



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, April 20, 2022

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

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

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Darnell Scott, 518 N. 8th Street, asked what is the Council's Plan for the America's CARES Funding and when to expect the allocating for the grassroots organizations in the city.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated Council has not decided on that yet. They recently got some proposal from the administration and will be discussion at a future date. He asked if Mr. Lightner would like to add to that.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that Mr. Zucal covered it pretty well. They are still in the process of looking at the budget and looking at plans. The administration presented something to Council to review.

Mr. Patrick Palmer, 617 Allen Street, stated that he came to say in light of recent events that took place over the last week, there was a video that was released of an individual saying some things. He stated that he did actually want to thank you guys for taking some action, making sure that individual was removed from the Youth Council which he is now the School Board Director Representative of and he knows that at least Ms. Mota can at least hear. She did warn against that individual and stated that he worked with that individual before and considered that individual a friend. He stated that he appreciates the stance that was taken that racism is never accepted. He stated that he understands that people say things and they get upset. He does appreciate the removal of that individual from the Youth Council. He stated that they don't always agree on things. That is well known, but he does agree with this. He is speaking from personal and not the School Board position. He thanked Ms. Mota for trying to warn them about that, if she can hear. Thank you.

Mr. Trevon (no last name given), 157 Oak Street, stated that around three years ago his neighbor and block were dark. You can hear shootings in the distance and nearby. Recently, there has been more lighting and he feels that it has reduced violence in his area and he is thankful for that.

Mr. Ed Zucal thanked Trevon and stated the folks to thank for that would be Public Works and all the projects they are doing throughout the city to put more lighting up.

Mr. Samuel Ubin, 1117 W. Green Street, asked how does the city plan to supportive mental health crisis both in the school and in the community.

Mr. Ed Zucal deferred to someone in the administration and make sure Mr. Hanlon gets your information and make sure we have someone get back to you.

Ms. Neftalene (sp), 2113 W. Washington Street, asked during the summer, what are City Council Plans to provide activities for the youth.

Mr. Ed Zucal referred that question to the Parks and Recreation Department. He stated to make sure Mr. Hanlon gets your information and we will make sure somebody gets back to you.

Mr. Woody Kimmerer, 1802 Chapel Avenue, stated that he wants to talk about the recent job description that was turned down. Our brotherhoods don't provide taxpayer and the community took a big hit. They are responsible, well educated and properly trained skilled tradesmen. They have loving and caring family members and friends. They provide quality service in the communities they live in and gets back to. They put qualified licensed skilled members of the workforce and worth every bit. Thanks for the right of collective bargaining. They get weekends off and they choose to work overtime with an overtime rate is an incentive. They also have insured contractors that are boded and proactive with technologies. They take part in Project Labor Agreements, not the People's Liberation Army. A misleading term with proxy wars. He asked if anybody is familiar with certain things that are going on within our communities on how to determine if you are under surveillance from the internet and things and where it goes from the local level and the state as far as the federal lens.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated to give his information to Mr. Hanlon and he will see that the Chief of Police gets back to him on that.

Ms. Julie Thomases, 824 N. Broad Street, and Hasshan Batts, 1101 Hamilton Street - Promise Neighborhoods Lehigh Valley, stated thanked

Council for the Inside Allentown Program.

Mr. Hasshan Batts stated that today is the second day of the program. He thanked Mayor Tuerk, Leonard Lightner and Ce Ce Gerlach. She spoke with folks earlier. All of the city departments will be speaking to folks in the community. We have gotten tremendous feedback over the years. This one in particular has gotten wonderful feedback and we just wanted to let you know we appreciate the Program and the partnership.

Ms. Julie Thomases stated that Inside Allentown as you know is a partnership with the city of Allentown and Promise Neighborhoods - Lehigh Valley and the mission of Inside Allentown is to provide those that go to school, live, and work in Allentown with a better understanding and the functions of and services provided by the city government. It is a unique opportunity for Allentown residents to gain insight on how city government works. They are going to 10 different department over the next 10 weeks and it is really design for people who are pursuing a leadership role within their community or who are interested in an inside look on how Allentown government operates. She thanked Council and stated that it is a great program and people are learning a lot.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated you are welcome. Thank you for coming.

Ms. Michelle Galasso, 277 E. Hickory Street, stated that she is a community worker and she is trying to figure out how The Morning Call put out an article about one bedroom apartments are \$1600. How can you work with the people in the community and how can you help address that there are so many homeless people out there. Where can you direct me to help these people and what can you do to minimize the situation where a lot of these people cannot afford this rent.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that the city will refer this to their new Director. If possible she can may be get some answers. He stated for her to give her information to Mr. Hanlon and he will reach out to Ms. Kistler. He stated that it was good to see her. He stated that he knew when she was not at her best, but she came a long way.

Ms. Marisol Santiago, 629 W. Emmaus Avenue, stated that she has a question and an ask. With the money, there will be a decision being made at a future date. She stated that she is currently employed with the Allentown School District and she knows that Promise Neighborhoods comes out with a bullying issue that is happening in our schools. There is a corridor safety. They actually stand outside and help our security guards as well as APD. They make sure that the bullying does not happen so the kids don't get hurt walking home or just going home safely. She stated that she

has an ask if Council can think about maybe putting some of that money towards this and the school district towards this safety plan that she really thinks it is a good idea. She thanked Promise Neighborhoods for doing what they are doing for our kids.

Contract Approvals

[15-5013](#)

R61

Authorization for Contract with M&J Excavation, Inc. in the amount of \$1,051,870.00 to construct/reconstruct ADA Ramps in accordance with the Americans with Disability Act and remove and dispose of sidewalk and/or concrete curb, located within the City limits, along with incidental work as may be authorized and required by the Contract Administrator, competitively bid - five (5) submissions.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R61 M and J Excavating](#)
[Resolution #30419](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if anyone from the administration wants to comment on that.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated this was done as Bid 2022-09. It was advertised on Public Purchase and accessed by 36 vendors and five proposals were received. The department is recommending an award to M&J Excavation. This vendor is also a WMBE owned business. The cost of the contract is \$1,051,870.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked how is this different from what they approved a while ago for the handicapped ramps with another construction company.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the city has an Utilities Cost Sharing with UGI and PPL when they dig up the road. They have cost sharing and that is why this different. When they dig up the road, they come back and we actually do the work here. Public Works actually does the work. That is where this comes into play.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach thanked Ms. McNeil for sharing the MWBE status. Just in general, is that something that we are now beginning to track and then do we know if it is minority owned, women owned, veteran owned? Do we know?

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that the city started sending out a form with the solicitations and they actually filled it out. They are a women owned business. The city started to track that as long as they are returning the

forms to us. The Purchasing Department documents that now.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that is great. That is wonderful. This is a woman owned.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30419

[15-5014](#)

R62

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services Laudone & Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$2,800.00 to provide an appraisal of the real property located at 928 American Parkway NE. This is an informal quote and is below purchasing requirements, therefore only one (1) quote is necessary.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R62 - Laudone & Associates](#)
[Resolution #30420](#)

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as an informal quote. The Property Review Committee wants to establish the value of the property as there is a request to transfer the parcel. Once the appraisal is completed, the property will go out to bid. The department is recommending an award to Laudone & Associates. The cost of the contract is \$2,800.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated out of curiosity, where is 928 American Parkway.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that 928 will be on the north side of Tilghman. Where the Jaendl's are actually building on that side.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30420

[15-5015](#)

R63

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services Pennoni Associates, Inc. in the amount of \$6,000.00 for Lead Paint Training Courses for City Staff and Contractors. This is an informal quote and is below purchasing requirements, therefore only two (2) quotes were necessary.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R63 Pennoni- Lead Training](#)
[Resolution #30421](#)

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as an informal quote. Two quotes were required. This is to provide Lead Paint Training Courses to city staff and contractors. The department is recommending an award to Pennoni Associates which is the lowest quoter. The total cost of the contract is \$6,000 and the city has successfully done business with this vendor before.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated we don't remove the lead as employees of the city. It is outside contractors do that. Is that correct?

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that is correct.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked why would the city pay to train them.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated because that is part of the grant. He stated that when they get the grant, the grant allows them to offer training and one of the things that they make sure that they do is make sure that they are actually providing lead safe environments, not only for the residents, but the workers as well.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other comments from Council or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30421

[15-5016](#)

R64 Rectifies Oversight/Mistake

Authorization for Contract with Rettew in the amount of \$59,340.00 to purchase the Design and Construction Plan for the Hamilton Street Streetscape-Fifth to Church Streets "Non-Niz" Portion. This was outside the city contract process; RETTEW completed the work with the understanding that they would be paid based on conversations with City staff. RETTEW was engaged to do the engineering work for the rest of the streetscape project up to Church Street and completed this work to move the project along. It is not clear why a solicitation wasn't separately done for work outside of the NIZ. Once the contracting issue was identified, there were conversations with the Solicitor's office on how best to proceed with the project. It was recommended by the Solicitor's office that the City purchase the completed plans. The City has an obligation to purchase the plans since the work was done under the assumption that the city would pay for it and did the work with support from city staff.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R64 Rettew Streetscape](#)
[Resolution #30422](#)

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done off of the ANIZDA Streetscape Project. RETTEW completed the design and construction plan under the understanding that they were completing the whole project. The city has reached out to the Solicitor's office to get verification on how to proceed and they indicated to pay the \$59,340 for the contract, materials and work for this project to go through Purchasing procedures and be put out for solicitations.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he is clear, the city is just paying for the work that has already been done.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated yes, just for the design and construction plans.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30422

Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-5005](#) March 31, 2022 City Council Special Meeting on Bill 16 Minutes

Attachments: [March 31, 2022 City Council Special Meeting on Bill 16 Minutes](#)

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

[15-5012](#) April 6, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [April 6, 2022 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Communications

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this past Saturday they had the Syrian Flag Raising out here on Penn Street. It was attended by several people. Syrian Americans and all the others as well. It was a good event and went over well. It was something that we should be proud of our Syrian American Community here. They really support and are vital to our city here. He just saw briefly that the city got a \$1.3 million grant for the redevelopment of Bogart's Bridge. That is going to help a lot to restore

that.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks commended the Fire Department for the great job that they did yesterday morning. We can all feel extremely proud of the work they have done. There was a fire on the 300 block of Washington Street early in the morning and it was extremely involved when they got there. They were able to knock it down and there was not damage to the adjoining homes as a result of the fire. We are extremely fortunate to have the skill and professional staff of our fire department. He had an accident at his home in the last week which was investigated by the Police Department. Fortunately, it was not involving his car, but the car went on to his lawn and caused some damage. He stated that they too did a great job. The officer was there within minutes and did a great report. He commended them for their job and the great job that they do. He stated that he feels very blessed to live in the city at times like this.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated all of the first responders: EMS, Fire and Police, we can't ask for anything more.

Old Business

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that a couple of months ago at a Public Safety meeting, Council discussed amending the legislation that includes incarceration for not paying parking tickets. We did not have enough information. That was the concern. Information has since been shared. When the Public Safety Committee will bring this back up and vote it up or down.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he will be moving forward on that. He stated that no one has been incarcerated for nonpayment of a parking ticket.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that is why Council needs to have a committee meeting to discuss that.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he is working with the Parking Authority right now. He will get that together in the next couple of weeks.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there was anything else under Old Business.

REPORTS

Budget and Finance: Chair Siegel, Hendricks, Santos The Committee has not met since the last council meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for April 27 at 5:30 PM.

Community and Economic Development: Chair Gerlach, Siegel, Mota The

Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for April 27th at 6 PM.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Santos, Hendricks, Siegel The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Affa, Gerlach, Santos The Committee met this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, Zucal, Affa The Committee met this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Affa, Hendricks The Committee met this evening; the next meeting is scheduled for May 4 at 6:15 PM.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chair Mota, Zucal, Gerlach The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are not future meetings scheduled at this time.

Controller's Report (3 minutes) NONE. Jeff Glazier will not make the meeting this evening.

Mayor's Report (3 minutes)

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that you already touched on the Syrian Flag Raising. DaVinci is having its groundbreaking ceremony this Friday, April 22nd at 10:30 AM. He stated that the administration would love to see you all there. He stated that he will love to see all of Council there. There is a ribbon cutting for the Public Safety building right here on Friday, April 22nd at 9:30 AM. He stated that the administration would love to see you guys there as well. They are starting to conduct interviews for the Public Works Director starting next week. The administration will keep Council up to date on what is going on with that.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-4995](#)

Bill 18

Amending the 2022 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars as the result of a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (PA DCED) Initiatives Program to the Allentown Fire Department to provide funds to be utilized for costs associated with updating our existing boat, purchase three rubber boats with engines and trailers, purchase water rescue tools and PPE, purchase

appropriate items to properly store and maintain the equipment during emergencies.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 18 Fire Water Rescue Grant](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated to Mr. Hendricks that this was in your committee.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that is correct. He stated that it was a 3 - 0 favorable ruling to vote for it.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

[15-4997](#)

Bill 19

Amending the 2022 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Fifty-Two Thousand Five Hundred Nineteen Dollars and Forty-Three Cents (\$52,519.43) from Capital Project 2201 – Pool and Spray Parks and Capital Project 2200 – Percy Ruhe (Alton) Park Capital Project 2214 – Cedar Creek Bridges to complete repairs to the Ott Street Vehicle Bridge in Cedar Creek Parkway.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 19 Capital Projects Transfer](#)

Ms. Candida Affa stated that it was passed favorably to Council with a 2 - 0 vote.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that it was passed favorably to Council with a 2 - 0 vote.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

[15-4998](#)

Bill 20

Amending the 2022 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Two Thousand One Hundred Ninety-Nine Dollars and Twenty Cents (\$2,199.20) from Capital Project 2024 – 15th Street Traffic Signal Improvements to Capital Project 2023 – Pedestrian Safety & Signal Improvement to correct a negative balance so the project can be closed.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 20 Capital Project Transfer](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it was in his committee this evening. It was sent

favorably 3 - 0. He asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

[15-4999](#)

Bill 21

Amending the 2022 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifty-Two Thousand Nine Hundred Ninety-Eight (\$52,998.00) Dollars from the United States Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant to the City of Allentown to allow for the purchase of a new state of the art rescue phone as well as training for officers for the new national NIBRS requirement and batteries to be used for speed control signs.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 21 Jag Grant](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it was moved favorably 3 - 0 by the committee to the full Council.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

[15-5001](#)

Bill 22

Amending the 2022 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eight Thousand One Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars and Twenty-Seven Cents (\$8,189.27) from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of The State Fire Commissioner Grant, to the Allentown EMS Department to purchase personal protective equipment for EMS personnel.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 22 OFSC EMS Grant](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it was moved favorably 3 - 0 to the full Council.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

[15-4991](#)

Bill 25

Amending Article 507 (Traffic control Maps) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Allentown. The request is from the Administration. The Administration is authorized to establish and evaluate traffic regulations for a temporary period not to exceed 90 days. This legislation makes the temporary changes permanent.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 25 Traffic Control Maps](#)

[SIGN ORDINANCE 3-25-22](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this was in his committee and it was sent favorably 3 - 0. He asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-5018](#)

R65

Approves the donation of Body Armor for life-saving efforts in Ukraine

Sponsors: Administration and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [R65 Body Armor Donation](#)

