



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, December 21, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation: Julio Guridy

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Michael Housman, 440 Tilghman Street - Apartment 1, stated that his landlord Joe Clark has not dealt with problems at his apartment. There are health and fire issues. Electrical outlets are not up to code. He stated that the building is not up to code. He stated that he is meeting with the Fire Marshal tomorrow morning.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Housman for his comments and stated that Council hears this at almost every Council meeting. Mr. Hartzell will follow up.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, 214 N. Saint Cloud Street, stated that about a year ago someone came in distress about 440 Tilghman Street and it was never inspected then. This is the most biggest problem property. He asked if anyone went to look at 726 W. Gordon Street. He asked what is so difficult to close Hall Street. He asked about the meetings in the building that are in Chambers to be live streamed.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that there was a Structural Engineer and the Engineer must have cleared it.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that he doesn't know the specifics to the details. He will follow up in the morning.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager asked that all meetings including Zoning be live-streamed and recorded. Meetings happen with no record of it.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that Mr. Heffentrager is right. The city has a

contract with Granicus and we have been encouraging everyone to use it. He asked Mr. Hartzell to check on it. Everyone should be using it.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that there wasn't anyone down here recording them.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that Council notified IT.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker, 844 S. 11th Street, asked about 2013 Budget. He stated that back in 2013, it was about \$89 - \$90 million. What is the root cause of it going up every year. He asked Mr. Hartzell to emphasize the amount of money that the city took in bonds since 2010. He asked Mr. Glazier about the General City charges, especially the formula for the Golf Course.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated about \$99 million. He stated usually health benefit costs, plus wages.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that he doesn't want to impose on Mr. Hunsicker time. The cost drivers are personnel related, MMO at \$3.1 million and an increase in health insurance cost with another \$1 million per year. The city has done a remarkable job in constraining the cost. He asked what type of income, household income that contributed to it or tax revenues.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we all totally agree.

Mr. Robert Trotner stated that he is here for the Community Action Reform Team Critical Committee. He asked if the Budget will be posted on the website. He asked for a timeframe.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that it is common practice that we get the paper budget in its final form before we put it online. Once the book is printed and distributed, it will be online. He stated sometime in early January.

Mr. George Schaller, 622 1/2 Park Street, talked about overflow in the wastewater and stormwater system.

Dr. David McGuire stated that the sewage treatment problem involves the City of Allentown and the other signatories. They gather only sewage to their intake that goes to the Allentown treatment plant. When it rains, additional water flows into the sewage treatment plant because defects of the piping system.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else for Courtesy of the Floor.

Approval of Minutes: NONE

Old Business: NONE**Communications:**

Council office has received communications from Mr. Hendricks indicating his intention to run for the Vice President of City Council and Ray O'Connell indicating his intention to run for President of City Council. The election will take place at the next council meeting.

Copies of the Transfers approved by at least four members of council are posted on the City website and copies are available on the back table.

Proclamation: Jeff Baker, EMS

Mr. Jeffrey Baker thanked City Council and stated that it is an honor. He stated that people ask him all the time why did he stay with Allentown EMS for 35 years. I tell them I have my reason. The primary reason is the staff. My fellow medics. They are excellent on what they do. He stated that he has no regrets.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

The Budget and Finance Committee met this evening; the committees will commence with their regularly scheduled meetings next year.

APPOINTMENTS: None**ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On): None****RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**

[15-1271](#)

R197

Certificate of Appropriateness for Work in the Historic District: 1023 Chestnut Street

Attachments: [R197 HARB Resolution](#)
[HARB Cases](#)

Mr. David Kimmerly stated that it is to construct a one story or two story addition on the back of 1023 Chestnut Street. It is in the Old Allentown Historic District. There was some discussion on what type of siding that could be used on the addition. We gave the owner the option to use. He wants to use clapboard cement siding or a smooth vinyl siding.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that they are meeting all the regulations with a few choices to make. He asked any questions from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29367

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION: NONE

**RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):
NONE**

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 7:38 PM

[15-1252](#)

Signed Transfers February 29, 2016 - December 5, 2016

Attachments: [Permanent Wages and Other Services & Charges - City Council \\$8358.73](#)
[Acquisition Dollars Are Available - This Project will Reimburse the City for Street Resurfacing Done in our Targeted CDBG Area \\$310,000](#)
[Funds Are Available from Unspent Program Delivery Funds - Provide Additional Rehabilitation Dollars to HADC to Rehabilitate Four Properties \\$250,000](#)
[Design Costs Were Not As Great As Originally Anticipated - Costs of Design, Equipment, and Construction \\$43,350](#)
[Design Costs Were Not As Great As Originally Anticipated - Costs for Design and Purchase of Pedestrian Street Lights \\$44,874](#)
[Due to Cost Saving Measures Enacted in 2015, Expenses Were Less Than Originally Budgeted - Fire Department \\$206,329.76](#)
[AEDC Economic Development Project Has Stalled Funds Can Be Re-Programmed \\$285,000](#)
[AEDC Economic Development Project Has Stalled Re-Programmed Neighborhood Public Improvements Center City Initiative Area \\$385,000](#)
[The Facade Grant Program Is Stalled As The City's Rehabilitation Program in Going Through A Transition - Jordan Creek Greenways Project Is A CDBG Eligible Project \\$150,000](#)
[Due to Cost Saving Measures Enacted in 2015, Expenses Were Less Than Originally Budgeted - Emergency Medical Services \\$125,088.49](#)
[HADC Originally Asked for Funds for the Acquisition of Properties for its Youth Build Initiative \\$40,000](#)
[Forensic Accounting Services Were Not Needed to the Extent Originally Anticipated - Finance \\$16,534.63](#)
[Funds needed to correct negative balance in Personnel Expense Account \(Small Reorganization\)- Solicitor's Office \\$32,395.79](#)
[Expenses For Contracted Services Needed to Correct Negative Balance in Personnel Expenditures - Communications \\$35,965.81](#)
[Other Contract Service Expenses Were Not As Great As Originally Anticipated - Communications \\$33,841.26](#)
[Money should remain in the Planning General Fund - Planning and Zoning \\$6,800.02](#)
[Expenses for repairs was not as great as originally anticipated - Balance in Personnel and Expenditures \(Parks and Recreation\) \\$9,321.71](#)
[Purchase Supplies and Materials Needed for Anticipated and Unanticipated Repairs and Maintenance - Building Maintenance \\$10,000](#)
[Keystone Leadership Training for the Street Department \\$14,850](#)
[Provide Additional Funds Toward Construction of the Heart of the City Streetscape Improvements \\$25,000](#)
[Livingston Watershed Project - Correcting an error which occurred when setting up Capital Account \\$50,000](#)
[Place funds in appropriate accounts as a result of the Passage of Bill 26 \\$98,462.30](#)
[Overtime Increased Due to Major Snow Storm and Surveying Work on Andrew Street \\$7,000.00](#)
[Two AC Units Needed to Be Replace This Month - Building Maintenance \\$10,000.00](#)
[Stephens Playground Renovation Project Bids Came In Higher \\$350,000](#)

[Design of the American Parkway Project Replacement of Old Waterlines \\$48,797.00](#)
[Solicitor's Office Suite Renovations \\$6,835.99](#)
[Management Company for Crossing Guards \\$173,998.92](#)
[Construct Pole Barn to House Irrigation System \\$25,200.00](#)
[Rental Move to City Hall and a new Desk Unit on the Fourth Floor \\$31,151.25](#)
[More Construction Remodel Jobs Being Completed at Street office and Recycling Building Standards & and Safety \\$21,000.00](#)
[Construct A New Pavilion in Jordan Park \\$15,800.00](#)
[Paper Cutter Purchase to Perform Task In House \\$12,000.00](#)
[The Arts District Phase I Lighting and Streetscaping Project Construction \\$10,201.52](#)
[Cedar was closed money needed to pay police staffing - Parks and Recreation \\$41,778.09](#)
[Several Employees Resigned or Retired - EMS \\$75,000](#)
[Pay for New Banners throughout the City \\$8,000.00](#)
[Correct Negative Balances Less Staff for Parks and Aquatics \\$28,400.00](#)
[Warming Center \(Everlasting Life Ministries\) \\$25,000.00](#)
[Warming Center Funding through CDBG Lehigh Conference of Churches \\$25,000.00](#)
[Livingston Watershed - Additional Materials Are Needed \\$8,004.71](#)
[Purchase Paper Products for the Remainder of the Year \\$7,000.00](#)
[Surveying Services Contract Remain In Effect - Electric Use for Street Lighting and Traffic Signals \\$40,000.00](#)
[Increase Bechtelsville Blanket Order - Plant Used More Heavily \\$10,000.00](#)

[15-382](#) Council Rules

Attachments: [Council Rules](#)

[15-617](#) Home Rule Charter

Attachments: [HOMERULE 2014](#)