



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, October 19, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation: Councilperson Guridy

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. David Keshl, 119 W. Wabash Street, stated that he is part of the Environmental Advisory Committee and they need more members.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that he agrees with Mr. Keshl. That appointment will be coming up on November 2nd.

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, stated that Ms. Emily Opilo wrote an article entitled, Mayor Hired Rejected Nominee to head Community Development Department. He asked Mr. Glazier if he will be paying Mr. Walker what the Mayor has suggested of \$89,000. He asked if any of the payments to the department were paid after what you turned down.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Mr. Glazier if he wanted to respond at this time.

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that he would take it under advisement and will consult with the solicitor. How I report will depend on what the Solicitor says.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that he said he will take it under advisement.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he has an LSR submitted today to find out that very question from the Solicitor's office.

Ms. Brenda Green, 1109 1/2 Liberty Street, stated that after a stroke and not being able to return to work she entered a program for low income homeowners that was offered through the city. It took over a year's time to complete the work. She contacted Building Standards and Safety and Mr. Dragotta stated that they will hire an inspector. They gave a report. She

stated that her house was further damaged. It was close to \$9,000 of property damage to house.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Ms. Calluori stated respond.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that she will look into the issue and get back to her.

Ms. Courtney Newcomer, 1621 W. Turner Street, stated that she has a document with over 100 signatures from city residents in favor of Inclusionary housing.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, 214 N. St. Cloud - Allentown Tenants Association, stated that if the Center City Initiative is actually followed through from the beginning, you would have already done this. He asked about people placed on boards and making appointments. He talked about Mr. Gregory Shamp's homes. He asked about the Allentown Housing Authority and sending Dan Farrell a message. He asked how does the city vet the appointees.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she is chair of the Human Resources Administration and Appointments Committee and did not investigate as much as she should have.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that as far as the Housing Authority. You have been at the meeting and see what we do. He thinks that Mr. Heffentrager should come to the board. We have been working with this issue for years.

Mr. Michael Sloan, 1621 W. Turner Street, talked about inclusionary housing. He met poets, artists and entrepreneurs. Downtown Allentown is not a place that he could afford to hang out. The city should develop for its citizens. He asked for an inclusionary housing ordinance.

Mr. Dennis Pearson, 942 E. Tilghman Street, stated that when he read about the reappointment of Mr. Walker to the Community Development department he wondered how it could be done. Allentown went down when the industries started to close or move away. Not until we create an excellent industrial base.

Ms. Cecilia Gerlach, People for Inclusive Housing in Allentown, stated that you heard from millennials and what they said is they like Allentown because it is culturally and economically diverse. Inclusionary Zoning accomplishes what they want. She explained Inclusionary Zoning creating a live, work, play atmosphere. The developers receive benefits.

Dr. David McGuire stated that given that the city's citizens has brought this and it fits with Community and Economic Development, could I ask that it be formally forwarded to my committee.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated let's discuss it. It is going to end up in your committee. We have to have a Bill, and then we will send to your committee.

Mr. Julio Guridy thanked Ms. Gerlach and the millennials that came to speak. It is an excellent way of approaching Council and giving food for thoughts. He stated hopefully, Council can develop an ordinance that would be meaningful and accommodate some of the requests you made here.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Guridy and asked anybody else from Council.

Ms. Jeanette Agosto, 118 S. Sixth Street, stated that they are not looking for anything official. They just want a conversation. She stated that she lives across the street.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he would like to talk to her. He asked if she applied to the Allentown Housing Authority.

Ms. Jeanette Agosto stated that she is on the list.

Mr. Chris Cocca stated that the spirits are great. he stated that he is an advocate for the homeless. He talks about the homeless and affordable housing. He would love to see more affordable housing.

