

The City Council met in regular session in the Council Chambers on Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at 9:00 a.m.

Council Members present: Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

On motion of Mr. Aleksandrowicz, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, the reading of the minutes of the meeting of November 4, 2009 were dispensed with and same adopted with copies furnished to the members of City Council by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, Jones, and Schember. 5. Nays. 0.

Copies of the bills under date of November 13th and November 20th were given to City Council and same adopted by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, Jones and Schember. 5. Nays. 0., with the exception of invoices to the NATO Centers on which Mrs. Jenkins-Husband abstained from voting.

By Mr. Aleksandrowicz, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That **Councilman Curtis Jones** is appointed to serve as President of the City Council for the meeting of November 18, 2009.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk

By Mr. Jones, Council File Ordinance #15,687, Pending Official File Ordinance #63-2009

an ordinance appropriating the sum of **\$200,000.00** from unappropriated and unanticipated revenue from Account #460-0000-0000-3111 Debt Service Fund Balance and providing for the expenditure thereof by allocating said sum to Account #460-1061-0000-4871 '03 Cell Tower Principal. (The funds being appropriated will be used by the City to pay off the balance on a loan ahead of schedule from PNC Bank as part of the 2008 City of Erie/Water Authority Lease Extension)

November 18, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Jones, Seconded by Mr. Aleksandrowicz, having read Council File Ordinance #15,687, Pending Official File Ordinance #63-2009, does hereby adopt on Final Passage by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Council File Ordinance #15,688

an ordinance approving the plan of the **Erie Sewer Authority** for the issuance in an aggregate amount not to exceed **\$15,625,000.00 Sewer Revenue Bonds**, Series of 2010 and setting forth the amount, interest rates and maturity dates of the bonds; authorizing the authority to proceed with the plan of financing; and to do all other acts necessary to carry out the provisions of the ordinance which is to become effective immediately upon final passage.

November 18, 2009. City Council on motion of Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mr. Jones, having read Council File Ordinance #15,688 does hereby adopt on First Reading by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 4. Nays. Mr. Cappabianca. 1.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mr. Council File Ordinance #15,689

an ordinance fixing the **Tax Rate** for all city purposes for the Fiscal Year 2010 (beginning on January 1, 2010 and ending on December 31, 2010).

November 18, 2009. Action on the foregoing ordinance will be considered at the Council meeting of November 25, 2009.

By Mr. Council File Ordinance #15,690

an ordinance adopting the **General Fund** and certain other budgets for the Fiscal Year beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010.

November 18, 2009. Action on the foregoing ordinance will be considered at the Council meeting of November 25, 2009.

By Mr. Cappabianca, Council File Ordinance #15,691

an ordinance closing and vacating a public alley located on **West 13th Street between Peach and State Streets**, running north 125.51' and being approximately 30' wide at the request of the Redevelopment Authority and the Erie Parking Authority. (The alley will remain open north of the 125.51 footmark so that it can continue to be used by L. Press and Community Health Net.)

November 18, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Cappabianca, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, having read Council File Ordinance #15,691 does hereby adopt on First Reading by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

By Mr. Aleksandrowicz, Council File Ordinance #15,692

an ordinance requiring that the City of Erie shall invest into the **City of Erie Water Reserve Capital Fund** all monies received from any future lease agreement extensions or other original lease modifications granted to the Erie City Water Authority.

November 18, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Aleksandrowicz, Seconded by Mr. Jones, having read Council File Ordinance #15,692, does hereby adopt on First Reading by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

By Mr. Cappabianca, Seconded by Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Resolved, etc.,

That the Department of Public Works is respectfully requested to conduct a survey of the cost of **installation of backflows** in the most critical areas of the city during heavy rain and report their findings back to Council for possible inclusion in the Capital Improvement Budget for 2010.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That the City Solicitor is respectfully requested to draft an ordinance to **ban the use of hand held cell phones while driving** in the City of Erie and

Be It Further Resolved, that the City Clerk is authorized and directed to schedule and advertise for a Public Hearing for **Wednesday, December 2, 2009 at approximately 10:30 a.m.**

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That **Reverend Nettie Smith**, 538 East Fourth Street, is hereby appointed to the **Erie City Water Authority** for a five-year term, expiring the first Monday of January 2015.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

To: President and Members of City Council

November 12, 2009

From: Randy DeSanto, Fiscal Administrator

Department of Economic & Community Development

HOME Program Grant Contract Amendments (2)

