



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. 13

RESOLUTION

R – 2022

Introduced by City Council on January 19, 2022

Recommends Establishing a committee to Review Bringing the Fleet Service Repairs Back Under the Control of the City.

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, the City of Allentown by the signature of former Mayor Raymond O’Connell in September 2020, authorized a 3-year contract extension with Centerra Integrated Fleet Services.

WHEREAS, in or about April 2021, Allentown City Council Members learned of a possible labor strike by members of the SEIU Local 32BJ against Centerra Integrated Fleet Services resulting from the lack of comparable wages and a harsh working environment.

WHEREAS, in or about April 2021, Allentown City Council members were contacted by all 3 city unions, the IAFF, SEIU and the FOP regarding issues with Centerra Integrated Fleet Services. The complaints included: delayed repair times, making partial repairs and having pieces of First Responder Equipment out-of- service for extended periods of time placing the Citizen’s of Allentown in possible danger.

WHEREAS, discussions were started between council members to inquire and come up with a solution and to discuss returning the fleet maintenance repair operation back in-house.

WHEREAS, the 2022 budget planned to finance the current contract with Centerra Integrated Fleet Services temporarily until June 30, 2022 with an option to extend beyond that date if necessary.

WHEREAS, at a Department Directors Meeting on November 23, 2021 an RFP for a proposal to hire King George Fleet Services was introduced.

WHEREAS, at a City Council Meeting on December 15, 2021, Public Works Director Craig Messinger and Finance Department Representative Sarrah McNeil presented only portions of the RFP proposal to City Council Members. A vote was taken of the 7 Council Members. The contract to hire King George Fleet Services was rejected by a vote of 5-2.

WHEREAS, therefore the agreement of September 2020 with Centerra Fleet Services would still be in effect until further notice.

WHEREAS, on December 29, 2021 Mayor Raymond O’Connell entered into an agreement amending an already existing contract with Centerra Fleet Services and provided them an 8% increase in wages for labor parts and supplies. It is incredulous that an increase would be given to a company that, performed unsatisfactorily.

WHEREAS, Allentown City Council sees this increase as an **unauthorized expenditure**.

WHEREAS, the public safety of the citizens of Allentown is dependent upon having a competent fleet services operation.

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that City Council recommends establishing a committee to review bringing the fleet service repairs back under the control of the city and that the members of this committee shall include representatives from the administration, two councilpersons, IAFF, SEIU and FOP Leaders, and the City Controller.

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT THIS COMMITTEE draft an RFP to establish the cost and feasibility of bringing the fleet maintenance services in house and make a report to the full council no later than 6 months after their first meeting.

BE IT RESOLVED THAT since, there was a contractual agreement made in September 2020 any amended agreement made on December 29, 2021 **shall be null and void**.