

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
October 26, 2016

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
October 26, 2016
6:05 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 Mr. Brown followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (7)
Absent: None (0)

Also in attendance were Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor, Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor and Luis Campos, City Administrator. There were fifteen (15) 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, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (7)
Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Melan and Mr. O'Connell the October 10, 2016 Council Meeting minutes, as submitted, were approved by the following vote:

Yeas: Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (7)
Nays: None (0)

RESOLUTIONS

The next item on the Agenda were Resolutions recognizing the death of Harold Frace a former City employee, and congratulating Fire Fighter Andrew Wuttke for being honored as the Fire Fighter of the Year for 2016.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

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172-2016

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

Yeas: Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano (7)

Nays: None (0)

Mayor Panto spoke regarding his personal relationship with Mr. Frace and his work dedication to the City and its citizens.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Melan:

173-2016

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

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (7)

Nays: None (0)

All of Council thanked Fire Fighter Wuttke for his service, congratulated him on being honored as Fire Fighter of the Year, and wished him well in the future.

CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION

At this time a Certificate of Appreciation was read and presented to Captain Eugene S. Casterline, upon his retirement from the Easton Police Department after 20 years of service.

All of Council thanked Captain Casterline for his dedicated service to the Department, the City and its Citizens, and thanked his wife for allowing him to serve.

PUBLIC COMMENT
(Agenda Items Only)

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following items were adopted on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Melan by the following vote.

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Bill 39, (Ordinance 5569), Amending Sections contained in Chapter 23, Civil Service Board, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. This Ordinance amends sections contained in Chapter 23 to conform with the Civil Service Rules and Regulations.

Bill 40, (Ordinance 5570), Amending the 2016 General Fund Budget. This Ordinance amends the 2016 General Fund Budget by increasing revenues and expenditures by \$1,500,000.

Bill 41, (Ordinance 5571), Amending the 2016 City Hall Additional Expenses Fund Budget. This Bill amends the 2016 City Hall Additional Expenses Fund Budget by increasing revenues and expenditures by \$1,500,000.

Resolutions 174 through 181-2016, which approved Certificates of Appropriateness for work at 131 N. 3rd Street, 111 N. 4th Street, 132 S. 5th Street, 7B N. Bank Street, 229 N. Green Street, 137-139 Northampton Street, 159-161 Northampton Street, and 505-507 Northampton Street.

Resolution 182-2016 which approved a Stipulation of Council.

Yeas: Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles (7)

Nays: None (0)

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

- (a) Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority's June, July and August 2016 meeting minutes.

Mayor Panto accepted the above reports on behalf of Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

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

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, spoke regarding legislation which she would have for later in the meeting for approving an Agreement for Professional Service with Nurture Nature Center. She also handed out a flyer for meetings, to be conducted by the Nurture Nature Center and the City, regarding what people value about living and working in Easton.

Mr. O'Connell, Chairman of the Planning Committee, reported that a Planning Committee meeting had been held on October 25, 2016 in which Council received a presentation from Lafayette College regarding expansion plans. He said that the Committee would like to forward this to the City's Planning Commission for their consideration.

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Mr. Melan, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, spoke regarding legislation, which he would have for later in the meeting, regarding amending 560 Attachment 1, of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic, of the City's Code, and approving a three year software and services agreement.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, spoke regarding legislation which he would have for later in the meeting regarding authorization to apply for a grant, approving a Right-of-Way Easement Agreement, and expressing Council's interest in the removal of a dam, on the Bushkill Creek near 500 Bushkill Drive.

Mr. Edinger, Chairman of the Administration Committee, asked Police Lieutenant Matthew Lohenitz to speak to Council regarding the proposed Agreement with Kelly & Ryan for a three year Software and Services Agreement for the City's parking meters and for the collection of delinquent parking tickets, which he did.

Council made comments and asked questions regarding Kelly & Ryan's services and regarding the collection of unpaid parking tickets before 2013, which were answered by Lt. Lohenitz.

Mr. Campos, City Administrator, informed Council that Finance Director, Cassandra Williams has resigned effective November 3, 2016.

Mrs. Williams said that she has gained a valuable experience working for the City, thanked the City for appointing her to the Finance Director's position and said that she would continue to assist with the budget process.

Council members thanked Mrs. Williams for her hard work, effort, and support to the City. and assistance show to Council members.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor reported that he had completed further research on when an Ordinance would become effective and said that it was his opinion that under the Home Rule Charter the City has the ability to set thirty (30) days for the effective date from the time of adoption by Council.

Mayor Panto reported that on October 29, 2016 at approximately 10:00 a.m., the Autumn Train would be coming through and stopping in Easton at the old Valley Station. He asked that anyone interested in seeing the train and supporting rail service in the valley, be at the station at approximately 9:45 p.m. to show their support. He reported that Trick or Treat would be held on October the 31, 2016 from 6-8 p.m., and that the Halloween Parade would be held on October 30, 2016, beginning in Phillipsburg at 3:00 p.m. He reported that the State was using a very strong herbicide to spray along the State roads within the City limits which is damaging foliage along our roads. He asked Mr. Murphy to research this problem and find out if the City could ban the state from using the herbicide in the City. He reported that earlier in the day they

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had a very good meeting with Portnoff Associates and related what had been discussed. Mayor Panto reported that one out of the three bargaining units have agreed to the City changing Dental coverage from Delta Dental to Concordia.

