



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, April 17, 2024

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Jeremy Binder, 1553 W. Turner Street, stated that he has a couple of statements related to the zoning in Allentown. He stated that he understands that the Mayor went by one of his neighborhood groups and said there is a now there will be public comment coming out for the zoning changes. On the city's website, he doesn't see any date ranges for when that started or when that is going to stop. There is a flowchart that shows it is going to be some focus groups, open houses. He doesn't see any dates on that and he knows there was some reference to sending out emails for if you have public comment. It wasn't clear on how that actually occurred and how the structure is. There was a survey section, but there is nothing in there. He doesn't know if that is Council or if that is city hall, but if that could be a little bit more information that would be helpful to give people an idea of what they supposed to do.

Ms. Genesis Ortega stated that the city is in the process of developing the dates of the community meetings. Right now, they are looking at mid June. She stated that what he received or what he is looking at. The first step was launching the public website. She stated when he looks at the public forum, it says to check back for the dates, but she thinks they are looking at June 12, June 15, and June 21. They are in the process of finalizing that and they have a robust communication's plan that they will be sharing with the public once that is final.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked Ms. Ortega if it is possible to give Mr. Binder her email perhaps if he has anymore questions he can email her. She asked if there were any other public comments.

Contract Approvals[15-6835](#)

R60

Authorization of a \$34,020 increase for a previous awarded contract with Maxiom Corp. in the amount for the development and implementation of the new City website. The initial contract sum was \$122,000, requested increase of \$34,020 would bring the contract to \$156,020.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R60 - Contract Increase - Maxiom](#)
[Resolution #30828](#)

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that Maxium Corp. is a previously awarded contract that is requesting additional funds in the amount of \$34,020 to cover the extra amount of time required to complete the website. Due to the cost of the change order being over 10 percent of the contract amount it is being presented here before Council.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Ms. McNeil and asked if there were any comments.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that his understanding is that this website was supposed to be done last June. He knows that there were some changes. However, why wasn't this website completed and how many changes are necessary that they are talking \$34,000.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that she believes Laura is there and maybe she can give a better understanding. She knows that there were more modules and things that needed to be created on the city's end with the company and it also needed to be ADA compliant. With meeting certain requirements, they needed that done prior to being able to launch that website. She stated that she is not sure if that fully answers his question, but she believes Laura is there if he would like her to respond.

Ms. Laura Ballek - Cole stated that Ms. McNeil just hit it on the head. In looking at the old website there a lot of old modules such as the job training module, such as the contracts module that they didn't originally plan for. Now, they have a new Go Live date of May 10th. This will be the last contract amendment to pass the dais.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any other comments from Council or any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30828

[15-6836](#)

R61

Authorization of Cooperative Contract(s) in an amount greater than \$40,000.00 to provide the City with various goods/services.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R61 Cooperative Approvals](#)
[Resolution #30829](#)

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that these purchases are all going through various Cooperative Contracts. They listed out each item that is being procured through the different Cooperative Contracts and pertaining to the vendor with their dollar amounts.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Ms. McNeil and asked if there were any comments from the dais.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she is assuming that because they are Cooperative Contracts that it's more of a and pull from a more of a national kind of base of company. She is looking up ThunderCat from Reston, Virginia, ESRI is from Redland, California and some Pennsylvania ones. The S J Thomas Company and the T.M. Fitzgerald. She asked if that is why they are more national and kind of far away.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that it all depends on the service and/or product that they are purchasing. It varies just like the city's contracts can vary dependent upon what they are looking for. These are just the vendors that were compliant with the Cooperative Contract and can provide the city with the goods and services at that price.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach thanked Ms. McNeil.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Ms. Gerlach and asked if there were any more comments from the dais or from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30829

Minutes of Previous Meeting: None

Communications

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that Allentown City Council is seeking to hire a firm to examine procedures and actions taken by the current administration related to hiring, terminations, discipline, promotions, compliance with civil rights and discrimination statutes and provisions of a merit-based

personnel system, and a review of salary adjustment for city employees since January 1, 2022 in terms of compliance with the city personnel code as well as other state and federal employment statutes. Please forward a letter of interest and your credentials to the City Clerk, 435 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA, 18101; or email to Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPa.gov.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he will just comment on that if she doesn't mind. He stated as chairman of the committee, they have one individual that has expressed interest so far. They have two prior individuals that expressed interest. He stated that they will be reaching out to them tomorrow once the Ad is taken out of the newspaper. The committee will be conducting interviews with those individuals and at such time they will pick who they will pick and present them to Council.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Zucal and stated that if you parked in the city lot next to City Hall, please see the City Clerk for a voucher. She took a moment to honor the Syrian community. She stated that today is their Independence Day.

