



# Allentown

435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, Pa. 18101

## Minutes - Final

### City Council

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Wednesday, June 3, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

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City Hall is still closed. Public comments will be accepted in writing through an email to the City Clerk at [Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov](mailto:Michael.Hanlon@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 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 noted 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](mailto:Michael.Hanlon@Allentownpa.gov) or to [Public.Comment@Allentownpa.gov](mailto:Public.Comment@Allentownpa.gov). A reminder that comments must be directed to legislation under review except for Courtesy of the Floor.

The meeting is live streamed 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 live stream 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.

**Invocation:** Councilperson Affa - 08:46 Minutes Moment of Silence in Memory of George Floyd

**Pledge to the Flag**

**Roll Call**

**Cynthia Mota participated via 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

The City Clerk read the following into the record.

Julian Kern

"I am following up on my courtesy of the floor comments from the last city council meeting on May 20th regarding the juvenile community service program.

There seemed to be some confusion or misunderstanding regarding the program I was referring to and the one that is ran through the Lehigh County Juvenile Probation Department.

The juvenile community service program I was referring to was ran by the Allentown Police Department's civilian community police coordinator (Al Molinatti) not Lehigh County Juvenile Probation. I have spoken to Ryan Schaffer, one of the supervisors with Lehigh County Juvenile Probation and he remembers the program the city had that I am referring to. He told me that Al Molinatti would coordinate with juvenile probation to assist with manpower and projects, but the program was totally separate from the one that Lehigh County Probation runs.

The program the city had was stopped because Al Molinatti was laid off by Mayor Roy C. Afflerbach back in 2005 due to budget cuts at the time. Craig mentioned that community service is done at the recycling yard but that is through the Lehigh County Probation's program, not the program I am referring to that the city had. The program I am referring to was not for juveniles in probation. It was for juveniles who committed minor offenses such as truancy, vandalism, etc. Minor offenses that did not reach the level of probation. When I spoke to Ryan Schaffer about the program, he agreed that the program the city had was an excellent program for juveniles who committed offenses that did not meet the probation status and was a useful program.

The program the city had was geared towards improving the community such as picking up litter in neighborhoods, planting flowers at parks, cleaning up parks, taking handbills of utility poles, etc. That is why I also brought up the issue of painting lines for the curbs. I have some experience with the program because I participated in the program for truancy when I was a teenager. I was ordered by the magistrate judge to complete fifty hours of community service and reported to Al Molinatti at the Allentown police station along with other juveniles. Al would then take us to city neighborhoods with a police officer or two and we would pick up litter. We also helped pick up litter at Franklin park, working with the Franklin park association. We also helped plant flowers at the park.

Julio mentioned that people may not think the program is in operation because Al Molinatti isn't running the program, but the thing is the program I am referring to isn't in operation anymore and hasn't been since Al's layoff in 2005. As I said, yes Juvenile probation has their own community service program, but that program is totally separate from the one I am advocating to bring back. It is in my opinion that the city needs to hire someone to be the Allentown Police Department's civilian community police coordinator to reinstate the program or reinstate the program through the Allentown police youth division.

If you want, you can contact Ryan Schaffer and I am sure he will speak to his knowledge of the program. When I spoke to him awhile back, he said he would come to a city council meeting to speak in favor of the city reinstating the program. He can be emailed by clicking the following link: <https://www.lccpa.org/emaildirect/Ryan-Schaffer> or call probation at (610) 782-3143 and ask to speak to him.

I also chatted with Pamela D. Varkony who was a former Councilwoman who was the brainchild so to speak for the program. Last I spoke to her, she told me she was in Florida for the winter and when she returned to the city in May, she would contact me to help me petition city council to bring the program back.

With everything going on with Covid-19, I don't expect this program to be immediately reinstated in the near future but I think it's something that should be highly considered to be brought back to operation in the future. The program would benefit the city in many ways and benefit the juveniles as well as their parents cause as Mayor O'Connell stated at the city council meeting that the judge would sometimes ask the parent if they wanted to pay a fine or have their child participate in community service and I am sure most parents would rather have their child participate in community service than pay a fine. In my case, my parents were not given that option, instead the judge ordered the community service. I have also spoken to Magistrate District Judge Patricia Engler about the program and she remembered it and told me if the city brought the program back, she would utilize it and order juveniles to complete community service.

