

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
June 23, 2010

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
June 23, 2010
6:26 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 Mayor Panto followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call

Present: Michael Fleck
 Roger Ruggles
 Sandra Vulcano
 Jeffrey Warren
 Elinor Warner
 Salvatore J. Panto, Jr. (6)
Absent: Kenneth Brown (1)

Also in attendance were Rita Messa, Assistant City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor, Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor and Glenn Steckman, City Administrator. There were seven other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

ACTION ON MINUTES

The June 9, 2010 City Council meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, on motion of Mr. Fleck and Mrs. Vulcano by the following vote:

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

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
June 23, 2010

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)

There were no remarks from the audience.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

- (a) ESWA, May 17, 2010 meeting minutes and the June 7, 2010 Engineer's report.
- (b) Fire Department Monthly Report for May 2010.

Mayor Panto accepted the above reports on behalf of Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairperson of the Finance Committee was absent.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairperson of Economic Development reported that the City was working on the mobile vending cart ordinances.

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

Mr. Warren, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee had no report, but commended the Police Department on their re-accreditation review. He also reported that on July 6, 2010 at 6:00 p.m., in Council Chambers, members of the Northampton County Administration, and members of the City's Administration, will be discussing the concerns of the Fire Fighters with 911 communications procedures.

Dr. Warner, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee reported that the Public Works committee would not meet on July 13, 2010, said that she would be absent from the July 14, 2010 Council meeting., and spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting.

Mr. Fleck, Chairperson of the Administration Committee reported that the Administration Committee would meet on July 13, 2010. Mr. Fleck asked questions concerning the fifth floor move.

Mayor Panto said that, earlier in the day, they had met with USA Architects, reviewed two drawings, made suggestions, and said that there would be another meeting with Council to go over options next week.

Mr. Fleck said that the Press should be notified when Council's respective committees would not be meeting.

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
June 23, 2010

Council members expressed their concerns with the cutting of teachers by the School Board and how this action could affect City programs and the youth of Easton and surrounding communities.

William Murphy City Solicitor reported that before the meeting Council had met in an Executive Session and had discussed personnel issues, and the matter of litigation of Kowitz vs. the City of Easton filed in Northampton County Court of Common Pleas.

Mr. Murphy said that a quorum for City Council was four members.

Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor had no report.

Mayor Panto reported that the Soap Box Derby was a success and spoke regarding the other things that went on that day in the downtown. He spoke regarding the closing of the inner traffic lane of the Circle during the weekend, and spoke regarding moving the Weed & Seed Office out of City Hall to somewhere in the West Ward.

Dr. Warner asked a question regarding the Tourism Study. Mayor Panto said that the Study was completed, and spoke on this matter.

Mayor Panto said that the Elected Officials Compensation Review Board would meet on June 28, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the 6th Floor Conference Room. Mr. Steckman spoke related what would be discussed.

Mayor Panto, Mr. Steckman, and Council members spoke further on the above matter.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No. 15, (Ordinance 5255) Amending the Federal Grant Fund, was adopted on motion of and Mr. Fleck and Mrs. Vulcano by the following vote

Yeas: Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Panto, Warren (6)

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5255 amended the Federal Grant Fund by increasing Revenue and Expenditures by \$22,296.00

Bill No. 16, (Ordinance 5256) Amending Section 560-54, Parking Restrictions for Street Cleaning, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was adopted on motion of Dr. Warner and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

Yeas: Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Panto, Warren, Fleck (6)

Nays: None (0)

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

June 23, 2010

Ordinance 5256 amended the times for street sweeping on the north side of Washington Street from Fifth Street to Seventh Street to 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Thursdays and on the south side of Washington Street from Seventh Street to Fifth Streets to 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m. on Fridays.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received by Council.

- (a) Crystal L. Diehl, letter regarding the Memorial Day Parade.

NEW BUSINESS

A June 18, 2010 memorandum regarding an Interim Budget for the Intermodal Project was received from Chris Heagele, Director of Finance.

Bill No. 17, Amending the Miscellaneous Grant Fund was introduced by Mayor Panto and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend the Miscellaneous Grant Fund by increasing revenue and expenditures by \$300,000.

Mayor Panto spoke regarding this piece of legislation, and the project itself. Council members asked questions regarding on this matter which were answered by Mayor Panto. Mayor Panto also spoke regarding the Pomeroy's building development, the Historical Society's museum and its proposed opening on August 11, 2010, spoke regarding the Heritage Day Festivities and related what would take place, spoke regarding the upcoming Brew Fest, and the updating of Riverside Park.

A June 15, 2010 e-mail regarding a Resolution extending a McTish inspection contract was received from Joseph Mauro, City Engineer.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a time extension to the Construction Inspection Agreement with McTish, Kunkel & Associates.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

135-2010

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

Yeas: Vulcano, Warner, Panto, Warren, Fleck, Ruggles (6)

Nays: None (0)

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
June 23, 2010

A June 16, 2010 letter regarding Certificates of Appropriateness was received from Christine Ussler, AIA.

The next seven items on the Agenda were proposed Resolutions for approving Certificates of Appropriateness for 26 N. 2nd, 24 S. 5th, 214 S. 5th Streets, 101 Larry Holmes Drive, 140 Northampton, 524 Northampton Streets and Riverside Park..

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

136-2010

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

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

137-2010

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

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

138-2010

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

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

139-2010

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

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
June 23, 2010

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

140-2010

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

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

141-2010

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

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

142-2010

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

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

A June 22, 2010 memorandum regarding Refinancing of a HUD 108 Loan was received from Chris Heagele, Finance Director.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the Mayor to sign the P & I Schedule to participate in the upcoming fixed rate offering in July 2010.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

143-2010

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
June 23, 2010

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

Mr. Heagele and Mayor Panto spoke regarding this proposed Legislation and the need for it.

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner (6)

Nays: None

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

There were no remarks from the Audience.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:14 p.m. on motion of Mr. Fleck and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Warren, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner (6)

Nays: None (0)

Rita Messa, Assistant City Clerk