



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, November 1, 2023

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, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Ms. Sherri Brokopp Binder, 1553 W. Turner Street, started that she is here as the Executive Director of Ripple Community Inc. She stated that she wanted to thank Council for the opportunity to share briefly last week about their project at 1547 Chew Street. She was able to share a little bit about their housing program which for five years it has been successfully supporting our neighbors to permanently exit the harmful cycles of homelessness and housing stability. She shared a few more details about this project. They should have received a copy of the project plan in their email. She thanked Mr. Hanlon for sending it out earlier this afternoon. She stated that as they know, this project will create 12 new homes that will house between 22 and 30 residents with 22 and 30 of their neighbors. These are families and kids whose lives will be diverted from a path that is defined by homelessness and hopelessness and put on a new path that is defined by housing in the connection of well being. She was speaking to one of the residents earlier who came to the program as a homeless mom of two kids. She had become homeless due to a domestic violence situation which is common. Now, she was able to find that stability in her housing and her life and she is pursuing a tract to purchase her first home. This project will address other critical needs in our community beyond housing. She stated that she would like to touch on those as well. The main floor of this property will serve as a Community Center. That is a safe space for members of our community and they will be welcome to come and gather, to build relationships, to find meaningful connections to others and meaningful connections to the neighborhoods where they live. They will also be able to access services provided to by over 10 of their organizational partners who provide the services in an assessable way at their Community Center. These community spaces really matter because

they are the loneliness and isolation which are public health crisis. In addition with the partnership with Valley Health Partners Street Medicine Program, the Community Center space will house three permanent medical respite rooms. These medical respite rooms are safe, short-term residential care rooms that would allow homeless individuals an opportunity to recover from life saving medical treatments. Imagine for a moment being told that you could not have a surgery that you needed, you could not have cancer treatment that you needed, simply because you did not have a safe place to recover after this medical treatment. These respite rooms will address this need and be the first of its kind in the city and the Lehigh Valley. The use of this beautiful property is an investment, a meaningful investment in our community. At RCI, the mission is community and connection. They say that they are in the social fabric business. They care about safe housing because we know there is no better investment than the health of our neighborhoods and the well being of our neighbors and our shared quality of life. That is not to mention that the services they provide translate directly into cost savings for the city. There is \$25,000 - \$35,000 per person per year. That is because people that are housed require fewer emergency medical services. They have fewer interactions with the police. They require less intensive psychiatric treatments, they don't need costly shelter services and that list goes on. She stated that she knows that she does not need to convince anyone here that homelessness is a growing concern in our community and she hopes that she gave them a full understanding of what they are looking to do and why they are looking to do it. She wants to say that they are progressing in this project. They have completed the design process at this point and will be ready to start construction in early spring provided that they have the funding in place. Their request for \$1.5 million is not an arbitrary number. It is the number that allows them to fill that remaining gap in their funding so they can get this project moving and get these families moved into their homes. She thanked Council for considering this request and shared one last thing that is not specific to the project. As an organization they are not here to compete with their partners, not with the partnering nonprofits, not with the partnering public service agencies: The Fire Department, EMS and others who provide a really valuable service to our community members as well as the city as a whole. She stated that they all have a role to play in making Allentown the city that we want it to be and the city we know it could be. They are here to advocate for our unsheltered neighbors. For our families to whom the current housing market is completely untenable and who tonight will be sleeping in cars. We know that tonight there are families in our community on the first freezing night of the year who will be sleeping in cars. They are well aware the city is facing many interconnecting challenges and understand that and are asking them, the leaders of the city as they consider these needs and balance them and do everything in your power to ensure that all of our neighbors can have a safe and stable place

to call home.

