



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, February 17, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation: Councilperson Affa

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Roger MacLean, and Candida Affa

Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N Gilmore Street, stated that he was a former member of City Council. He talked about Council denying his application.

Mr. Anderson stated that he talked to Mr. Hanlon regarding playing his guitar on public space in Allentown.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that it is attorney/client privilege.

Ms. Shawn Dethlefsen stated that you are welcome to challenge our position/opinion by declaratory relief if you wanted to file something in the Court of Common Pleas.

Mr. Anderson stated that he lived in New Hampshire and his reason for being here is in the Spring he wants to play guitar on public space in Allentown.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we will get you an answer with the Permits Department and Mr. Dougherty.

Mr. Dennis Pearson, 942 E. Tilghman Street, expressed sadness over the death of the young woman in his neighborhood and the police officer was shot. He stated that they are concerned what the federal government is allowing to happen. The building in which that individual lived was built in the 1980s only for senior citizens and not Section 8 people.

Ms. Louisa Melendez, 242 Ridge Avenue, stated she was shocked to hear that this Council brought an unanimous Resolution against Mayor Pawlowski demanding his resignation. The investigation has not rendered

the Mayor ineffective.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, 733 N. 11th Street - Allentown Tenant Association, stated that there was ice and a post went out about Christopher Hendricks helping residents. He talked about C-Town that owns 7th Street Little Apple. The place is pathetic. They have two major dumpsters that are overflowing. We are constantly dealing with the trash from C - Town. he asked Council to look at his Facebook page for the comments.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we will get on that tomorrow. He asked Mr. Dougherty to get Mr. Harper out there from the Sweep Division.

Mr. Jim Osche, 404 W. Hamilton Street, stated that it is a lack of leadership with a Lame Duck Mayor. He stated to Mr. O'Connell that he will be accepting that responsibility. You are Pawlowski supporter, but did a Non Confidence Vote. He stated that he is not anti-cop. He is meeting with Assistant Chief Dorney.

Ms. Janet Keshl, 119 W. Wabash Street, stated that on behave of the singer, everyone should abide by the laws and listen to the police when they say stop. She feels it is all set-ups.

Mr. Don Ringer stated that he was listening to Kenneth Heffentrager and the city is a pigsty. Why can't we employ some of these prisoners to clean the streets.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we did check into that.

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated that the county pulled the plug.

Mr. Lou Shupe, 625 N. Sixth Street, stated that he contemplated applying for City Council. He learned there are five businesses that have closed in the NIZ due to the high price of parking. he stated that a lot of gas meters that are unprotected. He asked Council to look into.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we will get Craig Messinger our Director of Public Works on that. Most of the new units have to have a barrier.

Ms. Milagros Canales, 530 W. Allen Street - Old Fairgrounds Neighborhood Association, stated that they recently received a letter stating that the Gas Commission was supposed to talk to the neighborhood in regards to placing these meters. The rental properties are getting these meters really close to the curb.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked have you contacting UGI. A lot of the older homes are asking to take the meters out of the basement and put it outside.

Mr. Steven Ramos, 431 N. 9th Street, stated that applicants that were rejected for time in party. He believes that the Solicitor's Opinion is erroneous because we have a history in the City Council when we considered other appointees. The Charter is silent in terms of the timelines of when someone has to be in party to be considered to be an applicant. He asked Council to rejected that Opinion because he doesn't think it is based on law or the Charter.

Mr. Mike Komenski, 779 Benton Street, thanked the Police Department for the unfortunate event. He drove through the 8th and Tenth Ward and we should be embarrassed. There are buildings crumbling and potholes. A resident at 2309 Washington Street has had a loose pit-bull out. Animal Control has been called several times.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked if the pit-bull resides at 2309 Washington Street. It's not a loose pit-bull roaming the city.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that Mr. Harper is there. Give Mr. Harper the information and he will follow up.

Mr. Tim Ramos, 907 N. 7th Street, stated that Kenneth Heffentrager posted information and stated a young man was sitting on his step witnessing him. He then went in his house and started cleaning his garbage and his neighbors. If we can create in the community a sense of pride and ownership. He spoke about the initiative to bring city workers to live in city limits.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated unlike years ago where we had specific officers in specific neighborhoods. Today, community policing includes every officer in every neighborhood.

