



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, April 2, 2025

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation:

Proclamation for Anabelle Ramos from Executive Education Academy Charter School & Allentown for receiving her first state wrestling medal in PIAA Girls Wrestling in the school's history.

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

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 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 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 comment on items that are not on the agenda. Public comment during consideration of ordinances, resolutions and motions is 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 privilege of the floor to provide public comment, it is not a question-and-answer session. State your position clearly and concisely for our consideration. If you are speaking 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. Harry Crasper, 1522 Chew Street, stated that he has been living in Allentown since 1971 and since 1984, he has been living on 15th and Chew. The intersection there of 15th and Chew there have been many, many accidents because they don't have a left turn signal light to make a left turn. They only have the paints white left turn on the ground. He stated that he has seen some accidents there too. They ought to put up the new lights maybe two or three years ago. They never put up a left turn signal light. He knows there are other places in Allentown that need it to, but he stated for 40 years he has been living on Chew Street and he has seen a lot of accidents. He stated that he thinks they need to put one up. He stated that he talk to PennDot years ago and they told him to talk to City Council to make a determination and send a letter to prove having a left turn signal put in and lights on 15th and Chew Street intersection. He stated that he would appreciate it if they could do it because it was one

time not too long ago, he was walking across the street to green light and an 18 wheeler came flying through and just made it across the street. It is urgent that they get there before somebody gets killed. He stated hopefully, not him or someone in a car accident. He stated that he is begging them please, to get a light put in there a left turn signal since they have the light turn signal and left turn signal on the ground. He stated that you got to get one put in. He stated that he appreciates it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that our Police Chief is here tonight. A big portion of the program tonight were for safer streets so he is going to ask that he makes that information known to the experts that were here tonight on that. He stated that they will add that to the list of the things they want to look at for them improving and making some of the safety changes.

Mr. Harry Crasper stated that he appreciates it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Crasper very much for being here and sharing that with us.

Mr. Harry Crasper stated for them to have a good night.

Ana Negron and Enrique stated that they are going to do a dual thing. Ana Negron stated that Enrique actually went through the same thing he did with the same supervisor that caused Ana to lose the job. Ana alleges that she also attacked him a little bit before that. Ana Negron wanted Enrique to speak out of what he experienced with the Sweep Supervisor.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Enrique has he spoken to HR about this.

Ana Negron stated tons of times and they don't listen stating that is why she was terminated. Ana stated what happened was that Mr. Enrique had a property once on N. Madison Street. Ana stated in consulting with Enrique, they spoke and gave the education information and he complied and they did not have to get him any tickets. Now, he runs a property on MLK that he got ticketed for because a couple of days before it was a heavy rainstorm that came in which caved in the roof which he took everything out and he now got a ticket 4 and he contacted everybody. He tried to reach out to the Mayor and Genesis which he did get a hold of Genesis. He alleges that Genesis told him to speak to Gizelle, the higher supervisor/manager. Ana stated that Enrique tried to do everything that he was told to do, but he is still here with fines to pay. He alleges that when Gizelle met up with him at the MLK property, she came out aggressive attacking him. To the point that the other Sweep Officer had to tell her to calm down, stop, stop, chill. Ana alleges she tried to do something to him and the other Sweep officer had to hold her back from attacking him. Ana stated that as a Sweep

Officer that knows Enrique as a person and knows him as a somebody that had a little oops on his property on Madison Street. Ana stated that Enrique worked it all out. They worked it all out. They spoke and Ana stated giving him all the education and paperwork and a business card and said anything he needs to call and anything he may have need he contacted Ana quick. Ana stated that he doesn't speak English which is a little hard for him to understand. Ana asked why did these two Sweep Officers/Employees come and try to speak to him when he did not speak or able to interact like that with the Sweep Officers. Ana stated being here to let Council know that what they did to him was wrong. Ana stated that they should have given him some education like when Ana had to before. Provide education and give contact like here. Ana talked about caring about you maintaining your place. If there is anything you need help for, he is here. Ana suggested this is what every Sweep Officer should do and that's what was done for him and is here to speak out that this man right here complied when he had a little hiccup on the property. Ana alleges they all got together and now Enrique is the liar, the fool and now they don't want to help and stuck with a \$1,200 ticket when they should have done what he has done in the this place.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he has the right to challenge that ticket. He suggested that.

Ana Negron stated that Enrique came here so many times stating that he called Ms. Mota and called everybody and anybody that they were going to return his call and to speak to him and talk to him and so on and nobody does anything. Ana stated maybe if still be a Sweep Officer could have handled the situation that he had a MLK and give him some time and let this man be in peace that he could do his job in peace.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ana to provide Enrique's information and he will see that somebody contacts him. He stated that somebody that can speak his language.

Ana Negron asked Enrique something in Spanish.

Enrique stated that this was about three months ago.

Ana Negron stated that it could have been handled in one day.

Enrique stated that they still bother too much and they see what he said was right. He doesn't know why they are racing or something because you go into Old Allentown and they have a lot of issues. They have a lot of garbage and no one from the city and stated that he can work and can help to clean the city, but nobody watch your Is and dots in that spot.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to leave your phone number here and he will see someone contacts him to try to resolve this.

Ms. Anabelle Ramos stated hello, and would like to start by thanking Councilman Zucal for initiating all this for her and thanked them all for giving her this moment today. She thanked her Coaches Garcia, Coach Mack, Coach Sammy, Coach Ivack (sp) and of course, her dad for the dedication, long hours and belief they had in her win or lose. She stated what they accomplished wasn't easy and doing it so quickly makes it even more special tonight for not only her, but the people around. She stated that many of the girls she wrestled have been in the sport their whole lives. She stated that she only started last year and for her it personally shows how much work they put in and that with commitment and focus, anything is possible with dedication. She thanked Sylvan Perham, Rami Rivera, and Morgan Highland for being great training partners in her final weeks leading up to regionals and states. She stated her teammates, she would like to thank them: Amy Loza, Kiara Joelis, Michaela, Carlin. They helped prepare her for districts and she just wanted to thank them for that as well. She thanked her brother Matthew who is literally her right hand man. She would like to thank her cousins, Michael and Elie, ad all the guys from the boys team and all of you. She stated that this victory belongs to all of us. She stated that every hour in the gym, every struggle, every drop of sweat and every tear cried. It was all worth it. She stated to her family, she wants to say thank you for your love and support that carried her through the season, especially her parents stating mom you were there in spite your nervousness helping to make sure she was ready for each event. She stated dad, as my coach you pushed me hard than ever. No special treatment. From training camp and through the season he helped her focus on the big picture and never lose sight of her goals. She stated that some people think that the success in this space is expected of her because she is a Ramos, while she is proud of being a Ramos, if there is one thing that her family has taught her is that success isn't given, it is earned through hard work. Discipline, dedication and faith. She stated that she can't wait until the next season and if she knows her dad, he thought great things planned and she knows that this is just the beginning of her very long journey.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated one thing he forgot to tell her as a word of advice, don't tell the guys about your wrestling career.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Anabelle for the honor she brought upon her school and the city of Allentown stating that it is much appreciated. He asked Mr. Hanlon is there anyone else.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated nope.

Contract Approvals[15-7598](#)

R39

Authorization for Contract with Davey Resource Group, Inc. in the amount of \$220,000.00 to develop a comprehensive Tree Inventory, Species Master Plan and Urban Forestry Master Plan that is rooted in environmental justice and equity. Two (2) proposals were received, contract shall be for twelve (12) months with one (1) additional six (6) month renewal beyond the contract expiration period.

Attachments: [R39 - Davey Resource Resolution #31032.pdf](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated Ms. Baraket.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated good evening stating this was done as RFP 2024-40. It was advertised on Public Purchase on September 26, 2024. There was a public bid opening on October 31, 2024. Two bids were received and the evaluation committee consisting of four voting members conducted both technical and cost evaluations. Proposals were evaluated on the ability to meet the RFP requirement and prior experience, team member qualifications and costs. The committee is recommending an award to the highest scoring proposer Davey Resource Group.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Baraket and asked if there are any other questions or comments from his colleagues. He stated Mr. Zucal.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated just one quick question and asked where is the inventory of the trees being done at.

Mr. Jessica Baraket stated that she would let Mandy answer that.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that the inventory focuses on streets within the right-a-way. She stated street trees or shade trees and it also includes park trees that are not in a wooded area. She stated so the ones that are out in the middle of a field that could easily be counted in a naturalized area. He stated ok, thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok, anybody else. He stated Ms. Gerlach.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated just out of curiosity. So if the RFP went out September 26, 2024 or that was prior to them and asked didn't we lose a million dollars. She asked was it at all connected, thinking that we were going to get a million dollars and be able to plant a bunch of trees and we lost that million. She stated that we still need to do this.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she doesn't want to speak incorrectly. The legal team looked into federal funding issues and our funder has, they received some of the funding. She stated that it is federal funding to pay for this. She stated that it is related to that.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated it is related to that and that is part of the reason why the delay is so long in between the time this was being finished and being evaluated and bringing it to Council now. It received some notification about being cautious and not proceeding with any and moving forward with any activity on this. She stated that they did have the legal team look into it and then they received notification back from the grantor that said that they may proceed with the notification. They do with the award of the grant for this and they do also have a provision written in the contract that would say that any funding that we do going forward is based off of receiving that information from the governing body. That would protect the city for expenses not incurred.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that they got a grant for \$220,000 or did they get that million dollar grant.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that the portion of it is 220 stating that is the portion of this grant.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that is all we are going to get stating we are not getting the \$780,000. She stated we might.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated yes.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that's right and asked if we going to develop a Comprehensive Master Plan and stated that she would think that it is already like an inventory by the arborist by the current trees, right. She asked if the city doesn't have an inventory. She stated that they need to hire someone to do an inventory. She stated that her line of thinking is if they are not sure they are going to get the money to take a more robust approach in planting trees which she then see that they would need someone to kind of make sure they are being strategic. If all they are going to have is what they got, why are they going to hire someone to work with what we got.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that this being such an unprecedented situation, they received notice that they would be able to proceed with this piece and cautiously optimistic that they are going to be able to continue. She stated that this is step one so they think this is a valuable step one. If something changes down the road that they don't know about that would be unfortunate. They are hopefully they are in a positive direction and will

continue to receive funding to implement some of the things that are in this plan. Regardless, working with the municipal (inaudible) and the Assistant Building Coordinator stating that this is a valuable task to complete whether or not it is funding. They are hopeful that it will shake out and will receive some of the funding to do the work. She stated that Ms. Gerlach had asked if there is an existing tree inventory. There is not one complete. This will build upon what we have updated and be a complete inventory of all our street trees. It will have the species, what qualities it is and it will allow them to prioritize trees that have issues or places where trees could be planted.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach thanked Ms. Tolino for that clarification in terms of funding. She asked do the city still have an arborist.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated we do, yes.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if they help keep track or they don't keep track of trees.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that there are ten of thousands of trees so it will be a monumental task to do like a one-time, similar to how Public Works look at all the street lights and signs. She stated that you want to have a good starting spot and as we move forward, the Arborist can help keep it up to date as he visits certain trees, but it wouldn't be something that he would be capable of doing all those trees. That is a really big task for every tree along the sidewalk. Hopefully, whenever the plan comes to the conclusion of it is still relevant four years from now if they would ever come into money four years from now.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked anybody else.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated yes, stating he just had one other question. He stated that they are going to use this \$220,000 to do inventory and let's say there are trees that need to be replaced or whatever. He asked where are they going to get the money for that.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that this is part of the 900 and some change US Forest money that they received and they have a contract with the federal government for. Due to uncertainty, they don't, this is the part that they are starting with and the rest of it is that they are actually doing work for planting trees and pruning trees. As long as things go well and they continue to move in the same direction, they anticipate getting additional money, but again, sort of unprecedented changes happening that they can't predict. The legal team is keeping a close eye out on how things go and as Jessica said putting protections in there if something does change it protects the

city.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that they don't have the guaranteed money as of now.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she does not know how to answer that question accurately to be honest with him. She stated that she is not sure if legal has that answer. She stated she doesn't know exactly where it ends and stated the city has this money and have been awarded a contract with the federal government for the balance.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that they do have the money from the federal government is his question then.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that she is not sure how to answer this question. In the news there is a lot of things happening. She stated she does not know how to answer that question.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that they have a valid contract with the government. She stated that it is actually a pass through grant, she thinks.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated ok.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that we are in unprecedented times. The federal government is returning contracts without valid reasons, but right now the city does have a valid contract.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if the city had the money from the Forestry Program or separate from the \$1 million that we lost is his question.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that they are talking about the same \$980,000. She stated is it a reimbursable grant.

