



# Allentown

435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, Pa. 18101

## Minutes - Final

### City Council

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Wednesday, April 6, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

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#### Invocation: Councilperson Guridy

#### Pledge to the Flag

#### Roll Call

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

#### Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Harry Crapser, 1522 1/2 Chew Street, suggested a camera at the intersection of 15th and Chew.

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, asked what properties are being sold for \$800,000 - \$900,000. He stated that there was an Executive Session about the litigation. Will that be made available.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that one answer we gave at the last meeting was the Montex property. He stated that when we get to Communications, I will make a comment.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, 733 N. 11th Street - Allentown Tenant Association, stated that a couple weeks ago he read an editorial that was in The Morning Call. The city mentioned a rental relocation program they were looking into. If someone can get back to us on how far they are with that. He provided a list to the Redevelopment Authority regarding properties that need to be dealt with. What is bad are 726 N. Penn Street, 418 W. Allen Street, 854 N. 8th Street, 956 W. Chew Street, 521 W. Washington Street, 105 N. 13th Street and 251 E. Elm Street. Why are we dealing with owners like these?

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated to Mr. Heffentrager that Mr. Hendricks made notes of all those addresses and we will get Sweep on those tomorrow.

Mr. Dennis Pearson, 942 E. Tilghman Street, stated that Mr. Hershman is right when he is concerned about loss of businesses on the eastside. We have an authority which is in charge of trying to build up downtown Allentown decides to conduct its business outside of downtown Allentown.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that City Council unanimously share your concerns and drafted a letter to Mr. Traub, the ANIZDA Chairperson.

Mr. Tommy Hahn, 2016 E. Highland Street, asked Council to direct the Controller to give the public the number of property sold in the last few years where 10 percent of the sales is to go to pay off the lockbox bond. Is it a sell or a lease? He asked for a forensic audit.

Ms. Bonnie Ortiz, 411 Hamilton Street, stated that she has lived 1046 Walnut Street, First Floor, for four months and her landlord took her to court for destruction of property. She is on the street and is homeless.

Mr. Don Ringer stated that he agrees with Mr. Hahn that the city needs a forensic audit. The city needs to be cleaned up. We have a treasure here is this city called the Allentown Band and we should give this band more due respect and attention from this city. They will be at Carnegie Hall performing.

Mr. Michael Kaminski, 779 Benton Street, suggested attacking blighted properties the city and parking rates at \$2.00 in this city is not a good thing.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that Mr. Dougherty will take it under advisement with the Police Department.

Mr. Sam Unis, 460 W. Tilghman Street, asked about the Parking Authority and if it is a private company or public. He asked about the minutes being posted. He asked about going in front of a Magistrate does Pennsylvania State laws apply to them. He asked about the meeting minutes

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that they are an Authority of the City of Allentown. If you are complaining about parking or ticket you got then you will go to the Parking Authority and ask for an appeal.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that with the new system, they are online and the videos are online.

Ms. Susan Wild stated that with the Parking Authority issue, I suggested that Mr. Unis contact the Solicitor of the Parking Authority.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she happens to be on the Board of Directors of the Parking Authority and the last Wednesday of every month is an open forum and you can come in and make complaints.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that it is a lease. We are audited every year. It is

called the CAFR.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Mr. Heffentrager are you familiar with this lady.

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated that Ann and Tom Harper have reached out to the Warden at the Prison to start that conversation.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated Ed Sweeney, Director of Corrections.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments for Courtesy of the Floor.

**15-382** Council Rules

Attachments: [Council Rules](#)

**Approval of Minutes: There are multiple sets of minutes to approve: February 17, March 2, March 16 and March 23**

MINUTES APPROVED BY COMMON CONSENT

**15-677** February 17, 2016 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval Minutes

Attachments: [12 February 17 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval](#)

**15-672** March 2, 2016 City Council - Special Meeting: Contract Review and Approval Minutes

Attachments: [22 March 2 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

**15-688** March 16, 2016 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [21 March 16 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

**15-687** March 23, 2016 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval Minutes

Attachments: [26 March 23 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

**Old Business**

NONE

**Communications**

**City Council held an executive session this evening to discuss existing and pending litigation.**

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

**Budget and Finance: Chair Guridy, Hendricks, Mota**

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for April 27.

