

Allentown

435 Hamilton Street Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, September 3, 2025

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated Ms. Affa was here.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that she is here.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that she is here.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Ms. Mota is on here way. She should be down in the garage right now.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok, Mr. Hanlon. We will begin with Courtesy of the Floor.

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

Courtesy of the Floor

Please observe the Rules of Council when given privilege of the floor. A copy of the Council Rules can be found on the council agenda on the website. If you would like to speak, we are asking that you fill out a card – they are on the back table provide them to the clerk before speaking. Include your name and address. When speakers have the privilege of the floor, personal insults, attacks, name calling or other behavior that is inconsistent with the purpose of conducting official business will not be tolerated.

Courtesy of the Floor is meant to provide public comments on items that are not on the agenda. Public comment during consideration of ordinances, resolutions and motions are limited by topic – your comments must be relevant to the subject matter of the proposed legislation. Public comments are taken before council votes on legislation.

You are given the privilege of the floor to provide public comment; it is not a question and answer session. State your position clearly and concisely for consideration. If you speak on behalf of yourself, you have three minutes and if you are speaking on behalf of a group that has several members present, you will be given five minutes in place of everyone coming to the podium. Please address the Council President not individual councilpersons or city staff. Refrain from insulting or defaming staff, officials, and the public; refrain from using offensive language, cursing, and making noises while other people are speaking. Please be aware that comments and/or behavior in violation of these rules will result in a forfeiture of all remaining time and you will be asked to return to your seat.

Ms. Kristina Schware, Allentown - PA, stated good evening and stated that she was here before back in June or July. She just wanted to reiterate some issues that she has been brought up. She stated that she would like to bring to light a problem with rental properties and use zoning interpretation. The current zoning interpretation of the zoning ordinance is that a rental house can have four renters on a lease and each of these four individuals can bring along any family members/friends to live in said house. The original ordinance was interpreted to allow only four and non related adults in the house similar to the Muhlenberg College campus neighborhood. She stated so here is her demo and the old interpretation of a rental house with four people. Here is the new interpretation of the same and how many people need housing. She stated that she actually have two houses in her neighborhood that have blue or blond, and red person on the lease. She stated that we went from this to this. She stated that she wants to reiterate the important facts that this is not a zoning ordinance change. This is strictly an interpretation change, it does not need any kind of zoning ordinance change to go back to the way it was for enforcing. She asked do you want a city with this many people in a house or do you want to support the neighborhoods that are already there and

already stable. She stated that she has two single family houses in her neighborhood that were bought by outside investors. One has 14 to 17 people living in it, including children. They are all different t families. Besides the parking issues which is seven plus cars for a said house. This house has renters that have opening been terrorizing and accosting our neighbors. She stated that she is currently, personally witnessed two confrontations to confrontations. She has witnessed, one of the neighbors yelling about how she is going to f*ck up all of their cars in the block. She has seen smoking outside all day at this property. She has also seen rock throwing and screaming fro m said house. She said she has another house next to her. They have a ton of people in it. Luckily, on this house on itself is pleasant stating that we have a friendly relationship with them. They don't speak any English, but they communicate and she gives them Fair tickets stating that they have a good relationship, but it doesn't exempt the fact that there are 0 to 12 people nonrelated living in said house. The problem is, it is not so much as a tenant issue as much as it is a landlord issue. She stated that are pulling one over on this city. They can have 10 plus people in a house with no more taxes then a landlord who has one tenant. The landlord can get anywhere from six or seven thousand dollars a month. The city gets nothing. The residents get all the burden of said houses. The school districts get all the burden from said houses because there are kids living with strange unvetted, and no background check adults in a very stable neighborhood. It is not so stable anymore. Besides, the two houses that are currently turned into these on the third on its way. She stated that she has talked to Council. She has talked to Zoning. She has been to Planning. She stated that she has talked to Police. She has talked about issues. She has talked to Engineering about issues. She stated that nobody has addressed any of these issues. She stated that Mike Hanzo asked her once she stated her concerns about what is going on in her neighborhood. She stated that he asked her why do you stay there and she was like, well, because everything that she has said to you can be fixed if people do their jobs. If the zoning rules were meant and enforced in a way it used to be enforce. If the Police actually came to the calls that they have expressed, she heard people crying in the middle of the night at 1:00 AM at these houses to the point where she thought that they were being attacked. She stated that she just want to reiterate that this isn't so much about all the people who have been living in the houses, but how the landlords are coming in from other areas and abusing the people who live in the house by charging exorbitant rates and our neighbors are just isn't and this is the point where she would even go out of her neighborhood and look up the street at said house because she has neighbors that look up at that house and one of the people in the house come out and accosted them and said why you looking at my house or just people living here. She stated that she has children and doesn't want them exposed to that. Please fix this misinterpretation zoning because ultimately it is hurting all of

our neighbors. Thank you.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that's it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that is the only one.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated yep.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Schware. He stated that he will see that someone contacts you, ma'am.

Ms. Kristina Schware stated to be honest she has talked the ear off of numerous people and ultimately it falls on the administration and their interpretation of what is being allowed or not being allowed.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that we will look into it. He stated moving on to Contract Approvals.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated Point of Order, it looks like it might be another member of the public. She stated that she just doesn't want them to get off the agenda, and then they would say oh.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated oh, ok.

Mr. ? Allen stated that let her speak now without doing that now stating that it is her Constitutional Right. It will save time with the rules.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated come up, fill it out and give it to Mr. Hanlon. He stated state your name.

