

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
February 8, 2012

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
February 8, 2012
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time in Council Chambers, located on the 6th floor of One South Third Street, Easton, Pa. to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body, and to receive a presentation on In-Fill Construction and an update on the Intermodal Transportation Center.

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

Roll Call

Present: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto (7)
Absent: None (0)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mr. Warren the Agenda was approved by the following vote:

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

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Fleck the January 25, 2012 Council Meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, by the following vote:

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

RESOLUTION

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution recognizing the death of Joshua D. Marvin, an Easton Police Officer.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Warren

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9-2012

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

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

Nays: None (0)

PRESENTATION OF IN-FILL CONSTRUCTION

At this time, Mayor Panto introduced Paul Felder, a Professor at Lafayette College, along with four of his students; Minyan Li, Philip Bellis, Melissa Foley and Ekrem Bermek, presented Council with a project that they had done regarding In-Fill Construction at four locations in the City; St. John and St. Joseph street, the southeast corner of 6th and Ferry Street, on S. 6th Street, south of 6th and Northampton Street and on the 600 block of Pine Street.

All Council members commended the students on their projects and Mayor Panto said that one of the sites would be addressed hopefully within the next year.

PRESENTATION OF A CERTIFICATE

At this time Mayor Panto presented Robert Ashton a certificate recognizing his attaining the rank of Eagle Scout.

UPDATE ON THE INTERMODAL TRANSPORTATION CENTER

At this time Mayor Panto gave Council an update on the Intermodal Transportation Center regarding when the project began, the properties where the center would be located, different versions of plans for the site, the layout of the proposed building, the construction budget, the potential gross revenue, the pre tax cash flow, the ownership and management, the private buildings and public garage, and the actions needed to proceed with the project.

Council made comments and asked questions which were answered by Mayor Panto and Joseph Biondo of Spillman and Farmer Architects.

Lou Ferrone, Chairman of the Easton Parking Authority said that the City needed this new parking deck and thought that this was a beautiful and wonderful project for the City.

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Michael Vangelo, 730 Sullivan Road spoke regarding proposed Bill No. 1 which would give certified Lafayette College Police Officers the authority to enforce violations of the City's

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noise ordinance and Bill No. 2, which would give certified Lafayette College Police Officers the authority to enforce violations of the City's Peace and Good Order ordinances.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

There were no reports received.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Finance Committee, spoke regarding legislation that he would have for later in the meeting, regarding amending the 2011 General Obligation Bond Capital Fund Budget, and amending section 285-11 B of the City's Fee Schedule.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee spoke regarding legislation that she would have for later in the meeting regarding reallocation of 2012 CDBG funds.

Dr. Ruggles, Chairman of the Planning Committee, had no report.

Mr. Warren, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, spoke regarding legislation that he would have for later in the meeting regarding the Noise Ordinance and the Peace and Good Order ordinances, reported that a Public Safety Committee meeting had been held on February 7, 2012 and that making Grant Street, between St. John and Davis Street one way east, and the Noise ordinance was discussed, and he made comments on Pennsylvania House Bill 1523.

Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Public Works Committee had no report.

Mr. Fleck, Chairman of the Administration Committee spoke regarding the upcoming Home Rule Charter workshop.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor, and Ms. Knickerbocker, Assistant City Solicitor had no reports.

Mayor Panto had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill 1, (Ordinance 5339) Amending Sections in Chapter 376, Noise, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was adopted on motion of Mr. Warren and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5339 gave certified Lafayette College Police Officers the power to investigate suspected violations and enforce the Noise Ordinance.

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Bill 2, (Ordinance 5340) Amending Sections in Chapter 410, Peace and Good Order, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was adopted on motion of Mr. Warren and Mr. Brown by the following vote:

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

Ordinance 5340 would repeal Sections 410-2, (5), (a), (b), (d), and (f) from Chapter 410, Peace and Good Order of the Code of the City, and gave certified Lafayette College Police Officers and Pennsylvania State Police Officers the power to enforce violations of the City's Peace and Good Order ordinances.

Bill 3, Amending Ordinance 5336, the 2011 General Obligation Bond Capital Fund Budget was amended, in the following manner on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

“by amending the proposed change and revised budget for account 153-5060-4675 to read -\$24,725.00 and \$205,275, and the proposed change and revised budget for account 153-5063-4682 to read -\$16,657.34 and \$63,342.66.”

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

Amended Bill 3 (Ordinance 5341) was adopted on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

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

Ordinance 5341 increased Revenues and Expenditures by \$11,017.66 and provided for transfers of funds in the Budget.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received by Council:

- (a) PA Auditor General, Aggregated Pension Trust Fund and the Easton Officers' and Employees' PMRS Pension Plan Compliance Audit Reports for January 2009 to December 31, 2010.

NEW BUSINESS

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Bill No. 4, Amending Section 285-11, Municipal Claims and Liens, of Chapter 369, of Chapter 285, Fees, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend Section 285-11 by adding a bookkeeping fee for payment plan for less than three payments.

A January 26, 2012 e-mail regarding an appointment nomination to the Easton Environmental Advisory Council was received from Mayor Panto.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve the appointment of Caroline G. Bissell to the Easton Environmental Advisory Council.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mayor Panto.

10-2012

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

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

Nays: None (0)

A January 30, 2011 memorandum, regarding Police Records Destruction was received from Lt. Samuel Lobb.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the destruction of 350 cubic feet of various Police Records.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Warren:

11-2012

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

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

Nays: None (0)

A January 31, 2012 memorandum, regarding revised CDBG recommended 2012 Allocations was received from Mayor Panto.

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The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would reallocate 2012 CDBG allocations.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

12-2012

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

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

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Terrance Miller and Theresa Miller, 645 Ferry Street spoke regarding noise ordinance violations being committed by the Church of God By Faith, asked Council how they were addressing this situation and volunteered their assistance in helping to alleviate this problem.

There was a discussion on this matter between Council and the Millers.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Fleck and Dr. Warner vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk