

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, September 22, 2020

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Mrs. Clear honored Ruth Bader Ginsberg - "To make life a little better for people less fortunate than you, that's what I think a meaningful life is. One lives not just for oneself but for one's community."

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

September 8, 2020 - Regular Meeting

Brian Shank moved to approve the minutes from the September 8, 2020 Regular Meeting. This was seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

REPORTS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS

County Executive and/or her Designee

No report provided.

Finance Committee -Mrs. Clear	<p>Finance Committee met September 17, 2020, and submit to the agenda Old Business item A, and New Business items A through K.</p> <p>Mrs. Clear reported on the CARES Act funding. Received a brief summary of actions in place: Erie County Small Business Grant Program (closed) - 249 applications, requests exceeding \$5 million; Non-profit Assistant Grant Program (closed) - 107 applications, requests currently exceeding \$4.5 million; Municipal Reimbursement Program (open) - 5 requests, \$230K; PPE Small Business Program - 67 applications (open). Additional windows will be open for Small Business and non-profit in October.</p>
Personnel Committee - Mrs. Rennie	<p>Personnel Committee met September 18, 2020, and submit to the agenda New Business items D, N, M & O.</p>
Other	<p>Mr. Anderson reported that the Election Board met on September 17, 2020. Purpose of the meeting was to conduct regular business as well as ongoing business that is important to the process, discuss campaigns, and all voters interested in democracy. Election to be conducted in a in a fair, consistent and accessible manner. The State Supreme Court ruled that Green Party candidate would be removed from the ballot across Pennsylvania. Drop box was re-affirmed by a valid process to confirm election, as ruled by the Supreme Court. Postmark date was extended to 3 days after the November 3rd Election Day; mail-in ballots must be post marked by November 3rd and received no later than 3 days after (November 6th). All drop boxes will be closed at 8pm on election night. Additional time has not been added to pre-canvassing time; the Election Board had sent a Resolution to the State encouraging them. At the next Election Board Meeting the pre-canvassing process will be discussed for further consistency needs. Currently working on ensuring all voting sites are secure; perception of violence and intimidation at the polls. Safety of the public, staff, and poll workers is a priority; currently working with the Sheriff's Department. Mr. Anderson thanked the staff of Erie County Council (Doug Smith, Nicole Inan, & Jill Pennsy) for their commitment to the community and work done on behalf of the Board.</p>
Citations: Thelma Berry (Chairman Horton) Reverend Allen B. Green (Chairman Horton)	<p>Chairman Horton honored the family of Thelma Berry with a citation in her memory. Mr. Smith read the citation in full:</p> <p>Mrs. Thelma Berry (1920-2020) WHEREAS, Thelma Berry passed from this world on September 5, 2020 at the</p>

Charles H. Campagne, Jr. (Vice-Chairman Anderson) age of 99 years. Thelma was born September 25, 1920, to the late Elphonso and Nancy Morton Matthews; and

Vitus Jerome Kaiser (Vice-Chairman Anderson) WHEREAS, Thelma was a gift of light in times of trouble; she served as a foster mother with Sheltering Arms, in which over an eighteen-year period, Thelma raised and loved 33 babies – from birth until they were one year of age; and WHEREAS, Thelma was passionate in her pursuit of furthering her education and those of the many students whose lives she touched as a devoted educator. Thelma attended Girls High School and Brooklyn High School, majored in Practical Nursing, worked for 17 years as a Paraprofessional in the New York City Public School System, obtained a Bachelor’s of Arts in Special Education, and went on to work as a Special Education Teacher until her retirement at the age of 70; and

WHEREAS, Thelma’s smile was always warm and welcoming as she greeted her community and those she held dear. Her faith as a member of Berean Baptist Church and later at Shiloh Baptist Church shone through as she epitomized hope and strength; and

WHEREAS, in addition to her parents, he was preceded in death by her husband of 60 years, James T. Berry; her brother, Elphonso Matthews Jr. (Wyoma); and sisters, Ernestine Goins (Jeff), Viola Toler (Henry), and Ellen Brown (George). Thelma is survived by her daughter, Brenda McWilliams (Namon); her granddaughters, Michelle Butler (Thomas), Denise Meredith and Christine Debnam (Darrell); eight great-grandchildren, Chantel Lee, Brianna Bush, Branden Butler, Maya Bush, Lauryn Butler, Nadre Digbohous, Jayden Debnam, and Christian Debnam; her Goddaughter, Kay Scott; and many other close family and friends.