**Community and Economic Development: Chair McGuire, Guridy, Mota**

The Committee has not met, a future 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, a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

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

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

**Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, MacLean, Affa**

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

**Public Works: Chair MacLean, McGuire, O'Connell**

The Committee has not meet since the last Council meeting, the Water and Sewer Compliance Review Board will meet on May 4th at 5 PM to review the 2015 Annual Report.

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

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

**Managing Director's Report – Golf Course Update**

Ms. Lindsay Taylor introduced the staff that has been working hard to turn the course around, Course Superintendent, Chris Reverie; Golf Course Manager, Jeff Wambold; Greenskeeper, Kyle Krause, and Parks Superintendent, Rick Holtzman. It is in fantastic shape. It has been a team effort to make this work. She stated that the city had a harsh winter and it had a delay opening and did damage to some greens, but the crew worked hard last to overcome the damage. We had a mild fall. They solicited RFPs. The beginning balance, we were at a negative \$165,077 and by the end of the we worked that down to \$107,303 and we are truly confident that we can keep going and eliminate that. The goals for 2016 are to continue improvements at the golf course, complete a comprehensive business plan that would look at all the golf course's operations.

## City Controller's Report

**Mr. Jeff Glazier stated one of the great programs in the Controller's office is the Intern Program. We will be doing that this summer. We will be looking at two processes: one is Liquid Fuels, and the other one will be daycare permits. We are currently working on a Contract's Receivable Audit.**

## Committee Minutes

### 15-743 Golf Course Presentation

Attachments: [April 6 Presentation](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated the course is in the best shape it has ever been in. There was some damage over the winter. The staff knows what they are doing. He spoke about getting tournaments.

Mr. Jeff Wambold stated that in general the Golf Course has 2400 players and tournaments a year. Tournaments are about 40 and 60. He added a 28 player league and a 16 player league. Wednesday night is busier than a Thursday night and we have 112 and week wide we have about 400.

Ms. Candida Affa stated now that you have done all this work on the golf course, can you guarantee that I can break 90 this year.

Mr. Jeff Wambold suggested that Ms. Affa play some more golf.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he is always perplexed about the parks corridors. He is happy to see as he chairs the budget and finance committee this year and saw that you are giving money back and trying to keep up. He stated that golf is a dying sport. Seeing that you are making our golf course better for people to enjoy which is one of the gems we had in our city which is promise for us in our city. He asked about catered food during the tournament.

Mr. Jeff Wambold stated that he encourages any to call him directly to book the tournament and I encourage them to use Jack's.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks commended Ms. Taylor and staff for the great job they have done out there. Keep up the good work and we will support you.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that Ms. Taylor made a comment on trying to pay off that \$107,000. Do we have some kind of timeframe?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it depends on teacher. It is our goal and we are working very hard.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments from my colleagues. He thanked Mr. Wambold. You are in your tenth year and you work hard.

Mr. Tommy Hahn stated that in the past there were people being charge to the Golf Department and other places in town who are mixing up the budget process.

Mr. Kaminski stated that when he started golfing in 1999 - 2000, the reputation at that time was that Bethlehem had the superior course. Over the time, that did a 180 and is a credit to the staff. He thanked the city for not going the route of leasing the golf course.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he feels bad that he said that Golf was a dying sport, but it is. He asked for clinics for the inner city kids.

Mr. Jeff Wambold stated that he has been speaking to John Rosario and he runs midnight basketball. I would like to bring some kids in to do some free clinics in the evening. I am trying to get at least 10 - 16 kids together and be able to help them.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked if Allen and Dieruff have a golf team.

Mr. Jeff Wambold stated that he used to coach Allen. We are going to try to address Charter Schools. I need six on a team.

Ms. Lisa Conover, 110 W. Federal Street, stated she moved to Allen about six years ago and her son is in the 10th grade now, but he could not wait to get involved in golf.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments. He thanked the Golf Department Staff

**15-681** March 16, 2016 Human Resources, Administration and Appointments Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [17 March 16 HR Administration and Appointments Meeting Minutes](#)

**15-682** March 16, 2016 Public Works Committee Meeting

**Attachments:** [23 March 16 Public Works Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

**15-685** March 16, 2016 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [18 March 16 Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

**15-684** March 23, 2016 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [25 March 23 Budget and Finance Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

**15-686** March 23, 2016 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [24 March 23 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

## **APPOINTMENTS:**

**15-671** Allentown Public Art Committee  
Lindsay L. Taylor 01/01/2017

Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals  
Kenneth Laudenslager 01/25/2019

**Attachments:** [Memo from Mayor Pawlowski regarding Re Appointments Allentown Public Arts Committee and Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals](#)

Ms. Candida Affa asked any comments from the public.