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated yes.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that the city spends the money then it is reimbursed. She stated that right now, they have a valid grant contract and she believes that Parks was told to proceed with this portion of it.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he just doesn't want to get into a spot where they are making a Transfer out of the General Fund to pay for it.

Attorney Sarah Rotz stated that they are monitoring the situation.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated fair enough, thank you. He thanked Mr. Hendricks.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok, anybody else.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that what she wants to say is that she understands where they are coming from. She stated that we are living in difficult times and sometimes you think you have a certain amount of money and sad to say you know Mr. Zucal, the next day the money might be gone. It is really sad, but this is the time that we are living in right now.

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

Kyle Ropski, 528 N. Berks Street, stated that he is on behalf of the Environmental Advisory Council and urged Council's support in authorizing this contract here tonight on the tree inventory. The Species Master Plan as well as the Urban Forestry Management Plan and first things first, he wants to thank the administration for charging along with this through the uncertain times to make sure this is something at the forefront. This is really important for us. He stated that he is not sure they remember just a few weeks ago, he gave a brief presentation on the EAC's Annual Report. With that, he went through their purpose on what the Environmental Advisory Council is here to do and he brought a lot of emphasis towards purpose statement and one of the bullet points in the statement is to protect and preserve the natural resources here in the city of Allentown. This contract, the tree inventory and the Species Master Plan, the Forestry Master Plan that is the critical step to begin to protect and preserve out natural resources in the city of Allentown, specifically in this case, the trees. Now, the trees are not natural resources, they are an asset towards the community. They bring value in a variety of different ways. They filter our air and the toxic chemicals that come out of the car. They filter it or provide ecological value to the birds and the bees or what not and provide esthetic value. They increase our property values with their beautification. They shade our sidewalks, promoting walkability. They shade our buildings saving on energy. They really do have actual cost benefits to the city and these sort of plans will help us. Tree inventory as Mandy said will let us know where we are standing, what we have, what we got and what we can work with. Just like all data comes first and collect what we have. The Species Master Plan makes sure we know what we are planning is correct in the right areas and planning for the right situation. In the Urban Forestry Master Plan with the emphasis on equity and environmental justice. He stated that this is no secret, the sycamore trees that are in the west end aren't in the more urban areas. He stated that the need to have that more accurate plan so they can address the issues in an accurate sort of studied sustainable way. He urged their support for this even though we are in uncertain times as this is a really important thing. It is real assets for our community here. He thanked Council for their time.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks said thank you. He asked anybody else.

Ms. Josie Lopez stated instead of spending money on inventory that only documents the problem, she thinks they can invest in tangible proactive solutions that address food insecurities. She stated that he was talking equity and justice supporting urban green spaces and replacing harmful invasive plants with sustainable alternatives. She stated that right now, Pennsylvania has a program that is out to replace native or invasive species, but the problem is the closest place to do that in Allentown for any residents here to be able to replace their invasive plants is an hour away. It is really not accessible for anybody here. She stated that maybe they can divert some of that money into the Program that is in Pennsylvania to bring a closer location to replace some of our own invasive species here. Just by sitting she thought that maybe they can do \$300,000 towards an invasive plant removal at a native plant restoration and then take another \$300,000 of that \$900,000 and put it in our community gardens and urban agricultural expansion. She stated that she knows Nia Watson and she is a local community members and she does.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated excuse me, we are talking about this and this alone at this time. He stated that they can't talk about other monies and things.

Ms. Josie Lopez stated that she is talking about the \$900,000 that is being allocated. She asked if she could have her three minutes about this.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they are talking about \$220,000.

Ms. Josie Lopez stated that they can brake down the \$220,000 to about \$75,000 for an invasive plant removal and native plant restoration project. She stated that you can put about \$75,000 into a community garden and urban agricultural expansion and then last year she noticed that Allentown's library she called and they are one of the only libraries in the area that doesn't have a seed library. She stated that if you don't know what that is.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that you are getting totally off the subject and stated that he is going to have to stop her. He stated that they have a lot of

Ms. Josie Lopez asked would anyone else agrees that this is off topic if they are talking about spending money towards like invasive plants and trees.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they are talking about the subject at hand. He stated that this not the subject at hand and stated that this is not the

subject at hand. He stated thank you very much.

Ms. Josie Lopez asked would you agree that this is inline with this if you are trying to figure out how to spend nearly \$300,000 and inventory is not a solution. It is a Band-Aid to point a problem we already know exist.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated thank you.

Ms. Josie Lopez stated her last 28 seconds, a lot of the reasons that allergies are so bad in Allentown and all over the place is because when we plant trees, we tend to plant male trees only. This was a decision and a law that was made a while ago. She stated if they are going to spend \$300,000 on trees and not community gardens, maybe we spend them on female ones because females.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated thank you. He asked does anybody else wants to speak on this subject.

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

Enactment No: 31032

Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-7597](#)

March 19, 2025 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [March 19, 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

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he would like to mention residents who visit City Council meetings are encouraged to park in the Government Deck next door and to see our City Clerk, Mr. Hanlon for Chaser to pay for your parking.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated just one comment that he has to make an Executive Session announcement: On March 24, 2025, Council held an Executive Session to discuss a public safety and confidential personnel matter.

Old Business

Mr. Ed Zucal stated it was asked of him by a couple of the citizens when is the Report that was conducted by Investigator Nolan on the incident in the Police Department referred to as the Juan Program. He stated when is that Report and he is not talking about the personnel part of it because that

deals with discipline. When is the part of the actual investigation Report going to be released to the community.

