



Minutes - Final

Community and Economic Development Committee

Wednesday, July 27, 2016

6:30 PM

Call to Order: Chairperson McGuire, Councilpersons Guridy and Mota

Present: 2 - David McGuire and Cynthia Mota

[15-951](#)

Bill 36 CEDC, Recommended Favorably
Amending the 2016 Health Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$15,415.60 (Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred and Fifteen dollars and sixty cents) as a result of funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) for the purchase of supplies for the Childhood Injury Prevention Program and the Nutrition and Physical Activity Program. These funds will be used to purchase additional safety items (car seats, bike helmets), community garden signage and advertising and program materials for the Million Hearts initiative.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 36 Injury Prevention Program](#)

[Bill 36 Memo](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that a while back we (Pennsylvania Department of Health) combined the nutrition and activity grant with the childhood injury prevention grant and put them under one contract agreement. These are services that we are providing. The state felt that we were providing them in a fashion that deemed appropriate and deemed the way they wanted it done so they gave more money.

Dr. David McGuire asked any questions from my colleagues or the public.

A motion was made by Julio Guridy, seconded by Cynthia Mota to move this Bill to the entire Council.

Enactment No: 15300

[15-949](#)

Bill 38 CEDC, Recommended Favorably
Amending the 2016 Health Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Forty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$48,700.00) as a result of a grant from Highmark to provide for training and support to the Allentown Health Bureau in establishing a quality improvement and quality assurance plan to better serve the community and to meet the requirements for public health accreditation.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 38 Health Training](#)
[Highmark Memo](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that as she had spoken to Council previously, they are contemplating public health accreditation. It has some hefty fees and brings recognition and bring funding. We have not made formal decision. We need a continuous quality improvement plan, community health improvement plan and a long-term strategic plan. They are expensive and time consuming. When we saw that Highmark had a continuous quality improvement grant we submitted the grant application. It is a nine month process. the grant is double that amount and we can add the other appropriation to next year's budget.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked is this only half of it. The next one will be the same amount. Getting an accreditation for the continue quality improvement, what is that mean?

Ms. Vicky Kistler yes, and that will be put on the line with the 2017 budget. Right now, National Association of City and Health Officers. They are who have the Public Health Accreditation Board. Right now, it is a status. Some of the funders are going to give extra grading points in he future to Grant Applications and Health Departments that are accredited. The process of Accreditation will help us look good and could increase funding.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she thinks it is a great idea. The more qualifications the better.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that we are happy with this vendor that can provide this training to us. Highmark had that stipulation in their grant.

Dr. David McGuire asked when would this start. Is it for one year?

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that if it is moved favorably and Council approves it next week, after 10 days is when the money can appear on the lines. We will start the 11th day. She stated that it would take about nine months, plus an evaluation. The FAB level is still shaky in the process. I can't make any promises if we would be accredited within a year or two.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked once you get accredited, what happens afterward? Do you have to take a classes every year?

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that you have to maintain your accreditation.

Dr. David McGuire asked any further questions from the Council or the

public.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Ms. Kistler to tell Council about the \$1.4 HUD grant for Lead Abatement.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that the Lead grant is a compilation. There are two different components to that Lead Grant. The \$1.4 million that was received had several different components. It funds a small percentage of community health worker who can recommend retesting of lead for kids that has been identified for risks. It has a sanitarian component to go out and do the home inspection and workup for what needs to change in the home and it has a significant component in the Building and Standards department where they can actually supervise the remediation and removal of lead to deem it a lead safe home for eligible units. It is a forgivable grant. We are coming back before with more than the \$1.4 million.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated where we are right now even though we been notified, there are final negotiations of what our budget look like with HUD and the State Department of Health. We don't have the final specific details to accept the appropriation.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that is excellent. The distribution of the funds for lead abatement will be according to the children that have been tested positive for high. Is there a priority on how it will be disbursed for remediation?

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated yes and no. Meaning that we maintain and still working with the Pennsylvania Department of Health to clarify some of the reporting. We have a list to get started on. We are encouraging pediatricians to test for lead.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated and both grants will require to income qualify the recipients of the grant money.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that last year you had a CPR grant. Do you know if this year or the next coming year you may have a CPR grant.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they are actually the recipients of another small pot of money that I will have more information on shortly. It was awarded to us for work already done. I have submitted not only for CPR classes, but portable AEDs.

