

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 13, 2011

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
July 13, 2011
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time in the 6th floor Conference Room of City Hall, located at One South Third Street, Easton, Pa. to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body, and to present a public presentation regarding a Sustainable Communities Grant. .

The invocation was given by Dr. Ruggles followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto (7)
Absent: None (0)

Also in attendance were Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor, Beth Knickerbocker, Assistant City Solicitor and W. Glenn Steckman, City Administrator. There were fifteen other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren the agenda was approved by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Warner, Vulcano, Ruggles, Fleck, Brown (7)
Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Fleck the June 22, 2011 Council Meeting minutes were approved as submitted by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto, (7)
Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)

There were no questions asked or comments made by the audience.

PUBLIC PRESENTATION
Sustainable Communications Grant

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.

July 13, 2011

Mayor Panto introduced Ms. Holly Edinger, from the Lehigh Valley Economic Development Corporation (LVEDC).

Ms. Edinger distributed a handout, (see attachment) entitled “Partnership for Sustainable Communities: An Interagency Partnership of HUD, DOT, & EPA” and “a 2010 Lehigh Valley Sustainability Communities Grant Applicant Abstract” and went over the handout, and how this program affects the Lehigh Valley and the City of Easton.

Council members made comments and asked questions regarding the need for more material so that they could help and become involved, a request for a copy of last year’s grant application, what LVEDC’s successes were, the transportation aspects of the grant, and Mayor Panto thanked Ms. Edinger for appearing at the meeting, for her work towards this goal, and thanked LVEDC for their work and help efforts for the City.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following report was received by Council.

- (a) Monthly Fire Report for June 2011.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Finance Committee reported that the Finance Committee meeting had met on July 12th and had discussed the proposed Intermodal Transportation Facility, and the Neighborhood or the Business Improvement District. He also spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting.

Mayor Panto spoke regarding amendments, that he would be introducing, to the proposed Resolution for reallocation of 2011 Community Development Block Grant funds.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairman of the Planning Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting.

Mr. Warren, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, and also reported that the Farmer’s Market would not be accepting any further vendor applications, because there was no more room for any new vendors.

Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Public Works Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, and reported that the Public Works Committee along with the Finance Committee would meet on July 23, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.

July 13, 2011

Dr. Warner said that she would like to form a committee to look into the possibility of establishing a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) Program in the City and said that she would meet with Mr. Steckman to speak about this matter.

Mr. Fleck, Chairman of the Administration Committee thanked all persons involved in a very successful Heritage Day celebration, suggested that the City look into prohibiting smoking from Special Events where children are in attendance, and responded to comments that the Chrin Landfill Attorney made in the newspapers.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor, had no report.

Ms. Knickerbocker, Assistant Solicitor, had no report.

Mayor Panto reported that he had attended a Heritage Day Committee meeting, earlier in the day, said that the celebration was a success, that there was increased attendance, that there was increased volunteer participation, and thanked all City employees for their participation and work.

Council members thanked Sandy O'Brien-Werner for her assistance with the Civil War Roadshow, said that they were impressed by all of the local vendors, spoke regarding the ecumenical service and the music that accompanied the Fire Works display.

Council also discussed the 10th Anniversary of 9-11 and the Mayor reported that Jamie Hartranft was working on something that the City would do to commemorate that date.

Mayor Panto reported that his Youth Summer Camp would take place the week of July 25th and related what the students would be doing.

Mr. Steckman reported that the Health Care Audit had been completed and reported the results.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No. 23, Approving a Five (5) Year Agreement of Lease between the City of Easton and Service Electric Cable TV., Inc. was moved by Mr. Brown.

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mr. Fleck, Bill 23 was amended by amending Section 1 to read as follows, by the following vote:

“Council of the City of Easton, Pa., has reviewed and approves a Five (5) Year Agreement of Lease, copy attached hereto, between the City of Easton and Service Electric Cable TV. Inc. at an initial annual rate of Five-Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) per year.

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Warner, Vulcano, Ruggles, Fleck, Brown (7)

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 13, 2011

Amended Bill No. 23, (Ordinance 5322), Approving a Five (5) Year Agreement of Lease between the City of Easton and Service Electric Cable TV Inc., was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto (7)
Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5322 approved a Five Year Agreement of Lease with Service Electric.

