



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, March 1, 2023

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Candida Affa, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Ms. Dawn Godshall, 523-525 N. Seventh Street, thanked Council for the work they do every week. She is appreciative of the fact that Council reconsidered their position on the Credible Messenger and doing a PILOT Program. She regrets that there are groups in the community that do not get along. It is important as a community that we have to get along with one another.

Ms. Betty Cauler, 2212 Tilghman Street, brought in her neighbor's mirror and stated that their cars were hit from 23rd all the way to 19th Street. That is because of the Allentown Parking Authority. It is very dangerous to park on that street.

Ms. Gomez, 164 W. Gordon Street, stated that citizens in the town are hurting financially and mentally. Majority of everyone that she has spoken to are dealing with the Allentown Parking Authority on a daily basis. She started a Petition from people that had enough of the Allentown Parking Authority. She saw the Allentown Parking Authority give a ticket to a Constable car.

Mayor J. William Reynolds, City of Bethlehem, stated that it is great to be back. He worked in the Allentown School District for 13 years. He thinks of Allentown as his second home. He thanked the Mayor and the city. They announced the three-city coalition between the cities of Allentown, Bethlehem and Easton to work on housing, homelessness and sustainability. They want to advocate to work together for different regional solutions and partnerships and how to work together.

Mr. Pas Simpson, 215 N. Ninth Street, stated that he loves what Mayor Reynolds said. Permanent solution, we need the public sector to match the passion of the work of the nonprofits. He stated that poverty is violence, and the city is not addressing the issues. They have been fighting for three years to get Council to invest in the people. The Allentown Parking Authority is a form of violence.

Mr. Julio Moreno, 333 N. Franklin Street, stated that he has lived for 23 years in Allentown. He talked about the Parking Authority and tickets. He works with merchandise, and he will have his bags in his hands with insurance, and inspection and one of the stickers came off because of the climate. He stated that Parking Authority officer pushed him, the police was called and cameras were there. They gave attention to the Allentown Parking Authority and not him.

[15-5725](#) Privilege of the Floor and Courtesy of the Floor

Attachments: [Privilege of the Floor and Courtesy of the Floor](#)

[15-5724](#) Courtesy of the Floor - Petition to Limit Allentown Parking Authority (Ms. Gomez' Handout)

Attachments: [Courtesy of the Floor - Petition to Limit Allentown Parking Authority \(Ms. Gomez' Handout\)](#)

Contract Approvals

[15-5691](#) R49
Authorization for Contract with H & K Group, Inc (Coopersburg Materials, Div of Naceville Materials, JV & Easton Quarry, Div of H & K Group, Inc.), New Enterprise, and PMG SM PA LLC, d/b/a SealMaster at the unit prices identified in the bid, for a total estimated sum of \$1,927.647.50 to furnish and/or deliver and/or apply road materials, including but not limited to geotextiles.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R49 Road Materials](#)
[Resolution #30600](#)

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

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked if this is the country road the city had a couple of years ago.

Mr. Mark Shahda stated no, it is not Mr. Hunsicker. This is for asphalt.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30600

Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-5699](#) February 15, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [February 15, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Communications: Order of DeMolay

Mr. Ed White spoke on how Order of DeMolay International was founded in 1919 in Kansas City, Missouri and he joined back in 1975. The Allentown Chapter was founded in 1926 and gave a history of Order of DeMolay.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks commended Mr. White and thank him for his work.

Old Business: NONE

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

The Committee met last Wednesday, reviewed the CAFR, the monthly finances, and forwarded a few items on tonight's agenda; a future meeting has not been scheduled.

Community and Economic Development: Chair Mota, Napoli, Affa

The committee met last Wednesday and forwarded items on this evening's agenda; a future meeting has not been scheduled.

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

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a future meeting has not been scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Gerlach, Affa, Mota

The Committee met this evening; the committee will meet prior to the next council meeting on March 15, time to be determined.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Hendricks, Zucal

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a meeting will be scheduled prior to the council meeting on March 15th, time to be determined.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Santos, Hendricks

The Committee met this evening, a meeting will be scheduled prior to the council meeting on March 15th, time to be determined.

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

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Controller's Report (3 minutes)

Mr. Jeffery Glazier went over the Accounts Payable Weekly Check Review for the time period 12/31/2022 - 1/27/2023, reviewing 414 checks which represented 641 documents for a total amount of \$4,435,000. The Controller's office did 10 manual checks in the amount of \$123,000 and five wires for \$1.5 million. He went over the findings. The benefits will be handled differently. Risk will handle things.

Mayor's Report (3 minutes)

Mayor Matt Tuerk talked about the happenings in February and items of note: Good news: the city posted summer labor positions; presently have 29 positions posted to

the city's website; Closing the third and fourth floor counters for intense Intergov Training; Continuing with CED and encouraged Council to look at the Facebook Page. The city is spotlighting small businesses; The fire department was paid a visit from the person that was rescued from the trench. He talked about the Annual Fire Annual Report. The first opportunity to get the plows out and getting it cleared. Unfortunately, there was an officer - involved shooting. The mayor's office had City Hall at the Table soft launch. In February, the city recognized a few different groups: Amazing event of the Dominican Heritage Day, Black History Month and a celebration at Symphony Hall. They are beginning the celebration of Women's History. The Executive Raptors are in the playoffs. City Hall at the Table will take place again on March 23rd at 6:00 PM. St. Patrick's Day Flag Raising with Irish Dancing on March 17 and March 31st celebrating Transgender Day of Visibility. He stated that Ms. Patel prepares a Finance Report for the Budget and Finance Committee. He encouraged Council to take a look. Real Estate taxes came in one percent higher. The General Fund expenditures came in one percent lower.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if any of his colleagues have any questions or comments for the Mayor.

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-5659](#)

Bill 6

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of funds within the Skatepark Development Capital Project in the amount of Twenty-One Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty-One Dollars and Seventy-Two Cents (\$21,351.72). The purpose of this transfer is to purchase new lighting to be installed by the Parks and Recreation Department.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 6 Skate Park Equipment](#)

[Ordinance #15875](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it was in the committee this evening, how the committee did not have quorum. He stated that Council will discuss and vote at this time. He asked if there were any questions.

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

A motion was made by Ce-Ce Gerlach, seconded by Candida Affa, that this Bill be pulled from committee and voted on it tonight.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15875

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15875

[15-5658](#)

Bill 7

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Five Hundred Ninety-Five Thousand Dollars (\$595,000.00) from the Pools and Spray Park project fund and Five Thousand Dollars (\$5,000.00) from the Auburn Cross Trails project fund to the Irving Pool Improvements fund to provide the necessary funding to complete construction.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 7Irving Pool Transfer](#)

[Ordinance #15876](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that there was no quorum.

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

A motion was made by Ce-Ce Gerlach, seconded by Candida Affa, that this Bill be pulled from committee and voted on it tonight.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15876

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15876

[15-5655](#)

Bill 8 Community and Economic Development Committee, forwarded favorably 3-0.

Amending the Part Two General Legislation, Chapter 298 Flood Control, Article VIII Existing Structures in Identified Floodplain Areas, Section 38 Improvements, Part E by repealing it in its entirety.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 8 Flood Control Amendment](#)

[Ordinance #15877](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ms. Kistler if she wants to comment on this.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that it is to clarify language to make it less ambiguous.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is just a clarification to make it less ambiguous. He asked if there were any further questions, comments, or concerns from his colleagues or the public.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15877

[15-5656](#)

Bill 9 Community and Economic Development Committee, forwarded favorably, 3-0.

Provides for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1976, as amended; The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009; and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; for the purpose of undertaking programs of housing and community development within the city.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 9 DCED ESG Accounts](#)
[Ordinance #15878](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it was in Ms. Affa's committee and forwarded favorably to the full Council. He asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns from his colleagues or the public.

Yes: 5 - Candida Affa, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Abstain: 1 - Ce-Ce Gerlach

Enactment No: 15878

[15-5606](#)

Bill 10 Public Works, this evening

Providing that a section of Ann Street on the east side of Allentown between East Maple Street, South Albert Street, East Walnut Street and South Bradford Street, be called "John Snyder Way." This was initially introduced as a resolution, the committee had no issues changing the name of the street, which needs to be done by ordinance. There are no property owners impacted by the legislation. Public Works is fine with the change.

Sponsors: Hendricks, Mota and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [Bill 10 Renaming the Street Surrounding Ann Street between East Maple, South Albert, East Walnut and South Bradford Streets John Snyder Way](#)
[Dedicating City Assets](#)
[John Snyder Way 1](#)
[Ordinance #15879](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it was sent favorably, 3 - 0.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is 3 - 0 to the full Council. He asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that Mr. Snyder was a very valuable person when it came to the youth over on the eastside. This is very fitting and a nice way to honor him.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Zucal and concurred with that reading and his extensive volunteerism on the eastside and support in the whole area. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15879

[15-5660](#)

Bill 12 Motion to pull from committee to vote on, was introduced last council meeting
Amending the 2023 Fire Department Uniforms budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of funds received from the Federal Emergency Management Agency to provide for the purchase of 8 complete sets of NFPA 1971 approved turnout gear for our new recruits. This ensemble will include a turnout coat, pants, helmet, one pair of boots, two pairs of gloves, two hoods, and an individual face piece which is properly fit-tested.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 12 - Fire Uniforms](#)
[Ordinance #15880](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is quite obvious necessary equipment. He asked if there were questions or comments from his colleagues or the public.

A motion was made by Ed Zucal, seconded by Ce-Ce Gerlach, that this Bill be pulled from committee and voted on it tonight.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15880

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15880

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if anyone had an issue with the Consent Agenda and wants to remove the legislation. He asked if there were any public comments on it.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

[15-5680](#)

R50

Certificate of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts: 1550-52 W. Chew, 1118 W. Turner, 735 Oak and 937 North Streets

Attachments: [R50 Certificate of Appropriateness](#)
[735 Oak Street Final Review](#)
[937 North Street Final Review](#)
[1118 Turner Street Final Review](#)
[1550 52 Chew Street Final Review](#)
[Resolution #30601](#)

Enactment No: 30601

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-5648](#)

R47 Community and Economic Development Committee, forwarded favorably, 3-0

Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 1024 W. Chew Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R47 HARB Resolution to DENY - 1024 W Chew St](#)
[1024 W Chew Street -Final Review](#)
[Resolution #30602](#)

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

Ms. Jessica Cancel, owner of 1024 W. Chew Street stated that and her

question is she understands why they don't want the initial report. It was made differently, and they submitted that. Are there any other avenues that she can get it approved.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he will have the Director of Community and Economic Development address your question.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she believes it was denied

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she believes it was denied because it does not meet the design guidelines. She stated that she is sure if Ms. Cancel reaches out to the staff and there are other options, they will be willing to work with her to resubmit. In order to meet the design guidelines, the vent has to move. She does not think the owner is willing to move the vent.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that she has no options available to her other than those made available to her.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30602

[15-5623](#)

R46 Budget and Finance Committee, forwarded favorably with the caveat that the committee work with the administration to lessen the need for transfers by considering threshold levels and getting the transfers done proactively - transfer approval before expenditure.

Approves 17 transfers: \$1,267,922.34 in Fire Administration & Operations Correcting 2022 Negative Personnel Balances - \$87,917.84 is available within the Fire Admin Program, \$987,258.59 in Information Services for All Expenses for the Project were Charged to the Original Account Given of 001-07-3000-2119-76; \$391,909.27 in EMS Correcting 2022 Negative Personnel Balances; \$358,894.65 in Police Operations Correcting 2022 Negative Personnel Balances; \$63,904.50 in PW – Fleet for No Personnel Wages Were Budgeted in the New Garage Program in Nov – Dec 2022/\$51,494.16 is available within the program; \$33,852.37 in Police Academy Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022; \$33,182.43 in Traffic Planning Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022; \$16,405.66 in Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022; \$13,592.44 in Trexler Grounds Maintenance for Permanent Wages, Temporary Wages, Premium Pay & FICA were underbudgeted in 2022 in the Trexler Account; \$9,000.00 in Public Works for the Funds Needed to be Transferred So They Are Available in the Correct Account – Public Works; \$8,862.91 in CED Director – Administration Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022; \$8,000.00 in Public Works for the Funds Needed to be Transferred So They Are Available in the Correct Account –

Public Works; \$7,613.86 in Mayor for Longevity & FICA Were Underbudgeted in 2022; \$6,765.00 in Human Resources Needed to Cover Tuition Reimbursements and Certificate Bonuses; \$5,851.80 in PW – Tech Services Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022; \$5,556.12 in HR Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022; \$5,259.96 in Public Works – Office of Compliance for Temporary Wages & Premium Pay Were Underbudgeted for 2022.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R46 Transfer Funds](#)