Dr. David McGuire thanked Ms. Kistler and Ms. Calluori for the updates and asked any further comments from Council.

A motion was made by Julio Guridy, seconded by Cynthia Mota to move this Bill

to the entire Council.

Yes: 3 - David McGuire, Julio Guridy and Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15302

[15-965](#)

Bill 40 CEDC, Recommended Favorably - need an amendment to make effective date Sept 6

Amends Article 395, Community and Economic Development Fees, by changing the Zoning and License application fees, and deleting Weed Cutting notification requirements.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 40 Building Permit Fee Ordinance](#)
[Permit Fee Summary 7 9 16](#)
[Fee Review Memo](#)

Dr. David McGuire stated that the changes made to these fees in Bill 40 was a result of reviewing the entire fees structure from a standpoint of user-friendliness in terms of recouping some of the costs for providing the particular. In many cases, the fees have not been increased in six or seven years. Most of the fees relate to receiving services or benefits for a particular individual, frequently developers.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated went over the changes. They did minor changes, but did not do a comprehensive look at all the fees since 2011. The fee alliance is in comparison to other municipalities as well feedback from some consumers. It cleans up errors, omissions, duplications, and updates and simplifies previously cumbersome systems of calculations of permit fees. These fees are based on inspection costs and will be realigned to recoup the expenses of the city.

Dr. David McGuire asked are there any questions from the committee.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that this is a lot of information. Are there any new fees you are putting into this ordinance.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that she doesn't think there are any brand new fees. For example, the Building Construction fees we crossed out and on page 3. In our current ordinance, we had different types of fees. We wipe them out.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that you increased the zoning permit fees from \$300 to \$400.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that is the appeal, correct. Our appeal are still less than the surrounding communities.

Dr. David McGuire stated that they can come back as Mr. Guridy finds more things. Any other questions from the committee or Councilmembers? Any questions from the audience?

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker stated that he looked at the fees and compared it to the budget for 2016 and wondering if this is all fee structures, part of the Community and Economic Development Fees should go into an Enterprise Fund. He asked Council to look into this to see if it should be done.

Dr. David McGuire asked Ms. Calluori if she had any comments.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that she will be happy to look into it. The 12 inspectors are in our housing inspection area. These permit fees that we are discussing tonight are for Building, Plumbing and Electrical inspection areas. There are seven inspectors, plus a lot of support staff. That is a different budget.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that those fees are coming into the General Fund. Even though they happen to come into the General Fund, doesn't mean there are no cost basis of which these fees are generated.

Dr. David McGuire stated that we will direct this to the Finance Committee.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it makes it more transparent and gives us an opportunity to see if these fees are appropriate.

Dr. David McGuire stated that the whole thing is an effort to have an even policy across categories and makes it easy to reduce the city's cost.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she is in agreement with it.

Dr. David McGuire asked any further questions.

Mr. Tommy Hahn asked when he sees a home in his neighborhood sold as is, how does that happen without going through the process of the fees?

Dr. David McGuire asked Ms. Calluori to respond to that.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated within the Bureau of Building and Standards there are a couple of different programs areas. The program area that these fees impact are the building construction, electrical and plumbing side. The inspection you are referring to is part of the Housing office. It is a requirement for anybody that sells a house to have a pre-sales inspection. We get a list from the county on a monthly basis.

Mr. Carmen Dragotta stated that when the bubble burst in 2008 and 2009, you had a lot of foreclosures, sheriff sales, and bankruptcies, and the bank sold them without pre-sales. You had hundreds of homes going up in Allentown without pre-sales. Because of manpower, we could not keep up with the numbers. We catch it through the county maintenance and with the inspections.

Dr. David McGuire thanked Mr. Hahn and asked any further questions.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that in regards to Section 395.22 - Weed Cutting. What is the reason you are deleting the whole Section?

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that Weed Cutting is actually found elsewhere so it is duplicative. We are trying really hard not to duplicate in this ordinance. The Weed Cutting is listed in Article 1151.

A motion was made by Cynthia Mota, seconded by Julio Guridy to move this Bill to the entire Council.

Yes: 3 - David McGuire, Julio Guridy and Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 15304

Adjourned: 7:33 PM