Old Business: None

REPORTS

Special Meeting: The special committee on co-responder models will be meeting on April 24th at 6:15 PM.

A Committee of the Whole is scheduled for May 1st at 6 PM to review Bill 40 introduced this evening increasing penalties for parking violations.

Budget and Finance: Chair Napoli, Hendricks, Gerlach

The Committee met on April 10, the next meeting is scheduled for April 24th at 5:30 PM

Community and Economic Development: Chair Hendricks, Mota, Napoli

The committee met on April 10th; the next meeting is scheduled for April 24th at 5:45 PM.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Affa, Napoli, Santos

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for May 1st at 5:30 PM.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Santos, Affa, Gerlach

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting, the next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Public Safety: Chair Zucal, Hendricks, Mota

The committee met this evening; the next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Public Works: Chair Gerlach, Affa, Zucal

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting, the next meeting is scheduled for May 1 at 5:45 PM.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations, and Strategy: Chair Mota, Napoli, Gerlach

The committee has not met since the last council meeting, the next meeting is not yet scheduled.

Controller's Report (3 minutes)

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that this evening's report is the gift card review for Human Resources. They started this in November and finished it recently. As Council knows, the Controller's office looked at gift cards in other departments and this is the last of these audits. He knows that there are some audits that they do on regular and recurring basis. This happens to be one of them. In this department, they did a gift card audit in 2017. They did another one in 2020 and then they did

this one in 2023. Basically, they noted some of the problems they identified in 2017 were not corrected. And, some of the problems that they identified in 2020 had yet to be corrected. In brief, the city gives out gift cards for employee recognition. They noted from the logs it's impossible to determine which cards were given to which employees. That is important to preserve an audit trail. They made recommendations to correct it and the administration has said that they will comply. They noted that there was inadequate controls in the Employee Recognition Program. What they mean by that is sometimes the paperwork authorizing the award wasn't to be found or was not complete. They also note that there is a gift card log in Treasury where gift cards are held so they are safe and the gift card log in the department and it was not always possible to reconcile the two. He stated that they recommended that be corrected. Gift cards are considered income because they can be cashed. It is important that when a gift card is handed out whether it will be for the HR department or through Lights in the Parkway that information be reported to the Payroll Department so that it could be included as income on the employees W-2. They found that was not consistently done. Those processes need to be worked on. He stated that the last item that he would like to comment on is that they have been purchasing gift cards for a long time. He stated that they go back to 2016. They still have gift cards that they purchased in HR in 2016. Some of this money came from the medical. Brue Cross will give the city wellness money. This might be used as encouragement or spiff for doing something. He stated that they still have these cards. They have a number from 2016, 2017, 2019, and 2021. The total of these older cards totals \$2,500. He stated that the Controller's office recommendations to the department and other departments as well that purchase cards is that the first card that comes in, is the first card that goes out and that way you don't have stale cards sitting around. He stated just to recap, this is the third time they have audited this for a number of reasons in the past. The department has been slow to make corrections. It has been some turnover there. The department's response for all of these findings was that they would review, make changes to ensure that there was compliance. He stated that if they want to read about this in more depth and stated that it is certainly an engaging read so please. He is sure Mr. Hanlon put it up in Granicus and if Council has any questions, he will be more than happy to answer them.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that for the last few years anyway, the city does not have a record of who got them and how much they were for.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated no, they are not always complete. This is an issue that goes back to 2017. This didn't just start in 2022. He stated that they can piece most of it together, but they can't always piece all of it together. Some of the corrections are as simple as making sure that the space on the log for the employee to sign their name is large enough for them to sign their name. It's ok, but they need to do better.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he remembers a few years ago someone got fired.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that he is correct. In 2017, the Controller's office found malfeasance and turned it over to the police department immediately because it was over their heads. They duly followed through and they were short one employee then.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he remembers that.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any other comments.

Mayor's Report (3 minutes)

Ms. Genesis Ortega stated that she is here on behalf of Mayor Tuerk to provide a brief Mayor's Report. They are moving at the speed of light. Last weekend, they announced that the city of Allentown was awarded \$50,000 to distribute micro grants to youth and youth serving organizations in Allentown focused on climate projects. They have received considerable interests so far. It is exciting. The city's Sustainability Coordinator is working with those who submitted ideas in managing these projects. They are excited to soon announce the public launch of the Safe Streets For All Initiative. They are holding a Press Conference next Wednesday at noon. She stated that they are all invited on Hanover Avenue. This launch will underscore the city's commitment to prioritizing safer roadways and transportation networks for all residents regardless of their mode of transportation and where they live in the city. Following that they will also be unveiling the results of the Community Health Needs Assessment and discussing our next steps in creating the city's community health improvement plan. They submit their application for the second phase of the Recompete Program on April 25th. That is the focus for the Planning team right now. It could be quite significant for the city. It is up to \$20 million to implement a plan to address a planning gap in residents ages 25 to 54. They are talking childcare, transportation, professional development, among some of those ideas. They are very close towards the results of the Housing Study and the Zoning Code is out for public comment. The Zone Allentown website is officially live at Allentownpa.gov/ZoneAllentown. As she mentioned previously to Mr. Binder that they are looking to hold committee meetings sometime in mid June. She stated that Laura also mentioned earlier, the launching of a full revamp of the city website on May 10th. They will also be announcing the public launch of Parknership during a Press Conference on May 22nd. This information has all been shared with the City Clerk. Later that week, they are planning on a grand opening celebration of Irving Pool. She knows that the eastside is eager to dive into this new pool this summer. The city is happy to deliver on that project. She took a minute to be hyper-focused

on Parks and Recreation because her and her team have been engrossed in the marketing and communication of all that they have going on. This weekend, Earth Day in the Park is happening Saturday at Cedar Beach Park. They have 38 eco-friendly vendors, five food trucks on site for the community to enjoy thanks to the work by our Recycling Bureau who also did a great job on a massive scale of the litter cleanup of MLK from the 15th jug handle to the Eighth Street Bridge on the north side last week. Next weekend at Cedar Beach, they will host Veg Fest from 11:00 AM to 6:00 PM. They are also debuting Yoga Fest in the city of Allentown. It is going to be free yoga classes every Thursday in the Arts Park and every Sunday in the Rose Garden from May to October. The Parks and Rec team has intentionally worked on building a Spring, Summer and Fall catalog for outdoor activities activating the city's outdoor spaces and bringing life to our parks. They will see that now in 2024, they are offering 12 free movies in the parks and pools. The Movies in the Park and the Movies in the Pool series, they are offering a free outdoor camp program for kids, also known as the Summer Playground Program. They are offering free outdoor concerts from May to October in West Park, Union Terrace, Cedar Beach and Midway Manor through the city's revamped Summer Concert Series in addition to Special Events as a whole. She stated Parks and Rec. kudos to them. They are working hard to activate those city spaces for residents. It is quite remarkable and she hopes that Council can join them for some of these events. Lastly, a feel good story. The city's EMS team raised \$1,000 for autism awareness through a t-shirt sale earlier this year and did a small check presentation to the Autism Society Lehigh Valley earlier today. Several of the city's paramedics, Council may or may not know have children with autism. This was a good cause near and dear to their hearts. The city is very proud of that.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais.

[15-6860](#) Controller Reports

Attachments: [Bank Rec](#)
[Check Review](#)
[Gift Card](#)

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-6765](#) Bill 26
Amending §455-139B(6) of the Property Rehabilitation and Maintenance Code, Article XVIII, Licensing Residential Rental Units, Owner and Occupant duties, to remove the requirement that multiple disruptive conduct reports filed within a twenty-four (24) time period count as a single disruptive conduct report.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 26 - Disruptive Conduct Amendment](#)
[Ordinance #16003](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were comments from the dais or comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 16003

[15-6788](#)

Bill 29

Amending the 2024 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifteen Thousand (\$15,000.00) Dollars from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of The State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) Grant to the Allentown Fire and EMS Department for the purchase of items related to training, safety and equipment.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 29 EMS OSFC Grant](#)
[Ordinance #16004](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this was in his committee and it was sent 3 - 0, favorably. It will obviously be a benefit to our firefighters.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments to the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 16004

[15-6789](#)