Ms. Sherri Brokopp Binder, 1553 W. Turner Street,

[15-6409](#)

Courtesy of the Floor and Privilege of the Floor - November 1, 2023

Attachments: [Courtesy of the Floor and Privilege of the Floor - November 1, 2023](#)

Contract Approvals

[15-6387](#)

R183

Authorization for Contract with Alloy5, LLC, a small business, in the amount of \$50,000.00 to provide professional services to facilitate the relocation of the City's Fire Department and EMS from Central Fire Station to a centralized location. Services are expected to aid the City in determining the space and facility needs for the Fire Department, EMS and possibly the Health Department to operate efficiently out of a modern facility.

Additionally, preliminary design services are required to aid the City's decision on where said facility could be constructed and the scope of construction activities (renovation, new construction, a combination). Lastly, alternative proposal services include the conceptual design of the needed improvements upon authorization by the City after a decision has been made as a result of the initial services.

Attachments: [R183 - Alloy5 LLC](#)
[Resolution #30730](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Mayor Tuerk does he want to speak to that.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that actually Ms. McNeil from Purchasing is on the line and can go over the details.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as RFP 2023 - 33. It was advertised on August 2, 2023. On August 30, 2023, the public opening was held and the city received eight proposals. The evaluation committee held both technical and cost evaluations. The proposal were evaluated on the ability to meet the RFP requirements and after the technical and cost evaluations were conducted, the committee decided to hold oral interviews. The committee made the recommendation to award based on the firm's qualifications and overall score. The committee is recommending an award to Alloy5 LLC which is also a small business.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. McNeil and asked if there were any questions from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if they know about or where they would be putting this or you don't have that answer.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that is less than a contract question and more of an RFP. He stated that they ask them to evaluate a multitude of sites. As you know, the city of Allentown is pretty much well built out. He stated that they just know that Fire and EMS needs a new facility. They will be evaluating multiple sites.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated ok. Thanks.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there was anybody else from the dais. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 30730

Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-6390](#) October 4, 2023 Public Hearing on Bill 70 Minutes

Attachments: [October 4, 2023 Public Hearing on Bill 70 Minutes](#)

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

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

[15-6389](#) October 4, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [October 4, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Communications

Disclosures: Councilperson Affa met with the executive Director of Ripple; Councilperson Mota met with the Director of Community Action Lehigh Valley; Mayor Tuerk, Vicky Kistler and Mark Hartney met with the Director of Community Action Lehigh Valley - funding was under consideration.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach added a disclosure and stated that she had emailed believe the Executive Director of the Alliance for Building Communities (ABC), Brad Fatzinger, concerning the \$705,000 request for affordable housing using ARPA funds.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Gerlach and asked if there is anybody else.

Mr. Ed Zucal gave his condolences to Chuck on the Phillies.

Mayor Matt Tuerk made a minor Point of Order, it is no longer CACLV. It is Community Action Lehigh Valley.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mayor Tuerk.

Old Business

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked is there a status update on the RFP for the investigation stands.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he can answer that. Actually, he got an email from Ms. McNeil that it is now in legal. He asked Legal if that is the normal procedure. This is his first RFP and just wants to ask them. Is that the normal procedure that RFPs go to Legal? He knows that someone in Legal does the actual contract part.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that she knows that the Solicitor's office was sent the RFP yesterday and asked to review it. As far as standard procedure, they review anything they are asked to review. The Solicitor's office will have the comments back to Purchasing by tomorrow afternoon.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what does that review consist of.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that they would look that it complies with any legal concerns of a standard RFP. The comments can be taken or not taken of the comments put forth by the Solicitor's office.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated to Attorney Sarah Rotz as she said the comments really have no value.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that she would think they have value.

