

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
July 14, 2010

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
July 14, 2010
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session in Council Chambers, Rm 514, Fifth Floor of City Hall, to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body.

The invocation was given by Mr. Brown followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Kenneth Brown
 Roger Ruggles
 Sandra Vulcano
 Jeffrey Warren
 Salvatore J. Panto, Jr. (5)
Absent: Michael Fleck
 Elinor Warner (2)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Yeas: Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto (5)
Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Mr. Warren the June 23, 2010 City Council meeting minutes were approved, as submitted by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto (5)
Nays: None (0)

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RESOLUTIONS – DEATH OF ROBERT NENOW AND RICHARD SANDT

The next two items on the Agenda were two proposed Resolutions recognizing the deaths of Robert Nenow and Richard Sandt.

The following Resolution was introduced by Salvatore J. Panto Jr.

144-2010

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

Yeas: Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto (5)

Nays: None (0)

Council members offered words of kindness and remembrances regarding Mr. Nenow.

Mrs. Nenow was called forward and was presented a framed Resolution, and thanked Council for the honor bestowed on her husband.

The following Resolution was introduced by Salvatore J. Panto Jr.

145-2010

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

Yeas: Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto, Brown (5)

Nays: None (0)

Council members offered words of kindness and remembrances regarding Mr. Sandt.

Mr. Sandt's family was called forward and presented with a framed Resolution.

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)

Heidi Marko, 230 Old Well Road, spoke regarding the proposed Resolution that urges the members of the Lehigh Valley delegation to the Pa. General Assembly to strongly advocate and support passage of Robin's Law and Kimberley's Law.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

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- (a) ESWA, June 14, 2010 meeting minutes and the July 6, 2010 Engineer's report.
- (b) Fire Department Monthly Report for June 2010.

Mayor Panto accepted the above reports on behalf of Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairperson of the Finance Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, and regarding the scheduled Finance Committee meeting for July 27, 2010.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairperson of Economic Development Committee, spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, reported that the Vending Cart Ordinance was still being worked on and regarding the proposed Economic Development Committee meeting scheduled for July 24, 2010.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairperson of the Planning Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, spoke regarding actions that were taken at the most recent Planning Commission meeting.

Mrs. Vulcano asked questions regard the Planning Commission's actions, which were answered by Dr. Ruggles and Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes.

Mr. Warren, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee spoke regarding legislation the would be before Council later in the meeting, spoke regarding a meeting that was held between Northampton County 911 officials and Fire Department personnel and reported that another meeting would be held on July 28, 2010 at 9:00 a.m.

Dr. Warner, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee was not in attendance.

Mr. Fleck, Chairperson of the Administration Committee was not in attendance.

Mr. Murphy and Ms. Knickerbocker, City Solicitors had no reports.

Mayor Panto reported that Heritage Days was a huge success, reported that work continues on Valley Station, reported that some bricks had fallen from the front of the Simon Silk mill and that screening had been place on the front to contain any more bricks that may come loose and fall, reported on the ground breaking ceremonies for the Larry Holmes Statue, said that the Courts ruled that municipalities could adopt Ordinances regarding the reporting of lost or stolen guns so he would be sending his proposed Ordinance back to the Public Safety Committee for review.

Council members made comments regarding the newest layout drawings for the sixth floor.

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UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No. 17, (Ordinance 5257) Amending the Miscellaneous Grant Fund was adopted on motion of Mayor Panto and Mr. Brown by the following vote:

Yeas: Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto, Brown (5)

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5257 amends the Miscellaneous Grant Fund by increasing revenue and expenditures by \$300,000.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received by Council.

- (a) Mayor Panto, Executive Order allowing licensed hot dog vendors to operate extended hours.
- (b) Members of the Easton Fire Department, letter regarding Northampton County 911 Center/Easton Fire Department Safety Issues.

NEW BUSINESS

A July 7, 2010 memorandum regarding City Council Agenda items was received from David Hopkins, Director of Public Works, and a July 7, 2010, e-mail, regarding Sigal's Bus Loading and an Unloading zone in the 300 block of Pine Street was received from Officer Dominick Marraccini.

Bill 18, Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton was introduced by Jeffrey Warren and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would create a No Parking Loading zone and a No Standing Any Time zone on the North side of the 400 block of Northampton Street, and a Bus Loading and Unloading zone on the North side of the 300 block of Pine Street.

Bill No. 19, Amending Sections in Chapter C., Home Rule Charter of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

This bill would amend sections C2.05, C2.11 B, C2.12 F, C2.13 C, C2.14, C6.02 A and C6.04 E.

Council members and Mr. Steckman made comments and asked questions regarding the proposed amendments.

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The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the disposition of Past Community Development Block Grant Program Files and Public Records Request Forms in the City Clerk's office.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

146-2010

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

Yeas: Vulcano, Warren, Panto, Brown, Ruggles (5)
Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would urge the members of the Lehigh Valley delegation to the Pennsylvania General Assembly to strongly advocate and support passage of Robin's and Kimberlee's Laws

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Warren:

147-2010

On motion of Mr. Warren and Mrs. Vulcano the above Resolution was amended by adding the following to the last section of the Resolution by the following vote:

“and request that each Lehigh Valley delegation member provide this Council their vote on each of these bills”.

Yeas: Warren, Panto, Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano (5)
Nays: None (0)

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

Yeas: Vulcano, Ruggles, Brown, Panto, Warren (5)
Nays: None (0)

A July 7, 2010 memorandum regarding a request to accept funds was received from Laura Accetta, Easton Weed and Seed Site Coordinator.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the City to accept a check from the Citizens Crime Commission of Delaware VA.

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The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

148-2010

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

Yeas: Warren, Panto, Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano (5)

Nays: None (0)

A July 7, 2010 memorandum, regarding Trail Land Acquisition was received from Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

149-2010

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

Yeas: Panto, Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren (5)

Nay: None (0)

A July 9, 2010 memorandum regarding a Resolution to Approve an Application for a TIGER II Grant was received from Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an application for a TIGER II Grant.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

150-2010

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

Yeas: Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto (5)

Nays: None (0)

A July 12, 2010 memorandum, regarding a modification to the lease for the Fifth floor was received from Glenn Steckman, City Administrator.

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The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Modified Three Year Three Month Office Building Lease Agreement with EPS Financial for the fifth floor of the Alpha Building.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

151-2010

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

Yeas: Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto (5)
Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution that would approve the purchase of property from Norfolk Southern Railway Corporation.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

152-2010

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

Yeas: Vulcano, Warren, Panto, Brown, Ruggles (5)
Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Heidi Markow, thanked Council for their time and vote for the Resolution regarding Kimberlee's and Robin's Laws.

Salvatore Pugliese, 2225 Hackett Avenue, spoke regarding a property and traffic problem he has been experiencing with Easton Auto Body.

Council members made comments regarding the American Flag on top of City Hall and regarding Hot Dog vendors in Centre Square.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m. on motion of Mr. Warren and Mr. Brown by the following vote:

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

Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk