



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, April 12, 2023

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

Agenda Format:

The purpose of this meeting is to understand the proposed APA amendments, put together a list of information and legal issues we would like addressed, get a conceptual sense of what council would like acted on for specific amendments to be crafted and acted on at a future meeting; and to take comment from the public.

1. Explain the purpose of the suggested amendments – APA reps will be there to explain.

2. Action on the general concepts from council members. You can entertain a motion for each with the caveat that specific amendments will be crafted for future meeting relating to changes in the code if they are code related.

General idea would be: I make a motion to have enforcement by APA..... And you need a second.

a. Enforcement by APA from 8 am to 6 pm Monday through Friday; Saturday 8 am to 3 pm; no enforcement on Sunday; excluding parking decks owned by the Parking Authority. Zucal, Santos, Gerlach, Mota.

b. Remove car inspection and expired registration enforcement from APA enforcement because they are state violations. Proposed Zucal, Gerlach.

c. Prohibit tickets if person is actively engaged in a delivery or drop off within a three-minute time frame. Councilperson Gerlach, Zucal, Santos, Affa, Mota, Napoli.

d. Internal Policy – a Councilperson has suggested a 24/7 APA dispatch to response to residents' complaint rather than police respond to complaints after hours but with a skeleton APA crew -- Gerlach, Affa, Mota, Napoli.

3. Take general comment on the public on any of the issues – suggestions or comments.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that he has been the chairman of the Parking Authority for several years now. They submitted recommendation and policy changes for full transparency. This kind of began at the end of last year. Four and a half years, the prior administration had ceased Lehigh County had ceased taking dispatch calls. The Parking Authority was an 8 - 5 job. They began to expand enforcement hours. Covid got in the way of a lot of that. That finally occurred in December 2022. Folks started getting tickets at hours they never got tickets before. He stated that it was one of the things that concerned him. He went over the timeline on public meetings. They had a meeting and listened intently. He went over the appeals. He stated that there was a simple form to fill out for complaints. He went over the Public Forum date. Now, the meetings will be at the Americus. He talked about the Special meeting scheduled dedicated to come up with ideas to fix the archaic legislation. Hed stated that there were eight sections. The first three deal with tying together the legislation and the residents concern on getting tickets in alleys. He went over the legislation. They allowed an alternative ways of placing by hand on the windshield, an electronic mail, or registered address of the owner. There has been a lot of concerns on the District Court level and if a car is impounded, you cannot release unless all fines are paid. They are proposing that be modified. The word prison or imprisonment be eradicated. They are changing parking at the curb to nine inches. State law is 12 inches. They had issues with vehicles out of inspection. They have LPR (License Plate Readers) technology. The App is tied to your plate. They get out of registration vehicles from the state database, stolen plates, and stolen vehicles. They worked with the software vendor and they came up with software and it will be beta (a test site) that if they get a ticket for inspection, they will not be able to give another ticket for 15 days. They instituted a policy, that if you out of the inspection for the first 30 days, it is a warning. Registration it is not because the Parking Authority can't control those. they instituted a policy if you got an inspection and registration violation and bring proof to have the ticket rescinded with a 10-day grace period. Double parking complaints. They have sirens on their vehicles. Suspended tickets in decks. They have an easier appeal and review process.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if everyone can hear Mr. Morgan speak.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that an example of type of parking tickets. It performs essential safety assistance.

Mr. John Morgan stated that the Parking Authority recovered 36 vehicles since last year. Eight so far this year. 17 stolen plates and three this year. They have assisted APD in 10 hit and run cases and an additional 20 unrelated hit and run cases in the past two months. They assisted the US

Marshals on other investigations.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Mr. Zeller to speak to the changes that they made internally regarding overnight enforcement without going into great detail.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they are not final on it. They are thinking to stop patrol enforcement at 9:00 PM and will not start again until the following morning. They would be solely dispatched oriented or focusing on critical public safety items.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he will open it up to questions that the public may have.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it isn't it fair to say that all the changes were made based on the public outcry.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they started some beforehand. They were looking for the cadence of the ticket for inspections. They try to be as prophylactics possible. No one talks about the \$50 million in decks they put up in the last six years. If we here from the public, we are going to address it.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that one of the most positive things is the appeal process. Magistrates rule differently. The afterhours enforcement was a major issue from the Parking Authority. He asked about the 12 foot issues and the 600 block of Muhlenberg street. A resident measured it to be 11 feet three inches. That does not meet the 12 feet rules.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the city was not built for that. He stated that they woefully short of signage in the city. He stated that is a Streets question.

Chief Efrain Agosto stated that Popular Street is another street that is wide enough, but has parking on both sides. If the Parking Authority limits the Fire department to respond accordingly, some people will say that is towards the rear of the house. Most fires that occur in your house is in your kitchen. Where is your kitchen typically locate? (In the rear of your house). They deal with garage fires. They have to take into consideration EMS and responses on people working in garages and garage fires. Once you start limiting the 20 feet as the Code requires 20 feet it make it difficult to respond and act accordingly. A fire truck can get down a 12 foot of space, but to operate efficiently, that is why the International Fire Code requires access roads to be 20 feet away.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked to post on the many streets would make a difference.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that he is not Streets, so he does not control signs. He wants the safety of the officers and the public.

Chief Efrain Agosto stated that it depends on if it is allowed to be done or not. He does not know what the idea behind it.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they only have 11 feet.

Chief Efrain Agosto stated that the Code for new construction you must provide the Fire department with a 20 foot wide access road plus a turning radius to be able to access that building.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if someone is parking on their apron, and there is still 12 feet they should not be getting a ticket.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that is his whole point. It is tough to train our guys. It is really not a sidewalk. Sidewalks are really important for handicap access. Our alleys are really pedestrian ways. He stated that if they want the Parking Authority to make recommendations, they will tear right into it.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated with the inspections and registrations, there were always the thought that the Parking Authority has all these things on their citations to make money. He talked about license plate readers and having a conversation with Mr. Martin today. He was going to make a motion to have them removed from the ticket book itself. However, you brought up some really good points that Mr. Martin brought up to him as well. That you do assist other agencies when those license plates are downloaded. It is a good tool.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they need to bring balance to it. We can't allow people to get multiple tickets on the same day. We have to give them time.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked about the warning card, he knows the Police Department has that option as well. He asked for an example of what the warning card will or does look like.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that it is a ticket, but if they are working on the exact verbiage to put on the ticket, but at least 10 percent was able to figure it out. That is a good start. With the communication, when they come in, the ticket will be rescinded.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that her main concern is public safety. The Chief gave a good example. You think about the emergency vehicle have enough room to go down the alley.

Chief Efrain Agosto stated that there are some claims out there. If they go down Popular Street and have to operate the potential for damage of vehicles is going to happen. The Fire Department's priority is life.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that the liability that the city has. She owns a home and because there is a vehicle parked in front of a garage. A lot of the time with a rowhomes, it starts with one and many times it goes down to more than two. She is burned severely, and something happens, and the Fire Department could not get to her, get that hose out fast enough, that ladder fast enough. How much is the city liable for a lawsuit if you are not able to use your vehicle, your training and every tool that you have because someone parked in a spot they should not be in.

Chief Efrain Agosto stated that would be the City Solicitor to answer that question. All he knows that there is potential for liability. If the fire department can't get to that position soon enough, to do something because of an impediment, he would have to assume that there will be a liability there.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that is her concern. Her concern is public safety. Several years ago, the city passed an ordinance because one of her friends had to do this in an alley. They either had to gravel it or pave it. Her concern with the alley is safety. She does not want to pass an ordinance and someone dies in a fire.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that you can't park on your grass.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that the sidewalk in letter E, the complaints at the board meetings and he is a board member of the Parking Authority and he was there listening to the feedback of residents. They were receiving violations for blocking the sidewalk where sidewalks did not exist. He asked if they could go over why that was put in letter E.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the definition they have. A sidewalk is anything that is in the public right of way. The public right of way will show up on satellite imagery in maps. A lot of times, completely blocked by an overgrown bush; there is no sidewalk there, it is grass; there is a telephone pole in the middle of it. They did not think unless it is a really truly a sidewalk. Meaning it was likely that a handicapped person necessary for them to travel safely so they can go from street to street to a continuous sidewalk. It is a sidewalk and you should not be parking on that or a partial sidewalk because someone extending their pad to bound their property. If you are parking on it, you should not get a ticket for that.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he agrees with that stating 99 percent of city residents, when we think of a sidewalk, we think of a piece of cement that goes from one side of the street to the other. When the violations were occurring where there wasn't a sidewalk of what we envision a sidewalk. He thinks that is where a lot of the frustration was. He is glad that was put in there to alleviate that concern. He asked Mr. Morgan when it comes to what the board suggested for inspections and registrations with the violations being rescinded within 10 days. Is that something that is occurring at other Parking Authorities throughout the Commonwealth. He is glad that these recommendations are viewed favorably.

