



# Allentown

435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, Pa. 18101

## Minutes - Final

### City Council

---

Wednesday, May 20, 2026

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

---

#### Invocation:

Mr. Santo Napoli stated we are going to kick off this City Council meeting on May 20, 2026 and we are going to start with our normal invocation. He would like to include first a moment of silence for the tragic death of a young man last Friday. He would also like to mention that we lost Howell Warner who made an impact at the Allentown Rescue Mission and the Lehigh Valley Humane Society. He stated so a moment of silence and we will start that now. Thank you.

#### Pledge to the Flag

#### Roll Call

**Present:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

**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.**

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that they are going to move to Courtesy of the Floor and this is for members of the public for comments that are not on the agenda. He asked do we got any cards.

Ms. Genesis Ortega stated yes, Jeani Garcia.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok.

Ms. Jeani Garcia, 208 S. 13th Street, stated hi everyone. She stated good evening president and members of City Council and stated that she would say mayor, but he is not here. She stated community members and neighbors. She stated that her name is Jeani Garcia and tonight she stands before them not only as a resident of Allentown and someone who works alongside our community every day, but as someone who understands personally what it means to lose a child to gun violence and what that means to turn pain into purpose. Before she speaks about policy or funding she wants to speak about a young man Tymell Mason who was brutally murdered on Friday at the McDonalds on the eastside on the 22nd District. She stated this weekend, we lost Tymell Mason to gun violence

and while we honor his legacy tonight, they have to acknowledge a difficult truth stating that night could have resulted in even more loss. She stated nearby eighth graders, eighth grade students from Lincoln Leadership Charter School had just attended their eighth grade dance. She stated like so many young people do after celebrating with friends, they gathered at a nearby McDonalds laughing, spending time together and simply being kids, but in a matter of moments what should have been a normal stating sorry, in a matter moments what should have been a normal childhood memory became something much heavier. Children who should have been talking about music friendship. The summer moving onto high school instead found themselves exposed to fear, chaos and trauma. She stated that should have stopped all of them in their tracks right now because when our youth cannot safely enjoy something as ordinary as spending times with friends after a school dance stating that they have to ask themselves harder questions. It is not about blame, but about responsibility. She asked what are we doing collectively to create communities where young people feel safe because public safety is not only what happens after violence and that night communities showed them what prevention and care could look like. She stated that she wants to recognize Priscilla Reyes stating she is from the city's Events Department. While shopping at Hair World with her own children and her mother parked outside in the car, Priscilla heard gunshots, immediately stepped into action, had them lock the door because she was concerned about her mother outside stating she came outside, she saw a bunch of eighth grade students dressed in formal wear running outside of McDonalds in fear of their own life. She gathered those kids heroically without even thinking of herself with her own child inside and got those students safely inside hair world and got them safely into the back of the store where the door locked for them and staying with them while they called their family to pick them up. Not only did she do that she then went outside again to retrieve her mother that was still in the car. She heard a young man saying help me stating his name again is Tymell Mason, an 18 year old senior student who was not graduating this year because he lost his life to gun violence. She stated that is not in her job description. That was humanity. That was community and that is public safety. She stated that she also wants to recognize Lieutenant Leonard for answering the phone that night, helping guide Priscilla through an unimaginable moment and making sure that those children remain safe and she wants to also recognize Officer Mania (sp) who responded to Tymelle and continuously performed CPR while waiting for EMS. She stated that those moments matter and those people matter, but we cannot continue acting as individuals with heroisms asking acts of individuals with heroism to carry the weight of the system from challenges. She stated that is why she is here tonight. Promised Neighborhood of the Lehigh Valley was proud to be named as a collaborator and partner in the city of Allentown ReCompete Application and award process. What is now known as

