



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Meeting Agenda - Final

City Council

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Remote Participation of Councilmembers, City Staff and our Citizens: While the Council and City Hall doors are physically closed to the public, the Council Chambers are open to the public through electronic means. The public, City staff and councilpersons are afforded the opportunity to participate remotely. Councilpersons and city staff participating in chambers will follow CDC guidelines – six-foot separation, separate microphones and wearing masks. These efforts are geared towards minimizing the number of people in the room at the same time to protect against community spread of the virus. Also, to protect against community spread, members of the public are invited to participate in public comment and courtesy of the floor through electronic means. We will be making every effort to create as many opportunities for residents to comment on legislation and bring issues to Courtesy of the Floor.

Encouraging Written Public Comments and Courtesy of the Floor Statements: Public comments will be accepted in writing through an email to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov. Emailed public comment for council meetings must be submitted by 5:00 pm on the day of the meeting to make it available and distribute it. The comments received will be read into the record by the City Clerk. The email must follow the regular format of council meetings – include your name and address on the email. A Courtesy of the Floor section will be created for items not on the agenda. Please forward these requests to the City Clerk's email address above.

Live Comments During the Meeting: Email - Council will be taking live comments during the meeting following the regular protocols using email. Email can be sent to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov. A reminder that comments must be directed to legislation under review except for Courtesy of the Floor.

The meeting is livestreamed and can be found at the city website: <https://www.allentownpa.gov/> under Public Meetings or simply go directly to the link <https://allentownpa.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Make sure the drop-down menu references City Council and is on the current month. The complete agenda and legislation are found there. When the meeting starts, it will say Meeting in Progress on the right-hand side. Click that and you will join the meeting. The livestream works best with up to date browsers. After the meeting is over, the video will be uploaded into the file. Should you have any questions on this, call the City Council Office at 610-437-7556.

Record of Meeting: The video and minutes of the meeting will be posted on the City website as soon as possible after the meeting for review.

Invocation: Councilperson Affa

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Please observe the Rules of Council when addressing the body. A full copy of Council Rules can be found on the city website or by email if you contact Council office.

There are multiple opportunities to address Council. Individuals can speak during Courtesy of the Floor (addressing items not on the agenda) and during Bills and Resolutions on Final Passage and Introduction. When given the Floor, please go to the podium and state your name and address. All remarks must be directed towards the presiding officer or council as a body; not a particular Council member or elected official, the audience or city staff. Unless otherwise determined, individuals shall have three minutes to address council and individuals representing a bona-fide group shall have five minutes. Privilege of the Floor will not be extended for personal insults or personal attacks on any individual, name calling or other behavior that is inconsistent with the purpose and intent of conducting official business. Please address council as a body. Refrain from using offensive language, cursing and making noises while other people are speaking. Act with decorum. Remove your hat and turn cell phones off.

(Council Speaking Rules: Members and others given the privilege of the floor will address the Presiding Officer. The Presiding Officer will extend the courtesy to the Councilperson(s) responsible for introducing legislation the opportunity to speak first. Each member will have the right to speak twice on any subject. No Member will be allowed to speak more than twice on any subject without permission of the Presiding Officer. No Member will speak more than three (3) times on the question without the unanimous consent of all the Members present.

From April Riddick, no address given

Ms Riddick asks for total transparency of submitting the (regional prosperity) proposal to be discussed at the city council meeting.
It (is) wrong to shut down possible solutions from other to review by all city council members .

Angel Santiago

Señor Hendricks,

Earlier this week I emailed Señor Mayor asking him to support the prosperity district. He did not respond. I am now emailing you to support the district. I heard from my church mates that you are not allowing it to come to vote, but i do not understand why. Please vote to look for other ideas.

Señor Mayor,

I seen last week a lot of talk about the prosperity district. I then read the plan. I hope you have read it too. I have not seen your support but I hope you will support the idea. I can not afford more property tax. I do not want to see a reduction in services or in the police force. Do not wait till the last minute like Pawlowski did. Please support the plan and ask others to support it too. Please include this for the next meeting.

Ettore "Ed" Angelo 1534 W. Broad St., Quakertown, PA 18951

Dear Mr. Hanlon: Please have my letter below (sent last week) and this letter as well read into the record/minutes at the next meeting.

Also, please direct both letters to Councilman Hendriks. It has come to my attention that he is refusing to place on the agenda the topic of the tax plan recently proposed by Controller Pinsley and Councilman Siegel.

This confounds and disturbs me--and it will others too, I'm sure-- because all they are proposing is that these matters be discussed. When should these discussions occur, after a tsunami of fiscal issues arise to drown all attempts to deal with them?

We must not be caught flatfooted; we must be ready for all contingencies.

Through this letter to you I am pleading with Councilman Hendriks to place this matter on the agenda and to vote to open discussions about it and other plans to deal with the inevitable problems this virus will give rise to very soon.

Thanks very much.

ATTN: MICHAEL HANLON

Dear Mr. Hanlon: I am requesting two things as it relates to my email below, which I sent to Mayor O'Connell yesterday, Monday, May 11, at 7:59AM:

1. that it be read into the record at the Council Meeting scheduled for tomorrow night, that is, so that it is entered into the minutes of the meeting; and

2. that Council Resolve at that meeting to support the Pinsley/Siegel Tax Plan.

Mr. Angelo's email also included this:

Dear Mayor O'Connell:

First of all, I hope that you and yours are safe and well at this horrible time.

I have read Mark Pinsley's and Joshua Siegel's plan for addressing the economic damages caused by the coronavirus and how to address them fiscally moving forward. We must plan for the days, weeks, months and even years ahead. This report (see link below) provides an excellent start for beginning the conversation.

Our nation, our leaders, indeed, our President, were caught flatfooted by this awful pandemic. By proper planning now we can avoid being caught unawares once again. Many will suffer, especially the poor, if we don't plan well and do it now. I believe this report is an excellent start.

Devin L. Gray, 2117 E. Livingston Street.

I am a accountant in Allentown. As you can imagine there are lots of businesses having issues. We do not know which ones will make it and which ones will not make it. What we do know is that the City is already struggling. Our citizens will need additional assistance. We know that money isn't coming from the state or the federal government. Please support the review of the Regional Prosperity District and make sure that the review goes quickly and efficiently. We do not have time to wait.

Approval of Minutes:

May 13, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [May 13, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

May 13, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [May 13, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Old Business

Communications

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**Budget and Finance: Chair Siegel, Guridy, Mota**

The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

CEDC: Chair Guridy, Gerlach, Affa

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Gerlach, Mota, Zucal

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Gerlach, Siegel

The committee has not met since the last Council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Hendricks, Zucal

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Affa, Siegel

The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

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

The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

Administration**City Controller****APPOINTMENTS:**

Anthony Toth, Planning Commission, 01/03/2023 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [Planning Commission - Anthony Toth](#)

Jeff Glazier, Planning Commission, 01/03/2023 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [Planning Commission - Jeff Glazier](#)

Myrtle Yvette Hailey, Civil Service Board, 01/21/2023 (Appointment)

Attachments: [Civil Service Board - Myrtle Yvette Hailey](#)

Damien C. Brown, Planning Commission, 12/01/2022 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [Planning Commission - Damien C. Brown](#)

Carmen Roman, Human Relations Commission, 10/25/22 (Appointment - Replacing Wendy Escarfullery)

Attachments: [Human Relations Commission - Carmen Roman](#)

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

Bill 31

Amending the 2020 Capital Fund Budget by transferring Thirty-Eight Thousand (\$38,000) Dollars from Capital Project 2024 – 15th Street Traffic Signal Improvement Project to Capital Project 1225 – Traffic Signal Upgrade Various - to fund the completion of the intersection upgrades at Emaus Avenue and Church Street, the original budgeted amount was insufficient. The completion of this intersection upgrade will provide a safer crossing at South Mountain Middle School.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 31 Traffic Signal Upgrade Transfer](#)

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

R61

A Resolution of the City Council of the City Allentown Authorizing the Preparation and Submission of Declarations of Taking and Related Documentation pursuant to the Eminent Domain Code of 1964, as amended, to Acquire Certain Property at 628 W. Turner Street, Allentown PA 18102, identified by the Lehigh County Assessment Office as Parcel Number 640701942421 1.

Attachments: [R61 628 W. Turner Street](#)

R62

Approval of Transfer: \$50,000.00 in Risk – for purchase of PPE - gloves, masks, sanitizers - transfer is from Account #081-02-801-0001-46 (Other Contract Services) to Account #081-02-8001-0001-68 (Supplies).

Attachments: [R62 Approval of a Transfer](#)
[Risk Transfer](#)

R63

Authorizes Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for a Five Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$500,000) Grant FOR the construction and development of Jordan Creek Greenway Trail.

Attachments: [R63 Jordan Creek Trail - DCNR grant](#)

R64

Authorizes Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for a Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$70,000) to update the City's Zoning, Subdivision and Land Development Ordinances.

Attachments: [R64 MAP Zoning and SALDO updates](#)

R65

Authorizes the Administration to Sell City Property located at 725 Martin Luther King, Jr. Drive, PIN #640618377936 to the Allentown Housing Authority for affordable housing for One Dollar.

Attachments: [R65 Sale property to AHA](#)

R66

Authorizes Submission of an Application to the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development for a Grant of One Hundred Forty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$148,750.00) for Use in the development of a Parks and Trails Master Plan.

Attachments: [R66 DCED GTR Parks Comp Plan](#)

R57

Creating opportunities for residents to obtain information and comment on agenda items prior to meetings

Sponsors: Gurdy, Hendricks, Gerlach, Mota and Mr. Siegel

Attachments: [R57 Council Rules Amd](#)

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

GOOD AND WELFARE

ADJOURN

Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. For copies of the agenda or meeting announcements, please visit our website at www.allentownpa.gov or contact the Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@allentownpa.gov to receive an email notice of the meetings.