

**Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.**  
**October 22, 2014**

Easton, Pa  
Wednesday  
October 22, 2014  
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers, located on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor of City Hall, One South Third Street, to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body and to conduct a Public Hearing regarding the 2015 Action Plan for the City and the 2015-2019 five-year Consolidated Plan.

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

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (6)  
Absent: Warner (work obligations) (1)

Also in attendance were Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor, Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor and Glenn Steckman, City Administrator. There were approximately thirty other persons present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mrs. Vulcano the Agenda was approved by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (6)  
Nays: None (0)

**ACTION ON MINUTES**

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mrs. Vulcano, the October 8, 2014 Council Meeting minutes, as submitted, were approved by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (6)  
Nays: None (0)

**RESOLUTION**  
**Recognizing the Death of Patricia A. Glory**

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution recognizing the death of Patricia A. Glory.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Edinger:

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142-2014

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

Yeas: Panto, Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano (6)

Nays: None (0)

Council made comments regarding Mrs. Glory's dedication to the City and its employees, the high respect that the employees had for her, the loss that the City has experienced with the death of Mrs. Glory and offered words of condolences to her family.

The Glory family was presented with a framed Resolution.

Mrs. Stephanie Frederickson, Mrs. Glory's daughter, thanked Council for the honor bestowed on her mother, and for the respect shown, for her mother, by all the City employees and officials.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

At 6:09 p.m., Mayor Panto opened the Public Hearing and turned it over to Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee who read the following statement. .

"The purpose of this evening's hearing is to obtain public comment on the 2015 Action Plan for the City of Easton and the 2015-2019 five year Consolidated Plan."

"The annual plan identifies the activities that will be undertaken to address priority needs and local objectives. Such activities include support for non-profit public service agencies, economic development activities, the acquisition, rehab and resale of homes, street improvements, playground improvements, and building improvements for EACC."

"The City expects to receive and entitlement grant of \$750,000 for the CDBG program year which will run January 1, 2015 through December 31, 2015."

"The Five Year Consolidated Housing and Community Development Plan is a requirement for direct assistance under the CDBG program. It serves as a planning document that enables the City to view its HUD funding as a tool to address Housing, Community Development and Economic Development needs. It also serves as the application for CDBG program funds from HUD and provides a basis for assessing the performance of CDBG funds."

"Final approval of the plan will be made by City Council on November 12, 2014."

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“The City of Easton intends to submit the Action Plan for 2015 and the Five Year Consolidated Plan to (HUD) on or about November 14, 2014.”

Mrs. Vulcano asked Tina Woolverton and Tina Roseberry, to address Council.

Ms. Woolverton said that the hearing was a part of the overall requirements of HUD for the 2015 Community Development Block Grant Fund Program. She said that at the first Public Hearing the request for funds from the different organizations and the City were distributed and since that time Council has had a chance to make their recommendations and to see the recommendations from the Economic Development staff and the City Administration. She said that the allocation of funds would be voted upon at the November 12, 2014 Council meeting.

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

Ms. Tina Roseberry, a representative of SSM Group, the City’s consultant for this program, thanked the City, its staff and the different organizations for participating and assisting in the updating of the City’s Consolidated Plan. She said that the proposed Consolidated Plan had also been placed on the City’s Web site for the required 30 day review period, and reported that of this date there had been no comments given from the public. She said that she has worked with the staff regarding some of their comments and the Plan should be ready for the November 12, 2014 Council meeting.

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

Mrs. Vulcano closed the hearing at 6:09 p.m.

**PRESENTATION**  
**13<sup>TH</sup> Street Corridor and 4<sup>TH</sup> Street Ring Road Projects**

David Hopkins, Director of Public Services gave a brief presentation on the 13<sup>th</sup> Corridor and the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Ring Road proposed projects.

He said that the next steps for the 13<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor project would be additional data collection, alternative analysis, public involvement, environmental analysis, and point of access study, determine preferred alternative, and to pursue funding for the project.

Councilman Ruggles gave a suggestion regarding widening the intersection of Lafayette Street, 13<sup>th</sup> Street and Bushkill Drive.

Mr. Hopkins said that the 4<sup>th</sup> Street Ring Road Project would improve traffic flow throughout the corridor and provide another North to South and South to North corridor to bypass Centre Square.

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**PUBLIC COMMENT**  
**(Agenda Items Only)**

There were no comments from the Audience.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Brown the Agenda was amended by adding two proposed Bills that would increase the Earned Income Tax for non-residents, under New Business by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (6)

Nays: None (0)

Mayor Panto asked Mr. Heagele, Finance Director and Solicitor Murphy to address Council on the proposed Bills for amending the EIT Tax to 1.85% or 1.95%, which they did.

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

Resolution 143-2014, which designates November as Epilepsy Awareness month.

Resolution 144-2014, which approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of a sign at 17 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Resolution 145-2014, which approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the installation of window signs at 19 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street.