Allentown works. They are in approximately \$20 million investment through the United States Economic Development Administration. She stated that they collaborated, planned, and believed in a shared vision with the city of Allentown. She stated that investment was designed to strengthen workforce development, improve transportation, access, expand childcare access and remove barriers that prevent families from accessing opportunity. She stated that she supports that vision. She stated that they did. She stated that she is asking tonight how were they making sure implementation reflects what families are experiencing right now because workforce development and violence prevention are connected. Economic mobility and public safety are connected. If you do not feel safe in their neighborhoods participating in programs, getting jobs, getting to jobs and simply being young, then workforce outcomes become harder to achieve. At Promised Neighborhoods through the Department of Labor and workforce development investment, they have graduated three cohorts and what made that work was transformational and believing in incredible messengers and violence interrupters, but with people with lived experience, people who reflect our neighborhoods, people who build trust because representation matters. Restorative practice matters and long-term impact matters and as implementation of this five year investment continues, many of us are still asking where is the violence prevention strategy that was promised. How are the community organizers being engaged. How are the youth helping shape implementation. She stated that she also want to acknowledge something really important tonight. The city of Allentown has reported meaningful reduction in violent crime and recorded four homicides in 2024. The lowest homicide total in decades and the lowest since 1989. That progress deserves recognition, but progress does not mean the work is finished because for families who have lost someone, numbers do not tell the whole story. For them, it is an empty chair, a missed graduation, a birthday that never comes, and this weekend reminded us that our work is not done here. She stated that she understands and supports making sure officers have a safe and functional facility, but funding decisions reflect values and when millions are invested into buildings we should ask. What are we investing into the people asking can they invest into facilities and prevention. Can we invest in youth workforce pathways and mentoring incredible messengers, restore the practices, and community organizations doing this work every single day. Because prevention is infrastructure too. Relationships save lives. Opportunities save lives. She stated tonight, she wants to say something personal. She stated that she has not sat before City Council in a very long time. Not because she did not have concerns , not because she did not have anything to say, but too often their problems and more importantly their solutions have been tabled, delayed or worse, falling on deaths ears, but she is here tonight because she still believes and she still believes the city can lead. She stated that she believes in government and community

can work together so her ask tonight is simple, review the intent of the ReCompete investment, honor the collaborative work that brought this opportunity to Allentown, bring community organizations, youth and families back to the table, create and communicate a violence prevention strategy that compliments economic investment and make funding decisions with the community not just for the community stating we all time out more than condolences. We all are children in action. Thank you.

Mr. Jose Rivera, 219 N 9th Street, stated hello, hello and good afternoon. He stated that his name is Jose and will keep it shorter than Jeani. He stated that he loves Jeani, but stating his name is Jose Rivera. He stated that he is here to talk about the rise in violence like Jeani is in our community especially among the youth and many and especially among the youth. He stated that many of you stood at the press conference when the numbers were down and asked about the progress, but now the violence has increased where those same voices, where is the urgency now. They are watching violence move from our schools to park takeovers and other tragic loss of a life at McDonald's. This should be a season where we are celebrating graduations, proms, summer opportunities and the future of our young people, but instead families are grieving and communities are traumatized and yet another young life is gone and while response continues to be focused on security cameras, surveillance and technology, he needs everyone to understand one thing, technology could not love a child. Technology could not mentor a teenager. A system could not replace a human connection. These tools only respond after (inaudible) has happened and they only document the pain. He stated that they don't prevent it. Prevention starts long before the police tape goes up. It starts with relationships and trusted adults with mentors, outreach workers, counselors, coaches and community members willing to show up before a child feels abandoned, angry and hopeless. He stated so he has to ask where the investment in prevention like Ms. Jeani said. Where is the funding for community programs, mental health support, youth employment, trauma services and safe spaces? Where is the support for the people already on the ground doing the work each and every single day. He stated that he knows because at one point he was one of those people out in the street each and every day. He stated that his work has shifted, but he came back today to speak about it because these are still our kids. As community members there are ours and how many times have they just sit back and continue to watch this. He stated that they have seen and know what is going on in the schools. He stated that they have seen the park take over. He asked what are they going to wait for asking do you think that this summer is going to be nice and calm. It is not. It is going to be worse than before. He stated that public safety is not just policing. After a tragedy, public safety is making sure our children feel seen before they pick up anger. Before they join violence and before they become just another

headline. He stated that they cannot arrest their way out of lack of hope. He stated that they cannot surveil their way into healing. If they truly want safer communities then they must be willing to invest in people the same energy they invest in technology because every life that they lose is not just based on statistics. It is someone's child, someone's friend, someone who still had a future worth fighting for. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, any others.

Ms. Genesis Ortega stated no.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok.

Dr. Cynthia Mota asked can she say something.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated yes.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that she just wants to say that she knows that Priscilla is not here, but she just wants to thank Priscilla for all that she did. She stated that she got a lot of phone calls and this was very close to her because she took her daughter to the prom and they get them all dressed up and they look amazing and have a great party. She stated something that they can remember and with true honesty a lot of those kids have trauma, including her children. She stated that they don't want to go to school, put it that way. She stated when you go to the schools, you get to talk to so many different kids. She stated do you know what she means and they all know each other. She really believes that they need a lot of Counseling and something has to happen. She stated that something has to happen to help those kids. She stated that this should not have happening during prom. She does understand that it didn't happen in the school, but it did happen across the street. She stated and people need to talk about this. She stated that she understands that people are concerned because it gives a bad rap, but they are dealing with people's lives. She stated that this should never happen and we are talking about prom, we are talking about eighth graders. She stated that we aren't even talking about high school students. She stated that we are talking about eighth graders. Eighth graders are kids who are 13, 14 and 12. She stated that this is heavy duty and we should address this. She stated that she had the opportunity to speak with the Chief and knows that he has a lot of things that he is planning to move forward. He wants to collaborate and believes that hopefully there is going to be you know, a plan stating something needs to happen. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated thank you, Ms. Mota. He stated go ahead Mr. Binder.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated that he just wanted to note because he thinks there was some questions about the Allentown works stating that he is working with Councilperson Gerlach in that regard and believes to do a quarterly presentation for that because it is a huge grant and a huge opportunity for the city so he would just encourage with questions when they do that it will be at a CED meeting coming up. He stated continue to ask questions. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok and thank you. He stated ok and onward to Contract Approvals.

## Contract Approvals

[15-8437](#)

R65

Authorization of Cooperative Contract(s) in an amount greater than \$40,000.00 to provide the City with various goods/services, for HT Lyons, Miller Flooring Company, and Shafnisky Electric Inc.

**Attachments:** [R65 Cooperative Approval - 05.20.2026](#)

[Resolution #31264](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais on R65 or the public if there are any questions or comments. He asked can you please call the vote.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31264

## Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-8446](#)

May 6, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [May 6, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated to be clear those minutes will be for May 6th Council meeting.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

## Communications

Mr. Santo Napoli stated regarding visitors to City Council, we encourage you to park in the parking deck next door and to see our City Clerk for a voucher to pay for your parking.

## Old Business

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any Old Business from the dais. He stated ok and they will move on to Reports from Committees.

**REPORTS**

**President Napoli:** Council is continuing meeting with our partners stating so far they have met with Lehigh County, Allentown Parking Authority, Allentown Economic Development Corporation, and ANIZDA to learn about their initiatives serving Allentown interests and looking for potential opportunities for collaboration. He stated our next two: Allentown Housing Authority stating that is going to be 5/27 6:30 PM. It was originally scheduled for 6:00, but it was moved to 6:30 PM on May 27; The Allentown School District Workshop is 6/25 at 6:00 PM and that is a Thursday. He stated that he is just calling it out. Also, a Public Hearing has been scheduled for June 3 at 6 PM on Bill 20, which adds regulations on data center use. Council will consider for possible adoption the legislation at the Council meeting that follows.

**Budget and Finance:** Chair Pungo, Mota, Gerlach

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is currently scheduled for June 3 at 5:30 PM.

**Community and Economic Development:** Chair Gerlach, Binder, Napoli

The Committee met on May 14th and forwarded a couple of items on this evening's agenda; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time - there is a bill relating to vacant property registration that is still being considered by the committee.

**Human Resources, Administration and Appointments:** Chair Binder, Santos, Affa

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for May 27 at 5:30 PM to review legislation being introduced this evening, the mayor's travel expenses, options related to creating rules for city travel and an update on the development of the personnel manual.

**Parks and Recreation:** Chair Santos, Pungo, Binder

The Committee met this evening; the next meeting is not yet scheduled, but they do have quite a few Bills forwarded to tonight's meeting. Thanks.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated thank you.

**Public Safety:** Chair Affa, Mota, Santos

The Committee met this evening and they went over the Quality of Life Taskforce. She stated that they don't have another meeting until June 3; the next meeting is scheduled for June 3 at 5:45 PM.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. Thank you.

**Public Works:** Chair Mota, Pungo, Affa

The Committee met this evening, the next meeting is not yet scheduled.

**Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations, and Strategy: Chair Napoli, Mota, Gerlach**

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

Mr. Santo Napoli stated moving on to the Controller's Report. He stated our Controller was unable to attend this evening, but he has submitted an Accounts Payable Report which is attached to our City Council meeting schedule in Granicus which you can find online and stated that if anybody had any difficulty accessing this Report, please reach out to us. He stated moving on to Ordinance for Final Passage. He stated that they will start with Bill 32.

**Controller's Report:** The Controller has submitted one report (attached) since the last council meeting.

**Mayor: No submission.**

[15-8453](#) Controller Report

**Attachments:** [Accts Payable](#)

#### **ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**

[15-8421](#) Bill 32  
Amending § 425-15. Alcoholic beverages, controlled dangerous substances, solicitation and gambling by prohibiting smoking or vaping any substance within 25 feet of playgrounds, recreational fields and courts (including but not limited to baseball, basketball, football, handball, softball, tennis, volleyball, etc.).

**Attachments:** [Bill 32](#)  
[Tobacco Free Parks \(1\)](#)  
[Community Health Improvement Plan \(CHIP\) - Allentown.docx](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was vice president Mota's legislation.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated yes. She stated that she is excited. Please vote for this. She stated that this will be great for our community, especially our children who do not deserve you know uh, being in danger because of second-hand smoke. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated thank you and asked any questions or comments from the dais or Bill 32. He stated great legislation. Thank you. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Mr. Kyle Ropski, 528 N Berks Street - Chair of the Allentown Environmental Advisory Council, stated that he is not speaking on behalf of the board here tonight, but he will share when Blue Zones first got here and they released their alcohol and tobacco policy. He did have some informal discussions with some of his fellow board members about smoking in the parks specifically. They entered discussions. They spoke on how it could be a public health concern obviously from smoking, but they also discussed the value of our parks natural spaces and their ability to filter the air and how removing the ability to smoke in those spaces could actually also raise a public health concern. Seeing this compromise tonight and eliminating its proximity to the parks stating that it is an excellent compromise and as a community member himself, he support it. He stated that he just wants to say that to. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok and asked if there are any other public comments.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated thank you to the Blue Zone and to the director, thank you so much and your team for doing such great work and collaborating. Thank you.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8405](#)

Bill 34

Amending the 2026 General Fund budget to amend the Fixed Cost Distribution (FCD) for two (2) employees within DCED to change the portions of their salary and benefits expensed to the Grant Fund Recompete Program budget to reflect work performed under the grant.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 34 - Recompete Personnel Amendment](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, thank you and this came out of chair Gerlach's committee.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated yes it did and it was forwarded favorably.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, thank you. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais. He stated Mr. Binder, go ahead.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated so just a quick question and first off, he submitted a couple of questions and appreciates they got the information back. He stated specific to it, his understanding is that the two positions that are being changed are moving from 25 percent to 50 percent utilization from the standpoint of the funding. He stated that one of his questions is how is

that changed since the funding changing being reflected in the day to day responsibilities of those two positions.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she believes the funding is changing for and stated it is hard to explain. She stated that they had it 75 25 and they had a 50. They analyzed the work that was done 25:22 by the individuals within this grant and they have administrative folks in this grant so that our Senior Planner will be amended from 75 percent of his salary in the General Fund and 25 percent of the grant fund stating that he is doing more work in the Allentown Works Grant so they adjusted it to be able to build more of his time. She stated that the Assistant Planner was 50 percent General Fund and 50 percent Grant Fund. They are doing more work on the General Fund side. They are doing more work on the outside recomplete, Allentown Works Grant so what they are doing is being honest and clear in our accounting to our Allentown Works Grant who is doing how much work in which grant. She stated that we have to be very careful with Grant Funds that we only build to a grant the work that is specific to the grant and that they build to the General Fund work that is done when Council ask us for an analysis of a data collection out of Planning or they doing a community engagement for work that is not connected to the grant so after looking at the salaries, they are trying to make these salaries match the work being done.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated thank you so the Senior Planner is doing more work with the grant and the Juniors are doing less work with the grant.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated correct.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated so from the seniors current and he appreciates asking about the job descriptions because he wants to read through and just kind of see and his question more comes into what's happening with the current workload so it is for the Senior Planners, it is their workload and being displaced or reallocating or are we are just adding to the workload of that person or.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that in honesty they are kind of (inaudible) of the workload of both. They are tracking better the work that's responsibly done for the grants. She stated right now they are in the start of the phase of the Allentown Works Grant which is a grant that is extremely specific to a geography and extremely specific to an age group and is extremely specific to a known working age group within the geography. There is a lot of data collection, data analysis and setting up all of the partnering agencies who rose up and said that she can handle this part of this grant so that work needed to be done by the level of individuals classified as our Senior Planner. Now, they can come back to Council a year from now and