Mr. Ed Zucal rephrased that and said they are your opinion.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that they are the Solicitor's office comments and opinions on what they were asked to review.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that now she has more questions. She stated that she will withhold and communicate personally.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that was the first investigation Council ever passed, yet the administration was asked to do an RFP. This is a new thing. Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked about the committee, herself, Mr. Zucal and Mr. Hendricks will see those comments that the legal team is making on the RFP.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that they will provide that to the Finance Department and they will pass on a version with or without the comments.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated that since they are on the topic of RFPs, do they have an update on the Credible Messenger RFP.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that he asked the Purchasing Department to draft an initial RFP for a Feasibility Study for the Credible Messenger. The Purchasing Department drafted something and passed it on to Chief Roca whose department will oversee the execution of that work and hopes to update Council on something related to that.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked would Council know before Saturday. Because that involves ARPA money and we have to make decisions in regards to ARPA.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that they definitely will not have a completed study before Saturday, but he can ask the Police Department and Sergeant Leonard to provide an update on the status of the RFP at that point.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if the Health Department is involved since it is a Public Health with gun violence is public health.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that the initial request was that the Police Department manages it. As it is often the case, he asked for input from multiple departments. Health will be involved and he asked Ms. Santos if she would be interested in helping with the development of that RFP. Credible Messenger is a wide ranging initiative. They will have a lot of folks weighing in.

Ms. Natalie Santos thanked Mayor Tuerk.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that a Special Council meeting will be held on November 4th at 9:00 AM in Council Chambers to review and act on the Mayor's proposed budget.

REPORTS

Special Council Meeting: Council President Hendricks. A Special Council Meeting will be held on November 4 at 9 AM in Council Chambers to review and act on the Mayor's proposed budget.

Budget and Finance: Chair Napoli, Hendricks, Gerlach

The Committee met on October 31; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Community and Economic Development: Chair Mota, Napoli, Affa

The committee met on October 25 and this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

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

The Committee met on October 25th; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Gerlach, Affa, Mota

The Committee met on October 25th; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Hendricks, Zucal

The committee met this evening; the next meeting is scheduled for November 15 at 6:15 PM.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Santos, Hendricks

The Committee met this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

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

The committee has not met since the last Council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Controller's Report (3 minutes)

NONE

Mayor's Report (3 minutes)

Mayor Matt Tuerk shared a few key developments over the past couple of weeks since the last Council meeting and some things to look forward to. Since he was last able to report to them he has been incredibly busy as has been the city of Allentown. He was in Washington DC the week before last and took the opportunity to meet

with Senator Casey and with Senator Fetterman to discuss the needs of the city of Allentown related to funding priorities. We talked about transportation safety, housing, investments in the city of Allentown that would reduce barriers of our residents getting good jobs. Additionally, he met with the Secretary of Transportation Pete Buttigieg and with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce at the Economic Development Administration who is a key ally in our efforts to improve Allentown's economy. With regards to Public Works, he is happy to report that Public Works team continues to invest in infrastructure and make road improvements across the city. He was joined by Director Shahda and members of his team in a Mayor's Bike Ride to the Farmer's Market. The purpose was to help the transportation team understand what bicyclists face. They were joined by the Coalition for Appropriate Transportation and Community Bike Works. Finally, and excited for the Public Works Department is that they selected a city engineer among candidates. It is a candidate from Seattle who had local connections. His name is Greg Izzo (sp). He will be starting on November 13 and is incredibly excited to be able to fill that position to continue to ensure safety in the streets. As they certainly heard on the Public Safety side, they selected Alloy5 as the consultant for development of a Concept Plan for the desperately needed Central Fire and EMS facility. This is the same firm that they are working with for the development of a Concept Plan for the Allentown Police Station. They are excited about the work and already begun the relationship. He stated that they are looking forward to presenting something to them sooner rather than later in regards to a Police Station and releasing plans for how that move will occur. He wants to report two sad items with regards to public safety as he is sure they know. A woman perished in a fire on N. Penn Street. He wants to take an opportunity to remind all residents the importance of smoke alarms and not overloading electrical circuits. These types of deaths and this is the first death they saw in a structure fire in 2023 after a long run with a death. They are incredibly tragic and he hopes the residents can learn from those tragedies. Additionally, they saw the second pedestrian death in a traffic accident on Union Boulevard. He was grateful as he is sure many of them are to see that was not and a Dieruff student has been reported in social media. It was tragically a member of our eastside community. It underlines the importance of making investments in traffic safety and that is exactly what he reported to Secretary Buttigieg in Washington, DC. They were excited in Community and Economic Development to launch the first electronic billing for Residential Rental Licenses. He stated that the a number of Council are landlords and he hopes that they received the documents. They were excited to see that happen. He congratulated with a round of applause to Vicky and Mark and the team in CED with significant support of Gerry Anthony and IT. A minor hiccup related to that the team is sorting out now, but they are excited to be able to do that and it is among many firsts that they will see in regards to Intergov. On the Budget and Finance side, as they know, yesterday they presented the audited financial statements for 2022. Kudos to the team for excellent financial management that put our city in a better financial position

at the end of 2022 then the beginning. The Budget and Finance team has been working feverishly to complete the budget and he thanked Council for their continued participation and collaboration on the budget. The Parks and Rec team he knows that some of them attended the Hallo Weekend events this past weekend. They welcomed thousands of kids to downtown Allentown. If you were there, you saw the smiles and it was an improvement over last year's event and incredibly exciting and they are looking for future improvements in the 2024 event. They also hosted Dia De Los Muertos as a separate event on Sunday. They lucked out on the rain stopping just before the event began and had such a magnificent time celebrating life with members of the Lehigh Valley Mexican and Mexican American Community. He is excited about partnering again with ICDI on the 2024 Dia De Los Muertos. He stated that he has a couple of this to put on their radar for the weeks ahead. Obviously, Stevie Nicks will be playing a sold out concert in the downtown, casting her spell on Center City. You can expect a lot of activity around Seventh and Hamilton over Friday, Saturday and Sunday. He stated that he wants to put it on their radar. It is something to be aware of. Election Day is Tuesday. He stated that he knows they will be out voting, everyone behind him will be out voting on Election Day. He encouraged them to get out and encourage one of their neighbors to vote as well. Election participation and voting participation is a critical indicator for community engagement. He stated that he thinks they can always do better in the city of Allentown and you can help make that happen. On Monday, the 6th, there is another City Hall at the Table event that is 5:00 PM at Civic Theatre. Laura wanted to make sure they he mentioned that to Council. It is a west end City Hall at the Table. They come together to engage with residents and take recommendations for ways that we can improve the city. It is an excellent event at Civic is a great spot to do it. He wanted to mention that on November 12, before they next meet as a full Council, Allentown will be the starting line for the return of the Lehigh Valley Marathon. At 8:00 AM on Sunday, November 12th. He hopes they join him in wishing the racers luck as they run 26 miles to Easton. He took a moment to wish good luck to Steph, one of the paramedics will be running in the New York City Marathon on Sunday. She is absolutely awesome and an Allentown resident and she is going to do us proud in New York. On a slightly solemn note, they want to recognize and take a moment to recognize and he hopes they did during the invocation, the passing of one of the icons of Allentown, Mr. Clyde Bosket. He knows several of them attended his funeral on Sunday. He spoke with members of the community around Union Baptist Church on Sunday and discussed the possibility of dedicating a street to Mr. Clyde Bosket. He encouraged Council to work with the administration and the community to identify the appropriate location and act in haste to recognize a critically important member of our city of Allentown community. In closing, he extended gratitude to each of them for the work that they do. He stated that their unity and dialogue are the keystones of their brighter tomorrow. Let's keep going together and collaborate and communicate. He asked if there were any questions.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he will also commend him for mentioning Mr. Bosket and it is something that he will encourage his colleagues to move forward with. They will come up with an idea and hopefully and an accommodation with the Mayor of a fitting memorial for him.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that there was a recommendation and obviously his first shop was on S. 5th Street and it may be appropriate to dedicate a portion of S. 5th Street as Clyde Bosket Way. He stated that they can consider that and work with his family. He knows that Dan Bosket is a regular attendee of City Council meetings and is one of Clyde's sons. We should certainly talk about that.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they will definitely do that.

[15-6405](#)

Attachments: [Bank Rec - Nov 1 Report](#)
[Check Review - Nov 1 Report](#)

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-6354](#)

Bill 94
Providing for the vacation of Skyline Drive from the East property line of 501 Skyline Drive to its Western terminus in the Fifteenth Ward of the City of Allentown:

Attachments: [Bill 94 Skyline Drive Street Vacation](#)
[Skyline Drive Staff Report](#)
[Portion of Skyline Drive Map - Street Vacation](#)
[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding Portion of Skyline Drive - Street Vacation](#)
[Allentown City Planning Commission Action Letter for the Vacation of N. Skyline Drive 09.12.23 signed](#)
[Letter from Lehigh Valley Planning Commission regarding Skyline Drive Street Vacation](#)
[Skyline Drive from the East Property line of 501 Skyline Drive Report](#)
[Ordinance #15953](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated it was sent favorably to Council.

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

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

Enactment No: 15953

[15-6271](#)

Bill 91

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a Two Hundred Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$275,000.00) from the City's ARPA funds for the repair of the Dixon St. Pedestrian Bridge. These funds will provide for the design and construction of the Dixon St Bridge, which will allow citizens to use this bridge and connect the neighborhoods from the north of Dixon St to South Mountain Middle School and Dodd Elementary school area.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 91 - Dixon St Bridge Funds](#)
[Ordinance #15954](#)

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

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated as it states the \$275,000 is coming from the ARPA budget.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it has already been allocated. It is not part of the budget that you are playing around with.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that it is not going to affect any potential. That was the concern. She stated that she is alright with that.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she is happy that it is happening. She took videos of children when they came out of school, walking through the bridge and it is a safety concern. She is glad that this is happening. She stated that they have to be more proactive because this is a disaster waiting to happen.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there any other comments and stated that he too received a number of calls from different residents in that area. This is something that is sorely needed for our children to traverse safely between the schools over there and Dixon Street. He is glad that his colleagues have decided to put this forward for a vote for tonight. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

Mayor Matt Tuerk commended Council on quick action on that. They already begun the work to clear the path with Street Vacations to do this work and the Public Works team has been preparing for this. They believe they can take the most expedite action to preserve public safety for our students particularly on the southside. He thanked Council for their quick action and stated that it is appreciated by parents at Dodd Elementary and South Mountain.

A motion was made by Ed Zucal, seconded by Candida Affa to Suspend The Rules and Act On Bill 91

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

Enactment No: 15954

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

Enactment No: 15954

A motion was made by Santo Napoli, seconded by Cynthia Mota, that this Bill be pulled from the Parks and Recreation Committee and Acted on this evening.

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

Enactment No: 15954

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that there are seven items on the Consent Agenda. Is there anybody that has any objections of all of them being voted on at once. Are there any of the Bills that you wish to discuss.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she does not have any objections. She did not get to read the email yet. She believes Council got an updated list of everybody that is on the Boards and Commissions. She stated that they got an email earlier at 3:30 PM.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated from Michaela.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated yes.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated seeing none, are there any comments from the public.

