



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Remote Participation of Councilmembers, City Staff and our Citizens: While the Council and City Hall doors are physically closed to the public, the Council Chambers are open to the public through electronic means. The public, City staff and councilpersons are afforded the opportunity to participate remotely. Councilpersons and city staff participating in chambers will follow CDC guidelines – six-foot separation, separate microphones and wearing masks. These efforts are geared towards minimizing the number of people in the room at the same time to protect against community spread of the virus. Also, to protect against community spread, members of the public are invited to participate in public comment and courtesy of the floor through electronic means. We will be making every effort to create as many opportunities for residents to comment on legislation and bring issues to Courtesy of the Floor.

Encouraging Written Public Comments and Courtesy of the Floor Statements: Public comments will be accepted in writing through an email to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov. Emailed public comment for council meetings must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the day of the meeting to make it available and distribute it. The comments received will be read into the record by the City Clerk. The email must follow the regular format of council meetings – include your name and address on the email. A Courtesy of the Floor section will be created for items not on the agenda. Please forward these requests to the City Clerk's email address above.

Live Comments During the Meeting: Email - Council will be taking live comments during the meeting following the regular protocols using email. Email can be sent to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov. A reminder that comments must be directed to legislation under review except for Courtesy of the Floor.

The meeting is livestreamed and can be found at the city website: <https://www.allentownpa.gov/> under Public Meetings or simply go directly to the link <https://allentownpa.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Make sure the drop-down menu references City Council and is on the current month. The complete agenda and legislation are found there. When the meeting starts, it will say Meeting in Progress on the right-hand side. Click that and you will join the meeting. The livestream works best with up to date browsers. After the meeting is over, the video will be uploaded into the file. Should you have any questions on this, call the City Council Office at 610-437-7556.

Record of Meeting: The video and minutes of the meeting will be posted on the City website as soon as possible after the meeting for review.

Invocation: Councilperson Affa

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Candida Affa, Ce-Ce Gerlach and Cynthia Mota participated remotely using Microsoft Teams

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

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

The City Clerk read the following into the record:

From April Riddick, no address given

Ms Riddick asks for total transparency of submitting the (regional prosperity) proposal to be discussed at the city council meeting. It (is) wrong to shut down possible solutions from others to review by all city council members .

Angel Santiago

Señor Hendricks,
Earlier this week I emailed Señor Mayor asking him to support the prosperity district. He did not respond. I am now emailing you to support the district. I heard from my church mates that you are not allowing it to come to vote, but I do not understand why. Please vote to look for other ideas.

Señor Mayor,
I see last week there was a lot of talk about the prosperity district. I then read the plan. I hope you have read it too. I have not seen your support but I hope you will support the idea. I can not afford more property tax. I do not want to see a reduction in services or in the police force. Do not wait till the last minute like Pawlowski did. Please support the plan and ask others to support it too. Please include this for the next meeting.

ATTN: MICHAEL HANLON

Dear Mr. Hanlon: I am requesting two things as it relates to my email below, which I sent to Mayor O'Connell yesterday, Monday, May 11, at 7:59AM:

1. that it be read into the record at the Council Meeting scheduled for tomorrow night, that is, so that it is entered into the minutes of the meeting; and
2. that Council Resolve at that meeting to support the Pinsley/Siegel Tax Plan.

Mr. Angelo's email also included this:

Dear Mayor O'Connell:

First of all, I hope that you and yours are safe and well at this horrible time.

I have read Mark Pinsley's and Joshua Siegel's plan for addressing the economic damages caused by the coronavirus and how to address them fiscally moving forward. We must plan for the days, weeks, months and even years ahead. This report (see link below) provides an excellent start for beginning the conversation.

Our nation, our leaders, indeed, our President, were caught flatfooted by this awful pandemic. By proper planning now we can avoid being caught unawares once again. Many will suffer, especially the poor, if we don't plan well and do it now. I believe this report is an excellent start.

Julian Kern, 252 E. Walnut St. Apt. 2RR

Hi,

Not sure if it's too late to submit public comment for tonight's city council meeting for courtesy of the floor. I'll send me comments below in case. If too late I'll resubmit for next council meeting.

Public comment: I know I have brought this up in the past but I am still advocating for the city to reinstate the juvenile community service program the city once had in operation. The juvenile community service program was run by the Allentown Police Department's civilian community police coordinator. Juveniles that committed minor violations were ordered by a judge to participate in the community service program. They would report to the coordinator and complete the set amount of hours ordered by the magistrate district judge. They would complete the hours by helping pick up litter, plant flowers, clean up parks, take handbills off utility poles, etc. I think this program could also be useful to have the juveniles paint city curbs for yellow lines as many city curbs do not have the yellow paint lines.

The benefits of community service are the same whether voluntary or mandated-all community service participants have opportunities to:

- Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills,
- Gain a better understanding of how to make constructive changes,
- Form meaningful relationships with others,
- Develop a deeper understanding of community problems,
- Gain a sense of individual effectiveness, and
- Recognize the need for involvement.

The community would benefit from the program by:

- Having cleaner neighborhoods and parks.
- Increase in property values.
- Decrease in city expenses and utilization of city services.
- Positive interactions with the youth and the police department.

From the morning call (January 1st 2005): The Allentown Police Department's civilian community police coordinator, who mediates complaints between neighbors and runs the community service program for juvenile offenders, is the latest of Mayor Roy C. Afflerbach's layoffs to be brought to light.