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Mrs. Thelma Berry, a woman dedicated to bringing joy to her family, friends, and all she encountered. May she rest in peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 22nd day of September, 2020.

The daughter of Mrs. Berry thanked Council for the recognition of her mother.

Chairman Horton asked that the citation of Reverend Green be submitted to the record:

Rev. Allen B. Green (1939 - 2020)

WHEREAS, Reverend Allen Burnett Green passed peacefully from this world on August 29, 2020, at the age of 81 years; born in Jefferson, Texas to Allen Green & Frankie Mae Hunter; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Green attended the Public (Negro, Segregated) Schools of Marion County, graduating as Valedictorian. At age 17, he entered the United

States Army and rose through the ranks, from Private to Major until his retirement in 1977, after 21 years in uniform. His military schooling includes the famed noncommissioned Officers' Academy of Bad Tolz, Germany (graduating in the top 10% of his class); Officer Candidate School in Fort Sill, Oklahoma graduating in the top 3%), and the Allied Officers' Advanced School in Fort Sill, Oklahoma which included officers from every free nation; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Green had an impressive academic career. He attended the University of Maryland, European Branch at Baumholder; Germany Cameron University in Lawton, Oklahoma; Alaska Methodist University in Anchorage, Alaska; and completed graduate studies at Canisius in Buffalo, New York. He graduated with honors from Southwestern University and holds a Bachelor of Arts, and was awarded two honorary doctorates; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Green preached his trial sermon in Idar-Oberstein, Germany, in April 1963. He was awarded his preacher's license in 1966 by the late Reverend J. Lee Davenport, a then pastor of the St. John Baptist Church in Lawton, Oklahoma. He was ordained by the New Hope Association in 1969, and since had served as senior pastor of four (4) Churches, Mount Olive Baptist, Wynnewood, Oklahoma; Corinthian Baptist, Fairbanks, Alaska; Second Baptist Church, Lackawanna, New York and retired after 37 years as senior pastor of the Second Baptist Church in Erie, Pennsylvania where he dedicated much of his life preaching the gospel; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Green was on the faculties of two state congresses, was a guest speaker/lecturer in four state congresses, and preached on every level in the Baptist Churches, from local to national. Since 1988 he has written for the National Baptist Sunday School Publishing Board and has authored literature for: The Baptist Layman, Adult Class, Senior Class, Junior Class, Intermediate Class, and The Pathfinder. In 1996, he was sole writer of the Townsend Press Commentary; coauthoring Commentaries: 2000-2001, 2001-2002, 2002-2003, and 2003-2004; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Green lived an honorable, virtuous, devout life, and has touched the lives of so many internationally. In addition to his parents, he is preceded in death by daughter, Marilyn Green Stewart-Marshall; great-grandson, Lorynzo Maurice Green; brothers, Gerald Ray Green, Raymond Earl Green, Ernest Wilson Green, Lenard Vaughn Jeffery; sister, Annie L. Jackson; aunt, Dorothy Hargrow; uncle, and William Jeffery Hunter. He leaves his cherished wife of 60 years, Pauline Waites Green; children, Jerome Green (Rosie), Karen Green & Dorian Green all of Erie, PA.; grandchildren, Fatima, Creighton, Lydia, Allen (Samantha), Rebecca (Kapil), Belinda, Quinton, Dominique, Brittany & Jaquan; great-grandchildren, Olivia, Jaysen, Arika, Nena, Zara, Serenity & Josiah; sisters, Glenda Green-Ervin (C.D.), Patricia Johnson (Luther); aunt, Lois Edna Hunter and many nieces, nephews, cousins and friends.

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Reverend Allen B. Green, a man who

believed in and fought for his country, embraced hope and faith in fellow mankind, and led a righteous life sharing his passions with the world. With great respect, we offer sympathies. May he rest in peace.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 22nd day of September, 2020.

