



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, October 7, 2020

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Contract Approval

Public Comment: The meeting will be live streamed. The link to the meeting can be found on the city website with the agenda and legislation at <https://www.allentownpa.gov>. Council will receive comments on the legislation prior to the meeting and will consider all comments from city residents. All comments must include your name and address, including your city, and be emailed to Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPa.gov by 2 PM on the date of the meeting. Comments can also be registered using the ecomment provision on each agenda item found on the city website. Comments received from city residents by that deadline will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council members prior to the meeting and will also be noted at Courtesy of the Floor or Public Comment periods of the meeting. These timely received comments will also be posted on the City's webpage as a supporting document to the meeting. Any comments received on the meeting day, after the 2:00 pm deadline, will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council as soon as practicable. In addition, if you would like to speak during the meeting, please send your name, address, including municipality, and telephone number to the email address above indicating what issue you would like to speak on or call the office at 610.437.7555 and do the same, and you will be called during the meeting.

Roll Call: Council President Hendricks

Present: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-3793](#)

R114

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services with Materials Conservation in the amount of \$3,845 for Consulting and Construction Administrative services, including construction documents for the repair of the WPA wall on Park Drive.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R114 Materials Conservation](#)

[Resolution #30050](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it was in her committee. Ms. El- Chaar

explained about this project.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from his colleagues that are not on the committee.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Ms. Baraket will explain how many bids they got.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated this is for a Professional Services Contract. Only one quote is required for this dollar amount. The city has done business with this vendor before.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from his colleagues on this.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked Ms. Baraket that only one quote is required as opposed to three if it is under \$40,000.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated correct, under \$3,999 there is only one quote required.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments or questions from the public.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

Enactment No: 30050

[15-3795](#)

R115

Authorization for a \$125,826 Contract with Michael Baker International, Inc. to provide consulting, planning, and design services for the site analysis, conceptual planning, and design of the proposed MLK Trail Extension Project, multiple bids.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R115 MLK Trail Extension](#)
[Resolution #30051](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it was in her committee and Ms. El-Chaar explained that \$125,826 will be all in grants. That is very positive.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ms. Baraket if she wanted to weigh on this at all.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this was done as RFP 2020-17. It was advertised on Public Purchase and accessed 19 vendors. Five responses were received. A five person evaluation committee conducted technical

and cost evaluations on all proposals received. Proposals were evaluated on their ability to meet the RFP requirements, their prior experience and cost. The committee is recommending an award to Michael Baker, the highest scoring proposer. This vendor is a local vendor and the city has done business with them in the past.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Baraket and stated that he understands that it was one of the vendors his bid was almost \$500,000.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated yes.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked to explain where the trolleys are going to go from Fountain Park to where.

Ms. Karen El-Chaar stated that it is going from Fountain Park where the Fountain Pool, 10th Street to Shrivesburg Bridge which is the bridge to access from Lehigh Parkway to MLK.

Mr. Rick Holtzman stated to MLK.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from any of his colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

Enactment No: 30051

[15-3794](#)

R116

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services for the Blue Guardian initiative – cooperative purchase with Lehigh County Office of the District Attorney - in the amount of \$21,000 to assist in the fight against opioid and substance abuse.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R116 Blue Guardian](#)
[Resolution #30052](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if they had someone from the administration.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated Ms. Baraket.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated for this one and the next contract they are doing as well is for Professional Service Contracts. Both Contract are considered to be a sole source and there is no competition that could be had with the sole source. If there are any additional questions on the contract itself, they can answer.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions for comments from his colleagues or the public on R116.

Yes: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

Enactment No: 30052

This Resolution was approved.

Enactment No: 30052

[15-3803](#)

R117

Authorization for Engagement of Professional Services Lehigh County Coroner's Office and Forensics Center for \$4,312.50 for services related to the Overdose Fatality Review Team.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R117 LC Office and Forensic Center](#)
[Resolution #30053](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it is the same gig of the last one. It is a sole source.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if Ms. Baraket if she had any comments.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that she has nothing else to add on R117.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from his colleagues or the public.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he will be abstaining from the vote due to that fact that he is employed there. He stated that he is not sure what the Fatality Review Team is. He doesn't know what it involves on their end.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that it is the Opioid Death Review Team that they spoke about, the city needs the Coroner to go through the Coroner's data in order to abstract the variables from the Death Report and investigations that fit the specific Fatality Review. For example, if someone dies of an overdose, the city needs to know if that person was in treatment before. This will allow the city to be able to compile exactly the same data on each case that they interview. It will require extra time from the Coroner's staff directly related to this. The city's funder has identified all the other Fatality Reviews pay under the grant to the Coroner for those specific hours.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what is Mr. Grim doing then.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that Mr. Grim is running the Fatality Review as part of the city's staff. He is taking the data that is coming from Blue Guardian,

that comes from the Coroner's office and the Drug and Alcohol Agencies and he is going through the data as part of the team and then compiling the Report back to the Fact Team. The Coroner's office is the only office allowed to go directly into the records.

Ms. CeCe Gerlach asked on an annual basis she assumes that it happens on a regular basis. Once the data is collect then what? If the purpose is collecting the data is just to have the data or is it so that when you are competing for grants you can state this is how many overdoses we had and these folks were in treatment. What is done with the data?

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that it is a great question and modeled after the Child Death Review Team model. In a Child Death Review Team, what happens is that we identify preventable issues with an overdose death and non-preventable issues and than they use that data that comes to them about these overdoses to make recommendations back to the operating agencies. If a person says that they were on a waiting list or their family says that they were on a waiting list for treatment, they have numerous cases like that. That helps them launch the argument that we need more treatment. If there are any more extenuating circumstances that they find commonalities is when they make service recommendations. It will help the city with grants, but moreover, it will help them to start to paint a picture of what are the situation that contribute to addiction. Right now, people are speculating about Covid, that Covid is leading to more addiction. Is Covid leading to more addiction? The Health Bureau will find that out based on interviewing those families who have lost someone to an overdose right now. They are just compiling a team now. They are hoping that the data will drive action and they can tailor program better to the needs of the folks that unfortunately we lost to prevent ourselves from losing more.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions from anybody else.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she likes what Ms. Kistler said to drive action. That is what we need with the Opioid issues that we have throughout the country. That was a great question, Ms. Gerlach. Once you get the data, then what. Hopefully, we will see more money coming to the city if we see a correlation with Covid and overdose.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions.

Yes: 6 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Julio Guridy, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

Abstain: 1 - Ed Zucal

Enactment No: 30053

[15-3564](#) Contract Procedures

Attachments: [Article 130.16 Contracts](#)

ADJOURNED: 6:13 PM