEREAS, Jimmy will always be remembered with the great respect and friendship by District 4 Erie County Councilman, Carl J. Anderson III. NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Jimmy Schwartz, Sr., a man who dedicated his life to his family, the Country, and the Erie Community, we will forever be grateful. May he rest in peace. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 19th day of May, 2020.

**OLD BUSINESS**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Anderson moved to Amend the Agenda to move Ordinance 24, 2020 to a Second Reading, and to add "Resolution 25, 2020, Authorizing the filing of a Proposal for Funds with the Department of Community and Economic Development, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." The amendment to the agenda was seconded by Kim Clear. Passed in a 7-0 vote.

Attorney Talarico verified that the Resolution is in proper order.

**Resolution Number 24, 2020, " Designation of Grant Agent for District Attorney Office for 2021-2022 Year PennDOT DUI Enforcement Grant" (Finance Committee)**

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 24, 2020, "Designation of Grant Agent for District Attorney Office for 2021-2022 Year PennDOT DUI Enforcement Grant." This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**First Reading of Ordinance Number 24, 2020, "Thirteenth 2020 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$295,500 and New Line Items for CARES Grant & Election Security Grant in Conduct Elections" (Finance Committee)**

Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 24, 2020, "Thirteenth 2020 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$295,500 and New Line Items for CARES Grant & Election Security Grant in Conduct Elections." This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Mary Rennie and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Mr. Anderson thanked the Clerk, Doug Smith, with his work in the Election Office. He stated that this is a difficult year, and difficult election cycle. Hits have been taken on difficulties getting ballots out, being inundated with applications for mail-in and absentee ballots, but the office staff led by Mr. Smith and Tonia Fernandez has triumphed and have made the office proud of the work that is being done to ensure that the voters of Erie County receive a smooth election. By being prepared and applying for the grant, is a testament to the work that the election staff have done. Mr. Anderson stated that he is confident that by Election Day, all voters in Erie County should be confident that their votes will be counted, and that Erie County has been working diligently to ensure that it is a fair election that includes all voters of Erie County. Working with new equipment, and under the constraints of the COVID-19 pandemic, along with the delay in the primary date itself, the elections team has really shown their commitment to the citizens of Erie County.

Mr. Horton added that the staff is very new in the Voter Registration Office, and that County Council staff also is assisting that office work. He encouraged that Council please be mindful that with all of the changes, new staff, new machines, etc. that everyone take that into consideration.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 25, 2020: Authorizing the filing of a Proposal for Funds with the Department of Community and Economic Development, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania." This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Ellen Schauerman and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Adjournment: 4:20 PM

**The next Finance and Personnel Committee Meetings are scheduled for Thursday May 21, 2020 at 4 pm. The next Regular Meeting of Council is scheduled for 4 pm on May 26, 2020. Attendance will be via zoom conference. Details will be published on the County website;**

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