Molinatti, who worked in the human relations bureau before it was closed in 1993, specialized in mediating chronic complaints among neighbors and between residents and police.

He also coordinated the juvenile community service program, which allowed minor juvenile offenders to work instead of paying a fine for their offense. Molinatti organized projects, for example, to pick up litter

or take handbills off utility polls.

Molinatti coordinated the Crew program, in which the same youths were organized to shovel snow for elderly residents. At its height the program provided snow shoveling assistance to about 90 households. The program was the brainchild of former Councilwoman Pamela D. Varkony.

Thank you,

Julian Kern

Ettore "Ed" Angelo 1534 W. Broad St., Quakertown, PA 18951

Dear Mr. Hanlon: Please have my letter below (sent last week) and this letter as well read into the record/minutes at the next meeting.

Also, please direct both letters to Councilman Hendriks. It has come to my attention that he is refusing to place on the agenda the topic of the tax plan recently proposed by Controller Pinsley and Councilman Siegel.

This confounds and disturbs me--and it will others too, I'm sure-- because all they are proposing is that these matters be discussed. When should these discussions occur, after a tsunami of fiscal issues arise to drown all attempts to deal with them?

We must not be caught flatfooted; we must be ready for all contingencies.

Through this letter to you I am pleading with Councilman Hendriks to place this matter on the agenda and to vote to open discussions about it and other plans to deal with the inevitable problems this virus will give rise to very soon.

Thanks very much.

Devin L. Gray, 2117 E. Livingston Street.

I am a accountant in Allentown. As you can imagine there are lots of businesses having issues. We do not know which ones will make it and which ones will not make it. What we do know is that the City is already struggling. Our citizens will need additional assistance. We know that money isn't coming from the state or the federal government. Please support the review of the Regional Prosperity District and make sure that the review goes quickly and efficiently. We do not have time to wait.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and made a comment regarding the numerous comments on the Regional Prosperity District. He stated that he in no way tried to block anything or stop anything. The reality is that Council has certain Rules and protocols. That proposal was put forth to Mr. Hanlon eight days after the agenda had expired. With all intentions, it may be on June 3rd meeting agenda and at that time it could be voted on and discussed.

Ms. Candida Affa commented on Julian Kern's program. She asked when did they have that program. It is a wonderful program. Don Ringer brought this up several years ago several times. Why we can't get convicts or people in prison out to do a lot of these jobs. Of course, it was the county, we had problems with that and weren't able to do that. She stated that she wasn't aware they had this juvenile program and it is wonderful. It is exactly what we need out there. It is a lot of help, like painting the lines. She asked if anybody remembers when the city had this program.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he remembers. Juvenile Probation used to run it. Every Saturday from 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM, they would cut grass at the cemetery at 10th and Linden or they would do the stuff down at the Recycling Center or they would paint curb lines. What Mr. Kern brings up is absolutely a great idea. He stated that he is not sure it went by the waist-side. It was a very effective program and it gave the youth the opportunity to pay for their crime and teach them something to hopefully make better decisions.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it was part of a budget cut at that time.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they should look into that. It is a great program.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that they have it setup with Recycling where they actually do work down at the Recycling yard down on Martin Luther King and 15th. They get one quarter of the recycling and what they get back from the yard down there to actually assist with paying back the different things where they might have owed \$200. They do have a program that they continue to do down there from down at the Recycling Yard Waste Site. Ann works with them. The kids that are on probation have so much community service to do and the Probation Officers are down there to assist them and watch them. That is something that continues. That has never stopped. He stated that Public Works does not have them going out on the roadway. They have them working at the site where there is plenty of work for them to do.

Ms. Karen El-Chaar stated that Parks also used the Juvenile Probation Program for tree planting, collection opportunities, and cleaning off the playground equipment of graffiti. For some reason it was discontinued. She hears that Public Works and Recycling continues to use them. She stated that the Parks Department can look into that for the future.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that it is a great program. She suggested picking up trash or sanitary

work.

Mr. Joseph McMahon stated that they are talking about two different programs. They did the same in Water Resources. There were many times that they used them through the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Office. The other program Mr. Zucal was talking about was a completely separate program that was run within the Police Department.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that it is a great program. When he was a Principal at Trexler kids would get into mischief and they would go down to Sumner Avenue and Magistrate Gaddy would say to the family and the juvenile offender, \$250 fine or a \$50 community service and before the juvenile offender could say anything, the mom would say we are doing the \$50 community service. It is a great program. Part of that program is that if you got suspended from school you would not just go home, you had to go down to the Recycling Center to work the days you were suspended.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the difference is that the program was run by the Police Department and this one is totally different. The reason why people think it is not there is because Al Molinatti was very involved in the community.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that they are both good programs. He stated that he remembers Molinatti well. He did a lot for the city.

