

Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.
October 27, 2010

Easton, Pa
Wednesday
October 27, 2010
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time at St. John's Lutheran Church, 330 Ferry Street, Easton, Pa. 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: Michael Fleck
Roger Ruggles
Elinor Warner
Mayor Panto (4)
Absent: Kenneth Brown
Sandra Vulcano
Jeff Warren (3)

Also in attendance were Rita M. Messa, Asst. City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor, Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor and Glenn Steckman, City Administrator. There were fourteen (14) other persons present.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

Yeas: Panto, Warner, Ruggles, Fleck, (4)
Nays: None (0)

ACTION ON MINUTES

On motion of Mr. Fleck and Dr. Warner the October 13, 2010 City Council meeting minutes and the second CDBG Public Hearing meeting minutes of October 13, 2010 were approved as submitted by the following vote:

Yeas: Fleck, Ruggles, Warner, Panto, (4)
Nays: None (0)

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PRESENTATION

A presentation was given by Lafayette College Students regarding the Governor Wolf Athenaeum Project.

Several students from Lafayette College participating in a summer program performed a complete economic analysis of the Governor Wolf Building including a detailed design and a complete cost analysis.

The students stated that the first floor of the building could possibly be used for a café and a bookstore. The second floor could house a local artist area, conference space and auditorium with state of the art projection and sound systems. The third floor could be used as office space, a yoga and dance studio. The goal is to make the building self sustainable. While doing this project if was realized that only half of the parking lot was really needed for parking and the rest of it could be green space with possible concerts, or flea markets.

The students were hoping that maybe next year a project could be done that would look into the overall energy savings for the building.

The estimated cost of this project would be around \$7,200,000.

It was stated that there has been collaboration with other institutes and that they have received a letter from the Philadelphia Art Museum stated that if this project met their standards they would possibly share some of their art work.

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD (Agenda Items Only)

There were no comments at this time.

REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL

The following reports were received by Council:

- a) EAJSA minutes of their July, August & September, 2010 meetings

REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

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

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Mr. Ruggles also stated that while reading the minutes of the EAJSA he noticed that a long standing lawsuit between the Authority the City and the State has not yet been settled and that they need to move forward with this issue.

There was a brief discussion on this matter.

Dr. Warner, Chairperson of the Public Works Committee stated that she had no legislation under her committee, however, she would be moving the legislation that was proposed by Mr. Warren at the last meeting.

Mr. Fleck, Chairperson of the Administration Committee spoke regarding legislation that would be before Council later in the meeting.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor had no report.

Mr. Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor had no report

Mayor Panto stated the Bill No. 37 that was introduced at the October 13, 2010 meeting will be acted upon at the meeting scheduled for November 10, 2010.

Mayor Panto also stated that the Scarecrow Festival was a hugh success.

Mayor Panto stated that the Merchants are getting ready to do their holiday advertising and they asked about free meter parking for the holidays. Mayor Panto stated that, in the past, free meter parking was allowed from the Friday after Thanksgiving through New Years Day.

After a brief discussion on this matter it was decided that a Resolution would be placed on the agenda for the November 10, 2010 meeting to allow for the free meter parking beginning on November 26, 2010, which is the Friday after Thanksgiving, and each Saturday through the holiday season.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Bill No. 34, (Ordinance No. 5273) Approving a Three Year Extension Agreement for Police Services with the Borough of West Easton was adopted on motion of Dr. Warner and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

Yeas: Ruggles, Warner, Panto, Fleck (4)

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance No. 5273 approves a Three Year Extension Agreement for Police Services with the Borough of West Easton.

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Bill No. 35, (Ordinance No. 5274) Approving a Modification Cooperation Agreement between the City of Easton, Pa., and the Housing Authority of the City of Easton was adopted on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Warner, Panto, Fleck, Ruggles (4)

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance No. 5274 approves a Modification Cooperation Agreement between the City of Easton and the Housing Authority of the City of Easton.

Bill No. 36, (Ordinance No. 5275) Approving an Agreement of Sale between the City of Easton and Xavier David Henderson was adopted on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Fleck, Ruggles, Warner (4)

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance No. 5275 approves an Agreement of Sale between the City of Easton and Xavier David Henderson for 208 Palmer Street, Easton, Pa.

Bill No. 38, (Ordinance No. 5276) Approving the Benefits and Compensation for Elected Officials of the City of Easton was adopted on motion of Mr. Fleck and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Fleck, Ruggles, Warner, Panto (4)

Nays: None (0)

Ordinance No. 5276 approves the Benefits and Compensation for Elected Officials of the City of Easton, Pa.

CORRESPONDENCE

There was no correspondence.

NEW BUSINESS

On October 19, 2010 a letter regarding Certificates of Appropriateness was received from Christine Ussler, AIA.

NOTE: As done previously, the following resolutions were introduced as individual resolutions but would be voted on with one vote as long as all of Council was in agreement

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The next three items on the Agenda were proposed Resolutions which would approve Certificates of Appropriateness's for 36 N. 3rd Street, 6 S. 3rd Street and 116 S. 3rd Street.

The following Resolution(s) were introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

193-2010, 194-2010, 195-2010

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

Yeas: Warner, Panto, Fleck, Ruggles (4)

Nays: None (0)

A Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles which would approve the 2011 CDBG Allocations.

Dr. Ruggles asked about the eligibility of the Ambassadors Program and the Minsi Trail Boy Scouts Program. Mr. Michael Brett of the Redevelopment Authority explained the differences of the programs which affect the eligibility.

Dr. Ruggles stated that the packets that are given to the organizations to fill out must be reviewed and that next year there should be a pre-application meeting with all of the organizations that wish to apply for funding.

There were some brief discussions on several issues regarding various organization requests.

The resolution was amended on motion of Dr. Warner and Mr. Fleck to change a few of the allocations as follows:

<u>ORGANIZATION</u>	<u>FROM</u>	<u>TO</u>
Community Action Committee of the Lehigh Valley	\$ 3,571	\$ 3,570
Boys and Girls Club of Easton	\$ 2,979	\$ 2,980
Communities in Schools	\$ 4,219	\$ 4,220
City of Easton Police – Crime Awareness.	\$64,143	\$64,142

The motion was adopted by the following vote:

Yeas: Warner, Panto, Fleck, Ruggles (4)

Nays: None (0)

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The following amended Resolution approving the 2011 CDBG allocations was approved on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Dr. Warner.

196-2010

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

Yeas: Panto, Fleck, Ruggles, Warner (4)

Nays: None (0)

CITIZENS RIGHT TO BE HEARD

There were no comments at this time.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45 p.m. on the motion of Mr. Fleck and Dr. Warner by the following vote:

Yeas: Panto, Warner, Ruggles, Fleck, (4)

Nays: None (0)

Rita M. Messa, Asst. City Clerk