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

[15-6391](#)

R184

Chloe Cole-Wilson, Commission on Homelessness, 11-1-2027

Attachments: [R184 Chloe Cole-Wilson, Commission on Homelessness, 11-1-2027](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Chloe Cole Wilson, Commission on Homelessness, 11-1-2027](#)
[Resolution #30731](#)

Enactment No: 30731

[15-6392](#)

R185

Crystal Perez, Board of Health, 1-8-2028

Attachments: [R185 Crystal Perez, Board of Health, 1-8-2028](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Crystal Perez, Board of Health, 1-8-2028](#)
[Resolution #30732](#)

Enactment No: 30732

[15-6394](#) R186
Sarah Hernandez, Board of Ethics, 11-1-2026

Attachments: [R186 Sarah Hernandez, Board of Ethics, 11-1-2026](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Sarah Hernandez, Board of Ethics, 11-1-2026](#)
[Resolution #30733](#)

Enactment No: 30733

[15-6396](#) R188
Ryan Jones, Electricians Examining Board, 11-1-2026

Attachments: [R188 Ryan Jones, Electricians Examining Board, 11-1-2026](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Ryan Jones, Electricians Examining Board, 11-1-2026](#)
[Resolution #30734](#)

Enactment No: 30734

[15-6397](#) R189
Robert Beck, Electricians Examining Board, 11-1-2026

Attachments: [R189 Robert Beck, Electricians Examining Board, 11-1-2026](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Robert Beck, Electricians Examining Board, 11-1-2026](#)
[Resolution #30735](#)

Enactment No: 30735

[15-6398](#) R190
Joseph Franzone, Historical Architectural Review Board, 11-1-2026

Attachments: [R190 Joseph Franzone, Historical Architectural Review Board, 11-1-2026](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Joseph Franzone, Historical Architectural Review Board, 11-1-2026](#)
[Resolution #30736](#)

Enactment No: 30736

[15-6399](#) R191
Curtis Xander, Officers' and Employees' Retirement Board, 11-1-2025

Attachments: [R191 Curtis Xander, Officers' and Employees' Retirement Board, 11-1-2025](#)
[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Curtis Xander, Officers' and Employees' Retirement Board, 11-1-2025](#)
[Resolution #30737](#)

Enactment No: 30737

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-6337](#)

R179

Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 141 N. 10th Street

Attachments: [R179 HARB Resolution to DENY - 141 N 10th St](#)
[141 N 10th St Final Review](#)
[Resolution #30738](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Ms. Affa that it was in her committee.

Ms. Candida Affa stated yes, it was.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that no, it was in my committee and voted 3 - 0.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks 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, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

Enactment No: 30738

[15-6340](#)

R181

Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 932 W. Gordon Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R 181 HARB Resolution to DENY - 932 W Gordon St](#)
[932 W Gordon St Final Review](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this was also in your committee Ms. Mota.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated yes, Mr. President. It was voted 3 - 0 for the Denial.

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

Attorney Ron Corkery and was representing the owner of this property. He was out of town and tried to contact to get a continuance of the matter for this afternoon, but was unable to hook and could not get here on time. He

asked Council he his client can make a short presentation and could be deferred to the next City Council meeting so that the owner of the property who spent \$25,000 putting all aluminum siding on this building could at least make a pitch to the City Council.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he leaves it up to his colleagues if they are willing to do this. He suggested that Council pays attention to when his Petition was accepted.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it is always a caveat that after 75 days a denial turns into an approval.

Attorney Charles Smith stated that they would have to waive a deemed approval.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that they would obviously waive. He stated that they will waive that obviously. If they want him to sign something tomorrow, he will do that.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she would love to speak to Ms. Kistler if she wants to speak.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Ms. Kistler, if she is willing to.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that the issue comes back on what they spoke about in committee. That is when work is done without permits, they are placed in a situation where they are here. Where the work has been done, the work has been done without the permits and the work has not been done according to the HARB guidelines. At this point, she has to admit that this is the first for her. It was voted positively to move through in committee and they have the situation before them. It sets a precedent when you do work without permits, they find themselves in a situation.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that the only comment that he will make on that is that this building was extremely dilapidated, uninhabitable. The city inspector came and gave two pages or three on things that needed to be fixed. The gentleman did everything on all of them and the city inspector made a mistake. He admitted and said yep, you are fine to go with everything. The guy put it all up. The committee said that they did not realize that it was in the zone and needed a permit. This man went and got a permit for a tremendous amount of work and it was probably \$50,000 of work inside of the house to make it so that you could at least live in this thing. The inspectors said, yep, he did everything he asked him to do in the house. He did not get a quote for the siding, but all the electrical and everything else was a permit. This isn't a guy that just went out and started

throwing up aluminum siding.