These resolutions authorize the Mayor and other appropriate City officials to execute amendments to contract agreements with HANDS and St. Martin Center for HOME Program grant activities. The grant amount to be provided to Saint Martin Center will increase by \$150,000 from \$88,264 to \$238,264. The amount of HOME funds to be loaned to HANDS will increase by \$75,000 from \$180,000 to \$255,000. These changes are part of the proposed amendment to the HOME Partnership Investment Program that was advertised in the Erie-Times News on April 24, 2009. The proposed amendment was available for public viewing and comments for 30 days prior to submission to the U. S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. At the June 3, 2009 Council meeting, City Council approved resolutions to transfer funding for these projects from completed or cancelled projects in various program years. If you have any questions, please call me at 870-1264.

By Mr. Jones, Seconded by Mr. Cappabianca, Resolved, etc.,

That the Mayor and other appropriate City officials are authorized to amend the agreement between the City of Erie and **St. Martin Center** pertaining to the Homebuyer Program. The amendment will increase the contract amount by \$150,000, from \$88,264.00 to \$238,264.00.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mr. Jones, Seconded by Mr. Cappabianca, Resolved, etc.,

That the Mayor and other appropriate City officials to amend the agreement between the City of Erie and **HANDS** pertaining to the 811 Rental Program, increasing the contract amount by \$75,000 from \$180,000 to \$255,000.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

Gregory A. Karle, Esquire
Erie City Solicitor, 626 State Street, Erie, Pa. 16501
Re: Purchase of 916 German Street

November 6, 2009

Dear Attorney Karle:

The undersigned represents the City Mission of the Evangelical Churches of Erie, Pennsylvania (Erie City Mission) who wishes to purchase property commonly known as 916 German Street which is presently owned by the City of Erie. Enclosed is a copy of the current deed of record and the profile information from the County website. In a conversation with Kim Green, she indicated that neither the City nor the Redevelopment Authority has any plans for the property and confirmed the same in writing (see enclosed)

In consideration of the conveyance by quit claim deed to the Erie City Mission, the Mission will pay the back taxes (itemized on the enclosed sheet) in the amount of \$407.06, plus the sum of \$250.00 for a total of \$657.06.

In the event you approve this purchase, it would be appreciated if you could present a recommendation and resolution to the City Council for placement on their agenda for the last meeting of this year, which I understand is scheduled for December 16, 2009. If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Very truly yours,
SESLER & SESLER
S/ William G. Sesler, Esq.

That pursuant to the correspondence dated November 6, 2009 from Attorney William G. Sesler for and on behalf of the **City Mission of the Evangelical Churches of Erie**, (commonly referred to as Erie City Mission), including a bid for the purchase of property located at **916 German Street**, (located north of Bethany Lutheran Church and being some 30 x 82-1/2 feet in area), identified by Erie County Assessment Index #(15) 2011-103, for the sum of \$250.00, plus payment of back taxes in the amount of \$407.06, for a total purchase price of \$657.00 is hereby approved.

November 18, 2009. At the request of William G. Sesler, Esq. action on the above resolution was deferred until December 16, 2009.

To: Mrs. Rubye Jenkins-Husband, City Council Liaison November 11, 2009
From: James M. Morris, EIT, Project Engineer
Re: Resolutions to approve change orders
Griswold Park Renovations Project - General Construction
Griswold Park Renovations - Electrical Construction

Resolutions to approve the following change orders will be presented to City Council at their Wednesday, November 18, 2009 meeting.

- * Griswold Park Renovations Project - General Construction, Bid No. 1623-08A in the amount of \$11,051.35 to Eriez Construction, Inc.
- * Griswold Park Renovations Project - Electrical Construction, Bid No. 1623-08B, in the amount of \$5,069.00 to Doan Pyramid, Keystone Electric Division

These change orders will increase the Bid No. 1623-08A contract amount from \$628,937.30 to \$639,978.65 and Bid No. 1623-08B contract amount from \$47,117.00 to \$52,186.00. These contracts successfully renovated Griswold Park including the installation of concrete sidewalks, ADA accessible curb ramps, an increase in park green space, a fountain central to the park, as well as lighting throughout the park.

These change orders will finalize the project. Line item breakdowns of the change orders have been attached to the resolutions. Please contact me at 870-1395 if you have any questions.

