



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, September 19, 2018

6:50 PM

Council Chambers

Special Meeting: Contract Approval

Roll Call: Council President MacLean

Rollcall

Present: 7 - Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-2534](#)

R110

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Urban Design Ventures, LLC for \$15,000 which is the city's share of a multi-governmental MOU with Easton and Bethlehem for assistance in preparing an analysis of impediments to fair housing choice, three bids.

Attachments: [R110 Request for Council Approval - Urban Design Resolution #29705](#)

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that Northampton County was the lead agency on this bid. They issued RFP 303-1638 to select a firm to provide these services. The county ultimately selected Urban Design Ventures to be the most qualified candidate. As a result, the City of Allentown wishes to enter into a multi-municipal MOU agreement in accordance with the RFP.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that they were picked by Northampton County.

Ms. Jessica Bakaret stated that we are piggybacking it.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any questions from his colleagues.

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked do we know other than Northampton County any other municipalities in the MOU have already approved the contract. He asked is it us and Easton that are remaining.

Ms. Maria Quigney stated yes, Bethlehem has. Easton is part of Northampton County now.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other questions from Council or the public.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, North Saint Cloud Street, asked about the analysis of all three. Is this going to be a general analysis or is Allentown going to receive individualized information. It seems to me that we are a much different city then Bethlehem and Easton.

Ms. Maria Quigney stated that the study is overall, but there is a section that is pulled out strictly for each for Allentown, Easton, Bethlehem and Northampton County.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other questions from the public.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

Enactment No: 29705

[15-2543](#)

R110B

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Wilmington Trust for \$17,500 to be the paying agent for the 2018 City bond issuance, three bids.

Attachments: [R110B Paying Agent](#)
[Resolution #29706](#)

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that this is a part of what you are going to deal with tonight on Bill 60. After what was talked about last week, and some concerns wanting to ensure that whoever was being brought on to these bond issuance Council was notified as such. We were getting ready to make a selection of the paying agent that deals with making the payments to the bondholders during the course of the loan. The overall cost of this over a period to 2034 will be less than \$20,000. There are only four entities in this space that actually do these types of services. Three were contacted in terms of the bid. The fourth one was based in Minnesota. We were trying to get one that was closer to us. There was a lower bid that we are choosing. They are working with ANIZDA and due to our existing law that if they have a contractual relationship with the NIZ, they can't work with us, but all of the amounts came in \$17,600 or lower.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

Mr. Lou Hershman, Eastside Allentown, asked why do we always have to go out of town. PNC bank is going to be the issuing agent from Philadelphia. Now, Wilmington Bank is from Delaware. Are you telling me

Mr. Hartzell is saying that we can't get anything from Allentown to be an agent to take care of the payments of the bond issues. We are getting a lot of people to move downtown and we are getting businesses to move downtown, but we are going out of town. The City Council has to sit down with the administration and find out why we can't get more businesses in Allentown. Are you telling me there are no banks in Allentown that can do it?

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that the role of paying agent because it is not a very large dollar amount the individual entities who we reached out to and have a strong presence in this part of the country are the ones that are actively doing it and giving us the best deal.

Mr. Lou Hershman asked if Mr. Hartzell submitted an RFP to an Allentown bank.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that there is not an RFP. The total amount was under \$40,000. We reached out to three entities that were in the space.

Mr. Lou Hershman asked who chose this, you or the consultant.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that decision because it is tied to the bond issue was made by the consultant. I approve it.

Mr. Lou Hershman stated that we should deal with Allentown businesses whenever we can.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other comments from the public.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker, South Allentown, asked how much money will they be handling. Are they going to handle the \$30 million and distribute the funds.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that anything that is tied to out of the bond issuances that are coming forward tonight they will serve as the paying agent. That would include the short-term loan for equipment and the \$23 million in refinancing.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker asked if this a fixed cost to them and for how many years.

Mr. Brent Hartzell stated that it will run from \$500 - \$1000 and it will be in existence for as long as the loan terms exists, depending on the individual loans which will amortized completely in 2024 or later. The overall costs dating all the way out to 2034 is \$17,500.

Mr. Roger MacLean asked if there were any other questions from the public.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

Enactment No: 29706

ADJOURNED: 7:12 PM