

## Allentown

435 Hamilton Street Allentown, Pa. 18101

## **Minutes - Final**

## **Parks and Recreation Committee**

Wednesday, August 2, 2023 6:00 PM Council Chambers

Roll Call: Chair Gerlach, Affa, Mota

<u>15-6064</u> Bill 67

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) from the Parks Maintenance Facility capital project fund to the Mack Pool capital project fund to provide for an evaluation and recommendations for repairs to the Mack Pool facility.

<u>Attachments:</u> Bill 67 Parks Facility to Mack Pool

Ordinance #15929

Ms. Many Tolino stated that this simply moves money to do an assessment for Mack Pool. The Maintenance Facility has been there for a little bit and it is not moving forward. They find it is better use of the funds to see what investment is needed to keep Mack Pool open.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if there are any questions.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she seems to remember a year or two ago, they had a consultant for how much money to do exactly this. What other facilities are they looking at. They did have someone that the city paid several years ago.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she is not sure exactly what report that is. The difference is that this is a structural assessment to look at the actual pool and walls. It is an Engineering Study and Analysis.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that it was the concession and stand. She asked if this is just the pool itself.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that the pool, the walls and the structural deficiencies in the metal walls of Mack Pool. They will see the cost to fix.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if Ms. Tolino can go a little bit further when she says structural deficiency.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that pools only have a lifespan of a certain number of years. Mack Pool was built in the 60s. He can only stretch things so

long. They are metal and overtime metal does not last forever. IT is replacing the metal shell of the pool.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if this what happened at Jordan.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she believes so. If they are made from metal, it doesn't last forever as other types of metal materials used to build pools. After so many years, you need to make investments in order to replace parts that rusting away even with continued maintenance.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if there were problems in the past with that particular pool.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that it is no problem. This is preventative. Parks has the staff go out and look at the pools and inspect them. They need to know when to plan and look at the filtration system and the shell of the pool, the bathrooms and inspect what is there. This was flagged. They can budget a certain amount of money. This is Step I.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated basically, it is an infrastructure issue, correct.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated correct.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if there was anybody else on the committee or off the committee or members of the public. She asked Ms. Tolino if there was anything else she likes to add.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated no.

A motion was made by Cynthia Mota, seconded by Candida Affa, that this Bill be forwarded to Council.

Yes: 3 - Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa and Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15929

15-6069 Bill 71

Amending the 2023 General Fund budget to accommodate the reorganization of positions to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to operate more efficiently, prepare for future project work and be in compliance with the home rule charter.

Attachments: Bill 71 - Parks Reorg

ReOrg Chart
Ordinance #15932

Ms. Mandy Tolino thanked the committee and stated that she knows she brought this to their attention a while ago. It has taken a little bit to get here.

She appreciates them listening and stated as a new Director in the department and these are some of the priorities that are important to dive in straight away. It puts a lead in each of the Bureaus. Golf will have a specific lead. Rob Rhoads would be upgraded to an operations manager to reflect on what he is already doing now. The most important aspects of this is are the two orange colors on there. It takes resources and puts them on the Recreation and Events side of the Org Chart. What this will allow them to do is to have more people out in the community, specifically with the Recreation and Special Events Outreach Coordinator. It would be a bridge between those two Bureaus. It allows someone to be out in the field most of the time. During the winter it will be planning, during events and recreational season, they will be at basketball games and at all the special events. Recreation Manager will provide a lead for the Recreational Bureau and provide more resources to that. Without the people in place, it is hard to do programming.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what organization are you talking about. He stated that obviously, we lost a very important person in Parks yesterday or shortly coming with Mr. Holtzman. He asked Ms. Tolino what is she planning to do to accommodate or fix that problem.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she appreciates Mr. Zucal bringing that up. She did not know if that was her news to share. She stated that Rick has decided to move on to another role at another municipality. She plans on filling that role and knows it will be difficult based on Rick's dedication and years of service and expertise. It is an important role to fill. She is working on revising the job description now to make sure it is accurate to reflect the focus on our department.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if one of the reorganizations filling that position.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that is normal day to day business. That happened very recently. It is not reflected on the reorg. The reorg is a change and filling Rick's role is just something they will do.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what financially it is going to cost of in the future. Obviously, these are step increases.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that this is a savings because they are moving positions around. They are not adding or taking away resources from someplace else. There is a cost to the Golf Fund. It is a stand alone fund and the salaries or Jeff and Chris are not comparable to some other Municipal Golf Courses or Golf Courses regionally. They do a really great

job out there. Revenues are increasing and it is only fair to include them in this. There is a cost to the Golf Fund. It is about \$11,000 for the entire year. For the rest of the it is less than half.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked about Londynn and her title.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she is Special Events Coordinator and reports to the Special Events Manager. She stated that another person will be added. An Outreach person. Londynn does a lot of the permitting office and she attends some events, but a lot of her responsibilities are in the office.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked when Lucinda was there, what was her title.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she was the Special Events Manager which is now Ryan. She stated that Ryan's role is vacant. It is pink. They have interviews and interests and confidant that they will be able to fill that and some really great candidates applied.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that is helpful and asked if there were any other questions from Council or the public.

A motion was made by Candida Affa, seconded by Cynthia Mota, that this Bill be forwarded to Council.

Yes: 3 - Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa and Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15932

## **Updates/Questions**

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if there were any updates or anything else.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that Irving Pool is moving forward and if you drive by there is a lot of construction happening and things are moving along nicely. She stated what a great job to our Rec. Team for the Romper Day and Fourth of July and Juneteenth Celebrations.

Adjournment: 6:09 PM