Mr. Doug Brace, 313 N. Penn Street, stated that he is here as a volunteer for the homeless community. He works with the Jubilee Breakfast Ministry at Zion at Sixth and Hamilton. He asked about the warming shelter being delayed.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated to Mr. Brace that he became aware of it yesterday. He is pursuing it with the city.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that they are working really hard to get it open by November 1st. She delivered a message last week that she thought they could not get it open until November 15th. She since swung back to the team that is doing the last renovations. We are working hard for the November 1st deadline.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Ms. Calluori to get it to the City Council, Mr. Brace and his brother that is a County Commissioner.

Ms. Robin Riley Casey, 217 N. Ott Street, stated that she has been a resident of Allentown for seven years and on the Allentown Human Relations Commission for six years. She stated that she can afford to live in downtown Allentown, but she refuses to live in a community that does not do justice for all the citizens.

Mr. Kenneth Laudenslager, Cumberland Street, stated that in light of the events of the past week. We need to look at our Home Rule Charter. He stated that he does not know what it would take to redo a Home Rule Charter, he heard it takes a referendum. If City Council does it, can it be done by the next election which will be in April.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Laudenslager and asked anyone else for courtesy of the floor.

Mr. Mike Kaminski, 779 Benton Street, seconded Mr. Laudenslager comments. He asked about a Council management form of government.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Kaminski and asked anyone else for Courtesy of the Floor.

Mr. Robert Trotner, 1920 Whitehall Street, complimented Mr. Hendricks for contacted the City Solicitor and thanked Cynthia Mota for having the courage to vote against Mr. Walker last week and putting up with apparently Mr. Pawlowski tirade in the parking lot which you should have not been subjected to. He agreed with everything that was said about inclusionary housing.

Approval of Minutes:

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

[15-1158](#) September 21, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [86 September 21, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Old Business: NONE

Communications

Proclamation - Vince's Famous Cheeseteaks

Mr. Ray O'Connell read the Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks Proclamation:

Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That

WHEREAS, Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks announced on September 14,

2016 a new partnership with United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley; and

WHEREAS, Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks and United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley partnership will benefit the children of the Allentown School District; and

WHEREAS, Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks will support efforts to help encourage students and families to keep school absences to a minimum through signage at its downtown Allentown store and by launching a School Supply and Backpack Drive on September 19, 2016 through October 21, 2016; and

WHEREAS, Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks believes that the City can't truly succeed if its students continue to struggle; education is a key to success and every child has a right to a good education; and

WHEREAS, Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks invited the public to donate school supplies and backpacks to neighborhood children in need through the partnership with United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley.

NOW, THEREFORE ALLENTOWN CITY COUNCIL does hereby acknowledge Vince's Famous Cheesesteaks on Wednesday, October 19, 2016 for its efforts in improving the lives of the City of Allentown residents by taking an active role and partnering with the United Way of the Greater Lehigh Valley.

Mr. Chris Cocca stated that his grandfather started the business on Water Street. The whole neighborhood is gone, with redevelopment. Here we are again, redeveloping. His grandfather always believed strongly in education and was a student in Allentown School District. We are very committed to the student district succeeding. We do believe that the city won't reach its full potential unless the kids are not hungry and the kids are not missing school and not having the things they need to make themselves successful in school. We are honored to be able to have a business downtown and use that business to bless people.

Ms. Cocca stated how proud she is of her son.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that they have seen Chris over the years and happy the Vince's Cheesesteak moved into the building. It is a Lehigh Valley tradition. I am sure many of us had a few of them over the years. Congratulations and keep up the great work. Don't forget the Allentown kids.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that he does remember going there with his

father. He stated that he just found out today that a former Mayor Frank Fischl passed away and his services were yesterday and he extended his condolences to the Fischl family. He stated that he was lucky enough to work under Mr. Fischl when he was mayor and he was a great guy. A woman who was 96 years old by the name of Adele Yanica was the first female police officer in the City of Allentown. She handled juvenile females, she passed away on October 6 at the age of 96 in Florida.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

The budget schedule has been distributed - the Mayor will be presenting the budget on November 2 at 5:30 PM.

