

**Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.**  
**April 24, 2019**

Easton, Pa  
Wednesday  
April 24, 2019  
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in stated session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers, located on the Third floor of City Hall, 123 S. Third Street, to consider any business that may lawfully be brought before the body.

The invocation was given by Mr. Brown, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

Present: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (7)  
Absent: None (0)

Also in attendance was Thomas A. Hess, City Clerk, William Murphy, City Solicitor, Joel Scheer, Assistant City Solicitor and Luis Campos, City Administrator. There were approximately sixty-five (65) other persons present.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

On motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Mr. Brown, the Agenda was amended by removing the Public Hearing for the 2019 Community Development Block Grant Program and the project presentation by Chris Chin from the Agenda by the following vote:

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (7)  
Nays: None (0)

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

Yeas: Panto, Vulcano, Ruggles, O'Connell, Melan, Edinger, Brown (7)  
Nays: None (0)

**ACTION ON THE MINUTES**

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. O'Connell the minutes of the April 10, 2019 Council meeting were approved, as submitted, by the following vote:

Yeas: Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (7)  
Nays: None (0)

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## **PROCLAMATION**

At this time Mayor Panto asked the City Clerk to read a Proclamation, which he issued, proclaiming the month of May 2019 as Building Safety Month, which he did.

## **MAYORS RESTORATION AWARDS**

At this time Mayor Panto presented his Restoration Awards to the following persons for restoration of properties throughout the City, and thanked them for all of their hard work in restoring the properties.

1. Struck Funeral Home
2. College Hill Tavern
3. Tenza Dental
4. Parkview Event Center
5. Dan Devine
6. George & Shari Marion
7. Habitat for Humanity
8. Borko Milosev
9. Jessie Bosco & Frank Finnocchio
10. Mark Calafatello
11. VM Development

## **PUBLIC COMMENT – on Agenda Items**

There was no public comment.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

On motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Dr. Ruggles the following items were adopted by the following vote:

Resolutions 42, 43, 44-2019, which approved Certificates of Appropriateness for 19 S. Bank, 140C Northampton and 527-529 Northampton Streets.

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (7)

Nays: None (0)

## **REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

There were no reports received by Council:

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## **REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

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

Mrs. Vulcano, Chairman of the Economic Development Committee, reported that there was a Main Street Business Roundtable meeting on Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> that was attended by John Kingsley, Director of Economic Development, who introduced himself, and gave an update on upcoming projects, reported that she had attended the Northeast Pennsylvania League meeting at the Norristown Zoo and said that it was a very good networking event. She reported that a 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing would be held on May 8, 2019, and later in that meeting a vote would be taken on the CDBG allocations.

Mr. O'Connell, Chairman of the Planning and Code Committee, had no report.

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

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

Mr. Edinger, Chairman of the Administration Committee, had no report.

Mr. Murphy, City Solicitor had no report.

Mayor Panto had no report.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

The following correspondence was received by Council:

- a. Dan Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation, letter congratulating the City of Easton's recognition as a 2018 Tree City USA.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

Bill 10, (Ordinance 5675), Approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Easton and PD North Third Street, LLC. was adopted on motion of Mrs. Vulcano and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

Mr. O'Connell asked what the maximum height was allowed for this building.

Mayor Panto said that it was 120'.

Yeas: Edinger, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (5)

Nays: Melan, O'Connell (2)

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This Ordinance approved a Purchase and Sale Agreement for the sale and purchase of the property located at 56 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street for \$1,100,000.00 by PD North Third Street, LLC.

**NEW BUSINESS**

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Client Services Agreement with Tracy L. Werner d/b/a Blabbermouth Communications.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mr. Edinger:

45-2019

Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Melan expressed some concerns, they had, with the Agreement regarding the payment of Out of Pocket Expenses, and what those expenses could be. .

Mr. Campos and Tracey Werner and Attorney Scheer spoke to Dr. Ruggles' and Mr. Melan's concerns.

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Melan the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED section was amended by adding "not to exceed \$200 per month" at the end of the paragraph, by the following vote:

Yeas: Melan, Edinger, Brown, Panto, Vulcano, Ruggles, O'Connell (7)

Nays: None (0)

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

Yeas: O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan (7)

Nays: None (0)

The Client Services Agreement was also amended by adding "not to exceed \$200 per month in two sections of the Agreement.

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve the purchase of a Parking Inventory System from Parking Logix for the South Third Street Parking Garage.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

46-2019

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

Yeas: Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell (7)

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve a Municipal Lease Agreement with TD Equipment for the purchase of Public Works Equipment.

The following Resolution was introduced by Dr. Ruggles:

47-2019

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

Yeas: Panto, Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano (7)

Nays: None (0)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would approve an extension to a Letter Of Intent to Proceed with the DaVinci Science Center.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mayor Panto:

48-2019

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

Yeas: Brown, Edinger, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto (6)

Nays: Melan (1)

The next item on the Agenda was a proposed Resolution which would authorize the Administration to move forward with an appropriate plan for the construction of a new Parking Garage Facility at 37 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

The following Resolution was introduced by Mrs. Vulcano:

49-2019

On motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. Brown the above Resolution was amended by amending the Resolution to read as follows, by the following vote:

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“RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Easton, Pa., hereby authorizes the City Administration to move forward in the planning phase of a new Parking Garage Facility at 37 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street. Periodic reports on the plans, as they develop, will be provided to Council at regularly scheduled Council meetings.”

Mr. Campos and Mr. Hopkins spoke on the plan and costs that could be incurred.

Mr. O’Connell asked if any thought had gone into repurposing the property if the parking garage was no longer needed.

Mayor Panto said that the garage would be constructed in a way that it could be used as a residential property at a later date.

Yeas: Brown, Panto, Vulcano, Ruggles, O’Connell, Melan, Edinger (7)

Nays: None (0)

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

Yeas: Edinger, O’Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown (6)

Nays: Melan (1)

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**(On any item)**

Laini Abraham, 207 Church Street, spoke regarding the parking lot located on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, next to the Verizon Building, a petition, that was being circulated requesting that the green space, located at N. 4<sup>th</sup> & Church Streets be preserved, spoke regarding the planning phase for the proposed Parking Garage on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and requested Public Hearings or Public meetings be held on the proposed plan.

Council members made comments and asked questions regarding the petition, and spoke to Ms. Abraham regarding the plan for the proposed Parking Garage,

Abigale Diaz-Crofts, 350 Church Street, spoke regarding her residence in Easton, asked the City to do a survey of the downtown residents regarding the proposed parking garage and open space at N.4<sup>th</sup> and Church Street, and spoke regarding traffic on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, and Church Street.

Mr. Campos spoke to Ms. Diaz-Crofts’ concerns.

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Jennifer Rittenhouse, 26 N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street, spoke regarding the request for a public Hearing or Public meeting on this matter and said that the downtown residents wanted and needed to be part of this process.

Council members spoke to Ms. Rittenhouse's concerns.

Joe Kaminski, 124 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, spoke regarding parking in the area of his residence, asked for a copy of the latest parking study, said that more and more businesses are opening and given variances for parking, and there is not enough room for the resident parking.

Mayor Panto spoke to Mr. Kaminski's concerns.

Terrence Miller 645 Ferry Street asked questions regarding funds that were received through RCAP grants for the construction of the parking garage, on proposal summaries on the N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street project and spoke regarding the release of information to quell rumors, and to build trust.

Jared Mast, 325 Northampton Street, spoke regarding the petition, Church Street development, the proposed parking garage, the green space at N. 4<sup>th</sup> and Church Streets and asked for the City to get input from the residents and property owners.

Council members spoke to Mr. Mast's comments

Curt Ehly, 305 W. Monroe Street spoke regarding the Public Market, parking area on Church Street, vehicle traffic, pedestrian foot traffic, height and scope of the proposed building on N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, and trash and trash removal from the proposed building. He also spoke regarding the difficulty he was having on accessing City information on the City's Web Site.

Harry Dolan, 5 N. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, spoke regarding parking at the existing N. 4th Street parking lot, if that lot is eliminated where could he park with a resident sticker and suggested rather than building an above ground parking lot was there any thought about going underground.

Mike Snyder, 816 Reynolds, requested locked charging stations be located around the City to assist citizens with charging of their cell phones.


Dr. Ruggles and Mayor Panto spoke regarding his request.

**ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m., on motion of Dr. Ruggles and Mr. O'Connell by the following vote.

Yeas: Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Vulcano, Panto, Brown, Edinger (7)

Nays: None (0)



Thomas A. Hess  
City Clerk





# CITY OF EASTON

## PENNSYLVANIA


April 18,, 2019

### COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE

A meeting of City Council has been scheduled for Wednesday, April 24, 2019 beginning at 6:00 p.m., for the transaction of Regular Business, and to conduct a 2<sup>nd</sup> Public Hearing regarding the 2019 CDBG Program.

The meeting will be held in Council Chambers, located on the Third floor of City Hall, 123 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> Street, Easton, Pa. 18042

All meetings of City Council are open to the Public and are accessible to persons with disabilities.



Thomas A. Hess  
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA

Stated Session  
Wednesday  
April 24, 2019  
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 10, 2019 Council meeting minutes
7. PROCLAMATION – Building Safety Month
8. MAYOR’S RESTORATION AWARDS
9. PUBLIC HEARING – 2019 CDBG Program
10. PRESENTATION – Chris Chin - project presentation
11. PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items Only.
12. CONSENT AGENDA
  - a. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 19 S. Bank Street
  - b. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 140 C. Northampton Street
  - c. Resolution approving a Certificate of Appropriateness for 527-529 Northampton Street
13. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
14. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES
  - (a) Finance (Kenneth Brown)
  - (b) Economic Development (Sandra Vulcano)
  - (c) Planning and Code (David O’Connell)
  - (d) Public Safety (Peter Melan)
  - (e) Public Works (Roger Ruggles)
  - (f) Administration (James Edinger)
  - (g) Report of City Solicitor (Attorney William Murphy)
  - (h) Report of Mayor (Salvatore J. Panto Jr.)
15. CORRESPONDENCE
  - (a) Dam Lambe, Arbor Day Foundation, Letter, congratulating Easton recognition as a 2018 Tree City USA

16. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - a. Bill 10, Approving a Purchase and Sale Agreement between the City of Easton and PD North Third Street, LLC
  
17. NEW BUSINESS
  - a. Resolution approving an agreement with Blabbermouth
  - b. Resolution approving the purchase of a Parking Inventory System.
  - c. Resolution a Municipal Lease Agreement with TD Equipment Finance.
  - d. Resolution approving an Extension to a Letter of Intent with DaVinci.
  - e. Resolution authorizing the City to move forward with an appropriate plan for the construction of a new Parking Garage Facility on N. 4<sup>th</sup> Street.
  
18. PUBLIC COMMENT -- (Any Matter)
  
19. ADJOURNMENT