Mr. Joshua Siegel commented on the previous comments regarding the Regional Prosperity District. Agendas are evolving items and they routinely amend them. We were just emailed at 3:00 PM today to add an amendment for a \$850,000 grant for COVID response. The reality is that they are evolving and organic documents. We routinely add Resolutions. The reason why he is so adamant and tired of the obstruction or the obstinance is that time is really of the essence and each week or each month they delay really only inflicts further harm. He stated that he was reading over the Novak Report and the frank reality is between 2019 and 2024, the city will have a \$47 million - \$48 million cumulative structural deficit and the Regional Prosperity District that he worked on proposing with Mark is one of the few ways that they are going to be able to actually address that. The frank reality as this Novak Report points out is costs and revenues. We can't physically cut enough to fill that hole. There is no opportune time or less contentious time to talk about the proposal. He stated that he understands the concerns that have been put forth or some of the reticence that has been been expressed. The frank reality is there will never be a good time to talk about taxes. There is never a good time. No one ever wants to talk about taxes. No one wants to hear it. He rather talk about it now rather than when their backs are against the wall or they are on a fiscal cliff. All it is, is a discussion on a proposal and a plan that can come into existence years down the line. Nobody is saying it is going to happen tomorrow, next Thursday or even next month for that matter. He stated that he is a human being just like anybody else and as sensitive to people's concern and the reality of the economy as anybody else.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that this body has an obligation to discuss all sorts of proposals. He pointed out that Pittsburgh has a district like this. They had to get state approval. This is not a local decision. Having a discussion of it is a fair way to start. There are a lot of stakeholders involved in something like this. He doesn't know how long Pittsburgh had to fight and claw to get the state legislature to agree with that. In Pittsburgh's district it is only a sales tax. There is no income tax.

Mr. Joshua Siegel correct. He is aware.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Ms. Gerlach signed on as a sponsor so it will be introduced at the next Council meeting.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that he is aware and absolutely cognizant of Mr. Glazier's comments. It is absolutely no doubt difficult. The reality is that is why they are here. The easy things are easy to do and we already picked the low hanging fruit in terms of strategies and solutions. The frank reality is we are elected to do things that are difficult. We are elected to fight and claw for our communities. He stated that he has no reservations about the uphill battle that it would be, but the reality is if you believe that it is in the best interest of the community as he does and if they believe there are very limited things they can do locally which he does, it is nothing short of inevitability and necessity that they pursue something like this. Strictly speaking, the way that they organize as municipalities in Pennsylvania and the way that the financing structures are setup, the odds are stacked against us. This is something that they absolutely have to pursue or we will not survive. That is the frank reality. There is no avoiding the fiscal cliff that is coming our way without bold and audacious proposals like this. We have to change the status quo because it is clearly not working for anyone and it is certainly not working in the city.

Mr. Julian Kern sent this email at a later date as a follow up.

Hi, This email is to follow up on the courtesy of the floor comments I submitted for the city council meeting on May 20 regarding the juvenile community service program. There seemed to be some confusion or misunderstanding regarding the program I was referring to and the one that is ran through the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department. The juvenile community service program I was referring to was run by the Allentown Police Department's civilian community police coordinator (Al Molinatti) not Lehigh County Juvenile Probation. I have spoken to Ryan Schaffer, one of the supervisors with Lehigh County Juvenile Probation and he remembers the program the city had that I am referring to. He told me that Al Molinatti would coordinate with juvenile probation to assist with manpower and projects, but the program was totally separate from the one that Lehigh County Probation runs. The program the city had was stopped because Al Molinatti was laid off by Mayor Roy C. Afflerbach back in 2005 due to budget cuts at the time. Craig mentioned that community service is done at the recycling yard but that is through the Lehigh County Probation Program, not the program I am referring to that the city had. The program I am referring to was not for juveniles in probation. It was for juveniles who committed minor offenses such as truancy, vandalism, etc. Minor offenses that did not reach the level of probation. When I spoke to Ryan Schaffer about the program, he agreed that the program the city had was an excellent program for juveniles who committed offenses that did not meet the probation status and was a useful program. The program the city had was geared towards improving the community such as picking up litter in neighborhoods, planting flowers at parks, cleaning up parks, taking handbills of utility poles, etc. That is why I also brought up the issue of painting lines for the curbs. I have some experience with the program because I participated in the program for truancy when I was a teenager. I was ordered by the magistrate judge to complete fifty hours of community service and reported to Al Molinatti at the Allentown police station along with other juveniles. Al would then take us to city neighborhoods with a police officer or two and we would pick up litter. We also helped pick up litter at franklin park, working with the franklin park association. We also helped plant flowers at the park. Julio mentioned that people may not think the program is in operation because Al Molinatti is running the program, but the thing is the program I am referring to isn't in operation anymore and hasn't been since Al layoff in 2005. As I said, yes Juvenile probation has their own community service program, but that program is totally separate from the one I am advocating to bring back. It is in my opinion that the city needs to hire someone to be the Allentown Police Department's civilian

community police coordinator to reinstate the program or reinstate the program through the Allentown police youth division. If you want, you can contact Ryan Schaffer and I am sure he will speak to his knowledge of the program. When I spoke to him awhile back, he said he would come to a city council meeting to speak in favor of the city reinstating the program. He can be emailed by clicking the following link: [Ryan-Schaffer](#) or call probation at (610) 782-3143 and ask to speak to him. I also chatted with Pamela D. Varkony who was a former Councilwoman who was the brainchild so to speak for the program. Last I spoke to her, she told me she was in Florida for the winter and when she returned to the city in May, she would contact me to help me petition city council to bring the program back. As I said I think the city should bring back the juvenile community service program back in operation. The benefits of community service are the same whether voluntary or mandated; all community service participants have opportunities to:

- Develop critical thinking and problem solving skills,
- Gain a better understanding of how to make constructive changes, Form meaningful relationships with others,
- Develop a deeper understanding of community problems; Gain a sense of individual effectiveness, and
- Recognize the need for involvement.

The community would benefit from the program by:

- Having cleaner neighborhoods and parks.
- Increase in property values.
- Decrease in city expenses and utilization of city services.

Positive interactions with the youth and the police department. Here is the link to the Morning Call article mentioning the program and AI from 2005. With everything going on with Covid-19, I don't expect this program to be immediately reinstated in the near future but I think it's something that should be highly considered to be brought back to operation in the future. The program would benefit the city in many ways and benefit the juveniles as well as their parents cause as Mayor O'Connell stated at the city council meeting that the judge would sometimes ask the parent if they wanted to pay a fine or have their child participate in community service and I am sure most parents would rather have their child participate in community service than pay a fine. In my case, my parents were not given that option, instead the judge ordered the community service. I have also spoken to Magistrate District Judge Patricia Engler about the program and she remember it and told me if the city brought the program back, she would utilize it and order juveniles to complete community service. Sorry for the long email but I hope it clears up any confusion or misunderstanding regarding the community service program I am advocating to be reinstated. Thank you for your time.

Approval of Minutes:

[15-3603](#) May 13, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [May 13, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

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

[15-3609](#) May 13, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [May 13, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Old Business: NONE

Communications: NONE

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chair Siegel, Guridy, Mota
The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

CEDC: Chair Guridy, Gerlach, Affa
The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Gerlach, Mota, Zucal
The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Gerlach, Siegel
The committee has not met since the last Council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Hendricks, Zucal
The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Affa, Siegel
The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chair Hendricks, Guridy, Gerlach
The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

Administration

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that this is EMS Week (Emergency Medical Services) from May 18 - 23. He feels that the paramedics are the best in the state and probably beyond. He stated that he will be presenting a Proclamation to Eric Gratz and the EMS Department over the next few days. He stated that they would have had a live ceremony this week, but obviously it is virtual. They are a great group and do a great job for the City of Allentown.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that unfortunately like the Police Department they were not able to do so. They obtained a \$140,000 grant for a new grant for a new ambulance.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that he and Mr. McMahon sent out a great letter to Senator Browne, Representatives Schlossberg and Schweyer thanking them for the continued support and service to the community. A lot of school districts, cities, municipalities and boroughs live on grants.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked Council if the Resolution is supporting this or just from the Mayor.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that they gave one from Council. He stated that he has one and can get one from Council.

City Controller

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier talked about the way they are streamlining and doing things with no reports. Any of the audits that he forwards to Council, Mr. Hanlon put it on Granicus there for you to read. In realizing that some people are more visual learners than reading learners at some point he will do some short videos and post them on the Controller's Facebook page about the audits so that the information can disseminated.

APPOINTMENTS:

[15-3612](#) Anthony Toth, Planning Commission, 01/03/2023 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [Planning Commission - Anthony Toth](#)
[Resolution #29978](#)

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that he talked to Tony this afternoon. He was on the Planning Commission years ago and got into a disagreement with the former administration. He stated that he brought him back on the Planning Commission. He does a great job. He is very thankful for his support. He is extremely supportive of Allentown.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he met him a couple of times and usually tries to believe that his opinions when he meets someone. Mr. Toth is a very outstanding person. He watches his interrelations with his family on Facebook. He is not only a good person, but a good father.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that Mr. Toth is usually in attendance at Council meetings.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if Mr. Toth was an engineer.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that he believes he is.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber asked Mr. Hendricks to see if there are any comments from the public that the City Clerk has received during this meeting.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Mr. Hanlon if there were any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 29978

[15-3611](#) Jeff Glazier, Planning Commission, 01/03/2023 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [Planning Commission - Jeff Glazier](#)
[Resolution #29979](#)

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that he had the pleasure of and the opportunity to be on the Planning Commission since 2014. He worked with Tony and all the other members all these these years. It is a good group of highly functioning folks who puts the public interest first. They understand the law, and do their best to apply it in a fair and equitable manner and when it comes time for them to disagree, they can do it in a manner that is not disagreeable and they can move forward to the next project. He stated that he appreciates Council's vote on his reappointment and really enjoys the work on the Planning Commission.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Glazier and asked if there were any comments or concerns from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 29979

[15-3602](#) Myrtle Yvette Hailey, Civil Service Board, 01/21/2023 (Appointment)

Attachments: [Civil Service Board - Myrtle Yvette Hailey](#)
[Resolution #29980](#)

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Myrtle Hailey is an alternate. With Dave Howells passing, they took one of the alternates, Lynn Langkamer and put as a member. We still have Pastor Gus and Fred Banuelus on it. This person will be an alternate along with Janet Keshl who is also an alternate.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns about Ms. Hailey.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she knows that Ms. Hailey is highly involved

with the community. She has a pulse of what's going on, well connected and will serve the Civil Service Board really well. She will bring a different perspective.