Chief Charles Roca stated that Report is not being released to the community. It contains personnel matters.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated as you and I both know personnel is different from the actual Report itself. As you know personnel has to do with discipline, if there is any of the personnel involved. The Report itself is like saying I have a Report from UGI that has to do with the bagpipes in front of his house, but he can get a copy of that Report even though they didn't tell him what their steps are going to be to fix that problem. He asked Chief Roca do you see what he is trying to say. He stated they are two separate things. He stated that in his opinion they are two separate things.

Chief Charles Roca stated to Mr. Zucal is what he is hearing from him is to release a Confidential Report prepared by a contracted person that did a function for the Police Department under the auspice of an Internal Investigation that is not subject to be released.

Mr. Ed Zucal thanked Chief Roca.

REPORTS**Budget and Finance: Chair Napoli, Santos, Gerlach**

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for April 9th at 5:30 PM to review the latest version of the December 2024 financials and the February 2025 financial reports; and Bill 36, the annual roll over legislation, which is being introduced this evening.

Community and Economic Development, Chair Mota, Hendricks, Napoli

The Committee met on March 26th and forwarded items on this evening's agenda - the next meeting is scheduled for April 9th at 5:45 PM to discuss Bill 33 which changes fees for plan reviews, consolidates building permit procedures and updates some language in the Code - the bill is being introduced this evening.

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

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for April 9th at 6:15 PM to discuss Bill 29, a house-cleaning amendment to the African American Advisory Council and a proposed resolution on gender affirming care.

(A RESOLUTION TO PROTECT AND GRANT REFUGE TO MEMBERS OF THE LGBTQ+COMMUNITY AND PEOPLE FLEEING STATES WITH ANTI-LGBTQ+ LAWS; DECLARE ALLENTOWN A SAFE AND WELCOMING HAVEN FOR THE LGBTQ+ (LESBIAN, GAY, BISEXUAL, TRANSGENDER, QUEER) COMMUNITY; URGING COUNTY AND STATE OFFICIALS TO SUPPORT THE AFORESAID LEGISLATION.)

Parks and Recreation: Chair Gerlach, Santos, Affa

The Committee met this evening; the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 16th at 6 PM.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Zucal, Mota

The Committee met this evening. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for April 16th at 6:15 PM.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Gerlach, Affa

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

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

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

Controller's Report

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated there are three reports this evening as always. He stated

that he is going to hit the highlights. He stated the first one is the P Card Reports for October 2024. They finally finished it up on the 21st of March 2025. They reviewed 671 documents for October. Of those 34 had issues. He hit the highlights on these Reports. He stated that he just want to reiterate that they are dealing with a lot of documents and most of them are A ok. Some have problems and those are the ones that he Reports on. The total amount of transactions was almost \$198,000. The major issue they found was non compliant of AIM 1-106. Drivers who incur parking tickets for other traffic violations while city vehicle will be personally responsible for all fees, fines and other liabilities incurred. There were a number of EZ Pass and tolls for an office that were not paid in a timely manner. They incurred a total of tolls of \$430. The tolls and late fees was \$430.26. The late fees totaled \$371.16. The office was advised with the late fees advised to reimburse the city. The response was that those fees would be refunded to the city. There were a number of untimely P-Card entries into Eden. He stated as you know the October Report was reporting on it in April. The Report was just finished in May. There 27 invoices that was between 31 and 60 days late and 10 invoices that was 60 days. He stated five of those belonged to the garage and five belonged to the mayor's office. There were four invoices that used an incorrect expense account, the departments were advised and a Journal Entries were completed. There were a number of invoices that paid credit card fees. Under the current city regulations, they are not allowed to pay convenience fees. He stated that all of them that buy things online or do business know that convenience fees are becoming more widely spread. His advice to the administration is they need to recognize this going forward because it is in the Rules that they are not supposed to pay it. It becomes a finding for us anyway. The next Report is P-Cards for the month of January 2025. This Report also came out in March 21, 2025. There were 462 documents in this Batch for about \$180,000. The findings here are there was a duplicate payment in the garage that they paid it first by charge then by check. He stated that they caught it and then the check was voided. They found a noncompliance with AIM 3-102 which is transportation related expenses when you travel on common carrier, an economy rate may be used for bus, train and airplane travel. The city shares airplane fees will not exceed the economy tours and excursion fares which ever is lowest. There was a charge for a seat change for \$109.98. The charges were for preferred seating changes and this was not a compliance with AIM. The employee was advised and his understanding that those charges have been refunded to the city. There was another violation of AIM 1-106 having to do with, in this case toll late fees or fines. This was for an amount of \$54 in additional to the toll of \$4. The \$4 was alright. The \$54 isn't alright. Just like the \$370 noted previously. Previously, the department was contacted and his understanding was reimbursement has been made. There were 14 invoices, using the wrong expense accounts. The department were advised and journals entries were done to correct it. He state 16 invoices with credit card fees once again, was something they are obligated to point out. He stated and lastly, and thanked them for their patience, an accounts payable weekly check review for

the 1st of February through the 14th of March. He stated that this is an odd time period because the 14th of March, the last check run in Eden all the check runs and credit cards they are doing now will be in Munis. The number of checks in this run was 575. The number of documents were 1,122. The total dollar amount was about \$5.6 million. In addition, 12 manual checks for \$245,000. He stated that they had to review payments from non-bargaining employee tuition reimbursement. He stated that the tuition reimbursement for the employee exceeded the amount provided for in the MESA Agreement and in city policy. He stated that the previously made a payment to this person of \$3,400 and then got another payment \$3,400. They reviewed all the payments made to this person and determined that it exceeded the 2024 maximum by \$1,550. The check was voided and reissued in the proper amount to be consistent with city guidelines. There was another duplicate payment for the garage. It was caught and the check was voided. There were five invoices that used the incorrect expense account and the department were advised and journal entries were corrected. There were 27 invoices that we felt were paid late. For them paying late was greater than 60 days or after we get the invoice. The department was advised and in almost all cases and responded to the reason as to why the invoices were either entered late or paid late. He stated and that Mr. President is his report for this evening.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Glazier.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier asked if there are any questions he would be happy to entertain them.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked does anybody have any questions from Mr. Glazier.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated to Mr. Glazier just one quick question stating that he mentioned that the employee would violate violations and asked is there a lot of those. He asked are we seeing a lot of that.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that it is a interesting question. He stated no. He stated that the ones that they caught are the ones that were there. He made some recommendations to the Finance Director and Fleet on how they can do a better job with EZ Pass and how they can make it easier for the Accounts Payable people. How they can administer the program better and how they can have a greater accountability. Pennsylvania really went to toll by plate. At the end of 2024, if you didn't have an EZ Pass, it would send you an individual invoice. All those individual invoices created problems, especially if you went out of state because then you would then impose penalties. Now, if you are part of EZ Pass and you are in-state, when the account gets replenished and you pull a transaction, all the trips are there. It is their recommendation that they only have five EZ Pass accounts citywide. The police has one. They do a great job with it. Solid Waste has one, they do a great job

