



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Monday, December 21, 2020

7:00 PM

Council Chambers

Public Comment Provisions during Covid: The meeting will be live streamed. The link to the meeting can be found on the city website with the agenda and legislation at <https://www.allentownpa.gov>. Council will receive comments on the legislation prior to the meeting and will consider all comments from city residents. All comments must include your name and address, including your city, and be emailed to Michael.Hanlon@AllentownPa.gov by 2 PM on the date of the meeting. Comments can also be registered using the ecomment provision on each agenda item found on the city website. Comments received from city residents by that deadline will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council members prior to the meeting and will also be noted at Courtesy of the Floor or Public Comment periods of the meeting. These timely received comments will also be posted on the City's webpage as a supporting document to the meeting. Any comments received on the meeting day, after the 2:00 pm deadline, will be forwarded to the Mayor and Council as soon as practicable. In addition, if you would like to speak during the meeting, please send your name, address, including municipality, and telephone number to the email address above indicating what issue you would like to speak on or call the office at 610.437.7555 and do the same, and you will be called during the meeting.

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

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

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

Hi Mr. Hanlon,

I am a resident at 958 W. Walnut Street and I am getting in touch about the proposed garage along Walnut that is coming up for a vote.

I have been a parking subscriber in the Fountain Lot for 14 years. My main concerns are:

Where will we be able to park during garage construction? Can the Parking Authority create zone parking in our neighborhood while this takes place? In the 900 block of W. Walnut there are just 3 properties with off-street parking out of dozens of homes and rental units. Plus the buildings on Jackson St have zero street parking so parking is quite limited in the neighborhood.

And as a subscriber, will we be given preference to obtain a permit for the new garage? I fear the new apartments will be given priority for garage spaces and those of us in the neighborhood might miss the chance before it fills up. My household works entirely from home and 24-hour parking is important to us.

Thank you for considering my comments and concerns.

Sincerely,
Sarah Fulton
c- 570-249-0131

Hello, this is being submitted to be read aloud for public comment at council tonight.

I'm Ashleigh Strange, she/her, I live on S. Front St in Allentown and I'm the organizer for Lehigh Valley Stands Up.

Back in February, members of the community spoke at city council to say that council needs to look into the dealings of the ANIZDA board before they can progress any further with appointment. The minutes are here.
<https://allentownpa.legistar.com/MeetingDetail.aspx?ID=761604&GUID=2D8FE406-955D-4FA9-A3A7-CA8C526CF9D3&Options=info%7C&Search=anizda#>

Council made a promise that they would look into this and by proceeding with the

appointments, you are allowing a corrupt board to continue promoting gentrification in Allentown.

The ANIZDA board is one of a kind in many ways, but most prominently it is an authority with no oversight and very little input from the community.

I ask again that you delay the appointments for new ANIZDA board members until a date is firmly set that they will answer for their misdeeds to council.

Ashleigh Strange

The e-mail this morning from Michael P Hanlon directed to Steven Bamford, Executive Director of ANIZDA, has been forwarded to me as Solicitor for response.

The ANIZDA board does not select its members nor does it establish criteria. The members of the board are selected by Senator Browne, Mayor O'Connell, and Representative Schweyer applying criteria they believe to be appropriate. The Chairperson of ANIZDA simply forwards their selection to the Mayor who then makes the appointment subject to the concurrence of City Council. If any member of City Council has questions regarding selections, those questions would best be directed to Senator Browne, Mayor O'Connell, and Representative Schweyer.

As for the changes to the ANIZDA bylaws made in January 2020, the amendment was requested, reviewed and agreed upon by Senator Browne, Mayor O'Connell, and Representative Schweyer and was intended to codify the process that had previously been used to select appointees to the ANIZDA board. The amendment requires unanimity among the 3 elected officials who each have 3 selections to the nine member ANIZDA board.

I have attached a copy of the current By Laws. Please refer to Section 2.11 for clarity.

Thanks. If you have any further questions, please let us know.

Jerome B. Frank, Esq.

on behalf of

Steve Bamford
Executive Director

Approval of Minutes:

[15-3968](#) September 16, 2020 City Council Contract Approval

Attachments: [September 16, 2020 City Council Contract Approval Meeting Minutes](#)

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

[15-3963](#) September 16, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [September 16, 2020 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

[15-3969](#) September 30, 2020 Special Council Meeting on Bill 20 Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [September 30, 2020 Special Council Meeting on Bill 20 Meeting Minutes](#)

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

Old Business: NONE

Communications

City Council held an Executive Session on December 15, 2020 at 2:00 pm with members of the Administration to discuss information, strategy and negotiations as to the collective bargaining agreement with the IAFF. The subject matter of this meeting is an exception to the open meeting requirement under the Sunshine Law.

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

The committee met this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled.

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.