Bill 30

Amending the 2024 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Sixteen Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty One Dollars And Ninety-Nine Cents (\$16,951.99) from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of The State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) Grant to the Allentown Fire Department for the purchase of Hydra Ram forcible entry tools.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 30 Fire OSFC Grant](#)
[Ordinance #16005](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this was also in his committee and it was sent favorably, 3 - 0. This will help firefighters gain entry into buildings that have more updated steel doors.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Zucal and asked if there were any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 16005

[15-6790](#)

Bill 31

ADOPTING FUND BALANCE POLICY FOR THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN

Reminder: code this up

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 31 Fund Balance Policy](#)

[Ordinance #16006](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this came out of the Budget and Finance committee. It was forwarded favorably. It is a great idea. It is something that a lot of businesses do in the private sector. He thinks the city of Allentown is doing a really solid move developing this Fund Balance Policy which will keep our Moody's Rating stable, if not higher based on meeting their criteria. He stated kudos to Ms. Patel and her department for getting this to move forward.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Napoli and asked if there were any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 16006

[15-6791](#)

Bill 32

Amending the 2024 General Fund, the 2024 Risk Fund, the 2024 Solid Waste Fund, the 2024 Stormwater Fund, the 2024 Equipment Replacement Fund, the 2024 Golf Fund, and the 2024 Housing Fund by appropriating funds from the un-appropriated balances for the rollover of encumbrances for the prior year commitments.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 32 Purchase Order Roll Over](#)

[Ordinance #16007](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this is also forwarded favorably from the Budget and Finance Committee.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 16007

[15-6794](#)

Bill 33

Amending the 2024 ARPA Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of One Million (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars from Ripple Community Inc. to the Revenue Replacement category of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) award for HVAC systems. Ripple Community Inc. will receive One Million (\$1,000,000.00) Dollars in funding from the CDBG HOME-ARPA program as indicated in DCED's resolution to amend the 2021 One Year Action Plan allocation.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 33 Transfer of Ripples Funds](#)

[Ordinance #16008](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he would like to comment as the chair of the Community and Economic Development, this was in his committee and voted on favorably, 3-0 to the full Council.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Hendricks and asked any other comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Ms. Sherri Binder, Ripple Community Inc., stated that briefly that after the committee meeting a week or so ago, she was able to meet with Ms. Kistler and her staff to discuss this further. They had some questions they were looking to have answered and in the process of that conversation, they did review some additional processes that would be triggered by the home ARP funding that wouldn't necessarily be applied with some of their other funding sources. She stated that she thinks this is probably fine. They support having the right funds in the right place and if there is a way they can be helpful in doing that. She is happy to do that. The city staff has been very open in providing assistance and helping them answer questions that they have. That said, it would be helpful for them if they had a little bit more time to understand these processes with this new information that they gathered and just to address a couple of lingering questions. If it is possible to have this decision tabled until the next meeting that would be helpful for them provided that it doesn't create any undue hardship elsewhere.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Ms. Binder. She asked if there were any other comments from the public.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated jumping ahead to that Resolution to submit an Action Plan and change the HUD, is there a potential that amended action plan won't be accepted by HUD. Is it a potential that Council will vote to say let's do the switcheroo of the money and then let's submit a change of plan to HUD and then HUD would reject that change of plan.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated is a good question, Ms. Gerlach.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she can certainly say that she cannot 100 percent answer on behalf of HUD. She can tell them that every part of this proposal as it stands right now is in compliance with Home ARPA. Home ARPA requires specialized population. It requires construction and/or renovation and it requires a low to moderate income base within a qualifying population. Those are the Home ARPA that she distributed to Council when they asked the question of what is the difference between Home ARPA and Home. She doesn't foresee a reason why HUD would reject this as part of an Action Plan at this point because she thinks it is in compliance.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Ms. Kistler.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked are there deadlines by which a municipality has to submit changes and if so, ARPA is within those deadlines.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that the city is certainly within the deadline to amend the Action Plan.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked Ms. Gerlach if she had any other questions.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she is turn on how to vote for this. It would be really cool if the organization that is affected can make sure they have all their questions answered. She stated that would be pretty great. If they were switching around funding say for the police or for the health department and they did not have all the questions answered and if they weren't 100 sure of how the change of funding was going to affect them, she doesn't think they would vote yes. She stated that they just did that last week when the FOP leader came up and said hey, we are not quite sure how this is going to completely affect us and they all voted no on selling the police station at 10th and Hamilton because all of his questions and all of the police questions were not fully answered. She stated that they did not have all the answers so they voted no because they weren't sure. Not voted

no, they tabled it. That is why she wanted to table it, but she guess she got shot down.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that the positive thing is that Ms. Binder did mention that she is meeting with the staff and they have been very helpful. She stated that you guys will continue to be helpful to her. Any questions or any concerns, she will be meeting with you guys.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated absolutely.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he feels quite confident that Ms. Kistler knows quite well what is qualified and what isn't and based on her statement here tonight, he feels very comfortable that they will match and will be qualified for it without any problem. He stated that he see no reason why they should delay this.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any other comments from the dais.