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

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager stated that he has no problem with any of the appointees. How would anyone ever know about these positions being open?

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that he served on the city Recreation Commission over 25 years. If there is an opening, we ask people with all areas represented and encourage people to apply. Appointments and reappointments come from the mayor. Any other comments from the public about the two appointees.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor thanked City Council.

Mr. Kenneth Laudenslager thanked Council to reappointing him again. He stated that it is a re-appointment.

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

Enactment No: 29227

## **ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**

**15-742** Bill 16  
Amending the 2016 Risk Management Fund budget by transferring One

Million One Hundred Three Thousand Nine Hundred Forty Dollars and Eighty-Two Cents (\$1,103,940.82) from the unappropriated balance of the Risk Management Fund to cover the settlement payment to A. Scott Enterprise, taking effect immediately upon the affirmative vote of six councilpersons.

**Attachments:** [Bill 16 Settlement](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell 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: 15279

## **RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**

**15-582** R45 CEDC Recommended Favorably  
Authorizes Property to Be Acquired by Eminent Domain by the  
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Allentown: 621 N Front

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R45 City Council Resolution - Blighted Properties 621 N Front](#)  
[City Council Template - Blighted Properties 2 15 16](#)

Mr. David McGuire stated they met and discussed this and recommended that the property be acquired by eminent domain.

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

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if it is a burnt-out building.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager started that 621 N. Front has been on the list and a problem.

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

Enactment No: 29228

**15-583** R46 CEDC, Recommended Favorably  
Authorizes Property to Be Acquired by Eminent Domain by the  
Redevelopment Authority of the City of Allentown: 621 W Gordon Street

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R46 City Council Resolution - Blighted Properties 621 W Gordon Street](#)  
[City Council Template - Blighted Properties 2 15 16](#)

Mr. David McGuire stated that the committee voted 3 - 0 to authorize the acquisition.



Mr. Ray O'Connell 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: 29229

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

Enactment No: 29229

**15-616**

R47 Rules and Chambers, this evening  
Council Rules Amendment: Candidates filling a vacancy in the office of Council, the Controller or the Mayor must be of the same political party as the person who held the position immediately preceding the vacancy for 30 days or more in advance of the appointment. If a person vacating the position has no party affiliation, a person of any party or an independent shall be eligible.

**Sponsors:** Affa, O'Connell, Hendricks, Guridy, Mota, Mr. McGuire and Mr. MacLean

**Attachments:** [R47 Council Rules Amendment](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we talked about it. We had some input and questions from the public. This was passed favorably, 3 - 0 to the entire Council. 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: 29230

**15-630**

R56  
Appointment of Six Police Officers

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R56 Hiring 6 Officers](#)  
[Memo Hiring - 6 Officers -](#)

Assistant Chief Gail Struss stated that the Police Department is looking at hiring six new police officers. One of which already has the Act 120 training. The other five would have to attend the Police Academy starting in July.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked what will this bring our force up to and what is full compliment, 222. He asked any comments from my colleagues.

Assistant Gail Struss stated that this will bring it up to 16. Correct.

Mr. Julio Guridy commended the Police Department because this is the

highest amount in 10 years. He also commended them for getting people from Allentown and the reflection of the citizens of the city.

Mr. Ray O'Connell 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: 29231

**15-620**

R57

Sewage Planning Module - The Waterfront (revised Sewage Planning Module- flow change)

**Attachments:** [R57 Sewage Planning Module - The Waterfront \(Revised\)](#)  
[Sewage Planning Module - The Waterfront \(revised\)](#)

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is updating the daily sewers coming from the Waterfront Development. There were changes from the first phase to the second phase. He stated yes, we do.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked if the city has capacity. Any questions 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: 29232

**15-673**

R58

DCNR application for Jordan Park Pool Rehabilitation and Construction

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R58 Jordan Park Pool Resolution](#)  
[Memo for DCNR Jordan Pool Submission](#)

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that this is for a State Community Conservation Partnership Grant Application. It is a 50/50 matching grant. We will be applying for \$500,000. The funds are committed in the Capital Improvements for work at Jordan Pool. We will probably know by September or October.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager asked when does this work happen.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked for the timeline. When will we know. He asked any comments or questions from my colleagues. He asked if in October

they will know if they get it.