Approval of Minutes:

15-565 February 1, 2016 Special Meeting to Interview and Vote on Controller Vacancy

Attachments: [08 February 1 Special Meeting to Interview and Vote on Controller Vacancy](#)

15-568 February 3, 2016 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval

Attachments: [10 February 3 Special Meeting Contract Review and Approval](#)

15-569 February 3, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [11 February 3 Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Old Business

Transfers

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

15-570 Signed Transfers June 18, 2015 - February 4, 2016

Attachments: [Correction of part-time solicitor wages \\$54,000.00](#)
[Chiller Break Down at City Hall was Unexpected \\$8,000.00](#)
[Cover Current Expenditures and Ample Supply of Rock Salt for Winter - Streets \\$50,000.00](#)
[Cover Current Expenditures and Ample Supply of Rock Salt for Winter Fuel Costs - Streets \\$75,000.00](#)
[Cover Current Expenditures and Ample Supply of Rock Salt for Winter Stone Crusher Rental - Streets \\$20,000.00](#)
[Cover Current Expenditures and Ample Supply of Rock Salt for Winter Solid Lids - Streets \\$15,000.00](#)
[Original summer laborer accepted another position - did not find acceptable candidate \\$6,000.00](#)
[Chiller Unexpectedly broke down in May \\$15,000.00](#)

[Postage and Shipping Account Due to Fee Increases and Increased Mailings \\$30,000.00](#)
[Increase in Temporary Maintenance Staff at the Golf Course Parks and Recreation \\$10,000.00](#)
[More Temporary Summer Positions Were Able to Be Hired Parks and Recreation \\$10,000.00](#)
[To Fix Negative Balance and to Pay for OT Parks and Recreation \\$20,000.00](#)
[To Fix Negative Balance and to Adjust for Rising Overtime Parks and Recreation \\$16,250.00](#)
[Increase Construction Account Funds to Cover the Bid Cost \(Livingston Watershed Stormwater Improvements at Andrew Street\) \\$39,900.00](#)
[Fix Negative Balance in Premium Wages Cover Costs of Staffing an APD Officer at Pool \\$10,534.04](#)
[Purchase Equipment for Maintenance and Snow Removal Less Chemicals were used Cedar Closed \\$12,000.00](#)
[To correct a negative balance in the premium pay account - Parks \\$10,000.00](#)
[Purchase Materials to Convert Fountain Pool House into Temporary Homeless Shelter for the Winter \\$20,000.00](#)
[Need to Place an Order for 600 tons of Road Salt for the Winter - Streets \\$43,000.00](#)
[The 2014 Rental Increase \(per the contract\) for the Queen City Garage was billed and paid in 2015 \\$20,794.16](#)
[To Cover Negative Account Balances - Public Works \\$6,700.00](#)

[More Contractual Services \\$500,000.00](#)

[More Anticipated for the Transfer for Call Outs for Code Books \\$8,000.00](#)
[Funds need to be in Construction Account Project has not commenced - Parks \\$2,951,426.00](#)
[Golf Course to Correct Negative Balances \\$7,400.00](#)

[Due to vacancies throughout the year personal expenditure line items were not as high - Police \\$335,853.06](#)
[Actual rent expenditures were less than 2015 projected costs - Health \\$7,610.85](#)
[Expenses in Account 46 and 50 were less than originally anticipated - Planning and Zoning \\$7,710.86](#)

[Unexpected Retirement Staffing and Work Load - Finance Treasury \\$6,924.93](#)
[Self-Insured Employee Health Insurance Account Claims Beyond the Original Budgeted Amount \\$748,007.64](#)

Communications

Mr. Randy Fey gave a presentation on the Environmental Advisory Council. He talked about the Watershed and why it is so important. He stated that these issues from EPA are going to become a mainstay. He asked for training on maintenance. He stated that he planted trees in the 1990s in Cedar Beach.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she remembers being there.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Fey for showing the video and stated as a chairperson of Parks and Recreation she will make sure that they will get a copy of the presentation.

Mr. Fran Dougherty thanked Mr. Fey and stated that he doesn't want Council under the impression that they are working in a vacuum. EAC which has recharged itself and working diligently with the various Operating Department. He stated that Ted Berger played a very instrumental part in the tree survey that we were just updated on, for an example. The issues of the riparians are a balancing act.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated one other note under Communications, Janet and Dave Keshl are here. Can you tell us a little bit about the Leonard Buck Ceremony.