Attorney Charles Smith stated that the question before Council is whether or not they want to grant a continuance. He stated that he would argue that all of that is basically hearsay at this point. The question before you is whether you want to give him a continuance.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that is all he is asking.

Attorney Charles Smith stated that it is the only question before Council now.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that he was just explaining why they were requesting a continuance.

Attorney Charles Smith stated that Attorney Corkery was doing it in a way that he was drawing legal conclusions.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he has to admit that he knows Mr. Corkery. Will vouch for him as a man of good standing and if he is stating that his client will do this, he is willing to make that Motion. This is also providing that you are willing to waive the 75 days.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated yes.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that since this was done in her committee, she would like to hear also from the owner.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that is also what they would like to do. Even what he would like is a continuance here, but even a second part is just to refer the matter back to the committee so that they can appear in front of the committee in give them the fact that he would relate. He asked if they can have another Hearing in front of the committee, he would like that even better.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if Attorney Corkery is going to continue this work or going to be working with the inspector and getting the permits that you need to correct this.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that they stopped work.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they would like to make the recommendation that this would actually be referred back to the HARB committee for an agreeable solution to come before us and then referred back to the DCED committee. That is definitely contingent upon the waiving of the 75 days.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that when he went to the HARB Committee, they did go to make a presentation and they said sorry, they can't do anything for them. You will get the notice.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked about the deadline at that time.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that they already did appear and they said they can't do anything. There was no discussion about billing because they are saying take everything off. All the other work that has been done, the inspector signed off on everything.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that does not make any difference, it is what needs to be done now.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that he understands, unless Council overrules the HARB committee in which they were hoping the committee would recommend, if they had a chance to explain why.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that the issue here is that not so much the timeframe and how much was done or what was done and that it was not done properly with permits.

Attorney Ron Corkery stated that it will only be one permit, not permits. He did get numerous permits.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that the only issue in question is the siding. All the other work and all the other permits are immaterial to the situation in front of them. She stated that they have siding and permits to work out. If they feel it is not productive to go back to HARB, then Council needs to decide whether it goes back to committee or whether it is a continuance with a presentation to Council.

Attorney Charles Smith asked if there an objection of it going back to the committee, Ms. Kistler.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated no.

Mayor Matt Tuerk advised Council and make this understanding well known to the public that this is and want people to understand that you have to go through the permitting process. He stated that they have heard from their friends at Ripple earlier on the state of the housing crisis in the city of Allentown and the Lehigh Valley. The more they allow chaos to reign, the more they allow for dangerous situations to occur. Knowing in this case they are talking about aluminum siding and the inappropriateness of that in

regards to the historic district. It is incumbent upon them that they are invested in making sure that the people that are doing work in the city of Allentown are doing it to the standards that would have been established by City Council. He doesn't think it should be lost on the public and certainly not lost on Councilmembers. They have to rigidly enforce the Code in the city of Allentown. He stated that whatever they choose to do, he appreciates their understanding that Vicky's team is doing the work.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he agrees totally with that and is sure that his colleagues do, likewise. This would be an exception only for that period of time.

A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks, seconded by Cynthia Mota, that Council accept the Waiver and refer R181 back to the committee at the next earliest point that they convene with the Waiver in place.

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

[15-6341](#)

R182

Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 1410 W. Linden Street

Attachments: [R182 HARB Resolution to DENY - 1410 W Linden St](#)
[1410 W Linden St Final Review](#)
[Resolution #30739](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this was in your committee, Ms. Mota.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it was voted 3 - 0 to deny.

