

**Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.**  
**March 9, 2011**

Easton, Pa  
Wednesday  
March 9, 2011  
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time in the 6<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room of City Hall, One S. Third 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, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano (6:12 p.m.), Warner, Warren, Panto (7)  
Absent: None (0)

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

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

**ACTION ON MINUTES**

On motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Warner the February 23, 2011 Council Meeting and Public Hearing minutes were approved as submitted by the following vote:

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

**CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)**

Christopher Heagele, Director of Finance, reported that the City did not receive an updated contract from Berkheimer so that the proposed Agreement should be pulled from the Agenda.

**REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

**Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.**  
**March 9, 2011**

The following report was received by Council.

(a) EAJSA October, November and December 2010 meeting minutes.

Mayor Panto accepted the above report on behalf of Council.

**REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Finance Committee spoke regarding legislation which would be before Council later in the meeting.

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

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

Mr. Warren, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee spoke regarding the COPS Community Program, reported that they had their first phone conference meeting, reported who was in on the conversation, and what the program has accomplished thus far. Mr. Brown made comments regarding the Program.

Mr. Warren reported that he would be taking over as the liaison to the Farmers' Market from Mrs. Vulcano.

Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Public Works Committee reported that the work on the Bushkill Street Bridge would begin on Monday, March 14, 2011 and would continue for approximately 4 months, reported that the street cleaning program would begin on April 1, 2011 and that warning tickets would be issued for parking violators for the first two weeks of the program and after that time tickets would be issued to violators, and spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting regarding Sport Program fees, and Pool fees.

There was a discussion on the traffic problems that would be caused by the closing of the bridge and other work being done by the Suburban Water Authority, on the Recreation Sport Program , and on the proposed Skate Park.

Mr. Fleck, Chairman of the Administration Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, and regarding the Chansonnette Fringe Festival.

There was a discussion between Council members and Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes, on the proposed legislation that would waive Zoning Fees for the Easton Area Community Center greenhouse project.

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

**March 9, 2011**

Mr. Fleck asked if the proposed Resolution regarding the Agreement with RGC Development included a provision regarding a Project Stabilization Agreement which was answered by City Administration Steckman.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor, reported that the Solicitors had conducted a workshop seminar with the Codes Department, and said that they would be conducting more workshops.

Ms. Knickerbocker, Assistant Solicitor, had no report.

Mayor Panto spoke regarding flood projections for the Lehigh and Delaware Rivers, the proposed reductions in Federal and State Funding for municipal programs, and gave an update on the 6<sup>th</sup> floor renovations,

There was a discussion regarding past flooding in the City, and the proposed reductions in Federal and State Funding between Council members.

Dr. Ruggles informed Council that he and Mr. Hopkins had gone to Line and Center Street to look at a problem created by a water runoff swale. There was a brief discussion on this matter between Dr. Ruggles, Mayor Panto and Mr. Hopkins.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received by Council:

- (a) William G. Dohe, letter regarding the Hugh Moor Park Shad Hatchery Pilot Project.
- (b) Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Annual Report 2010.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

A March 1, 2011 memorandum, regarding City Council Agenda Items was received from David Hopkins, Director of Public Works.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Ordinance which would amend Fees for Recreation registration, eliminate a section for Sports fees, and amend Pool Fees.

Bill No. 3, Amending Section 285-45, Recreation registration, and Section 285-56, Pool Fees, B, Season Pass, (1) and (2) and eliminating Section 285-47, Sports Fees, of Chapter 285, Fees of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Dr. Warner.

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

**March 9, 2011**

This Bill would amend Section 285-45, 285-56 B (1) and (2), and eliminate Section 285-47 of the City's Codes.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Ordinance which would amend Section 110-24, Section 110-26 A and Section 110-28 of Article III Employees Retirement and Pension System of Chapter 110, Pension of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.

Bill No. 4, Amending Section 110-24, Section 119-26 A and Section 110-28 of Article III Employees Retirement and Pension System of Chapter 110, Pension, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.

This Bill would amend wording in the above sections.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Lease Agreement between the City of Easton and the Easton Parking Authority for the parking lot situated 123 South Third Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

32-2011

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

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

Nays: None (0)

A March 2, 2011 memorandum, regarding the Karl Stirner Arts Trail Construction, was received from Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would an Agreement with RGC Development for the construction of the Karl Stirner Arts Trail.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

33-2011

On motion of Mr. Fleck and Mr. Warren the above Resolution was amended in the following manner by the following vote:

- Eliminating the words "of the western section".
- Eliminating the words " N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street" and replacing them with "to the Delaware River"

**Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.**  
**March 9, 2011**

- Adding the following to the Second paragraph of the Resolution.

“ compliance with the Project Stabilization Agreement and upon”

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

Nays: None (0)

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

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

Nays: None (0)

On motion of Mr. Fleck and Dr. Warner and by the following vote, the Agenda was amended by removing items (d) Approving an Agreement with H.A. Berkheimer and item (e) Waiving Zoning Fees from New Business.

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

Nays: None (0)

**CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD**

Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Codes reported that her department had filed forty-nine citations for non-compliance with the Rental Housing Licensing Program but said that it was not too late for those persons to file their forms, and pay their fees. She said that the Citations would not be withdrawn but that the City would inform the Judge that the fees had been paid.

Mayor Panto requested the following students of Mr. Geiger, to state their names and what they learned at the meeting, which they did:

1. Kelly McEntire
2. Victoria Tuttle
3. Eric Nguyen
4. Zachery Winchester.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:03 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Fleck and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk