

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
May 8, 2013

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
May 8, 2013
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers on the 6th floor of City Hall, One South Third 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: Brown, Fleck(6:05 p.m.), Ruggles, Vulcano, Warner(Phone), Warren, Panto (7)
Absent: None (0)

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

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

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

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mrs. Vulcano, the April 24, 2013 Council Meeting minutes were approved as submitted by the following vote:

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

RESOLUTION

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution recognizing the retirement of Hugh Harris, Director of Safety at Lafayette College.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Warren:

80-13

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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)

All Council members, Mr. Steckman, Police Chief Carl Scalzo, and Mr. Mitch Wein, Lafayette College, thanked Mr. Harris for his 30 years of service to Lafayette College, its students and faculty, and to the City of Easton

Mr. Harris was presented with a framed Resolution, and thanked Council for the honor bestowed on him and for recognizing his accomplishments and service.

PRESENTATION

The Karl Stirner Arts Trail & the Fountain at Nevin Park

Mr. Hubert Etchison, a representative from the College Hill Neighborhood Association gave a power point presentation regarding the Karl Stirner Arts Trail and how it could be expanded to include the Nevin Park fountain area but also to highlight other historic insights of Easton, and the restoration of a working fountain in Nevin Park.

Council members made comments and asked questions concerning the trail and fountain that were answered by Mr. Etchison, Mayor Panto, Becky Bradley, Director of Planning and Code, and Mr. Steckman.

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

PUBLIC COMMENT – (Agenda Items Only)

There were no comments or questions from the audience.

CONSENT AGENDA

On motion of Mr. Fleck and Mr. Brown the following items on the Consent Agenda were adopted by the following vote:

1. Bill No. 20, (Ordinance 5405), Amending Section 399-5, Permit exemption, of Chapter 399, Parking Permits, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. This Bill removes the words “handicapped meters” from the section.
2. Resolutions 81-2013, which repealed Resolution 51-2013 which was adopted by Council on March 13, 2013.
3. Resolution 82-2013, which authorizes the Police Department to file with PennDOT for a DUI Grant.

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4. Resolution 83-2013, which authorizes the expenditures of funds for Stormwater swale rehabilitation.
5. Resolution 84-2013, which authorizes the filing of an application with DEP for the purchase of new leaf collection equipment and recycling containers.

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

Nays: None (0)

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following report was received by Council:

- (a) The December 2012, January and February 2013 EAJSA minutes.
- (b) The April 2013 Monthly Fire Report.

Mayor Panto accepted the report on behalf of Council.

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

Mr. Brown, Chairman of the Finance Committee spoke regarding legislation that he would have for later in the meeting regarding approving a Lease Agreement and an Addendum to the Agreement with Adams Outdoor Advertising Limited Partnership.

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee spoke regarding special events during the spring and summer and reported that the Easton Main Street initiative had been awarded a 2013 accreditation.

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 creation of a Parking Meter Zone in the 400 block of Ferry Street, and in the North 4th Street Parking Lot, and creation of Scooter Parking Only zones in the Josephs Parking Lot and on the 300 block of Church Street. He also spoke regarding the reopening of the Farmers Market and commended Brittany Vokoun and Megan McBride for all of their work and dedication to the Market.

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

Mr. Fleck, Chairman of the Administration Committee reported that later in the meeting he would be tabling Bill No. 23, which would Amend Chapter 45, Departments, of the Code of the City of Easton, for further committee review.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor and Beth Knickerbocker, Assistant Solicitor had no report.

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Mr. Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor furnished Council with an explanation regarding the Legislation that would approve a Lease Agreement and an Addendum to the Agreement with Adams Outdoor for leasing of City property for the erection of a digital bill board.

Dr. Ruggles asked questions regarding an indemnification clause in the Agreement which were answered by Mr. Scheer, Mayor Panto and Mr. Steckman.

Becky Bradley, Director of Panning and Code spoke regarding the Zoning District for this type of sign and regarding existing signs

Mr. Steckman also explained how the sign could be used for emergency public information.

Mayor Panto reported that approval had been received from the County for a matching grant, that the City had been approved for, from the Department of Economic Development for the rehabilitation of 118 and 120 Northampton Street, handed out ID cards and key cards to Council members and explained the use of the key cards, said that Council members would be receiving invitations for a reception at the Sigal Museum on May 14, 2013, for the presentations of longevity awards for all of the downtown businesses that have been there for more then twenty-five years, and to present the "Easton" award to several persons who have changed the course of downtown Easton from urban renewal to historic preservation and in saving the State Theatre and the Bachmann House. He reported that on May 20, 2013, he would be hosting a reception for retiring Lafayette College President Daniel Weiss in the Gold Room of the Grand Eastonian.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence received by Council.

NEW BUSINESS

A May 1, 2013, memorandum, regarding requested Resolutions and Ordinances was received from Police Lieutenant Matthew Lohenitz.

