

## Allentown

435 Hamilton Street Allentown, Pa. 18101

### **Minutes - Final**

# **City Council**

Wednesday, May 2, 2018 6:30 PM Council Chambers

#### **Special Meeting**

Call to Order: President MacLean

Discussion: Financial Plan

Special Meeting: EIP Multi-year Financial Planning

Mr. Guridy called the meeting to order. Affa, Hendricks, Mota, Robinson, Zucal were present.

He noted we are interested in getting a good handle on our finances - we have recently seen the school district undercover a deficit. Mr. Kelly is here to explain a program available for financing.

Jamal Kelly, Local Government Policy Specialist, DCEC, gave an overview of the Early Intervention Program. The program provides financial assistance for a multi-year financial plan and the maximum funding is \$200,000 with a 50% matching requirement that is scaled down based on the financial shape of the city. The components of the plan could include a management audit, collective bargaining review, service level review, costing out financially changes in management structure, review of service level and delivery. We are pushing asset management - assess items and ability to replace them over the long term. Cash flow would be reviewed.

Jamar reviewed previous city plans which would indicate a cost somewhere in the vicinity of 90,000 to 130,000 and at that time the state was paying up to 80% of the costs but that would be based on the city's financial position. At a minimum there would be a 50/50 split. Based on data supported to the DCED there is evidence you would get a reduced cost. The report typically generates 50-120 recommendations relating to finances; and a base for making decisions. The report is presented at a public meeting and becomes a public document. The report can become a basis for making good financial decisions.

Mr. Kelly noted the cost of the program would related to the ask in the proposal and the results of your most recent audit. Based on what we have

seen, you would be eligible for a reduced match. We have a list of 20 firms that have the technical and legal capacity to produce a quality report.

Mr. Robinson noted the EIP prevents you from coming into distress -

Mr. Kelly noted it is to help us with service delivery and making better financial decisions. The name of the program is not the most attractive but it shows you are being proactive. Many clients - are financially healthy - take advantage of the program as a strategic planning event and good government.

<u>15-2287</u> EIP Docs

<u>Attachments:</u> <u>EIP Guidelines</u>

EIP Fact Sheet
EIP Sample RFP
2012 Draft Plan

Allentown EIP II 2008

## **ADJOURN**