Resolution 146-2014, which approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the repair of the facades, renovation of entry, replacement of gutters and downspouts and installation of a rear gate at 26 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Resolution 147-2014, which approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of roof and gutters and repair of porch and trim at 35 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street.

Resolution 148-2014, which approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the replacement of windows and doors, replacement of storefront facades and windows, removal of pent roof, and construction of new storefront cornice at 133-135 Northampton Street.

Resolution 149-2014, which approved a Certificate of Appropriateness for the addition of a new storefront entry and renovation of the existing entry and display windows at 137-139 Northampton Street.

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Yeas: Panto, Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, (6)

Nays: None (0)

**REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

The following report was received by Council:

(a) Monthly Fire Department for September 2014.

The Mayor accepted the report 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 the increasing of the Earned Income Tax for Non-City residents.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, reported that Gretchen Longenbach had her baby, and said that she and the baby were fine. .

Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Planning Committee, was absent due to work obligations.

Ms. Mauro, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, had no report.

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, had no report.

Mr. Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor had no report.

Mayor Panto spoke regarding the Halloween Parade, the Haunted Park at Hugh Moore Park, a Halloween Carnival, scheduled for November 1<sup>st</sup> in Centre Square, and the upcoming Bacon Fest.

Mr. Brown asked for an update on the Trolley.

Mayor Panto gave an update on the Trolley and spoke regarding what it would be used for and spoke regarding other things that the City has that other Cities do not have.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

No correspondence was received by Council.

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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Bill 31, Amending Section 285-42, Parking Garage Fees of Chapter 285, Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mayor Panto and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would lower the fee of \$50 to \$40 for customers, of the Third and Ferry Street Parking Garage, who have contracted for more than 40 spaces.

Bill 32, Amending Article VIII, Earned Income and Net Profits, of Chapter 535, Taxation, of the Code of the City of Easton to provide for an increase in Earned Income Tax for the purpose of funding the City of Easton pension plans in accordance with Act 205, was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would increase the EIT tax to 1.95%.

Bill 33, Amending Article VIII, Earned Income and Net Profits, of Chapter 535, Taxation, of the Code of the City of Easton to provide for an increase in Earned Income Tax for the purpose of funding the City of Easton pension plans in accordance with Act 205, was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would increase the EIT tax to 1.85%.

An October 16, 2014 memorandum, regarding City Council Agenda Items, was received from David Hopkins, Director of Public Works.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would delete one Driver II/Laborer position and add one Equipment Operator position in the Public Works Department, Bureau of Highways.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

150-2014

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

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (6)

Nays: None (0)

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The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Parking Lot Lease Agreement for additional parking at the Quality Inn, located at S. 3<sup>rd</sup> and Larry Holmes Drive.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

151-2014

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

Yeas: Edinger, Mauro, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (6)

Nays: None (0)

Mayor Panto explained that the space would be used for a large crane to assist in the building of the New City Hall. He said that if the lease was not approved, South Third Street would have to be closed for the crane.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**  
**(On any item)**

There were no comments from the audience.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 7:20 p.m., Council entered into an Executive Session to discuss a personnel matter.

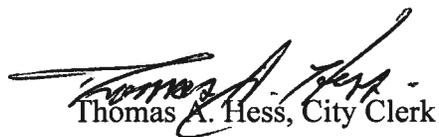
At 7:36 p.m. Mayor Panto called the meeting back to order.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 p. m. on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Vulcano, Ruggles, Mauro, Edinger, Brown (6)

Nays: None (0)

  
Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA

Stated Session  
Wednesday  
October 22, 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 – October 8, 2014 Council Meeting.
7. RESOLUTION – Recognizing the death of Patricia Glory.
8. PUBLIC HEARING – 2015 CDBG Program
9. PRESENTATION – Public Work's; 13<sup>th</sup> Street Corridor and 4<sup>th</sup> Street Ring Road Projects.
10. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)
11. CONSENT AGENDA
  - (a) Resolution designating November Epilepsy Awareness Month.
  - (b) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 17 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - (c) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 19 S. 2<sup>nd</sup> Street
  - (d) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 26 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street
  - (e) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 35 S. 6<sup>th</sup> Street
  - (f) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 133-135 Northampton Street
  - (g) Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 137-139 Northampton Street
12. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
13. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
  - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
  - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
  - (c) Planning (Elinor Warner)
  - (d) Public Safety (Melanie Mauro)
  - (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.)

-Over-

14 CORRESPONDENCE

15. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

16. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Introduction of Legislative Bills

1. Bill 31, Amending Section 285-42, Parking Garage Fees of Chapter 285, Fees, of the  
Code of the City of Easton, Pa.

(b) Resolution amending the 2014 Salary and Wage Resolution.

(c) Resolution approving an Agreement with Saral, Inc.

19. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)

20. ADJOURNMENT