

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

June 22, 2016

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
June 22, 2016
6:18 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers, located on the 3rd floor of City Hall, 123 S. 3rd Street, Easton Pa., to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body.

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

ROLL CALL

Present: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto (6)

Absent: Ruggles (1)

Also in attendance was Rita M. Messa, Asst. City Clerk, and Wm. Murphy, City Solicitor. There were five (5) other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Melan and Mr. Brown the Agenda was amended by withdrawing Bill No. 25 by the following vote:

Mr. Melan explained why he was tabling Bill 25 because more discussion was needed and the lowering of parking violations from \$20 to \$15 would be discussed at a July 12, 2016 Public Safety Committee meeting.

Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (6)

Nays: None (0)

On motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Mr. Melan the amended Agenda was approved by the following vote:

Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (6)

Nays: None

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Edinger and Mr. O'Connell the June 8, 2016 Council Meeting minutes, as submitted, were approved by the following vote:

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Yeas: Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (6)

Nays: None (0)

PUBLIC COMMENT **AGENDA ITEMS ONLY**

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Mr. Melan the following items on the Consent Agenda were approved by the following vote:

Bill 23, (Ordinance 5557), Amending Section 560-10 B (4) of Article V: Impounding, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. This Section is amended by adding the following at the end of 560-10 B (4). "Any and all fines, penalties and costs shall be paid to the City of Easton in the form of cash, money order, certified bank check or a cashier's check. The City of Easton shall not accept any payment plans."

Bill 24, (Ordinance 5558), Amending Ordinance No. 5522, this Ordinance was amended by adding to the existing Bond Ordinance the following projects: Canal Street Retaining Wall, Hugh Moore Park Bridge Structural Steel Guiderail Improvements, Winter Equipment – Plow Assembly and Spreader for Large Dump Truck, Highway Backhoe, ADA Improvements and Hugh Moore Park Improvements.

Resolutions 95-2016 through 102-2016 approved Certificates of Appropriateness for 123 S. 3rd Street, 185 S. 3rd Street (two Certificates of Appropriateness), 5 Center Square, 404 Northampton Street, 408-410 Northampton Street, 425-429 Northampton Street, and 241 Spring Garden Street.

Resolution 103-2016 was to approve the opening of an Interest Bearing Checking Account at Merchants Bank of Bangor in the name of the City of Easton – Wood Avenue Turnback.

Yeas: Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell (6)

Nays: None (0)

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

There were no reports received by Council:

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

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Mr. Brown, Chairperson of the Finance Committee had no report.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee had no report.

Mr. O'Connell, Chairperson of the Planning and Code Committee reported that on June 21, there was a Planning Committee meeting regarding the new Comprehensive Plan. He stated that discussion included: Social Services, Neighborhoods and Emergency Services. He also stated that several members of some of the social service agencies were present to discuss how these elements could be integrated into the Comprehensive Plan.

Mr. Melan, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, had no report.

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

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor reported that prior to the meeting Council met in Executive Session and discussed Real Estate, labor negotiations and Personnel Matters.

Mayor Panto stated that he would be re-introducing legislation regarding Lost/Stolen Guns, and for banning guns in public buildings and City parks. He stated that park rules were changed so that park signs would say that there is No Discharging of weapons in the parks.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill 26, Amending Chapter 399, Parking Permits, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. was introduced by Mr. Melan and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend Chapter 399 by establishing an Article for Merchants Load and Unload permits.

Bill 27, Amending Chapter 285, Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. was introduced by Mr. Melan and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend Section 285-13, Parking Permits by establishing fees for Merchant Loan/Unload Permits.

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Bill 28, Approving a Declaration of Condominiums, a Post Closing Escrow Agreement, An Escrow Agreement and an Agreement of Sale was introduced by Mayor Panto and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would allow for the purchase of property at 48 N. 4th Street 0 N. 4th Street.

Mayor Panto asked Chief Scalzo to furnish Council with an update on the new Police Station, which he did.