with it. There are a bunch of other accounts floating out there. He stated that they can reduce them to five which would be Police, Fire, Solid Waste has one. One for Public Works because they do some travel and the other one he is recommending for Fleet and Fleet will cover all the departments that would only take the occasional trip and they would be responsible for making sure that the vehicles are registered on the EZ Pass so the city would get the best rate and the other thing is if you are traveling out of state on a toll road, you have to have a transponder. He stated that Delaware toll by plate isn't like our toll by plate. He stated that the city is not going to get the same consideration. If you have the transponder, we are all good. He stated that those are his recommendations. He thinks Finance and Fleet would be meeting on it shortly. He is hopefully that they will make those changes and everyone will be happier.

Mr. Ed Zucal thanked Mr. Glazier and Mr. Hendricks.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated you are welcome, sir.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated you are welcome.

The mayor has not submitted anything for the agenda.

[15-7600](#) Controller Reports

Attachments: [PCard Review Jan 25.pdf](#)

[PC - Final.pdf](#)

[AccPayable.pdf](#)

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-7475](#) Bill 14
Amending the Administrative Code, Chapter 177, Bicycles, by bringing the code into compliance with the Pa. State vehicle code, updating the definition of bicycle to pedalcycle to be consistent with the Pa. Vehicle Code, repealing chapters 177-3 through 177-7 (advise the police department to direct bike owners to register their bikes in a national data base), repealing various sections of the code that are superseded by the PA Vehicle Code and amending Chapter 319, Hamilton Street Regulations, updating the term bicycles to pedalcycles.

Sponsors: Affa, Gerlach, Hendricks, Mota, Napoli, Santos, Mr. Zucal and Administration

Attachments: [Bill 14 Bike CAT.docx](#)

[Allentown Bicycle Ordinance Updates 1-24-2025.pdf](#)

[CAT-allentown bike ordinance bill 2-12-2025.pptx](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated Chief Roca.

Chief Charles Roca stated that as it was talked about it during the committee meetings, he fully supports this. It is a good plan of action and updates the bike code from how it used to be and also replaces the name of bicycles to pedal cycles which is more in line with the Pennsylvania Vehicle Code.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Chief Roca. He asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that she just wants to say that Bill 14 was moved favorably in front of full Council.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Dr. Mota and asked if there were any comments or questions. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

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

[15-7542](#)

Bill 17

Amending the 2025 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of One million Six Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Two Hundred Eighty-Eight Dollars and Eighty-Nine Cents (\$1,698,288.89) from various Capital Projects to Capital Project 2035 – American Parkway Traffic Signal Improvements to complete the construction of installing traffic adaptive system along American Parkway/Basin Street from Susquehanna Street to Airport Road.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 17 American Parkway Transfer](#)

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

Mr. Ed Zucal stated yes, Mr. Hendricks and it was sent favorably to regular Council.

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

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

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

[15-7583](#)

Bill 23

Amending the 2025 Risk Fund Budget to provide for an increase of Ninety-One Thousand One Hundred Thirty Dollars (\$91,130) to the Transfer from Grant Fund insurance revenue account representing the Insurance expenditure for 2025 from the Grant Fund's Recompete Phase 2 personnel in programs 005-09-5902-0082 and 005-09-5908-0082.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 23 Risk Fund Revenue from Recompete staff](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this would have been in your committee Ms. Mota.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated yes and it was sent favorably.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated thank you. He asked if there were any other comments or questions from his colleagues. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

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

[15-7584](#)

Bill 24

Amending the 2025 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an increase of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$350,000.00) to a newly created Capital Account to aid in the completion of the Hamilton Streetscape project from 5th Street to the beginning of the NIZ. These improvements will promote tourism in the city, increasing economic growth. The upgrades will include new sidewalks, curbs, ADA ramps, LED pedestrian lighting, flower beds, trees, tree lighting, ADA compliant benches, bike racks, garbage cans, and stormwater upgrades. The City was awarded an MTF-DCED grant, and these funds are fully reimbursable.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 24 Hamilton Streetscape Transfer](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated that this was in your committee as well Mr. Zucal.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated yes, sir. He stated that it was sent favorably to Council.

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

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

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

[15-7585](#)

Bill 25

Amending the 2025 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an increase of One million Nine Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$1,900,000.00) to a newly created Capital Account to enhance road safety and improve pedestrian and cyclist accessibility on South Jefferson Street. These upgrades will enhance safety and infrastructure for vulnerable road users along this corridor. The City was awarded an ARLE grant, and these funds are fully reimbursable.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 25 - Jefferson St ARLE Transfer](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated that this was also in your committee Mr. Zucal.

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

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that himself and Mr. Zucal were there today for the Press Conference. He stated that he is very familiar with this intersection and it is extremely dangerous. It is six or seven intersections to come together right there. He stated that this is something that is very well spoken for the money and much greatly needed for the improvements.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that it would be really good for the south siders.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated yes, the south siders. He asked if there were any other comments. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

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

[15-7586](#)

Bill 26

Amending the 2025 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Seven Thousand Six Hundred Twenty-Four Dollars and Ninety-Five Cents (\$7,624.95). This was the result of payment in lieu of tree plantings from Anthony P. Aspromonte, U-Haul of Pennsylvania, Lee Goldstein, and Antoun Zayat. Funds will be used for the purchase of new street trees.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 26 - Shade Tree Allocation](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon noted to people on Teams that everyone can hear them. He stated you should mute or not talk.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she is trying to mute this. When she mutes it, they turn her completely off and then you can't hear her. She stated that she may have to leave because the other times she mutes, indicating she is in the hospital.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is understandable.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she might have to get off completely because when she mutes, it won't let her back on again. Before, she was trying to vote and they couldn't hear her. It is all messed up tonight. She stated that she will try to mute, if not she will leave ok.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated alright, thank you very much.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she is sorry.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok, this was in your committee Mr. Zucal.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated yes, and it was sent favorably, again.

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

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

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

15-7587**Bill 27**

Amending the 2025 Trexler Fund by authorizing a supplemental appropriation from the unappropriated balance of the Trexler Fund in the amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000.00) to the Court Upgrades capital project account of the Parks and Recreation Department. These funds will be used to resurface and repair various sports courts throughout the city and is part of the 2025-26 Trexler Capital Project allocation.

Attachments: [Bill 27 Court Upgrades Allocation](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Ms. Gerlach this was in your committee.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated yes, it was and it was forwarded favorably to

tonight's meeting.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Gerlach and asked if there were any other comments or questions from his colleagues. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

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

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

[15-7591](#)

Bill 28

Amending the Administrative Code by adding procedures to protect citizens from onerous towing practices by creating a uniform framework to establish and enforce towing procedures and standards for owners of private property and tow truck owners and operators towing from private property.

Sponsors: Napoli, Hendricks and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [Bill 28 Towing on Private Property.docx](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated this was in the Public Safety Committee stating to Ms. Mota it was in your committee.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that it was moved favorably to full Council.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he would allow Councilman Mr. Napoli to speak to this briefly so there will be an understanding of it for those who were not here for that presentation.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Mr. Hendricks and stated that this came to his attention and he received a couple of calls from residents who thought their cars were towed by a Parking Authority and with full transparency, he serves on that board and they find out that their cars were towed by private towers and they start to find out the manner in which they were told and it definitely caught his interest. Also, around the same time he ran into Detective Luiz Garcia at an event and he mentioned similar situations that were occurring throughout the city that impacts our residents and businesses. Folks who were getting their cars towed from private property and the only way they could get their car released was to pay \$450, \$500 and even \$600 cash only. That is something that is unacceptable. He stated as they know, that amount of money can send somebody into eviction. They could put it on a credit card, the interests over months and years it is not acceptable. He stated that it is something he wants to look into, with the help of others. He thanked the Community Outreach Unit of APD. They were real helpful and helping understand how this whole thing works. He stated also Sergeant Leonard, Captain Conjour. He stated that

they were really helpful and he appreciates everything, but it really comes down to four issues that they worked on this ordinance. He stated that Mr. Hanlon and he and some others. He stated first off is signage. He stated that signage is inadequate throughout the city. There are many many places where there are tow away zones, but they don't tell you who is doing the towing. Where do you get your car? Who do you call? He stated that is unacceptable. The new signage mandates that who is doing the towing and a phone number so at least you could make a phone call and find out where to get the car. He stated that was something really important. Also, holding tow truck operators accountable, making sure they are maintaining insurance. If they are going to be towing cars throughout the city and they are fully insured and they have the proper business license with the city of Allentown which he thinks is really important. He stated that also one thing he noticed was there are a bunch of tow truck operators in the city of Allentown that don't even have names on their tow trucks. He asked who are these folks and why don't they have names? Because in his world, you put your name on it because you always trying to promote yourself. You want more business so not putting a name on the truck definitely isn't something that isn't that he finds reasonable and residents should know who is doing the towing in the city. He stated that is really important and they also talked about unreasonable fees and obviously the \$500 and the \$600 cash only is unreasonable. They must charge a reasonable fee for towing service and storage consistent with Pennsylvania State Law. Lastly, one thing they talked about was decoupling. If your car is on the tow truck, let's hypothetically you are in a parking lot and your car is being hooked up to the tow truck, but you run out and you catch them there should be a decoupling fee that enables you to get that car back at a discount because the tow truck operator never took your car anywhere. In this ordinance, they have it that the tow truck operators may charge the owner a decoupling fee of no more than one half of the towing fee. If they are going to charge hypothetically \$350 then the decoupling fee should be half of that, \$175 to get your car off the tow truck. He stated those are the four main issues that they discussed. Again, signage, decoupling, reasonable fee, and decoupling. He stated if you have any questions and thanked Mr. Hanlon for all his help stating that he appreciates everything he did to help get this to the finish line. Ultimately, this will help our residents and ultimately, they want to hold anyone, any business, but they want to hold tow truck operators accountable. There is a need for their service, but they are obviously after learning and speaking with many people, there are some predatory folks out there that are taking advantage of our residents. That is not something they can tolerate in the city. He does believe this new ordinance will enable Chief Roca and his team to have a better opportunity to go after the unsavory tow truck operators. He stated to Chief Roca, he would let him speak to that because it is his department.

Chief Charles Roca thanked Mr. Napoli for the work that he has done and of course, Mike Hanlon as well. He stated that this was a team effort and it is not something that just happened now. It is something that has been going on for a while. They all can relate stories of fellow colleagues, residents that were taken advantage by this predatory towing. He stated that this will in fact allow signage to come up which will be clear for people to know, hey this is going to happen and he can contact this person. It is something that they show compassion with too to enforce accountability and compassion. He thinks that would make the change. They are the Police Department and gives them an understanding of when the vehicles are towed. When a person comes out and sees their car missing, they may think, oh, my car is stolen. They are notified by the tow company and they will make a note of that and go from there. He thinks it is a very good thing and long overdue for the city to put forth this ordinance.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that she would like to add something. She stated that she also was a part of this and they all worked really hard. She stated that there was also a gentleman that really helped them and brought some light and asked if they recalled his name.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated Mr. Tahata (sp) came to our committee meeting. He was a really really good resource. He stated that Mr. Tahata (sp) owns a tow truck company and brought a lot of great feedback to help them to get where they have to go.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that it is important if he is listening to this because he was going to come tonight, but as you know he has a new business daily and she just wants to say thank you because he did give them a lot of good feedback since he owns a towing truck. She stated that she is glad that this is happening because with all honesty, they were taken advantage of our residents and it had to stop. She stated that not too long ago she was on Ninth Street and she saw four towing trucks just in the middle of 10 minutes just taking and towing four cars and not giving them a chance. She stated that she is glad that this is happening.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked them both. He commended Councilman Napoli for taking the initiative to research this subject. He stated and along with APD came up with a positive change brought before them tonight. He stated Ms. Mota also and stated that this is something that Mr. Napoli does a great job. He serves with him on the Parking Authority and as he said there are many problems that come before Council and this was one that had been going for a long time and the work that was put into it, he found it to be extremely great to come out and what came out with tonight is going to help a lot. It is going to help the Police Department and all the citizens of Allentown. It will obviously be a stern warning to those towers out

there who are going to try to do something and not do it the legal way. He stated that there will be ramifications for them. He stated again, he commended Mr. Napoli. He asked if there were any other comments or questions from his colleagues.