I emailed more details to all of city council members to their city email addresses and the mayor's office but haven't received a response from any member or the mayor's office.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that is a good idea. The Program really helped a lot of the kids at that time. He remembers sending recommendations to that Program back when Al Molinatti was here. It worked well. People really

liked it. He doesn't remember seeing anyone saying anything negative about it. It is something that they can look at. The whole issue of hiring somebody, he doesn't know if that is a possibility. That is a different issue. We do have a police/community Relations who is a Police Officer. The issue of the Program at that time was that the city had a civilian and the civilian actually cost us a lot less to have Police Officers doing this type of work. He stated that the city can certainly use a Police Officer who certainly has already a classification and the right to bare arms in a way to do other things and have an individual that won't cost the city that much. He stated that he thinks it is a good program, especially when we have an increase in youth in our city, especially for the summer. Not only do that, but coordination of sports and other things that we get them out of the streets and doing something favorable and more production for them, their families and the city.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that the city can look at it.

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

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he has a comment from Brittany Gelb.

Dear Allentown City Council, My name is Brittany Gelb, and my address is 5456 Sunset Drive, Schnecksville PA 18078, the pain felt by Black Americans resonates throughout the country this week. As a resident of Allentown, I am concerned for the Black lives in our community. In a phone call this afternoon, Council President Daryl Hendricks said that all lives matter. I couldn't agree more. This is precisely why reducing police militarization and improving community trust is so important. All lives matter, but we as white people have not been acting as if black lives matter, and this needs to change. The purpose of Black Lives Matter is to elevate the lack of action and attention brought to the systematic racism and injustice faced by Black people. I think of myself as a supporter of the police. I hope that we can enact some common sense reforms and reduce the militarization and warrior mentality of police that creates distrust in our community. If we want to repair the relationship between police and the community, we need to make progress on both sides. I hope that the City Council can make reforms on the side of the police. Sincerely,

Anisha Datta, 2400 W. Chew Street, called and stated that she supports the Black Lives Matter Movement and would like to defund the Police Department. She asked to see Council acknowledge and take responsibility for the devaluation of black lives at the hands of the police. She wants to see more investment in community resources to support black people so that they can thrive and survive.

Tess, Muhlenberg College, called and stated that she supports the Black Lives Matter Movement and would like to defund the Police Department. She asked to see Council acknowledge and take responsibility for the devaluation of black lives at the hands of the police. She wants to see more investment in community resources to support black people so that they can thrive and survive.

Kyra Hickey, called and stated that she supports the Black Lives Matter Movement and would like to defund the Police Department. She asked to see Council acknowledge and take responsibility for the devaluation of black lives at the hands of the police. She wants to see more investment in community resources to support black people so that they can thrive and survive.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he spoke to four people today. Two in person and two he left messages and they have not returned his call, but he will certainly try to call them tomorrow.

### Approval of Minutes:

[15-3618](#) May 20, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [May 20, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

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

### Old Business

Mr. Ed Zucal stated he has an Old Business for the Mayor, he thought that the city was going to open up as of Friday, the 5th.

Mayor Ray O'Connell asked City Hall.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that the city in general. He was told it was going to be the 15th.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated on Friday when the city goes from red to yellow they are going to do some things with some restaurants, the bars, the cafes, closing off streets, increase the business that they lost the last couple of months. The dog park is going to open, the skate park, tennis courts are going to open.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if it is the city as a whole.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated no. Just what he is naming. Basketball courts are still off limits. The parks are open, but the playground equipment is still off limits. At this point, there are no summer playground programs, no

swimming pools. Ms Gerlach initiated something that there are doing in Philadelphia called Play Streets. She is working with Karen El-Chaar. These kids are going to be bored. We want to block off streets and come up with ideas so we can get them engaged in some activities.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked when is City Hall actually opening.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that they have not actually decided that yet. A lot of times he is in conjunction with Bob Donchez in Bethlehem and Sal Panto in Easton so we are on the same page on a lot of these things.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he was going to bring something like that up under communications. A lot of people in the public think that we are opening up the city on the 5th. They are not aware what businesses are actually going to open up. He stated that he gets a lot of calls from hair salons and barber shops.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that hasn't been decided. The government will decide that.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that they are not opening, yet. He asked does the city know what kinds of businesses are actually opening.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated in the city, no. He stated when he knows than Council will know. He stated that the city sent out a Press Release stating what would open and what will be closed.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that in references to the businesses that are opening that Council is asking. As you mentioned Mr. Guridy about the barber shops and the beauty salons, those are still have not made it to that level where they could be open. The only thing that is opening on June 5th are the restaurants, cafes and any food service entity. They would only be allowed to do outdoor seating. That is what the Press Release was today. The Department of Agriculture and the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board have opened up some of their guidelines to allow for some leniency for these types of activities to happen, but other than that they are looking at Childcare Centers that will also be opening up. They will have to go through their requirements as well to go into the Yellow Phase. It is changing every minute.

Mr. Julio Guridy thanked Mr. Lightner and stated that he did see that. In fact, he did see the Press Release and posted on Facebook. Actually, Ms. Mota posted it on Facebook and he just shared it. A lot of people don't know the distinction. The city should try to make an effort of explaining that somehow by going on radio and TV. He knows people that are ready to

open tomorrow and he knows people that have been open that should not been open. They need to talk about it because some people are being put at risk because of that and some people are opening restaurants and people think that restaurants are going to be open. A lot of restaurants in Allentown don't have outside seating.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that it is very confusing. He stated that is why CED is closing some streets down. Hopefully, it will increase some business. You are right. It changes hourly. People are frustrated. When they do outside seating what do they do. He stated that they have to get an application and approval. They have to follow the CDC guidelines. Hopefully, we will go from red to yellow and yellow to green. He doesn't think it will be anytime soon.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that what happens is that the city follows the governor's mandate, but not every town follows the govern's mandate.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Allentown is following it.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated people like them that are aware of what is going on may be reading the newspaper and finding out what the difference between what the yellow and the green is and the red. Some people don't know and some really abuse it. It hasn't been that much enforcement to the rules or the mandates. The only type of enforcement that he has heard was the Attorney General fining someone that was price gouging.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that overall the Allentown residents and the Allentown businesses have been pretty darn good of following the rules. He stated that was on Seventh and Tilghman. He stated that he must be seeing something totally different from him because he drives around the city 2:00, 4:00, 6:00, 8:00 and 10:00 and he thinks at the most point they are following the guidelines. It is frustrating when a Target can be open and sell 300 or 400 dollars worth of clothing and Assembly 88 can't sell one shirt.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the small businesses are hurting a lot in Allentown.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Mr. Lightner in CEDC did the Small Business Stabilization, \$500,000.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he wishes that the city would have gotten more money from the government.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that they all wish that they get more money

from the government. The city helped a lot of small businesses. He and Mr. Lightner went around and delivered four checks in person. They went to a Childcare, a Hair Salon, a Notary, and a Uniform place. The Childcare person has tears in her eyes.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated a lot of people are hurting out there. You are right, we all wish we had more money. It only got to a certain amount of people because it was only a certain amount of money available.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that hopefully as they go from red to yellow in another week something else will open and then something else.

Ms. Candida Affa touched on the loan. She stated that Mr. Lightner's department did a really good job. They were able to pay their rent. She stated that they did an outstanding job and she got compliments. She had a man come up to her and asked why the city is not getting out of red. What are you going to do about the red. She stated that she is a City Councilwoman, not the governor. People have to start paying attention on what the governor is saying. Instead of asking Council all these questions, she would love to say to them watch the television, read your papers. This has to do with the governor. The mayor has said it many times, we are following the guidelines of the governor.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated one thing that did open is the Golf Course. They are having record rounds. Revenue is looking good at the Golf Course.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is the only game in town.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated literally.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated to Ms. Affa that she is right. He came into City Hall a couple of hours and Mr. Lightner and his staff were here. They turned the \$500,000 around very quickly for Round 1, Round 2 and Round 3. If the city gets more money, then they will continue to do it.

Mr. Julio Guridy echoed what Mayor O'Connell stated and said it is true. He talked to Leonard several times and they have done an excellent job. He stated that he is more concerned about the small businesses in Allentown. He is grateful for what the city employees and the administration have done. They have gone the extra mile.

**Communications: NONE**



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

The committee met this evening; the next meeting is scheduled for June 17th - TTBD - the plan is to look at multiple revenue/expenditure forecasts and performance standards.

**CEDC: Chair Guridy, Gerlach, Affa**

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled.

**Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Gerlach, Mota, Zucal**

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

**Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Gerlach, Siegel**

The committee has not met since the last Council meeting; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

**Public Safety: Chair Affa, Hendricks, Zucal**

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is not yet scheduled.

**Public Works: Chair Zucal, Affa, Siegel**

The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

**Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chair Hendricks, Guridy, Gerlach**

The committee met this evening; no future meetings scheduled.

**Administration**

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that when Mr. Zucal asked the question he covered some of the things that he was going to talk about in his Report. Going from red to yellow, cafes, restaurants, bars, outside dining, closing off some streets on Friday evenings and Saturdays to increase the business and hopefully increase the foot traffic. They will see how it goes for the month of June and can expand it in July. He stated great job to Mr. Lightner and Mr. Messinger with the roadblocks. He stated that he can't wait to go full steam ahead. It is going to be a while, but we will get there.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked the Mayor.