Mr. David Keshl, president of Mountainville 30 Crime Watch, stated that this is the 41st Year of the Leonard Buck Award Banquet. We pick a police officer of the year. It is open to the public and is the 21st of April. The doors open at 5:30 PM, dinner is at 6:00 PM. It is at Fearless Fire Company on Front Street. It is \$28 per person.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT:

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that the office is working on a Contract Receivables Audit. When that is done, I will certainly bring it to Council.

MANAGING DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated that he has ask Ann and Tom to give us an update on 2016 for the Sweep Data.

Ms. Ann Saurman stated that the Sweep Program is 10 years old. They

started in the Weed and Seed area as a very pro-active enforcement in education program. I am happy to report that we are still going strong, doing pro-active work as well as responding to complaints which is a very important component of the program. Trash, unfortunately, is something that is always out there and something you always have to work on. We have transient neighborhoods and tenants and educating them is a constant effort. We made great strides over the years.

Mr. Tom Harper went of the highlights from 2015. One of the things we did here tonight regarding the 8th and 10th Wards of the city. He deals with Mr. Heffentrager and other community groups with the problems in their area. Last year, in the 8th and 10th Wards of the city, those were the areas combined that came in at roughly 2100 sweep tickets. That was 1/3 of the sweep tickets written in the city. Last year, in 2015, we issued 6,874 sweep tickets by six different bureaus in the city for 9,032 violations. We have 215 violations types covering multiple city ordinances. Fourteen hundred and thirty tickets were issued last year for the accumulation and trash storage of property. Eleven hundred sixty-three tickets was issued for litter on properties and sidewalks. Last year, the city contractors cut the grass, high weeds at 288 properties. The police department uses it for the noise ordinance and last year, they wrote 106 tickets for amplified sounds and motor vehicles and 101 tickets APD issued for amplified sound coming from properties. Sweep and the engineering department deals with the snow and ice on sidewalks. Last year, in 2015 we issued 822 tickets between the two bureaus. Animal control is also under my guidance and we issued 272 tickets for unlicensed dogs in the city and 287 tickets were issued for no proof of rabies vaccination in the city. The Sweep Department issued its first dog license. It's issued by the Humane Society and Sweep.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated let's get to the revenue.

Mr. Tom Harper stated as far as the Sweep ticket payments roughly \$235,000. The Sweep tickets are \$25 - \$100 with escalating.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he is happy to see you do a great job giving thousands of tickets a year. He stated that the Sweep Department should have a program to give awards to people that keep their properties clean and beautify them.

Mr. Tom Harper stated that maybe we can coordinate something with the neighborhoods.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked how do the numbers compare to the previous year.

Mr. Tom Harper stated they are close to one another. Maybe a 10 percent difference. The income is about the same.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments. He stated that Mr. Heffentrager comes every week and keep us on our toes. It proves the point with 2100 Sweep tickets in the 8th and 10th Wards. That is unbelievable. He stated to Ann and Tom that they are doing a great job.

Ms. Ann Saurman stated that our goal is compliance. We rather have people do the right things and have a nice property.

Mr. Fran Dougherty acknowledged the proactive measure that Tom took with the Dog Licenses. He did that completely on his own. He worked with finance, risk management through many hurdles in order to provide our citizens that service. he deserves to be recognized.

15-382 Council Rules

Attachments: [Council Rules](#)

15-523 Committee Members

Attachments: [Committee Members - 2016](#)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**Budget and Finance: Chair Guridy, Hendricks**

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a meeting is scheduled for February 23rd at 6 PM.

Community and Economic Development: Chair Guridy, Hendricks

The Committee has not met since the last meeting; we will meet tomorrow.

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

The Committee has not met, there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

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

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

Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, MacLean, Affa

The Committee met this evening; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Public Works: Chair MacLean, Glazier, O'Connell

The Committee has not met: at this time there are no meetings scheduled.

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

The Committee has no business at this time.

APPOINTMENTS:**15-575**

R37

Appointment of Councilperson Affa to the Vacant Property/Blighted Property Review Board

Attachments: [R37 Vacant Property-Blighted Property Review Board - Candida Affa](#)

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

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager stated perfect choice. We are happy with the choice and encourages Council to double the amount of properties to go after.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that Ms. Affa will be up to the task. Thank you, Ms. Affa for doing it.

Yes: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Roger MacLean, and Candida Affa

Enactment No: 29188

- 15-581** R38
Appointment to the Police Pension Fund Association and Aggregate Pension Board - Ray O'Connell

Attachments: [R38 Police Pension Fund Association and Aggregate Pension Board - Ray O'Connell](#)

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

Yes: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Roger MacLean, and Candida Affa

Enactment No: 29189

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

- 15-521** Bill 4 Public Safety Committee, prior to meeting
Amending the 2016 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$116,087.00 from a FEMA US Department of Homeland Security Assistance Firefighters Grant to the Allentown Fire Department to provide for Wellness and Fitness equipment and health programs/training.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 4 Fire Grant Wellness Equipment](#)
[Fire Grant](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that the motion was made by my colleagues Ms. Affa and seconded by Mr. MacLean. It was unanimously put before full Council.

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

Yes: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Roger MacLean, and Candida Affa

Enactment No: 15267

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

- 15-552** R35
Certificate of Appropriateness for 330 North 9th Street

Attachments: [R35 HARB Approval](#)
[HARB Cases](#)

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

Yes: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Roger MacLean, and Candida Affa

Enactment No: 29187

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:

- 15-547** Bill 5 Refer to Parks and Recreation
Amending the 2016 Capital Project Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Twenty Eight Thousand Three Hundred and Fifty One Dollars and Twenty One Cents (\$28,351.21) to complete payment to Langan Engineering for work that has been completed at the Jackson Street Playground.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 5 Jackson Park Transfer](#)
[Jackson St Memo](#)

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

- 15-549** Bill 6
Amending the 2016 General Fund budget by deleting the position of Clerk II (06M) and adding the position of Clerk III (08M) in the Bureau of Street Maintenance.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 6 Public Works Clerk 3](#)
[Public Works Clerk 3 Memo](#)

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

- 15-550** Bill 7
Amending the 2016 General Fund budget by deleting the position of Housing Coordinator (11N) and adding the position of Office Manager (09N) in the Bureau of Building Standards and Safety.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 7 Building Standards Office Manager](#)
[Office Manager Memo](#)

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

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager asked the difference between the Housing Manager from the Office Manager.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that his understanding from Mr. George Middlecamp is that it will save \$10,000 for the city.

- 15-551** Bill 8 Refer to Human Resources, Administration and Appointments
Amending the 2016 General Fund budget by deleting the position of Legal Administrative Assistant (05N) and adding the position of Executive Legal Administrative Assistant (07N).

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 8 Legal Reorg Ordinance](#)
[Legal Reorg Memo](#)

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

- 15-562** Bill 9 Refer to Human Resources, Administration and Appointments
Amending the 2016 General Fund budget by deleting the position of
Executive Secretary to the Managing Director (09N) and adding the
position of Administrative Assistant (07N).

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 9 Ordinance for Administrative Assistant Mayor's Office](#)
[Administrative Assistant Memo](#)

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

- 15-563** Bill 10
Amending the 2016 General Fund and the 2016 Liquid Fuels Fund
budgets by transferring from the unappropriated balance to the Other
Services and Charges Account in both funds to cover the unexpected cost
of hiring contractors to assist with snow removal in the amount of Five
Hundred Thirty-Three Thousand One Hundred Thirty-One Dollars and
Fifty-Four Cents (\$533,131.54).

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 10 Transfer for Snow Emergency Contractors](#)
[Snow Contractor Memo](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that this is to pay the subcontractors for the 32.3
inches of snow. He asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

- 15-576** Bill 11 Refer to Public Works
Providing for the vacation of a portion of Fairview Street being the
Southern thirty (30) feet of Fairview Street starting at the Northeast corner
of 1834-1844 Fairview Street and continuing Westerly One hundred and
fifty-two and thirty-two one hundredths (152.32) feet to the Western limit of
this subject street vacation in the Thirteenth Ward of the City of
Allentown: Fairview Street - Street Vacation

Attachments: [Bill 11 Fairview Street - Street Vacation](#)
[Fairview Street Vacation Plan](#)
[fairviewvacation](#)
[fairvvacreport](#)
[Letter from Lehigh Valley Planning Commission A Portion of Fairview Street west of S. Saint George Street - Street Vacation](#)
[LVPC Fairview Street Report](#)

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

RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION:

15-564 R36 Refer to Public Works
Authorizes the Administration to Lease City-owned Real Property located at 1902 Lehigh Street for a Sign

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R36 LNAA 1902 LEHIGH STREET CITY COUNCIL Memo](#)
[LNAA Sign Lease Template](#)

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 8:43 PM