Councilman Anderson asked that the citations of Charles Campagne, Jr & Vitus Kaiser be submitted to the record:

Mr. Charles H. Campagne, Jr. (1939 - 2020)

WHEREAS, Charles “Chuck” Campagne, Jr. passed from this world on September 11, 2020, at the age of 81 years; raised Erie, Pennsylvania by the late Charles and Julia (Patsy) Campagne; and

WHEREAS, Chuck graduated in 1957 from Academy High School, afterwards graduating from Gannon University. Chuck was a proud supporter of Gannon, was recognized for his fundraising and emphasis on helping student athletes, and held floor seats for 45 years to Gannon basketball games; and

WHEREAS, Chuck was a visionary, leading the staffing and recruiting industry. As a self-made prominent businessman, he was no stranger to hard work. As the former owner of Career Concepts Staffing Services his focus was that of strengthening the Erie community and growing the local economy; and

WHEREAS, Chuck, took pride in his Italian heritage, holding “Little Italy, Erie” close in his heart. Chucks humility and generosity preceded him, a true champion for those in need. His passion for golf, poker, and support of local athletics were second nature; and

WHEREAS, Chuck lived a joyful life, touched the lives of many with his smile and warm personality; will be greatly missed by his wife Nancy (Benes) Campagne; his children, Lisa (Campagne) Winschel and husband Tom; Kimberly Campagne; Laura (Campagne) Gregoritis, and Charles Campagne III. He is the grandfather of Anthony "Ziggy" Winschel, Carla Winschel, Alexandria Campagne, Marissa Campagne and Meghan Campagne. Besides his parents, he was preceded in death by his baby sister, Laura Jean Campagne and a son, Paul Campagne.

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Charles Campagne, Jr., a man whose wit, friendship, and gracious nature reached his family, friends, and community unparalleled. 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 22nd day of September, 2020.

Mr. Vitus Jerome Kaiser (1929 - 2020)

WHEREAS, Vitus Jerome “VJ” Kaiser passed peacefully from this world on September 9, 2020, at the age of 91 years; born in Erie, Pennsylvania to the late

Marjorie and John Kaiser; and

WHEREAS, VJ graduated from Cathedral Preparatory School, afterwards attending North Carolina State University where he earned a degree in Physical Education. Following college, VJ served in the United States Army. His adoration for Erie drew him back to the city as he found work at Erie Forge and Steel; and

WHEREAS, the passion that VJ held for Art, especially landscape painting, led him into mentorship under renowned artist Joe Plavcan. In 1970, VJ succeeded his mentor as the Art teacher at Technical Memorial High School. His commitment to the arts and to his students shone bright, earning him the Erie School District honor of Teacher of the Year” in 1984; and

WHEREAS, VJ was active in many artisan organizations, including: Member of the Pennsylvania Water Color Society, the Northwestern Pennsylvania Artist Association, the Erie Art Museum. Among his recognitions included: being listed as “Who’s Who in American Art,” the “International Who’s Who in American Art,” the “International Who’s Who in Art and Antiques,” Gannon University’s “Distinguished Pennsylvanians” award, and being honored as an inductee to Cathedral Prep’s Headmaster’s Hall of Fame (President’s Leadership Council);” and

WHEREAS, VJ lived a joyful life, believed in the goodness in all, and lived by the adage “Always doing and giving your best is its own reward.” VJ was preceded in his death by his wife Mary Ann Humm Kaiser and survived by his nine children and their partners: Mary Beth (Bob Koda), Ann Brehm (Chuck), Karen Phillips (Jim), Michael (Sherrie), Peter (Chris), Ellen Marchione (Greg), Vitus "VJ" (Brenda), Jennifer, and Stephen. He is survived by his grandchildren: Matilda, Zachary, Samuel, Olivia, Cobalt, Erie, Summer, Peter "PJ," Benjamin, Nicholas, Timothy, Matthew, Samantha, Vitus, Emma, Sarah, Lynn, Grace, Katherine, Annie and 12 great-grandchildren. He is also survived by a brother Gerald "Jerry" Kaiser and a sister Anne Kaiser Bolash, and a large extended family.

NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council join in celebrating the life of Vitus Jerome Kaiser, a man who believed there was no better place to live than Erie, Pennsylvania and shared his passion with the world. With great respect, we offer sympathies. May he rest in peace. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 22nd day of September, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS

Second Reading of Ordinance Number 57, 2020 "Second 2020 CARES Fund Budget Supplemental

Mr. Smith gave a Second Reading of Ordinance Number 57, 2020 "Second 2020 CARES Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of a \$500,000 Grant for VisitErie Recovery Marketing Plan". Motioned by Mr. Anderson and Seconded by Mr. Shank.

