

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

Monday, August 31, 2020

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE**

**OPTIONAL PRAYER OR
INVOCATION**

ROLL CALL

**HEARING OF THE
PUBLIC**

**REPORTS OF COUNTY
OFFICIALS**

**County Executive and/or
her Designee**

**Finance Committee -Mrs.
Clear**

**Personnel Committee -
Mrs. Rennie**

Other

**RECONVENED
BUSINESS**

Chairman Horton clarified that, as a reconvened meeting, there was no necessity in hearing reports as they would have been discussed previously.

To Elect the Members of

Mr. Smith read the exhibit addition adding Mr. Shank's appointment for vote:

**the Board of Trustees of
the Erie County
Community College**

"Brian Shank, representing the Fifth District of Erie County, hereby nominates Justin M. Gallagher to serve on the Erie County Community College Board of Trustees for a term to be determined by lot."

This was moved by Brian Shank, seconded by Scott Rastetter.

Mr. Shank offered words on his nominee: Justin Gallagher is a long term resident of Harborcreek, and has served the community - school board, coaching baseball and basketball, previously on the Board at the Erie County Vo-tech School, Chairman of the YMCA Advisory Board, and President of the Harborcreek Alumni. Mr. Gallagher graduated from Gannon with a Bachelor's of Science in Business Administration, and Penn State with a Bachelor of Science in Finance. Mr. Shank named his nominee as a go-getter. Mr. Gallagher is the youngest member on the School Board in Harborcreek, and he is very well groomed in understanding school functions and budgets.

Motion carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Mr. Anderson motioned that Resolution 38, 2020 be accepted in its entirety. Mr. Shank Seconded. Passed 7 to 0.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairman Horton offered congratulations to all and thanked for their due diligence in this process.

Attorney Talarico spoke on behalf of the next steps for the Board of Trustees: He stressed the importance of having the Resolution signed by County Executive as soon as possible because it is this Resolution that gives the legal standing. It is the appointment of the Board of Trustees and this Resolution that give the Community College legal effect. In that respect, this Resolution should be signed and serve as the Community College article of incorporation. There is no date stated in the Community College Act within which the Board of Trustees has to meet. He clarified that, whenever there is no length of time listed in a statute, Courts interpret it to mean a reasonable time. He clarified further that the Board of Trustees does not have to meet and draw lots immediately or before the deadline for the appointment of Trustees. Attorney Talarico feels that there is no sense in waiting, and that as a practical matter, the Board of Trustees should be initially directed to meet in a certain time frame.

Chairman Horton announced that the intention is to have the Board meet Tuesday, September 8 at the Hirt Auditorium.

Board Trustee Sintal introduced herself as an individual who organizes by IT. She is requesting that the Board Members have an Identification associated with the project so that they can communicate in a serve set aside to allow information to be passed amongst one another as the Board evolves and documents can be secure.

Board Trustee Gallagher thanked Council for appointing him. He looks forward to serving the community.

Chairman Horton emphasized that after 16 years, it has been put off long enough, and he is eager to keep the ball rolling.

County Executive Dahlkemper offered to have the IT Director reach out to Board of Trustee Sintal to discuss server and portal connections.

Attorney Talarico offered that Council should consider that there are a significant amount of matters that are very large and important to the Community College that will need to be addressed initially and should consider what legal and financial services that the Community College is going to need to assist them with helping them make their decisions in moving forward.

Chairman concurred and offered that Attorney Talarico and CPA Joe Maloney could be acting in this respect until the end of the year.

Mrs. Rennie voiced that she would like to investigate the money guaranteed from the Erie Community Foundation and what that money will cover.

Vice-Chairman Anderson voiced that any money put aside would be budgeted for the Community College. He stated money from the Foundation or other sources that is money intended for the Community College; whereas money from ECGRA or the General Fund Budget. He stated that if the Council Solicitor and Financial Advisor are working for the Board, then somehow that money would have to come from Council to the Community College as a budget item, and then would come out of their line items.

Mrs. Schauerman concurred with both Mrs. Rennie and Mr. Anderson.

Mr. Shank agrees that these entities had promised these assets to help kick-start; his position is that he does not want it put back on the tax payers on all of the startup fees.

Mr. Rastetter voiced it is necessary to talk to the Foundation and see what their intentions were. He stated he was unaware of tapping into Gaming Money.

Questioning where the State money is.

Mrs. Clear voiced that her preference would be to see if the Erie Community Foundation would provide an outline of what that money is set aside for in detail. She states she is not opposed to using Gaming Money because it is for an investment in the community.

CPA Maloney voiced that a budget needs to be put in place, approach the people who are funding it, including the Gaming Money, and find out when the state money will come in.

Mr. Anderson moved to adjourn, Seconded by Mr. Shank at 04:23 PM.

**The next regularly
scheduled meeting of Erie
County Council will be
September 8, 2020 at**

4:00pm, with Caucus beginning at 3:30pm. The Erie County Finance Committee and Personnel Committee will meet Thursday, September 3, 2020 at 4:00pm. Meeting agendas and zoom conference information will be located at eriecountypa.gov.