



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, March 1, 2017

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation: Councilperson McGuire

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 on the Agenda this evening there is Bill 12. You are taking money from the unappropriated balance of the General Fund when there is no money in the unappropriated balance. He asked if the city saved money of the 2016 Bond refunding. He asked how much money we are getting out of the NIZ and the Cash Reserves.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated it is going to be introduced tonight and discussed. He stated that is a question for Budget and Finance. We did not have an Executive Session.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, 214 N. Saint Cloud Street - Allentown Tenant Association, talked about commercial properties are abysmal and showed a home with a big white fence around it has become a dumping ground with 15 televisions, eight mattresses, and washers and dryers. The front door and slide door are wide open. He stated that 413 and 417 Union Boulevard there is a pile of trash all the way down. He talked about 730 Hamilton Street and 139 W. Court Street looking like a trash pit.

Ms. Sharon Fraser, 25 N. 11th Street, stated that she is here as a representative for the Martin Luther and Coretta Scott King Memorial that is located at 4th and Martin Luther King Drive. They are in the process of making the memorial interactive. We have the final event that is called Stories the Shaped a Nation on April 28th. She stated that Nate Kline is the vice president.

Mr. Ray O'Connell thanked Ms. Fraser and stated let's make it an active

part. He asked any other individuals for Courtesy of the Floor.

Approval of Minutes: NONE

Old Business

Communications

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chair Guridy, Hendricks, Mota

The Committee met last week; a future meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 22, time to be determined.

Community and Economic Development: Chair McGuire, Guridy, Mota

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

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

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the committee will meet on March 15 at 6:30 PM to review legislation being introduced this evening regarding the solicitor's office.

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

The Committee met last week and forwarded legislation on this evening's agenda; a future meeting is not yet scheduled.

Public Safety: Chair Hendricks, MacLean, Affa

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a meeting is scheduled for March 15th at 5:45 PM to review legislation regarding a grant for Fire training equipment. .

Public Works: Chair MacLean, McGuire, O'Connell

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for March 15 at 6:45 PM to review an amendment to the Traffic Control Map.

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

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

City Controller's Report

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated no Controller's Report tonight, but the next meeting he should have two audits to discuss with Council. He would like to point out that a question was raised earlier about ECTB and if they were current on their Lease. Last year, the Controller's office did a contract receivables audit and the years that we audited which is 2014 and 2015, they were paying as agreed.

APPOINTMENTS: NONE

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):[15-1343](#)

Bill 6 Parks and Recreation, Recommended Favorably
Amending the 2017 Capital Fund to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eighty-Five Thousand (\$85,000.00) Dollars reflecting receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for the planning and development of a park along Basin Street.

Attachments: [Bill 6 Basin Street Park Development.doc](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it passed favorably, 3 - 0. She stated that Mr. Hendricks, Ms. Affa and myself went and saw Basin Street with Ms. Lindsay Taylor. She asked Ms. Taylor how many acres are we talking about.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that Bill 6 is an appropriation to reflect the grant we received of \$85,000 from DCED through their Greenways Trailways Grant. The funds represents use of a Master Plan and Remediation Plan for Basin Street. She stated that it is approximately 28 acres when you add two parcels together. With eight of those acres being potentially being developed by ACIDA. The remained of the two properties will be developed as park land.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated to Ms. Mota you said it was passed favorably, 3 - 0 last week. Any comments from my colleagues about Bill 6.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that there used to be in a flood zone. Have they fixed that so it won't be in a flood zone.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that some of the property in that total 28 acres is in the floodplain. When they are looking at improvements, we will be keeping them out of those areas.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if they can share what they are planning to do. You mentioned they are trying to develop it to be able to build more jobs.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the ultimate goal in working with ACIDA is that they have been wanting to develop that parcel for an industrial purpose. Their goal is to provide jobs to city residents.

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

Ms. Candida Affa stated that along with Mr. Hendricks and Ms. Mota we did look at the property and it is an impressive plan. It will develop jobs. We will have a small park system.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that it is \$85,000 and it is for planning and development of a park along Basin Street. How much development we are getting for that \$85,000?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that it is Basin Street parcel, the incinerator parcel that is the parkland, and the idea would be it will be a Master Plan and assorted soil testing.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if the park is connected to what.

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the incinerator was identified in the Connecting our Communities Trail Plan.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other 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: 15349

[15-1373](#)

Bill 9 Parks and Recreation, Recommended Favorably
West Park Fountain Restoration - Grant from the Century Fund

Attachments: [Bill 9 WEST PARK FOUNTAIN CENTURY FUND GRANT.doc](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it was passed favorably, 3 - 0. She asked Ms. Taylor to tell Council a little bit more. Why was it shipped so far?

Ms. Lindsay Taylor stated that the cast iron fountain in West Park was removed and sent to Alabama for a complete restoration and the total cost to restore the fountain will be just under \$43,000. They were the sole bidder on this project and have an extension resume on restoration projects.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other 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: 15350

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-1372](#)

R34 CEDC, this evening.
LANTA - Bicentennial Park Land Swap

Attachments: [R34 LANTA- Bicentennial Park Land Swap.doc](#)
[LANTA - Bicentennial Park Land Swap.pdf](#)

Dr. David McGuire stated that there was a discussion back and forth with the public and city staff members. We voted to recommend R34, 3 - 0.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any comments from my colleagues on R34 or the public.

Mr. Glen S. Hunsicker, 19th and Highland Streets, recommended Council table R34. You will be moving fence lines, and boundary lines. I think you need more information and proceed. Was there a title deed done on this?

Mr. Craig Messinger stated yes.

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

Yes: 5 - Julio Guridy, Daryl Hendricks, Cynthia Mota, Candida Affa, and David McGuire

No: 2 - Ray O'Connell, and Roger MacLean

Enactment No: 29419

15-1400

R46

Cedar Crest College RACP Grant application for renovations to the athletic field - pass through.

Attachments: [R46 RACP Cedar Crest Athletic Field Renovations Grant.doc](#)

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this is a Pass-Through Grant. They changed a little bit of their style of how they do RACP grants. They get a pre-approval of the project prior to filling out all the final details of the paperwork.

Mr. Ray O'Connell stated that we have them for Building 21 and Muhlenberg College, and now we have it for Cedar Crest College. If we hypothetically vote no, what happens. He stated \$1 million to improve an athletics field.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it is a requirement of the RACP Grant to have the local government submit this and run it as a pass through. It would put them in a bad situation. He stated that it would be for the special turfs, the drainage part of it. They have to do stormwater improvements.

Mr. Ray O'Connell asked any other comments from my colleagues or the public. He asked if it is fair to have a follow up on this on what they do with the \$1 million. He asked who recommends RACP grants, the state.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated of course. They have pre-authorization for this.

They will be submitting more of their plans. He stated the state.

Mr. Roger MacLean stated that this \$1 million is coming from the state and we are just passing it off to Cedar Crest College. Some of our tax dollars are in this money, but we can look at it like it is coming back to Allentown. It is costing Allentown nothing other than the administrative time to handle this grant.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated correct.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it is only permission to file the application.

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

Enactment No: 29420

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

[15-1392](#)

Bill 11 Public Safety

Amending the 2017 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of The State Fire Commissioner Grant, to the Allentown Fire Department to provide for new Thermal Imager Equipment.

Attachments: [Bill 11 - Commonwealth of PA Office of the State Fire Commissioner grant to purchase Fire Training Equipment](#)

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

REFERRED TO PUBLIC SAFETY

[15-1404](#)

Bill 12 HR, Administration and Appointments, this evening
Amending the 2017 General Fund budget by deleting the position of Administrative Assistant (07N) and adding the position of Litigation Paralegal (08N) in the Law Office.

Attachments: [Bill 12 Litigation Paralegal Position Law Office](#)

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

REFERRED TO HUMAN RESOURCES, ADMINISTRATION AND APPOINTMENTS

[15-1405](#)

Bill 13 Budget and Finance, Recommended Favorably
Amending the 2017 Grant Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000.00) from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of The Budget, Redevelopment Capital Assistance Project to the City of Allentown as a pass through grant

to Cedar Crest College for the Athletic Field Renovations project.

Attachments: [Bill 13 CEDAR CREST COLLEGE RACP GRANT.docx](#)
[CEDAR CREST COLLEGE RACP GRANT AWARD LETTER.pdf](#)

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

REFERRED TO BUDGET AND FINANCE

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

None

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 7:36 PM