Mr. Campos explained why this was being done and explained the benefits to the City and its employees with this change.

Mayor Panto said that he had placed the changes, requested by Lafayette College, which had to be done to the Zoning Ordinance, into a memo form, and he asked for a consensus of Council to forward the recommended changes to the City's and County's Planning Commission.

There was a short discussion, between Council members and Attorney Sheer, on why Council had to approve this being forwarded to the Planning Commissions.

It was the consensus of Council to send the required changes to the Planning Commissions.

CORRESPONDENCE

There following Correspondence was received by Council:

- (a) S.C. Engineers, Inc., letter informing of an NPDES Permit renewal supplication on behalf of the Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill 42, Amending 560 Attachment 1, of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mr. Melan and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend 560 Attachment 1 by removing the 129 Northampton Street parking Lot and the Perkin's Parking Lots from the City's parking meter zone.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a contract with Nurture Nature Center to facilitate the Community Outreach portion of the work for a project by the Community and Economic Development Department in an amount not to exceed \$3,000.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

183-2016

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

Yeas: Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (7)
Nays: None (0)

An October 18, 2016 memorandum, regarding Council Agenda items was received from David Hopkins.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the application for a Pennsylvania Small Water and Sewer Program grant of \$52,284 from the Commonwealth Financing Authority to be used for rehabilitation of the sanitary sewer main on Berwick Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

184-2016

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

Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (7)
Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Right-of-Way Easement Agreement with the Easton Suburban Water Authority for a water main installation along Wood Avenue

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

185-2016

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

Yeas: O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan (7)
Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would confirm the City's interest in the removal of a dam, on the Bushkill Creek, behind 500 Bushkill Drive.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

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186-2016

There was a short discussion on wording in the Resolution between Council members and Attorneys Murphy and Scheer.

The above Resolution was amended by changing the words "consent to" to "interest in" and by adding the following words in the last part of the proposed Resolution "pending review of an engineering study." on motion of Mayor Panto and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

Yeas: O'Connell, Melan, Edinger, Brown, Panto, Vulcano, Ruggles (7)

Nays: None (0)

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

Yeas: Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell (7)

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Three (3) year Software and Services Agreement with Kelly & Ryan Associates Inc. for software and business solutions for the City's Parking Management System and Collections Services.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Melan:

187-2016

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

Yeas: Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles (7)

Nays: None (0)

PUBLIC COMMENT

(On any item)

Anthony Enos, 159 W. Nesquehoning Street, spoke to council regarding concerns with the City's Codes for historic home properties, the Code Department employees and requirements for Fire Escapes.

Council spoke to Mr. Enos' concerns, Mayor Panto took his phone number to contact him when this will be discussed again at a Council or Committee meeting and also advised him to contact Stephen Nowroski, Director of Codes.

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There were no other comments from the audience.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:11 p. m. on motion of Dr. Ruggles Mr. Brown by the following vote:

Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (7)

Nays: None (0)



Thomas A. Hess
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

Stated Session
Wednesday
October 26, 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 – October 10, 2016 Council Meeting minutes.
7. RESOLUTION – Recognizing the death of Harold G. Frace
8. RESOLUTION – Firefighter of the year – Andrew Wuttke
9. CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION – Captain Eugene S. Casterline.
10. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)
11. CONSENT AGENDA
 - (a) Bill 39, Amending Sections contained in Chapter 23, Civil service Board, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 - (b) Bill 40, Amending the 2016 General Fund Budget.
 - (c) Bill 41, Amending the 2016 City Hall Additional Expenses Fund Budget.
 - (d) Resolution approving a COA for 131 N. 3rd Street.
 - (e) Resolution approving a COA for 111 N. 4th Street.
 - (f) Resolution approving a COA for 132 S. 5th Street.
 - (g) Resolution approving a COA for 7B N. Bank Street
 - (h) Resolution approving a COA for 229 N. Green Street.
 - (i) Resolution approving a COA for 137-139 Northampton Street.
 - (k) Resolution approving a COA for 159-161 Northampton Street.
 - (l) Resolution approving a COA for 505-507 Northampton Street.
 - (m) Resolution approving a Stipulation of Counsel.
11. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
 - (a) Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority's June 20, 2016, July 28, 2016 and August 15, 2016 Meeting Minutes.
12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
 - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)

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| (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.) |

13. CORRESPONDENCE

- (a) S C Engineers, Inc., letter informing of an NPDES Permit renewal application

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS,

15. NEW BUSINESS

- (a) Introduction of Legislative Bills

1. Bill 42, Amending 560 Attachment 1, of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Code of the City of Easton, pa.

- (b) Resolution approving an Agreement for Professional Services with Nurture Nature Center.
(c) Resolution authorizing the application for a Grant.
(d) Resolution approving a Right-of-Way Easement Agreement.
(e) Resolution consenting to the removal of the Dam on the Bushkill Creek.
(f) Resolution approving a Three (3) year Software and Services Agreement.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)

16. ADJOURNMENT



CITY OF EASTON

PENNSYLVANIA

October 20, 2016

MEETING NOTICE

A regular meeting of Easton City Council has been scheduled for **Wednesday, October 26, 2016**, for the transaction of regular business.

The meeting will be held in Council Chambers, on the Third Floor of City hall, located at 123 S. 3rd Street.

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


Thomas A. Hess
City Clerk