say that they are up and running, things are going smoothly. We are going to shift again. She stated that they are in constant communication with the EDA who is our grant funder. They have also been cognizant and encouraged by Council before to bill as much as possible to a grant that will reduce the burden of the General Fund when possible so this is also another attempt to do that.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated he thinks more specifically and stated that he appreciates that. He stated that he was just trying to understand from a senior perspective if the workload exist and now a 25 percent of that is being used somewhere else, presumably and stated that his concern is any city services that utilized that role are having 25 percent less of the access to that services because that person is being over-burdened allocated.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she doesn't think it is going that way. She stated that in the very beginning of a planning grant. She stated that they needed the Assistant Planner position to do a lot more of here's the contracts, here's the templates, here is the processing. She stated that they are now at the point where we need the senior level to administer and the startup. She stated that she doesn't think they are, she think they are shifting back and forth between who is doing what work, but she doesn't think they are piling work on anyone.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated ok, that is all the questions that he has and stated thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there are any other questions or comments from the dais or any questions or comments from the members of the public on Bill 34.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8406](#)

Bill 35

Amending the 2026 General Fund budget to accommodate the upgrade of the part-time Clerk III in the Office of Compliance and the upgrade of the two (2) part-time MWI-Custodial positions in Building Maintenance within the Department of Public Works. The part-time Clerk III, currently M08, would be upgraded to an Administrative Assistant at a proposed pay grade of S07 to better align the job duties and responsibilities of this position. The two (2) part-time MWI-Custodial positions will remain in the same paygrade (M06) but be upgraded to full-time positions to better align job duties and allow for consistent staffing in Building Maintenance.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 35 - Public Works Positions Reclass](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was in vice president Mota's committee this evening.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated yes and it was 2 - 0 favorably.

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any comments or questions from the dais or the public on Bill 35.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8407](#)

Bill 36

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an increase of One Million Six Hundred and Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$1,650,000.00) to fund the reconstruction on Lehigh and Union Street as part of the Congressionally Directed Spending Grant the City was awarded. This grant is partially reimbursable and requires match funding.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 36 - Lehigh and Union Street Grant Allocation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was also in vice president Mota's committee.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated yes and it was 2 - 0 favorably.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, thank you. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais or the public on Bill 36.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8408](#)

Bill 37

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund and General Fund Operating Budgets to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) Dollars from the Allentown Parknership to support improvements to Ithaca Park and Recreational Programming. This is a reimbursement from the Parknership.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 37 - 2026 Parknership Allocation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was in Ms. Santos committee this evening.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated yes and it was forwarded favorably.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. Santos and asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues on Bill 37 or the public.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8409](#)

Bill 38

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Fifty Thousand Eight Hundred Forty-One Dollars and Forty-Five Cents (\$50,841.45) from accounts associated with the completed Dixon Street Pedestrian Bridge and Parks Master Plan projects to the Bogert's Bridge Rehabilitation project.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 38 Bogerts Bridge Project Funds](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok and this was also in Ms. Santos committee this evening.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated yes, this was also forwarded favorably.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated great. Thank you. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais or members of the public on Bill 38.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8410](#)

Bill 39

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Six Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Nine (\$106,329.00) Dollars from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to support construction of the Dixon Street sidewalks.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 39 - Dixon Sidewalks DCED Grant Appropriation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was also in Ms. Santos committee this evening.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated yes, this was forwarded favorably to the full Council.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok and asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues. He stated that he does agree with Ms. Tolino stating that he thinks to permanent accessibility standpoint and he thinks vice president Mota mentioned it. It is going to be a great asset for the neighborhood. He asked if there were any questions or comments from members of the public on Bill 39.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8411](#)

## Bill 40

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eight Hundred Thousand (\$800,000) Dollars from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) LSA grant to support construction of the MLK Trail Extension Phase 1.