Appropriation of a \$500,000 Grant for VisitErie Recovery Marketing Plan" (Finance Committee)

Chairman Horton expressed that given the circumstances with a pandemic, money for advertising to recruit more individuals to come to the area is not responsible. He would rather help the small businesses that exist. Currently too much money in the ask, but would be willing to give the back money.

Councilman Rastetter voiced that advertising is a nonperson/ virtual sales pitch. As a business owner, he feels that advertising is a dubious product, no way to measure results. Gambling with tax payer money. No guarantee for results, and no recourse for the buyer. Tourism is down because people are being cautious, not because of advertising. How can we invite tourists, but limit gatherings, sports, spectators, weddings, etc.; naming this as a double-standard. Virtual or drive-thru fundraisers. Most advertising for County events is rare. Formal normal for whole counties rare and meant for private enterprise.

Councilman Anderson- Applauds the ability of Council to stand by their positions.

Carried in a 4 - 3 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Mrs. Clear moved to Amend the Agenda to had items A, B, C, & D to a second reading, Second by Mr. Anderson; passed 7-0.

Chairman Horton advised that he will be abstaining on letter K as the property borders his property and he has made bid.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 62, 2020 "Third 2020 Cares Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000 for Preferential Grants to Erie County Volunteer Fire Departments" (Finance Committee)

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 62, 2020 "Third 2020 Cares Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000 for Preferential Grants to Erie County Volunteer Fire Departments" Moved by Mr. Anderson, Seconded by Mr. Shank.

Mrs. Clear moved to Amend the Ordinance to change the title and the verbiage in the Ordinance as "The 2020 Cares Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$500,000 to the nonprofit line item with preferential grants to be considered for the Erie County Volunteer Fire Departments." Seconded by Mr. Anderson. Passed 7-0.

Ordinance, as amended passes 7-0.

First Reading of Ordinance Number 63, 2020, "Second

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 63, 2020, "Second 2020 Mental Health/ Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget Supplemental

- 2020 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$1,262,387 for the Receipt of the Additional Revenue for Calendar Year 2020" (Finance Committee)** Appropriation of \$1,262,387 for the Receipt of the Additional Revenue for Calendar Year 2020" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 64, 2020 "Waiver of Purchasing Code for Procurement of Urinalysis Machine by Juvenile Probation" (Finance Committee)** Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 64, 2020 "Waiver of Purchasing Code for Procurement of Urinalysis Machine by Juvenile Probation" This was moved by Ellen Schauerma, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.
- First Reading of Ordinance Number 65, 2020 "2020 Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance First Assistant Public Defender" (Personnel Committee)** Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 65, 2020 "2020 Appointed Official's Salary Ordinance First Assistant Public Defender" This was moved by Mary Rennie, seconded by Ellen Schauerma and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.
- Resolution Number 44, 2020, " Approving the Erie County Emergency Operations Plan" (Finance Committee)** Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 44, 2020, " Approving the Erie County Emergency Operations Plan" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.
- Resolution Number 45, 2020 "Approving Three-Year Courthouse Cafe Agreement between the County of Erie and Lisa Heidelberg" (Finance Committee)** Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 45, 2020 "Approving Three-Year Courthouse Cafe Agreement between the County of Erie and Lisa Heidelberg" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.
- Resolution Number 46, 2020 "A Resolution Extending the Term of Exemptions, Deductions, Privilege Taxes within a Specific Geographic Area in Erie County Designated as** Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 46, 2020 "A Resolution Extending the Term of Exemptions, Deductions, Abatements and Credits for Real Property, Earned Income Tax, Net Profits Mercantile, and Business Privilege Taxes within a Specific Geographic Area in Erie County Designated as

