

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
January 27, 2010

Easton, Pa.
Wednesday
January 27, 2010
6:00 P.M.

City Council met in stated session, in Council Chambers, Room 514, 5th floor of City Hall, One South Third Street, 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: Kenneth Brown
Michael Fleck
Roger Ruggles
Sandra Vulcano
Elinor Warner
Jeffrey Warren
Salvatore J. Panto Jr. (7)

Absent: None (0)

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 ten other persons in attendance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren, the Agenda was approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

The January 13, 2010 Council meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mrs. Vulcano by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)

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There were no remarks from the audience.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

- (a) Fire Department, December 2009 and the Yearly 2009 Fire Reports.
- (b) EAJSA September 21, October 19, and November 16, 2009 meeting minutes.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairperson of the Administrative Committee spoke regarding legislation for later in the meeting, and reported that he would be withdrawing Bill No. 6 and explained why. He reported that the Finance Committee had met, in the afternoon and related what had been discussed. He also reported that the Finance Committee would meet again on February 9, 2010 at 4:30 p.m. in Council Chambers.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee spoke regarding legislation for later in the meeting, and reminded everyone that the Chocolate Lovers Soirée would take place on Saturday, January 30, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. at the Bank Street Annex.

Mr. Fleck, Chairperson of the Planning Committee, spoke regarding legislation for later in the meeting. Mr. Fleck also spoke regarding a request by an existing Centre Square Food Vendor to extend his hours of operation from 9:00 p.m. to 3:00 a.m.

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

Dr. Warner, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee spoke regarding legislation for later in the meeting.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairperson of the Strategic Planning Committee had no report, but said that the Strategic Planning Committee meeting scheduled for February 9, 2010 would be canceled.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor reminded everyone that the City Solicitors are in the Council Chambers every Wednesday at 8:30 a.m. and are available for consultation. He said that at this morning's meeting the TRAN was discussed and said that there was a very slight change in the wording as far as the terms of the note. He said that the major import was the fact that it was the Wall Street Prime less 1%, which increased the basis point from 75 to 100.

Mr. Scheer, Assistant Solicitor had no report.

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Mayor Panto reported that the Council retreat will be held on Saturday, February 27, 2010 at Lafayette College from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., reported that the Police Press Conference was held earlier in the day regarding the City's UCR Statistics and reported that UCR Part One Crimes were down 24% again in 2009, and Part Two Crimes were down 13%. He said that calls for Police Service were down from 18,000 calls to 16,000. He spoke further regarding statistics and gave possible reasons why the statistics were lowered, and said that in twenty-four months the City did not have one lawsuit.

Mayor Panto spoke on the TRAN how it would be paid, and when it would be effective.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No. 1. (Ordinance 5243), An Ordinance to amend the Code of the City of Easton, Chapter 285, entitled Fees, by deleting Section §285-21 A (4) was adopted on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Fleck by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5243 removed the discounted fee for refuse collection for a vacant dwelling unit.

Bill No. 3, (Ordinance 5244), Amending Ordinance 5229, 2010 General Fund Budget was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5244 increased Revenues and Expenditures in the General Fund by \$3,017,696.52.

Bill No. 4, (Ordinance 5245), Amending Ordinance 5239, 2010 Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5245 increased Revenues and Expenditures in the Wastewater Treatment Plant Budget by \$188,902.05.

Bill No. 5, Authorizing the Issuance of One or More Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes by PNC Bank was moved by Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner.

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Mr. Murphy said that the copy of Bill No. 5 was not the same exact Bill that was introduced and asked that it be moved as amended.

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mr. Warren, Bill No. 5 was amended to read Tax/Revenue Anticipation Note, by the following vote:

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

Nays: None

Bill No. 5, (Ordinance 5246), Authorizing the Issuance of One or More Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes as amended was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

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

Nays: None

Ordinance 5246 authorized the issuance of one or more Tax/Revenue Anticipation Notes by PNC Bank.

Bill No. 6, Authorizing the Issuance of One or More Tax and Revenue Anticipation Notes by Lafayette Ambassador Bank was withdrawn by Mr. Brown.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received by Council.

NEW BUSINESS

The next six items on the Agenda was approval of Certificates of Appropriateness for 125-129 N. 3rd, 219-223 N. 3rd, 248 N. 3rd, 228 Northampton, 165 Spring Garden, and 322 Spring Garden Streets.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

17-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

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18-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

19-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

20-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

21-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

22-2010

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

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

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution that would approve the placement of a third Handicapped Parking Sign on the 700 block of Jackson Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Fleck:

23-2010

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

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

A January 22, 2010 e-mail regarding a Resolution for Council regarding a DCED Grant was received from Gretchen Lippincott.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the submission of an application for a DCED Grant in the amount of \$60,000.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

24-2010

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

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

CITIZEN'S RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Rich Hieshetter, 304 W. Monroe Street, spoke regarding the proposed Transportation Facility project.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:35 p.m. on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

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

Rita Mess, Assistant City Clerk