CORRESPONDENCE

Council received the following correspondence:

(a) Palmer and Company, City Workers Compensation Self Insurance Trust Fund Financial Statements, December 31, 2010 and 2009.

NEW BUSINESS

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a three year Contract with Mullin and Lonergan to perform Community Consultancy duties.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

87-2011

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

Yeas: Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown (7)
Nays: None

A June 27, 2011 memorandum regarding a 2011 JAG Grant was received from Chief Lawrence Palmer.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an Intermunicipal Agreement between the City of Bethlehem, the County of Northampton and the City of Easton for the 2011 Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Warren:

88-2011

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 13, 2011

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Mr. Warren and Mr. Brown by the following vote:

Yeas: Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown, Fleck (7)
Nays: None (0)

A June 9, 2011 memorandum, regarding CDBG was received from Gretchen Longenbach, Director of Economic Development.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve the reallocation of CDBG funds for 2011.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

89-2011

On motion of Mayor Panto and Mr. Fleck the above resolution was amended by changing the following fund allocations, by the following vote:

<u>Nomenclature</u>	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>
Police – Crime awareness	\$55,551	\$45,551
Road Construction	\$141,074	\$130,056
Code Enforcement	\$178,382	\$200,000

Yeas: Ruggles, Fleck, Brown, Panto, Warren, Warner, Vulcano (7)
Nays: None

On motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Dr. Ruggles the above amended Resolution was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown, Fleck, Ruggles (7)
Nays: None (0)

An undated letter, regarding a Mutual Aid Agreement was received from Chief Louis LaFord Jr. of the Lopatcong Township Fire Department.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution that would approve a Mutual Aid Agreement and Box Alarm request, between the City of Easton Fire Department and the Lopatcong Township Fire Department.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Warren:

90-2011

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 13, 2011

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Mr. Warren and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano (7)
Nays: None (0)

A July 5, 2011, memorandum, regarding a Certified Local Government Grant was received from Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution to approve a Contract with the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission Contract No. 61104.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

91-2011

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

Yeas: Warren, Panto, Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner (7)
Nays: None (0)

A July 6, 2011 memorandum, regarding a Cottingham School Contract, DCED Community Revitalization Grant was received from Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Contract between the City and Steven Glickman, Architecture to perform services outlined in the Cottingham School Site Evaluation and Feasibility Study contract.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

92-2011

Mayor Panto asked why the City was doing all of this and why the School District wasn't. Ms. Bradley explained why, and said that Mr. Glickman was also volunteering many of his man hours to this project.

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren (6)
Nays: None (0)

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 13, 2011

A July 6, 2011 e-mail, regarding a request to approve a contract with Pennoni Associates was received from Becky Bradley.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a contract with Pennoni Associates, Inc. for alternate engineering and sewer enforcement officer services through July 13, 2013.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

93-2011

Mr. Fleck said that he would be voting no for this Resolution because he would have wanted to see more than one response to the City's requests for proposals.

Dr. Ruggles spoke regarding the requests for proposals, and regarding Pennoni Associates.

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto (7)

Nays: None (0)

A July 7, 2011 memorandum, dated July 7, 2011, regarding the Glendon Hill Road Bridge Rehabilitation Project was received from Joseph Mauro, City Engineer.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an Agreement with Nyleve Bridge Corp. for the construction of the improvements for the Glendon Hill Road Bridge Rehabilitation Project.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

94-2011

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Fleck by the following vote:

Yeas: Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto, Brown (7)

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Ross McLennan, Edward Dery, and Christopher Merritt, from Lehigh Valley Whitewater, Inc.

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 13, 2011

spoke to Council regarding in assisting the City of Easton with the development of a world-class Olympic caliber whitewater course on the Lehigh River in the Easton Area.

Council members made comments and asked questions regarding this proposal for the project, and said that they would review the proposal.

Kurt Ehly, 305 W. Monroe Street asked questions regarding relocation of the proposed course to the 611 side of the Lehigh River, thanked Council for approving the contract with Mr. Glickman, and furnished Council with an update on the School Administration Building Ad Hoc Committee.

Mr. Fleck directed the City Clerk to formulate a Thank-You letter to Steven Glickman for volunteering a lot of his time for the School Administration Building Study.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:29 p.m. on the motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Brown by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Warner, Vulcano, Ruggles, Fleck, Brown (7)

Nays: None (0)

Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk