



## Minutes - Final

### Community and Economic Development Committee

---

Wednesday, April 19, 2017

5:30 PM

Council Chambers

---

#### Call to Order: Chairperson McGuire, Guridy, Mota

**Present:** 3 - Cynthia Mota, Julio Guridy and David McGuire

#### [15-1432](#)

Bill 15 CEDC, this evening  
Amending the 2017 General Fund budget by adding a total of two positions in the Bureau of Building Standards and Safety: Housing Inspector (14M, Step D) and Rehabilitation Specialist (14M, Step D). Each position is budgeted at an annual salary of Forty-Nine Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-Seven Dollars (\$49,327) and funded through the CDBG Program.

**Attachments:** [Bill 15 HOUSING REORG.doc](#)  
[HOUSING INSPECTOR JOB DESCRIPTION.pdf](#)  
[Map of Target Area to be serviced.pdf](#)  
[Rehab Specialist Job Description.pdf](#)

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that the Community and Economic Development Department is looking to add two positions. The one for the inspector is for strictly for owner-occupied properties. We can't use the rental inspectors to inspect owner-occupied properties. These are funds we have in our CDBG account. Along with that is the Housing Inspector - Rehabilitation Inspector. They would be the ones that write up the code violations, provide a contractor to fix the code violations as long as the individuals qualify for the program.

Dr. David McGuire stated that this is no different from the budget. We are just changing the position or just filling them.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that we are adding these two, but it is not General Funds. It will be CDBG dollars that will be funding this.

Dr. David McGuire asked if there are any comments from committee members.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he likes the idea that the essential responsibility is that they assist the property owners in dealing with the contractors and other issues. He recommended a survey to take along and have some of the property owners respond to us on how the job and responsibilities are

handled.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she is glad that this is happening because in the past, there were a lot of issues. This will prevent future problems.

Dr. David McGuire thanked Ms. Mota and asked any other members of Council have any comments.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he certainly sees the need for this and we would probably be understaffed the amount of work that your division does. We also asked for two paramedics a long time ago. He asked about the overtime that has been spent by them.

Dr. David McGuire stated that it sounds like a familiar routine at City Hall. He asked if there were any other comments from Council or the public.

Mr. Robert Trotner, Let's Build A New Allentown - 1101 Hamilton Street, stated that his understanding is that Mr. Lightner fired a person in Building Inspections office and another one was on disability. If this to replace them or an addition?

Dr. David McGuire stated that Mr. Lightner can speak for himself.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that is irrelevant to the Bill. Let's discuss the Bill.

Mr. Tom Hahn, 2016 E. Highland Street, stated that it always interest me that we have vacancies and money in the vacancy report that used to get spent in the sausage fund where all the money gets mixed up. He asked how long these positions were open.

Dr. David McGuire stated that it looks like you are looking for the city's financial report, but he would give Mr. Lightner an opportunity to do that.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that he cannot provide the financial report, but he can tell Mr. Hahn that these are new positions and these are funds that come from our federal fund dollars which is CDBG. We didn't replace our Accountant. Our Accountant moved into the Grants Fund Manager position.

Dr. David McGuire stated that he is confused with the questions that Mr. Hahn is asking, but he is reading that each position is funded through the CDBG program which is a federal grant.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that is correct.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that the CDBG (Community Development Block Grants) are a yearly thing. They are spending the money that they received this past year. It comes from the federal government. With this new administration, we don't know if these Community Development Block Grants will be in jeopardy.

Mr. Glen Hunsicker, South Allentown, asked if there are any positions open on any of those categories on the vacancy report.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated no, they are not. Those inspectors are strictly for non-owner occupied properties. We have zero owner occupied inspectors. We had one and that was back in 2008 - 2012. When we are doing our systematic inspections we can only do for non-owner occupied properties. We need one for owner occupied properties.

Mr. Lou Hershman stated that as he reads these two individuals. Does that mean we have a lot of money in CDBG? Can we start under Step A or B? The Classification Study may say that they should start at Step A.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that is where our Housing Inspectors and Rehab Specialist have specialized skills and that is where they start off at. These are union positions.

Dr. David McGuire stated this is for very specific positions. It is vacant and no one is around to do it.

Mr. Julian Kern, 252 E. Walnut Street, asked if the Housing Supervisor for Owner Occupied Properties.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that it is the Housing Inspector. This inspector will be for owner-occupied properties. He or she will work in conjunction with the Rehab Specialist.

Dr. David McGuire asked any other comments from the public.

**A motion was made by Julio Guridy, seconded by Cynthia Mota, that this Ordinance be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15356

[15-1492](#)

Bill 26 CEDC, this evening  
Amending the 2017 Health Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Forty-Eight Thousand Seven Hundred (\$48,700) Dollars as a result of a grant from Highmark to provide for the continued training and support to help guide the Allentown Health Bureau in establishing a

quality improvement and quality assurance plan to better serve the community and to meet the requirements necessary to reach public health accreditation.

**Attachments:** [Bill 26 HIGHMARK GRANT](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that this is simply the second payment. The first payment arrived in 2016 and I came before you then so that we can put the money on the lines. This is the final payment of the \$96,400 grant that we received to complete the quality improvement plan. It resulted in a one year strategic plan and a three year strategic plan for the Health Department.

Dr. David McGuire thanked Ms. Kistler and asked any member of the committee has any comments. He asked if there were any questions from the public.

**A motion was made by Julio Guridy, seconded by Cynthia Mota, that this Ordinance be recommended for approval. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15364

[15-1463](#) February 15, 2017 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [13 February 15, 2017 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

[15-1483](#) March 1, 2017 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [18 March 1, 2017 Community and Economic Development Committee Meeting Minutes](#)

**Adjourned: 5:50 PM**