



Minutes - Final

Parks and Recreation Committee

Wednesday, February 3, 2016

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

Call To Order: Chairperson Mota - Councilpersons Affa and O'Connell

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that they are asking to transfer a total \$536,299 to allow us to repair the wall on the Lehigh Parkway. The bids were such that we can go 125 feet farther and repoint and cap the stone wall all the to the stairway. The Parks and Playground improvement fund will be contributing \$36,299.80. In the future we would have done other WPA work. We are shifting the WPA restoration.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked any questions from the dais.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked what is the expected completion date.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated mid - late Spring. it is a simple project and has liquidated damages.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked what seems to be the problem.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that there was no problem just taking time to and design to do the surveys and go out for bid.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that the bulk of the money \$500,000 is coming from Public Works - Street Lighting Update and the other \$36,229.80 is coming from the City Wide Park and Playground Improvements.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked any other questions from the dais or the public.

Mr. Tom Hahn, 2016 E. Highland Street, asked for an answer on how they are going to do the projects that they are taking the money from and complete the project.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if the administration has an answer for Mr. Hahn's questions.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the repair on the Parkway is a repair of the Retaining Wall. To rebuild it would be extremely expensive. The second part of the project is to do what we are doing in the park with the WPA

structures and repairing the walls to extend its life for 50 + years.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked any other questions from the public.

Mr. Tom Hahn stated that he gets confused when the city has Rules and Regulations.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated costs. if you would restore to its original way, the price would be phenomenal.

Mr. Rick Holtzman stated that one thing we really do on this wall project and that was the creek side and we chose to go with the patterned concrete for the savings.

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated that the Public Works Director received a notification today from UGI. UGI plans on putting a regulator, a pressure regulator nearby and they agreed to donate money for the entire Parkway Path.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked for a history on all things that have been happening with the construction of the pools. She asked what are the other projects in Parks and Recreation.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the demolition started this past week. We will be underway full scale shortly. We recently the report from a Structural Assessment for Bogert Bridge. It is an icon of our Parks Department. Friends of the Allentown Parks will have an event to celebrates the bridges 175th Anniversary on Sunday, June 12th. We are moving forward with the dog park. For Martin Luther King, Phase I, we completed a Concept Plan and moving to secure grants to get that work done. They are in the process to build a Skate Park and the location will be Jordan Park. Stevens Parks reconstruction is going out for bids. She stated that back in 2007, we had 62 employees in the Parks Division broken down between the Watershed, Trexler and small amount funded by the General Fund. Today, in 2016 we are 51 at employees.

Ms. Candida Affa asked about the Dog Park and if there will be a separation for larger dogs.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that we may. She is going to search for input from the Steering Committee.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked any other questions from the dais or the public.

Mr. Tom Hahn asked whose responsibility it is to train the children to get

along with the different age groups. Who owns the dogs?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that successful Dog Parks it is expected not to be an issue. Off-leash Dog Parks are provided across the country.

[15-496](#)

Bill 1

Amending the 2016 Capital Project Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Five Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Two Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Eighty Cents (\$536,229.80) from Capital Project 2008 (Street Lighting Upgrade) and Capital Project 1905 (City Wide Park & Playground Improvement) to Capital Project 2202 (WPA Structure Renovations) to complete the repairs to the collapsed wall in the Lehigh Parkway

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 1 Transfer for Lehigh Parkway WPA Wall](#)

Motion to move Bill 1 favorably to Council.

A motion was made by Ray O'Connell, seconded by Candida Affa, that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa and Ray O'Connell

Yes: 3 - Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa and Ray O'Connell

Enactment No: 15265

Adjourned: 5:54 PM