Budget and Finance: Chair Guridy, Hendricks, Mota

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting, the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Community and Economic Development: Chair McGuire, Guridy, Mota

The Committee met this evening. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Affa, MacLean, McGuire

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Affa, O'Connell

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, MacLean, Affa

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting, the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Public Works: Chair MacLean, McGuire, O'Connell

The Committee this evening, there are no future meetings scheduled.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chair O'Connell, Hendricks, Guridy

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

City Controller's Report

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that contracts are now searchable by year and title. Today, I am happy to announce that audits have the same functionality by department. He thanked the IT department and the Audit Manager, Jacqui

Moore for working hard.

[15-1159](#) Budget Schedule

Attachments: [Budget Schedule Final](#)

[15-1149](#) September 14, 2016 Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [85 September 14, 2016 Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

[15-1143](#) September 21, 2016 Human Resources Administration and Appointments Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [82 September 21, 2016 Human Resources Administration and Appointments Meeting Minutes](#)

[15-1144](#) September 21, 2016 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [83 September 21, 2016 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

[15-1145](#) October 5, 2016 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [84 October 5, 2016 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

APPOINTMENTS:

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-1127](#) Bill 56
Amending the 2016 Health Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eleven Thousand Two Hundred Forty (\$11,240) Dollars as a result of funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) for the purchase of training and supplies for the Childhood Injury Prevention Program for the Safe and Healthy Homes initiative and mileage reimbursement. These funds will be used to train staff in the Safe and Healthy Homes project requirements and to purchase injury prevention supplies and asthma prevention supplies to be distributed during home assessments. These funds will be used to reimburse for mileage expense for home assessments.

Attachments: [Bill 56 Healthy Homes Grant](#)

Dr. David McGuire stated that the idea is a grant to the department to increase training and more effective home assessments. It passed favorably, 3 - 0.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues about Bill 56.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he was talking to Vicky as well. In addition to the training, families that have children under five years old get support from the Health Bureau to make their homes safer.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues about Bill 56 or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15321

[15-1128](#)

Bill 57

Amending the 2016 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation in the amount of Nine Hundred Ninety-Nine (\$999.00) Dollars. This was a result of payment in lieu of tree plantings for the purchase of new street trees.

Attachments: [Bill 57 Street Trees - Turkey Hill](#)

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that this is the new Turkey Hill that is being built at 15th and Sumner Streets. They could not plant the required number of trees so in lieu of that a donation instead of the three trees.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that it is very exciting news what they are going to build at 15th and Sumner. He asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15322

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-1142](#)

R166

Sewage Planning Module for Tower 6 at the SW Corner of 6th and Hamilton Streets

Attachments: [R166 Sewage Planning Module - Tower 6](#)

[Tower 6 Sewage Planning Module](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked do we have sewage capacity. He asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated yes, we do.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29333

[15-1156](#)

R167

Sewage Planning Module for Strata III at the SE Corner of 6th and Linden Streets

Attachments: [R167 Sewage Planning Module - Strata III](#)

[Strata III Documents - I](#)

[Strata III Documents - II](#)

[Strata III Documents - III](#)

[Strata III Documents](#)

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it is basically for the same thing for 9,600 gallons. We have plenty of capacity.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked when will it be completed.

Mr. Craig Messinger asked Strata III, probably within a year. It would be started in a few weeks.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that Symphony Hall. He hopes to be done by the end 2017. He asked any other comments from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29334

[15-1147](#)

R168

Approves Certificates of Appropriateness at Work in the Historic Districts: 538 Tilghman Street (AKA 645 N. 6th Street), 229 N. 12th Street and 1502 W. Turner Street

Attachments: [R168 HARB Resolution](#)

[HARB Cases](#)

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that the first property at 538 Tilghman Street is continuing to maintain the sign that is on the window. This did go in front of HARB and HARB made several recommendations. The HARB board recommends that the City Council approves this sign. The second one is 1502 W. Turner Street in West Park and they are proposing to change two signs with red, white and green background. HARB reviewed it and recommends City Council approves this new sign. The third one is at 229 N. 12th Street and there is a proposal to maintain the stone coat on the lower front facade and front steps. Two basement windows will be installed. The foundation level will be parched with stucco to create a

smooth surface. The owner has to remediate a violation that was presented to them. HARB recommends that City Council approves this plan.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Ms. Calluori for the details and asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager asked who follows up and making sure they did this.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that our HARB staff person will follow up on it.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Heffentrager and asked any other questions from the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29335

[15-1148](#)

R169

Authorizes the Following Properties to Be Acquired by Eminent Domain by the Redevelopment Authority of the City of Allentown, if necessary: 509 N 7th Street and 448 Hanover Avenue

Attachments: [R169 Blighted Properties](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we are getting handouts about the Blighted Properties.

Mr. Tom Brodhead stated that there are two properties. Properties that go into this have extensive and notified by Building Standards for violations. They have been cited. We then go to the Blighted Property Review Board and the Planning Commission. We send out a letter that says you have 30 days if you do not address the issues with the properties. We are bringing it to City Council.

Mr. Carmen Dragotta stated that 509 N. 7th Street started in 2012. We posted an unsafe structure. There was a fire in 2013 and the owner passed away. We sent notice to the heirs of the property. He stated that 448 Hanover Avenue has the same condition, with no improvements.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked if 448 Hanover Avenue went through the same process. He asked any comments from my colleagues.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that he noticed that the first violation was 2012. It is a shame that it takes this long to get this done.

Mr. Tom Brodhead stated that the problem initially was to deliver the notification and give them the lawful 30 days to respond.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked once you acquire the property, do you have plans for that, especially the one on Seventh Street. He asked if the city is still working with ABC.

Mr. Tom Brodhead stated that they would like to rehab them. We are looking for low-income or rehab them. It would be bid out.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that ABC has rehabbed a couple of properties in the past three years. Once the properties are acquired, the Redevelopment Authority will look at the properties and make a decision on the best way to proceed.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that it is very interesting that they are not city residents.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked about the first time homeowner and if people go through that program those properties they can get if they qualify. She stated that she doesn't think a lot of the people in the community knows about the first time homebuyers program. It will be a great idea to give more information.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that ABC, HADC, CACLV run first time homebuyer classes. The first step is to take the class to prepare families to become homeowners. Those properties are marketed to those homeowners. We try to connect the dots. CACLV offers their first time homeowners class on a quarterly basis. She will get more information.

Mr. Tom Brodhead stated that if you go on HADC website it is advertised and you can see the houses.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments from my colleagues.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she shares Mr. O'Connell's frustration. She stated that she is Chair of the Blighted Properties and they see so many of these. The process is so slow. She highly recommended that the city take these properties.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Ms. Affa. He asked any other comments from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29336

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: NONE**RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION: NONE****NEW BUSINESS**

Dr. David McGuire stated that the information about the Inclusionary housing standards even though there is no ordinance, he would like to make that formally recommended to our committee for consideration and discussion.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked the Associate Solicitor, Ms. Fran Fruhwirth.

Ms. Fran Fruhwirth stated that any quorum as a whole or a quorum as a standing committee that you have would need to be advertised and held in accordance with the Sunshine Law. There is a case pending with the Supreme Court. If the meeting is for fact gathering only and not for deliberation you can have that without violating the Sunshine Law.

Mr. Ray O'Connell suggested Dr. McGuire's CEDC committee. You can not have more than one. Two is a quorum. Information gathering only. No decision and no vote. He asked any other comments.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked Ms. Calluori to get back to Mr. Hanlon on the young lady's Liberty Street issue, can you update me on 1035 - 1037 N. Quebec.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that you could go home and watch the Dodgers versus the Cubs or Clinton versus Trump.

ADJOURNED: 8:27 PM

[15-523](#) Committee Members

Attachments: [Committee Members - 2016](#)

[15-790](#) Contract Procedures - The Code

Attachments: [Contract Procedures - Code](#)
[15237 Bill 58 Non-Competitive Bids and Campaign Provisions](#)
[15224 Bill 39 Contract Approval Process](#)

[15-382](#) Council Rules

Attachments: [Council Rules](#)