Mr. Allen

Ms. Peggy and Ed Ramposh and stated that they have a concern because the city is being blamed for the school district telling them that they can't pull in front of like Raub School to just drop our child off at school after a doctor's appointment. She stated that they have adopted four children that have medical needs. She stated that they are there at the school at lot, dropping off, picking up, taking the doctor's appointment. Take them to psychiatry appointments so on and so forth. She stated three weeks at the end of last year, the school Raub told us, they were coming out and harassing them about waiting in front of the school in a no parking zone. She stated for him to run in and sign out their daughter for five minutes max and when they are dropping off after the appointment they just let them out and make sure they get into the school safely and they were getting harassed. They were sending to school officer out to harass us and then

they were telling them last year to park on the people's property in the ally and then the parking authority came by and gave that parent a ticket. They were giving them directions of where we should park, but they were illegal parking as well as pulling over along in front of the school with our four ways on long enough for our child to go into the school or run in and grab our child out for an appointment. Now, if they were going for a meeting, they would walk around and find a parking because they were in there longer for like an hour. She stated that she is talking five minutes, two minutes to find there are some facts with parking in front of the school. Now, the school is saying you guys are putting a stop to the parents parking in a no parking zone to run into the school to grab our kids for an appointment out of the school. It is like picking her daughter's friend out of the home, putting on her four ways if there is no parking. Watch the child go into the home to make sure the child got in there safely and then leave. It is as simple as can be.

Mr. Ed Ramposh stated that pretty much what they are asking them is it possible to have a parking spot allocated in front of the school during school hours to pick up children.

Ms. Peggy Ramposh stated that it is a 10 minute parking sign that allows parents to go into the school and grab their child for an appointment and whatever. If they have a longer appointment like an hour long meeting for IEP or whatever, then they need to find the parking wherever they need to park. She stated that the Raub School put up a sign out in front. It was a makeshift last year. She stated that it was a rude sign. In the beginning, so she called downtown and let them know that she does not appreciate their sign. It's rude and now this year, they have it street cleaning, no parking. She sign stated that they are not even there two minutes to five minutes max. However long it takes for them to sign their child at the curb or in the middle of the street.

Contract Approvals

15-7934 R114

Authorization for Contract with Bowman Consulting Group, Ltd. in the estimated amount of \$50,000.00 per year to provide technical assistance services to support the preparation and submission of grant applications under various Federal, State, and Local programs. These services will be used on an as-needed basis to support the City's efforts to secure funding for multimodal, safety, and infrastructure improvement projects. Five (5) proposals were received. Contract shall be for three (3) years with two (2) additional one (1) year renewal terms beyond the contract expiration period.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R114 - Bowman

Resolution #31106.pdf

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated good evening. This was done as RFP2025-30 Traffic Grant Assistance. It was advertised on Public Purchase on June 26, 2025. There is a Public Bid opening on July 2025. The city received five proposals. An evaluation team consisting of four members conducted both technical and cost evaluations. The proposals were evaluated based on IBE preference: qualifications, experience, preferences and costs. After evaluating the proposals, the evaluation committee decided not to move forward with oral presentations. The committee is recommending an award to the top scoring firm, Bowman Consulting Group.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. McNeil. He asked does he have any questions or comments from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated Mr. President, we have been applying for grants for how many years now. He stated for years, decades, right. He asked why now all of a sudden do we need to pay somebody to advise us how to prepare a grant.

Mr. Mark Shahda stated quite a few years. Unfortunately when you get into the technical aspect of applying for these grants for the technical assistance which with federal and state grants requires cost estimates and concept plans. Fortunately, that scope of work is a little bit beyond our skillset of what we can do in-house. We have to rely on our consultant for assistance. He is not saying that one day they can't get there, it is just unfortunately right now the way our current staffing levels are, our skillset and scope of work is just a little beyond our skillset.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked is that because of the technical requirements within these grants.

Mr. Mark Shahda stated that it is a technical requirement. The cost estimates are actually designed with conceptual plans. They just don't have anybody in the house right now that can put all that together for them.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Shahda and asked anybody else. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

Fnactment No: 31106

15-7935 R115

Authorization for Contract with Cougle's Recycling, Inc. in the estimated

amount of \$1,773,750.00 for the acceptance, processing and marketing, and related services for the City's recyclable materials. Four (4) proposals were received. The initial term of this Contract shall be for a five (5) year period beginning on the commencement date, January 1, 2026, and terminating December 31, 2030. At the sole and absolute discretion of the City, this contract may be renewed for two (2) additional two (2) year periods.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R115 - Cougles

Resolution #31107.pdf

Ms. Sarrah McNeill stated that this was done as RFP2025-17, recyclables acceptance for processing and marketing related services. It was advertised on Public Purchase on May 23, 2025. There was a public bid opening on July 9, 2025. The city received four proposals. The evaluation team consisting of five members conducted both technical and cost evaluations. The proposals were evaluated based on the IBE preference history and qualifications, the ability to meet the RFP requirements and costs. After evaluated the proposals, the evaluation committee decided not to go forward with oral presentations. The committee is recommending an award to the top two scoring firms, Cougles Recycling Inc for this Resolution for the processing of this single stream curbside recycling and Newman and Company Inc for their next Resolution which is R116 for Paper Fiber Material Confidential Shredding Cardboard.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. McNeil. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais or any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 31107

15-7936 R116

Authorization for Contract with Newman & Company, Inc. in the estimated amount of \$445,000.00 in Revenue for the acceptance, processing and marketing, and related services for the City's recyclable materials. Four (4) proposals were received. The initial term of this Contract shall be for a five (5) year period beginning on the commencement date, January 1, 2026, and terminating December 31, 2030. At the sole and absolute discretion of the City, this contract may be renewed for two (2) additional two (2) year periods.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R116 - Newman

Resolution #31108.pdf

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that was the same information that she provided to all R115.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated the same thing, ok. He said Mr. Zucal.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked why are we paying two people to do this.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that we are not. Cougles, we are paying for the recycles and Newman, we are actually receiving money.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated if you look at the wording, they both say the same thing. The acceptance processing and marketing.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated yes, they were done as one solicitation. Newman only bid on the revenue portion. Cougles bid on all of it, but Cougles wasn't providing and they were actually going to make less money going with Cougles. Newman's is revenue generating and Cougles is that the city is paying them for the process of the recycling.

