



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

Public Works Committee

Wednesday, May 4, 2016

4:30 PM

Roll Call: Chairperson MacLean, Councilpersons McGuire and O'Connell

Rollcall

Present: 3 - David McGuire, Roger MacLean and Ray O'Connell

15-760

Bill 18 Public Works, this evening
Amending the 2016 General Fund budget by deleting the position of Equipment Operator II (09M) and adding the position of Equipment Operator III (10M) in the Bureau of Street Maintenance. The purpose of this bill is to take a currently vacant EO 2 position (primarily a tandem truck driving position) and upgrade it to an EO 3, a more versatile position whose primary functions include the following: Street sweepers, asphalt rollers, front end loaders, paving machines, dozers, all size dump trucks and trailers. The upgrade will allow for a more flexible range of use of the employee. This change will also take what is basically a single dimensional position and make it multi-dimensional.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 18 Streets EO II upgrade](#)
[Upgrade Streets EO 3 Ordinance](#)

Mr. Roger MacLean asked any comments from my colleagues and then went to the administration.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is an operational change as far as having an EO2 position upgraded to an EO3. A lot of jobs require Class A licenses. We are increasing the amount of street sweeping that we do. Operationally it would increase the amount of work we can do. The EO3 position would have a Class E license and HAZMAT endorsement for it.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if this is an upgrade position.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is an upgrade.

Mr. David McGuire asked about a prior agreement between the city and the appropriate union concerning this position.

Mr. John Marchetto stated that there was a prior agreement related to this issue. Where the union filed a grievance in 2011 and it was settled with a written agreement. That Resolution to that grievance has no bearing on what Mr. Messenger wants to do today.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that we are upgrading this position to an EO3 which increases the pay grade. He asked any questions from the public.

Mr. Ryan Hunsicker - SEIU Chapter Leader, provided the MOU that they signed back in 2012 and stated that at that time the union showed a need because of the lack of Equipment Operators II. The City paid out of class. You will see the seniority and the current EO3s. The number of EO3s are 13 and the total number of employees are 51. he is looking at a need for Equipment Operators II and also acknowledging the dollars and cents we try to run departments with in terms of manpower. His suggestions is that they signed the agreement in 2012 to get the EO2 position back into the budget. We feel it is still a need and suggested Council vote no for an upgrade at this time.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Mr. Hunsicker you have 13 EO3s and 3 EO2s. Can an EO3s do all the job responsibilities of an EO2? The EO3 is the top grade. What would be your argument of everyone being an EO3? Here is an opportunity for a union to have someone move up in classification.

Mr. Ryan Hunsicker stated that the top grade is an EO5 which is a heavier operator. He stated why not spend as much as you can and make everyone EO5s. The EO2 class and others when you move up all the way up to 5, you have different titles for a reason. You need a certain amount of specialty work done. it is dollars and cents and how much you are willing to spend.

Mr. David McGuire asked if this position of an EO21 an entry level position. He stated that he is perplexed about the flexibility. When we first dealt with this last week, I didn't realize how many EO3.

Mr. Ryan Hunsicker stated that it is not an entry level position. Entry level positions are Maintenance Workers I, and II and are your bottom tier.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked what does it take to go from an EO2 to and EO3.

Mr. Ryan Hunsicker stated that you will get a different type of License, knowledge of equipment and learning skill. It is a multitude of things.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked the administration, if you have 13 EO3s, why do

you need another one.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that the fact that part of our maintenance program that we are completing at the Street Department are evolving and we are running into a need for someone to have a Class A license. We would take a senior MWII and pay them out of Class as an EO2.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked what is an EO3-SP.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that is a specialist.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked about the EO2 is paid less than an EO3 and an EO3 is paid less than an EO4. He asked the money difference.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that depending on the level of the employee that goes in there. We are talking about \$1,500 difference from the classification.

Mr. David McGuire stated that he was not aware of this previous agreement. It seems to me that you are doing something as a labor relations activity. He is surprised that the nature of this is such that he would expect a representative and the city would talk to a representative of the union saying we are thinking of doing this.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that if they were looking to downgrade or were not in agreement with something else that they thought needed an upgrade. This is the first time that we actually been proactive in trying to meet the needs and approve upon what the union employee will be paid.

Mr. John Marchetto stated that 99.996 percent assurance with the city's rights of assurance in that clause permits this city management team to create that upgraded position without discussing with the union.