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

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

Enactment No: 30739

[15-6384](#)

R192

Authorizes the City of Allentown to adopt an Official Sewage Facilities Plan providing for sewage facilities adequate to prevent contamination of waters and/or environmental health hazards with sewage wastes, and to revise said plan whenever it is necessary to meet the sewage disposal needs of the municipality.

Attachments: [R192 Pennsylvania Sewage Facilities Act](#)
[Resolution #30740](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked is there anyone to speak on R192.

Mr. David Petrik stated that this Resolution is to adopt a Sewage Facilities

Plan. The city of Bethlehem has recently updated their Plan and stated that there is a small portion of the city at Midway which drains to that Waste Water Treatment Plant. As a part of that process all the municipalities that drain there also need to pass a Resolution to adopt that Plan.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Petrik and stated that it is pretty straight forward. He asked if there are any other questions or comments from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked Mr. Petrik about the land where Bennett used to be, does that affect this at all.

Mr. David Petrik stated no.

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

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that Council was provided that information by the always capable Dave Petrik who is the Deputy Director of Public Works.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated thank you for that. Council does not see him often in the meetings.

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

Enactment No: 30740

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

[15-6385](#)

Bill 102

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Million Four Hundred Fifty-Three Thousand Five Hundred and Thirty-Seven Dollars (\$1,453,537.00) from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Gun Violence Investigation and Prosecution Grant for the reimbursement of expenses for the purchase of new city cameras, new in car cameras for the entire police fleet and new body worn cameras for the Police Department.

Attachments: [Bill 102 PCCD Grant](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if someone wanted to speak.

Mr. Jeff Tanner with the Allentown Police Department stated that this Ordinance before them tonight is a supplemental appropriation from the Pennsylvania Commission on Climate Delinquency and it was approved and awarded to the city of Allentown about two months ago. It is a two year program. It is split to \$1.4 million roughly this year and \$1.2 million next

year. It is to replace the city cameras. The new city cameras that will be installed, about 150 cameras out of this grant. It will provide about 150 new body cameras for our police officers and roughly 55 in-car cameras. It will retrofit all the fleet and the police will get all brand new camera equipment.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is much needed and asked if there were any comments or questions from his colleagues.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they reported before, 144.

Mr. Jeff Tanner stated roughly about 144.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they are getting how many more.

Mr. Jeff Tanner stated that with this grant it will get them an additional 150 cameras. There are some cameras that are roughly 20 something years old.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they will be replaced. What will it bring it up to then?

Mr. Jeff Tanner stated closer to 250.

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-6386](#)

Bill 103

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Twenty-Two Thousand Three Hundred and Forty Dollars (\$ 22,340) from the United States Department of Justice Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant to the City of Allentown Police Department to utilize the funding for batteries to be used for speed control signs, solar panel kits and license plate readers.

Attachments: [Bill 103 JAG Grant Appropriation](#)

Assistant Chief James Gress stated that this was part of the 2022 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG Grant and the annual allocation with the Department of Justice. In 2022, they realized \$30,658 of this grant was for equipment and technology for Crisis Negotiation Unit. They have \$22,340 remaining of this grant that they would like to reallocate for the 2023 budget for feedback on technology and an additional licensed plate reader of the grant that Tanner just discussed.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Assistant Chief Gress and stated that this too

is a wonderful addition. He asked if there were any questions or comments from this colleagues or the public.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that Saturday at 9:00 AM is the Budget Hearings. It is your money. So your time. Your best interests to be here. That goes to the entire public, not just those that are here.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated well said Mr. Zucal and stated likewise he welcomes everybody Saturday morning and hopes to see them then.

Mayor Tuerk stated bring donuts.

ADJOURNED: 7:13 PM

[15-5720](#)

Council Rules
Procurement Procedures
Code of Ethics

Attachments: [Council Rules 2023](#)
[Contract/Procurement Procedures from the Code](#)
[Ethics Code](#)