

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

June 8, 2016

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
June 8, 2016
6:00 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 Dr. Ruggles followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

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

Absent: None (0)

Also in attendance was Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk, and Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor. There were five other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mrs. Vulcano the May 25, 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)

PUBLIC COMMENT
AGENDA ITEMS ONLY

There were no questions or comments from the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

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

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Bill 21, (Ordinance 5555), Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map, of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. This Ordinance creates a 15 Minute Parking 8 AM -10 PM zone on the North side of Lehigh Street to be placed at S. 11th and Lehigh Streets.

Bill 22, (Ordinance 5556), Amending the 2015 Parks and Open Space Fund Budget. This Ordinance amends the 2015 Parks and Open Space Fund Budget by increasing revenue and expenditures by \$116,716.53.

Resolution 93-2016, which approved the opening of an Interest Bearing Checking Account at Lafayette Ambassador Bank.

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

Nays: None (0)

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following report was received by Council:

- (a) Easton Fire Department Monthly Report for April 2016.

Mr. Melan said that he had spoken with Chief Bast who said that he would simplify the response time section of the report.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairperson of the Finance Committee spoke regarding legislation the he had under the Consent Agenda.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairperson of the Economic Development Committee, had no report.

Mr. O'Connell, Chairperson of the Planning and Code Committee reported that the Planning Sub-Committee had met with Council, on Tuesday, June 7, 2016, and had discussed ways to make the City's Comprehensive Plan more inclusive of information that Council felt was lacking. He said that Tina Roseberry, Director of Planning introduced the topics to be discussed, and said that Council engaged in a robust and informative discussion with members of the public, who were present at the meeting.

Mr. Melan, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee, said that the Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, June 7, 2016 and had discussed the amending of Ordinances for payment plans for parking tickets and for the establishment of a Merchant Loan/Unload Parking Permit program.

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Dr. Ruggles, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee spoke regarding legislation which he would have for later in the meeting regarding amending Ordinance 5522 to include more Capital Projects to the existing Bond Ordinance.

Mr. Edinger, Chairperson of the Administration Committee had no report.

Mr. Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor, had no report.

Mayor Panto requested that if Council knew of any student that wished to partake in his Mayor's Summer Youth Camp to inform them to pick up and turn in an application for the camp. He reported that a semi-annual City Hall window cleaning was being accomplished at this time. He spoke regarding the proposed New Police Station and the addition of roofs for the protection of Police Vehicles in inclement weather and the purchase of a parking lot off of Church Street.

There was some discussion on the purchasing of the parking lot,

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill 23, Amending Section 560-10 B (4), of Article V, Impounding, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. was introduced by Mr. Melan and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend the following to the ending paragraph of Section 560-10 B (4):

“Any and all fines, penalties, and costs shall be paid to the City of Easton in the form of cash, money order, certified bank check or a cashier's check. The City of Easton shall not accept any payment plans.”

Council members and Mr. Scheer, made comments regarding the need for some type of payment plan, and reasons for eliminating the payment plans.

Bill 24, Amending Ordinance 5522, was introduced by Dr. Ruggles and ordered processed for adoption.

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This Bill would amend Ordinance 5522 by adding various capital projects to the existing Bond Ordinance enacted on October 14, 2015.

Bill 25, Repealing Section 560-69 A (1) of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mr. Melan and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would eliminate the discount for parking tickets paid within 24 of the violation.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an Agreement for Crossing Guard Services with All City Management Services Inc.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Melan:

93-2016

Dr. Ruggles asked about Crossing Guards at Paxinosa School

Mr. Melan stated that he did not think that there were any city employed Crossing Guards at the school and felt that the School was using their own Police Officers for that duty.

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)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an Agreement with the City of Allentown regarding City employees while attending training at the Allentown Police Academy.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Melan:

94-2016

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

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

Nays: None (0)

PUBLIC COMMENT
(On any item)

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Susanne Billman, 1045 W. Berwick Street, asked Council for help with the number of bird feeders in the back yard, along her fence that separates her property and 1049 W. Berwick Street. She said that there were approximately fourteen (14) feeders sitting on a shelf along the fence, and that there was bird feces all over, said that her dog has been dive bombed by the birds, and said that she could not open her pool because of the birds.

Mayor Panto said that he would have the Health Departments check into this situation.

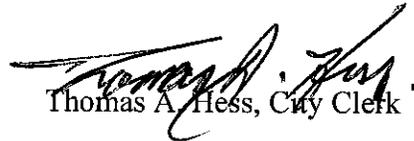
Richard Snyder, 128 W. Milton Street spoke regarding Council's interaction with the citizens who attend the meetings and questioned Council actions when they ask for assistance.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:58 p.m., on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)


Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk



CITY OF EASTON

PENNSYLVANIA

June 3, 2016

MEETING NOTICE

The meeting of Easton City Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, June 8, 2016, for general business.

The meeting will be held in council Chambers, located on the third floor of City Hall, 123 S. 3rd Street and will begin at 6:00 p.m.

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


Thomas A. Hess
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

Stated Session
Wednesday
June 8, 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 – May 25, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes
7. PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items Only)
8. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Bill 21, Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 2. Bill 22, Amending 2015 Parks, Rec. & Open Space Fund
 3. Resolution approving the opening of an Interest Bearing Checking Account.
9. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
 - (a) Easton Fire Department Monthly Report for April 2016
10. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
 - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
 - (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.)
11. CORRESPONDENCE
12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS
 - (a) Introduction of Legislative Bills
 1. Bill 23, Amending Section 560-10 B (4) of Article V: Impounding, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 2. Bill 24, Amending Ordinance 5522.

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3. Bill 25, Repealing Section 560-69 A (1), of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
 - (b) Resolution approving an Agreement for Crossing Guard Services.
 - (c) Resolution approving a Department Waiver with the City of Allentown.

14. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)

15. ADJOURNMENT