Recycling personnel stated that Cougles is for our single stream or curbside. Some of the recyclable materials and drop off down at the drop off center. He stated Newman is paper only for the Drop Off Center. It is two separate contracts. One is for single stream processing that we hall directly to presently Birds Borough, down at Total Recycle and then Newman Paper is our current vendor for our paper and our cardboard in the present state right now.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked where does the paper and cardboard go. You said Bird Borough for the other one. Where are the other ones?

Recycling Employee stated that Newman is in Philadelphia. That's where they take it presently as well. They are the current vendor.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated ok. Alright, thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok, anybody else from the dais or any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 31108
Enactment No: 31108

15-7937 R117

Authorization of Cooperative Contract(s) in an amount greater than \$40,000.00 to provide the City with various goods/services, for Horwith

Trucks, Inc, Condition One Commercial Roofing, LLC, Dell Marketing LP, B&H Photo Video Inc, and Miller Flooring Co.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R117 - Coop

Resolution #31109.pdf

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that these are all items being purchased through various Cooperative Contracts.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanks Ms. McNeil. He asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues. He asked if there are any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 31109

<u>15-7944</u> R118

Authorization for Contract with BankFunding, LLC. in the amount of \$622,860.95. To finance one (1) Seagrave Marauder Pumper for five (5) years. Two (2) proposals were received; however, one (1) proposal was rejected.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R118 - BankFunding, LLC.docx

Resolution #31110.pdf

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as Bid #2025-34 Pumper Truck Financing. It was advertised on Public Purchase on July 18, 2025. The Public Opening was held on August 7, 2025. The city received two bids. One proposal was rejected to them not signing their signature page. After the department reviewed the proposal, they are recommending the award to the sole responsive bidder BankFunding, LLC.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. McNeil and asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais. He stated he has a question and asked is that to lease the truck or purchase it.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that the way it works is they actually have money to do a down payment. They will receive the truck this year and will start making lease payments to BankFunding, LLC come 2026 stating that we will receive the truck this year.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. McNeil. He asked any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 31110

Enactment No: 31110

Minutes of Previous Meeting

15-7942 August 6, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: August 6, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes.pdf

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

Communications

Note: Tomorrow, September 4th, at 11 AM in Council Chambers we will hold a press event with Duane Morris LLP to address findings and recommendations pursuant to Ordinance 16094 passed in January of this year.

Parking Chasers – We encourage you to park in the lot next to City Hall, the City Clerk will provide you with a voucher.

Old Business

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she just wants to see if anyone from the administration had any updates in terms of the Motion that they made on August 13. That within 30 days that they would find a solution for folks to be relocated to. Those that were unsheltered. Why Maximum has 80 beds and there are more than 80 people down there. There are going to be more people becoming unsheltered. She stated that she is wondering if the administration have any update. She stated that she knows in the paper, the mayor says that he is not abiding by the Motion, but maybe just a little smidge of and he guesses he wants 60 days. Even though they unanimously said 30, but he wants 60. Is it even a smidge, a bullet point, a something of an update like.

Mr. Mark Shahda stated that he doesn't have any information this evening to share with you.

Ms Ce Ce Gerlach stated oh my goodness. That's worrisome. Thank you so much.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they will actually pass it along to the administration.

Mr. Mark Shahda stated that he will share it with the mayor.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that it is literally life and death, man. We never agree on anything and here we unanimously agreed on something and just to be disrespected and this be like, oh I will just take my own time. She stated that is challenging. She sees that as very challenging that is being done.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated let's try to get that answer.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it is not for sure. It is not just the encampment. As Mr. Shahda and he can tell them there is someone living here right now under the cement slab. He saw it and stated that I see it.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she means.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated living on the slab outside the window.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated yeah and even if we just the email about West Park. It is going to get worse. She met a lady the other day and she got \$10 to feed herself, her two teenage sons and her rent is still due. It is going to get worse stating we got to figure something out and we can't just keep pushing and pushing with Feasibility Studies and this and that. She stated let's do something. You got to do something and we share that urgency. She stated that we collectively did that. The administration just got to reciprocate that. She stated that it's got to happen.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked you Ms. Gerlach.

REPORTS

Budget and Finance: Chair Napoli, Santos, Gerlach The Committee met this evening; the next meeting is scheduled for September 17th at 6 PM to review the monthly finances.

Community and Economic Development, Chair Mota, Hendricks, Napoli The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for September 10th at 6 PM - the items for discussion include Incentives for the landlord engagement program, workforce unit goals, city Investment in workforce units, options for the deed transfer tax and the development of an Affordable Housing 'Fund' - some of these discussion points are connected.

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

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Gerlach, Santos, Affa

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Zucal, Mota

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Gerlach, Affa

The Committee met this evening; there is one item on the agenda regarding the 537 Adoption Plan which is the Plan basically that deals with the water and sewer construction increases in the future.

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

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

Controller's Report

The Controller has submitted three reports which are on the city website. He stated as they know they had interns this summer and did three projects and he is going to point out to the first one this evening. The others will follow with subsequent meetings. He is going to report on the audit findings of the Sweep Audit. Basically, the procedure for this was the developing a flow chart of their operations and that you already seen at a prior meeting. They used the process flow chart narrative to identify potential risks and develop appropriate testing of the risk areas. Then they selected a sample of ticket payment information, tracing it back to the database and daily sentiment reports to assess the accuracy of those payments. They selected a sample of Sweep tickets and supporting documentations to verify the timeliness of the ticket process and its compliance with the ordinance. They reviewed the fines imposed verifying the fees with the ordinance and finally, through discussion and observation of the initial complaint, payment collection and deposit process identifying any potential internal control or weaknesses. There are basically four findings. Three of them are similar and one is different. He stated that they noted that the Accounts Receivable for Sweep Tickets because not everybody pays for their ticket in a timely manner and certainly not everybody pays their ticket at all. The accounts receivable is kept separate from the city's Munis System. This liability that is sitting out there or uncollected money is off on Sweeps own database. It has not yet been integrated into the city. If you may recall, this is very similar to what we found in EMS last year, except the number was a lot larger and they had \$8 or \$9 Million sitting off in Accounts Receivable that was not integrated into the city's financial picture. He stated earlier today, we had a Report on the city's audit. He stated now, these numbers aren't small, but at some point it is conceivable. They can have an affect on the city's audit, if they are not brought back in. They should be really for best and accurate reporting. The administration acknowledges the importance, but doesn't feel that they have the manpower to integrate this is at the moment. They have one person dealing with Accounts Receivable and they will review it and monitor it and the department with support and guidance as needed from the Finance Department on recommendations to integrate it to be clear the administration doesn't feel they have the resources to do that at this time. The second finding they note is progressive find weakness. For the first and second offenses and violations of this chapter within an equivalent period. Violation tickets should be issued in the amounts of \$25 or \$100 dollars for the third offensive violation of this chapter over the 12 month period. Violation tickets should be issued in the amounts of \$150 or \$250 for the fourth offense of a violation within a 12 month period, violation tickets should be issued in the amounts of \$300 and \$500. For 2024, we tested 13 addresses and pull a sample and don't look at everything. He stated that they can't look at everything. They pulled a sample of tickets. They looked at 13 addresses which should have been assessed progressive fines. The total dollar amount for the 13 unpaid Sweep Tickets tested was \$4,238.95. None of the unpaid Sweep Tickets had progressive fines assessed. He stated that this is contrary to the Ordinance. The recommendation is that either we need to comply with the Ordinance or they need to go back and reevaluate the ordinance and change it. He stated real simple. The second thing, is an appeal process weakness. People weren't appealing in a quick enough time. Once again, it is contrary to the ordinance. The recommendation is the same. He stated that they are not following the ordinance. He stated that either they changed the ordinance or change their practice to comply with the ordinance. The fourth finding, has to do with payment process weakness. If a person received \$25,000 violation ticket and doesn't pay the fine or request a hearing within 10 days. The person will be subjected by a \$10 penalty for days 11 through 20. If a person is in receipt of a \$100 violation ticket, and does not pay the fine or request a hearing within 10 days. The person will be subjected to a \$25 penalty for days 11 through 20. In 2024, they tested 20 random \$25 tickets and 20 random, \$100 Sweep Tickets that was paid in full that was not assessed a late fee to determine when they were paid and if they were following the Ordinance noted that 13 was paid within 14 days or less. Six were paid greater than 14 days or less than 30 days. One was paid greater than 30 days. For \$100 Sweep Tickets, 12 was paid in 14 days or less, eight were paid between 14 and 30 days and there were no tickets under 30 days. Although ordinances, require payment within 10 days, currently Recycling and Solid Waste allows 14 days to pay the Sweep Ticket in full before assessing the fine. Once again, the finding is the recommendation is the same. Either change the ordinance to recognize the practice or make sure the practice complies

with the ordinance. He stated that they did not go back and look five, six or seven years ago. He stated that he is pretty sure that this practice is longstanding prior to this administration and probably through a number of administrations. Interestingly enough, they audited Sweep in 2014 and 2015. Some of these findings are the same. So really, it ought to be a wake up call for Council, the administration to address the issues, change the ordinance and make it have some bearing in reality. It is a great tool for the city to have for our neighborhoods to get rid of some of the qualities of life stuff, but if we are not following the ordinance, you know it certainly becomes much less effective. He stated that he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Glazier and asked does he have any questions.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that you actually hit the nail on the head when you said the quality of life issue.

Mr. Jeffrey stated that it is a great ordinance.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated unless you are going to enforce the tickets, there is no need to change the ordinance. There is no need to have six Sweep Officers. There is no need to have the police waste time issuing Sweep Tickets, if they are not going to get collected. He asked Mr. Glazier to his best recollection, what is the total amount that is outstanding now.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that the total amount outstanding now sir, is in 2025, there are 1550 tickets with outstanding just shy of \$135,000. From 2022 to 2024, there are 9,411 tickets outstanding for a total of \$1,158,000. In 2016 to 2021, \$8,880 tickets for an outstanding of just over \$1 million and pre 2016, 9,000 tickets for \$1.2 million. He stated clearly, some of these need to be written off.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he agrees, but he is saying why are we wasting manpower, police manpower to issue these tickets. Who is actually responsible for collecting the fines in the city.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that he would say that the Sweep people are in coordination with the administration and he thinks Mr. Zucal raises an excellent question.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated if he gets a Sweep ticket today and you said yourself, there were several instances where they didn't increase the fines. That he gets the ticket today for \$25 and he decided that he is not paying it, screw it. Because no one is coming after me anyway. He stated that they just