Mr. John Morgan stated that no one has that software technology yet. There are several Parking Authorities in Pennsylvania that use the same company as they do, the Allentown Parking Authority is the beta site for that particular software.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated let's hypothetical say he forgets to register his vehicle and get a violation on April 10. On April 13, he renews his registration with PennDOT and submit a copy with the Parking Authority and the ticket gets rescinded. He asked are other Parking Authorities offering that service to their customers.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that it is dismissed. No,. they don't have the technology.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that at this point the Allentown Parking Authority is at the forefront of this idea.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they brought this up at a meeting last September. Long before ire of the public started. They identified existing problems with multiple tickets for the same violation. The Parking Authority asked that company to address it so that will not happen.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked about on the appeal process is the front desk staff aware of this. She stated that she was not offered that. She is going to court in June. The 10 percent would be higher, if the staff was properly trained. She also saw that there are letters that supposed to be sent out to let people know.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that there is a training process to get people updated on this. It has been a real struggle. It is a new policy that has been in effect for the last 60 days. The process is that you get a letter next.

Mr. John Morgan stated it is the same drop down as appeal the ticket.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated for the process when they can bring in proof of registration. She met a lady on the Southside, her son and family came over for Easter break and her son was out of compliance. His work hours don't conform to 8 - 4. Is there a way to do that electronically. She stated that it is great to see policy recommendations coming from the Parking Authority. If you live in Center City, this is not new.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that there is more to be done. It is going to be an ongoing process.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated especially the imprisonment. A year ago, it was brought up on Council and there were some hesitancy on Council. It was tabled and brought back. There was some concern from Mr. Haney and take imprisonment out. Mr. Guridy was president when it was a request to have an engaging conversation with City Council and the Parking Authority. These are not new issues that are now being addressed.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she is glad that the Parking Authority and there will be a lot of changes in the policies. How are you planning to convey all these changes to the community? She agreed with Ms. Gerlach on the power of numbers to talk about the issues and attending meetings.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that he had a discussion with Mr. John Morgan about creating a new Communications Director's position at the Authority to help get the word out. If they move every single vehicle from the alley, where are we going to go.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she has gotten tickets before at the meter. It makes a big difference when you are treated with courtesy and respect. Customer service is very important.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that finding a balance is important and uploading all the enforcement.

Ms. Candida Affa asked Mr. Morgan if he had any statistics on calls for service. Not patrolling tickets, but calls for service after 10:00 or 11:00 PM.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that last year's dispatch numbers were 15,000. Second shift from 3:00 PM to 11:30 PM in the month of January 347 calls for service. Overnight next shift which is 11:00 PM to 7:30 AM 46 calls. February was 296, plus an additional 44 overnight. In March 531, plus an additional 12 overnight. April 11, 124 calls with 29 overnight. In the first quarter for second and third shift calls leads to about 1300 - 1400 calls just for service in the first quarter.

Ms. Candida Affa stated it was the second shift.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated 3:00 PM - 11:30 PM.

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

Mr. Jose Cartagena, 222 S. St. Lucas Street, asked about the internal appeal and making changes. He asked once you appeal, you don't go in front of a magistrate. He asked about the fees. He asked about the revenue and where they are making their money. They are going after poverty.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that there are no fees for the internal appeal. You can go to the district justice, but it cost money and time. The Parking Authority allows you to go online and fill out an appeal and tell your story. They look at it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that the most congestion is in Center City Allentown and the most vehicles are in Center City Allentown. Once you get to the outskirts the streets are more open and less congestion. A violator is a violator no matter what their circumstances are.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that is calls for service.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that the board has addressed this is the past. What came up is street cleaning was the deciding factor. The board looked at this and street cleaning was a predominant factor.

Mr. John Morgan talked about the street cleaning routes are where people get the most tickets.

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

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they chanced the routes with the times.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked for an aggregate breakdown on these calls and where they are coming from.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is important to know that the parking meters are in Center City.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that gets us into another conversation that there are meters where they should not be.

Mr. Jose Cartagena stated that Mr. Zucal mentioned about public cries. It is a reason why we are here today. The Parking Authority officers be retrained.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he had that conversation with Mr. Morgan in the last couple of days and he is working on that now.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that it is a good idea that they are going to get that little horn. They have a courtesy to tap their horn.

Mr. Greenburg Lumus, owner of the Mexican Restaurant up the street, La Cucina del Abuelo - Grandpa's Kitchen, 621 Hamilton Street, stated that the reason he is here is because he gets double tickets for double parking. He recommended that the Parking Authority not give the Enforcement Officers a badge. He stated that he talked to Haney and he stated that he can unload on Sixth Street or Seventh Street. It is a block from his restaurant.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the city is woefully deficient in parking and loading zones. That is something that really needs to be addressed. They are going to put money in those buildings to make the rent higher.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if it is not a loading zone there.

Mr. John Morgan stated that the ordinance does not allow it.

Mr. Malemus (sp) stated that they sold the church. The Liberty Church is being sold. They are going to move the church.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he talked him about the 15 minutes for free. He stated that he pulls up and punch in his license plate and do 15 minutes for free and load and unload.

Ms. Linda Vega, 314 N. Front Street, asked when is the best time to discuss the city's resolving the problem with parking. The issue is that it is no parking. They have a huge grass lot and someone said the city owned it and sold it privately to someone. It would make an excellent spot for monthly parking.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ms. Vega to give Mr. Hanlon her name, phone number and address. Council will get back to you.

Mr. John Morgan stated that they always looking for lots. They did it on N. Seventh Street.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the city has an RFP on that property right now.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that the board has been actively looking for spots.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that Mr. Zeller alluded to it. The board has been working on finding opportunities for service lots in the densest neighborhoods.

Ms. Betty Cauler stated that she wanted to talk about the garages. Her garage was built for a Model T. Every family on her block, except for her has more than one car. She thanked the Parking Authority. She provided a picture of her neighbors fence and her parking on her property. It is the streets that don't have no parking signs.

Fire Chief Agosto stated that he is not saying it can't get back there. When he says that the Code requires 20 feet. It is not just to get down there, it is also to operate on top of that. Some of the streets were built prior than the Code. That has to be a determination from City Council.

Mr. Michael Molovinsky, stated that he has spoke to City Council numerous times about the Parking Authority. He attended numerous Parking Authority meetings. He stated that Ms. Affa been on the Parking Authority for many years. The reason he is here tonight, he finds it unique, refreshing and encouraging that you are taking a look at the Parking Authority. He humbly suggests that at least the three of them have or had been on the Parking Authority. You might want to look at the Rules.

Ms. Sharon Billington, 1509 Chew Street, asked if signs are posted in the alleys saying no parking, those signs are going to stay. She stated that there are numerous signs in the alleys and the cars will park right under them. Safety is the big concern since they have seen ambulances get through that alley.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that is a Streets Department call. The Parking Authority can't hang up any signs around. The alley is probably 14 feet wide. If that car is hanging out, there is not going to be 14 feet.

Mr. Pas Simpson asked who's responsible for making sure all of these policies and updates that you are proposing actually follows through. They had many things proposed in front of the Council that never got followed through on.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that they have two different sets. One set is ordinance

changes. They have to see what City Council wants to do with those Ordinance changes. The alley, the six to ninth inches away from the curb, and getting rid of the term imprisonment. He doesn't have the power or the executive director does not have the power to enact an ordinance. They have 83 employees at the Parking Authority. They are constantly trying to train, and maintain staff. The buck will stop with John and ultimately him. He is a volunteer. He does not get paid. He is the chairman of the Authority.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that the Board oversees the Parking Authority management. If these policies are not enacted, it is their job to step in and change it.

Mr. Pas Simpson stated that most of them have been on the board for a longtime. You are not new to the board and this is not new situations. How do we know around election time this will not just go away?