Mayor Ray O'Connell echoed Ms. Gerlach's comments. He stated that he knows Pastor Hailey and obviously this is his wife. She is very community oriented with the youth at the church and very involved in the whole City of Allentown. She will be a great person on the Civil Service Board.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mayor O'Connell and asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 29980

[15-3601](#) Damien C. Brown, Planning Commission, 12/01/2022 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [Planning Commission - Damien C. Brown](#)
[Resolution #29981](#)

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

Enactment No: 29981

[15-3613](#) Carmen Roman, Human Relations Commission, 10/25/22 (Appointment - Replacing Wendy Escarfullery)

Attachments: [Human Relations Commission - Carmen Roman](#)
[Resolution #29982](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

Mayor Ray O'Connell thanked Council for getting these appointments on the agenda. We put everything on hold for a while, but it is very important that we reappointment/appointment because it is crucial to have the authorities, boards and commissions in full operation. He stated that he will be bringing more to them in the next couple of months.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he hopes that the city is getting back into the full operation and moving as they have in the past and going forward. Hopefully, we start getting back to the regular rhythm of things and bring people back also.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Mr. Brown was on the line and says thank you.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Damien has been on the Commission for a long time and does an outstanding job also, along with Mr. Glazier and Mr. Toth.

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

Enactment No: 29982

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-3554](#)

Bill 31

Amending the 2020 Capital Fund Budget by transferring Thirty-Eight Thousand (\$38,000) Dollars from Capital Project 2024 – 15th Street Traffic Signal Improvement Project to Capital Project 1225 – Traffic Signal Upgrade Various - to fund the completion of the intersection upgrades at Emaus Avenue and Church Street, the original budgeted amount was insufficient. The completion of this intersection upgrade will provide a safer crossing at South Mountain Middle School.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 31 Traffic Signal Upgrade Transfer](#)

[Ordinance #15615](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it was voted favorably to send to Council.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments, questions or comments from his colleagues or the public.

The City Clerk stated that there were no comments on Bill 31.

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

Enactment No: 15615

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-3605](#)

R61

A Resolution of the City Council of the City Allentown Authorizing the Preparation and Submission of Declarations of Taking and Related Documentation pursuant to the Eminent Domain Code of 1964, as amended, to Acquire Certain Property at 628 W. Turner Street, Allentown PA 18102, identified by the Lehigh County Assessment Office as Parcel Number 640701942421 1.

Attachments: [R61 628 W. Turner Street](#)

[Resolution #29983](#)

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that as you know they are looking to redesign

the Transportation Center and widening Church Street. As we move forward with development, this is a key area that is needed for the turning radius for the bus transportation to come in and out of Church Street. This will allow for traffic to come into the terminal off of Turner Street and also exit out of Turner Street to head eastbound and north. This is a better overall transportation concept and again, it allows for the city to save on costs on the continued damage of hitting the curbs when buses are coming in and out. Widening the street is to the safety of the entire Transportation Center by shrinking the footprint. He stated that they are asking to move forward with this so they can get the project underway and move forward.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if it is a lot or is there a structure there. Any property or anything there. He asked if the owner is available.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that there is a five unit parcel there right now. He stated that they have been trying to contact the owner for months and have not received any type of correspondence. From letters being sent to the home to knocking on doors. They are just not getting a response back.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if they have made all the necessary and legal attempts to reach the owner.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that they have done all of that, but also now that our Solicitor is involved as well we are going through the entire process for the taking. We have steps and time-frames that we have to follow.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions from his colleagues.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she believes that the entire project is going to be very good to the city of Allentown. She stated that she drove past the property and it is such an eyesore and stated that she doesn't even believe that rats want to live in that place. She doesn't see any problem in taking it over and doing what is going to be beneficial to the city.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if people live in the building the city is trying to take over people living there.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she doesn't think anybody lives there. It is so bad.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that there are people living there and according to the process of the taking, they will be helping and relocating the tenants that are there. They already have a couple organization from the Redevelopment Authority and other organizations that do have

available spaces that the city can relocate them to. He stated that the city has to follow the process so that anybody that is there can be relocated.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked how does the process look. Are we talking about six months or a year. What is the time-frame that we are talking about.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that varies on the process itself. They have to give the 30 day notice. They have time to respond and have to go through the court system. If Mr. Kloiber is there he can answer it a little better. This is at least a six month process. Could it go longer, it is hard to say. It is based off the courts and how well we can get the relocation to take place and the response of the owner.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if the city knows if it is an owner that is out of state. Does he own other properties? What do we know about this landlord?

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the city knows that the landlord owns other properties. He lives within the area.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated about the process, Mr. Lightner has an accurate description. You never are going to be quite sure exactly how it is going to go before the courts, but six months is a good estimate. It could be more, but possibly could be less. That is a fair estimate to give on this.

Ms. Candida Affa asked Mr. Lightner if there are any fines with the health department or building inspectors or any violations. She stated that she cannot imagine that this place can pass any kind of inspections.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that there are no violations based off his last inspection. The owner passed his last inspection and will be due for an upcoming inspection this year. Remember, the city's inspections are every five years. Unless, they get a complaint, they really don't go out there. As of now, there are no fines that they currently have except for the fact that they just don't correspond with him.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if he will inspect this year, the fifth year.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that this is the reality of many poor people in our community. They live in condition. That is one of the reasons why the numbers are so high when it comes to this virus.

Ms. Candida Affa asked Ms. Mota has she driven pass there. She stated that if she lived there she would be thankful that the city was going to relocate her. She asked Ms. Mota to drive pass and check it out.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she knows where the place is.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach asked about the Google Maps and if there is a thrift store underneath. Is it still commercial under there?

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated what you see there is similar. There are still those items in there. It is commercial space. The zoning hasn't changed, but whether it is an active business or not is something that he can't attest to.

Mr. Ce-Ce Gerlach asked about the specific property. When the city does end up acquiring the property and there are residents in there do we work with any first time home buyer programs or do we primarily try to set them up with another arrangement.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the city doesn't take that role. They have a real estate agent that is responsible for the relocation. The city doesn't get involved with finding a place to live for someone or physically finding them a location. With the real estate agent that is involved, there could be that opportunity to find a place to buy or rent, but the real estate agent goes through the process with the current resident to find out what is the best option for them.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach asked if the real estate agent does bring up the first time homebuyer opportunity within the city if the person is interested or not interested in it.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that it depends on the real estate agent that has been used. The real estate agent that we are going to use, we can strongly suggest that they do that. He can't attest for every real estate agent that is involved in the relocation packet of how they do that. He only can tell them that if they are a good real estate agent, you will want to offer those options. We can make sure that we highly suggest that they offer that opportunity.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that sometimes losing your home is crushing no matter how much of a deplorable space it is, but it can be used as an opportunity for people to uplift their situation which will be for those that are able and willing and ready to own a home then something good can come from it.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated absolutely, he will make sure that they suggest that and put that as part of the packet.

Ms. Candida Affa agreed with Ms. Gerlach and stated that it is one of the

ways that they can help the community by having homeownership. It is a good point to bring up to the realtor also.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that there are so many great opportunities and agreed with Ms. Gerlach. The more information and the more education the community gets, it would get a lot better. The ownership of a property will uplift anybody spirits and they would take care of it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other comments or questions from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 29983

[15-3600](#)

R62

Approval of Transfer: \$50,000.00 in Risk – for purchase of PPE - gloves, masks, sanitizers - transfer is from Account #081-02-801-0001-46 (Other Contract Services) to Account #081-02-8001-0001-68 (Supplies).

Attachments: [R62 Approval of a Transfer](#)

[Risk Transfer](#)

[Resolution #29984](#)

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that he doesn't know if Mr. Nelson is on the line or HR.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he invited them. It is typical when it is in the wrong account.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is pretty basic.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated in this time, COVID-19, we have to buy masks.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he has a comment in regards to this Resolution. He stated that he doesn't have a problem with making the Transfer at all. What he likes to suggest when they buy this \$50,000 for equipment, gloves and masks there are a lot of people locally in the city of Allentown selling this. He suggested to look for vendors from the city that have businesses to purchase some of the things that they are buying. Not only this, but other things. We have to lift our economy back and thinks that if they make an effort to target and buy things that we need from local in Allentown it would be good.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that he doesn't disagree with him, but you still

want to get the best price.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he thinks they are restricted to open that up for bid.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that if they open it up for bid, yes. Most of the people buy it from the manufacturer and resell it in Allentown. Unless the city is buying it directly from the manufacturer. He stated that he personally knows people that are selling.

Mr. Joseph McMahon stated that they are told that they will be reimbursable. They are not sure what the reality is. Some of the CARES Act money will come forward to pay for PPE. Expenses that you have based solely on COVID will be covered by that.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked when you say reimbursable, if we have the opportunity now to buy local in Allentown let's do that even if it costs us a couple more dollars. These are people paying taxes to us.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there is a 10 percent residents cut. When you bid it, they get 10 percent.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that his comment was whether the city will be reimbursed.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she agrees with Mr. Guridy. The community and the business community are hurting. If the city can spend money to help those businesses, those small businesses who are selling mask in our community that will be one of the best things. She understands that the city has to shop around and look on who will give the best deal. We need to also work and concentrate within our city.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that there are a couple of things to take into consideration. They are getting bombarded with vendors at this point who are selling all kinds of PPE equipment to us. There are a couple of things that they want to take into consideration. The biggest one right now is lead time because some of these things take very very long for them to get in stock. To get the stock we need, they are looking at price, and quality of what they are getting. As they get the initial stock and they are pretty well stocked with what they have. Right now, they want to make sure they have the adequate supplies. Once they are able to put out bids for this then those businesses will get back to the Allentown preference which will help to ensure that some of that goes back to them.

Mr. Joseph McMahon stated that the priority here is to build a stockpile.

He understands that price is something, but you can't put a price on somebody getting sick and spreading that disease throughout the workforce. The first priority is to build up that stockpile. This could be worse in the fall than it is now. If that happens, we could be in real trouble because how do you bring a workforce back without the protections they need. He stated that in addition, he wants to be ahead of the curve. He directed Jessica and Jeff weeks ago to start looking for as much as the city can stockpile. Before COVID - 19, China made 50 percent of the worlds masks. They have ramped up production and they are probably at 70 - 80 percent. Until the end of March you could not get shipments of masks from China. They were holding them back on the concerns of their own citizens. He stated to plan for the worse and hope for the best. He would rather spend the money now rather than have people get sick or worse in the fall.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 29984

[15-3606](#)

R63

Authorizes Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) Grant FOR the construction and development of Jordan Creek Greenway Trail.

Attachments: [R63 Jordan Creek Trail - DCNR grant](#)

Ms. Karen El-Chaar stated that this particular grant application they received from DCNR was by invitation only. There were only nine cities who received the notification. They were very pleased that the city was one of them. We did indeed file the grant application and as it was due on April 22nd. They agreed to accept the application without Council's Resolution. The Council Resolution is a required document that needs to accompany the grant. However, because at that time, City Council was only accepting emergency issues for consideration and our grant was not necessary an emergency so DCNR gave us an exception and said we could submit the Resolution later.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. El-Chaar and asked if there were any questions, comments, or concerns from his colleagues.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that is a great decision that you made to send it. We can approve it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions or concerns from the public.

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

Enactment No: 29985

[15-3607](#)

R64

Authorizes Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for a Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) to update the City's Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances.

Attachments: [R64 MAP Zoning and SALDO updates](#)

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that this is piggybacking off the Vision 2030 Comprehensive Economic Development Plan which was recommended that they update their SALDO and Zoning Ordinance. DCED was very excited about the Comp Plan and they gave them great reviews about it and suggested that the city apply for these funds in order to help offset the cost for the zoning update. We are requesting to move forward with these funds.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Lightner and asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 29986

[15-3614](#)

R65

Authorizes the Administration to Sell City Property located at 725 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, PIN #640618377936 to the Allentown Housing Authority for affordable housing for One Dollar.

Attachments: [R65 Sale property to AHA](#)

[Resolution #29987](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that this went through a few revisions and the acreage changed.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if it was 725 or 759.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that they are going by the book and that is the problem. They have to go by the Pin # and sometimes the address may defer from the Pin. This is a situation where the Pin # is being looked at. The address may vary from 725 to 755. You really want to look at the Pin # that is listed there is the correct Pin #. What they are doing here, it is Little Lehigh. The Allentown Housing Authority is looking to redevelop the area and there are two phases. The first phase is about 50 units and the next phase is still under discussion. There is a piece of the parcel that allows for a larger footprint in order for them to make a more robust development.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he will recuse himself from voting on this since he is on the Housing Authority Board. He asked Mr. Lightner if he was able to figure out in regards to the easement and the other entity.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that he does not have the exact details, but there was a while ago an easement there that they were requesting or asking about a billboard going there. As of now, there is nothing there, but the easement was put into place. He doesn't have any answer if it would be removed or not. Irene and Brian are actually looking into that.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that there is nothing new as of yet.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the Housing Authority has been talking about this redevelopment for quite some time now. The Housing Authority is the developer of last resort, especially for people with lower income who has to have subsidized housing primarily. The idea is to raise the entire Little Lehigh Housing Complex in phases and build one large structure so it could be built vertical. It is difficult because of the leveling of the land. The 700 building is right up the street from there. This is very critical for that he thinks it will be real good. Some of the houses are doing really bad. It is an old housing project. Raised the whole Hanover Acres Buildings Housing Projects and they built it into something beautiful at Overlook Park. Before they did that, Hanover Acres used to be the highest crime rate in the city and now it is like the lowest. It is a mixed income housing project now. It is a beautiful development. Penn State University has a center there as well. In addition, they did Cumberland Gardens Housing. This is the next project that they are looking to redevelop. They have a lot of scattered properties throughout the city and some of the properties are not in very good shape. They are looking at taking care of some of that as well. This big project is probably one that they have been working on. It is something that is really really good because part of the idea is with the houses that the people that live there are supposed to start working, get employment and not the type of things that traditionally used to be where people stay in the housing projects where they used it forever. Hopefully, the idea is to get those people to also work and provide services to them and help them out. Hopefully, they can get some more investments from private companies as well.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Guridy for his input. He asked if there were any other comments or questions from any of his colleagues.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she will personally be interested in getting more information on it being mixed income. She asked if the Boys and Girls Club will stay there and then overall what their plan is? Not just Phase One, but the various Phases. She asked about the parcel of land behind the basketball courts?

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the parcel of land is behind the basketball court. It is the basketball court closer to the bridge. If you are on Martin Luther King, behind it, or it is more on the Martin Luther King side towards the bridge.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach asked if there were currently any encampments there.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that as of the last when they were there, there no encampments. They all know it is cyclical. One minute they are there, and the next minute it is vacant. As of the last, there were no individuals up there. In response to her first comment in reference to the mixed income. That is a conversation that they are having with the Housing Authority which is why it is two phases. They are pushing mixed income and not looking to create more core pockets of low income. That is CED's plan.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated to Ms. Gerlach that when you do that kind of work, you have to provide according to HUD Rules, you have to provide back the same type of people and same income you had before. He suggested that Ms. Gerlach talk to Dan Farrel about it. He is very well versed on the HUD Regulations.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Guridy and asked if there were any other questions or comments from his colleagues or the public.

Yes: 6 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

Recused: 1 - Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 29987

[15-3615](#)

R66

Authorizes Submission of an Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for a Grant of One Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$148,750.00) for Use in the development of a Parks and Trails Master Plan.