Mr. Gregory Hoffman, Assistant Chapter Leader 32BJ, stated he is the one who put forth the grievance for the EO2 to make it 4. We were paying people out of class to do that job. In the Storm Department we have paid three people out of class for a little over a year now.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked anyone else from the public or Council.

Mr. Ray O'Connell made a motion to Move Bill 18 without a recommendation.

A motion was made by Ray O'Connell that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 2 - David McGuire and Ray O'Connell

No: 1 - Roger MacLean

15-775 Bill 22 Public Works, this evening
Amending the 2016 Capital Project Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Seventy-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Fifty-Nine Cents (\$77,829.59) from one Capital Project to another project for additional funding for bridge repairs.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 22 Bridge Repair](#)
[Bill 22 Memo](#)

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is cleaning up the Capital Accounts and putting it in the funds. When emergency repairs are needed on bridges, the funding is there and available.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that he believes they may have touch on this before, but what project did this come from.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated this is the one on Albert Street from the section of the bridge that we had to do work because it was an issue with it from a hurricane.

Mr. Roger MacLean thanked Mr. Messinger and asked any questions from Council.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked if this is the money that we just saved by closing out projects.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated no, this is not one of those projects.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked Mr. McGuire if he had any questions and then asked the public if they had any questions or comments.

Mr. Tom Hahn, 2016 E. Highland Street, asked for a detailed report on how this money is available. He asked for someone to let them know how long the money was sitting there and how it was labeled.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that money was in the fund as the Projects are closed out. Any funds that are left over from it we take a look and see to keep it in the realm of what it was. It is something that needs to be funded.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that I agree with Mr. Messinger, it is a question for Mr. Hartzell.

A motion was made by Ray O'Connell, seconded by David McGuire, that this

Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - David McGuire, Roger MacLean and Ray O'Connell

15-777 Bill 24 Public Works, this evening
Amending the 2016 General Fund budget by adding the position of Part Time MW1 (06M) in Traffic Planning and Control.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 24 PT-MWI - Traffic](#)

Mr Craig Messinger stated that this employee will assist with line painting and knockdown of signs. We need at minimum a part-time position to assist with the needs.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that this is brand new and not being transferred. He asked Mr. Messinger does he have the money in his budget and where is it coming from.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is a brand new position. It will be 80 percent of the full-time wage with no benefits for the part-time position. We have the funding for it.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is a brand new position. It will be 80 percent of the full-time wage with no benefits for the part-time position. We have the funding for it.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that this wasn't on the Vacancy Report. This is a new position.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is a new position. It wasn't an open position.

Mr. David McGuire asked how many percentage points of not 100 makes something part-time.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that the part-time position is 25 hours a week, year round position. It was discussed with the Union and Mr. John Marchetto.

A motion was made by David McGuire, seconded by Ray O'Connell, that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - David McGuire, Roger MacLean and Ray O'Connell

15-714 R83 Public Works, this evening
Strata II Encroachment: Authorizes the installation of a connector bridge from Southwest corner at intersection of N. 6th Street and W. Linden to

Linden Parking Garage

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R83 Resolution Strata II](#)
[Strata II 645 W Hamilton](#)
[Strata II Encroachment Appl](#)

Enactment No: 29261

Adjournment

15-848 R83 Strata II Encroachment: Authorizes the installation of a connector bridge from Southwest corner at intersection of N. 6th Street and W. Linden to Linden Parking Garage

Mr. Ted Berger stated that this is an Encroachment permit. It has to be a permitted encroachment for the new Strata II apartments to the parking deck. It is the same as the did for City Center III. We fully support it.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that it would go to the new yet to be built over to the parking deck.

Mr. Ted Berger stated that it will be across Emory Street the little alley in the back across Arts Park.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked who is paying for it.

Mr. Ted Berger stated that they are.

Mr. David McGuire asked is this going to be a bridge 10 to 15 feet high over the traffic and pedestrians.

Mr. Ted Berger stated that it is a pedestrian bridge to get to Strata II to the parking deck. It was approximately 23 feet high.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked anything from the public.

Mr. Tom Hahn asked what the minimum height for that type of bridge. What are the state requirements and the effect it has on the sidewalk.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that it would connect from the new apartment building to the parking deck.

Mr. Ted Berger stated that he did not see anything on the plans on anything in the sidewalk area from building to building.

Mr. Young, Parkins Builders, stated that the bridge is designed to

cantilever from the new building over on Emory Street and connect to the parking garage.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked any other questions from the public or Council.

A motion was made by Ray O'Connell, seconded by David McGuire, that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - David McGuire, Roger MacLean and Ray O'Connell