wasted paper, just wasted the manpower. Changing the ordinance is not going to do anything. If you are not collecting the fees and you got a state citation and you didn't pay stating obviously a Sweep Ticket is a lot different than a state citation. If you got a state citation and you pay, you will end up at some point getting your license suspended, your registration suspended, and he understands that it is different, but it is really not different. This is issued from the city of Allentown. An official sweep officer or a police officer and it is not getting collected. There is absolutely and they talk about how they are in debt and having money problems in the city. This is a terrible example to bring forward. He stated to Mr. Glazier stated he is doing his job and appreciates that he did a great job on this, but we need to look in the mirror here because if they are not going to do the job then there is no reason to have this ordinance.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated to Mr. Zucal that he raises some interesting points. There are a couple of things and Mr. Shahda and Mr. Stout can certainly comment. They are not dealing with criminal citations. They are dealing with civil citations so he doesn't know how much of a stick there is there. There are some things and if city departments collaborate where ordinances can be changed which he thinks will increase their leverage to get payment or proper payment as to the debt of city services and it goes into an enterprise fund and really not going to have an effect on the general fund. If they are fine in doing the work than they should certainly, people should certainly pay.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that the most important thing out of this whole thing is the quality of life stating that if he is calling on a neighbor four times for loud music and he gets four sweep tickets, and he doesn't pay them he stated that he just wasted his time and the police officer's time. He stated that something has to change here that's for sure.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated once again, he thins Mr. Shahda and Mr. Stout could certainly add something.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she knows she had an encounter with Mr. Shahda several times on the eastside with Sweep Tickets. They were issued immediately and in one incident she thinks they went to the magistrate and the people on the eastside in Washington Street, they were eviction. These were renters though. She stated that she saw the city and the administration in action doing what they supposed to do. There were two incidents. One on Jasper and one on the eastside and then when she went back to speak with Mr. Shahda, he stated that they have been taken tot he magistrate and she knows the one person paid both the tickets. The second one, they were evicted. She supposes it goes on and on and on. The experience that she had with the city was something that she guesses

that this is the process because of the magistrate, Mr. Shahda, right.

Mr. Mark Shahda stated that is correct. He stated that he would allow Mr. Stout to elaborate a little further, but would like to provide a little bit of comments. He stated that Number 1 he would like to start off by thanking Mr. Glazier for this in-depth audit. He stated that unfortunately he is not in a position to really speak on how things were managed in the past. He stated that obviously Mr. Glazier's recommendations are going to be taken under consideration. They are already working on making those improvements. It is going to take a little bit of time to get there. It is a learning curve for our staff. He stated that he would allow Mr. Stout to elaborate further and talk about how with his experience how this process has been managed.

Mr. Brett Stout stated that he has been with Recycling since 2019 and he was name the Sweep and Animal Control Manager back in November 2021. There were thousands of outstanding sweep violation tickets at that time. He stated that if they look at their revenues over the last five years with Recycling, they have been pretty significantly because they were very quick to respond to when an appeal comes in or continuously ticket and/or take individuals to the magistrate for when there are outstanding sweep violation tickets. He stated that he is not saying that their process is perfect where they are obtaining all of the outstanding fines, but every single time they take a landlord or property owner into magisterial level, they are bringing all those sweep violation tickets in order to try to obtain restitution for those violation tickets that are outstanding. He stated that their process has become a lot more mainstream for sweep officers to really try to make an impact on those problem properties that we have in our neighborhoods and they will continue to do so. They opened up their doors to Mr. Glazier's interns and provided our process flow and try to make things better within our department.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that he would agree with Mr. Stout. They were essentially cooperative. The intern had a great time and loved going around and made it to court, but this presents a great opportunity for the city and for sweep. Now that the process has been looked at again to make some qualitative improvements that would yield better quality of life for our city residents and hopefully greater compliance and maybe a little more revenue. He stated that is the spirit in which this is offered and as he said earlier, he thinks it is really a collaborative effort between the administration, the various departments whether it will be Solid Waste, Building Standards, Health, Rental Department, and Council to really come up with some positive changes and store them into practice. He hopes that everyone would be happy with those results. He stated that this is a good starting place for you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Glazier and asked anybody else at the dais.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated bouncing off a couple of things that was said today, you did the audit or could a future audit look at what Mr. Zucal was saying like the time that it cost to issue a sweep ticket in a monetized way and the actual printing of the product. The gas to drive out. She stated everything. She asked could that be looked at and then compare that to the amount of payments that are actually being made because if they are spending more money to issue the tickets, but not recouping at least the same amount, it does seem a little off.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that you have the expense information every year.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated like in a package.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that in your budget, you can certainly plot it against revenue.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she guesses that if you are saying we should do something with an ordinance, before she would want to do something with an ordinance, she would want to know if how much does it cost to issue a Sweep Ticket.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated fair enough. He just cautioned her that if everything they did had to make money or break even, they would do nothing stating that we will close our pools, we wouldn't have police, we wouldn't run sports leagues.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she hears him, but this is about money because you said we're we could be getting more revenue.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that we could and it would once again would go into the Enterprise Fund. It would go into the Enterprise Fund.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that money would go into the Enterprise Fund.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated correct and there might be any number of programs.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she doesn't want to argue, she just throwing it out there and stated thank you.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that the question is fair and if Council is

interested in pursuing that he certainly will work with Bureau and with Finance to help develop a number.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated a couple quick things just so that everyone understands, what he learned over the years is the goal is compliance, right. If someone gets a Sweep Ticket, if they have 10 days to remedy situations and if they do so, it is a violation and asked is it rescinded.

