

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 26, 2010

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
May 26, 2010
6:30 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the Easton Area Community Center, at 9th and Washington 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
 Salvatore J. Panto, Jr. (6)
Absent: Jeffrey Warren (1)

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 21 other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

On motion of Dr. Warner and Mrs. Vulcano the agenda was approved by the following vote:

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

ACTION ON MINUTES

The May 12, 2010 City Council meeting minutes were approved, as submitted, on motion of Mr. Brown and Mrs. Vulcano by the following vote:

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

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RESOLUTIONS

At this time Resolutions were read and voted upon recognizing the deaths of Dante Montoro and Richard Carty Sr.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

108-2010

All of council spoke regarding Mr. Montoro's service to the City and its citizens.

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

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

Nays: None (0)

Mrs. Montoro was presented with a framed Resolution

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

109-2010

All council members spoke regarding Mr. Carty's service to the City and the youth of the community.

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

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

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)

There were no remarks from the audience

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following report was received by Council:

- (a) Fire Department Monthly Report for April 2010.

Mayor Panto accepted the report on behalf of Council.

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REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairperson of the Finance Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be brought forward later in the meeting, and reported that the Finance Committee had met on May 25, 2010, and related what had been discussed.

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

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

Mr. Fleck commented and asked questions regarding the request by King Mart to have outside lighting which was disapproved at an earlier Council meeting.

Mayor Panto said that Becky Bradley, Director of Planning was working with the owner of the business.

Mr. Warren, Chairperson of the Public Safety Committee was absent.

Dr. Warner, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee, spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting, and reported that the Public Works Committee would meet on June 8, 2010 and related what would be discussed.

Mr. Fleck, Chairperson of the Administration Committee, reported that the Administration Committee would meet on June 8, 2010 and related what would be discussed

William K. Murphy, City Solicitor and Beth Knickerbocker, Assistant City Solicitor had no reports for Council.

Mayor Panto reported that he had issued a 90-Day Executive Order which banned smoking in the Circle area of Centre Square for a period of ninety (90) days, and discussed his order.

Council members made comments and asked questions regarding this matter which were answered by the Mayor.

Mayor Panto congratulated Tony Bassil for receiving New York Father's Day Honors and read the nomination letter that Mr. Bassil's daughter wrote.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

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Bill No. 14, (Ordinance 5254) Approving an Agreement of Sale between the City of Easton and Ruby Real Estate Development, LLC for a property on Williams Street was adopted on motion of Mrs. Vulcano Dr. Warner by the following vote:

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

Ordinance 5254 approved an Agreement of Sale with Ruby Real Estate Development, LLC. For a City owned property on Williams Street, parcel # M9NE1D 6 1 B.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

A May 13, 2010 letter regarding reports and Certificates of Appropriateness was received from Christine Ussler, AIA.

The next four items on the agenda were proposed Resolutions for approving Certificates of Appropriateness for 32 N. 3rd, 158-B, 200, and 525 Northampton Streets.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

110-2010

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

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

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

111-2010

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

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

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The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

112-2010

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

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

Nay: None (0)

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles

113-2010

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

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

Nay: None (0)

A May 11, 2010 memorandum regarding an application for a DUI Grant was received from Chief Lawrence Palmer.

The next item on the agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve the application for a PennDOT Grant.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

114-2010

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

Yea: Brown, Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Panto (6)

Nay: None (0)

A May 18, 2010 memorandum regarding City Council Agenda Items was received from Mr. Hopkins, Director of Public Works

The next item on the agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Design Agreement for engineering, design, bid phase, and construction inspection services.

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The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

115-2010

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

Yea: Fleck, Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Panto, Brown (6)
Nay: None (0)

The next item on the agenda was a proposed resolution which would approve a Design Agreement for ADA Curb Ramp construction.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

116-2010

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

Yea: Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner, Panto, Brown, Fleck (6)
Nay: None (0)

A May 20, 2010 memorandum, regarding a requested Resolution for an encroachment at 56 S. 3rd Street, was received from Stefanie Orange, Engineer Technician.

The next item on the agenda was a proposed resolution which would approve a Right-of-Way Encroachment Agreement for 56 South 3rd Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner

117-2010

The above Resolution was adopted by Dr. Warner and Mr. Brown by the following vote:

Yea: Vulcano, Warner, Panto, Brown, Fleck, Ruggles (6)
Nay: None (0)

A May 20, 2010 e-mail, regarding a request to approve an agreement with Firetec was received from Fire Chief John Bast.

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The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Listing and Marketing Commission Agreement with Firetec.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

118-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

A May 20, 2010 memorandum regarding a request to approve a Right of Way Encroachment was received from Stefanie Orange, Engineer Technician.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution that would approve a Right-of-Way Encroachment Agreement for 219 N. 3rd Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Warner:

119-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution that would approve a First Amendment to a Communications Agreement.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

120-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

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The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve the renaming of Road B to “Jones Houston Way”.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Brown:

121-2010

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

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

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Mr. Tony Bassil, City Controller, congratulated Council for moving forward and using Laptops to conduct their meeting. He also spoke regarding the need for a Cell Phone Ban while operating a vehicle in the City.

There was a discussion on the Cell Phone Ban between Council members.

Ms. Ilna Perna, 229 North Delaware Drive spoke regarding the need for a Community Guide in the City.

Council members responded to her comments and questions.

Mr. Christopher Heagele, the City Finance Director also congratulated Council for using the Laptops to conduct their meeting, and thanked all employees who assisted in making this happen.

Council had a short discussion on Council Committee meetings.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:00 on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Fleck by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk