



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, January 2, 2019

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation: Councilperson Affa

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 5 - Candida Affa, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Ed Zucal

Excused: 2 - Roger MacLean, and Julio Guridy

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, wished Council, the Mayor and everyone in attendance a happy New Year and thanked them for serving. He stated that property owners are facing a 27 percent tax increase and 54 percent water rate increase. It will be difficult for many to pay for these increases. It will be impossible to find money for these increases. He stated that he spoke to a landlord that will raise his rents \$20 - \$25 per month. The landlord stated that he evicts one or two a month because they can't afford it. People are suffering. We are one of six cities that received grants to feed the homeless. He asked Council to look into the budget and make cuts. He stated that the Golf Course having a deficit affects the General Fund.

Ms. Kathleen Wolford, 429 Ridge Avenue, asked about the police and the vice force. She stated that tonight on Channel 69 News we are short 10 police. She stated that she wish they can hire even more. She had a need to speak to vice. She called vice on Saturday to report something that she suspected was happening. She asked for vice's number. The officer picked up the phone and did not identify himself. The vice officer stated that he had to go and for her to call back in an hour.

Mr. Lewis Shupe, 814 N. Walnut Street, complained about a property at 733 Chestnut Street. It has been broken into several times. The property owner refuses to secure the property. Windows are being broken, people are going in there all day and night. They are firing up the kitchen stove. He stated that his friend is afraid that the house will burn down. He asked if Council can send Code Enforcement out.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Mr. Lightner will get on it first thing tomorrow morning.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any other questions from the public.

Approval of Minutes: None

Old Business

Communications

Ms. Candida Affa stated that Council had an Executive Session on January 2, 2019 beginning at 5:00 PM with Mayor O'Connell, Managing Director Joe McMahon, CEDC Director Leonard Lightner, and the Associate Solicitor to discuss a personal matter relating to the termination of an employee in the Community and Economic Development Department. The subject matter falls under the personal and potential litigation exception to the open meeting requirement under the Sunshine Law.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chair Guridy, Hendricks, Mota

The Committee has not met since the last meeting; the next meeting will take place prior to the council meeting on January 16.

Community and Economic Development: Chair Robinson, Guridy, Affa

The Committee met this evening; no future meetings are scheduled.

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

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; no future meetings are scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Robinson, MacLean

The Committee met this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled.

Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, Affa, Zucal

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; no future meetings are scheduled.

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Hendricks, Robinson

The Committee met this evening; no future meetings are scheduled

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chair MacLean, Affa, Guridy

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; no future meetings are scheduled.

Controllers Report

Mr. Jeff Glazier has no reports this evening.

Administration Report

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that since the last met the IronPigs Charities awarded Friends of the Allentown Parks a community grant of nearly \$5,000 that benefits the children that participates in the Allentown Parks and Recreation program over the summer. This grant will be used to introduce 900 children to a variety of sports and provide the necessary sports equipment to go forth through the summer. Even though the city did not have a white Christmas, we did have a very wet New Year's eve. The fireworks show got good reviews and hopefully that starts us off with a good bang.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that even though she was not there, Kim showed it to her and it was on Facebook and wants to go next year. It was a wonderful display.

APPOINTMENTS:

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-2682](#)

Bill 87

Amending Part Seventeen, Building and Housing, Title One, Standards and Administration, Section 1705, International Electrical Code to allow for a one time exception for non-reciprocating electricians to obtain an electrical permit. Also amending Section 2703, Permit and Certificate of Inspection by requiring a qualified person to be present during an electrical inspection.

Attachments: [Bill 87 Reciprocating Electrical License](#)
[Ordinance #15505](#)

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any comments from her colleagues.

Mr. Courtney Robinson stated that it was in front of the Community and Economic Development Committee this evening. They had several questions for the administration. This will be not something to be utilized often by allowing the reciprocity without municipality that has existing reciprocity with the City of Allentown. And also providing someone to be on-site to provide electrical inspections will help make sure that we are moving forward efficiently if there are deficiencies in the property. It was forwarded favorably 2 - 0 being that Mr. Guridy was absent from the meeting.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any other comments from the dais or from the public.

Yes: 5 - Candida Affa, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Ed Zucal

Absent: 2 - Roger MacLean, and Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 15505

[15-2683](#)

Bill 88

Amending the 2018 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eighty Thousand (\$80,000) Dollars from the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to the City of Allentown toward the preservation of Bogert's Covered Bridge

Attachments: [Bill 88 Bogerts Bridge](#)
[Ordinance #15506](#)

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any comments from her colleagues.

Ms. Cynthia Affa stated that it was in her committee. It was voted favorably 2 - 0 for the appropriation of \$80,000 for the Pennsylvania Historical and Museum Commission to the City of Allentown toward the preservation of Bogert's Cover Bridge.

Ms. Candida Affa thanked Ms. Mota and asked if there were any other comments from her colleagues or the public.

Yes: 5 - Candida Affa, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Ed Zucal

Absent: 2 - Roger MacLean, and Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 15506

[15-2684](#)

Bill 90

Amending the 2018 Capital Fund Budget by transferring Three Hundred Nineteen Thousand Four Hundred Twenty-Nine Dollars and Ninety-Nine Cents (\$319,429.99) from the 2018 General Fund to Capital Project 1805 – Emergency Water Repairs (Inoperable Valves) project - an uncompleted project under the Water/Sewer Lease Agreement with the Lehigh County Authority.

Attachments: [Bill 90 Emergency Water Services Transfer](#)
[Ordinance #15507](#)

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any comments from her colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it was under the Public Works committee. It well states the Water and Sewer Lease Agreement with them. It was voted favorably 3 -0 to send to full Council.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any comments from the public.

Yes: 5 - Candida Affa, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Ed Zucal

Absent: 2 - Roger MacLean, and Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 15507

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-2703](#)

R1

Authorizes encroachment for permanent neighborhood signs/wayfinders Turner & 6th, Turner & 7th, Turner & 8th, Tilghman & 6th and Turner from 6th to 8th

Attachments: [R1 Signage for Turner & Tilghman Sts](#)
[Encroachment App signage Turner Tilghman Sts](#)
[map-7th-south-1114](#)
[map-jordan-south-1114](#)
[map-oapa-south-1114](#)
[map-oldfair-south-1114](#)
[Sample placement](#)
[Wayfinder Installation Spec](#)

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were comments from her colleagues.

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked about the nature of the signs. He stated in looking at the maps we include city hall, but not the courthouse or the Government Center. He stated that he was not sure if it was possible to add anything to these maps or if they have already been produced and a compass.

Mr. Theodore Berger stated that he can check on that for him. They have quite a few meetings and they were reviewed. That might have been a comment from Engineering. These might not be the finalized maps. He will double check.

Mr. Courtney Robinson stated that if they can add the compass that would be useful. He asked about the supporting documents and the city got the quotes through the city's Purchasing Agreement. He asked if the city is paying for it or Upside Allentown paying for it or we are paying and they are reimbursing us.

Mr. Theodore Berger stated that this is paid through Upside Allentown.

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked about the location. He asked is it a reason why there were only four locations picked.

Mr. Theodore Berger stated that they had a budget to work with. The city was not involved in the picking of the location or the amount of signs. They just sat with them on the technical specifications.

Mr. Courtney Robinson asked if the city was fine with it from a Public Works standpoint with the encroachment of the Right-away.

Mr. Theodore Berger stated that there should be no issues. They should be totally fine with it. He stated that they went through everything on the right-away and any obstruction.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any other comments from her

colleagues or the public.

Yes: 5 - Candida Affa, Courtney Robinson, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Ed Zucal

Absent: 2 - Roger MacLean, and Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 29748

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (To be referred to Committee with public comment prior to referral)

[15-2702](#)

Bill 1 Refer to Budget and Finance

Amending the 2019 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Twenty Thousand (\$120,000.00) Dollars from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for the Early Intervention Program.EIP Grant

Attachments: [Bill 1 - EIP GRANT](#)

Ms. Candida Affa asked if there were any comments from her colleagues or the public.