Abatements and Credits for Real Property, Earned Income Tax, Net Profits Mercantile, and Business Privilege Taxes within a Specific Geographic Area in Erie County Designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone (KOIZ) in Order to Foster Economic Opportunities, Stimulate Industrial, Commercial, and Residential Improvements and Prevent Physical and Infrastructure Deterioration within Areas of the City of Erie, Erie County Pennsylvania, Upon Certain Terms & Conditions-Twelfth Street Realty/ McInnis Rolled Rings" (Finance Committee)

a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone (KOIZ) in Order to Foster Economic Opportunities, Stimulate Industrial, Commercial, and Residential Improvements and Prevent Physical and Infrastructure Deterioration within Areas of the City of Erie, Erie County Pennsylvania, Upon Certain Terms & Conditions-Twelfth Street Realty/ McInnis Rolled Rings." This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Resolution Number 47, 2020 "A Resolution Extending the Term of Exemptions, Deductions, Abatements and Credits for Real Property, Earned Income Tax, Net Profits Mercantile, and Business Privilege Taxes within a Specific Geographic Area in Erie County Designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone (KOIZ) in Order to Foster Economic Opportunities,

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 47, 2020 "A Resolution Extending the Term of Exemptions, Deductions, Abatements and Credits for Real Property, Earned Income Tax, Net Profits Mercantile, and Business Privilege Taxes within a Specific Geographic Area in Erie County Designated as a Keystone Opportunity Expansion Zone (KOEZ) or Keystone Opportunity Improvement Zone (KOIZ) in Order to Foster Economic Opportunities, Stimulate Industrial, Commercial, and Residential Improvements and Prevent Physical and Infrastructure Deterioration within Areas of the City of Erie, Erie County Pennsylvania, Upon Certain Terms & Conditions- JASBP Property" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Ellen Schauerman and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Stimulate Industrial, Commercial, and Residential Improvements and Prevent Physical and Infrastructure Deterioration within Areas of the City of Erie, Erie County Pennsylvania, Upon Certain Terms & Conditions- JASBP Property"(Finance Committee)

Resolution Number 48, 2020 "Approving The Financial Statements And Independent Auditor's Report Of The Erie Area Council Of Governments For The Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2019" (Finance Committee)

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 48, 2020 "Approving The Financial Statements And Independent Auditor's Report Of The Erie Area Council Of Governments For The Calendar Year Ending December 31, 2019." This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Mary Rennie and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Mr. Anderson recognized Jessica Horan-Kunco and the work she does at the ECOAG; she works with all 36 areas of Erie County.

Resolution Number 49, 2020 "Resolution Approving the 2020 Community Development Block Grant- COVID 19 Application and Authorizing its Submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development" (Finance Committee)

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 49, 2020 "Resolution Approving the 2020 Community Development Block Grant- COVID 19 Application and Authorizing its Submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development" This was moved by Ellen Schauerman, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

Resolution Number 50, 2020 "Exonerating Unpaid 2019 County Taxes on Vacant Parcel #14-010-021.0-100.00 at 320/322 Reed Street, Erie Pennsylvania" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 6 - 0 vote. Chairman Horton abstaining,

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution Number 50, 2020 "Exonerating Unpaid 2019 County Taxes on Vacant Parcel #14-010-021.0-100.00 at 320/322 Reed Street, Erie Pennsylvania" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 6 - 0 vote. Chairman Horton abstaining,

**021.0-100.00 at 320/322
Reed Street, Erie
Pennsylvania" (Finance
Committee)**

memorandum submitted.

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 18-050-023.0-
102.00 (Finance
Committee)**

This was moved by Kim Clear, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Possible appointment of
Linda Dehart to a four-
year term to the Office of
Children & Youth
Advisory Board,
representing District 1
(Mrs. Clear) (Personnel
Committee)**

This was moved by Kim Clear, seconded by Carl Anderson and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Possible appointment of
Laith Wardi to the Erie
County Redevelopment
Authority to complete an
unexpired term ending
December 31, 2022;
representing Erie County
(CE Dahlkemper).
(Personnel Committee)**

This was moved by Mary Rennie, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

**Possible appointment of
Lamont Higinbottom to the
Erie County MH/ID Board
to complete an unexpired
term ending December 31,
2021; representing Erie
County (CE Dahlkemper).
(Personnel Committee)**

This was moved by Ellen Schauerman, seconded by Brian Shank and carried in a 7 - 0 vote.

ADJOURNMENT

**The next Finance and Personnel Committee Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, October 1, 2020 at 4 pm. The next Regular Meeting of Council is scheduled for 4 pm on Tuesday, October 6, 2020. Attendance will be open to the public via zoom conference until further notice. Details will be published on the County website;
www.eriecountypa.gov.**

Meeting adjourned 4:57 pm.