**City Controller**

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that there were some audits on Granicus for Council and the public to check out. He mentioned two weeks ago they are doing some audit reports live on Facebook in the not so distant future. He is looking forward to the time when they have the latitude to do it in Council Chambers.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if the Reports were on Granicus.

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that when the Controller's Office does an audit, a copy is forwarded to Council and Mr. Hanlon he believes puts it up on Granicus.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if the public is able to see them.

Mr. Jeff Glazier stated that they are there and also on the Controller's website.

[15-3635](#) Bank Reconciliation - 03-31-2020  
Reconciliation Review - 03-31-2020

**Attachments:** [R4 - Bank Reconciliation](#)  
[R3 - Bank Reconciliation](#)

[15-3634](#) 1st Quarterly Cash Flows

**Attachments:** [1st Pension Cash Flows](#)

**APPOINTMENTS:**

[15-3624](#) Walter Felton, Jr. Civil Service Board, 01/21/2023

**Attachments:** [Walter Felton, Jr - Civil Service Board](#)  
[Resolution #29994](#)

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that everyone knows Walt. You can't miss him. It is a perfect selection for the Civil Service Board. He is a former police officer. He is at the County now. They don't come any better than Walt. He stated that he has known Walt for 40 years.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he retired. He is with the state. He stated that he doesn't know anybody within the community that doesn't know Walt.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he had the distinct privilege of being his supervisor while on the Police Department and he was one heck of a police officer. He was a great investigator and more than anything else a great person who is so good with the public.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated a pretty good basketball player in high school.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he understands that he was and was fortunate that he did not have to play against him.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he liked when he was on the bike he could get closer to look at him eye to eye.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he is the perfect person for this position and he knows we will do a great job.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she has known Walt or as he is known in the community, Junie for a while. When she first came to Allentown he was one of the first people she met. He welcomed her. He was running for District Judge at that time. She helped him out in his campaign. He is an overall good guy, good father and she thinks he will bring along with Pastor Hailey's wife a good perspective to the board.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she shares the same sentiment. Mr. Felton is very active in the community with helping the youth and everyone. She agrees with all of them. Everyone knows Walter Felton.

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

Enactment No: 29994

### **ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**

### **RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**

[15-3625](#)

R72

Certificates of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts:  
231 N. 8th Street, 731 W. Turner Street

**Attachments:** [R72 Resolution - 731 Turner St and 231 N 5th St May 2020 HARB](#)

[Cases](#)

[731 Turner St](#)

[231 N 8th St](#)

[Resolution #29995](#)

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated that nothing really new. 731 W. Turner Street will be removing the stained glass windows that were destroyed from the car bombing in 2018. 231 N. 8th Street, again the removal of windows, including the stained glass windows. Everything is in line with the appropriate guidelines. There is nothing out of the ordinary.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions, comments or concerns from his colleagues.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the city used to have Mr. Kimmerly here to explain things. He stated that this week he received a call about Mr. Kimmerly visiting somebody. He stated that he is not sure that he is still on the board or working here.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Mr. Kimmerly is no longer an employee for the City of Allentown. It is a personnel issue.

Ms. Candida Affa asked how long has Mr. Kimmerly not been with the city.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that it is a personnel issue.

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

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

Enactment No: 29995

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

[15-3507](#)

Bill 32 Refer to Planning Commissions, will set up Public Hearing when meetings open up.

Amending the Zoning Map of the City of Allentown by rezoning parcels from B5 – Urban Commercial Zoning Classification to B/LI – Business/Light Industrial Zoning Classification.

Parcel A: 201-221 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA 18102 (PIN 640753129628-1); and

Parcel B: 115-143 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA 18102 (PIN 640742997610-1); and

Parcel C: 51-97 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA 18102 (PIN 640752151002-1); and

Parcel D: 113 N. Front Street, Allentown, PA 18102 (PIN 640752078227-1).

**Attachments:** [Bill 32 Font Street Rezoning](#)  
[Exhibit A Ordinance](#)  
[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding 201 221 115 143 51 97 and 113 n](#)  
[Front Street Rezoning Petition from B5 to BLI](#)  
[Staff Report CharlesStreetCapital ReZone on Front Street \(002\)](#)  
[12-10-19](#)  
[Referral Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding Bill 32 Amending the](#)  
[Zoning Map Parcels A, B C, D for Front Street](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were comments from the administration on this Bill.

Mr. Leonard Lightner stated no comment. They will wait until the committee.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that it is going to the Planning Commission and the Public Hearing.

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

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that he is not sure there are public comments. He asked Mr. Hanlon to double check to see if there were any public comments.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there were no public comment.

REFERRED TO ALLENTOWN PLANNING COMMISSION AND LEHIGH VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION

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

**NEW BUSINESS**

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she appreciate in the invocation the nine minutes for Mr. George Floyd. She thinks it is important

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she appreciate in the invocation the nine minutes for Mr. George Floyd. She thinks it is important that when those of them who has a platform be it elected office or leadership or whatever form it is. When we have such tumultuous times going on that they speak to them and she knows that in the future there will be policy change and a number of meetings that happen between the Police Chief and the community, but until then sometimes folks are looking sometimes even for acknowledgement. She stated that she has been in the public where things not as serious as this, but other things have gone on and it is like why isn't

anyone saying anything. We all know what is happening. We are literally watching towns on fire. Where are watching rubber bullets hit kids and groups of protesters being tear-gased. We watched the man die on TV and then for many of us, we reflect on the numerous people who have died while in police custody and a lot of times we say we must Say Their Names and we must not forget them. It is incumbent upon us to reassure members of the public that we are not tune deaf as you can see at the beginning of the meet, but more than that we are willing to hold ourselves as leaders, our police department, our administration accountable to make sure that if we need to make policy changes that we do so. That it is going to come and that it is not just we show up at the protest, we march, we maybe even kneel and that is it. Far too often that is what happens. This time it is different. It has to be different. She knows that Chief Granitz is going to be meeting. She stated to Candida that they had a conversation before this meeting. Chief Granitz will be meeting with community groups. At some point, he will be in Chambers presenting to Council all the information that he has gathered. It is important for members of the public, specifically when they look at the TV and see their brother, their uncle, their mom, their dad or someone who looks like a family member literally being murdered and it happens time and time again. It becomes traumatizing, triggering to the point where you see what is happening. It is like seething and you don't know what to do with it. That is what we are seeing around this country. She wanted to make that statement and reassure that any members of the public who feels like Council is not going to do anything, they never do. No, we are. We have to hold ourselves accountable. We have to hold the Police Department accountable because a couple of bad apples should not ruin the entire image of police officers, most who are trying to do the right thing. She stated for her, she had this heaviness for the last two weeks. It is a lot because again, you see your uncle, you see your family member. Some people don't have that or don't experience that. Yes, it is tragic, it is bad, but you don't see someone who literally looks like a family members. It is a bit different. She thanked Council for honoring Mr. Floyd's life. For the silence of nine minutes and there are a lot of ashes today around the country as buildings have burned. She hopes that the ashes leads to something better and brighter so they can speak up against racist and call it what it is. We have to call it racist and not be afraid to talk about racism and race and the fact that the skin that we are in sometimes can determine how we are treated by police, by each other. We all have implicit bias. We have to have these real and uncomfortable conversations as leaders because if we can't have them, how do we expect other people to have them. She stated that she looks forward to that and looks for to feeling uncomfortable and seeing people cringe. She looks forward to cringing because sometimes they need to do that and we need to comfort the ugly truth. We need to be anti-racist. We just can't be not racist. We must be anti-racist. We must call it out and that means calling each other

out at times. She stated that she looks forward to working with each of them during this journey. She knows it is going to get rough and a lot of uncomfortableness, but they got to do it. She thanked them for an opportunity to speak and hopefully we get some place better.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that they all do things all day long. We wash the dishes and wash out car. We don't realize how time goes by. When you said nine minutes, you realize how long nine minutes is. It is incredible. Absolutely incredible. On behalf of our Police Department and I am saying this because I was a Police Officer and saw it and Mr. Hendricks realizes that there have been many, many Officers that have been relieved of their duties from the City of Allentown for years. That was proven in the last few days in Allentown. The third largest city in Pennsylvania protest with no vandalism, no looting and no one fighting. He stated that he thinks they are do in a sense hold the community and Police Department responsible. He stated that he is not saying there are many bad apples, but there won't be any in the future. He stated that they do hold themselves accountable.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she looks forward to looking at very specific. You were an officer and you probably know the policies like the backside of your hands. She doesn't. She stated that she looks forward to learning those policies and seeing how officers are held accountable.

Ms. Candida Affa addressed Ms. Gerlach. They had a conversation today because they were in touch. She stated that she agrees with her. As Council people they need to be informed all the time, especially in a time like this. Chief Granitz is always available. He is there to answer the questions. He will do anything and give us any information that we need. As a Councilperson she found that out. She thinks they all did. He is working really hard and a lot of Chiefs are getting together, not just here, but the entire Lehigh Valley. He is having town hall meetings, reaching out to the activists, but as far as Ms. Gerlach said it is true she wants the public to know this that we are on top of it. We have a question from any of the director in which they did not have the privilege when she first started Council because of the last Mayor they had. This Mayor gives them the leeway to talk to them and they are always available, whether it is Public Works or the Chief of Police. Right now, Chief Granitz really has his hands full, but he takes the time any time she calls and he will come. A lot of meetings and different rules and regulations from all the Chiefs from the Lehigh Valley would come up with different protocols. He will address Council and will be glad to do this for us. She gave commendation to the Police Department. She stated that they never had a riot in Lehigh Valley and it is because the Police Department. You get one rogue cop, and we have had them, but we put them in their place immediately and they are done. That is from a patrolman all the way to a Captain. As a

Councilperson, she wants to the people to know that they are on top of this and they will talk to the Directors and the Chief of Police and they are very responsive and they are working very hard.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he just want to add to what Mr. Zucal said too. As a police officer himself for almost than 40 years in the Lehigh Valley, he can tell them that he hasn't spoken to one who approved of what they saw that day. Not one. As a brotherhood, this was horrific. He stated that he had trouble watching it. He spoke to several college students today by phone and ensured them that part of his duties will be to always hold our department responsible and the administration. He said knowing the men and women as he does he doesn't see this ever happening here, but if it should he won't hesitate. It has not happened when they have a rogue police officer they will be removed. Fortunately, we all have been up there at Seventh and Hamilton. Our officers were held up with great respect. They were there kind of unseen. That is what was best at the time. He stated that they are very fortunate here in the Lehigh Valley to have the men and women they do have that are on duty.

Mr. Joshua Siegel stated that he just want to echo the comments from Ms. Gerlach as well as his colleagues. What she is speaking to is the Fierce Urgency of Now and the reality and to acknowledge the pain and the suffering that so many in the country are experiencing and recognize that at the end of the day the protest is a call to action, but it is incumbent of us to take action. If you don't action, if you don't recognize the pain and suffering that people are feeling and if you don't actually move to make change, that is how protests become riots. That's how protests evolve into violence, that is how you convince an entire population, entire group of people, in the entire part of the country that words no longer result in action, that protests no longer result in change and you conceive them that the only way you can effect any kind of change is by burning cities and by looting and rioting. That is the responsibility that we now have as Council, as a city to take concrete action is to sit down in good faith and good conscience with leaders and Black Lives Matter and local activists and make sure we commit ourselves to real tangible change. He stated that he thinks that they can be proud of the police department and simultaneously recognize that there is gross in-flagrant police misconduct and brutality in this country. It is not just not the cities like Minneapolis which is so easy to call out. It is often the day in and day out individual interactions. It is the subconscious bias. it is the desire to follow an African American or Latino person because you just deem them as suspicious based of their skin color. That is the day by day subconscious racism that we really have to call out, not just the egregious kind that is so easy to say. Clearly kneeling on somebody's back for nine minutes is an ungodly injustice that not only should be



charged with murder, but locked up for the rest of their lives. They should never see daylight. As far as he is concerned, they deserve all the misery in the world. He stated that he is glad his wife divorced him and he hopes he never sees a day of happiness again for what he did. That is the easy stuff. That is the easy part. Of course, it is disgusting, but it is the day in and day out kind of littler reasons. We need to be unbashingly against. We need to be courageously calling out. We need to commit ourselves at this moment and delivering on real change very soon to prove to the country that right now is convulsing in pain that has an antagonistic and xenophobic President that doesn't have a care in the world for unity. We need to show here in the valley that when you come to us as leaders, as the Mayor and Council that we do deliver on change, that we do listen, that we do hear and we can prove locally that you can effect change. We saw yesterday in the primary, that despite the virus, despite the recession, so many people did show up at the polls in person because they believes in the process. They believe in making their voice heard and we need to show that voice can actually effect change. He stated that he is confident that they can effect that change. We have law enforcement members that appreciate and understand value of upholding the uniform, the oath that you swear when you decide to protect and serve and we all want to make sure that uniform is upheld and we have the best possible police force and we also hold it accountable and also respect the wishes and the wills of our residents and constituents.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that Chief Granitz and I had many conversations over the last several days and weeks. What Ms. Gerlach said and she has had some communication with Chief Granitz over the last couple of days. This administration has to listen to the public. We have to look at policies. We have to look at guidelines. We have to look at all the definitions of what a police officer does and excessive force, and police brutality. We have to. We have to. When you say okay, now it is Monday went into Wednesday, Wednesday went into Saturday and we are fortunate that we have not had anything happen. That really doesn't make it. We have to look at change. He stated that he has known Ms. Gerlach for a long time and Mr. Siegel. We have to do what we have to do to better the city of Allentown. The Police Department, the Fire Department, Public Works. Whatever we have to do. It is the Police Department right now and the administration. He stated that they will do whatever they have to do: looking at the guidelines, the policy manuals, regulations to improve the situation for the public. The city's Police Department will be open to that. We need to do that. We need to review things every now and then. You got to put that 1975 manual away and get the new manual out and readjust it, refine it, tweak it and make it better. Self-evaluation and then evaluation. That's what it is all about.

