



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, August 3, 2016

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation: Councilperson Guridy

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, stated that for the last five, six or seven years he has been asking about the Five Year Financial Plan. He asked Mr. Messinger why the Mayor doesn't want to release the Five Year Financial Plan. He asked Mr. Ray O'Connell if he is going to appointment an Investment Committee Review. He asked about the properties that we condemned on Hamilton Street and 8th Street for the NIZ Zone. Who paid for the properties that we purchased when we condemned them. Next year, will be a tough revenue year.

Mr. Dennis Pearson, 942 E. Tilghman Street, stated that the real reason of the decline of the city which started in the 1960s with the old Council/Mayor system of government. That was the start of the Allentown/Lehigh County Wastewater Sewage System. A request was made and honored and expanded in the 1970s and had a shift of power to the Lehigh County. With the strong Mayor system, the Mayor took the advantage to cause a renaissance in the city and using excessive power.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that he will make sure that is brought to his attention.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that he has not done that yet. He is looking at that. He stated that with the Five Year Investment Plan, we as a group asked Mr. Hanlon to check with the Mayor. He asked Mr. Messinger to write down the question on the condemnations.

Ms. Margarita Hessler, 1406 Hamilton Street - West Park Civic Association, asked to see more attention focused on quality of life issues

for both her neighbor and the city a large. There are four areas that should be looked at for increased funding. She requested for increased bicycle patrols, increased resources dedicated to the Sweep Program, litter removal, anything and everything that could be done to control, monitor absentee landlords within the neighborhood.

Ms. Iboyla Baylog, 1522 1/2 Chew Street - West Park Civic Association, talked about Sweep and how it could be very effective. She asked for the increased monitoring of rental properties, and landlord licenses and building inspections. She stated that part of their quality of life is the conditions of our streets. Several streets have been deteriorated from Turner Street from 10th to 7th which have been attended to, but getting worst and Chew Street the 1300 and 1400 blocks are dangerous to drive on.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated to Mr. Guridy that he had a comment at the last City Council meeting about these streets. If you want to say something briefly about that.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he agrees with Iboyla and knows that some of it is that UGI is changing some of the pipes and some are not. He stated that he has been on Council for 15, almost 16 years and he thinks this is the worst that he has seen the city streets.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that in defense of our city workers and Mr. Messinger can probably explain better than anybody what the status, what the problems and how they are going to be fixed.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that as far as Chew Street, UGI is there right now replacing the main-end services. That roadway will be restored and paved this year. As far as Turner Street, there are two to three blocks scheduled for next year. As far as the paving goes, there is a lot of paving because of the cast-iron UGI pipes that are being replaced and the services. Now, UGI is hitting 10 -15 miles per year.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that is a great point. The issue is when they come back to cover the holes, they should do a little bit better and we should be on top of them.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked anyone else for Courtesy of the Floor.

Mr. Mike Kaminski, 779 Benton Street, stated that he has been reading a lot lately about the reporting from The Morning Call and blogs about Pay to Play and non-oversight of our tax dollars. What can we do to get this city back on track? We have had a strong Mayor government since the 1970s

in the city. The city has been on the decline since the 70s. He asked that the city switch the city Charter and make a change from a strong Mayor form of government to a Council Manager form of government.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Kaminski and stated that he appreciates his comments.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Pearson.

Mr. Kenneth Laudenslager, 721 W. Cumberland Street, stated back in March he brought to Council's attention to open up Trexler Park for biking seven days a week. Three weeks ago, at a committee meeting when that section of the Ordinance was being revised would have been a perfect time to review the restriction. He was told that there would be a meeting by the end of the month. The end of the month has come and gone. He asked a Resolution to be drawn up for the next meeting Agenda.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that we have a meeting on August 24 at 5:00 PM. Hopefully, you can show up and we can have a resolution.

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker, 844 S. 11th Street, stated that a few meetings ago he asked the City Council when will the Controller make a report this year on the Audits he is doing and not doing? The public should know what he is working on.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated how about when we get to the Controller's Report.

Mr. Tom Hahn, 2016 E. Highland Street, stated that he sent an email to Mike to make sure everyone is aware of the questions was asking. He asked for Council to answer the questions from the email.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that they all have the email and he thinks there were more than one question. He asked anyone else.

Mr. Robert Trotner, 1920 Whitehall Street, talked about the Let's Build a New Allentown Together. He stated that everything everyone said tonight was very good. We need infrastructure and quality of life which is vital to the city. The Charter revision is definitely important. He talked about the Bernie O'Hare and Emily Opilo articles that were important and needs to be addressed about the Managing Director and the \$3.5 - \$3.8 million directly being paid to law firms and is the subject to investigations.

Dr. David McGuire stated that he reads the reporters of The Morning Call. He has not been privy to any important personnel changes in the city's administration. He asked if a law is being considered that worked for a

Congressman in Philly.

