

CITY OF WILKES-BARRE  
PENNSYLVANIA



# CITY COUNCIL AGENDA

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CITY COUNCIL

SPECIAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 22, 2021

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

RESOLUTIONS (SEE ATTACHED)

ADJOURNMENT

**WILKES-BARRE CITY COUNCIL**  
**SPECIAL SESSION – SEPTEMBER 22, 2021**  
**MAYOR’S AGENDA**

**RESOLUTIONS:**

Authorizing the proper city officials to submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Finance Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account – Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the LCTA’s new transit facility part 2 project if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account – Luzerne County program funds. The mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Wilkes-Barre YMCA Facility’s Locker Rooms Renovations Project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account – Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Wilkes University’s Cannabis Certificate Program and Mass Spectrometer/CO2 Extractor Purchase Project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all project documents, related to the City Hall Renovations – Phase II project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all project documents, related to the City of Wilkes-Barre’s Public Works Facility Upgrades project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all project documents, related to the City of Wilkes-Barre's Dual Stream Recycling Containers project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any of all project documents, related to the Emergency Operations Center project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all project documents, related to the Domestic Violence Service Center Expansion project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all project documents, related to the F.M. Kirby Center's HVAC and Façade project, if the application is approved.

Authorizing the proper city officials to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA), for the Local Share Account-Luzerne County program funds. The Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all project documents, related to the Renovation of the Historic Wyoming Valley Art League Building Addition and Upgrades project, if the application is approved.



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$350,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used by the Luzerne County Transportation Authority (LCTA) for any construction phase of LCTA's new transit facility. The LCTA has outgrown their two present locations and does not have the ability to house permanent CNG fueling at these sites. The new facility will combine fixed route and shared ride divisions and accommodate all vehicle refueling, maintenance and storage needs for improved operational efficiency and greater capacity. This project redevelops an abandoned property in the city commonly known as the Murray Complex. Additionally, this grant amount will be leveraged with other project funding. The Pennsylvania Department of Transportation (PennDOT) has committed to providing 96.775% of the project funding and this LSA request will provide the remaining 3.225% of the project funding. The total cost of the entire project is \$45,000,000.00; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the LCTA's new transit facility part 2 project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$250,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used by the Greater Wyoming Valley Area YMCA for renovations of the Wilkes-Barre facility's locker rooms – the central hub of the YMCA. In 2019, the YMCA retained a consultant to complete a conceptual design for the renovation of certain key facilities. Recognizing that the locker rooms are the heart of the facility and must accommodate YMCA members of all ages, genders, family make-up, abilities, and income levels, it is necessary that the locker room remodel meet the existing and future needs of members. The facility renovation plan includes the creation of 6,000 square feet of men's, women's and universal locker room space; a whirlpool, steam room and sauna; and a massage and lounge area, allowing for improved accessibility and movement throughout the facility; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Wilkes-Barre YMCA Facility's Locker Rooms Renovations project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$350,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used by Wilkes University's Department of Pharmaceutical Sciences in the Nesbitt School of Pharmacy to propose the first Cannabis Certificate Program at any university in northeastern Pennsylvania and request funding to purchase equipment that will be integral to the program's curriculum, cannabis research, and local collaborative partnerships. Medical marijuana is a burgeoning local industry, and it is expected that recreational use will be legalized in the near future. The initiation of a Cannabis Certificate Program at Wilkes University will benefit a number of stakeholders including the university, the City of Wilkes-Barre and its residents, and the local and regional economies. The program alone will create three jobs at Wilkes University, and it is expected that after recreational legalization, as many as 250 jobs may move to the region with just one company alone. Establishing this program with the state-of-the-art equipment, such as a mass spectrometer and CO2 Extractor, will provide our students with the advanced skills necessary to fill these jobs. Further, our faculty and students will also utilize the equipment to perform research that can inform the basic science of cannabis and advance local economic efforts; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Wilkes University's Cannabis Certificate Program and Mass Spectrometer/CO2 Extractor Purchase project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$479,965.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used for renovations to Wilkes-Barre City Hall. The building was built in 1893 and needs many improvements due to its age. The specific use of the grant funds will be for selective demolition, elevator replacement, front entrance upgrades, ADA side entrance upgrades, LED lighting in common areas, office flooring, and repairs to the exterior of the building; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the City Hall Renovations – Phase II project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