Mr. Brett Stout stated that a appeal needs to be placed in order for them to go out there and recheck the property for compliance, but he hit the nail in the head. He stated that we are not just seeking revenue, this is not a revenue generating program, this is a compliance program. He stated that they are seeking compliance for all residents in the city. He stated that we have to utilize the enforcement and the ability to find someone with that violation cost, if they are not being compliant.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he just wants to make sure that he understands that. He asked Mr. Glazier are there any patterns or anything you saw when you looked at the data. He asked did you see any patterns when you looked at any frequent flyers or something that stuck out.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that his understanding and the work paper does show some frequent flyers and this is where he thinks collaboration between different city departments come into play. Is how to work with the property owners that fall into that category to help them better compliance as he mentioned, working with Solid Waste and Building Standards and Health. It is only through collaboration and working with a frequent flyers that you are going to get people to follow the Rules.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated where he thinks he is going is, if there are folks that are getting multiple tickets, the only avenue to collect if they don't pay is a magistrate. He asked is that what he is hearing. We have to take them to the magistrate.

Mr. Brett Stout stated that they filed with the local magistrate and it will take about four to six weeks for them to obtain a court date and that is if they respond to that certified letter, but there are time where they won't sign for it so it just sits in ether and then the city has to ask for a bench warrant and again, it could just sit, sit and sit until we get some kind of response.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he thinks one of the things they can look at if it has to be an ordinance, but if we collaborating as Mr. Glazier said with different departments, they may be able to tie some of our licensing to these Sweep Tickets. For instance when someone wants to renew their business license in 2026, the Sweep Tickets that are outstanding must be

paid first and if someone wants to renew their rental registration, those Sweep Tickets need to be paid. He stated that Mr. Glazier may have eluded to this is to look at that opportunity because when he thinks of a magistrate, it is time, it is costly and people going and sitting there for three hours. They are backed up. He stated that he rather tie it to licenses and say, hey, listen if you want to renew this, you got to clean up those invoices. He stated that he is not sure if it is an option or not. He stated that he is not sure what the legal parts of it are, but it might offer your department a little bit more teeth and more opportunity to collect some of these, especially on and not looking to go after someone that gets one Sweep Ticket every 12 years. He stated that is not his intent. He thinks it is more the folks that is getting many how aren't compliant and understand what their obligations are with multiple properties. They are just not paying enough. He stated those are the folks that he kind of thinking of right now.

Mr. Brett Stout stated that in certain circumstances, they can look into it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked anybody else on the dais. He asked if there were any comments from the public, please step up.

Mr. Dan Blount stated he was previously a Pastor for Ripple, but nevertheless, he is listening to you guys and saying what is the proactive way of handling this. He stated that you say it is not about money stating he doesn't know nothing that it is not about money. He stated he doesn't know. He stated that if he is wrong, then let him know. Nevertheless, what is the proactive way of getting these people to understand that it is a necessity for them to pay those fines or what have you. How can we get them to get there. How can we get to that point.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that those are the things that we have to explore, may be by committee. Again, collaboration. If somebody gets 15 tickets, it's alright if you get one. You correct your behavior. You get 15, you are just thumbing your nose and saying I'm not correcting my behavior. I am going to continue to do what I been doing. Those are the things we have to look at.

Mr. Dan Blount stated for him, he thinks a town hall meeting with all the folks who have the problem of not being able to pay or just being stubborn and not paying is to have a town hall meeting, let them know the process and if you don't pay, then we have a problem. He stated that would be a good start. He stated that he is not sure.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he believes that was in the letter that they received from the city. He asked is that correct.

Mr. Brett Stout stated that when you receive a Sweep Violation ticket, it states what the ordinance is and also provided pictures and evidence of why you are receiving a Sweep Violation ticket. It can also provide you with directions with how you can appeal that ticket and when they submit an appeal, the city goes out and check for compliance. Whether or not they corrected that violation at that point in time. He stated that they can withdraw the ticket in full or modify it to a lesser amount before they can community with them stating, hey, we are working on it and we can see that, but this is what you need to do in order to complete that. He stated God Bless you all and have a great day.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Blount.

Mr. Dan Blount stated that is understandable, but his thing is, if we are face to face, it is a better understanding more so than a letter. Because most people take letters and rip them up. Nevertheless, he thinks a town hall meeting would be the process or the most proper thing to do for us to really get an understanding and how to get it straight. He stated that is just his thought stating God Bless you all and have a great day.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Blount.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that she has a question and if they happen to know if when you issue those tickets, are there like landlords or tenants. She stated that she knows that in this city there is a lot of people that own homes and they live elsewhere. She stated that is not an excuse, but she was just wondering.

Mr. Brett Stout stated that all tickets are issued directly to the property owner based on their registry through Lehigh County. If their mailing address is out of state, it is issued to that property that is out of stated. It is pulling from JS data from Lehigh County.

Dr. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Stout.

Ms. Candida Affa stated Rev. Blount I would like to address what you said about the money. The reason why they are talking about it, this is all quality of life. The reason for these Sweep Tickets are because your property is kept really nice. If there is someone next to you weeds are growing and dog crap all over the place and things like that. This is what the Sweep Ticket is and we are talking about not about the money. Of course, we want our money. As you can see, we are not collecting it. It is the quality of life that we are really upset about. Isn't it up to the magistrates to have them arrested or does it get clogged. She stated there, we do our job and you issue them and it goes to the magistrate and ask does it die there. She

asked is that what happens.

Mr. Brett Stout stated sometimes it can. He stated that we had some difficulty from last year with the courts and we get in there and we don't feel as though the fine that they are upholding is high enough on their end. If they get to the magistrate level. The minimum is \$100 and the maximum is \$1,000 per violation. It is the judge's discretion stating they could have spent hours upon hours upon hours at the property there and the judge only rules it in favor of \$100. Where we have been going in there and we have been asking for that maximum fine restitution for old (inaudible).