[Resolution #30423](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30423

[15-5004](#)

R66

Approves one transfer: (1) \$8,292.00 for funds needed to purchase benches for Trexler Park

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R66 Transfer Funds](#)

[Funds Needed to Purchase Benches for Trexler Park](#)

[Resolution #30424](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked are those funds coming out of the Trexler Fund or from another line item somewhere.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the funds are coming out of the Trexler Fund.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other comments from this colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30424

[15-5020](#)

R67

Authorizes Submission of an Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a Grant of Three Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Six Hundred Dollars (\$398,600) for Use in the construction and development of Phase II of the Jordan Skate Park.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R67 Jordan Park Skate Park Phase II Grant Application](#)
[Resolution #30425](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if Mr. Lightner can tell Council what Phase II is.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that Phase II is that we will be adding additional lighting to allow the skaters to experience it a little longer. Also, there will be additional ramps. They had a conversation with the skaters that use that park. They have another part of Phase II which is also to redesign it and add additional parts to it. Also, putting lighting there for safety as well.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he saw a couple of comments from the skaters about the lighting. He asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30425

[15-5021](#)

R68

Authorizes Submission of an Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a Grant of One Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$100,000) for Use in the development of a Comprehensive Recreation, Parks, and Open Space Plan.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R68 Open Space Grant](#)
[Resolution #30426](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments to his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30426

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

[15-5017](#)

Bill 26

Amending the 2022 Capital Projects Fund and the 2022 Trexler Fund to provide for a transfer of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000) Dollars from the Trexler Fund Capital Contribution Account to Capital Project 2202 – WPA Structure Renovations to continue onto Phase 3 repair of the WPA wall in the Little Lehigh Parkway.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 26 Trexler Capital Transfer](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if this is the last Phase.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that this is the last Phase for Little Lehigh, but there are plenty of WPA walls that need to be repaired.

Ms. Candida Affa asked in the Parkway.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that is the last Phase for this project.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that the Parkway is the last Phase. Where are the others?

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that they are throughout. You have the WPA wall on Martin Luther King, you have a few in Union Terrace. They are throughout the city and what the city is doing right now is mapping them on GIS and coming up with a Comprehensive Plan to repair all the WPA walls.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if this the last repair for the Parkway.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated for Little Lehigh.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other questions or comments from the

public.

REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

[15-5019](#)

Bill 27

Amending the 2022 Stormwater Fund by transferring Three Million (\$ 3,000,000) Dollars from the unappropriated balance of the ARPA Fund to the Capital Fund for Stormwater Infrastructure Improvements.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 27 Stormwater Infrastructure](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments from the dais or the public.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

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

NEW BUSINESS:NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he found a little article that he wanted to read and he is glad they have time to do it. It is pretty cool because it shows you what little things that you can do that makes a persons life a whole lot better. I arrived at the address and honked the horn. After waiting a few minutes, I honked again. Since this was going to be the last ride of my shift, I thought about driving away, but instead I put the car in park and a walked up to the door and knocked. Just a minutes answered a frail elderly voice. I could hear something being dragged across the floor. After a long pause, the door opened. A small woman in her 90s stood before me. She was wearing a print dress and a pillbox hat with a veil pinned on it, like somebody out of a 1940's movie. By her side was a small nylon suitcase. The apartment looked as if no one had lived in it for years. All the furniture was covered with sheets. There were no clocks on the walls, no knickknacks or utensils on the counters. In the corner was a cardboard box filled with photos and glassware. Would you carry my bag out to the car? she said. I took the suitcase to the cab, then returned to assist the woman. She took my arm and we walked slowly toward the curb. She kept thanking me for my kindness. It's nothing, I told her. I just try to treat my passengers the way I would want my mother to be treated. Oh, you're such a good boy, she said. When we got in the cab, she gave me an address and then asked, Could you drive through downtown? It's not the shortest way, I answered quickly. Oh, I don't mind, she said. I'm in no hurry. I'm on my way to a hospice. I looked in the rear-view mirror. Her eyes were glistening. I don't have any family left, she continued in a soft voice. The doctor says I don't have very long. I quietly reached over and shut off the meter. What

