

ORDINANCE NO. _____

FILE OF CITY COUNCIL

BILL NO. 83 - 2024

September 4, 2024

AN ORDINANCE

Amending the 2024 General Fund by adding the position of Deputy Fire Chief (S21, \$116,034) and Public Health Paramedicine Specialist (S11, \$66,977) and deleting the positions of Emergency Management Coordinator and Community Health Specialist.

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN:

SECTION ONE: That Page 141 of the General Fund, Emergency Management Coordinator be deleted and add a new position of Deputy Fire Chief at a S21 E Deputy Fire Chief at a salary of \$116,034, and that the additional costs for the remainder of the year be taken from the unappropriated balance.

SECTION TWO: That page 251, General Fund, Community Health Special (\$63,206) be deleted and add a Public Health Paramedicine Specialist, S11, \$66,977 and the additional costs be borne by grant funding as determined by the Health Bureau.

SECTION THREE: That this Ordinance will take effect ten (10) days after final passage.

SECTION FOUR: That all Ordinances inconsistent with the above provisions are repealed to the extent of their inconsistency.

Legislative Template

Please email this form to Legislation@allentownpa.gov when ready to submit

- What department or bureau is this bill originating from? Where did the initiative for the bill originate?

Fire and CED - Health

- Summary and facts of the bill.

This bill would upgrade the EMC position (currently a 10N) to a Deputy Fire Chief (Currently a 21N) and create a second Public Health Paramedicine Specialist by upgrading a currently vacant Community Health Specialist Position.

- Purpose – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. What does the bill do? What are the specific goals or tasks the bill seeks to accomplish?

In Fire, this bill would provide for a more robust and flexible emergency management, eliminate a single point of failure and improve our City's capability to mitigate against, prepare for, respond to, and recover from threatened or actual natural disasters, acts of terrorism, or other man-made disasters.

In Health, this bill would fill the demand currently on our Paramedicine Specialist within our Public Health Engagement and Outreach program as well as provide the needed support and expertise.

- b. What are the benefits of doing this? What are the drawbacks?

-Flexibility to utilize personnel where they are needed most on a day-to day basis

-Eliminates a single source of failure in Emergency Management

-Bring better services to parts of the City's population, specifically the elderly, the isolated, and the unhoused with no burden on the general fund

-Decrease in EMS services by residents that had previously been classified as high users

c. How does this bill relate to the City's vision/mission/priorities?

This bill will help to protect and serve the citizens of Allentown and provide a safe City for all who live, work, and visit the City of Allentown while improving the health and stability of the City.

- Financial Impact – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. Cost (initial and ongoing)

\$11,904 for Fire

\$943 for CED

The position in Health is fully grant funded and will allow for insurance billing to generate revenue to offset expense in the future.

b. Benefits (initial and ongoing)

-Flexibility to utilize personnel where they are needed most on a day-to day basis

-Eliminates a single source of failure in Emergency Management

-Bring better services to parts of the City's population, specifically the elderly, the isolated, and the unhoused with no burden on the general fund

-Decrease in EMS services by residents that had previously been classified as high users

- Funding Sources – Please include the following in your explanation:
 - a. If transferring funds, please make sure to give specific account names and numbers. If appropriating funds from a grant, please list the agency awarding the grant.

General Fund/Permanent Wages (000-05-0803-0002-02)

Existing Grant funds from PADOH-PH Emergency Preparedness ELC, PADOH-PH Infrastructure Grant and Insurance Billing

- Priority status – Are there any deadlines to be aware of?

The need for this request is immediate for efficiency purposes and to fulfill client referrals as well as assist with public health emergency preparedness planning.

- Why should Council unanimously support this bill?

This bill supports the City's mission, will address increased demand for services, and ensure overall better operation for the City.