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked Mr. Hendricks does he want to quick bang out the amendments.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated sure.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and asked if there were any comments.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he just wants to add one more thing stating just to be clear with the public, this is only for private parking and towing companies. He stated that it does not include city streets and does not include it is for private property owners who contract with private towing companies. He stated that is what this legislation is for.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Napoli. He asked if there were any comments from the public. He asked Mike if Council will be voting on all those amendments as one.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated on the amendments, the amendments first.

A motion was made by Santo Napoli that this Resolution be amended for housecleaning Amendments under Responsibilities of private property owner B - delete the name and telephone number of the owner or other person in control of the property shall be included. When you go under the next sentence, put in there the signs says it should be a minimum of 12 inches wide and 18 inches height and delete at least 24 x 24. In the next phrase, instead of clearly state private owned parking lots - change that to private owned parking only and then under Specify: Parking Only For - take out towed at the owners expense and put in vehicle owner or operators expense and then in the next statement, take out address in the second line and then under Responsibilities of Tow Truck Operators, add at the end of one except in the case of overnight parking.

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

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

CONSENT AGENDA: No Consent Agenda Items.

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On): The Clerk will read the resolution. Council and the Administration might comment. The public has the opportunity to comment at the podium before a vote takes place.

[15-7561](#)

R37

Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 927 Turner Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R37 Denial - 927 W Turner.doc](#)
[FINAL 927 W Turner - Window violation correction.pdf](#)
[Resolution #31033.pdf](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that this needs an amendment too.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked is there an amendment on this.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated correct. He asked if they want to hear the amendment first.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions or comments on the amendments.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated so then with this amendment, Council will be voting no to deny this Certificate of Appropriateness.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he would say this, at the committee meeting, they reached this tentative agreement with the Petitioner in order to have the person that was denied work with the CED department on a flexible time schedule and to reconsider, he believes it was three windows in the back as to whether they really need to be replaced. It was still going to uphold the denial, but it was giving the owner flexibility to do the work. He asked does that make sense.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ms. Kistler is she would like to comment on that please and make it clear.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that Mr. Hanlon is correct. In the committee meeting, the committee voted to uphold, support the denial with the continued amendment that they work together for a flexible schedule to alleviate the hardship. They also had a caveat that a developer attended who had windows removed from a building that might be suitable. She stated that currently, their department is suggesting the denial of the Certificate of Appropriateness. She stated that they would be flexible and ignore the 30 day requirement to replace the windows and they are also assisting with the measurement and the appropriateness of those windows so that they may not be a severe financial requirement. Also, evaluating the three of the rear of the property to see whether or not they can be seen from the street.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked when and if they do follow up and make those required changes, they will be brought back for another vote.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that actually if you deny the Certificate of Appropriateness and they make the necessary repairs, it's a done deal.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated correct because they are no longer in violation.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated correct.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated got you. He stated that they are voting on the denial tonight as requested.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated so again, if we vote no, that means it will be a done deal then.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that if you vote no, it means they do not have to work with CED and they do not have to replace the windows.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that she is just glad this is happening because she was explaining that when she purchased the house, it was in a really bad condition. She put in a lot of money and a lot of effort and she is glad that the city is working with her. She really still thinks that they know they are doing efforts to help residents when they are buying homes in the Historical District. She stated that something needs to be done with the real estate because it is not like she wants to put blame, but like, what is going on. She stated that they have seen this over and over and over again.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that in this particular situation, Ms. Mota she did not request the Presale Inspection Report. She requested it, but she didn't receive the Presale Inspection Report until the time of closing. Instead of delaying closing, she closed. Then she looked at the Report and clearly highlighted all throughout the Report was that she needed to contact HARB at the contact information provided before doing the window replacement and didn't. She stated so these are flips in many situations where these folks are buying these homes to flip them and rent them or flip them and sale them. If they don't obtain the Presale Inspection Report, the inspection was done, but the previous owner legally, if they don't ask for that Report, they don't see what is wrong with the building.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated so they buy it as is.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they bought as is and clearly highlighted it in yellow where all the conditions they needed to review with HARB. She stated that they are working on re-enforcing the message, reinforcing the HARB regulations, but they were also working on an education component about buying as is. Because when you buy as is, you get very little or when you buy at Sheriff Sale or buy at Short Sale, you don't know what you are

buying.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that is the reason.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it should be pointed out also, this purchase was not for her personal use. It was an investment. Many times, you got to let the buyer beware. They have a responsibility to make sure they follow through and meet all the requirements.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that she does agree with him, but she thinks that again, the educational aspect of things is very important.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated oh, absolutely.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she is looking up this different types of windows that HARB requires, they are quite costly. She stated that the property owner needs to replace how many windows and how many of those windows is the developer going to help her with and the rest is on her. When does she have to take out the window she put in?

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that we aren't sure yet. There is a total of 12 windows. If the nine are visible, she won't have to replace the three. The developer has a ton of stored windows. If any of those fit, she can have the windows. She stated that they are crossing their fingers that nine, 12 or whatever she needs could be provided to her.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked for free, in-kind.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated yes, in-kind.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated that is what she was asking.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that is what they are trying to have happen for her. She state that they are trying to give her the window for free. She of course would be responsible for the installation. She has someone that would do it at a very reasonable cost for her and that could solve the whole problem, if the windows fit. She state that they are working on evaluating all of that.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she echoes Dr. Mota. It is expensive to live in a Historic District. She stated that for GOD sake they have to let people know that they are moving in a Historic District and it is going to cost way more money to replace things.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated an arm and a leg.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that the thing is especially now when you are buying a house you have to jump on it real quick or someone else is going to get it. She rather have whoever this woman is then some big firm from New York or whatever.