**Attachments:** [Bill 40 - MLK Trail LSA Grant Appropriation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was in Ms. Santos committee this evening.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated yes, this was forwarded favorably to tonight's meeting.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated thank you and asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues on Bill 40 or from the public.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8412](#)

## Bill 41

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an increase of One million Nine Hundred and Five thousand dollars (\$1,905,000) to fund the approved Parks Capital Projects as part of the 2026 Capital borrowing.

**Attachments:** [Bill 41 - Parks Capital Projects Allocation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was also in your committee this evening, Ms. Santos.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated yes and this was forwarded favorably to full Council.

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if it was any questions or comments from colleagues on Bill 41 or from the public.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8414](#)

## Bill 42

Amending the 2026 General Fund budget to provide for One Hundred Thirty-Six Thousand Three Hundred Nineteen Dollars (\$136,319.00) from the General Fund unappropriated balance to the Fire Department operating budget for additional costs to support a second Fire Academy in 2026.

**Attachments:** [Bill 42 - AFD Academy Fund Transfer](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that it was in Ms. Affa's committee this evening.

Ms. Candida Affa stated yes and it moved forward favorably.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. Affa and asked if there were any questions or comments from colleagues on Bill 42 or from the public.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

## CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Santo Napoli stated moving on to the Consent Agenda and stated that we don't have any items this evening. He stated that next one up is Resolutions for Final Passage.

## RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-8439](#)

R66

Approves the submission of the Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R66 - HUD Action Plan Submission](#)

[2026 Template](#)

[Resolution #31265](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok and asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues on R66. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31265

[15-8443](#)

R67

Bryne Heffner-Bair, Arts Commission, 5/21/2031

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R67 Bryne Heffner-Bair - Arts Commission](#)

[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding appointment to the Arts](#)

[Commission - Bryne Heffner-Bair 5-26](#)

[Arts Commission List](#)

[Resolution #31266](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues or the public.

**Yes:** 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

---

Enactment No: 31266

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

[15-8440](#)

Bill 43

Amending the 2026 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars from Bloomberg Philanthropies to administer a third round of the Youth Climate Action Fund.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 43 - 2026 YCAF Allocation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any comments from the public on Bill 43.

REFERRED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES, ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

[15-8442](#)

Bill 44

Amending Part I Administrative Legislation, Chapter 12 Authorities, Boards and Commissions, Article XV Council of Youth by updating its purpose and practices.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 44 Council of Youth Amendment](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any comments from the public regarding Bill 44.

REFERRED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES, ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

[15-8447](#)

Bill 45

Amends Chapter 19, Civil Service Board, of the Codified Ordinances, titled "Rules of the City of Allentown Civil Service Board Governing the Appointment and Promotion of Police Officers and Firefighters" by removing "Failed to register with the Selective Service System" as a disqualifier for the Civil Service Test.

The proposed Bill approves the City of Allentown Police and Fire Civil Service Board's repeal of its Rules that automatically disqualify an applicant for police officer or firefighter from examination for or selection from an eligibility list if the applicant has failed to register with the Selective Service System. The Bill modernizes the Board's Rules and harmonizes the Rules with both Pennsylvania law and recently enacted Federal law

**Sponsors:** Administration

Attachments: [Bill 45](#)

[Letter from CSB to CC 5.4.26](#)

[Draft Approval of Repeal of SSS Auto DQ - 2](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there are any questions or comments from the public.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

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

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that we do not have any Resolutions for introduction.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any New Business from colleagues.

### **GOOD AND WELFARE**

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there was any Good And Welfare. He stated Chair Binder go ahead.

Mr. Jeremy Binder stated thank you. Just real quick stating that he just wanted to do a shout out to a program that a local organization is running which is Cohesion Network. They are running a Civic Leadership Academy. He stated that this is a nine month Program that's designed for Allentown residents that are focused on doing what we do here. Being on School Boards, being on committees, being on anything that is impacting civic leadership so he would encourage anyone whose even if you are remotely interested in engaging in Civics, it's a great program on how its getting its startup and if you go to [CohesionNetwork.org/CLA](http://CohesionNetwork.org/CLA) you can get more information. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated thank you. He stated ok, with that we will adjourn this meeting. Thank you everyone.

**ADJOURNED: 7:10 PM**