A motion was made by Ce-Ce Gerlach, seconded by Natalie Santos, that this Bill be tabled.

Yes: 3 - Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Santo Napoli

No: 4 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, and Candida Affa

Enactment No: 16008

A motion was made by Cynthia Mota that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 16008

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated just for the record, Mr. Hanlon mentioned 2013 N. Poplar. He thinks it is 213. He stated just so they can have the correct address.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated ok.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any other comments from the dais or any comments from the public. She asked if they can vote on the bundle.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

[15-6805](#)

R62

Sewage Planning Module at 1910 Walnut Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R62 1910 Walnut Street - Sewage Planning Module](#)
[1910 Walnut Street Sewage Planning Module](#)
[Resolution #30830](#)

Enactment No: 30830

[15-6834](#)

R63

Certificate of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts: 1515 Linden Street; 1525 W Chew Street; 213 N Poplar Street; 340 N 8th Street; 534 N 6th Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R63 5 HARB Approved Projects](#)
[Final Review 4h 340 N 8th Roof](#)
[Final Review 4f 1525 W Chew Legalize Porch Repair](#)
[Final Review 4e 534 N 6th Repair Fire Damage](#)
[Final Review 4d 213 N Poplar Roof](#)
[Final Review 3a 1515 Linden St Windows Rev](#)
[Resolution #30831](#)

Enactment No: 30831

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-6833](#)

R64 To be introduced this evening.

A RESOLUTION OF CITY OF ALLENTOWN, COUNTY OF LEHIGH, COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, APPROVING THE INTERMUNICIPAL TRANSFER OF LIQUOR LICENSE NUMBER E-1180 FROM HAAKS SCHOOL HOUSE, LLC, 8418 BAKE OVEN ROAD, GERMANSVILLE, PA 18053 TO CITY CENTER HOSPITALITY TEN, LLC, 950 HAMILTON STREET, ALLENTOWN, PA 18101

Attachments: [R64 Liquor License Transfer City Center Hospitality Ten, LLC](#)
[950 Hamilton Street - Liquor License Transfer Request \(Mailing List\)](#)
[City Center Hospitality Ten, LLC License Posting II](#)
[City Center Hospitality Ten, LLC License Posting I](#)
[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding Liquor License Transfer Request - City Center Hospitality Ten, LLC](#)
[The Morning Call Ad 7608292](#)
[Resolution #30832](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Hanlon and asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30832

[15-6842](#)

R65

Police Officer Appointments

Shamari Dally – Freemansburg, PA

Jose Reyes-Cerda – Allentown, PA

Attachments: [R65 - Police Officer Appointments](#)

[Resolution #30833](#)

Chief Charles Roca stated good evening Council. He stated what they have in front of Council today is Shamari Dally. He is a 26 year old police officer who previously worked for SEPTA. Shamari attended high school in the country of Jamaica, where he was born and obtained his Act 120 certification from Delaware County Community College Police Academy. He is currently serving in the US Army Reserves and is a Freemansburg resident. The second individual is Jose Reyes-Cerda, 28 year old Allentown resident who attended Roberto Clemente Charter School and graduated from Sinapet High School in the Dominican Republic. Jose was born in the Dominican Republic and is fluent in Spanish. He is currently employed as a truck driver and will be attending the Allentown Police Academy in July. He stated that he is open to any questions, if they have any.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Chief Roca and asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Yes: 6 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

No: 1 - Ce-Ce Gerlach

Enactment No: 30833

[15-6843](#)

R66

Approves the submission of the formal application for the Economic Development and Community Development Initiatives Grant through the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development on behalf of the Allentown Police Department to support the renovation of the Police Academy Building.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R66 - Police Academy Grant Application](#)

[Resolution #30834](#)

Chief Charles Roca stated that he is going to have Sergeant Leonard give them some specifics on this.