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked where is the Broker from that dealt with it.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they are still trying to figure that out. She is not convinced that the Broker acted as a true Broker because the information that was provided was a very nominal cost paid. It sounds like they used someone to develop forms the who actually got a commission. She stated that she is not really sure. She stated that they have their staff working on trying to help her. If that was a Broker Report, report the Broker.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated yeah, yeah. She is glad that the city i working with her. She stated thank you, Ms. Kistler.

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

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that amendment passes, now they are at the Resolution itself. He asked about Public Comment.

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

A motion was made by Santo Napoli to add:

Be It Further Resolved that the applicant work with the City and HARB to set up a flexible time frame for replacement of the windows and review the requirement to replace windows at the rear of the house.

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

Enactment No: 31033

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

Enactment No: 31033

[15-7608](#)

R40

Approves the appointment of three Police Officers at a base salary of \$ 70,492.54 contingent upon passing physical and psychological examinations and obtaining and maintaining a valid state certification from the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers Education and Training Commission.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R40 - Police Officer Appointment Resolution #31034.pdf](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he believes one of the gentleman is here tonight.

Chief Charles Roca stated that is correct.

Assistant Chief James Gress stated that we have three candidates before you for approval tonight. The first is Mr. Jose Negron. He is a 36 year old male from Easton, PA. He is a graduate of Pennsylvania Western University. He is not Police Academy Certified. He will need to attend the Police Academy beginning in July of this year. He is currently employed with the Berks County Prison system and also enlisted in the Army National Guard. The second one is Ms. Rachel Apsley from Danielsville. She is 24 years old and a graduate of Chestnut Hill College. She is not Act 120 certified either so need to attend our Academy. He stated that her current employment is in Danielsville at the Turn In American Diner. He stated that as you said, we have Stephan in the back, Wiltshire. He is a 44 year old male local from Allentown and a graduate of Pocono Mountain East High School. He is not Act 120 certified and needs to attend the Academy as well. Currently employed with Moravian Academy and prior to that he was a coach at Executive Education over on the eastside. He stated that he believes Council already met him and asked Stephan Wiltshire to stand up.

Mr. Stephan Wiltshire stated yes, sir.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated good evening.

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

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon.

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

Yes: 6 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

No: 1 - Ce-Ce Gerlach

Enactment No: 31034

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (Ordinances for introduction are referred to the appropriate Committee where a full discussion takes place, but there is public comment allowed prior to referral)

[15-7599](#)

Bill 29

Amending the African-American Advisory Council by clarifying and adding a section on selecting members stating: Council and the Mayor must make every effort to ensure the board reflects the community it has been created to serve. Appointments to the board should prioritize African American community leaders and city residents.

Sponsors: Affa, Mota and Napoli

Attachments: [Bill 29 African-Am Council Amd.docx](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there was any public comment on this.

REFERRED TO THE HUMAN RESOURCES, ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENTS COMMITTEE

[15-7601](#)

Bill 30

Amending the 2025 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Eighty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$185,000.00) from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development (DCED) to support a feasibility study of MLK Trail Phase 3 (Parkettes to D&L Trail on Riverside Dr) and construction of either Phase 1 or 2 of MLK Trail.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 30 - DCED Grant Allocation MLK Trail](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

[15-7602](#)

Bill 31

Amending the 2025 Trexler Fund by authorizing a supplemental appropriation from the Trexler Escrow Unappropriated Cash balance in the amount of One Hundred Eight Thousand One Hundred Five Dollars and Seventy-Five Cents (\$108,105.75) to the MLK Trail capital account of the Parks and Recreation Department. These funds will be utilized for the construction of Phase 1 of the trail and is part of the 2024-25 Trexler Capital Project allocation.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 31 - Trexler to MLK Appropriation](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

[15-7605](#)

Bill 32

Amending the 2025 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Forty-Six Thousand Seven Hundred Sixty-Six Dollars (\$46,766) from the Department of Justice for 2024 Edward Byrne Memorial JAG grant to the City of Allentown Police Department to utilize the funding evidence workflow management system and portable weighing scales. A portion of this funding is appropriated as a pass through to Lehigh County.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 32 - Police JAG Grant Appropriation](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-7604](#)

Bill 33

Amending Part II General Legislation, Chapter 270 Fees, Article V Community and Economic Development Fees by revising the permitting and plan fees, reducing the permits per project to a single permit that covers all fees and updating language in the code. The intent is to streamline the permit application process and improve both customer service and administrative efficiency by consolidating all required permits into one comprehensive permit, simplifying the application and approval process.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 33 - CED Building Standards Fee Amendment](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-7606](#)

Bill 34

Amending the 2025 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Eight Hundred Dollars (\$132,800.00) from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Grant to the City of Allentown Police Department. These funds will be utilized for reimbursement of expenses for the purchase of case management software, mobile devices, program analysis, unit apparel and additional Community Intervention Specialist.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 34 - PCCD Grant](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-7607](#)

Bill 35

Amending the 2025 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eighty-Five Thousand Nine Hundred Dollars (\$85,900.00) from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Grant to the City of Allentown Police Department. These funds will be utilized for reimbursement of expenses for the purchase of portable breath testing devices, impaired driving simulator kit, trailer and training for officers.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 35 - Police PCCD Grant](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-7609](#)

Bill 36

Amending the 2025 General Fund, the 2025 Trexler Fund, the 2025 Risk Fund, the 2025 Equipment Replacement Fund, the 2025 Solid Waste Fund, the 2025 Liquid Fuels Fund, the 2025 Stormwater Fund, and the 2025 Golf Fund by appropriating funds from the un-appropriated balances for the rollover of encumbrances for the prior year commitments.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 36 - 2024 to 2025 PO Roll](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon.

REFERRED TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 7:55 PM

[15-6577](#)

Reference Materials:
Council Rules
Procurement Code

Ethics Code

Attachments: [Procurement Code](#)

[Ethics Code](#)

[Rules](#)