Mr. Robert Trotner stated Fattah.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Trotner. He asked any other comments.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that Mr. Walker is currently the head of Community Services for Children which is run out of the Old State Hospital property on the Eastside of Allentown.

Approval of Minutes: None

Old Business: NONE

Communications: NONE

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**Budget and Finance: Chair Guridy, Hendricks, Mota**

The Committee met on July 27th; a future meeting is scheduled for August 24th at 6:30 PM to have a presentation from the Controller's interns, review the monthly finances and to review the Finance Departments budget priorities, goals and objectives, successes and failures, capital projects and any personnel or organizational changes being considered for next year (pursuant to council's rules).

Community and Economic Development: Chair McGuire, Guridy, Mota

The Committee met on July 27th; the next meeting is scheduled for August 10 at 5:30 to review the Departments budget priorities, goals and objectives, successes and failures, capital projects and any personnel or organizational changes being considered for next year (pursuant to council's rules).

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Affa, MacLean, McGuire

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Affa, O'Connell

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a meeting has been scheduled for August 17th at 6:30 to review two bills and on August 24th at 5:00 PM take a look at extending the biking days at Trexler Park and to review the Departments budget priorities, goals and objectives, successes and failures, capital projects and any personnel or organizational changes being considered for next year (pursuant to council's rules).

Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, MacLean, Affa

The Committee met this evening. The next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Public Works: Chair MacLean, McGuire, O'Connell

The Committee met this evening; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chair O'Connell, Hendricks, Guridy

The Committee has not met since the last meeting; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

City Controller's Report

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that the last time I said there will be some audits coming out. The Dental Audit has been postponed for a week or two to allow the administration to properly respond to it. The February bank

reconciliation has been posted. There were no issues. We did the contract receivable audit and these are available on the Controller's website. Unfortunately, you have to ask for them. We are working with Mr. Leibert with IT so that the information can flow more freely. The interns will be reporting out on the 24th. They worked on Liquid Fuels and Daycare Permits.

APPOINTMENTS: None

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-951](#)

Bill 36 CEDC, Recommended Favorably
Amending the 2016 Health Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$15,415.60 (Fifteen Thousand Four Hundred and Fifteen dollars and sixty cents) as a result of funds from the Pennsylvania Department of Health (PADOH) for the purchase of supplies for the Childhood Injury Prevention Program and the Nutrition and Physical Activity Program. These funds will be used to purchase additional safety items (car seats, bike helmets), community garden signage and advertising and program materials for the Million Hearts initiative.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 36 Injury Prevention Program](#)
[Bill 36 Memo](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that it is simply the purchase of additional safety items as part of our injury prevention and nutrition and physical activity program.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that it passed 3 - 0. He asked any questions from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15300

[15-964](#)

Bill 37 Public Safety, this evening
Amending the 2016 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Thirteen Thousand Seven Hundred Eighty-Nine Dollars and Seventy-Nine Cents (\$13,789.79) as a result of a grant from the Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania Office Of The State Fire Commissioner Grant, to the Allentown Fire Department to provide for Fire Department Training Equipment to be used at the Training Academy.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 37 OFSC Grant for Training Equipment Revised](#)
[Fire equipment Memo](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this additional funds will help with training to the fire department. Some of it is entry type training and entering doors forcefully. Training on the fire tower.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any questions from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15301

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15301

[15-949](#)

Bill 38 CEDC, Recommended Favorbaly
Amending the 2016 Health Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Forty Eight Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$48,700.00) as a result of a grant from Highmark to provide for training and support to the Allentown Health Bureau in establishing a quality improvement and quality assurance plan to better serve the community and to meet the requirements for public health accreditation.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 38 Health Training](#)
[Highmark Memo](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that this is the funding that we spoke about that will allow us to put the staff through a training program with a community input forum. It will position us favorably toward public health accreditation.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Ms. Kistler. It was a 3 - 0 vote favorably to the entire Council. Any questions from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15302

[15-948](#)

Bill 39 Public Safety, this evening
Amending the 2016 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$62,459, reflecting recieving funds from Department of Justice Grant 201-H3953-PA-DJ for \$62,459 for the Allentown Police Department (\$40,374) and Lehigh County Regional Crime Center (\$22,085). The funds are to be used for the purchase of a simulator for training dealing with force scenarios.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 39 2016 JAG Ordinance](#)
[JAG Funding Memo](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this training equipment would allow an almost 3D type of screen. These officers are placed in situations and various scenarios where they must decide to similar to a shoot, don't shoot. This will be used for a nonlethal force. This is for new recruits as well as current officers on an annual basis.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this piece of equipment would allow a 3D type of screen which officers are placed in situations in various scenarios where they must decide whether to shoot or don't shoot. This has expanded to use nonlethal force. It is for training for new recruits as well as current officers on an annual basis.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. Hendricks and asked any comments or questions from my colleagues.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that he is fully in favor of the training for the police officers, but will abstain because his office will be a recipient of some of this grant.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any questions or comments from the public.