[Solid Waste](#)

[Public Works](#)

[Information Services](#)

[Needed To Cover Tuition Reimbursements and Certificate Bonuses for 2022](#)

[Longevity & FICA Were Underbudgeted in 2022](#)

[Temporary Wages & Premium Pay Were Underbudgeted for 2022](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022 - \\$33,182.43](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022 - \\$5,851.80](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022 - \\$33,852.37](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022 - \\$5,556.12](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022 - \\$8,862.91](#)

[Permanent Wages, Temporary Wages, Premium Pay & FICA Were Underbudgeted in 2022 in the Trexler Account](#)

[Correcting 2022 Negative Personnel Balances](#)

[Correcting 2022 Negative Personnel Balances \\$391,909.27](#)

[No Personnel Wages Were Budgeted In The New Garage Program in Nov - Dec 2022](#)

[Correcting Negative Personnel Balances for 2022 - \\$87,917.84 Is](#)

[Available Within the Fire Admin Program](#)

[Resolution #30603](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there are any comments, questions or concerns from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked Mayor Turek and Ms. Patel, how does this happen. We have each department come here and give their budget and we have \$1,267,922.34 in negative balances that we have to correct. How can we not know how much we have to pay for college credits.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that the budget was approved by you, and it wasn't the amount of the budget that was approved was not in the correct account. She stated that they had to transfer funds. Unfortunately, at the end of the year, we had change in personnel and the remedy of what we are going to

correct is that there will be frequent meetings. At the end of each quarter, we will have a department and budget team to have conversations when they are progressing in the year and anticipate where they are moving the funds.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that if it was him and his checking account and spending the money before he had it in there, it would probably be looked at as writing a bad check.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that she does agree with him. The budget was approved, but the amounts were incorrect. She stated that they will monitor it better going forward.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that we have to do better. It really makes the city look bad.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this came up at the Budget and Finance Committee and Ms. Patel and the committee worked together to help make these changes. She is aware that the departments need to meet more. He got some feedback from the Controller.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30603

[15-5693](#)

R51 This is a new resolution to be voted on.
Approves one transfer: \$189,500 Budget & Finance For An Error When Entering the 2023 Budget - The Financial Advisory Expense & the NIZ Electronic Report Contracts for be 46 not 42.

Attachments: [R51 Transfer Funds](#)

[An Error When Entering the 2023 Budget - The Financial Advisory Expense & the NIZ Electronic Report Contracts for be 46 not 42 Resolution #30604](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this is more of a clerical.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that this is no financial impact.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that the incorrect account was used in budgeting. Contract Services are paid out of Account 46. When they were preparing the budget, it was paid out of Account 42.

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

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30604

[15-5420](#)

R165 Budget and Finance, forwarded with the caveat that forensic audit be changed to external audit and that consideration be given to having the Controller do a performance audit for better initial understanding of the process - committee wanted to hear from the prime sponsor, Councilperson Zucal.

Authorizes expenditure of funds for an independent forensic audit of the use of overtime and sick/leave time across all city bureaus and departure pay-outs

Sponsors: Affa, Gerlach, Hendricks and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [R165 Forensic Audit](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments, questions or concerns from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that the only comment is that he is asking for an external audit because he wants it to be independent. That way Council will get the correct numbers. One of the things that is striking to him and one of the reasons he is asking for this is the last actual departure payouts. He wants the public to know what agreements or deals were made to have those people leave. Not the reason for them to leave, but the financial part of it. He referred to R46 as to one of his reasons.

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

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that his only concern externally is the cost involved of getting someone external. We have a Controller that can contribute some information and at least prepare it in a way to bring down some of the costs. At that standpoint, the city can save some money there.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he agrees with him, but his concern is the independence of it.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that the Controller is as independent as they come. He is not external, but was elected independently. He stated that he is not beholden to Council or beholden to the administration. He stated that Council needs to get a better understanding of what they are looking for. He suggested that they sit down with the administration first. Having an

understanding of the agreements and the processes will go a long way to answering the processes and the Controller's office can take a look at a piece of it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there was anybody else on Council.

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked if they would like to consider the amendment first to change Forensic Audit to Certified External Auditor.

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if you do external, does that excludes the Controller. Is that an option?