Mr. Dan Blount stated once again, the town hall meeting you are talking about is if we were all to get together (inaudible) doing their part as far as picking up their properties because it is important for everybody to keep their properties. He stated nevertheless what he is saying to them is they will have a property meeting and says how can he help them out. Just come over and help me cut my grass.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that you really think these people are going to come to that town hall meeting. The people that aren't paying their tickets.

Mr. Dan Blount stated that he doesn't know that. You don't know that, but what we are saying is, it is a beginning. He stated that is all he is saying.

Ms. Candida Affa stated thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok, moving on. He state that the mayor has not submitted anything this evening.

Mayor:

The mayor has not submitted anything for the agenda.

<u>15-7945</u> Controller's Reports

Attachments: Check Review.pdf

Pool Process Flow.pdf
Sweep Process Flow.pdf

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you have two items for the Consent Agenda There are two Certificates and Appropriateness that approve the pulling of permits in the Historic Districts. He stated that R19 is at 428 N 6th Street and R20 is at 28 N 1th Street.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais.

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

Affa, and Santo Napoli

15-7906 R119

Certificate of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts: 428 N 6th

St.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R 119 HARB Approval.doc

FINAL Review 428 N 6th St - New Construction.pdf

Resolution #31111.pdf

Enactment No: 31111

15-7932 R120

Certificate of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts: 28 N 15th

St.

Sponsors: System

Attachments: R120 -HARB Approval.docx

FINAL Pre-Review 28 N 15th St - Signage.pdf

Resolution #31112.pdf

Enactment No: 31112

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

15-7913 R113

Resolution Adopting the Updates to the Regional Act 537 Plan,

Lehigh County, which includes the City of Allentown,

and its Submission to the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental

Protection

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R113 - Act 537 Plan Update

1- KISS Regional Act 537 Plan 04-16-25 PC

<u>Submission_TextOnly.pdf</u> 2-537 Submission Process.pdf

3-CHECKLIST-Page-Numbers-04-16-25.pdf

Appendix 01 KISS Planning Area.pdf

Appendix 02 Redacted.pdf

Appendix 03 TopographicMap.pdf

Appendix 04 HydricSoils.pdf

Appendix 05 FloodPlainMap.pdf

Appendix 06 FAA memo.pdf

Appendix 07 Source Reduction Plans Redacted.pdf

Appendix 09 SRP Baseline Flow Study.pdf

Appendix 10 Redacted.pdf

Appendix 11 - Not Used.pdf

Appendix 12 SBM-memo.pdf

Appendix 13 Sewer IMA TermSheet.pdf

Appendix 14 Arcadis FCS.pdf

Appendix 15 Kleinfelder 132MGD WetWeatherTreatment Memo.pdf

Appendix 16 - Not Used.pdf

Appendix 17 Raftelis Financial Model Cost Alloc Model.pdf

Appendix 18 FlowProjections.pdf

Appendix 19 PPSFM InspectionReport Redacted.pdf

Appendix 20 - Not used.pdf

Appendix 21-Planning-Commission-Comments.pdf

Appendix 22 Proof-of-Publication.pdf

Appendix 23 Public-Comments.pdf

Appendix 24 Arcadis 100MGD.pdf

KISS Act 537 Plan Contents.pdf

Resolution #31113.pdf

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

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it was in his committee and it was sent favorably.

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

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

Enactment No: 31113

<u>15-7905</u> R121

Approves the following transfers: Information Systems - \$85,000; Traffic Planning and Control - \$22,000; Council - \$472,023,45; Parks and

Recreation - \$40,000

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: R121 Transfers

Thermoplastic Maintenance Machines.pdf

Acquisition of 3 New Servers - Information Systems \$85,000.00

Golf Transfer.pdf

Council

Resolution #31114.pdf

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated that this was in.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what is the \$427,000 for Council.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he can speak to that if Mr. Zucal wants. He stated that it is for the payment to pay Duane Morris. It is for the payment for the Controller's salary and the payment for your salaries.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated that this was in.

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Mr. Ed Zucal asked what is the separation of the amounts.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated pardon.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what is the separation of the individual amounts.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he is going to have to look at the Transfers. He stated that the Transfer itself (inaudible).

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it is Transfers so he is sure there are some of these Controller salaries are already been covered somewhere.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that they were about to run negative balances. This will cover the negative balances for the Controller and your salaries. He stated that this will cover the Law Department who was paying for Duane Morris and they were about to run into negative balances. This is where you took money from your Account 46 and provided it to them. The other (inaudible) put money permanently into the FICA Account. The big transfer was the transfer to all departments.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked and how much was that.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated \$376,776.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated \$376,776. He stated that there is a hundred grand for the Controller Account, Council, and the other part of the Law Department. He stated ok, thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked are they going to have to transfer again stating because they are going to have to still pay Duane Morris because they are doing that Press Conference tomorrow. They are going to need to get paid for that. Is this the last time we have to pay these folks.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he believes it is the final and stated that he doesn't have that information.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated he is not sure about that, but Maria can answer that.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked where is that money going to come from since we all are going negative now.

Attorney Maria Montero stated so far what has been distributed and approved for payment is a bill that includes March, April, May, June and July. There has not been a receipt for August's bill yet, nor September.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated ok. She asked do we have an idea where those funds might come from. She asked do they have to do more transfers.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated it can't come from your account. There is no money really left. That is a Bina question and thinks she would have to deal with that when the city gets the bill. He stated that Council drained their 46 Account down to \$60,000. He stated that he is not sure if Council is going to have to pay another bill for the audit. He stated, but you are correct. You will have to deal with whatever that bill is.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach thanked Mr. Hanlon.