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that their job as the board is to oversee the Authority. The Authority's job is to serve the residents, the businessowners, and the visitors of Allentown.

Ms. Melissa Rogers, 1925 E. Pennsylvania Street, stated that her car was excessively ticketed for inspection and booted even though all tickets were being appealed in the Magistrate's office. She paid the boot fee and had the judge's release. They were told to release the car. They towed the car anyhow. She asked about the appeal process. She asked if they were going to compensate people for the losses.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that part of addressing her concerns were the resolution at the District Justice equals. He stated no. He stated that unfortunately, they are not in a position to pay reparations to folks. He stated that 67 percent of people were successful in their appeals.

Ms. Jessica Ortiz stated her nonprofit last year from September to December received calls for remediation to stop drama, arguments, and cleaning cars. She stated that she came here in the summer and Ms. Affa called her personally to asked about her block, drove through the block and looked at it. She created the flyer in December for everybody to show up at the Parking Authority meeting. The mayor puts whoever he wants on the Parking Authority Board. How do they create a system that instead of coming here or having these meetings all the time. The board is going to consistently be the board. She asked how they can create a medium so that it will be a balance.

Ms. Candida Affa stated to Ms. Ortiz if she can figure it out she will get a

Proclamation.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that if he remembers correctly there was a chop-shop. He stated that they need to look into focus groups. He knows the changes that they will do tonight will do a lot of good. Focus groups serve a need in the future.

Ms. Jessica Ortiz stated that they have been getting ticketed and they are one of the people that call nonemergency.

Mr. Enrique Moreno, 333 N. Green Street, stated that he has lived in the city for 20 years. They have come to the City Council twice and want solutions. He talked about The Parking Authority and A 1 towing. It goes back and forward back and forward and never had an answer to the meeting. He stated that his dad, Julio has some issues and has to go back to his country. A1 Towing asked what is the Parking Authority's solution.

Mr. Ted Zeller asked Mr. Moreno to appeal that ticket. He stated that Enrique is here because he had contracted a private space on a private lot. He had given his cars information on the private lot. The private lot called the Parking Authority to enforce. He did not tell the broker of the private lot that he was going to park his father's van there while his father was away getting treatment in the Caribbean. He was sick for a while. The private lot owner called the Parking Authority and it was towed to the impound lot. When he went to get the vehicle, he got into a fight with someone at the impound lot. Mr. Moreno is saying that the Parking Authority is the problem.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Mr. Moreno on your latest concern of the ticket, go to the Parking Authority and let them view and maybe they can help your with that.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that his car was parked in a private lot.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that Mr. Moreno contracted for his car to be parked in this private lot. He did not tell the private lot owner or broker that handles it that he was going to park his father's vehicle there.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that his father's vehicle was not authorized to park there. The owner of the lot call the Parking Authority to tow so you towed it.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the owner of the private lot did not know. They thought it was some illegally parked car. The Parking Authority is in charge of enforcement for private lots and ordered the tow to the impound lot.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Mr. Moreno to give his name and phone number to Mr. Hanlon. He stated that he will get back to him and speak to whoever handles that at the Parking Authority.

4. Information and Legal Questions – This is a current listing of questions and issues that have been raised. Does anyone have any additions at this time, we can add to the list at the end of the meeting.

What authority does the APA have outside the city code?

What is the relationship between the fire code and proposed changes to alley obstructions.

What unanticipated impact might the proposals have on issues – relating to enforcement provisions and items like inspections/registrations.

How can the contract with the APA be updated to reflect policy or any other changes?

How do other cities handle ‘after hours’ enforcement – could we find out how Philly, Reading, Lancaster, etc. handle the issue.

How does the proposed alley obstruction changes relate to/conflict with the state code from a legal standpoint, from a policy standpoint based on the fire chief’s recommendation and does the city assume any liability or associated risks with allowing the alley to be obstructed in any manner?

5. A future meeting will be scheduled.

[15-5801](#)

Bill 30 Forwarded with the recommendation to remove the provision that allows parking in alleys.

Amending the Chapter 615, Vehicles and Code, of the City of Allentown Code by increasing the distance a car can be parked from a curb from 6 to 9 inches, allow council by resolution to provide an exemption to parking In front of a private driveway or alongside any street or highway excavation or obstruction, or opposite the same under certain conditions, allowing parking in alleys that are less than 20 feet wide provided there is a 12 foot passage and the car is not parked on the sidewalk, allowing impounded vehicles to be released if the owner is in compliance with a payment plan and re-moving all imprisonment penalties.

Sponsors: Affa, Gerlach, Hendricks, Napoli, Mota and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [Bill 30 Parking Bill](#)
[Council Proposals APA](#)
[APA Response to Council Sidewalk-Alley Issues](#)
[Allentown Parking Authority Legislative and Policy Recommendations](#)
[Councilor Suggestions/Questions](#)
[Letter to Honorable City Counsel of Allentown - 3.22.23](#)
[Allentown Parking Authority Code](#)
[An Ordinance](#)
[Ordinance #15898](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that as was testified to tonight. Just up until this date today. There was a total of 1,429 calls for service to the Parking Authority outsider of those hours. Those calls will end up with our Police Department. He asked Chief Roca if he is prepared for that excess workload to fall on your department.

Chief Charles Roca stated that it would definitely stress our officers. It would be dependent upon the Calls of Service.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this will result in many people with valid complaints for parking for long waiting times.

Chief Charles Roca stated that it can be depending upon the calls of service. The Parking Authority has worked with the Allentown Police Department in the past to work with the 24/7 coverage and has to have alleyways cleared. He stated that the conversation can happen and they can do it fairly with conversation and considering discretions.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she would like to make an amend.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if anybody on the dais wants to move forward on a Motion on any of these recommendations.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated point of order. There is a motion on the floor and has been seconded. That has to be discussed first.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that the purpose of having these things in front of you because these were conceptual schemes and not these specific amendments. They wanted a sense of what Council wanted. If you want that, then at the next meeting it would be specific amendments to the hours.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she can make not an amendment, but a conceptual idea.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you can make a motion to have an

amendment drafted to your hours.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that Council has to discuss Mr. Zucal's amendment first. Ms. Gerlach seconded it. Let's have a discussion now.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that it is important to clarify actively patrolling, looking for issues versus residents calling and requesting a car to be moved because they can't get in their garage.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that these are calls for service.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she would support a 100 percent restriction of the hours worked and what Ms. Affa was leaning towards, she understands that there are parking issues. She does not think with the gun violence and crime that the cops have time to deal with parking issues. Their time is better spent preventing crime, engaging with the community, and doing active patrols like violence. Where she differs from Mr. Zucal, is even though she is ok with reducing the hours, in addition to everything else they got to do.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he will agree with them. That should not be their job. This is an issue that has become an issue because how the enforcement has been done with the Parking Authority. He stated to Mr. Hendricks how he always tells him that the Allentown Parking Authority is not issuing tickets. He does not understand all of a sudden it is an issue for the Allentown Police Department.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he recognizes that call volume will work heavily on the word load at hours in which they are extremely busy. Those are quality of life issues.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he has a question. Earlier this evening Mr. Zeller mentioned internally at the board meeting that we were already discussing these measures. He asked to review again how the Parking Authority will handle nighttime enforcement.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that at the next board meeting he was going to make a motion internally to limit active patrol enforcement after 9:00 PM. The issue you deal with if you cut off at 5:00 PM or 6:00 PM. You got the arena. You will have a total parking free for all until their events can start at 7:00 PM or 8:00 PM. The Parking Authority has now built up the enforcement. The police officers will say that they are willing to do anything because it is their job. It is not fair to them because it is not the best use of their resources.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that at the last board meeting, they started that conversation and at the next board meeting will come up with something.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated to Mr. Zeller stated he said his idea was from 9:00 PM. He is will to change his amendment from 9:00 PM to 6:00 AM.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you mean from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated no. Mr. Zeller wants 9:00 PM.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated from 8:00 AM to 9:00 PM.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated from 9:00 AM to 6:00 PM. He was proposing the Parking Authority's internal policy. Those were the hours that he was going to propose in the internal policy.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he will change his amendment to those hours.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that active patrols will be limited after 9:00 PM and will not reengage until 6:00 AM. That does not solve the dispatch problem for the Police.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if it would be someone there. This is patrol from 8:00 PM to 9:00 AM. She asked if there will be someone there for a call to service.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that if it is after 9:00 PM and if you take away enforcement hours, is Parking Authority supposed to rubber band. They do not have any power of enforcement so there is nothing really they can do. If the Parking Authority does not have the enforcement powers after 9:00 PM, there is no reason for them to dispatch.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they would not have to patrol the alleys.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that Mr. Hendricks and Ms. Gerlach had a great point. On Friday and Saturday nights, people are leaving at a certain hour. Even at 10:00 or 11:00 at night double parking and going into bars. That is putting more of a strain on our Police Department.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that their internal procedures is that they will keep the dispatch 24/7. The Police officers would not get the calls and they still would have people there to dispatch.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that he thinks that is where the disconnect is. Mr. Zeller is speaking to the fact that the amendment is saying that it would not

be enforcement after 9:00 PM, but the hope is that the dispatch will still be available.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she thought there will be no dispatch after 9:00. The Parking Authority closes down period at 9:00.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that is what he interpreted Mr. Zucal's amendment to state.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if they could play around with the language. Not enforcement, but active patrol.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated they don't have to vote on that tonight.

Ms. Candida Affa stated after 9:00 or 10:00 there is no patrolling, but there is a dispatch.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that the amendment would say from x amount of time to x.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that even if he does not have anybody at the Dispatch Center, who will respond to that call.

Mr. John Morgan stated that even if he does not have anybody at the Dispatch Center, who will respond to that call.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated as Mr. Napoli said, we are going to change the terminology.

Mr. John Morgan stated that there is not going to be anyone to do enforcement.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that guesses that the Parking Authority has to hire someone, if that is what you want to do.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that on their way back and they see a blatant violation of Public Safety apparently they are not going to be able to do anything because that might be outside of the dispatch.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that could be problematic. He asked if they were ok with tabling this for now.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that it is all language.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks suggested to table and work on it.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that the sense to what they want is that they want active enforcement from 6:00 AM - 9:00 PM on Monday through Friday, 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM on Saturday, nothing on Sunday. You want the dispatch to be working, but no roving active patrol.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it will fall on the police.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach made a point to the concern. If she calls APA because she has an issue. APA comes out. They fix her issue and ticket the person that she wants to get ticketed. On their way back to the garage where they park they see someone parked in front of a fire hydrant. To her, it is not an active patrol because you are going to Destination A to Destination B. Active patrol, is driving around, looking for issues. That is different.

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked what do you want done on Saturdays and Sundays.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that is a problem.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that there was a situation when Mayor O'Connell was Mayor and it was on Martin Luther King Boulevard and people were parking for something. He gave them permission to park.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that there are 112 events at the PPL Center. A whole bunch will be on Saturday and Sunday.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they are looking at to stop the patrolling.

Mr. Ted Zeller asked when is the next session you are going to speak about this.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that Council has not decided yet.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that you want active enforcement from 6:00 AM to 9:00 PM on Monday through Friday. On Saturday, from 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM. At all other times, no active enforcement.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated when you go to Philly stated she got a bunch of tickets in Philly. She stated that maybe they should not do this. Part of the reason is some blocks they are enforced to a certain time. Every block is different. Is that a strategy or frowned upon.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that Allentown is woefully deficient in signage.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that if the concern is the arena, will most people park in the garage.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the problem is people gaming illegal parking and not going into the garage.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that it is happening. People park on Hamilton Street. He sees people getting out of their cars with Phantom jerseys. The price of the violation on Hamilton Street is sometimes the price of the deck.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked why not make the enforcement later on Hamilton Street.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that there is a defined business district. When they did the flex parking ordinance with flex rates at the parking meters to drive people into the decks and try to keep the street clear. They defined a center business district area.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that one of the things that they don't want to do is overloading our Police Department.

Chief Charles Roca mentioned the Public Works Department. He stated that Police Department can't tell when it is going to be bad weather or snow. Our plow needs to go through. If there is no enforcement, you are going to take a significant number of the Police force to address that. Coming up with something fair is in the best interest the public. Having conversation and coming up with something fair is in the best interest of this city where it is done appropriately.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that Chief Roca is right. They have been called into to assist streets for snow removal.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that you can't take too much from the Parking Authority because they are a necessary evil. The city needs them and the Police needs them. The whole thing is patrolling. Giving unnecessary tickets. These people are trained to uphold the laws that we make.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated what they are dealing with is quality of life issues. The message will get out pretty quickly if we have no enforcement on Sunday or Saturday evenings. They game the system all the time. This will not be wise. Most importantly, public safety. The warm weather is upon us. The stated that he will always support public safety.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she remembers when she first moved to Allentown. She always lived on the same block. Parking was not enforced.

She asked for data to show it was catastrophic to stop enforcement at 6:00 PM.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that they got calls. This is when Mayor O'Connell put that in there. When this was changed it was because the constituents was calling and complaining and this is when the mayor said let's do this 24/7.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the trouble with that is he does not want to go back to the Allentown 10 years ago. He wants to shop at Assembly88 and go to the PPL Center. There are so much parking strains.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if those calls the Council was receiving is encapsulated in data.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated 1,429 calls is the workload that they will be placing on the Police Department. We either want the Parking Authority out there or we don't.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that there is a lot that we have to think about. The population has changed. We have more cars and we are dealing with a lot of issues. We do have to change the language. She stated to be honest, she is confused. She suggested that Council come back to this and changed the language.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated let's take a vote to discuss it at another time.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked for Council to set a date since they have a history of stating they will set something up and never does.

Mr. Michael Hanlon suggested to craft something and send to the vested parties, the APA and see what they think. Once you have something to talk about, then you have a meeting. He stated that can be on the 26th.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he agrees.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that he will forward the final Resolution on the internal policy which is addressing this issue before they even have their discussion. He stated that the Parking Authority's meeting is before that and he will still go forward with an internal policy.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that everybody seems to be ok with basically that prohibiting a ticket if a person is actively engaged in making a delivery. He asked Council if they want language crafted for that.

Ms. Candida Affa asked is that what they talked about allowing three to five minutes.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated yes.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is a no brainer.

Mr. Ed Zucal suggested five minutes. Let's just say you have an infant in the car. You are unloading groceries in the car and you have to take an infant in the house, come back out and you might have two to three trips.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that the APA has so many complaints on double parking. Three minutes is good.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that his only concern. Council has to be careful on Seventh and Hamilton. What they are doing is opening up a potential can of worms on more double parking and he thinks that is what folks don't want. It works great in the residential neighborhoods. If someone is on 17th and Turner, he has no problem with three minutes and five minutes. With the commercial corridors, we are opening ourselves up for a mess and that will affect customers and businesses.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that maybe Council can include the language of commercial.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if they can for the gentleman that is paying thousand of dollars in fees and fines for running his business. If we do eliminate a Hamilton and a Seventh Street, can we address the ordinance that prohibits delivery spots on Hamilton Street so that businesses that don't have a backdoor.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks suggested that they speak to Community and Economic Development on that. It is prohibited now.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that they have to figure something out. He is a merchant. He thinks like a merchant a supports his fellow merchants. He suggested that they have to figure something out in the commercial corridors. He stated at the board meetings, they were discussing delivery zones in our downtown districts about five or six months ago. They were sidetracked with all this other stuff. He stated to Mr. Simpson that he wants to get back to that and figure out a way to implement delivery zones that are every block to assist our merchants. and restaurants.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that the Parking Authority has the paperwork to start the study to try and identify the best drop off areas. They need cooperation

from the city level. It is not necessarily of to the Parking Authority to lead, but again, a lot of these complaints come before the Authority. They are trying to take as much as a leadership role that they can.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that they talk about the beer trucks for the restaurants, they talk about Greenburg, UPS, FedEx, and Amazon. It is something that needs to be addressed. As a board, they know they need to address it.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any others. He stated that he did not see any.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if he meant any other Motions. He asked if anyone else has any other Motions.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that the Motion will be developed. Council will convene again on the 26th.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Mr. Hanlon that he does not have anything else at this time.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked if the public comments on this or no.

Mr. Ted Zeller stated that it does not sound like it is passing.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated no. He already commented on it so they don't need to.

Motion Made by Ed Zucal, and Seconded by Ce Ce Gerlach to Change the Bill to:

Active patrols will be limited from 9:00 PM and will not reengage until 6:00 AM the following day.

Enactment No: 15898

ADJOURNED: 8:29 PM