

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

May 14, 2014

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
May 14, 2014
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers, located on the 6th floor of City Hall, One South Third Street, to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body and to receive a presentation on the proposed N. 3rd Street bridge repair.

The invocation was given by the Mayor Panto followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mrs. Vulcano the Agenda was approved, as submitted, by the following vote:

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

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mrs. Vulcano, the April 23, 2014 Council Meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warren, Panto (6)
Nays: None (0)
Abstain: Warner (1)

RESOLUTION

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution recognizing the death of a former City employee, Edward K. Joseph.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 14, 2014

51-2014

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

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

Nays: None (0)

Mr. Joseph's daughters came forward and were presented with a framed Resolution.

All Council members spoke regarding Mr. Joseph's service to the City, his family, the local Lebanese community and to them personally.

Mr. Joseph's daughters, Rosanne Joseph and Charlene Symia, thanked Council for the honor bestowed on their father.

PRESENTATION
N. 3RD STREET BRIDGE REPAIR

Mayor Panto said that representatives from Borton Lawson; Engineering Architects were in attendance and would be giving Council and the audience a presentation regarding repairs to the N. 3rd Street Bridge.

Mr. Carl T. McGloughlin, PE, with Borton Lawson, said that the presentation would be on the North 3rd Street bridge, located between the bottom of College Avenue and Snyder Street, which is also know as Pa. State Route 2023, and runs over the Bushkill Creek, and said that they were making the presentation to seek Council's and the Public's input on this project.

Mr. McGloughlin said that the purpose of the rehabilitation of the bridge was that it is structurally deficient. He said that the bridge was build in the 1800's and has been maintained by the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, but has now reached the point where the masonry is deteriorating. He said that the bridge was not unsafe but has now reached a condition that requires rehabilitation.

Mr. McGloughlin showed the exact location of the bridge, and explained the rehabilitation process and spoke regarding exactly what would be done.

Mr. McGloughlin introduced Hylton Hobday, a representative from ASC Group, who would speak regarding any environmental issues with the project.

Mr. Hobday said that he had studied the site due to the buildup of this location and said that no other wetlands or streams were found other than the Bushkill Creek itself. He said that the site

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 14, 2014

was also checked for threatened or endangered wildlife species and no potential impacts were identified.

Mr. McGloughlin also introduced Chris Kufro, Heather Heater and Jayne McColl, all from the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation, who are also involved in the project, and said that they would answer any questions that Council or the audience may have.

Council members, the City Clerk, and David Hopkins, Director of Public Works, made comments and asked questions regarding the possibility of closing down N. 3rd Street during the project, the availability of access to the Bushkill Creek for fisherman during the project, dates that the project would be done, actual repointing of the bridge walls and the parapet and sidewalks, how excess Stormwater would be handled in case of storms, and also a request to undertake aesthetic repairs to the parapet and walls.

All questions were answered by Mr. McGloughlin.

Mr. McGloughlin said that display boards which describe and show the proposed project would be left out into the lobby of the 6th floor along with comment sheets for the public to review and to comment on.

There were no further comments or questions from Council or the audience.

PUBLIC COMMENT
(Agenda Items Only)

Mr. Pablo Escobar, 1119 Ferry Street, a representative of "Fight For Drivers License" spoke to Council regarding Driver Licenses for non-documented immigrants, and asked that Council support the passage of Pennsylvania House Bill 1648 by the passing of a Resolution, which would grant the licenses to non-documented immigrants or immigrants without appropriate documentation, and explained how this would help the government.

Desi Burnette, 411 Cypress Street, Yeadon Pennsylvania, another representative of "Fight For Drivers License", thanked Council for their possible support and read the proposed Resolution that they would like Council to adopt at the May 28, 2014 Council meeting.

There was a discussion between council members on what should be included or added to the proposed Resolution.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner the following items were adopted by the following vote:

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 14, 2014

Bill 14 (Ordinance 5461), Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map, of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. which creates a Load/Unload zone on the east side of the 100 block of North 9th St., at the first legal parking space from the intersection of Wood Avenue and North 9th Street.

Resolution 54-2014, which authorized the opening of an Interest Bearing Checking Account in the name of City of Easton, Centre Square Turn-back at Merchants Bank of Bangor.

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

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

- (a) Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority minutes for December 2013, and January and February 2014.
- (b) Monthly Fire Report for April 2014.

The Mayor accepted the above reports on behalf of council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Finance Committee, spoke regarding legislation that he would have for later in the meeting regarding authorizing and directing the incurring of non-electoral debt through the issuance of a General Obligation Bond, series of 2014 in the aggregate principal amount of \$662,444,42, and for amending the fee schedule.

Mr. Brown, said that the Chris Heagele, Finance Director, Gary Pulcini, Financial Advisor, and Attorney David Unkovic, Bond Counsel were in attendance and could address any questions regarding the refinancing of the Bond.

Mr. Heagele said that this matter had been discussed at the Finance Committee meeting, in late April, and everything remained the same that was presented at that meeting, and in the first reading of the proposed Ordinance. He explained what the purpose was of the original bond and what the funds would now be used for.

There were no questions from Council.

Mayor Panto thanked the Finance Department, Mr. Pulcini and Attorney Unkovic for their work on this transaction and at other times.

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 14, 2014

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, spoke regarding legislation that she would have for later in the meeting regarding allocation of additional CDBG funds for 2014.

There was a short discussion regarding pot holes throughout the City.

Mrs. Vulcano reminded everyone that Wells Fargo employees would be working on a property on the 600 block of Northampton Street on Saturday, May 17, 2014, and there would be a ceremony at 1:00 p.m.

Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Planning Committee, spoke regarding legislation that she would have, for later in the meeting, regarding approving the placement of a fourth Residential Handicapped Sign on the 1000 block of Lehigh Street.

Mr. Warren, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, reported that he would have a Public Safety meeting, sometime over the next month and a half, to receive updates from the Police and Fire Chiefs.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, had no report.

Mr. Edinger, Chairman of the Administration Committee had no report.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor, and Mrs. Knickerbocker had no report.

Mayor Panto spoke regarding the court case regarding Jack's Market wanting to be granted a Retail Liquor License, and said that the case had been continued until September. He said that construction on the parking garage has been delayed for a week until the crane is delivered.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill 15, (Ordinance 5462), An Ordinance authorizing and directing the incurring of non-electoral debt through the issuance of a General Obligation Bond, Series of 2014 in the aggregate principal amount of \$662,444.42 was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 14, 2014

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

NEW BUSINESS

Bill 16, Amending Sub-Section 285-19 B (1) Residential rental property registration, of Section 285-19, Rental Property, of Chapter 285, Fees, of the code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

There was a discussion on part of this bill which would establish a fee of \$125.00 for a Block Party, and it was decided that the fee would be removed from this proposed Ordinance.

Mr. Brown withdrew his introduction of the above bill which included the Block Party fee.

Bill 16 was reintroduced by Mr. Brown, without the Block Party fee and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would approve an increase in the Annual fee for residential rental units.

An April 3, 2014 memorandum regarding City Council Agenda Items was received by Council, from David Hopkins, Director of Public Works.

Bill 17, Amending Section 560-34, Snow emergency routes designated, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Dr. Ruggles and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would approve add streets as Snow Emergency routes.

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

This Bill would create No Parking zones on certain streets during certain hours and days to assist in garbage pick-up.

Before introduction the times for No Parking was amended from 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. to 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would increase amounts to projects and programs which constitute the City's Consolidated Action Plan for Fiscal Year 2014.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 14, 2014

52-2014

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

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

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Right-of-Way Encroachment Agreement between Daniel E. Cohen and Norman Seidel and the City.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

53-2014

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

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

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve the placement of a fourth Residential Handicapped Parking Sign on the 1000 block of Lehigh Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

55-2014

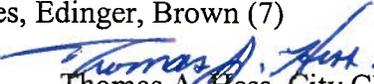
The above Resolution was adopted on motion Dr. Warner and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

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

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:15 p. m. on motion of Dr. Warner and Mrs. Vulcano by the following vote:

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


Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

Stated Session
Wednesday
May 14, 2014
6:00 P.M.

1. CALL TO ORDER
2. INVOCATION
3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
4. ROLL CALL
5. APPROVAL OF AGENDA
6. ACTION ON MINUTES – April 23, 2014 Council Meeting
7. RESOLUTION – Recognizing the death of Edward J. Joseph
8. PRESENTATION – Borton-Lawson – N. 3rd Street Bridge Repair
9. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Agenda Items Only)
10. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Bill 14, Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 2. Resolution authorizing the opening of an Interest Bearing Checking Account.
11. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
 - (a) Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority minutes for December 2013, January and February 2014.
 - (b) Monthly Fire Report for April 2014
12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
 - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
 - (c) Planning (Elinor Warner)
 - (d) Public Safety (Jeffrey Warren)
 - (e) Public Works (Roger Ruggles)
 - (f) Administration (James Edinger)
 - (g) Report of City Solicitor (Attorney William Murphy)
 - (h) Report of Mayor (Salvatore J. Panto Jr.)
13. CORRESPONDENCE
14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 1. Bill 15, Refinancing of 2011 General Obligation Note

-Over-

15. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Introduction of Legislative Bills

1. Bill 16, Amending Sub-section 285-19 B (1), Residential rental property registration, of Section 285-19, Rental Property, of Chapter 285, Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
2. Bill 17, Amending Section 560-34, Snow emergency routs designated, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
3. Bill 18, Amending the Traffic Control Map of map 560, Vehicle and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.

(b) Resolution approving an increase in 2014 CDBG allocations.

(c) Resolution Approving an Encroachment Agreement with Daniel E. Cohen and Norman Seidel.

(d) Resolution Approving the placement of a fourth Handicapped Parking Space on the 1000 block of Lehigh Street.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)

17. ADJOURNMENT