REFERRED TO BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):

NEW BUSINESS

[15-2697](#)

Signed Transfers

August 2018 - December 2018

Attachments: [HR \(John Marchetto\) Hired A Summer Intern and Made Agreement with Finance to Hire Two Interns \\$7,000.00](#)
[Need to Purchase Pipes and Fittings for Cedar Poolhouse Renovations \\$20,765.45](#)
[The marketing project was expanded by adding a video to compliment the whole project - Community and Economic Development \\$5720.00](#)
[Moved \\$100,000 from 06 to 02 as Funding for the 2 Additional FT Paramedics \\$125,000](#)
[Due to Wear and Tear from Various Tenants, Renovations Are Needed at 200 Springhouse Road \\$20,000](#)
[Replacement of 25 Year Old Inserter Machine in the Mail Room \\$35,425](#)
[Utilized in the Department Weapon Transition \\$21,300](#)

[Summer Intern for Finance Will Remain On Staff Until End of 2018 - Finance Operations Manager \\$5,500](#)
[Summer Intern for Finance Will Remain On Staff Until End of 2018 - Risk and Safety Manager \\$5,500](#)
[Utilized in the Purchasing the ERT Replacement Ballistic Helmets \\$10,000](#)
[Purchase LED Bulbs for Lights in the Parkway \\$11,517.71](#)

[Cover Cost for AC Unit for Streets - Building Maintenance \\$13,000](#)

[Train Recently Promoted Sergeant, Lieutenants and Captains in POLEX, POSIT, Supervisor Leadership \\$22,000](#)
[Purchase Ballistic Helmets for Officers and New Hires \\$8,500](#)

[Purchase The Mast Arms For Traffic Signals at Church and Emaus Intersection - \\$40,000](#)
[To Cover Account through December 2018 - Fuel Pricing Coming in at or lower that the average rate used for the 2018 Budget Estimate - \\$30,000](#)
[To Cover Account Through December 2018 for Electric Power at City Buildings Coming in Lower for 2018 - \\$60,000](#)
[Man Power Shortage To Make Up For The Shortfall - \\$11,000](#)

[Pay For Police Overtime at Aquatic Facilities \\$14,345.13](#)

[Funds Needed to Repair Wall in Trexler Park \(Unable to Find Qualified Applicants to Fill Positions This Season\) \\$7,650.00](#)
[Mistake When Submitting Ordinance #15479 - Funds Deposited in Wrong Account Due to Mistake \\$80,000](#)
[Make Repairs to the Arts Park Wall and Replace the Garage Door at the Recreation Barn \\$10,500](#)
[Move Available Funds into Correct Account to Cover Grant Award for Retro Fit of Turnout Gear for Fire Department \\$10,000](#)
[Mistakenly Transferred into Account 81 and Should Have Been Transferred \\$25,150](#)
[Due to High Demand for Presales Inspections Rental Inspectors Have Worked Overtime \\$35,000](#)
[Funds Are Needed To Install New Roofs for Pavilions at Percy Ruhe and Franklin Park and Cedar Park Electrical Shed \\$26,000](#)
[A. Scott Settlement was less than anticipated \\$175,000](#)

[Pay for Elected Officials Insurance \\$56,000](#)

[Purchase Ammunition for the Glock Transition Weapons in the 2018 Qualifications \\$9,870](#)

[This Transfer is Required to Increase the Account 50 in Order to Continue to Pay for Legal Ads - \\$3,000.00](#)
[To Purchase A Commercial Refrigerator Freezer As Part of the Anti-Hunger Grant \\$10,000](#)
[To Cover Account Through December 2018 for Installation of LED Lighting - Street Lighting \\$20,000](#)
[Purchase Two Multi Purpose Copiers for 4th Street Patrol Desk and 10th Street Patrol Desk - Public Safety Police \\$6,000](#)
[To Cover Account Through the End of 2018 for Installation of LED Lighting Not Completed Timely as Predicted \\$68,000](#)
[Funds Were Appropriated to Make the Purchase but Need to be Moved per the Controller's Office New Requirements \\$25,000](#)

Mr. Mike Hanlon stated that after four Council people sign Transfer, the Clerk's office make them available to the public and put them on the agenda. They are on the website and copies are in the back.

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 7:25 PM