



Minutes - Final

Public Works Committee

Wednesday, May 20, 2020

6:30 PM

Remote Participation of Councilmembers, City Staff and our Citizens: 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.

Encouraging Written Public Comments and Courtesy of the Floor Statements: Public comments will be accepted in writing through an email to the City Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov. Emailed public comment for council meetings 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 City Clerk. 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.

Live Comments During the Meeting: Email - 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. 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, call the City Council Office at 610-437-7556.

Record of Meeting: The video and minutes of the meeting will be posted on the City website as soon as possible after the meeting for review.

Roll Call: Chair Zucal, Affa, Siegel

Candida Affa participated remotely using Microsoft Teams

[15-3554](#)

Bill 31

Amending the 2020 Capital Fund Budget by transferring Thirty-Eight Thousand (\$38,000) Dollars from Capital Project 2024 – 15th Street Traffic Signal Improvement Project to Capital Project 1225 – Traffic Signal Upgrade Various - to fund the completion of the intersection upgrades at Emaus Avenue and Church Street, the original budgeted amount was insufficient. The completion of this intersection upgrade will provide a safer crossing at South Mountain Middle School.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 31 Traffic Signal Upgrade Transfer](#)
[Ordinance #15615](#)

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any comments or questions from his committee or his colleagues. He asked Mr. Messinger to explain this Bill.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that this a project that was originally started in 2016 budget for. It is an improvement that is done to the intersection by Church and Emmaus Avenue by South Mountain Middle School. The project started off to be a safety enhancement project, replacing the traffic signal poles, the crosswalks, handicap ramps, and as the project was being designed PennDot changed the standards for the foundations for the mast on holds. At that point in time, he took a little longer to get on board with PennDot on how they were going to design that. They got the design done. With that said they had issues with the corner properties. They did not want to sign off for the work to be done there. The property-owner at that place at all four corners had to actually go ahead and sign off that they would not change their egress or ingress to their property. Once everything was signed off, they finalized the permit with PennDot. You can see it was a long process to get to this point. It was an increase because they had to have larger foundations and larger poles. The project has been going on so long the prices have increased a little bit. However, they do have funds that are left over from the Project on 15th Street with the State Project there. They had funding to transfer for it. It is a project that they need to complete. It is very vital for the school and for the safety of the people going in and out of that location. We do have the funding for it, but it was because of the changes to PennDot regulations for the foundations, the mast on poles and how long it took. It is why they need the transfer for it.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated it is understandable and asked if there were any questions from the public.

A motion was made by Joshua Siegel, seconded by Candida Affa, that this Bill be forwarded favorably to Council for approval. The motion carried by the following vote:

Yes: 3 - Ed Zucal, Candida Affa and Joshua Siegel

Adjourned: 6:33 PM