Sergeant John Leonard stated that the renovation to the Allentown Police

Academy Locker Room and Shower Facilities along with the revitalization of the exterior building will significantly enhance the functionality and morale of city personnel. First and foremost, addressing the locker room and shower area will mitigate long standing issues such as inadequate space and also by expanding and modernizing these areas they can ensure officers and cadets significant room to store their equipment and access clean, functional showers after physically demanding training sessions and shifts. Also, including repairing any structural damage of the exterior, updating signage for better visibility and enhancing landscaping will create a more welcoming and secure environment for both officers and the community. Overall, the renovations go beyond the cosmetic improvement. They directly impact the wellbeing, efficiency, effectiveness of the operations that are hosted at the Allentown Police Academy. Just as a reminder, the Academy was constructed by the hands of police officers in the 50s, with an addition in the 70s and a gymnasium. He stated that he took many of the Councilmembers through a tour of our existing facilities here. In order to improve morale, improve the infrastructure of the department, it is a step in the right direction. He reminded Council that the Allentown Police Academy is a jewel of the city of Allentown. It attracts many potential officers to our department and departments around the area to include Wilkes Barre, Scranton, State College Officers. It is known in the community and very grateful for this opportunity to go for this grant.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thank Chief Roca and asked if there were any comments.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he would just like to comment that he does avail himself and go out to the Academy several times a week to work out. It is sorely in need of rehabilitation. He is very familiar and his father in law helped build the original facility. It is definitely in need of it. He strongly recommended that his colleagues to support this bill.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she also took a tour and it really needs to be beautified because you need a lot of repairs there. She stated that she saw holes everywhere.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked roughly how much they think or are trying to get. What would it cost, if you have an idea?

Sergeant John Leonard stated that there are a lot of things that can be done. The wish list for this grant because the grant that was provided to them through Senator Pat Browne's office at the time when he was in was for \$182,000. They will spend every cent of that doing what they can.

Chief Charles Roca stated that obviously they are going to address the

things that need to be addressed and going to continue to look at how they can pay for additional infrastructure needs.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated this is not a matching grant.

Chief Charles Roca stated correct. There is no match.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any other comments or comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30834

[15-6844](#)

R67

Authorizes the submission of the formal application for funding from the Local Share Account (LSA) grant in the amount of up to Three Hundred Thousand Six Hundred Thirty-Six dollars (\$300,636.00) with no match required.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R67 LSA Grant](#)

[Resolution #30835](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30835

[15-6793](#)

R57

Approves the Submission of an amendment to the 2021 Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R57 HUD Action Plan Amendment](#)

[Resolution #30836](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30836

Request to pull Resolution 59 from the Public Works Committee, place on agenda and act on it.

Request to pull Resolution 59 from the Public Works Committee, Place On Agenda and Act On It.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

[15-6799](#)

R59

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Allentown, Lehigh County, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the South Whitehall Township Act 537 sewage facilities plan (Public-to-Public System Transfer)

Attachments: [R59 South Whitehall Act 537 Plan Sewage Facilities Act](#)

[ACPC action SouthWhitehallSPM 04.09.24](#)

[Resolution #30837](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Mr. Petrik is here to speak to it if you have any questions.

Mr. David Petrik stated he would like to extend South Whitehall Township's appreciation for your consideration for moving the resolution on. For them, this has been a very long process that started in 2017 when they moved to dissolve their Township Authority for their sewer assets. The update that they did to the plan that you would adopt by this Resolution is to acknowledge that they were dissolving the Authority and all the responsibilities and assets of the Authority will be transferred to the township themselves. All this does is acknowledge that the city has sewage the flows through South Whitehall Township facilities. They are no longer the responsibility of the Authority and now the responsibility of the Township and that the city acknowledges that.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Petrik and asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30837

Request to suspend the rules, introduce and vote on Resolutions 73 and 74.