Attachments: [R66 DCED GTR Parks Comp Plan](#)

Ms. Karen El Chaar stated that she is on the line, but DCED is actually submitting the application.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that this off the heels of the Vision 2030

Comprehensive Economic Development Plan. In Chapter 4, they talked about connectivity and accessibility. Again, in talking to DCED, their recommendation is that as they created this plan for the Comprehensive Economic Development of the city that they should have something that is part of the connectivity, not only for the parks, but as they talk about connectivity they are talking about not only the trailways, but street and sidewalk. Having a complete Comp Plan that mirrors or that ties into the Economic Development Plan is what they are trying to do with this. They were recommending that they move forward to apply for this. They have not sat down yet with each of the other departments to come up with how the plan works, but doing this will allow the city to create public engagement one time instead of every time they have to create a new plan for our parks or trailways or connectivity. The city can have one plan that sets up to create community engagement and they start putting implementation into place, they don't have to go back several times. They are hoping that they can apply for this grant and put together that Comprehensive Connectivity Plan and move forward with implementation.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Lightner and asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it almost feels like they should do it together with Parks and Recreation and Community and Economic Development. Is it because the funding is coming from DCED that you have to do it through Community and Economic Development.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that it will be a joint venture for CEDC, Parks and Recreation, and Public Works.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that all of them will be working together. This is just a Resolution to apply. If they get the go ahead to apply for it and receive the funding, at that point they will put out the RFP, the consultants will get together and they will all work together collaboratively in order to come together for a Plan. He stated that even though it is Parks or Public Works, they do have a Planning Department in the city and that is what their jobs are. They are educated in the old Comprehensive Plan of Planning. They will plan together.

Ms. Candida Affa agreed with Mr. Lightner that it is a good Plan. This is something that they tried to do for Five Years to connect the trailways and connecting all the Parks.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that Ms. Affa is talking about all the trails. This will be a part of that. This will be a part of all the connectivity for all the missing links and putting it into one structure which will fall into the Vision

2030.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that you need all the departments to be involved in it. That is a good plan.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions or comments from his colleagues or the public. He thanked Mr. Hanlon and asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns from his colleagues.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach thanked Mr. Lightner for emailing her back the answers to some of her questions. She asked about the coordination with other programs. She stated that she was on a call a month ago Rob Nicolella from Catholic Charities and some of the local judges in the Court of Common Pleas were looking at setting up a program in which when folks come in and facing eviction, instead of immediately going through that process they would have an opportunity to coordinate with the Regional Homeless Advisory Board and possible release funds to get them back on track. There were a couple of people that express some frustration back when they announced the \$400,000 program to help folks not get evicted. It seems as though it is a similar population for that coordination can definitely happens. She stated that she doesn't know if that \$700,000 is specifically for people who are facing eviction or for people who are going through the 211 line or going to the Conference of Churches to ask for help. It it is, it changes things.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the city doesn't have a problem coordinating. He stated to Ms. Gerlach that is something that they can talk about. Coordination looks different depending on what they are looking to do. Maria and Heidi attend the meetings.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions, concerns or comments from his colleagues or the public.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that just because it wasn't previously on the website before hand, there is a 30 second lag-time and requested Council to leave a minute and a half of open time so that people can respond, if there are any responses.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that he does not like doing this at the last minute, but it is due June 1st. There was a discussion that they were not going to move forward with it, but based off of some of the needs and the response that they had to the people that they had rental assistance, it came down and the Mayor forwarded to him. They took a deeper look into it. With the shorter deadline, unfortunately, he had to get it into today. He apologized for the last minute, but it was a last minutes opportunity for them

to take advantage of.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked the Council to take it under consideration. The community really needs it. In less than a day, everything was filled and it was an overwhelming response. There are still a lot of people out there that did not have an opportunity to apply because they did not have a computer and some of them did not have the information. The community is hurting.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from the public.

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

Enactment No: 29988

[15-3629](#)

R67

Approves the Submission of an application to the Emergency Solutions Grant – CARES Act grant program of the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development in the amount of EIGHT HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND DOLLARS (\$850,000.00).

A motion was made by Cynthia Mota, seconded by Joshua Siegel, to Suspend The Rules to Introduce and Vote on R67. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that the reason being is June 1st is the deadline.

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Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that will be prior to our next scheduled meeting.

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

[15-3583](#)

R57

Creating opportunities for residents to obtain information and comment on agenda items prior to meetings

Sponsors: Guridy, Hendricks, Gerlach, Mota and Mr. Siegel

Attachments: [R57 Council Rules Amd](#)
[Resolution #29990](#)

A motion was made by Julio Guridy, seconded by Joshua Siegel, that this Resolution be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Enactment No: 29990

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues.

A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Resolution be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

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

Enactment No: 29990

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (To be referred to Committee with public comment prior to referral) NONE

RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee): NONE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this should have been brought up during Communications because it is not good. He stated as they know last week was National Police Week and they usually have a ceremony at the Scottish Rite Cathedral, but this year due to the COVID - 19 it was done virtually. A few days ago one of their brothers, Michael Popovich, a Sergeant with the Allentown Police Department for well over 25 years has passed away. Since the day of dawn and until the end of time there is always a ceremony in their honor and their family's honor for the service dedication that they give to the communities. He stated that it would be terrible of him not to honor him tonight since there will not be able to be a ceremony for him in his honor and for his service to our community and to his family. To his family, our condolences. Your father, your husband was an exemplary policeman, and friend and he will be missed by all.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he would mirror Mr. Zucal's comments. He stated that he knew him also. He was a great guy, and a great brother. Unfortunately, he is no longer with us, but in a better place. He wished everyone a great Memorial Day Weekend and hope things start to turn around regarding the COVID - 19 and we can all enjoy each others presence once again, in the very near future.

Mr. Julio Guridy wished everyone a Happy Memorial Day.

ADJOURNED: 8:32 PM