Change Order #1 - Eriez Construction, Inc. - Griswold Park Renovation Project - General Construction Bid No. 1623-08A

	Item	Quantity	Description - Unit Price	Total
Add	4	1,448 S.F.	Remove Existing concrete Walk	\$ 767.44
Deduct	5	1,548 S.F.	Remove existing Asphalt	510.84
Deduct	6	103 L.F.	Remove Existing Curb	875.50
Deduct	8	137 L.F.	Full Depth Curb	5,171.75
Deduct	15	183 C.Y.	New Topsoil	8,784.00
Add	16	898 C.Y.	Clean Fill	21,552.00
Deduct	18	1 L.S.	Irrigation Conduit Sleeves	5,500.00

Add	24	20 L.F.	Reset Salvaged Granite curb	460.00
Add	37	1 E.A.	Griswold Plague Clean and Reset	500.00
Deduct	38	4 E.A.	Detectable Warnings	1,480.00
Add	N/A	476 C.Y.	Concrete Removal under Asphalt Paving	27,846.00
Deduct	N/A	18,595 S.F.	Welded Wire Mesh Credit	11,157.00
Deduct	N/A	1,100 L.F.	Sidewalk Rebar	990.00
Deduct	N/A	50 C.Y.	Concrete Subbase Credit	5,605.00
			Change Order #1 Amount	\$ 11,051.35

Original Contract Sum: \$ 628,927.30
Final Contract Sum: \$ 639,978.65

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,
That Change Order #1 on the contract of Eriez Construction, Inc., at 2218 East 30th Street, Erie, Pa. for the Griswold Park Renovations Project - General Construction, Bid NO. 1623-08A, as recommended and concurred with by the Bureau of Engineering, be approved as follows:

Original Contract Amount:	\$628,927.30
Change Order (per attachment) Add	11,051.35
Final Contract Amount:	\$639,978.65

The same is hereby received by City Council and concurred with and that copies of the resolution be ordered attached to the original contract and that additional copies be forwarded to the contractor, Engineer and other interested parties.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and ones. 5. Nays. 0.
November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

Change Order #1 Doan Pyramid-Keystone Electric Division - Griswold Park Renovation Project - Electrical Construction Bid No. 1623-08B

Item	Quantity	Description/Unit Price	Total
Add	N/A	1 L.S. Additional Fountain Grounding	\$ 4,000.00
Add	4	1 L.S. Install Ground and Weep Tubes at Light Pole Bases	804.00
Deduct	8	1 L.S. 3" Conduit sleeves under future sidewalk	-627.00
Deduct	N/A	1 L.S. Delete feed to Irrigation Panel	-150.00
Add	N/A	1 L.S. Contractor controls for pole-mounted Receptacles and fountain lighting Interconnect to fountain level switch	- 1,042.00 \$5,069.00
Original Contract Sum:			\$47,117.00
Final Contract Sum:			\$ 52,186.00

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,
That Change Order #1 on the contract of **Doan Pyramid**, Keystone Electric Division, 3125 Brandes Street, Erie, Pa., for the Griswold Park Renovation Project-Electrical Construction, Bid #1623-08B, as recommended by the Bureau of Engineering be approved as follows:

Original Contract Amount:	\$47,117.00
Change Order (per attachment: ADD	5,069.00
Final Contract Amount:	\$52,186.00

The same is hereby received by City Council and concurred with and that copies of the resolution be ordered attached to the original contract and that additional copies be forwarded to the Contractor, Engineer and other interested parties.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.
November 18, 2009. Signed by the President. Attested by the City Clerk.

To: Ms. Rubye Jenkins-Husband, City Council Liaison November 18, 2009
From: Jon Tushak, P. E., City Engineer
Subject: City Council Resolution - Change Order #3 -
Add and refeed underground boxes for connection points for portable services
Project: Proposed Perry Square Renovation - Phase I - Electrical Construction

A resolution to award Change Order No. 3 on the contract for the above referenced project to Doan Pyramid, LLC, Keystone Electric Division, 3125 Brandes Street, Erie, Pa., in the amount of \$18,880.00 will be presented to City Council at their Wednesday, November 18, 2009 meeting. The current contract amount is \$372,674.00. The revised contract amount is \$391,554.00.

The change order will provide for the adding and refeeding of electrical service to seven new and existing underground electrical boxes strategically placed to serve events in the park. Temporary service panels can be connected to these proposed boxes to eliminate the time and material needed to string extension cords around the park significant distances from the service panels located at each corner of the east and west parks. The success of the events in the parks requires more connection points to serve the growing needs of the vendors and participants.

This project is to be charged to General Fund budget code 002-0713-0000-4075. Please contact me at extension 1377 if you have any questions.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,
That Change Order #3 on the contract of **Doan Pyramid, LLC**, Keystone Electric Division, 3125 Brandes Street, Erie Pa., for the proposed Perry Square Renovation, Phase 1 - Electrical Construction, Bid 1616-08, adding the sum of \$18,880.00 for the adding and refeeding of existing and new underground boxes W, X, T, Q, R, S, U to be connection points for portable service panels, as recommended and concurred with by the Bureau of Engineering, increasing the revised contract price from \$372,674.00 to \$391,554.00 is hereby received by City Council and concurred with and copies of this resolution are to be ordered attached to the original contract. Additional copies are to be forwarded to the contractor, Engineer and other interested parties.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.
November 18, 2009. Signed by the President. Attested by the City Clerk.

To: Rubye Jenkins-Husband, City Council Liaison November 12, 2009
From: David Mulvihill, Asst. Director of Public Works
Re: Janitorial Services Contract

On the Agenda for the November 18, 2009 City Council meeting is a resolution to extend the Janitorial Services contract with ISS Facility Services for an additional two years for the following amount:

- * 2010 - \$86,160.72 (1.5% increase over 2009)
- * 2011 - \$87,399.12 (1.4% increase over 2010)

ISS facility Services has performed the work over the past two years and has done a tremendous job of communicating with city staff, cleaning the building and performing additional tasks upon request.

If you have any questions or need additional information, please contract me at 870-1451.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That the proper City officials are authorized and directed to enter into a two year contract extension with **ISS Facility Services**, 101 S. Mercer Street, Suite 206, New Castle, Pa., for providing Janitorial Services for the City of Erie Municipal Building for the sum of \$86,160.72 for 2010 and \$87,399.12 for 2011 and His Honor the Mayor and the City Controller are hereby authorized and directed to execute said contract on behalf of the City.

Be It Further Resolved, that the City Council does hereby ratify and confirm the said transaction which is to be charged to Public Buildings General Fund #002-0723-0000-4059.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.
November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That the proper City officials are authorized and directed to enter into a contract extension agreement for the leasing of sixty (60) used electric golf carts for Downing Golf Course and ten (10) used gas golf carts for J. C. Martin Golf Course for the 2010 season from **Zanotti Motor Co.**, 170 Pittsburgh Road, Butler, Pa., at the 2009 rate of \$36,675.00. (Golf cart rentals have generated approximately \$115,000 in revenue at the Downing and J. C. Martin golf courses each year.)

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Joens. 5. Nays. 0.
November 18, 2009. Signed by the President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That the contract for the proposed exterior Wall Maintenance at the Refuse Building, East 20th and French Streets, is awarded to **Northwest Restoration**, 4460 Phyllis Drive, Erie, Pa., for the sum of \$21,000.00 and the proper City officials are authorized and directed to execute said contract on behalf of the City. (This project will repair an existing load bearing exterior wall that is in a state of serious disrepair and is in danger of collapsing and is a potential hazard to pedestrian traffic on an adjacent sidewalk and to vehicular traffic on nearby French Street. The roof above the wall is also seriously deteriorated to the point where there is daylight into the building and the interior space is unprotected from the weather. A proposal to repair the roof will follow the corrective work on the wall.

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.
November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

By Mrs. Jenkins-Husband, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, Resolved, etc.,

That the proper City officials are authorized and directed to issue purchase orders to the following individuals and/or companies for goods and/or services as noted and the City Council does hereby ratify and confirm the said transactions which are to be charged to the respective Budget Codes, viz:

1. **Garybar**, 12444 Collections Center Drive, Chicago, IL, for Light Pole Replacements for the Public Works Department, for the sum of \$3,075.00. (Two of the light poles will replace existing light poles that were accidentally damaged during the summer. The other light pole will be held in reserve to be utilized at either Perry Square or Griswold Park. A vendor damaged one of the light poles during one of the summer events. The City will be seeking reimbursement from the vendor for the cost of the light pole as well as all associated installation costs. The other light pole was damaged by a City-owned truck.)

2. **Bobcat of Erie**, 9 Circuit Street, Waterford, Pa., for the Repairs to the Compost Bobcat for the Refuse and Recycling Department for the sum of \$2,531.46.

3. **Five Star International**, P. O. Box 64006, Baltimore, MD, for one MD 3060PR Core with a credit of \$8,960.00 for the Municipal Garage at a total cost of \$4,750.00.

4. **McShane Welding**, 12 Port Access Road, Erie, Pa., for new Tank Baffles for Flotation Tank #4 for the Bureau of Sewers, for the sum of \$2,544.98. The baffles are the original equipment from 1978 and have deteriorated to the point of needing to be replaced.)

5. **DMS Sales and Services**, 160 Marsh Road, Waterford, Pa., for the periodic Maintenance on Sewer Lift Station Emergency Generators for the Bureau of Sewers for the sum of \$4,062.50. (These units supply power to lift stations during a power outage. This is a necessary service to insure their operation during a critical time. The cost of this service, which was \$4,062.50, was not known until the technician performed the maintenance. The company utilized is the only local company that performs the service. The next closest company is in Pittsburgh and they charge hundreds of dollars just to come to Erie. This maintenance service will be aid for out of the Sewer Maintenance Division Repair and Maintenance Services Account.)

November 18, 2009. City Council adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

-

November 18, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Aleksandrowicz, Seconded by Mrs. Horan-Kunco, recessed the City Council meeting of November 18, 2009 until Wednesday, November 25, 2009. at 10:00 a.m. by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband and Jones. 5. Nays. 0.

November 18, 2009. Signed by the Acting President. Attested by the City Clerk.

On motion of Mr. Thompson, Seconded by Mr. Aleksandrowicz, on Wednesday, November 25, 2009 at 10:00 a.m., City Council reconvened the regularly scheduled meeting held on November 18, 2009 by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, Jones, Thompson and Schember. 7. Nays. 0.

Council President Joseph Schember welcomed Mayor Joseph Sinnott to the Council meeting and the Mayor proceeded to give his budget address and presentation of the 2010 Budget.

2010 Budget Address to Erie City Council

- Today I present the proposed 2010 Budget for the City of Erie.
- It is a balanced budget that reflects the true costs providing safety and services to our citizens, as well as accurate revenue projections necessary for providing these services.
- Once again, it does NOT include a property tax increase.
- As we expected, this was a difficult budget year.
- We have reached the point of critical mass in our operations. That is to say we have squeezed every department down to the point where we are

able to sufficiently provide safety and services, but it is a challenge to do so with our current staffing levels.

- We have created a system that shows unprecedented cost efficiency, but has still remained effective.
- This is to the credit of our talented and dedicated staff:
 - Our department heads, Bureau Chiefs, Supervisors and staff have all worked very hard over these four years to find new ways to conduct operations so as to save money for our taxpayers, while continually refining our methods so that services would not be compromised.
 - All of this has been accomplished despite the downsizing of our workforce by more than 25% throughout the course of this administration.
- The 2010 Budget reflects further downsizing. Containing 19 fewer employees than were included in the 2009 budget.
- As was my plan at the on-set of this administration, we now serve as a model for efficient and effective government. One that has shown cities across Pennsylvania that we can solve our financial problems if we are willing to take them head-on and make the hard decisions necessary to formulate real solutions.
- Some of the notable events in 2009, include:
 - Merging our Fire and Police communications with the County Consolidated 911 operation, in the first quarter of 2009.
 - Final sale and transfer of the Erie Golf Course to Millcreek in the spring of 2009, for \$2.2 million dollars and at the same time, preserving a regional asset.
 - We completed the police arbitration and final contract. We now have employment contracts with each of our unions which contain cost sharing components and are fair and equitable to the employees as well as the taxpayers of our city.
 - With the completion of the police contract, all employees now contribute to the ever-rising health insurance costs. Saving our constituents significant dollars.

In 2009 we received several grants which helped us to meet our needs

- We applied for and received a federal stimulus grant that will provide six new police officers at the beginning of 2010.
- We acquired several new police vehicles and equipment through a grant from the Judge Advocate General's office.
- We acquired a whole new fleet of police motorcycles through a grant orchestrated by State Representative, Pat Harkins.
- We were able to do additional street paving through enhanced CDBG funds provided by the federal stimulus package.
- We provided enhanced police patrols in targeted high crime areas through Weed & Seed grant funding.
- These patrols, along with other targeted police operations allowed us to rid our city of the crime and street violence that we had experienced in 2008.
- In the area of Economic Development:
 - The on-going work of our lead grant program has enhanced home rehabilitation and neighborhood revitalization in some of Erie's oldest and most run down neighborhoods.
 - Our continuing work with the Redevelopment Authority, HANDS, BEST and others are providing home ownership opportunities of the city's neighborhoods, which is imperative to growing and revitalizing our community.
- In 2009 we applied for and received a \$250,000 Elm Street Grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to help to revitalize the SNOOPS neighborhood watch area.
- We completed the construction of the Parade Street redevelopment project.
- We also completed of the first phases of the Mid-Town redevelopment project which includes
 1. Completion of the Mercantile building residential condominiums.
 2. The Griswold Park renovations.
 3. And the various private development buildings that are now moving towards completion.
- All of these items reflect our aggressive pursuit of grant funding to do the most for our community with as little impact on our taxpayers as possible.
- The budget I present today will continue our forward progress.
- It reflects true revenue projections as well as real cost estimates. As I promised with each of the previous budgets, our goal is to accurately determine the cost of administering an effective and progressive operation, and requesting only those revenues necessary to achieve that end.
- As the results of each of the four years of this administration shows, we did just that. We were accurate in both our cost and revenue projections, ending up within minimal budget surpluses generated from new-found efficiencies in each of these years.
- This budget is no different:
 - o It does NOT contain a property tax increase.

o It does, however, include increases in both sewer and refuse fees.

- These increases reflect the increased cost of doing business in these departments over the past four years
 - The sewer increase also reflects the need to fund the payments on the \$15 million bond issue for capital improvements and upgrades to the sewage treatment facility.
 - It does not include any new personnel or programs, it simply supports current services and capital needs in these areas.
- We have managed to keep both sewer and refuse rates steady for four years as we made cuts and found new efficiencies, but we are now at a point where our services would suffer or be impossible to provide if we cut any further.
 - Therefore, we must increase revenues to support the current operations.
 - Each and every department head, bureau chief and employee of the City of Erie continues to do everything in their power to make the city operations affordable to its taxpayers and they are to be commended for their dedicated efforts for the benefits of all of citizens of this community.
 - We continue to work in a positive and proactive manner with you, our City Council. We have all been part of the solutions that we are now realizing. I would like to commend you for your work in making the hard decisions which have lead to our successes and also on becoming more aware of the operation of the city and the financial consequences of the decisions made within this chamber.
 - I would also like to thank the City Controller and City Treasurer for continuing to work with us to help easily implement the changes necessary to achieve these successes.
 - Together we have created an economically stable city government. This will continue through this 2010 budget.
 - It should provide for a 5th consecutive year that we as a cooperative council and administration can stay within a budget, showing our community that we continue to create a government that truly operates with their best interest as a first priority.
 - The decisions and determinations of the final budget are yours, as are the responsibility of its consequences. We ask that you provide us with a budget that will serve this community's needs and will be able to be administered in an efficient and effective manner, as we have in previous years.
 - My staff will be available to help you understand the information in the budget and the thought processes that went into each of the decisions comprising the individual budget recommendations.
 - Thank You.

By Mr. Schember, Council File Ordinance #15,689

An ordinance fixing the tax rate for all city purposes for the Fiscal Year 2010 (beginning on January 1, 2010 and ending on December 31, 2010).

November 25, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Schember, Seconded by Mr. Thompson, having read Council File Ordinance #15,689 does hereby adopt on First Reading by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, Jones, Thompson and Schember. 7. Nays. 0.

By Mr. Schember, Council File Ordinance #15,670

An ordinance of the City of Erie, County of Erie and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the General Fund and certain other budgets for the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2010 and ending December 31, 2010.

November 25, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Schember, Seconded by Mr. Thompson, having read Council File Ordinance #15,670 on First Reading, does hereby adopt by yeas Council Members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, Jones, Thompson and Schember. 7. Nays. 0.

November 25, 2009. City Council on motion of Mr. Thompson, Seconded by Mr. Aleksandrowicz, adjourned at 10:50 a.m. by yeas Council members Aleksandrowicz, Cappabianca, Horan-Kunco, Jenkins-Husband, Jones, Thompson and Schember. 7. Nays. 0.

Attest:

President of City Council

(Acting) City Clerk