A motion was made by Cynthia Mota, seconded by Ed Zucal, Requesting to Suspend the Rules, Introduce and Vote on Resolutions 73 and 74.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

[15-6853](#)

R73

Authorizes the City to accept the donation of two used City of Easton Fire trucks, worth approximately \$200,000, in exchange for waiving the City of Allentown Fire Academy tuition cost for two City of Easton Fire Department recruits, worth approximately \$16,000.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R73 - Fire Dept Tuition Truck Exchange](#)
[Legislative Template Easton Fire Truck Agreement](#)
[Resolution #30838](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this was under the Public Safety Committee and just for clarification, the amount of \$200,000 was an estimate. However, it is worth more than the \$16,000 for two firefighters. This was sent favorably, 3 - 0.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Zucal. She asked if there were any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30838

[15-6854](#)

R74

Approves the submission of the formal application for a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for improvements to the Rose Garden and Pavilion. The City is asking for \$200,000 with no match required.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R74 - Rose Garden Grant Application](#)
[Resolution #30839](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30839

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (To be referred to Committee with public comment prior to referral)

[15-6839](#)

Bill 37

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1976, as amended; The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009; and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; for the purpose of undertaking programs of housing and community development within the city.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 37 - HUD New Account Setup](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6846](#)

Bill 38

Amending the 2024 ARPA Fund to provide for a transfer of One Million Two Hundred Thousand (\$1,200,000.00) Dollars to the General Fund unappropriated balance as a Revenue Replacement category of the State and Local Fiscal Recovery Funds (SLFRF) award. These funds will be appropriated to a newly created Community Reinvestment program within the General Fund Dept of Community & Economic Development (DCED) Director's Bureau.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 38 ARPA Transfer](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Hanlon and asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6847](#)

Bill 39

Amending Article XI, Department of Human Resources, by adding reporting requirements on salary adjustments.

Sponsors: Affa, Hendricks and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [Bill 39 HR Reporting](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES, ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

[15-6848](#)

Bill 40

Fine Increases

Sponsors: Hendricks and Napoli

Attachments: [Bill 40 Parking Violations](#)
[Parking Authority Exhibit A 2](#)
[Attach A Violation Rate Change Proposal](#)
[Fine Proposal Letter to Council 4-3-2024](#)
[Fine Comparison Line Chart](#)
[Violation Comparison](#)
[Stopping, Standing and Parking \(1\)](#)
[Allentown Parking study](#)
[Parking Enforcement Patterns in ABE 1.9.24](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES, ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

[15-6845](#) R68
Acceptance of Love Your Block Grant Funds for Neighborhood Revitalization through Civic Engagement.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R68 - Love Your Block Grant Acceptance](#)

[15-6838](#) R69
Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 107 N. 11th Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R69 Deny - 107 11th St Legalize Rear Porch](#)
[Final Review 107 N 11th DENIED \(Legalize Porch Work and Associated Components\)](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6837](#) R70
Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 1111 W. Turner Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R70 Deny - 1111 W Turner Roof Repair](#)
[Final Review 1111 W Turner DENIED \(Legalization Roof Repair Work\)](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

Ms. Karen Ocasio stated that they just want to know why they are being denied and can they get the reason why they are being denied. She asked do we have an answer.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked do you mind you mind giving us your name again, for the record.

Ms. Karen Ocasio, Allentown 18103. She stated that they would like to know why they are being denied.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that in the agendas that are posted online, there are dropdowns that talk about each individual case and in the DCED meeting, each case will be reviewed for why HARB has denied them.

Ms. Karen Ocasio thanked Ms. Kistler.

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6840](#)

R71

Approves the Submission of an amendment to the 2022 Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R71 - 2022 CDBG Amendment Bike Works](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked for a point of clarification and stated that this is a different amendment then the one they just.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that there are two more amendments to the Action Plan.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated to the 2022 Action Plan. She stated that the Ripple thing was 2021.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that yes, whenever a project gets submitted for an

amount to HUD. If there is a change in the project just like you approve a Change Order, the city has to have an amendment that changes the amount . These are frequent.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach thanked Ms. Kistler.

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6841](#)

R72

Approves the Submission of an amendment to the 2022 Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R72 - 2022 CDBG Amendment Lead Program](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she just wanted to on April 22nd which is this coming Monday, if you got some free time and you can get down to DC, the Supreme Court will have a Hearing on Johnson v. Grant essentially that would make a determination on criminalizing homelessness. There is a rally from 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM. She knows some folks locally that are going. If you have time available, it might be good to go down and network and meet some folks at the national level that are working on ending homelessness and hopefully not criminalizing homelessness. She stated that she just wanted to let Council know that.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Ms. Gerlach and asked if there was any other information for good and welfare.

ADJOURNED: 7:26 PM

[15-6577](#)

Reference Materials:
Council Rules
Procurement Code
Ethics Code

Attachments: [Procurement Code](#)

[Ethics Code](#)

[Rules](#)