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that is part of his amendment.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it is a certified external auditor.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked how much will that cost for an external certified auditor to do this type of thing.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that has to be determined when the RFP is sent.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if it is like \$50,000 or \$100,000 or \$10,000.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he can't answer that question.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Mr. Glazier if he had an idea of what that would be.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that if Council removes the term forensic from it, you probably will drop your costs significantly. He stated that beyond that, he cannot give them a number. You are casting a really broad net there. He suggested that they talk to the administration first, because they may not need to spend this money at all.

Attorney Charles Smith stated that what's before Council is R165 which according to Legistar authorizes expenditure of funds for an independent forensic audit of the use of overtime and sick/leave time across all city bureaus and departure pay-outs. Allentown City Council desires to engage a forensic auditor. He asked if Mr. Zucal making a Motion that forensic auditor be changed to external auditor. He asked if anybody seconded that yet.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated not yet.

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

his colleagues.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this vote is strictly the wording.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that this Motion will change Forensic Audit to Certified External Audit.

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

Mr. Pas Simpson stated that hearing the Controller say that he is external already and he is not beholden to any one of you two parties, the Council or the Mayor's office. When the Controller makes a report is it open to the public to see. If it is open to the public to see, why are we spending more money. He stated that the city does not pay for the things we need already. Why spend money, if he can do it for free and make it public notice.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you are not at the stage yet, you are just changing verbiage in here.

Attorney Charles Smith stated that if this Motion was to pass, it would have the effect of amending just the language that would ultimately come before you.

Attorney Charles Smith stated procedural someone could make a motion to amend that language to not exclude the Controller.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that Council had an Executive Session. Is the intent to make the information that they were told in Executive Session to the public so they can get those numbers and figures.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated once the audit is complete. It would be public information anyway.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that all this Resolution does is authorize the expenditure of the funds to craft an RFP. This simply authorizes Council to expend funds to craft an RFP.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it authorizes Council to do that. They may decide down the road if they meet with the administration not to do it. If the Mayor is willing to meet with them.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated always.

A motion was made by Ed Zucal, seconded by Ce-Ce Gerlach, that this Resolution language be changed from Forensic Audit to Certified External Auditor.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30605

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked if it is going to read the Forensic Audit to be changed to Certified Forensic Auditor City Controller.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that is adequate.

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

A motion was made by Santo Napoli, seconded by Candida Affa, that this Resolution to have the language include the City Controller.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30605

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

Ms. Pas Simpson asked if you meet with the mayor and get the answers that you need, do the answers then become public. At the end of the day, we still need to know.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that since the Controller gives the report, that is something that the Controller can provide. He asked Mr. Glazier if he agrees with that.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that public information is public information and nonpublic information is nonpublic information.

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

Absent: 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30605

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

[15-5698](#)

Bill 13

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an appropriation of Three Hundred Ninety-Eight Thousand Six Hundred (\$398,600.00) Dollars into a new capital fund account. This money was awarded as a DCNR Grant for Phase 2 Construction of the Jordan Skatepark.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 13 Skate Park DCNR Grant](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE MEETING

[15-5696](#)

Bill 14

Amending Part II General Legislation, Chapter 163 Animals, Article I Animal Control by updating the language in Sections 1, 3-7, 13-15, 18, and 21-23.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 14 Animal Control Amendment](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE MEETING

[15-5697](#)

Bill 15

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Ten Thousand Dollars (\$10,000.00) from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of The State Fire Commissioner (OSFC) Grant to the Allentown EMS Department to upgrade equipment.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 15 OFSC EMS Grant](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING

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

[15-5695](#)

R52

Authorizes expenditure of funds to draft an RFP for a credible messenger program.

Sponsors: Gerlach and Santos

Attachments: [R52 Incredible Messenger Funding](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY MEETING

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that tomorrow is Read Across America today and there are opportunities across the many public schools in the city of Allentown to read to kids. It is deeply appreciated by the kids. There is a signup Genius, and he is happy to share the link for Council or any member of the public to get them signed up to read to the kids. They are the future of our city.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mayor Tuerk and stated that it is very important. Children need to develop good reading skills.

ADJOURNED: 7:57 PM

[15-5720](#)

Council Rules
Procurement Procedures
Code of Ethics

Attachments: [Council Rules 2023](#)
[Contract/Procurement Procedures from the Code](#)
[Ethics Code](#)