



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

Public Works Committee

Wednesday, May 1, 2019

6:15 PM

Council Chambers

Roll Call: Chairperson Zucal, Hendricks, Robinson

[15-2883](#)

Bill 28

Amending the 2019 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Million Three Hundred Thousand (\$1,300,000.00) Dollars for the annual Curb and Sidewalk Construction Project number 1731.

Attachments: [Bill 28 Curb and Sidewalk Appropriation](#)

[Ordinance #15537](#)

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked Mr. Messinger if he has a list of the blocks that need repairs.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it is on the website. They did a website. It is on the front of the website.

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked how many residents get their own contractor to do it.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated two-fifths use the city's contract. Sixty percent utilizes their own contractor. In the letter he states that they will get a better price because the city has to pay prevailing wage rates.

Mr. Courtney Robinson stated that he knows that the city ask the homeowner to do the curbing and sidewalk work prior to doing the street work. If during the street work, the curbing and sidewalk gets damaged at all. Who is responsible the homeowner, the contractor or the city.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that if it is damaged while the city is doing the work, the city will take care of it.

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked about a procedure about an economic need if the homeowner is unable to get their own service in and unable to pay the city. Other than putting a lien on the property eventually, does the city have any policies that the city can use economic necessity or did we ever investigate one if we did not have one currently.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that at one point there was some kind of low income set up where there was some funds for it. There is no funding for that. The only thing is speaking with Leonard Lightner, if a homeowner is economically distressed there is money for handicapped ramps. Normally, the handicapped ramps are the most expensive. The city does let them know about that.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

Mr. Louis Hershman asked about the \$1.3 million if it was budgeted and from what account.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that this is an item that is not included in the General Fund Budget. It got immediately into the Capital Fund under a particular item dealing with Street improvements. All that revenue would go immediately into the Capital Fund and would be drawn upon to do the Curb and Sidewalk work. This is normally an item that would have been for the full Capital Budget. The reason it was omitted. They wanted to bring this in front of Council to make sure you had authorized them to go forward with it.

Mr. Louis Hershman stated that Mr. Hartzell said it is budgeted, but where is it coming from. What is the total liens we have on properties?

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that the revenues is going into the Capital Fund from those property owners that are benefiting from the curb and sidewalk improvements. He stated that the amount that they collect in revenue is in line of what they spend. There are considerable liens on certain properties that have not made the payments. He stated that he needs a little more detail.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked how much of a lien in 2018 on properties for not completing.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that is what he just asked.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker stated that he did not here a number. Will you have it next month? Where is the \$1.3 million. It is coming from the Central Treasury down to the Capital Fund as part of the Capital Fund.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated soon. He stated that this revenue never hits the General Fund. He stated that when the city assess the homeowner for making improvements to curb and sidewalk, the revenue that comes immediately from that process doesn't go to the General Fund. It goes directly into the Capital Fund account that is dedicated for the purpose of

improving the curbs and sidewalks.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked if the city had a number for that Capital Account.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that he will find it for him.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked if the \$1.3 million is for the equipment. He stated that he noticed on 15th Street. The curbing they just redid it. Why didn't you force the property owners to do the curbing properly.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that was a state funded project. They do not. He stated that the city can insist all we want, but they are not going to do it. They don't address trees or curbing and sidewalk. They address handicapped ramps and any drainage.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked the city to fix the curbs and paint the light standards.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that the light standards are going to be done. All of the intersection lights are going to be replaced and/or painting. He stated that he can come up with a price for it, but Mr. Hunsicker will not like the number.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker stated not him.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked how much money the city gets back from the homeowner.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that in the past, the city got the majority of the money back. Unfortunately, there are liens at different times. They try to work with the homeowners for payments. We have having issues with that. If someone goes to sell the house and you don't have the lien on it, the city loses the money. Within six months the city put a lien on it.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked what Account is it. Is there a separate account for it.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that it is in the Capital Fund in the Capital Account. He stated that he will have to identify specifically which one that is since he is not recalling it right now. He stated 1731. That's the project number.

A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks, seconded by Courtney Robinson, that this Bill be forwarded favorably to the full Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Ed Zucal, Daryl Hendricks and Courtney Robinson

Yes: 3 - Ed Zucal, Daryl Hendricks and Courtney Robinson

Enactment No: 15537

[15-2889](#)

Bill 29

Correcting Ordinance 15511, Section Two, by appropriating the correct total of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$250,000) Dollars from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to the City of Allentown for the Multimodal Transportation Fund Grant for the Phase II LED street lighting system along American Parkway from Union Street to Bradford Street rather than Two Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand (\$232,000) which was previously approved into the 2019 Capital Fund.

Attachments: [Bill 29 ORDINANCE 15511 CORRECTION](#)
[Ordinance #15538](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any questions from his colleagues or the public.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it was a typo. In the Ordinance itself it said \$250,000. The numbers that were down under the appropriations was actually the appropriation numbers for the first Phase of the American Parkway. The second Phase was \$250,000, the third Phase was \$232,000. The appropriation numbers were not replaced with the correct numbers. It is just saying that we are getting \$18,000 more than what the first one said.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any questions from his colleagues.

A motion was made by Courtney Robinson, seconded by Daryl Hendricks, that this Bill be forwarded favorably to the full Council. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Ed Zucal, Daryl Hendricks and Courtney Robinson

Enactment No: 15538

Adjourned: 6:27 PM