

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, October 20, 2020

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

OPTIONAL PRAYER OR INVOCATION

Mrs. Schauerman led the optional invocation: "There is no greater deed than the one done for others, let me always be willing to give of myself as you give to me."

ROLL CALL

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

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

HEARING OF THE PUBLIC

Freda Tepfer, Erie PA; current HRC Advisory Committee Appointed by the City of Erie. Ms. Tepfer supports a decision for the HRC to operate independently; naming the HRC as a judicial body that should not be over seen by County Council. She also encouraged Council to look for opportunities in investments that the County has in pensions, bonds or security and consider divesting from fossil fuel and toward other sustainable resource investments.

Shawnta Pullium-Brown, Chairwoman of Erie County Human Relations Commission; Discussed the need for the HRC Ordinance be considered with its original intent, allowing the HRC to function as an independent governing body. She reported that, after speaking with the state office for Human Relations, it is very uncommon for an HRC Office to not be independent, and should be totally outside of politics. The Commission has attempted to operate under the current arrangement for two years; only being met by opposition and internal conflict. Ms. Pullium-Brown was advised by Chairman Horton to redirect her personnel concerns expressed in an alternate forum. She requested that the HRC be

afforded its due process, and voiced her support for the Independence of the HRC. While County Council is appointed to make sure that the HRC is guided in the correct manner, the HRC is still an independent body.

**MINUTES FROM
PREVIOUS MEETING**

October 6, 2020 - Regular Meeting Ellen Schauerma moved to approve the minutes from the October 6, 2020 Regular Meeting. This was seconded by Carl Anderson and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

**REPORTS OF COUNTY
OFFICIALS**

County Executive and/or her Designee No report.

Finance Committee -Mrs. Clear Finance Committee Chairwoman Clear reported that the Finance Committee met on Thursday, October 15th. Finance Committee is presenting for consideration old item "A", and new business items A through W, & Y through DD.

Personnel Committee - Mrs. Rennie Personnel Committee Chairwoman Rennie reported that the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, October 15th. Personnel Committee is presenting for consideration new item "X".

Other

Citation - Corry Police Chief Rich "Buddy" Shopene Mr. Anderson asked that the citation for Chief Shopene be placed into the public record. He commented that he grew up with Chief Shopene, playing baseball together and spending time with his family. He named Shopene as an active and conscientious member of the Corry community.

Police Chief Richard "Buddy" Shopene, Serving Corry City Proudly (1990 to 2020)

WHEREAS, Chief Richard Shopene, "Buddy," began his career with the Corry Police in June of 1990, after graduating Gannon University with a degree in Criminal Justice; continued his education at Mercyhurst University's Municipal Police Training Academy; steadily rose through the ranks and promoted to Corporal in 1997, and as Lieutenant in 2002; appointed as Interim Police Chief in 2011 following the retirement of his successor, Chief Fred Corbett, and in January of 2012 Shopene was named Chief; and WHEREAS, Buddy's defining accomplishments include assistance in establishing the Bradley H. Foul

Children’s Advocacy Center of Erie County, an organization dedicated to responding to the needs of abused children, and Buddy’s 2015 co-founder ship of the Rural Erie County Domestic Violence Task Force, an organization designed to serve victims of domestic violence; and WHEREAS, Buddy’s demonstration for the true value of community is highlighted in the enhanced relationships he has fostered among local organizations, churches, sports teams, and committees during his time on the job; stating unequivocally “As police officers in the City of Corry, we’re part of the community, we want to help out in the community; “and WHEREAS, as Buddy’s passion and dedication for the welfare of citizens in Erie County is resolute, so too is his love for his wife of twenty-seven years, Maggie, and their two loving children; a native to Erie, Buddy is joined by Councilman Anderson and many others, including the “Rosedale Avenue” crew in rejoicing a fellow Erieite’s much earned successes; remembering learning invaluable lessons in art of sportsmanship from such people as Coach Bilski, Coach Ken Honard, and Coach Barry Krause. NOW THEREFORE WE THE UNDERSIGNED Members of Erie County Council, along with a grateful citizenry join together in gratitude to Buddy for thirty years of loyal commitment and service; declaring October 24, 2020 as Richard “Buddy” Shopene Day in Erie County. IN WITNESS WHEREOF, we have set our hands and the Seal of Erie County this 20th day of October, 2020.

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance Number 74, 2020 "Approving a Single Vendor Contract with Westlaw to Provide Legal Research Platform for the County Law Library" (Rec'd 1st Read 10/6/20)

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 74, 2020 "Approving a Single Vendor Contract with Westlaw to Provide Legal Research Platform for the County Law Library." This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Ordinance 78, 2020, "2020 General Fund Budget Waiver of the Purchasing Code to Transfer Ownership of 14 Year-Old Specialty Bomb Squad Vehicle to the City of Erie Police Department"

Kim Clear moved to amend the agenda by moving New Business items A, B, & C to Second Readings, and to add Resolution 54 naming October 24th, 2020 Richard "Buddy" Shopene Day in Erie County as letter "EE" on the agenda. This was seconded by Carl Anderson and carried in a 6-0 vote.

Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance 78, 2020, "2020 General Fund Budget Waiver of the Purchasing Code to Transfer Ownership of 14 Year-Old Specialty Bomb Squad Vehicle to the City of Erie Police Department" “This was moved by Ellen Schauerma, seconded by Carl Anderson and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

Ordinance Number 79, 2020 "2020 CARES Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,907,003 and New Line Items for Re-Budget of Prison Wages & Fringes for July Through September" Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 79, 2020 "2020 CARES Fund Budget Revised Expenditures of \$2,907,003 and New Line Items for Re-Budget of Prison Wages & Fringes for July Through September" This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Kim Clear and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

Ordinance Number 80, 2020, "Thirty-Second 2020 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,907,003 and New Lines for Grants to Eligible Volunteer Fire Companies and County Convention Center" Mr. Smith gave a second reading of Ordinance Number 80, 2020, "Thirty-Second 2020 General Fund Budget Supplemental Appropriation of \$2,907,003 and New Lines for Grants to Eligible Volunteer Fire Companies and County Convention Center" This was moved by Kim Clear, seconded by Carl Anderson and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

Ordinance Number 81,2020 "Repealing Ordinance No. 104, 2018 which amended Ordinance 45 of 2018, Article V, §C(3) of the Erie County Human Relations Commission; and Amending Ordinance 45 of 2018, Article V, §C(3) of the Human Relations Commission" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 81,2020 "Repealing Ordinance No. 104, 2018 which amended Ordinance 45 of 2018, Article V, §C(3) of the Erie County Human Relations Commission; and Amending Ordinance 45 of 2018, Article V, §C(3) of the Human Relations Commission"

Ordinance Number 82, 2020 "Repealing Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 82, 2020 "Repealing Ordinance No. 105, 2018, which amended Article II, §5 IV3(C)(5)of the

Ordinance No. 105, 2018, which amended Article II, §5 IV3(C)(5) of the Administrative Code and Amending Article II, §5 IV3(C)(5) of the Administrative Code of Erie County"

Ordinance Number 83, 2020 "2021 Debt Service Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 83, 2020 "2021 Debt Service Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 84, 2020 "2021 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 84, 2020 "2021 Employee Fringe Benefit Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 85, 2020 "2021 Health Choices Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 85, 2020 "2021 Health Choices Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 86, 2020 "2021 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 86, 2020 "2021 Mental Health/Intellectual Disabilities Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 87, 2020 "2021 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 87, 2020 "2021 Drug and Alcohol Abuse Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 88, 2020 "2021 Children and Youth Services Fund" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 88, 2020 "2021 Children and Youth Services Fund"

Budget"

**Ordinance Number 89,
2020 "2021 Planning and
Community Development
Fund Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 89, 2020 "2021 Planning and Community Development Fund Budget"

**Ordinance Number 90,
2020 "2021 Domestic
Relations Fund Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 90, 2020 "2021 Domestic Relations Fund Budget"

**Ordinance Number 91,
2020 "2021 Library Fund
Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 91, 2020 "2021 Library Fund Budget"

**Ordinance Number 92,
2020 "2021 Public Health
Fund Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 92, 2020 "2021 Public Health Fund Budget"

**Ordinance Number 93,
2020 "2021 Public Safety
Fund Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 93, 2020 "2021 Public Safety Fund Budget"

**Ordinance Number 94,
2020 "2021 Gaming Fund
Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 94, 2020 "2021 Gaming Fund Budget"

**Ordinance Number 95,
2020 "2021 Liquid Fuels
Fund Budget"**

Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 95, 2020 "2021 Liquid Fuels Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 96, 2020 "2021 Pleasant Ridge Manor Operating Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 96, 2020 "2021 Pleasant Ridge Manor Operating Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 97, 2020 "2021 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Reserve Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 97, 2020 "2021 Pleasant Ridge Manor Depreciation Reserve Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 98, 2020 "2021 Erie County Care Management Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 98, 2020 "2021 Erie County Care Management Budget"

Ordinance Number 99, 2020 "2021 General Fund Budget" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 99, 2020 "2021 General Fund Budget"

Ordinance Number 100, 2020 "2021 Real Estate Tax Levy" Mr. Smith gave a first reading of Ordinance Number 100, 2020 "2021 Real Estate Tax Levy"

Possible Appointment of Jeff Pinski of Fairview Township to serve a four-year term on the Erie County Human Relations Commission from October 15, 2020 to October 2024 Representing District 7. (Mrs. Schauerman) Mrs. Schauerman stated that Mr. Pinski came highly recommended and has a long history in dedicating time to Erie County. This was moved by Ellen Schauerman, seconded by Carl Anderson and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

Possible Sale of a Parcel from the Repository for Unsold Property at Index Number: 15-020-013.0-105.00 Mr. Anderson moved to make items Y through DD one motion; seconded by Mrs. Clear, and passed 6-0. Chairman Horton noted that this motion handled the vote to pass as well.

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-018.0-
137.00**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 18-050-036.0-
102.00**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 15-020-013.0-
102.00**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 14-010-019.0-
123.00**

**Possible Sale of a Parcel
from the Repository for
Unsold Property at Index
Number: 18-050-006.0-
214.00**

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Smith gave a reading of Resolution 54, 2020 "Declaring October 24, 2020 Buddy Shopene Day in Erie County"
WHEREAS, Chief Richard “Buddy” Shopene is retiring after serving the Corry Police Department for 30 years; and
WHEREAS, Chief Shopene worked his way up through the ranks serving as a Corporal, and a Lieutenant before becoming Chief in 2012;and
WHEREAS, Chief Richard Buddy Shopene has committed himself to serving citizens, creating warm lasting relationships between the Corry Police Department and church and civic organizations throughout the city; earning the unending respect of the people he has served.
NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, by the County Council, for the County of Erie that October 24, 2020 is hereby declared Richard “Buddy”

Shopene Day in Erie County.

This was moved by Carl Anderson, seconded by Scott Rastetter and carried in a 6 - 0 vote.

Mr. Anderson reiterated his prior sentiments about Chief Shopene, stating that all of Erie has been blessed to have him as an active member of the entire County.

Chairman Horton adjourned the Regular Meeting of County Council at 4:33pm.

**The next Finance and Personnel Committee Meetings are scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2020 at 4 pm. The next Regular Meeting of Council is scheduled for 4 pm on Tuesday, November 10, 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.**