Ms. Candida Affa (inaudible).

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated no.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if Council could give them \$50,000.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated \$50,000 to them, why and then \$8,000 for tents. She stated that we are not going to be able to give them their money then.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he believes that the \$25,000 was already taken from the account.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated so \$25,000. Yes, \$25,000. She stated so the \$25,000 the Y is going to get. Now, when everyone is made to pack up and go, we said we want to give them money to get new tents. The Conference of Churches and remembers Ms. Affa saying specifically the Conference of Churches. She stated that they need to get their money. What do we need to do t make sure that they get their money for new tents.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you would have to transfer something out of the 46 Account or whatever account and flip it into Materials and Supplies. An account for that would be appropriately.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated asked who needs to initiate that Council or Ms. Patel.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you would need to initiate it.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated so we need to initiate that, ok. Thank you.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that would appear as if it would appear now.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated gotcha. She stated that she would like to go on record that is to be done the next meeting.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated ok.

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

Mr. Ed Zucal stated you got to come up.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that you got to come up to the.

Pastor Dan Blount stated it baffles him as to give a 30 days extension, right and asked is that what they gave. He asked what are they doing after that 30 days. He stated somebody help me please. He stated that we are talking about human lives. He stated that they are not talking about animals. They are talking about human lives. He asked what do we do after that 30 days.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if they are going to the Y.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that is not what he is asking. It is what she recommends on what she asked the mayor to do.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that you came in a little bit after we had said this. She stated under Old Business, she had said about if you read some of the articles, the administration is saying that they want 60 days. She stated they, but they as a Council had given the administration 30 days because of what you said. This is life and death. She stated that they asked for an update from the administration. They did not provide one to Mr. Shahda so there is no update or even a sketch of an update. As of now, where will they go. They will go to your backyard. They will go to Hamilton Street. They will go to West Park.

Pastor Dan Blount stated that they can't hang in his backyard.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that the question was asked and he doesn't believe you were here at the time.

Pastor Dan Blount stated that he understands that and it is very important that we do something with those people and he knows some of them rather be out there and a lot of them want to be in place where they are warm during the winter. What do we do about that. How can we raise money.

He stated that you got Hyman and he is building all these buildings and all these other people with money building all these buildings for their own fair game. He stated that is bullcrap to him. He stated that what he is saying is that why can't they build a building for the homeless and figure out a way of them reimbursing them, but the reality is that this is malarkey as the one coach said. It just doesn't make sense to him. He stated how can we keep allowing the people who stay on the street and then if they stay on the street, at least you know where they are. It is just so many things that can be tackled here and he doesn't think they have a huddle with the right people in it. He stated he is sorry, but God Bless you anyway.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Pastor Blount.

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

Enactment No: 31114

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

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that there are no ordinances for introduction and no resolutions

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

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that we have one more Transfer.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there was anything for Good and Welfare.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Mr. Felton handed in a card and wanted to speak. He stated that Mr. Felton probably remembers when Courtesy of the Floor was at the end a long time ago.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they will allow him to speak. He stated please come up, Mr. Felton.

Mr. Walter Felton stated Honorable City Council and the reason why he is here is because last week he turned on his television and they had an individual here in Council Chambers claiming that they were the secretary of the local Chapter of Lehigh County. He stated that he wants to explain something to you. He stated that he is the president and they are regrouping and putting together, but the person who was here and it is around the whole nation. The national and want happened with the letters.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Mr. Felton to explain.

Mr. Walter Felton stated that he would explain and stated that they had a letter that was written saying with the main letterhead with all of the executive members on the NAACP a while back. He stated that they had one lady that came up here and said that she was the president and Ms. Barbara Redmond. He stated that it is national. It is not like it has to be anything. It is on the national website. He stated that incident went all the way up to the national board of the NAACP. They had called a meeting with their legal firm, with the chairman, the CEO, the president, and the National Counsel. This is not the state. They took it right from the state and took it to national. The reason is that the person comes here stating he doesn't think that she is misleading them. Maybe she forgot she is not the secretary, but two weeks ago on Channel 69, they identified her as our secretary. He stated for your information, she was suspended by the national board for six years and in order for her to come back, she has to take retraining and on top of that she has to get voted in, even though she is a life member. He stated that he just wanted to bring it to your attention so if she happens to be up here maybe someone can remind her. She is not the secretary anymore. She was removed for six years and it is an 85 year old organization and they help everybody and he just wants to put it on the record that she is not and if you want to see it, it happened on February 15, 2025 at the Marriott Marguee in Manhattan. The whole national from the whole country was there. They removed her because two things and he doesn't want to get any further, but she removed the president which was under his name from the bank account and second, she tried to keep him out of the organization when he was elected. He stated that he has known her forever and has nothing bad to say about it. He wants Council to know if she comes in the Chambers, she is no longer affiliated with the NAACP in any way or form. He stated that they have procedures and protocol stating obviously national thought it wasn't an option for the state to do it and they took it in their own hands and removed her for six years. He stated thank you very much.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that there was some confusion and asked Mr. Felton are you the president now.

Mr. Walter Felton stated that he is the president now.

Ms. Candida Affa thanked Mr. Felton and asked him has he been.

Mr. Walter Felton stated that they are rebuilding. They are rebuilding. He stated that she was refusing to give the vice president of national a list of all the people that's in membership. She kept it so they are back one by one knocking on doors bringing people back. He stated that they are an 85

year old organization. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Mr. Felton, thank you very much and stated with that, we will be adjourned.

ADJOURNED: 7:38 PM

<u>15-6577</u> Reference Materials:

Council Rules

Procurement Code

Ethics Code

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>Procurement Code</u>

Ethics Code

Rules