

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 9, 2012

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
May 9, 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 City Hall to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body.

The invocation was given by Vice Mayor Brown followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Present: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto, (phone) (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 eight other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren the April 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)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

There were no comments from the audience.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

There were no reports received.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

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

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee spoke regarding legislation that she would have for later in the meeting regarding the establishment of a LERTA District, said that a Vacant Property Committee meeting would be held on May 23, 2012 at 5:00 p.m. on the 3rd floor of City Hall, reported that a grand opening had been held at the new “Sole Mio” restaurant at Madison and St. John Street, reported that the Farmers’ Market had opened on May 5, 2012 and was well attended.

Dr. Warner reported that the House Tour had been held on May 5, 2012, that it was a huge success and that a lot more people had taken part in the tour than in previous years and said that the final financial report was not complete.

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

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

Dr. Warner, Chairman of the Public Works Committee, spoke regarding legislation that she would have for later in the meeting, regarding amending impact fees for new construction, approving a Release and Indemnity Agreement with Culbertson Restoration, approving an Agreement with the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor for implementation of the Hugh Moore Park Trail Resurfacing, approving a Letter of Amendment to the Construction Phase Costs for Larry Holmes project Re-imbursement Agreement with Penn DOT, and for approving Agreements with Lafayette College for their College Quad Improvements Project, and reported that a Public Works Committee meeting would be held during the May 23, 2012 Council meeting.

There was no report received from Mr. Fleck, Chairman of the Administration Committee who had left the meeting due to a phone call.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor, and Ms. Knickerbocker, Assistant City Solicitor had no reports. Mr. Murphy informed all that after the Council meeting, Council would meet in Executive Session, after the meeting, to discuss threatened litigation.

Mayor Panto had no report.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No. 19, (Ordinance 5357), Amending Section 285-84, Subdivision and Land Development, Chapter 520, Section 285-42, Parking Garage Fees and Section 285-42, Surface Parking Lots, of Chapter 285, Fees, of the Codes of the City of Easton, Pa. was adopted on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance 5357 amends fees in the Fee Schedule for the Subdivision and Land Development and fees for Surface Parking Lots.

Bill No. 20, (Ordinance 5358) Approving Addendum No. 1, to a Five (5) Year Lease Agreement between the City of Easton, Pa., and Service Electric Cable TV., Inc. was adopted on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

Ordinance 5358 approves Addendum No. 1 to a Five Year Lease Agreement with Service Electric Cable TV. Inc.

CORRESPONDENCE

The following correspondence was received by Council:

- (a) Larry Keiper – email regarding Parking Meters.
- (b) Frank Prekel – emails regarding Parking Permits and Parking for Downtown Residents.
- (c) Supervisors of Forks Township – Letter regarding the proposed Commuter Tax levies.
- (d) Joan Hunt – email regarding the Local Income Tax.

NEW BUSINESS

Bill No. 21, Approving a Two Year Office Space Lease Agreement with the Easton Area Land Development Company, was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would approve a two year Office Space Agreement with the Easton Area Land Development Company for office space on the 8th floor of City Hall.

Bill No. 22, Approving a Ten-Year Cable Franchise Agreement with RCN Telecom Service (Lehigh) LLC.

Then next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would establish a LERTA District within the City.

The following Resolutions were introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

66-2012

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

Yeas: Brown, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Warren, Panto (6)

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Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was proposed Resolutions which would approve a Release and Indemnity Agreement with Culbertson Restoration, LTD.

The following Resolutions were introduced by Dr. Warner:

67-2012

Dr. Ruggles asked why the City was taking this action and if it opened the City up to possible litigation. Mr. Murphy explained why this action had to be taken.

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

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

Nays: None (0)

A May 2, 2012, memorandum, regarding City Council Agenda Items was received from David Hopkins, Director of Public Works.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an Agreement with the Delaware & Lehigh National Heritage Corridor Inc, for implementation of the Hugh Moore Park Trail Resurfacing.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

68-2012

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Letter of Amendment, to the Construction Phase Costs for Larry Holmes Project Re-imbusement Agreement #057203 with Penn DOT.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

69-2012

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

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

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Developers Agreement, an Agreement of Easement, and a Storm Water Runoff Control Facilities and maintenance Agreement with Lafayette College for the College's Quad improvements.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

70-2012

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

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

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

There were no remarks from Council.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Fleck and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

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

Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk