



# COUNTY OF ERIE CITIZENS SALARY REVIEW COMMISSION MINUTES

Friday, December 8, 2023 Meeting

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Present: Dave Pietrowski, Fred Floss, Laurie Buonanno, Christopher Stone, Alex Burgos, Mark Glasgow, Gregg Rabb.

Absent: Minority Caucus Appointee yet to be named

Support Staff: Mark Cornell and Lindsay McKay, both from Erie County Division of Budget and Management.

Non-Members Present: Sean Mulligan & News Media

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Deputy Budget Director, Mark Cornell, recognized a quorum and called the meeting to order at 1:02pm

Introduction of commission members were made and then Deputy Director Cornell explained the history and role of the Committee, i.e. that the Committee is responsible to evaluate the pay status of various elected officials – The County Executive, Comptroller, Sheriff, Clerk and Legislature. They do not determine the District Attorney whose salary is tied to NYS Supreme Court by law. He noted the 2018 Commission's report and approval by the Legislature in early 2019.

He then went into some detail discussing the various documents included in the meeting packet that included: Managerial Confidential Pay Scales, an analysis of raises that were a result of the 2018 commission recommendations, how the various elected officials compare to all other county employees in terms of pay, etc. There was a good amount of discussion on those documents.

Next, a motion was made by Mr. Stone to nominate a chairperson and was seconded by Mr. Floss. Mr. Stone nominated Ms. Buonanno which was seconded by Mr. Floss. Mr. Cornell stated that the motion carried unanimously and Ms. Buonanno is the commission chair.

Ms. Buonanno and Mr. Stone discussed the 2018 Commission and their roles on it to give context to the new members about the process that was underwent and how they ultimately arrived at their recommendations.

Mr. Cornell then discussed the Public Meeting Law and quorums not necessarily being required for discussion meetings. Virtual meeting options were also discussed. Members of the Committee discussed meeting frequency and scheduling. It was decided that the Committee will meet weekly after New Year's until mid-February.

Next, Mr. Cornell explained his role will be an organizational one. Any meeting time changes or if there is any business requiring a vote, communication will go through him, and he will secure a quorum in advance.

Mr. Glasgow inquired as to the voting procedure. Chair Buonanno informed the group that the Committee will keep talking until a compromise is met. Chair Buonanno then discussed interviewing elected officials and, specifically, issues surrounding Legislators (full time/part time, etc.).

Mr. Rabb asked if members of the public were allowed to speak. Mr. Cornell advised that members of the public are allowed to attend but are asked to not disrupt the meetings. There will be time at the end of the meeting for them to comment.

Next Meeting: January 9, 2024, at 2:00 pm