Yes: 6 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, and David McGuire

Abstain: 1 - Roger MacLean

Enactment No: 15303

[15-965](#) Bill 40 CEDC, Recommended Favorably - need an amendment to make effective date Sept 6
Amends Article 395, Community and Economic Development Fees, by changing the Zoning and License application fees, and deleting Weed Cutting notification requirements.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 40 Building Permit Fee Ordinance](#)
[Permit Fee Summary 7 9 16](#)
[Fee Review Memo](#)

Dr. David McGuire stated that the Committee recommended favorably. We needed an amendment to make the date effective September 6, 2016.

Ms. Shannon Calluori stated that they looked at fees for Zoning and

Building Permits and it was time to look comprehensively to all of the fees. The driving force behind this was that our electrical fees was pretty complicated at the last few years. We are making less complicated. We looked at comparisons with other municipalities as well as feedback from customers and changed fees in minor ways to be a little bit more consistent across the board. We asking the fees be implemented not ten days from, but on September 6th.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15304

[15-970](#)

Bill 41 Public Works, this evening
Amending Article 507 (Traffic Control Maps) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Allentown.

Attachments: [Bill 41 Traffic Control Map](#)
[Traffic Regulation Signs 7-11-16](#)

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it is basically making sure that all the items with the signs that were put in for no parking or for handicapped parking are actually put on our traffic control map.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15305

[15-969](#)

Bill 43 Public Works, this evening
Amending Article 539, Street Cleaning, by adding a provision exempting municipal vehicles engaged in official City business from certain penalties under the Street Cleaning program.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 43 Vehicle Exemption](#)
[Parking 2016](#)

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that it was sent to the full Council favorably.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any questions or comments from my colleagues or questions from the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15306

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):[15-1002](#)

R137

Requests the Allentown School District enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the City for sharing the costs of Crossing Guards

Attachments: [R137 Crossing Guard MOU](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that the school district has been very cooperative in this endeavor. I was at a meeting last September, October and we had some dialogue. The school district was very generous for the 2015 - 2016 school year to give the city \$100,000. For the 2016 - 2017 school year, they will up that \$150,000. He asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 29301

ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION (To be referred to Committee with public comment prior to referral)[15-1003](#)

Bill 44

Amending the 2016 Trexler Fund, to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Two Hundred Six Thousand Two Hundred Fifty Dollars (\$206,250) as a result of the increased amount for the Trexler Maintenance Grant as designated by Court Order.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 44 Trexler Maintenance Grant Appropriation](#)
[Trexler Maintenance Grant Memo](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues or the public.

REFERRED TO PARKS AND RECREATION

Enactment No: 15308

[15-1004](#)

Bill 45

Amending Article 734, Weapons, by adding Section 734.05, Failure to Report Lost or Stolen Firearms, requiring the reporting of lost or stolen guns and establishing penalties for such violation under section 734.99.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 3 Reporting Lost/Stolen Firearms](#)
[Gun Ordinance Memo](#)
[PA Senate Bill 1330- Stand Alone Law- Prohibits Ordinances on Firearms and Grants Standing to Sue \(Introduced on 6 24 16\)](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that we have an opinion from our Solicitor as well as the District Attorney stating that it should not be done. It is a waste of our time to be even looking at this again. It is regulated by the state.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Mr. MacLean and asked any comments from the public.

Mr. Eric Turner, 1324 S. 12th Street, stated that this is governed by the state and the city should not be enforcing it themselves.

Mr. Ray O'Connell invited Mr. Turner to the committee meeting when it goes to the committee. Any other comments from the public?

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

**RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):
NONE**

NEW BUSINESS

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that they received an email this evening or late this afternoon which he forwarded to all City Council regarding a property at 1039 Quebec Street. There are some pictures of the property being in disrepair and asked for Codes or Building Standards to look at the building.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked Mr. Messinger to make a note to get on that tomorrow with Code Enforcement.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she is on the Blighted Property Review Board and they have a meeting next Thursday. She will address this and ask if they could do something about the property.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Ms. Affa. He asked anything else for New Business.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that there was a very nice event this past weekend and it was the American Buick Classic at the old Boulevard Theatre Property. Mr. Bulgari has warehouses. It is very well developed and brought a lot of people to the city. That property has been developed. Mr. Bulgari has also supported the American on Wheels Museum.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that Mr. Bulgari is a very generous man. I believe he paid the debt on the American on Wheels for about \$600,000.

[15-523](#) Committee Members

Attachments: [Committee Members - 2016](#)

[15-382](#) Council Rules

Attachments: [Council Rules](#)

[15-948](#) Bill 39 Public Safety, this evening
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[Fee Review Memo](#)

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments regarding the entire Bill from my colleagues or the public.

A motion was made by Ray O'Connell, seconded by Julio Guridy, that this Ordinance be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15304

Yes: 7 - Ray O'Connell, Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, Roger MacLean, and David McGuire

Enactment No: 15304

ADJOURNED: 7:58 PM