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

Enactment No: 29233

**15-674**

**R59**

DCNR application for construction of Allentown Skate Park at Jordan Park

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R59 Allentown Skate Park Resolution](#)  
[Memo for DCNR Allentown Skate Park Resolution](#)

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it is a 50/50 matching development grant to build a regional skate park at the former Clay Courts at Jordan Park. The estimated Project cost is \$400,000. We have \$200,000 committed in the Capital Improvements Plan.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any questions or comments from my colleague or the public.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager stated that he is ecstatic about this.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that we are looking at 2017 to do the design. We are currently doing a Request for Qualifications to do the design. We will move to construction 2017 - 2018.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments from the public.

Mr. Tommy Hahn stated that he is hoping that it includes cameras and lights.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that one reason we recommended that the skate park is located at Jordan because it has a very large parking area. It has existing lights for the tennis courts and it is close to Sixth Avenue so it is very visible.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked for input from the community.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked how big the park will be and how much is the Bethlehem cost?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that they will work on a program.

Ms. Lisa Conover stated that it is a wonderful idea. How far are you guys in

terms of the design and the plan.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that is a good suggestion. There will be designs and community input.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that as the chairperson of Parks and Recreation, she had a meeting with Ms. Taylor a few hours ago and we understand the importance of the community input.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 29234

**15-675**

R60

DCNR application for MLK Trail, Phase 1 - Cedar Beach Park / Hamilton Blvd. to the Lehigh Parkway.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R60 MLK Trail Resolution](#)  
[Memo for DCNR MLK Trail, Phase 1 Resolution](#)

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the city is applying for a Pennsylvania Recreational Trails Grant. It is a federally funding program that is an 80/20 match.

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

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ms. Taylor if it will be for hiking, walking, and for cycling.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it will be for a paved roadway. A multi-purpose path trail.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated once you get where the Food Bank used to be, will it stop there.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the First Phase will stop at a trailhead. It will stop where the bathroom is. We don't want to take it to MLK.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other questions or comments from my colleague or the public.

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

Enactment No: 29235

- 15-676** R61  
DCNR application for Lehigh Canal Park and Franklin Park Master Plans

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R61 Lehigh Canal and Franklin Park Master Plans Resolution](#)  
[Memo for DCNR Lehigh Canal Park and Franklin Park Master Plans](#)

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that this is a DCNR Planning Grant. Is it to complete two Planning Grants. The first one is for Lehigh Canal Park which is a really under-utilized gem. It can come again and be a great place to go for water recreation and trails. The second grant will be for Franklin Park, a small park in Allentown off of Turner.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that is a good idea. It is heavily populated with little kids. He asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

Mr. Dennis Pearson, 942 E. Tilghman Street, asked the trail are you extended it south long the river.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that this is not necessary for a trail. We are talking about the park. We are focusing on active passive recreation opportunities at the park.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from the public.

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

Enactment No: 29236

- 15-738** R69  
Authorizes Lee Laubach, Emergency Management Coordinator, to execute all required forms and documents for the purpose of obtaining financial assistance under the Robert T. Stafford Disaster Relief and Emergency Assistance Act

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R69 Emergency Snow funding](#)

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated as you will recall Council has been a great partner in assisting us and trying to recoup some of our costs from the major snowstorm.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments or questions 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: 29226

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

- 15-643** Bill 14 Budget and Finance, this evening  
Amending the 2016 General Fund, the 2016 Liquid Fuels Fund, the 2016 Trexler Fund, the 2016 Risk Fund, the 2016 Equipment Fund, the 2016 Solid Waste Fund and the 2016 911 Fund by appropriating funds from the un-appropriated balances for the rollover of encumbrances for the prior year commitments.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 14 Rollover 2015 to 2016](#)  
[Rollover Memo](#)

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

- 15-644** Bill 15 Public Safety, this evening  
Amending the 2016 General Fund and the 2016 Equipment Fund budgets by transferring \$100,000 from the unappropriated balance of the General Fund to the Equipment Fund to cover the cost of purchasing a 2016 cab and chassis for the remounting a 2010 Ambulance Box.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 15 Ambulance Remount](#)  
[Memo Ambulance Chasis](#)

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

**RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION: NONE**

**NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE**

**ADJOURNED: 8:33 PM**