Mr. Julio Guridy thanked Mr. Hendricks and stated to the Mayor that is exactly what he was going to say and agrees with everything that has been said, but the issue of looking at our manual because they are outdated. He already started talking to some people about it. We need to bring, not only the Police Department, but every department. In this case because of what is going on we need to concentrate and making sure they are up to date and we can tolerate anything. In the last couple of days he heard stories of what happened. To some people and he is not saying that they have a bad Police Department, but there are things that did happen. Unfortunately, since Rodney King we have not seen anything like we see now. Some of us that lived that era of Rodney King, it was terrible and we thought we wouldn't see it again and here we are again with the same thing. He stated that he got a property that got looted. Somebody broke doors in his property last night and we can't stand for that. It wasn't police or the good people. It was some people that were venting and broke his property. Some people would say well the insurance will pay. That is unacceptable. He is grateful that the city has great police officers and the protest the other day was a testament of how well things went and how well things are coordinated. Listening to the Chief on what he said and how well things were coordinated he felt safe wherever he goes in the city. He stated that he knows a lot of people that tell him, especially people of color and he knows that the majority here is white and he is not saying anything racist. The whole issue about feeling scared sometimes when you are a person of color is true. It is true and he knows some people may not understand that, but it is something that he tells his kids. He stated that he is Hispanic, but is also a dark Hispanic. He tells his kids, look you see a Police Officer and they stop you, be the nicest person you can be. Even if you know you are right. Just be the nicest person you can be. If they give you a ticket, don't talk back because you never know what the other guy went through just five minutes earlier. You don't know what is going on his mind. Just be nice, take the ticket and we will discuss it later. We have to be honest, there are things that happen that we don't get caught on camera. Luckily for us, we have the body cameras now and we can see a lot more then before, but they have to update their policies to make sure that things are the way they supposed to be. You stated that she is not saying anything negative about the Police Department, he is just saying that they have to update those policies. He stated that he saw the Chief in Minnesota speaking on CNN and the man was the nicest guy. When the family called in and talk to him, he took his hat off and those are the things that a good police officer does. It doesn't have to be a police officer. Anybody can do it. We had a couple of rotten apples there. We have the nicest Chief of Police that we can think of and there are some rotten apples that were there. We as a country are being looked at by the whole world. A

lot of people know this, everybody is seeing this. He stated that he is so happy that they live in Allentown and stated that he is looking forward to working with his colleagues and the administration, including the Police Department to update the city's manual and make sure that something remotely close to anything, hopefully it will never happen that they are able to act quickly.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated what Ms. Gelach stated was absolutely correct. They are all reinforcing that. We can talk and talk about talk for a long time. If we have to make changes in different areas they will do that. We are very, very fortunate to have Glenn Granitz as our Chief of Police. He doesn't even go home some nights and the men and women of the Police Department. He is a fine leader and a fine person.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that they need to include the community. Whatever they do, they have to include the community.

Chief Granitz is out there in the community. We have to dialogue.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she hears the great sentiment and believes that the city has a great Chief of Police. She agrees with what everyone is saying that we have to look at the policies that we have, but she thinks that the Police Department now is doing a lot better than before. The reality was that a year and a half ago she got mugged and she was not treated very fair. As a person of color, and a public official, when she got mugged she was not really in belief that it actually happened to her. She believes that they can do better. She is looking forward to having that conversation she wants to be present and agrees with Mr. Guridy that they have to make sure that the community have a say, but we do have to do better. She stated that she really believes that the city is lucky that we have good policemen and a good Chief now. He is more than open to have the uncomfortable conversation that Ms. Gerlach is talking about.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that if you have been a police officer you are going to be aware of this going back to the manual of 1975 or changing the guidelines. There is a module that they supposed to go by is the Use of Force Module. It has been around since 1978. It was created by a man John Desmond that Mr. Hendricks know, who is a retired Secret Service Agent who covered Jimmy Carter. That Use of Force Module tells you everything from the guy that is drunk, to the guy that just committed murder and pointing a gun at you, to the guy that is resisting. It tells you everything and what to do. If he does this, you do this. If he does this, you do this. As long as you follow that module, you will never have a Use of Force issue, ever, ever, ever. You meet the force with their reaction. Your reaction is

