



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. R-94

**RESOLUTION**

**R - 2020**

***Introduced by City Council and the Administration on August 12, 2020***

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Supports working with the Police Department on establishing certain policies, and doing additional research, introduction, discussions and future votes on resolutions and ordinances related to the matters below.

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***Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That***

**WHEREAS**, Allentown City Council introduced Resolution R86 on July 15, stating in part - council is committed to a community dialogue that includes examining police operations, legislative and community advice, requiring certain reporting requirements and establishing a policy on force; and

**WHEREAS**, Allentown City Council held a Committee of the Whole on July 29, formally commencing this dialogue and scheduled a meeting on August 12 to resolve certain issues and scope out a plan of action within a certain time frame.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALLENTOWN CITY COUNCIL GOES ON RECORD AND:**

1. Supports working with the police department to establish a Citizens Advisory Board after legal review and taking public comment through the public safety committee a draft which was on the last agenda and being circulated; and other means provided that such legislation be introduced through the normal council process of sponsorship of two councilperson.
2. Supports the Eight Can't Wait recommendations from the Obama administration, which were also recommended by the Allentown Human Relations Commission, all of which have already been implemented within the Allentown Police Department. Relatedly, Council would like to have any changes to these policies be reported to the Public Safety committee at a public meeting
3. Supports the Police Department policy requiring officer intervention to stop any excessive use of force and imposing discipline consequences, recommending that the policy be in writing;

4. Supports a public discussion with the administration and police department with an aim to amending the administrative code to require performance reports to be given to the Public Safety Committee at a public meeting – reports such as: Requiring Bi-annual reports of use of force, discipline, positive interactions, policy changes and reason for calls and interactions including breakdowns such as: mental health, domestic disturbance, violent crime, terry stops, traffic accident, types of calls/responses that are disaggregated by race and gender.
5. Supports further review and consideration of legislation mandating community meetings following use of force incidents. Force incidents can have a devastating impact on neighborhoods from an emotional, social and psychological standpoint, Allentown will review working with local healthcare providers and non-profits to create a plan for trauma informed response following use-of-force incidents.
6. Supports the police departments budgetary allocation of training for de-escalation and dealing with implicit bias training.

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED THAT ALLENTOWN CITY COUNCIL** directs the City Clerk to conduct research into the following topics, to determine what other Pennsylvania Communities have done, are doing, or are looking at doing, as to these topics, and report back to council within 45 days as its findings:

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1. A resolution directed to state legislators changing state law – Act 22 – that would mandate body camera footage be made available to the public.
2. A resolution directed to state legislators requiring misuse of force situations immediately given to the attorney general or a third party.
3. A resolution asking the state to require a shared data base on the use of force policies that can be shared amongst municipalities
4. Pass a resolution urging state lawmakers to ban stop and frisk and no knock warrants; and require statewide reporting of the incidences.

After the period for research by the City Clerk's Office, any proposed legislation on any of the above four topics will proceed using normal introduction, review and voting procedures.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT ALLENTOWN CITY COUNCIL** authorizes the Solicitor's Office to review either or both of the following two areas if two Council persons submit a legal services requisition for that particular topic:

1. Requiring administrative leave for any officer being investigated for the use of excessive force.

2. Mandating body cam use and imposing discipline up to and included termination for failing to use it;

**BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED THAT ALLENTOWN CITY COUNCIL** review priority budgeting and allocation of resources as they relate to community needs and that they meet with appropriate agencies and stakeholders and Council's Intergovernmental Committee or other means.