

# **Minutes of the Council of the City of Easton, Pa.**

**January 2, 2024**

Easton, Pa  
Tuesday  
January 2, 2024  
6:00 p.m.

City Council met in states session at the above date and time, in Council Chambers, located on the third floor of City Hall, 123 S. 3<sup>rd</sup> 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: Brown, Edinger, Melan, O'Connell, Ruggles, Sultana, Panto (7)

Absent: None (0)

Also in attendance were Rita M. Messa, City Clerk, Luis Campos, City Administrator, Joel Scheer, City Solicitor. There were fifty-six plus (56 +) other people present at the start of the meeting.

## **APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

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

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

Nays: None (0)

## **ACTION ON MINUTES**

On motion of Mr. Brown and Mr. O'Connell the minutes of the December 13, 2023 Council meeting minutes were approved by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

## **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

At this time, Mayor Panto presented an engraved tray to Mr. Peter Melan and Mr. David O'Connell thanking them for their years of service to the City of Easton and welcomed them back in the future. Mayor Panto stated that if either of them were interested in serving on any Authority, Board or Commission they should let him know.

Mr. O'Connell thanked Mayor Panto and all of Council and stated that he was honored to participate in the City of Easton's Revitalization both economically and culturally. He also stated that Easton is getting better and better and has an endless supply of volunteers.

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Mr. O'Connell thanked all of the senior members of the Administration, the City Administrator, the Solicitors, the City Controller, the City Clerk and many other City staff members for all of their work, help and dedication to the City.

Mr. O'Connell also congratulated Mr. Pintabone and Mrs. Rose on their new roles and stated that they would both be outstanding additions to Council.

Mr. O'Connell also thanked his wife and children for all of their support – they are his rock and inspiration.

Mr. Melan thanked Council, the Administration and the City Clerk for everything and stated that he was indebted to everyone for all of the knowledge that he has gained during his time on Council.

Mr. Melan also thanked his wife Kristin and his children.

Mr. Melan congratulated and wished the new members of Council the best of luck.

Mr. Brown thanked Mr. Melan for his last eight (8) years of service.

Mr. Brown also thanked Mr. O'Connell for his years of service as well as his commitment to the City of Easton ever before becoming a member of council.

Dr. Ruggles stated that the work was not always easy and came along with some stress but he thanked Mr. Melan and Mr. O'Connell for their service to the City of Easton and wished them well.

Mrs. Sultana stated that Mr. O'Connell was the first councilperson to reach out to her when she was elected to Council telling her that she could contact him if she needed anything. Mrs. Sultana thanked him for his service.

Mrs. Sultana also thanked Mr. Melan for his timeless efforts and selfless service during his time on Council.

Mrs. Sultana also welcomed the new members of Council, Mr. Pintabone and Mrs. Rose.

Mr. Edinger reiterated what the other council members said and wished both Mr. Melan and Mr. O'Connell the best going forward.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

### **Agenda Items Only**

Former Mayor Phil Mitman, 910 Paxinosa Avenue thanked all of Council for their work. He stated that he knew many of the former Mayors of the City and the reason for the City's success is that all of the office holders have all talked to each other and have come to agreements and the private sectors have noticed that and all of this makes the City of Easton successful.

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## **CONSENT AGENDA**

The following items on the Consent Agenda were approved on motion of Dr. Ruggles seconded by Mr. O'Connell by the following vote:

Bill No. 44 (Ord. 5848) - An Ordinance amending sections in Chapter 560 – Vehicles and Traffic (Meters)

Bill No. 45 (Ord. 5849) – An Ordinance amending Chapter 560 – Vehicles and Traffic (Trash Pickup)

Bill No. 46 (Ord. 5850) – An Ordinance amending 2023 General Fund Budget

Bill No. 47 (Ord. 5851) – An Ordinance amending 2023 Debt Service Budget

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

Nays: None (0)

## **REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL**

There were no reports received by Council.

## **CORRESPONDENCE**

There was no correspondence received by Council.

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

There was no unfinished business.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

There was no new business.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

**(on any item)**

There was no public comment at this time.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:16 p.m., on motion of Mr. Brown and Dr. Ruggles by the following vote:

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

Nays: None (0)

  
Rita M. Messa,  
City Clerk



# CITY OF EASTON

## PENNSYLVANIA

City Clerk's Office

December 27, 2023

### **COUNCIL MEETING NOTICE**

A meeting of City Council has been scheduled for Tuesday, January 2, 2024 beginning at 6:00 p.m. for the transaction of Regular Business followed by the “Swearing In” of newly elected officials along with the City Council Reorganization Meeting.

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

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

The City of Easton Council Meeting will also be live streamed starting at 6:00 p.m.

Live Stream video: <http://bit.ly/EastonLiveStream>

**MASKS ARE OPTIONAL**

Rita M. Messa  
City Clerk

CITY COUNCIL  
AGENDA

Stated Session  
Tuesday  
January 2, 2024  
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 – Approving minutes of December 13, 2023 meeting
7. PRESENTATION OF GIFTS (Mr. Peter Melan and Mr. David O’Connell)
8. PUBLIC COMMENT – Agenda Items Only
9. CONSENT AGENDA
  - (a) Bill No. 44 – An Ordinance amending Sections in Chapter 560 (Vehicles and Traffic – Meter Zones)
  - (b) Bill No. 45 – An Ordinance amending Chapter 560 (Vehicles and Traffic – Parking Restrictions for Trash Pick Up)
  - (c) Bill No. 46 – Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget
  - (d) Bill No. 47 – Amending the 2023 Debt Service Budget
10. REPORTS RECEIVED BY COUNCIL
11. CORRESPONDENCE
12. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
13. NEW BUSINESS
14. PUBLIC COMMENT – On Any Matter
15. ADJOURNMENT

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SWEARING IN OF NEWLY ELECTED OFFICIALS

1. Mayor – Salvatore J. Panto Jr. – Honorable Jack Panella
2. Councilperson – Kenneth Brown – Honorable Samuel Murray
3. Councilperson – Crystal Rose – Honorable Brian Panella
4. Councilperson – Frank Pintabone – Honorable Brian Panella
5. City Controller – Christopher Heagele – Mayor Salvatore J. Panto, Jr.