Bill No. 21, Amending 560 Attachment 1-City of Easton, Table 1: Meter-Zones of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Codes of the City of Easton, Pa., 99, Parking Permits, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. was introduced by Mr. Warren and ordered processed for adoption.

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This Bill would amend Attachment 1- City of Easton, Table 1: Meter-Zones of Chapter 560 by adding Meter Zones on the 400 block of Ferry Street between S. 4th Street and S. 5th Street, and in the North 4th Street Parking Lot.

Dr. Ruggles asked if Credit Card meters would be used in the N. 4th Street Parking Lot.

Mr. Steckman and Mayor Panto said that would not at this time, explained why, and also spoke regarding the multi-space parking boxes.

Dr. Ruggles asked that the City evaluate where the Credit Card meters were located and what there usage was, and to see if they could be better used elsewhere.

Bill No. 22, Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa. was introduced by Mr. Warren and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would authorize the creation of "Scooter Parking Only" zones in the Joseph's Parking Lot and on the 300 block of Church Street, for parking of Scooters 50cc's or less, and creation of two "Load/Unload" zones in front of 140 Northampton Street.

Bill No. 23, Amending Chapter 45, Department, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was tabled, until June 12, 2013, on motion of Mr. Fleck and Mrs. Vulcano by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

This Bill would amend numerous sections in Chapter 45 of the Code of the City.

Bill No. 24, Amending Chapter 350 Markets, Public, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Mr. Fleck and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend numerous sections in Chapter 350, Markets, Public of the Code of the City.

Bill No. 25, Amending Sections 500-1, 500-2, and 500-3, of Chapter 500 Solid Waste; recycling, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa., was introduced by Dr. Warner and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would amend Sections 500-1, 500-2 and 500-3 to comply with Department of Environmental Protection requirements.

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Bill No. 26, Approving a Lease Agreement and an Addendum to the Agreement between the City of Easton and Adams Outdoor Advertising Limited Partnership was introduced by Mr. Brown and ordered processed for adoption.

This Bill would approve a Lease Agreement and an Addendum to the Agreement for the lease of Tax Parcel #L9 21 1 0837E located on Bushkill Drive.

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

Ms. Annie Porter, 152 Pennsylvania Avenue, spoke to Council regarding allowing backyard chickens in the City, explained why she was requesting this, and asked for an Exception to Article 23 of the City Code to allow no more than six non-commercial chickens on properties in the City.

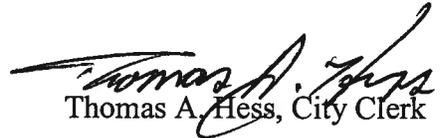
Mayor Panto referred this matter to Dr. Ruggles for further review with the Planning and Health Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p. m. on the motion of Mr. Fleck and Mr. Warren by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)


Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA

Stated Session
Wednesday
May 8, 2013
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 – April 24, 2013 Council meeting minutes
7. RESOLUTION – Recognizing the retirement of Hugh Harris
8. PRESENTATION – College Hill Neighborhood Assoc.; Nevin Park Fountain
9. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Agenda Items Only)
10. CONSENT AGENDA
 1. Bill 20, Amending section 399-5, Permit exemption, of Chapter 399, Parking Permits, of the City of Easton, Pa.
 2. Resolution Repealing Resolution 51-2013
 3. Resolution Authorizing Application for a DUI Grant.
 4. Resolution Authorizing Expending of Funds.
 5. Resolution Authorizing Application for a PADEP Grant.
11. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
 - (a) Minutes of the Easton Are Joint Sewer Authority for December 2012, January and February 2013.
 - (b) April 2013 Monthly Fire Report.
12. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
 - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
 - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
 - (c) Planning (Roger Ruggles)
 - (d) Public Safety (Jeffrey Warren)
 - (e) Public Works (Elinor Warner)
 - (f) Administration (Michael Fleck)
 - (g) Report of City Solicitor (Attorney William Murphy)
 - (h) Report of Mayor (Salvatore J. Panto Jr.)
13. CORRESPONDENCE

14. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

15. NEW BUSINESS

(a) Introduction of Legislative Bills.

1. Bill 21, Amending 560, Attachment 1-City of Easton, Table 1: Meter-Zones of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
2. Bill 22, Amending Article III, Traffic Control Map of Chapter 560, Vehicles and Traffic of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
3. Bill 23, Amending Chapter 45, Departments, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
4. Bill 24, Amending Chapter 350, Public Markets, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
5. Bill 25, Amending Sections 500-1, 500-2 and 500-3, of Chapter 500, Solid Waste; recycling, of the Code of the City of Easton, Pa.
6. Bill 26, Approving a Lease Agreement and an Addendum to the Agreement between the City of Easton and Adams Outdoor Advertising Limited Partnership.

16. PUBLIC COMMENT – (Any Matter)

17. ADJOURNMENT