route would you like me to take? I asked. For the next two hours, we drove through the city. She showed me the building where she had once worked as an elevator operator. We drove through the neighborhood where she and her husband had lived when they were newlyweds. She had me pull up in front of a furniture warehouse that had once been a ballroom where she had gone dancing as a girl. Sometimes she'd ask me to slow in front of a particular building or corner and would sit staring into the darkness, saying nothing. As the first hint of sun was creasing the horizon, she suddenly said, I'm tired. Let's go now. We drove in silence to the address she had given me. It was a low building, like a small convalescent home, with a driveway that passed under a portico. Two orderlies came out to the cab as soon as we pulled up. They were solicitous and intent, watching her every move. They must have been expecting her. I opened the trunk and took the small suitcase to the door. The woman was already seated in a wheelchair. How much do I owe you? She asked, reaching into her purse. Nothing, I said. You have to make a living, she answered. There are other passengers, I responded. Almost without thinking, I bent and gave her a hug. She held onto me tightly. You gave an old woman a little moment of joy, she said. Thank you. I squeezed her hand, and then walked into the dim morning light. Behind me, a door shut. It was the sound of the closing of a life. I didn't pick up any more passengers that shift. I drove aimlessly lost in thought. For the rest of that day, I could hardly talk. What if that woman had gotten an angry driver, or one who was impatient to end his shift? What if I had refused to take the run, or had honked once, then driven away? On a quick review, I don't think that I have done anything more important in my life. We're conditioned to think that our lives revolve around great moments. But great moments often catch us unaware-beautifully wrapped in what others may consider a small one.

Chief Charles Roca - Allentown Police, stated that he has here today Father Jendras from St. Mary's Orthodox Ukrainian Church and he knows that the Resolution came through favorable 7 - 0 by Council. Thank you. He wanted to give a moment for Father Jendras to come up and talk about that he had contacted him several weeks back. Obviously, we are aware of the situation that is occurring in Ukraine. Part of that process is to assist the folks over there. We have multiple amounts of vests, and ballistic helmets that will be sent over there through their shipping company that they have. It will be something that is helpful. These vests are expired, but they still very usable. It is something that could aid in the life saving efforts over there.

Father Richard Jendras stated members of the Council, thank you so much for having us here this evening. He is the Pastor at St. Mary's Ukrainian Orthodox Cathedral on Fullerton. He has with him Father Oleg Kravchenko and he is the Pastor of the Assumption of the Virgin Mary Ukrainian

Orthodox Church in Northampton. He stated that they want to express their sincere thanks and gratitude for this donation from the city of Allentown. He stated that he doesn't think that there is a person in the world today that is not aware of what is going on in the Ukraine. The heinous crime. The criminal and sinful actions of Vladimir Putin and the Russian nation. The acts of genocide. We have to call it what it is. We have to call it out for what it is. It is certainly is and we certainly would think that in the 21st Century we would not be even speaking about things like this anymore, but yet, here we are. Your donation of these vests and of the ballistic helmets and non-ballistic helmets and things like that are going to help the Ukrainian people to fight in their David against Goliath fight. The people of Ukraine and before he became a Priest he was a history teacher for 33 years. He remembers teaching his students the Blessings of Democracy. The lessons of liberty. The lessons of freedom that we hold so near and dear in this country. The people of Ukraine is stepping up to that and they are re-teaching us here in America the lessons that we have now unfortunately he thinks sometimes have forgotten and they are teaching us the value of liberty and freedom and democracy. Your donation will help them in that effort. Your donation will save lives and we thank you.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that you are quite welcome and if we save one life we have done our job. He asked if there anything else for Good and Welfare.

ADJOURNED: 7:13 PM