ROLL CALL



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$445,640.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used for upgrades to the City of Wilkes-Barre's Public Works Facility. The specific use of the grant funds will be for architectural design, selective demolition, rough-in plumbing, electrical repairs, insulation, sheetrock, LED lighting, plumbing fixtures, bathrooms, floor/wall tile, carpeting, painting, doors, and HVAC system; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the City of Wilkes-Barre's Public Works Facility Upgrades project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**





Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$59,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used to purchase 4,000 residential 25-gallon recycling containers for the city's dual stream recycling program. Dual stream recycling keeps paper and cardboard products separate from glass and plastic containers and metal cans. Some of the benefits of dual stream recycling are less contamination, higher quality and more valuable recovered material, and lower costs to process the collected recyclables; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the City of Wilkes-Barre's Dual Stream Recycling Containers project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

ROLL CALL



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account—Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$350,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used to establish a permanent location for the city's Emergency Operations Center. In the past the city has used temporary locations as the Emergency Operations Center; however, these locations are no longer available for the city to use in times of emergency. Also, the logistical problems associated with not have a permanent location were many (moving computer servers, computer equipment and other essential items to keep the city operational was time consuming and inefficient). Wilkes-Barre City Hall, Fire Headquarters, Police Station and the Health Department are all located in the flood zone due to its proximity to the Susquehanna River. Therefore, in the event of a disaster, particularly flooding, the city must move all of its operations out of the flood zone. The proposed Emergency Operations Center will be an addition to the Hollenback Fire Station, which is located out of the flood zone, and will allow the city to continue operations during disaster events; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Emergency Operations Center project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account - Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$2,000,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds. The funding will be used by the Domestic Violence Service Center (DVSC) to support construction for expansion to DVSC facility/emergency shelter to provide an expanded level of service, meet community capacity assessed need and health/safety guidelines for domestic violence victims. Currently, the emergency shelter is not able to meet the Counties' shelter capacity demand with current shelter structure and new normal/safe social distancing guidelines. The expansion will add 6 shelter bedrooms, restrooms, kitchen and living space, counseling rooms/conference rooms large enough that client counseling and group meetings can be held in a socially safe spaced environment. Separate office space will be created for the legal department/staff with internal access for shelter victims and a secure private entrance for non-residents; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account - Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Domestic Violence Service Center Shelter Expansion project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account—Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$350,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds. The funds will be used to purchase new HVAC roof top units for the F.M. Kirby Center auditorium area. The new HVAC roof top units will provide better air purification along with total replacement of all coils in the separate air handling penthouse. Also, the funding will be used for exterior façade repairs to the historic building which is weathered and cracking causing a public safety concern; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds; AND

**FURTHER**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the F.M. Kirby Center's HVAC and Façade project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

**ROLL CALL**



Resolution No. \_\_\_\_\_

Wilkes-Barre, PA \_\_\_\_\_

*BE IT RESOLVED by the City Council of the City of Wilkes-Barre:*

**WHEREAS**, the establishment of the Mohegan Sun Casino at Pocono Downs (Casino) has resulted in revenue from this facility allocated to a Local Share Account—Luzerne County (Account) administered by the Commonwealth Financing Authority (CFA); AND

**WHEREAS**, money in this Account is available for distribution to municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, revenue in this Account is designated to improve the quality of life of citizens in the City of Wilkes-Barre and other municipalities in Luzerne County; AND

**WHEREAS**, the City of Wilkes-Barre is desirous of applying for a \$850,000.00 grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds. The funds will be used for the Historic Wyoming Valley Art League Building upgrades such as meeting ADA handicapped requirements with accessible restrooms and the addition of an elevator to the existing building. These renovations will adequately equip the building to serve public visitors; AND

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of the CITY OF WILKES-BARRE that the proper City officials are hereby authorized to prepare and submit the necessary application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through the CFA, for the Local Share Account- Luzerne County program funds; AND

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Mayor is hereby authorized to enter into the appropriate agreement with the CFA, along with any or all other project documents, related to the Renovation of the Historic Wyoming Valley Art League Building Addition and Upgrades project, if the application is approved.

Submitted by \_\_\_\_\_

ROLL CALL