determined by their action. It's that simple. This is not something that has to be created. It is just something that has to be followed. Every cop that ever followed that module has gone through his entire career without one public complaint, without anything. In most times without ever pulling his gun so it is not like we have to reinvent the wheel. What has to happen is you have to follow the law. When Mr. Floyd was handcuffed, the game was over. The game was over. They went above. He was handcuffed and they were here. They should have been here and eventually since he was handcuffed here. They didn't follow the module and that is what happens. It is just that simple.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that unfortunately some people do not follow the module.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that is the problem and what happens, someone dies.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she went to the Citizens Police Academy twice and took a friend along. She advised everyone and if you want to know everything about the Police Department she encouraged everyone. She told Ce-Ce that it should be a requirement for City Councilmembers that they should attend. There are so many questions that people ask them. There is so much she learned there and went back ago and learned even more. There is every level, every single level from the canine, to hostage situations, the coroner. There isn't anything that they missed and the most important thing that she found is the level that they have for approaching something. They used her as an example. They went to Candida's Bar, there was a crowd out there and the first thing they do is to not get out the car. They show presence and ask them to leave. She stated to Mr. Zucal what you said about protocol. The second level was we go around the block, they did not listen, now we get out of the car. Then they don't approach them or touch them. She stated that it was amazing to her how the police officers just don't get out the car. He has levels that he has to go through until he actually put his hands on someone. These are the things that she learned at the Academy and was amazed. That is just one of them because they figure a cop is just going to come out and say hey, no. They do it a certain way and like Mr. Zucal said and brought up about the protocol. If people understood this. It is only a six week now. It was eight weeks when she went. She thinks everyone should go.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he did it over 20 years ago. He has to do it again.

Chief Glenn Granitz thanked majority of Council for the kind words. He echoed what some of them have said. There is nothing in the video from

Minneapolis that speaks to anything that would be acceptable, any course of training practice or policies. To say that 1975 was the last time that the Allentown Police Department updated a policy is so far from true he honestly got a little upset listening to that. He stated that they have working with Risk Management.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that was just an example like we did things in the School District. We do manuals. That does not go back 45 years. That was an example where you had a meeting and in the meeting you made a manual and all of a sudden it goes on the shelf until 1995 or 2005. That was not his reference at all or inference at all.

Chief Glenn Granitz stated that they have been lucky here and it started well before him. When you look at lists put out by groups such as Black Lives Matter and you know that he and the Mayor had the fortune to meet with them and have scheduled ongoing meetings. We will work with them as we always will. One of the first things that they talk about in their points is a full body worn camera policy. We are the largest city in Pennsylvania that has that for all of our patrol officers. He will tell them that the Department of Justice has actually taken the city's policy and used it as a template for any other grant awardees department nationwide that they are going to use. That is a department that is clearly moving in the right direction in terms of policy and practice. It is his goal to have every policy of this department upgraded within his first year of being Chief. They are well over halfway done and he has been there for about seven months and that is with everything else going on in the world, including a pandemic that they never dealt with before. Of the men and women of the Allentown Police Department coming to work every day, leaving their families at home, and we are disgusted, upset by what they saw in the video from Minneapolis. He stated that he has not talked to a police officer here or anywhere else, whether it is a Chief or a new person on the street that thinks that anything that they saw there is correct or is justifiable in any manner. He stated that on February 4, he invited Council to the Academy for a Use of Force Training and Use of Simulator. No one attended. He stated that he can't be more transparent and open than that. He gave them an opportunity before the incidences so we can begin to having those difficult conversations which he is more than willing to have. He will definitely sit up there, as Ms. Gerlach said if he has to cringe, he will cringe, but he was willing to do this, before this and he thinks it should be noted because the men and women of the Allentown Police Department stand ready to set themselves aside from what is going on on the national narrative and they will improve everyday so that things like that don't happen here.

Mr. Jeff Nelson stated to add on to that because of what Chief Glenn Granitz has done with his short Interim as Chief of Police the city has

received a reduction. For years the city has been paying over \$200,000 plus for Law Enforcement Insurance, but with the Chief's aggressive approach with Steve Vangelo, and Assistant Chief Lake, they have made such strides that they are currently and in the first time in a long time have save the city money on the Law Enforcement Insurance Policy. Just think about all the claims and everything they the city has paid out year to date. We are talking about a Police Chief here that has taking an initiative and has been very serious about this movement and has been ahead of his time.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Nelson. He asked if there were anybody else. He thinks they said everything that needed to be said.

**GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE**

**ADJOURNED: 8:18 PM**