



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, April 15, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Mr. Daryl Hendricks read the following memo: The City of Allentown is still conducting business. City Council and the Administration are maintaining critical services and protecting residents and employees during this troubling time. Our Health Department and Emergency Responders are doing exemplary jobs of keeping us all safe while we all work to "flatten the curve." City Council plans to conduct regularly scheduled Council Meetings within current guidelines issued by the state. Consistent with that goal of preventing community spread of COVID-19, Council will be making accommodations to conduct business. Our intent is to continue to ensure an open government by conducting regularly scheduled council meetings with active public participation, while implementing safety precautions established by the CDC and Commonwealth Health Department and following Governor Wolf's Order. These accommodations are shaped by guidance offered by the Pennsylvania Office of Open Records and are consistent with our Home Rule Charter and applicable laws. Council will only consider legislation that is essential and important to city operations - we do not plan to entertain any legislation dealing with sensitive neighborhood issues like re-zonings and the like. Those issues will be taken-up when appropriate. Council will not be scheduling committee meetings during this period and will be suspending council rules when necessary to make this happen. While the Council and City Hall doors are physically closed to the public, the Council Chambers are open to the public through electronic means. The public, City staff and councilpersons are afforded the opportunity to participate remotely. Councilpersons and city staff participating in chambers will follow CDC guidelines - six-foot separation, separate microphones and wearing masks. These efforts are geared towards minimizing the number of people in the room at the same time to protect against community spread of the virus. Also, to protect against community spread, members of the public are invited to participate in public comment and courtesy of the floor through electronic means. We will be making every effort to create as many opportunities for residents to comment on legislation and bring issues to Courtesy of the Floor. Public comments will be accepted in writing through an email to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov or sending an email to Public.Comment@Allentownpa.gov. Emailed public comment must be

submitted by 5:00 pm on the day of the meeting to make it available and distribute it. The comments received will be read into the record by the Council President. The email must follow the regular format of council meetings - include your name and address on the email. A Courtesy of the Floor section will be created for items not on the agenda. Please forward these requests to the City Clerk's email address above. These are all found on the City Council's website. Council will be taking live comments during the meeting following the regular protocols using email. Email can be sent to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov or to Public.Comment@Allentownpa.gov. A reminder that comments must be directed to legislation under review except for Courtesy of the Floor. The meeting is livestreamed and can be found at the city website: <https://www.allentownpa.gov/> under Public Meetings or simply go directly to the link <https://allentownpa.legistar.com/Calendar.aspx>. Make sure the drop-down menu references City Council and is on the current month. The complete agenda and legislation are found there. When the meeting starts, it will say Meeting in Progress on the right-hand side. Click that and you will join the meeting. The livestream works best with up to date browsers. After the meeting is over, the video will be uploaded into the file. Should you have any questions on this, please call the City Council Office at 610-437-7556. The video and minutes of the meeting will be posted on the City website as soon as possible after the meeting for review. The City will also make audio participation available through a Teams Meeting. Those instructions will be found on the city website. The livestream through the public meeting site will be a video.

Mr. Mathew Kloiber made the following clarification to Mr. Hendricks just to make sure that the email address may not have been heard correctly. It is Michael.Hanlon@allentownpa.gov and Public.Comment@allentownpa.gov.

[15-3539](#)

Memo from Council President Hendricks and City Council

Attachments: [Pres Hendricks and Council Memo](#)

Invocation: Councilperson Siegel

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call: Candida Affa and Cynthia Mota participated remotely using Microsoft Teams.

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

Courtesy of the Floor**Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules**

Please Note That Courtesy of the Floor and Public Comments during the Council meeting were sent via email to Michael.Hanlon@allentownpa.gov and Public.Comment@allentownpa.gov

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they received numerous emails from various individuals all in support of assisting the homeless population in the City of Allentown. Most have asked for our city leaders to offer support for these persons in a variety of different ways. He stated that he and his colleagues had an opportunity to review these emails and all will be posted in its entirety on the City Council website. In response to our homeless situation, he is making the following statement. The city has spent the last several weeks working with various organizations and community partners to identify resources to shelter the unsheltered during the Covid-19 pandemic. The Allentown Rescue Mission has 50 beds opened with the potential of another 30 beds, if expansion is necessary. The city has reached out to Easton to try to identify space for women and children. He stated that they do have a shortage of space for women and children. The city's Department of Community and Economic Development has secured 33 rooms at the Four Points Hotel on Hamilton Boulevard. These will be used to house homeless or unsheltered persons who need to be quarantined in an event of a positive test or exposure to Covid-19. The city remains in touch with Lehigh County and other organizations to try to identify further possible solutions.

Mayor Ray O'Connell thanked Council and stated that he and Leonard Lightner will be meeting with Superintendent Parker and his staff tomorrow to pursue options in the school district looking at facilities to utilize and address the homeless situation in the city of Allentown. They will have an update as they go forward in a few days.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that these emails were received before Courtesy of the Floor and were not related to the homeless population.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that even though these comments have been posted online, he believes that Mr. Hendricks will identify them by name as well and location.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated yes, he will do that.

Pursuant to the Solicitor's advice, Mr. Hendricks went through the names and addresses of those that submitted comments on the homeless. They also noted in their entirety here as they were received by the City Clerk.

Ms. Hope Sabbagh, 63 Pershing Blvd, Whitehall - no address given, I am writing you in concern for our homeless community during the COVID-19 pandemic that has impacted our nation, but most importantly our local community. I have participated in homeless coordinating committee meetings for the past two years alongside working with the homeless and various agencies. As you know, the Allentown Warming Station stopped its nightly program after March 21, into a Code Blue Shelter. This change only would allow homeless individuals to seek shelter when the weather is forecasted under 32 degrees. Due to the spring and the increase of temperature, the code blue protocol will most likely not go into effect. Several agencies have been working together in trying to provide the basic necessities such as food and tents for individuals who have had their regular supports taken right from underneath them. I can personally say that the responsibility of taking care of the homeless have fell into the hands of a few good Samaritans, non-profit agencies, outreach health workers, and churches whom have chosen to be front line essential workers in making sure this at-risk population is being taken care of. The question that all agencies and advocates for the homeless need answers to, is how can the city appropriately manage quarantining a large number of individuals whom, a) have no shelter to quarantine, b) have no access to the resources they had prior to the shutdown of many restaurants and public indoor spaces, c) are living in tent city (outdoor encampments) without practicing social distancing due to survival and lack of resources, d) are released from the county jail without proper home plans and have fell into homelessness. In place to date 14 hand washing stations for the next two months have been designated in hotspots, in addition to obtaining several port-a-potties. Although these are being provided, most homeless people have felt an increase of abandonment, as there is no longer a place for people to seek shelter. The request is for the city to take an initiative in caring for the homeless population, who are often considered & hidden;. The city cannot ignore its constituents, no matter their status. It is our ethical and moral duty to take care of all humanity during trying times. We hope that a decision can be formed by a) implementing a space for an expanded encampment such as an ASD facility, Allentown Ag Hall, hotel, or a combination, b) the increase need for showering facilities and a water filtration systems, besides what OATH has been providing and, c) the county planning for such emergency contingencies. Finding a solution will help increase public safety, alleviate burn out, decrease public health concerns, and decrease crime. Most of all, it will restore hope in humanity.

Ms. Jennifer Miklus, Operation Address The Homeless - 316 Mahoning Drive East, Lehighton PA 18235, my name is Jennifer Miklus, a board member of Operation Address the Homeless. (OATH) As you are aware, we are a 501c3 based here in Allentown PA. During an online call between the nonprofits in the area who work with the homeless and unsheltered

communities a couple of weeks ago, I had raised the question about the city implementing the use of the convention center (PPL center) , or the school buildings (such as the gymnasiums) for providing shelter to the area homeless during the ongoing COVID19 pandemic.

If there are such plans in place to begin something of this nature, Operation Address The Homeless is able and willing to offer our resources to operate any such program. Since our inception we have envisioned a facility where we could house people who were transitioning back into society, while providing rehabilitative services to achieve our goal of preventing and ending chronic homelessness. We already have the connections and trust of the homeless population in the immediate Allentown area. The city councils Vice President has seen for himself, all the work that we do when he went with us into tent city. This puts OATH in a unique position to be able to successfully implement a program such as this at a time when it is needed the most. Operation Address The Homeless is currently feeding 1,400 people a week at our community center. Our program as you may already know, offers showers, clothing, food, and job opportunities to the area homeless 4 days a week at our center located at 221 N 7th Street in Allentown. COVID 19 has made us have to adapt how we run our program without losing or stopping any of our services. We would use our program outline and procedures to accommodate for any overnight sheltering that the city would need to put together. Our relationship with the local homeless community will allow us to successfully manage such a program. We would love to discuss with you the details of operational support that would be needed and what would be required of us to proceed. We also thank each and every one of you for the dedication to our cause, and causes like ours, but most importantly, your dedication to the City of Allentown.

Ms. Vanessa Perez, address not given, I want to urge the city to take action to help protect some of our most vulnerable residents, the homeless. The city must address the need for support so that the homeless are able to shelter in place safely keeping them safer but also keeping ALL residents safer. Resources must be provided to the encampment or a safe place must be established. Many building are not being used right now and could be a safe shelter in place for the homeless. PLEASE I urge you to consider this as you work to keep our community safe. Thank you for your work!

Mr. Chris Woods, no address given, the city must act to provide adequate shelter for our vulnerable homeless population during this time. It is impossible to socially-distance while living in the "Tent-City" or other forms of homelessness. We need the city to set up a sanitary location to house our residents experiencing homelessness during this time. It must provide shelter, cleanliness, and adequate distance for folks to keep themselves safe. This is the right thing to do for folks experiencing homelessness, but also to protect public health in general. We are all only as safe as the most

vulnerable among us.

Mr. Anthony DeFiore, 2352 W Fairview Street, 18104, requested address. Please help the Homeless now! Use ASD Facilities, Warehouses and any / all available space. We are our brother's keepers.

Ms. Ettore Angelo, no address given, now is high time for leadership to care for those lacking the bare necessities including a roof over their heads: let's provide meager but humane living spaces for our homeless, to relieve them in these horrible times and to also create solutions that address this indefensible situation long term. Where hides this supposed great nation? Greatness cannot be bought with a narcissist & baseball cap! The greatness of humanity is not in being human, but in being humane. Mahatma Gandhi

Ms. Angela Moyer, MDiv, OTR/L 1321 Hamilton St, Allentown, PA 18102, RIPPLE-Allentown, co-pastor, my name is Angela Moyer and I live at 1321 W Hamilton St 18102. I am a co-pastor of Ripple Church and am again expressing my concern for the health and safety of all residents during this pandemic. Given the immense importance of hand washing and the 'stay-at-home' policy, we have many residents who do not have access to running water to wash hands, a safe place to go the bathroom, or a safe place to shelter. This places them at significant risk for contracting the virus themselves and spreading it to throughout the community. Most social service agencies are not fully operating at this time. Those that are in operation are overwhelmed. As a resident in Allentown, I request that the city open J. Birney Crum stadium – or a similar site - as a temporary shelter during this pandemic. In this location, people would have access to bathrooms, sinks for hand washing, and an opportunity to keep a safe social distance from others while continuing to receive essential social services such as food and medical care. I am concerned with the failure of the City to act on behalf of the safety of its vulnerable residents, which makes all residents more susceptible to this virus.

Ms. Ethel Drayton-Craig, Allentown Resident, I urge the City to take action on behalf of those among us who are forgotten, namely the Homeless individuals and families of Allentown. The City needs to take immediate action, this week, to establish a clean and safe place for the Homeless to "shelter in place" during the pandemic. Provisions can be made at the current encampment; a stadium such as J. Birney Crum; or best: A hotel, closed building, or school. I trust that you will do the right thing and act promptly.

Rev. Rose Bender, 1527 W Livingston Street, I am writing as a Pastor and an Allentown resident--I am VERY concerned about how services have shut

down during the pandemic for those who are MOST vulnerable. How we care for our most vulnerable is crucial and says so much about who we are as a city and a community. As someone who is connected to RIPPLE Community Inc and supports their ministry and who has parishioners that rely on their support--I request that the city open J. Birney Crum stadium; or a similar site - as a temporary shelter during this pandemic. In this location, people would have access to bathrooms, sinks for hand washing, and an opportunity to keep a safe social distance from others while continuing to receive essential social services such as food and medical care. Please be on the right side of history and on the right side of justice--and take this action! Some of you claim to be for 'the people'--so take this action. CeCe--that includes you. Josh--you stood on my doorstep when you campaigned and promised that you wouldn't forget those in need of affordable housing. Candida--when I talked to you a fundraiser--you admitted that indeed the democratic party in Allentown had failed its people. Thank you for your consideration.

Ms. Allison Mickel, Ph.D., - 1204 W Market St Bethlehem, Homeless individuals are among the most vulnerable in our community. When we are told to "shelter in place," they lack precisely this-- shelter and place. As the rest of us enjoy the safety and comfort of our homes, there are dozens of people in Allentown who have no roof, no heat, no running water to stay clean. It is impossible to stay healthy in ordinary times under these conditions, and now, the more we learn about COVID's ability to stay in the air and on surfaces, not providing our homeless community members a safe place to shelter is a death sentence for many of these people. The city of Allentown must step up and provide a place for homeless community members to shelter in place. Hotels, schools, and dormitories are currently vacant or nearly so. We have the space and the means, what is missing is the action.

Ms. Phyllis Alexander, 127 S. 13th Street - Allentown, COVID-19 has placed a spotlight on the fissures within our systems. We are noticing many realities: the disparities we have grown accustomed to living with – we just turn our head, and the disparities we have tried to address with a Band-Aid, but now the band-aid is hanging off. In this time of crisis, the pain is worse and cannot be ignored. Homelessness – what a challenge. Allentown, as the City Without Limits, is surely not going to avert our gaze from our Homelessness challenge. And while I believe in addressing underlying issues rather than allocating band-aids, I encourage you in this time of crisis to partner with the appropriate resources to establish a place for the homeless to "shelter in place" either at an encampment, school district property, or hotel. Lastly, once the COVID-19 crisis has abated, I implore you to redouble all efforts to address the underlying issues of our homelessness population. Let's not go back to normal. Thank you for your

consideration of my requests.

Ms. Christine Talley, 29 S 14th St, there is a severe lack of support for our homeless community. They need safe housing with running water for sanitation during these difficult times with COVID 19.

Ms. Carol Gonzalez, 123 N Franklin Street, Hello Mr. Hanlon & Allentown City Council Members, I have been very concerned about the homeless being able to adhere to the shelter in place request. Each time I had the occasion to go to downtown Allentown, I see them walking the streets and sometimes with other people. As you know, this non-adherence could be contributing to the community spread of Covid 19. I know the Y is closed to them. I am not aware of any other shelters they were previously housed in. What is being done for them to shelter in place? If action hasn't already been taken to remedy this, something should be done immediately to remedy their situation, protect them and other constituents. Thank you.

Ms. Enid Santiago, 1243 S. Jefferson Street, I would like to express my frustration at the lack of communication by our Public/Elected Officials in regard to this pandemic. I also will like an update from the homeless coalition in regard to a safe place for our un-sheltered community. I have personally helped OATH the last 4 Sunday's by providing hot meals for our homeless community. This Sunday we fed OVER 135 un-sheltered residents. Tent city alone has grown to almost 50 residents. The community has been hearing "we are working on something" for 3 weeks now, how much longer are these human beings going to last in this pandemic. I would also like to THANK Chief Glenn Granitz for the AMAZING job the APD has been doing keeping the community informed and being present. Also thank you to Craig Messinger and the public works team who continue to do a phenomenal job under dire circumstances.

Mr. Luis Acevedo, Baker Drive, 1- why haven't we had a local press conference on Covid-19 and insuring the community that Allentown PA is ready and is working together with hospitals and with local emergency management to address the community concerns on this crisis. 2- what has the city of Allentown done to address the homeless situation during this crisis to prevent the spread. 3- what is the city doing about these landlord that are evicting tenants. We see them in fb Allentown concern page. 4- How is the city preparing once this crisis is over and shelter in place is lifted and many don't get called back to work. What are we going to do when these tenants that will get evicted and don't have a place to go. What are we going to do with families that don't have enough money to put food on their table. What are we going to do with family that can't catch up with their bills that was put on delay to shut off, like light, gas, water and it gets

shut off.

Ms. Marilyn Bender, 26 N. 16th St., Dear City Officials, As a city resident, one of the Ripple Church pastors and as Community Chaplain at Ripple Community Inc., I am writing with a concern for my unsheltered neighbors who are trying to navigate this confusing and frightening pandemic. Many of the services they relied on are unavailable or closed. Ripple Community Inc., with reduced staffing, continues to offer a safe respite and support. This, however, is not enough in the midst of this public health crisis. What is needed is temporary shelter and a safe place for folks to quarantine. Without a safe place to shelter and quarantine, this virus will spread even more rampantly throughout the city. As a resident in Allentown, I request that the city open J. Birney Crum stadium or a similar site - as a temporary shelter during this pandemic. In this location, people would have access to bathrooms, sinks for hand washing, and an opportunity to keep a safe social distance from others while continuing to receive essential social services such as food and medical care. I am concerned with the failure of the City to act on behalf of the safety of its vulnerable residents. When the least among us are cared for, then we know all of us are well-off. Thank you for considering this urgent request.

Ms. Sharon Finnegan, Allentown, no address given, I am deeply concerned about the very vulnerable homeless population in Allentown, who deserve an escalation of support in this time of crisis. While the new sanitation stations and porto potties are important and I'm sure, appreciated, the equally critical issues of water filtration, rugged, substantial tents, and dumpsters have not been addressed. The recently formed committee set up by the City Council to focus on the needs of the homeless should be addressing these very things. I am asking City Council members to take action now to establish a place for our homeless brothers and sisters who are perilously at risk, to "shelter in place" either at a school district property, a hotel, the existing Tent City encampment, or some combination of these.

Ms. Brenda Fernandez, no address given, I'm writing to express my frustration for our homeless community yet again being forgotten. Tent city alone has tripled its residents just in the past few weeks. Non profits in the area are the only ones that seem to care and continuously step up. What is the city doing for this population?? why they being treated as disposable. The community is demanding answers?? I will also like to THANK Chief Glenn Granitz for the AMAZING job the APD has been doing keeping the community informed and being present. Also thank you to Craig Messinger and the public works team who continue to do a phenomenal job under dire circumstances. And most importantly thank you to the community leaders for stepping up to the front lines during this hard time. As a city resident, one of the Ripple Church pastors and as a member of

the the Board at Ripple Community Inc., I am writing with a concern for my unsheltered neighbors who are trying to navigate this confusing and frightening pandemic. Many of the services they relied on are unavailable or closed. Ripple Community Inc., with reduced staffing, continues to offer a safe respite and support. This, however, is not enough in the midst of this global health crisis. What is needed is temporary shelter and a safe place for folks to quarantine. Without a safe place to shelter and quarantine, this virus will continue spread even more rampantly throughout our city. We all need to work as a community to flatten the curve in Allentown and the Lehigh Valley as a whole.

Ms. Charlene Smalls, 442 N 4th Street, as a resident in Allentown, I request that the city open J. Birney Crum stadium or a similar site - as a temporary shelter during this pandemic. In this location, people would have access to bathrooms, sinks for hand washing, and an opportunity to keep a safe social distance from others while continuing to receive essential social services such as food and medical care. I am concerned with the failure of the City to act on behalf of the safety of its vulnerable residents. When the least among us are cared for, then we know all of us are well-off. Thank you for considering this urgent request.

Ms. Yahaira Washington, 713 North Nelson Street, I am a long-time resident of our city, and I am writing to you to express my concern about recent discussion and possible pending decision to help our Homeless population during this pandemic and unprecedented times. The nation is under a SHELTER IN PLACE order; however, our homeless population has NO WHERE TO SHELTER IN PLACE. We are aware of the astonishing rate of growth the current homeless encampments are experiencing, we are also aware of multiple NEW encampments that have popped up throughout our city, ranging anywhere from 1 to 20 tents. The Rescue Mission is the ONLY shelter open and it is ONLY for single men. That leaves me with the question; what are our homeless families and women supposed to do?? At this time, our city needs extraordinary LEADERSHIP! Leadership that is willing to think outside of the box. Leadership that is willing to UNDERSTAND and make effective CHANGE. Leadership that is willing to assist this population as it SHOULD! I am asking you, Mr. Hanlon does the City of Allentown have THIS leadership? The City of Allentown has a number of locations/buildings, which CAN and SHOULD be utilized to help mitigate these extenuating circumstances. This is not a matter that should be ignored or looked at for someone else to fix. This is a CITY problem, and the should be led by our City; therefore, I leave you with the questions; WHAT IS THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN DOING TO FIX THIS PROBLEM? HOW is the City of Allentown going to help our homeless population during this pandemic? How is the City of Allentown going to ensure that these individuals have a SAFE place to shelter in

place? I am aware of the progress made over the past three weeks, through Ce-Ce Gerlach efforts; however, we MUST do more! We can do BETTER! I thank you for your time and I look forward to seeing effective change, in this regard.

Ms. Ashley Velazquez, 521 E 5th st, Bethlehem, PA, Hello Allentown Council Members, I am writing on the behalf of a group of Lehigh Valley residents who are concerned about what is being done to protect the Lehigh Valley homeless population. Inspired by the actions of the cities of Erie. Pa and Columbus, Oh, we have recently sent emails to local hotels requesting that they open their doors to the unsheltered in the Lehigh Valley. We commend the efforts of individuals and organizations who are providing necessities to people forced to live outdoors or in tents. However, while hotels and apartment buildings stand empty there should be no reason people have to stay outdoors, especially during an international crisis. We are reaching out for support. We can't have anymore people stay in the streets any longer. How can city council help or promote our campaign? Here's how council members in Erie found funds to pay the participating hotel link. Below is the email we sent to the hotels to provide some more details about our request.

—

Dear X Management,

In this time of crisis, we urge you to protect our community from the COVID-19 pandemic by opening your doors to the homeless. Lehigh and Northampton counties currently have a stay-at home order. According to the Morning Call, "The homeless are not subject to the order but are strongly urged to find shelter, and government agencies are asked to help provide shelter for them." Local shelters did not have the capacity to help the entire homeless population prior to the pandemic, so requiring government agencies to provide shelter will further overwhelm them. We are in need of a different solution. Meanwhile, local hotels are empty and have the capacity to help. Hundreds of rooms and beds are empty because of measures to stop the spread of COVID-19. Fortunately, the COVID-19 Stimulus Package will pay \$877 billion dollars to both large and small businesses across the nation. The hotel industry will certainly receive government help as their rooms sit vacant. Helping the community during the pandemic will only improve the business image and attract more government aid that could offset lost revenue. We are beginning to see increasing numbers of institutions in Pennsylvania and the Lehigh Valley use their resources for good. The Avalon Hotel has opened their doors to the homeless in Erie, PA. Ramesh Diora, the Owner of the Avalon Hotel stated: "This is a tough time for everyone, and it is our duty to help out as much as we can. We are seeing similar actions being taken in our community already. Muhlenberg College in Allentown has provided a house

for Lehigh County Emergency Services. Moravian College in Bethlehem has designated 38 beds on their campus for doctors and nurses who need to isolate from their families. These examples show that it is possible and morally responsible to use any resources we have to help others. Housing homeless individuals not only protects some of the people who are most vulnerable, but also protects the wider community. By slowing the spread of COVID-19, we can prevent overwhelming hospital resources in the Lehigh Valley and reduce the total number of cases. The cost of opening your doors to the homeless is small compared to the lives it could save. If you agree with this request to help our community, we further ask that all staff operating the hotel are provided with adequate PPE and that social distancing measures are in place so that nobody job places them at risk. At the Avalon Hotel, volunteers were found to assist the homeless people staying there and to encourage social distancing. With the amount of people who are showing up to help their neighbors and community, volunteers can and will be found. Hotels that are already closed can be utilized and staffed with volunteers. Employees at operating hotels will not be put in further risk with the presence of volunteers and adequate personal protective equipment. Please contact us with any questions or other concerns that need considering. Signed, Concerned Community Members of the Lehigh Valley.

Ms. Ashleigh Strange, 815 S. Front St, I'm Ashleigh Strange and I live in Allentown, not far from "Tent City" on MLK Blvd. Times are exceedingly hard for the homeless population. A homeless woman I know, Tracey, says that she can't even rely on handouts from people anymore because people won't give her cash for fear of spreading the virus. She and over 50 others live in squalor outdoors while the rest of the state has been told to shelter in place. In Erie, the county council made it a priority for homeless people to have shelter and made a deal with a local hotel for 2 floors for the duration of the virus. Why can't you do the same. This city council a short time ago started a commission to address homelessness and your inaction will lead to deaths of dozens of members of our community. If this council continues to do nothing about housing the homeless, then their deaths will be on your hands. Non-profits and churches are doing all they can to feed them, but they need someplace to stay. I'm sure you all washed your hands at least once today. Our homeless community cannot do the same. It's clear you don't care about them because most are unable to vote for you but it could easily be any one of you in that position. Use whatever tools necessary: schools, hotels, dorms, etc. to house them now.

Mr. Luke Ziegler, 5371 Bluebird Dr, New Tripoli, PA 18066, I hope you and your family are well during these difficult times. I appreciate the support of local Allentown Government officials for the folks without shelter in the form of Porta potties and sanitation stations, and any funding provided for other

outreach and support programs. But this is not enough. People need roofs over their heads so they can follow shelter in place recommendations. Allentown School district has said they are open to discussions on housing folks within their facilities on a temporary basis, and I support that measure. As well as the idea many have called for of the state purchasing or using its authority to requisition housing from available rooms in hotels, motels, Air BNBs, and any other option presented. In my mind the measure of our government's performance is how well it provides for those who need it most. When the private sector fails to provide necessary services because there isn't a profit incentive, that's when we need to step up. I am asking that you use all power available to you to support housing the shelter-less community. To make sure that food, masks, hand sanitizer, and gloves, are made available to the folks who could not otherwise afford them. As well as providing any support you can to make sure people have access to free medical care. In a pandemic especially, it becomes clear that we are only as strong as the most vulnerable link in the chain. Please strengthen that link.

Ms. Sonia Davis, address not given, my name is Sonia Davis and I am a tax paying resident of Allentown, avid voter, and I work with very closely with the community especially the youth. Today, I am making comments on one of the many community issues we are facing in Allentown- homelessness. As of this very moment, this community issue is now magnified and should be viewed from the following perspective: Homeless During the 2020 Pandemic in Allentown. There are many reasons why a person and or family may end up homeless; however, the reason is not important right now. What is important right now are the basic needs of a human being- SHELTER. Before the 2020 pandemic, the capacity of our community shelters were met; this fact has not changed during the 2020 Pandemic. Amongst those who are homeless are approximately 800 students from the Allentown School District where these students had shelter and meals during school hours. As we are all aware, school is now closed until further notice. This grueling number is amongst the youth and families in the community that I serve. The numbers have risen for the youth and families of OUR Allentown Community who are living in encampments with no electricity or running water. This will not decrease the spread of COVID-19- just so you & know; as a result, we cannot sit around and let this particular issue work itself out

Enough about this particular issue, I'd prefer to finish up my floor comment discussing solutions that have been brought up amongst community members at large.

First thing first, every person who is a city official, serves on any committee and or board of Allentown need to do their part NOW more than ever- there is a solution for every issue be it big or small. Now is the time for the CITY to serve this specific group of individuals whose basic needs are not being

met. One can only empathize with what it may be like to be Homeless and on top of being homeless, being Homeless during the 2020 Pandemic.

Immediate ACTION:

- *Responsible officials of Allentown City MUST submit the application to HUD by June 30, 2020. This will release funds available to specific agencies that have the ability to allot monies to approach the long-term solution for the magnified homelessness issue within OUR Community

- *Come together to work together

Short-term solutions (in effect):

- *Sanitizing stations throughout encampment areas

- *Fully functioning porta potties near encampment areas

Additional short-term

Mr. Drew Swedberg, 1625 33rd Street SW, Allentown, PA 18103, My name is Drew Swedberg and I live on the South side of Allentown, 18103. I join in the chorus of voices that demand an immediate and care-centered investment in protecting and providing shelter for our residents experiencing homelessness. We cannot say that we support our health care workers in our city AND intentionally neglect the most impacted residents in the city - the individuals and families that don't have access to shelter. These actions are not compatible. If we are listening to doctors, scientists, reporters, and experts across the country we know this is counterintuitive. We have also seen stories of evictions, formal and illegal, happening across our city with little to no accountability over the last month. We also know that, despite the eviction moratorium, landlords could be eager to move people out as soon as that is lifted. I join the demand for the city to establish a place for the homeless to be able to "shelter in place" either at the encampment, school district property, a hotel, NIZ-funded housing, or the combination of the above. I also request that those residents who will be facing mass evictions afterwards are provided a policy-driven plan to prevent mass evictions from happening in our city when the eviction moratorium is lifted. I hope this email finds you all safe and healthy and I hope we can come together at this time to make this possible, for the care of the present as well as to build a more equitable future for the city.

Ms. Sherri Brokopp Binder, PhD, 1553 W Turner Street, Allentown
To the members of City Council: I am writing to ask for your careful consideration of sheltering needs for unsheltered residents of Allentown during the COVID-19 crisis. Other cities have demonstrated methods of protecting their unsheltered residents and, by extension, the broader community during this crisis. Effective methods have included the use of college dorms, hotel rooms, and, as I and others have previously suggested to city representatives as an emergency measure for Allentown,

temporary tent cities. Tonight, as City Council considers this issue, I want to highlight key components of an effective response. Whatever approach we take, it must:

- (a) ensure that residents can safely maintain physical distancing (this is nearly impossible in conventional shelters)
- (b) ensure that residents have access to bathrooms, showers, and running water for sanitation
- (c) be accessible for service providers who can meet food, health, and social support needs
- (d) be in an area that feels safe to our unsheltered neighbors.

While there are several non-profits and community members who are willing to work together to address this challenge, we need City leadership to facilitate an effective, coordinated response. It is my understanding that the Allentown School District is willing to engage with the City of Allentown to discuss the potential use of ASD property for temporary sheltering.

There are details to be worked out, which will require some time, which is a commodity that is in very short supply.

I believe we still have an opportunity act to protect our unsheltered neighbors and the broader community, but only if we work together, and quickly.

Sincerely,

Mr. Jason Carey, address not given, to whom it may concern:

I am a social worker with the Lehigh Conference of Churches serving on their Outreach making connections with the unsheltered population. I understand covid 19 makes things complex but I do believe there are plenty of solutions available if we really take a moment to care about our neighbors. Since the shelters have closed we have seen a young mother with her child living outdoors and have nowhere to refer that mother. Even the folks who were already outdoors prior to this pandemic do not have an opportunity to isolate and properly social distance. We need some sort of shelter to which we can refer people and we need it now.

I appreciate you attention to this matter.

Ms. Carolyn Hoffman, 5240 Green Lawn Drive, Macungie, I was involved with Operation Address the Homeless for the past 6 years. I have learned much from that time and have first hand witnessed success stories and tragedies. There are many non-profits that are out there on the front lines. They all want to help, I know that you are working on a commission, however that will take time. Action is needed now. I have been told that the superintendent of schools is willing to open a facility for the homeless during the pandemic, this is a wonderful gesture and should be highly considered. Then the non-profits such as OATH, Ripple, Street Medicine and the others, could come together and coordinated efforts because at the end of the day some one will have to be there to monitor what is going

on. This is time to bring people together and do what is right by the unshelterd community and those who are at the brink of losing everything, Right now many are living a fragile life. We must do everything we can to prevent more individuals on the street and help the ones that are already there, Enough talking we need action now. Where are the emergency plans? Where is the concern for human rights? Please address what you are going to do to help those in need.

Respectfully

The issue of providing shelter for the homeless in Allentown has become more dire than ever. I can only say, "There but for the grace of God go I". This pandemic has made it clear that the path to homelessness could be a slippery slope for many of us. I know that over the past few weeks work has been done by non-profits and volunteers to support this vulnerable population. I have been told that Tent city has grown from 17 to more than 50 people. New encampments have emerged. There is no place for people to go.

Ms. Julie Thomases Board of Directors, Promise Neighborhood LV, From what I understand, ASD's superintendent is willing to have a conversation with the city about using ASD property as a shelter the homeless but, as of now, the city has not reached out to work out the details. Suggestions have been to provide support down on MLK, where many homeless currently stay, such as water filtration, dumpsters, sturdy tents, etc. To my knowledge, nothing has happened. Few of us could survive these harsh conditions. None of us are 'throw-away' people. I am asking that the city establish a place for the homeless to "shelter in place" either at the encampment, school district property, a hotel, or the combination of the above. Thank you so much for your attention.

Ms. Diane Fegley, 520 W Market St - Bethlehem, Dear Mayor and City Council Members: As a former resident of the City and homeless advocate, thank you for being the most proactive Council we've had to help our homeless friends in the City. As I've acknowledged before, the homeless people are coming from all over because of the resources and services available and this is a community problem therefore I hope the County is equally engaged and partnering with you in the protection of this population. And while I appreciate all that has been done, I'm asking for further assistance to protect our homeless friends during this pandemic. It is imperative for the protection of all of us from this virus, that a place for people to shelter in place at is created. I have heard that the Allentown School District is willing to have the conversation about using its facilities (I think if I recall from before, that is where the Red Cross utilizes when needed) and implore you to immediately take the next steps to make that happen. As you know, schools are closed for the year and are closed for

the summer so these community spaces would make an ideal shelter. I do understand that there may be operational issues (but am optimistic that the right heads could work around them) but if this is not possible, we need to offer further resources to those in encampments, such as providing tents, tarps and water filtration system. With all the variable cold and rainy weather we've seen, the most humane thing that Council can do is to take action ASAP by having either space for an expanded encampment, utilizing an ASD facility, maybe hotels or a combination of both. We need to help flatten the curve and stop the spread by protecting ALL of the residents of the City of Allentown, which is sadly one of the hardest hit areas of our Commonwealth, making these efforts even more critical. Even if there are only 50 people living on the streets, by protecting them, we are helping to alleviate the burden on our hospitals, their ICU's and most importantly, their workers. Thank you again for your service and commitment to helping the homeless population.

Ms. Michelle Missy Rowland, no address given, gave a brief email to give thanks for all that you have done for our homeless population during this crisis. Your efforts have made a huge difference to all the people that are involved directly or indirectly. Continued efforts such as the possibility of using school facilities for shelter, are still much needed. Impending bad weather and the continued increase of Covid-19 cases is evidence that shelter and human services are still needed. Please give consideration to all available resources.

Ms. Caroline Hoffman, 5240 Greenlawn Drive - Macungie, I was involved with Operation Address the Homeless for the past 6 years. I have learned much from that time and have first hand witnessed success stories and tragedies. There are many non-profits that are out there on the front lines. They all want to help, I know that you are working on a commission, however that will take time. Action is needed now. I have been told that the superintendent of schools is willing to open a facility for the homeless during the pandemic, this is a wonderful gesture and should be highly considered. Then the non-profits such as OATH, Ripple, Street Medicine and the others, could come together and coordinated efforts because at the end of the day some one will have to be there to monitor what is going on. This is time to bring people together and do what is right by the unshelterd community and those who are at the brink of losing everything, Right now many are living a fragile life. We must do everything we can to prevent more individuals on the street and help the ones that are already there, Enough talking we need action now. Where are the emergency plans? Where is the concern for human rights? Please address what you are going to do to help those in need. Respectfully

Ms. Christine M. Condon, Whitehall Township, stated that in the midst of

this ravaging pandemic, our most vulnerable community members need our care for their own welfare and that of the rest of our community. I urge you to swiftly respond to our call to establish a place for homeless persons, a growing population in Allentown, to stay and shelter either at the encampment, in a school district property or a hotel. Their lives and the lives of all Allentonians and Lehigh Residents depend upon your action. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks said they received this comment not related to the homeless:

Ms. Angela Wachter 6826 Hunt Drive, Macungie, my last place of employment is still operating from the office located at 727 North Meadow Street Allentown, PA. I left because our CEO Mr. Hyman wanted me to continue to show apartments when there was a quarantine. He (Mr. Hyman) did not like what I had to say and told me I am not welcomed back. I know for a fact that several of his employees are still going into office everyday. Why is he allowed to get away with this?

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that information was forwarded to the State Attorney General's Office for follow up.

Mr. Michael Hanlon said he received the following comment from Mr. Palmer.

Mr. Patrick Palmer asked about when will it be OK to start having public gatherings again. Any idea of a timeline. Does the situation looks like it is getting worse or better? Can we get daily or every other day Press Releases, meetings, blurbs, or anything done for the public. Will there be sections in the paper taken out for those that do not have internet. What can be done for daily information for those that don't have internet. Are there any plans for tax relief for those who lost their jobs.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that the Mayor and the administration have held a total of 12 news briefings.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that they did 14 press releases, a video, town hall with the county. He and Chief Granitz did a one hour question and answer trying to get on Spanish Radio with Victor. The topic is Covid-19. What has the city done? What would the city do moving forward?

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that Ms. Taveras sent in her response 10:31 AM this morning. It was not read until right now.

Ms. Yamelisa Taveras forwarded comments that were answered by the

Risk Manager: 1. How is the City of Allentown preparing for the expected increase in cases? Answer: We are working closely with our Public Health and Emergency Management Coordinator to ensure the City is able to handle this pandemic as best as possible. 2. Have PPE and hand sanitizers been ordered to safe guard citizens & city workers as they return to work? Answer: We have been able to obtain some supplies and will follow the States/CDC guidance once we are able to resume business. 3. Has the City of Allentown considered sanitizing stations throughout the cities? Answer: This is something we are looking into with our Public Health and Public Works department.

Approval of Minutes: NONE

Old Business: NONE

Communications: NONE

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

There will be no committee meetings until appropriate.

APPOINTMENTS: NONE

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

Suspension of the Rules to take items out of committee, review and vote on the legislation.

A motion was made by Ed Zucal and seconded by Julio Guridy to Suspend The Rules to take Bill 21 and Bill 18 out of committee, review and vote on the legislation.

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

[15-3505](#)

Bill 21

AN ORDINANCE OF COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN, LEHIGH COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA (THE "CITY"), AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE ISSUANCE OF A REVENUE NOTE, SERIES OF 2020, AS PERMITTED BY AND PURSUANT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT UNIT DEBT ACT, 53 PA. C.S. § 8001 et seq., AS AMENDED AND SUPPLEMENTED, IN THE MAXIMUM AGGREGATE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$7,035,000, WITH THE PROCEEDS THEREOF TO BE APPLIED FOR AND TOWARD THE FOLLOWING PROJECTS, EACH A PROJECT AS DEFINED IN THE DEBT ACT, INCLUDING, BUT NOT LIMITED TO, (I) THE CURRENT REFUNDING OF THE CITY'S OUTSTANDING SPECIAL REVENUE NOTE, SERIES OF 2016 (THE "REFUNDED NOTE" AND AS A PROJECT (THE "REFUNDING PROJECT"), (II) FINANCING THE ACQUISITION AND

CONSTRUCTION OF CERTAIN IMPROVEMENTS TO THE CITY'S SEWER SYSTEM PURSUANT TO THE TERMS OF A CONCESSION LEASE AGREEMENT, DATED MAY 1, 2013, BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE LEHIGH COUNTY AUTHORITY (THE "CAPITAL PROJECT"), (III) FUNDING CAPITALIZED INTEREST ON THE CAPITAL PROJECT, (IV) FUNDING A DEBT SERVICE RESERVE FUND, AND (V) PAYING THE COSTS OF ISSUING THE NOTE;; DETERMINING THAT SUCH DEBT SHALL BE NONELECTORAL DEBT OF THE CITY; DETERMINING THAT THE NOTE SHALL BE SOLD AT NEGOTIATED SALE; ACCEPTING A PROPOSAL FOR PURCHASE OF THE NOTE, AT NEGOTIATED SALE, AND AWARDING THE NOTE AND SETTING FORTH RELATED PROVISIONS; FIXING THE SUBSTANTIAL FORM, DATE, MATURITY DATE, INTEREST RATES, INTEREST PAYMENT DATES, PLACE OF PAYMENT OF PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST AND PREPAYMENT PROVISIONS OF THE NOTE; AUTHORIZING EXECUTION AND ATTESTATION OF THE NOTE; PROVIDING THAT THE NOTE, WHEN ISSUED, SHALL BE A REVENUE NOTE OF THE CITY; PROVIDING COVENANTS RELATED TO DEBT SERVICE APPLICABLE TO THE NOTE; DESCRIBING THE PROJECTS FOR WHICH THE DEBT OF THE CITY EVIDENCED BY THE REFUNDED NOTE WERE ORIGINALLY INCURRED AND REAFFIRMING THE ESTIMATED USEFUL LIFE OF SAID PROJECT; DESCRIBING THE CAPITAL PROJECT AND SPECIFYING A REASONABLE ESTIMATE OF THE USEFUL LIFE OF THE CAPITAL PROJECT; CREATING A SINKING FUND IN CONNECTION WITH THE NOTE AS REQUIRED BY SUCH DEBT ACT; APPOINTING A PAYING AGENT, REGISTRAR AND SINKING FUND DEPOSITORY; PROVIDING A COVENANT TO INSURE PROMPT AND FULL PAYMENT OF ALL OBLIGATIONS OF THE NOTE WHEN DUE; RATIFYING PRIOR ADVERTISEMENT AND DIRECTING FURTHER ADVERTISEMENT; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING THE PREPARATION, EXECUTION AND FILING OF A TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS, INCLUDING A DEBT STATEMENT, A BORROWING BASE CERTIFICATE AND EXCLUSIONARY PROCEEDINGS, AS APPROPRIATE, WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT; DECLARING THAT THE DEBT TO BE INCURRED TOGETHER WITH OTHER INDEBTEDNESS OF THE CITY, NOT TO BE IN EXCESS OF ANY LIMITATION IMPOSED BY SUCH DEBT ACT UPON THE INCURRING OF DEBT BY THE CITY; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN COVENANTS RELATING TO THE NON-ARBITRAGE STATUS OF THE NOTE; DESIGNATING THE NOTE AS A QUALIFIED TAX-EXEMPT OBLIGATION UNDER SECTION 265 (B)(3) OF THE INTERNAL REVENUE CODE OF 1986, AS AMENDED; CREATING A CLEARING ACCOUNT, PROJECT ACCOUNT AND CERTAIN OTHER FUNDS; SETTING FORTH CERTAIN PROVISIONS FOR THE PREPAYMENT AND RETIREMENT OF THE REFUNDED NOTE;

AUTHORIZING THE PAYMENT OF EXPENSES; PROVIDING GUIDELINES FOR PERMITTED INVESTMENTS; AUTHORIZING AND DIRECTING APPROPRIATE OFFICERS OF THE CITY TO DO AND PERFORM CERTAIN SPECIFIED, REQUIRED OR APPROPRIATE ACTS AND THINGS; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY OF PROVISIONS; REPEALING ALL ORDINANCES OR PARTS OF ORDINANCES INsofar AS THE SAME SHALL BE INCONSISTENT HERewith; AND PROVIDING WHEN THIS ORDINANCE SHALL BECOME EFFECTIVE.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 21 ALLENTOWN 2020 Note Debt Issuance](#)
[2020 RFMS Note](#)
[COA 2020 Series AO Note Finance Presentation rev](#)
[City Council 041520 Bill 21 Revenue Note and Refunding](#)
[AO Bond Sizing 4.9.20](#)
[AO2020\(ALLENTWN\) Administrative Order Revenue Note Series of 2020 4.9.20 Final Rate](#)
[Copy of AO Fee Calculation - Signatory Cost Sharing and Cash Flow - 4.9.20 FINAL RATE](#)
[ALLENTOWN 2020 NOTE Amendment Summary RE DEBT ORDINANCE](#)
[ALLENTOWN 2020 NOTE DEBT ORDINANCE \(L0860746-7xA35AE\)](#)
[ALLENTOWN CITY 2020 NOTE SECOND NOTICE \(L0866898xA35AE\)](#)
[2-ALLENTOWN 2020 NOTE DEBT ORDINANCE \(L0860746-7xA35AE\)](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions related to this Bill.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if anyone online or will answer some questions regarding this bill.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that the Compliance Officer and the Financial Advisory should be online.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked about Mr. Hunsicker question. He stated that it is the best time to refinancing any bonds or loans. He asked is there a chance to do more than the 2016 Bond. Why are we getting more money now as opposed to waiting later. They will have a deficit in regards to the budget.

Mr. Tom Becket, Financial Advisor from NW, stated that he hoped everyone is doing well and staying healthy. This project is a separate and distinct payment source from the rest of the city's debt. This is only paid by the ratepayers of the system. They have been working on this for a better than a year. They had to repay the old debt and add the \$4.1 million of new

debt. They always keep an eye on the city's outstanding debt. Right now, given the marketplace for bond as opposed to bank loan, it doesn't make sense to look at that. That might change down the road.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that this is strictly a bank loan, not a floating bond. He stated that he thought he read that some of the signatories will also pay for this loan. He asked if Mr. Beckett has an amount.

Mr. Tom Beckett stated that is correct, they have that information. He and Mr. Chamberlain have been working on spreadsheets.

Mr. Daryl stated that Mr. Glenn Hunsicker has questions.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that this will be the rates for the signatories and the city's ratepayers will be how much. Will it be \$9.00 per person.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that it is going to be \$7.25 as we discussed.

Mr. Tom Beckett stated that he doesn't believe those figures are in the ordinance. The cost are allocated out per the Concession Agreement and not included in the Ordinance. Yes, you are right. The incremental cost for the new money is \$7.20 for the average family and the existing cost is about \$2.18 for the average family.

Ms. Candida asked if someone make a motion.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked Tom to repeat that.

Mr. Tom Beckett stated that he doesn't believe that the Ordinance in front of Council sets rates. Those rates are set by the process outlined in your Concession Agreement with LCA and your Signatory Agreements. Basically, there will be rates set to make all the payments on this debt. That is how the rate setting mechanism works. The rates they talked about and the average impact that Brian Chamberlain developed is not included in this Ordinance.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the rates will be \$9.40. If you have a big house, it will be more because there will be stormwater fees.

Mr. Tom Beckett stated yes, on average.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that it depends on water consumption. It is about the gallon uses, not the stormwater fees. If you use a lot more water, than you will pay a little more.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it is based on the water and not the stormwater.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that the stormwater fee is separate service. This is based on water usage from LCA.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that they are waiting for comments on the Amendment to Bill 21.

Ms. Erin Keller stated if these costs relate to building in the NIZ, why isn't the NIZ paying.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it is throughout the city.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that it is throughout the entire city.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is citywide. It is throughout the region. It is not specific to the city.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he thinks she is thinking that the development is only going to be in the NIZ.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that it is technically the entire valley.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated the signatories.

Ms. Candida Affa asked what is Craig's answer to that.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it is not just for the NIZ. It is for any development. It is if a contractor wants to build four homes on the southside. He needs to have that Sewage Planning Module to be able to build. It is for everybody.

Ms. Candida Affa stated you did say regional. That answers the question right from the get-go.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated yes it is.

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

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that as they continue to develop as a logistics hub in the Lehigh Valley, one of the things that is water intensive is food processing and beverage processing. It is very instrumental and we have to have that water capacity. Without increasing our water capacity valleywide, we would not be able to secure another Dr. Pepper like product and warehouse jobs.

Ms. Erin Kelly asked why aren't the builders paying.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that everyone is paying.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that they technically cover the utilities.

Mr. Julian Kern stated that the live-stream is working.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that everyone is paying.

Mr. Brian Chamberlain stated that everybody pays the sewer bills. Everybody pays a portion of it. There is also a tap-in fee for that allocation. LCA bills these new developments. If they are requesting more capacity, they are paying a tap-in fee.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that the answer is, the builders are paying.

Mr. Brian Chamberlain stated or whoever is purchasing the property.

A motion was made by Joshua Siegel, seconded by Julio Guridy, that this Bill be amended to include the following summary of the revisions made to the debt legislation to be enacted on April 15, 2020, since it was introduced to City Council. The principal amount of the Revenue Note, Series of 2020 increased from \$7,035,000 to \$7,090,000; the 3.326% per annum interest rate on the Note was finalized and inserted; a covenant regarding the budgeting and appropriating of Service Charges used to pay the debt service on the Note was added; reference to the Project Account was clarified to mean the existing Administrative Order Fund; the amount of the deposit in the Debt Service Reserve Fund was finalized and inserted; a covenant regarding a certificate as to the maintenance of the minimum balance in the Sinking Fund was added; Exhibit A reflecting the maximum debt service payments on the Note was added; Exhibit B, the form of Note, was updated to reflect the terms of the proposal; and certain clarifications and grammatical changes were made to the text of the Ordinance.

The motion carried by the following vote:

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

No: 1 - Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 15606

Mr. Glenn Hunsicker, 1234 S. 11th Street (email comment)

Ref: Bill 21

Why is the administration restructuring 2016 loan at this time when the city is about to lose 5 to 10 M in loss EIT, Winds casino payment loss, delay in RE tax; garbage fee, storm water fee, etc, in 2020. Note AO work is scheduled by city which can be delayed.

Compliance Office response to his question:

This is not a GO Bond of the City - ratepayers and signatory municipalities will pay all costs including debt service on the 2020 Revenue Note. The City's taxing power is not pledged to this Note and the Note will not reduce the City borrowing capacity.

The 2016 note had a variable (up to 5%) rate, the restructured loan has a fixed rate of 3.326%. The restructuring saves the rate payers approximately \$175,000 over the life of the loan by reducing the final term 2 years.

Due to increased rainfall over the past year and-a-half and EPA acceptance and Pa DEP & management of our RFMS program, the AO projects cannot be delayed.

In November 2019 the Budget asked for 2.1M bond to cover expenditures for 2020. Is this amount included in Bill 21, if not, where do we stand on that loan/bond request?

The budget contained capital costs of the City that were to eligible to be reimbursed by a future bond issue. A reimbursement resolution was enacted at the time of the 2019 budget. This issue does not fund any capital costs other than AO Projects.

What debt restructuring Bills are planned for 2020? (This question may be addressed during Courtesy of floor)

None are planned at this time. However, we continue to monitor the capital markets and our outstanding debt for opportunities to save money.

Mr. Tom Hahn (email comment)

1. Break down the. Loan. 4 million. Reason from budget Was settled ? 2. LCA Cost this year to fix. Cost to go to rate payers. Are one and 2 connected in any way. The 2 million for repairs to sewer lines Or water system 3. What is the loss of income due to virus. In detail. From all accounts 4 What is the break down on savings for refinance deduct cost from saving of payment and years of debt Effect on budget ? What if any Novak report has been done to date. What else is planed Who from public is on committee to resolve the hard issue from budget ? Thanks for this opportunity to get answers at meeting . Idea send me the answers in mail. For easy memory of the issue from meeting Some may come from both sources council and Mayor staff.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this is not a GO Bond of the city. Ratepayers and signatory municipalities will pay all the cost including debt service on the 2020 Revenue Note.

The city's taxing power is not pledged to this Note and the Note will not reduce the city's borrowing capacity. The 2016 Note has a variable rate up to five percent. The restructured loan has a fixed rate of 3.326 percent. The restructuring saves the ratepayer approximately \$175,000 over the life

of the loan by reducing the final term by two years. He stated that Mr. Hunsicker asked in November 2019 the Budget asked for 2.1M bond to cover expenditures for 2020. Is this amount included in Bill 21, if not, where do we stand on that loan/bond request? The budget contained capital costs of the City that were to eligible to be reimbursed by a future bond issue. A reimbursement resolution was enacted at the time of the 2012 budget. This issue does not fund any capital costs other than AO Projects. What debt restructuring Bills are planned for 2020? None are planned at this time. However, we continue to monitor the capital markets and our outstanding debt for opportunities to save money.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked Mr. Beckett what was the initial amount of the loan that they are refinancing. The answer he received was the initial funding done from Lafayette Bank, but there was no amount given in that answer. He asked how much of that the city paid down. He asked if the city was going to add another \$4 million to that. How does it change the monthly payment? Will it be less for a longer term or the same amount for less time. He asked if they are going to add another \$4 million. How does it change the monthly payment. Is it going to be less for a longer term or the same amount for less time. He asked what was the purpose of the initial loan. He asked if that would have come under a capital project in sewer. He stated that Mr. Hunsicker mentioned all the revenue the city was going to lose in EIT. He stated that they are talking about laying off people. This could be a bleak financial future for the city. He asked if it is a fiscally responsible move to be taking another \$4 million loan at this time. He asked if this loan will extend to 2030. What is the initial year the loan would have had it?

Mr. Tom Beckett stated that \$2.5 million was the original amount. He stated several hundred thousand. It is approximately \$300,000. When you are talking about the refunding, the repayment of 2016 Note it will be slightly higher between 2021 and 2034, then it goes to zero on 2035, and 2036. It adds \$600,000 of new debt service for the new \$4 million. That is between now and 2034. All the costs are allocated to signatories and the city's ratepayers. It was sewer projects. It was manhole projects. They rehabilitated manhole projects. It stopped a lot of overflows, SSO (Sanitary Sewer Overflows) into that creek. It was a lot of money spent on that. This is an AO project which the EPA issued an AO in 2008. The Lease has the city fulfilling that AO requirement. They are still under a project that has to be completed. You are asking for an opinion and stated that he tries to stay away from his opinion. There are a lot of unknowns in municipal budgets. You are under a consent decree from the Pennsylvania DEP to do these projects. There is a revenue sources available that is not a general taxing power. The initial loan was a 2036 Loan.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked for a clarification. He stated to Mr. Beckett that it was \$600,000 additional, plus the \$300,000 that they already were paying. He asked if they will be paying about \$800,000 for this loan per year. He stated that his concern is that you hit them with a 27 percent tax increase and the economy is down. Then we increase the stormwater fee. In addition to the water increase this year. He stated that he is not sure to do this. It is the right time to refinance some of these loans, but doesn't know if it is the right time to borrow more money. We are now increasing fees when we know that the city is not going to be getting much of the EIT funds. The casino is going to be less and income is going to be less this year just because the way the economy is. He asked Council is this something that they should do now? He stated that he is in agreement to refinancing. Bringing more expenses to the ratepayer is difficult.

Mr. Tom Beckett stated no. The original debt service on the 2016 Loan was \$185,000. After 2016, it will now be about \$197,000 until 2034 then it will drop to zero. The combination of the two is about \$800,000 is what the ratepayers and the signatories will pay. He stated that is correct. He stated that the city is paying \$200,000 a year now. The impact of the total is \$9.40 a year for the average family based on the calculation from the Office of Compliance. He stated that the impact on the new borrowing. He stated that they capitalized interest so that this impact won't hit in this budget year. It will be mitigated in the follow budget year. It is not going to hit right away.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that the city is at the point if they don't do this Bond and refinancing, they are pretty much at the point where development will cease. If they don't continue doing the work they need to that DEP has agreed that they will let them continue having these modules approved. They can have new development. If the city does not do this work and they don't fund this, there will be no more Sewage Planning Modules approved.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that his question/concern is if they can use some other funds instead of borrowing more money. The DEP is requiring us to do this. It will help them pay some of the expenses coming up. If the state is requiring them to do certain things then they should be able to help us with the resources to pay for this.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it is the same thing with the MS4. they have unfunded mandates that they have to do and had to come up with a fund to pay for that. He stated that it is the most responsible way of doing it. He stated that they have the best pricing go on. They worked very hard on this. He stated that he is not looking at anything increase. This is the best option possible because the city has to continue this work.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if it is the manholes. He stated that Mr. Messinger stated that it was about 400 manholes that was worked on this year.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that the are lined. There are brick areas where the water was infiltrating in. They had to line them. Some had issues where they were popping. They had to concrete them down and put special lids on them. There are five projects over the next five years that this is going to fund. Doing it this way will have the sewer signatories having them pay their fair share of what it is. It is not just for the Allentown ratepayers.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she is listening to both sides and thanked Mr. Messinger. She stated that she is wondering what the repercussions will be for not borrowing now because of the interest rates. She said that Mr. Messinger clarified that and stated she is afraid of the repercussions now when the interest rates won't be as they are now. What happens two years from now or a year from now if we don't do this. This is the time to do it. It has to be done.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that his is not in opposition of doing that. He is in opposition of borrowing another \$4 million that is going to keep us until 2034 to pay at a rate of \$800,000 a year. He stated that he doesn't know the portion of the city will be on this versus the signatories.

Mr. Brian Chamberlain stated that typically you are running about 80 percent city residents because the work is being done within city line. It is about 80 percent city and 20 percent signatory. Everybody in their own system is doing their own type of work. If one of them fails, the whole system fails.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she understands Julio's concern. They know their community will not be sustainable. She also agrees with Candida that if this is the time where they have a lower rate, why not do it. She hopes that later on it doesn't come back to bite them.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that he understands their concerns and Brian brought up a big point. All the signatories have their own issues. They are going to their own boards and council for all the work that each signatory have to do. If they don't all do this in conjunction it is going to be something that not only affects Allentown, but the whole Lehigh Valley. It is called the Regional Flow Management System. They all have to do their part.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that they have to look at the sense of urgency. With the volatility of the markets, they won't get a chance to refinance at this level. He stated that this is a compromise Plan. This is the result of

working with the Environmental Protection. We were hit with a more stringent order. If we failed to successfully finance a lot of the renovation projects, it would probably cost them more in the long-run. The article he was looking stated that the city saved \$11 million. No one sympathizes with working people more than he does. Going this route is the lesser of two evils. We will save people money in the long-run and not having to finance a more extensive Sewer Flow Management plan. This get us around upgrading Kline's Island to mitigate the overflow.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that Joshua is correct. This was a long and intensive negotiation with EPA to get out of it with them and working with DEP. The city is saving a lot of money doing it this way.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that if the city does not comply with these administrative orders then they are more than likely going to get the Administrative Order slapped back on us. It will cost us more in the long-run and squash development.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it will basically go back to what the city had before which is a lot more expenses.

Mr. Joshua Siegel asked if the city had a cost of what the original plan would have looked like in terms of the Bond they would have had to take out or the expense would have looked like.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that there were times where they were looking at \$20 - \$30 million going to blending.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that the other issue is the importance of collaborating with the other municipalities. This is a regional issue. It is not just Allentown or the suburbs. It is all of us.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that everything you said they read it. He stated that his concern is not what is going on, but what the ratepayers are suffering now. We are asking them for more and more every year.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked his colleagues consider this. As they have grown quite consistently and continuously over the last three or four years with all the new buildings going up. To not fund this at this time, they endanger the continuation of the buildings. If you look at the Waterfront itself, this is going to need the increases capacity. We have to look toward the future. To shut this down at this point or not fund it, how are they are going to get the increased capacity. He stated that the city may see future development coming much quicker with the recent pandemic and how it hit some of the major cities on the east coast who will look at possibly leaving.

What better place than the city of Allentown. He stated that the city has the room and the capacity to build these buildings.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked how much is that capacity will take us to. Do we have to look at it five years from now or 10 years from now to increase the rates again.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated to Julio that the manholes that needed the work done were the ones. They are a system the flow freely and following areas that have the creeks and streams. The other manholes around the city, they were able to put lids inside of them to keep the inflows from coming in. There is different work that needs to be done. The work that they did so far, they were impressed with. Through this agreement, they put in 1.5 million gallons worth flow in the interim 537 Plan. DEP allocated the city 750,000 gallons of allotment. They agree with the Plan the city is doing. They approve of the Plan and since the city is working as a region, they are willing to work with them.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked about the Regional Flow Rate System and if that will be for anything else that they do for here on for the flow capacity.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that every signatory has a certain capacity towards the Plan. They are going to continue to work as a Regional Flow Management System through the signatories.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if it brought over to the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that they are well aware of it. They were very nervous of what is going on as effect that was going on, the city was going to be able to continue to have development in the Lehigh Valley. That Plan accesses a lot of municipalities. When it gets to a point where we are not doing this and not working together that all goes away.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other further questions from Council.

Mr. Tom Hahn, no address given, 1. Break down the. Loan. 4 million. Reason from budget Was settled ? See attached spreadsheet which you can also find on the City Council meeting site. 2. LCA Cost this year to fix. City is funding AO Regional/Flow Management Strategy (RFMS) projects. In 2020, one inflow and infiltration sewer lining project is to be completed. Also in 2020, the preparation for both next year's (2021); sewer line project and the Sewage Flow Characterization Study (FCS). The FCS project will provide data, for both future projects and modeling the sewage system for

future impacts like growth, development and weather. Cost to go to rate payers. Yes ratepayers and signatory municipalities will pay all costs including debt service related to these projects. Are one and two connected in any way. The 2 million for repairs to sewer lines The AO/RFMS are sewer related and is separate from the water system Or water system. I assume the rest of these questions are not related to the above. 3. What is the loss of income due to virus. In detail. From all accounts We know there will be significant losses and have been monitoring the situation closely. We have been continuously reviewing, updating and refining the estimates in this constantly changing situation. 4. What is the break down on savings for refinance deduct cost from saving of payment and years of debt Effect on budget ? What if any Novak report has been done to date. What else is planned Our efforts have been redirected during this crisis and we will revisit the Novak report recommendations as soon as possible. Who from public is on committee to resolve the hard issue from budget? We currently do not have public committees developed. The issue will be revisited at a future date. Take me of spam so I can communicate direct with you for answers?

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that Council will be opening up Courtesy of the Floors for citizens that are watching. Give them time to respond.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked why is everybody so quiet.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they are waiting for any questions or comments from the public.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated no comments.

Enactment No: 15606

Yes: 4 - Candida Affa, Daryl Hendricks, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Joshua Siegel

No: 3 - Cynthia Mota, Julio Guridy, and Ed Zucal

Enactment No: 15606

[15-3497](#)

Bill 18

Amending the 2020 General Fund, the 2020 Risk Fund, the 2020 Liquid Fuels Fund, the 2020 Equipment Fund, the 2020 Trexler Fund, and the 2020 Stormwater Fund by appropriating funds from the un-appropriated balances for the rollover of encumbrances for the prior year commitments.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 18 PO Rollover 2019 to 2020](#)

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this rollover any of the encumbrances that were not finalized in 2019. There is an Ordinance to roll that money over in 2020. Council gets this Ordinance every year and it comes before you. It

is a housekeeping issue that just rolls the money for any encumbrances that were not completed 2019. It rolls that money into 2020.

Ms. Candida Affa stated easy enough.

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

Mr. Julio Guridy asked Jessica if she knew how much the rollover is. It could be a negative or a positive. You can rollover the debt.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that it was included in attachment. It is a positive number being rolled over.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there are no comments as of right now. He stated that it is a total rollover of \$2,280,302.24 and that is in various funds.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that it includes all funds. It is in numerous funds.

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

Enactment No: 15607

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-3530](#)

R42

Authorization for change order with Fourth Economy Consulting, Inc. in the amount of \$35,020 - the initial contract was approved in July of 2018 for \$176,116 to assist in preparing Vision 2030 - the increase would be a result of changing the scope of work to include a Housing Analysis identifying current and future housing needs. The study would be conducted in September 2020. The current contract expires December 31, 2020, this would extend the contract to March 31, 2021.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R42 Change Order - Fourth Economy C25-000056](#)
[Previous Approval of Contract](#)

Mr. Leonard Lightner asked if there were additional questions.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked are they going to keep having a contract with this particular firm.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that is correct. On the Vision 2030, the contract at the end of this year. With the Housing Analysis, they wanted to finalize it. It didn't make sense to go out for another RFP when they are

familiar with Allentown. They already started some of the housing analysis. After the Housing Analysis is done, they will be complete with Fourth Economy.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions from his colleagues. He stated that someone asked him if it was a good time to spend an additional \$30,000. His answer was having the ability to know where they are housing wise, especially with the population they have here, it is important to spend that money. Doing it as we are on the back of somebody very familiar with the housing stock in the city. He stated that it is money very well spent.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she agrees with Mr. Hendricks.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that with the Census being conducted it is likely that the city's population will increase. The city was uncouncted quite significantly 10 years ago. Identifying the city's housing needs and where they will be in the future is going to be a core essential service. Therefore, it is a straightforward investment that they should be making at this point in time.

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

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she was in a Zoom meeting about Census and she was really impressed by Jesse Sadiua from Planning. There were many different people from different counties and she believes in the great job he is doing. The review that he gave was really amazing about the positive things that the city is doing for the Census. We have to do things a little different because we cannot be out and about. We have been using the media and talked about Faces International. Allentown is trying to do a really good job when it comes to the Census. She commended Mr. Sadiua.

Mr. Leonard Lightner thanked Ms. Mota and stated that he will pass it along to Mr. Sadiua.

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

Enactment No: 29962

[15-3529](#)

R43
Hiring of 8 Police Officers

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R43 Appointment of 8 Police Officers](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks opened it up to his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he was reading the Resolution and it says that we are voting on these eight officers prior to them completing all the requirements necessary, specifically the physical fitness test and the psychological test. Is that correct?

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that was correct. It is not correct anymore. The physical tests have been completed and with the unique situation with the Coronavirus they have been offered by Human Resources and Civil Service employment with the caveat that should they not pass the upcoming psychological which is being scheduled now that the psychologist office that the city contracts with has been able to ascertain online of ways of doing it. These officers will not be in the public in any capacity until all that is completed.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that of those eight, how many are city residents.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that he believes two of them are and two of them are graduates of high schools in the city.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked how long will it take for them to pass the psychological test.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that they will probably have their psychological test in the next week or so. They just got notification that the city's vendor is able to do them again, after lifting some of the restrictions and obvious the need for First Responders to keep being hired. They are making some accessibility options for us. He stated that he believes they will be scheduled in the next week or so.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that is awesome.

Ms Candida Affa stated that she can't wait to hear that one.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that is an excellent idea and excellent project.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if any of them female and how many are officers of color. She asked if they are hired and once the psychological evaluation is done, will they go into the different ward. She asked about the approval and the city will be able to go for different funding.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated no, but they are trying to hire a young lady in the next week or two. The Police department tries to recruit people of all kinds. The recruiting efforts for the new list coming in April and he thanked HR and

Civil Service for all their help. They even had the Civil Service members on the Spanish Language Channels and WFMZ trying to reach out to many people, including women. He stated that two of the officers are fluent Spanish speakers. One of the officers has been in a law enforcement career and a Allen graduate. Another one of the men was valedictorian of his class in Allentown. This is from the list that they are going off two years ago. They are going off that list which will be expired soon. They will start working on the new list as soon as it is approved by the Civil Service Board. He stated that four of the eight are prior service police officers. They don't need to go through the Police Academy. Four will go through the Police Academy in the first week in of July. The training until they are hired and the academy is a good six months then training for two month and four to six months field training program. If they don't have the Academy, they are looking at close to a year. This push through the summer will get them to their full budget complement that they haven't been at in years and then can start drawing on the federal funds. They have already been awarded since 2017. They weren't able to touch any of that funding. That is for six officers for three years. The federal government will pay approximately three quarters of that and then that will open up the gates for the city to apply for all kinds of federal funding.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he is happy to see that one of them is Hispanic since the population of Hispanics continues to grow in the city and there are two that speaks Spanish. He suggested and stated that he heard it from Victor Martinez from La Mega radio station. If we do some type of internship from students from our school district and mold them to become police officers in our city. It will entice more residents in our city.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that he feels strongly about this since his time in the Youth Division about growing kids from Allentown to want to be Allentown Police Officers. He and Victor have talked about his program. They are going to be announcing a partnership with a number of people downtown, including the Century Fund and the Allentown School District. As soon as Covid - 19 is over, you will hear about funding, colleges and mentor kids through high school and be able to walk them through the front door of our Police Academy.

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

Mr. Michael Hanlon read a question received from Mr. Patrick Palmer. He asked how many officers of color are there.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that two of the eight.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked if it is age limit to become a police officer.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that they will love to have and happy about the recruiting they are doing. They are trying to engage the various neighborhoods and the wards of Allentown city itself. The list was created two years ago. His number one goal is to hire solid, good men and women that are going to serve our community well regardless of anything else.

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

Enactment No: 29963

[15-3532](#)

R44

Recommends State Action to Support Local Governments during and after the COVID-19 Crisis

Sponsors: Affa, Gerlach, Guridy, Hendricks, Mota, Mr. Siegel, Mr. Zucal and Administration

Attachments: [R44 Urges State action on COVID-19 Crisis](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions or comments. It is quite pertinent to what we are facing.

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

Enactment No: 29964

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

[15-3521](#)

Bill 22

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1976, as amended; The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009; and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; for the purpose of undertaking programs of housing and community development within the City.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 22 Establishes HUD 46th Year Accounts](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments.

Ms. Erin Keller, 1934 W. Tilghman Street, Why is the CDBG being allotted \$461,039 for Administration? What does this line item entail? Why isn't this money being used to build a dedicated homeless shelter?

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he got an answer from Ms. Quigney that

states it is required by HUD to put 20% of the allocation into administration. This covers salary and benefits for city staff and other office items such as advertising, printing, and cell phones.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

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

[15-3538](#)

R45

Approves the submission of the Five Year Consolidated Plan for July 1, 2020 to June 30, 2024

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R45 CDBG CONSOLIDATED PLAN](#)
[Con Plan Complete Draft V3](#)

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, Allentown Tenant Association, stated that his organization supports this Plan.

Mayor Ray O'Connell asked about sending to committee.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Council is not doing committees. Committees are on hold.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if they can do a Committee of the Whole.

Mayor Ray O'Connell asked if it can go on May 6th.

Mr. Leonard Lightner asked if they can do it tonight. It is a Consolidated Plan that's required by HUD every five years. It talks about the city's spending of us utilizing HUD funds.

Mr. Michael Hanlon noted that he told a few members of the public it would not be voted on this evening.

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 8:50 PM