



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Meeting Agenda - Final

City Council

Monday, December 21, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Public Comment Provisions during Covid: The meeting will be live streamed. The link to the meeting can be found on the city website with the agenda and legislation at <https://www.allentownpa.gov>. Council will receive comments on the legislation prior to the meeting and will consider all comments from city residents. All comments must include your name and address, including your city, and be emailed to Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPa.gov by 2 PM on the date of the meeting. Comments can also be registered using the ecomment provision on each agenda item found on the city website. Comments received from city residents by that deadline will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council members prior to the meeting and will also be noted at Courtesy of the Floor or Public Comment periods of the meeting. These timely received comments will also be posted on the City's webpage as a supporting document to the meeting. Any comments received on the meeting day, after the 2:00 pm deadline, will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council as soon as practicable. In addition, if you would like to speak during the meeting, please send your name, address, including municipality, and telephone number to the email address above indicating what issue you would like to speak on or call the office at 610.437.7555 and do the same, and you will be called during the meeting.

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

**Courtesy of the Floor
Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules**

Hi Mr. Hanlon,

I am a resident at 958 W. Walnut Street and I am getting in touch about the proposed garage along Walnut that is coming up for a vote.

I have been a parking subscriber in the Fountain Lot for 14 years. My main concerns are:

Where will we be able to park during garage construction? Can the Parking Authority create zone parking in our neighborhood while this takes place? In the 900 block of W. Walnut there are just 3 properties with off-street parking out of dozens of homes and rental units. Plus the buildings on Jackson St have zero street parking so parking is quite limited in the neighborhood.

And as a subscriber, will we be given preference to obtain a permit for the new garage? I fear the new apartments will be given priority for garage spaces and those of us in the neighborhood might miss the chance before it fills up. My household works entirely from home and 24-hour parking is important to us.

**Thank you for considering my comments and concerns.
Sincerely,
Sarah Fulton
c- 570-249-0131**

Hello, this is being submitted to be read aloud for public comment at council tonight.

I'm Ashleigh Strange, she/her, I live on S. Front St in Allentown and I'm the organizer for Lehigh Valley Stands Up.

**Back in February, members of the community spoke at city council to say that council needs to look into the dealings of the ANIZDA board before they can progress any further with appointment. The minutes are here.
<https://allentownpa.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=761604&GUID=2D8FE406-955D-4FA9-A3A7-CA8C526CF9D3&Options=info%7C&Search=anizda#>**

Council made a promise that they would look into this and by proceeding with the

appointments, you are allowing a corrupt board to continue promoting gentrification in Allentown.

The ANIZDA board is one of a kind in many ways, but most prominently it is an authority with no oversight and very little input from the community.

I ask again that you delay the appointments for new ANIZDA board members until a date is firmly set that they will answer for their misdeeds to council.

Ashleigh Strange

The e-mail this morning from Michael P Hanlon directed to Steven Bamford, Executive Director of ANIZDA, has been forwarded to me as Solicitor for response.

The ANIZDA board does not select its members nor does it establish criteria. The members of the board are selected by Senator Browne, Mayor O'Connell, and Representative Schweyer applying criteria they believe to be appropriate. The Chairperson of ANIZDA simply forwards their selection to the Mayor who then makes the appointment subject to the concurrence of City Council. If any member of City Council has questions regarding selections, those questions would best be directed to Senator Browne, Mayor O'Connell, and Representative Schweyer.

As for the changes to the ANIZDA bylaws made in January 2020, the amendment was requested, reviewed and agreed upon by Senator Browne, Mayor O'Connell, and Representative Schweyer and was intended to codify the process that had previously been used to select appointees to the ANIZDA board. The amendment requires unanimity among the 3 elected officials who each have 3 selections to the nine member ANIZDA board.

I have attached a copy of the current By Laws. Please refer to Section 2.11 for clarity.

Thanks. If you have any further questions, please let us know.

Jerome B. Frank, Esq.

on behalf of

Steve Bamford
Executive Director

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.

Approval of Minutes:

September 16, 2020 City Council Contract Approval

Attachments: [September 16, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

September 16, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [September 16, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

September 30, 2020 Special Council Meeting on Bill 20 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [September 30, 2020 Special Council Meeting on Bill 20 Meeting Minutes](#)

Old Business

Communications

City Council held an Executive Session on December 15, 2020 at 2:00 pm with members of the Administration to discuss information, strategy and negotiations as to the collective bargaining agreement with the IAFF. The subject matter of this meeting is an exception to the open meeting requirement under the Sunshine Law.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chair Siegel, Guridy, Mota

The committee met this evening; there are 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.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Gerlach, Siegel

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

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

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

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

Controllers Report**Administration Report**

Controller Reports

Attachments: [Accts Payable Check Review 10/31 - 12/04](#)
 [Wellness Incentive Gift Cards](#)
 [Sept Bank Rec](#)

APPOINTMENTS:

Dr. Rajika Emily Reed, Health Board, 01/02/2026 (Replacing Dr. Stephen K. Katz)

Attachments: [Dr. Rajika Emily Reed, Health Board](#)

Oscar A. Morffi, MD, Health Board, 01/02/2026

Attachments: [Oscar A. Morffi, MD, Health Board](#)

Sandra Barnes, Allentown Housing Authority, 11/05/2025

Attachments: [Sandra Barnes, Allentown Housing Authority](#)

Gus J. Al-Khal, Civil Service Board, 01/21/2024

Attachments: [Gus J. Al-Kahl, Civil Service Board](#)

David C. Huber, HARB, 01/03/24

Attachments: [David C. Huber, HARB](#)

Ellen Roberts, HARB, 01/03/24

Attachments: [Ellen Roberts, HARB](#)

Lewis Edwards, ANIZDA, 01/01/23

Attachments: [Lewis Edwards - ANIZDA\)](#)

Seymour Traub, ANIZDA, 01/01/2026

Attachments: [Seymour Traub, ANIZDA](#)

Stephen K. Breininger, ANIZDA, 01/01/2025

Attachments: [Stephen K. Breininger - ANIZDA](#)

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

R153

Authorizes Certain Properties to Be Acquired by Eminent Domain by the Redevelopment Authority if necessary.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R153 ARA Eminent Domain](#)

R152

Approves the following transfers: \$16,848 in CED for Laptops; \$68,250 in Recreation for concession stands at Percy Ruhe and Mack Pool; \$50,000 transfer in Parks for a leaf loader; 267.24 in Human Resources to implement a 2021 Virtual Wellness Program; \$40,000 in Engineering for the Livingston Watershed project at 6th and Sumner; \$22,800 in Police/Public Safety for Ongoing Maintenance for In-Car Cameras, Body Camera and Software Maintenance for 2020 – 2021; \$10,499.91 in Health for overtime due to COVID-19 case investigations and \$7,000 in Risk Management for CARES Grant Funds for the elevator project.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R152 Transfers](#)
[Funds for 76 Construction Contract Account To Construct The Livingston Water](#)
[CARES Grant Funds City Hall Elevator Project Funded 50 Percent](#)
[Additional Overtime Hours Required Due To Covid-19 and Follow Up](#)
[To Purchase Supplies and Equipment To Renovate The Concession Stands at I](#)
[2021 Virtual Wellness Program](#)
[Ongoing Maintenance for In-Car Cameras - Police](#)
[Purchase Supplies and Equipment To Renovate Concession Stands at Percy Ru](#)
[CovidComputers](#)

ARA Presentation

Attachments: [City Council Presentation ARA](#)

R154

A Resolution Urging Congress to Pass the Restaurants Act – legislation that would provide support and relief for people/businesses drastically impacted under the Covid Crisis

Sponsors: Administration, Mr. Siegel, Mota, Mr. Zucal and Affa

Attachments: [R154 Res Act](#)
[Rest Bill](#)

R155

Certificates of Appropriateness for work at 347 N 9th Street, 343-345 N 9th Street, and 440 N 10th Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R155 HARB Approvals](#)
[COA Reviews FINAL](#)

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

Bill 90 Refer to Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy
DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A
REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE
MAY 18, 2021 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF
ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO EXTEND THE GEOGRAPHIC LIMITS OF
THE CITY RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR CITY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS,
OFFICES AND AGENCIES

Sponsors: Administration, Affa, Mr. Zucal and Hendricks

Attachments: [Bill 90 Charter Amendment - Residency Requirement of Heads at time of appoint](#)

Bill 91 Refer to Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy
DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A

REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE MAY 18, 2021 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO PERMIT THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COUNCIL SOLICITOR FOR LEGAL ADVICE.

Sponsors: Affa, Hendricks, Mota and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [2021 Bill 91 Charter Amendment - Council Solicitor](#)

Bill 92 Refer to Public Works

Amending the 2020 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Three Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Dollars and Ninety-Two Cents (\$332,470.92) as a transfer of funds from multiple project accounts to provide Bridge Repair Funds. Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds. Also, corrects negative balances in projects 1753 – American Parkway NE and 1282 – Hamilton Street Safety Improvement From 10th Street.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 92 Bridget Repair Transfer](#)

Bill 93 Refer to Public Safety

Amending the 2020 General Fund and the 2020 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-One Dollars and Eighty-Four Cents (\$174,871.84) from the Municipal Police Officer's Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) for tuition and salary reimbursement from Act 120 Training to be used to replace the roof on the Police Academy and fund the renovations to Public Safety Building.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 93 Police Capital Project - MPOETC](#)

Bill 94

Providing for the vacation of South Fountain Street from the centerline of Maple Street to the centerline of Walnut Street in the Third Ward of the City of Allentown and School Street from the centerline of South Fountain Street to its West Terminus in the Third Ward of the City of Allentown:

Attachments: [Bill 94 S Fountain St from Maple St](#)
[S Fountain St from Maple St Street Vacation Engineering Report](#)
[South Fountain St from South Maple St to Walnut St Engineering Report](#)
[S. Fountain St and W. School St from W. Maple St to S. Fountain St Maps](#)
[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding S. Fountain St and W. School St from W. Ma](#)
[Letter from Irene Woodward regarding Allentown City Planning Commission Ap](#)

Bill 95

Providing for the vacation of South John Street from the centerline of Union Street to the centerline of Walnut Street in the First Ward of the City of Allentown:

Attachments:[Bill 95 S John St from Union St to Walnut St](#)[S John St from Union St to Walnut St - Street Vacation](#)[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding S. John Street from Union Street to Walnut S](#)[Letter from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission regarding St. John Street w](#)[Letter from Irene Woodward regarding Allentown City Planning Commission Apr](#)**RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):****NEW BUSINESS****Clerk: Note Election of President and Vice President at January 6th meeting****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.