Chief Scalzo stated that the agreements have been signed and that the project will move forward, upon the final vote on the agreements at the July 13, 2016 meeting.

Mayor Panto thanked Chief Scalzo, City Solicitor Murphy, Asst. City Solicitor Scheer and other legal contract counsel for their work on this project.

Council members made comments and asked questions regarding the input of Police Officers are the building plans, said that local residents, in the area of the new Police Station were very happy with the station being so close to them. Questions were answered by Chief Scalzo and Mayor Panto.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution approving a five (5) year Maintenance Agreement with Otis United Technologies for elevator maintenance at City Hall.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mayor Panto:

104-2016

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

Yeas: Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (6)

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution approving a ten (10) year auto renewal Extended Warranty Agreement with Schindler Elevator Corporation for elevator maintenance at the Parking Garage, 123 S. Third Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mayor Panto:

105-2016

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

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Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (6)

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution approving a temporary Amnesty Program for delinquent parking tickets.

Mayor Panto spoke as to why this Resolution was being introduced. He stated that the amount of uncollected ticket fines was growing and he believed that this "one time" program would help to collect some of those fines.

Mr. Melan thanked everyone who worked on getting the Amnesty Program, getting it ready to go.

Mayor Panto and Mr. Melan further explained the reasoning for withdrawing Bill No. 25 which would have eliminated the \$5.00 discount if a parking ticket was paid within twenty-four (24) hours. He stated that there were some issues with the way the system presently worked. They also stated that possible new legislation would be introduced that would lower the ticket fine from \$20.00 to \$15.00. This issue will be discussed at a Public Safety Committee Meeting scheduled for July 12, 2016.

There was further discussion on this issue.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Melan:

106-2016

The above Resolution was adopted on motion of Mr. Melan and Mr. O'Connell by the following vote:

Yeas: O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan (6)

Nays: None (0)

PUBLIC COMMENT
(On any item)

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:47 p.m., on motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Mr. Melan by the following vote:

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Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (6)
Nays: None (0)

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rita M. Messa". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial "R".

Rita M. Messa, Asst. City Clerk



CITY OF EASTON

PENNSYLVANIA

June 17, 2016

MEETING NOTICE

The meeting of Easton City Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 22, 2016, for general business.

The meeting will be held in council Chambers, located on the third floor of City Hall, 123 S. 3rd Street and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

All meetings of City Council are open to the Public and are accessible to persons with disabilities.


Thomas A. Hess
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
TENTATIVE AGENDA

Stated Session
Wednesday
June 22, 2016
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 – June 8, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes
7. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)
8. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Bill 23, Amending Section 560-10 B (4) of Article V: Impounding, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 2. Bill 24, Amending Ordinance 5522.
 3. Bill 25, Repealing Section 560-69 A (1), of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 4. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 123 S. 3rd Street.
 5. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 185 S. 3rd Street.
 6. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 185 S. 3rd Street.
 7. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 5 Centre Square.
 8. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 404 Northampton Street.
 9. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 408-410 Northampton Street.
 10. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 425-429 Northampton Street.
 11. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 241 Spring Garden Street.
 12. Resolution authorizing the opening an Interest Bearing Checking Account.
9. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
 - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
 - (c) Planning and Code (David O’Connell)
 - (d) Public Safety (Peter Melan)
 - (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.)
11. CORRESPONDENCE

-over-

12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

13. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Introduction of Legislative Bills

1. Bill 26, Amending Chapter 399, Parking Permits, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa

2. Bill 27, Amending Chapter 285, Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.

3. Bill 28, Approving documents for the purchase of property on N. 4th Street.

(b) Resolution approving a Maintenance Agreement with OTIS United Technologies.

(c) Resolution approving a Ten (10) year, auto renewable Extended Warranty Agreement with Schindler Elevator Corporation.

(d) Resolution approving a courtesy reduction for delinquent parking tickets.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)

15. ADJOURNMENT