Parks and Recreation: Chair Mota, Gerlach, Siegel

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

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Hendricks, Zucal

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

Public Works: Chair Zucal, Affa, Siegel

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

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

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

Controllers Report

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier reported on Accounts Payable Weekly Check Review for October 31 to December 4, 2020. They reviewed 389 check for a little bit over \$4 million, seven manual checks for a little bit over \$100,000, they reviewed unprocessed Eden invoices for over 10 days. There were 20 of those. They reviewed wires for a total of \$600,000. Of great importance at the end of the year, but also at any time. For invoices paid by wires, the payment is made then deducted out of the city's bank account. The invoice must then be entered into Eden and go through the approval queue and finalized in Eden before the expense is posted in the General Ledger. They reviewed wires that were paid in October and November of this year and identified five wires totaling \$1.2 million that were paid, but whose corresponding invoices had not been entered into Eden and therefore the expense is not reflected in the General Ledger. In a year like we are having where our revenues have not

measured up, it is exceptionally important that we know what our cash balance is and when invoices get paid by wires, but don't get entered into Eden, that give them a false reading as to what our cash balance is. The department was advised of the issues and further advised that this has happened two years ago and steps are supposed to be taken to correct them. He stated that he hopes at this time, they will do a better job. He stated that they found one duplicate payment for \$1,380.36. That included a past due balance of \$686.40. The check was voided and reissued for the proper amount. They found another invoice where the city's documentation uses for the invoices the wrong month resulting in an overpayment to the vendor of \$600.00. The department was informed of the issue and the check was voided and the vendor would send the revised invoice for payment. He stated that is his report where the most important item being the first one. They were paying wires, but not reporting them on the Ledger.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Glazier and asked if anybody had any questions for Mr. Glazier on his report.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked what is being done to correct that.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that there have been changes in personnel and will retrain on the proper process. These invoices supposed to go to a common mailbox, but he doesn't think it was checked on a regular basis. Rest assured, going forward this is something that we look at regularly. They will continue to scrutinize these wires because it is a lot of money. Medical bills are \$300,000, \$400,000, \$600,000 every two weeks. They will continue to monitor so that the information posted to the ledger is accurate.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Zucal and asked if there were any other questions.

Administration Report

Mayor Ray O'Connell thanked Council again for a very civil, productive Budget Season. There were good representatives by departments and good questions by Council. Hopefully, they can do the same in about 10 months from now.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated and hopefully without any increases.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated in the beginning, moving it up to October 15 is the right way to do it. You go two weeks ahead and two weeks back. Really, two and a half months for you have time to absorb and ask questions and go from there. It was a good Budget Season. It was good sessions. He stated that he thought the presentation by Department Heads were more thorough this year than ever and some of you made comments about that.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he thinks that having the Budget presented in October made a big difference instead of rushing and being stressed out.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that it is not rush, rush, rush. It is a time to think and get answers and if we don't have answers at the meeting, we will get answers in the next couple of days. He stated that he thought it went really well. Much better than the first one.

[15-3981](#) Controller Reports

Attachments: [Accts Payable Check Review 10/31 - 12/04](#)

[Wellness Incentive Gift Cards](#)

[Sept Bank Rec](#)

APPOINTMENTS:

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he did have a comment on the ANIZDA appointments from Ashleigh Strange. He stated that he did not get a specific address, but it is Council's call if they want him to read them in, but you are not voting on them either.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that since Council is not voting on it, they will postpone that and save it for the next meeting when they do vote on it at the guidance of our Solicitor.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that since it is not being voted on it now, but it is posted online so if you want to see it, it is there. It is not being voted on now. It would not have to be read right now.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it was no specific address. Just the street.

This was approved.

[15-3955](#) Dr. Rajika Emily Reed, Health Board, 01/02/2026 (Replacing Dr. Stephen K. Katz)

Attachments: [Dr. Rajika Emily Reed, Health Board](#)

[Resolution #30108](#)

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

Enactment No: 30108

[15-3956](#) Oscar A. Morffi, MD, Health Board, 01/02/2026

Attachments: [Oscar A. Morffi, MD, Health Board](#)
[Resolution #30109](#)

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that he is a reappointment.

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

Enactment No: 30109

[15-3966](#) Sandra Barnes, Allentown Housing Authority, 11/05/2025

Attachments: [Sandra Barnes, Allentown Housing Authority](#)
[Resolution #30110](#)

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

Recused: 1 - Julio Guridy

Enactment No: 30110

[15-3971](#) Gus J. Al-Khal, Civil Service Board, 01/21/2024

Attachments: [Gus J. Al-Kahl, Civil Service Board](#)
[Resolution #30111](#)

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

Enactment No: 30111

[15-3980](#) David C. Huber, HARB, 01/03/24

Attachments: [David C. Huber, HARB](#)

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

Enactment No: 30112

[15-3979](#) Ellen Roberts, HARB, 01/03/24

Attachments: [Ellen Roberts, HARB](#)

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

Enactment No: 30113

[15-3769](#) Lewis Edwards, ANIZDA, 01/01/23

Attachments: [Lewis Edwards - ANIZDA](#)
[Resolution #30129](#)

This Appointment was tabled.

Enactment No: 30129

[15-3859](#) Seymour Traub, ANIZDA, 01/01/2026

Attachments: [Seymour Traub, ANIZDA](#)
[Resolution #30131](#)

This Appointment was tabled.

Enactment No: 30131

[15-3830](#) Stephen K. Breininger, ANIZDA, 01/01/2025

Attachments: [Stephen K. Breininger - ANIZDA](#)
[Resolution #30130](#)

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach made a comment about the ANIZDA board appointments. The reason why she was encouraging that these names be ever tabled or pulled is back in February a number of individuals and members of the public had came here and asked questions about the bylaws and the change in bylaws and really was interested in the ANIZDA board overall and the function and the role that they play in the city. It was stated publicly that it will be a public presentation of a public explanation. That was in February. Covid happened. We had a number of presentations since then. We were just graced with the Water Authority's presentation. We luckily have two Councilmembers that serve on the Parking Authority Board. There is a level of interaction and involvement. They have an opportunity to field questions to Mr. Hendricks and Ms. Affa to the Parking Authority and we were just on with the Water Authority. With ANIZDA board, not so much. It has been almost a year since the members of the public has been promised or reassured that they would have their questions fielded and we would have a chance to ask our questions. She stated that she is hoping that since the Chairperson is one of the folks that supposed to be appointed tonight. This would be cause for them to come before us. As the elected officials of this city and present what they are doing. Present on how they are going about public improvement projects and how do they choose. What are their requirements for ANIZDA board members that they give to the mayor and the give to the state senator, that they give to the state representative. There are a lot of questions that would be helpful for them to really have answers to. That is the reason that they are pulled. It is nothing against the three gentlemen as human beings and as ANIZDA board members. It is just about the process and following up with our commitment to the public.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is a reasonable request. The mayor is here and has heard that request. He stated that he is sure that will be

fulfilled sometime shortly in the new year.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach asked if they could set some type of timestamp in the next month, two months, or three months since it has been a year.

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked if Council wanted to do a Committee of the Whole Meeting and invite them.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated yes, we should invite them. We should do it as soon as possible because it has been February.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he would make that motion to get that done in the next month.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that his one nominee Lewis Edwards has been baking for 18 months.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that have not presenter.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated Mr. Hendricks, Mr. Hanlon and himself should get a hold of Mr. Bamford, and their attorney Mr. Frank and the chairperson Sey Traub and do what we did tonight. Do Zoom and get it on the table. They are having trouble getting a quorum for a lot of meetings. He stated correct him if he is wrong. Remember, Sey Traub and Steve Bamford were here. He stated that Josh and Ce-Ce weren't on board. They can give a presentation. It needs to be done.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated and make the request.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he wants to emphasis what Ms. Gerlach said. These are fine people that are being introduced. It is nothing against the individuals. Basically, it is the process.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it has been a very difficult year for so many things, but non the less he thinks it is time.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that maybe they can shoot for the second Council meeting in January. January 20th.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that sounds good.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that there was a Motion and a Second. There will either be a discussion or voting for it or withdrawing the Motion. He stated that he thinks there is a resolution to it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he doesn't know if they need to go forward. He asked do you have any concerns Ms. Gerlach.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she has concerns, but will see what will happen by the end of the month and go from there.

Mr. Matthew Kloiber stated that Ms. Gerlach would have to withdraw her second.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated likewise. He will withdraw his.

This Appointment was tabled.

Enactment No: 30130

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-3967](#)

R153

Authorizes Certain Properties to Be Acquired by Eminent Domain by the Redevelopment Authority if necessary.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R153 ARA Eminent Domain](#)

[Resolution #30114](#)

Ms. Kelly McElroy stated that she is here to answer any questions. She is the Assistant Director with the Redevelopment Authority.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. McElroy.

Ms. Kelly McElroy stated that she can explain the process.

Mayor Ray O'Connell said that we do it all the time.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this is not something new to us. We have had many of these before. He stated that he appreciates her and see if there are any questions from any of his colleagues about any of the properties or procedure. He asked Mr. Hanlon if he read off all the addresses.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated yes.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from his colleagues or the process or any of the properties.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that the key there is if it is necessary as you go along to make improvements to get off the list, if necessary. It is the last resort.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if this in addition to the over the 100 ones that we already put on the list.

Ms. Kelly McElroy stated that the city of Allentown had originally certified 96 properties. Because we got started and was able to start this process again, we actually complied, we as a whole 31 properties. Right now, the city of Allentown has 65 certified properties with this list.

Mr. Julio Guridy asked are those properties certified to be put on the list for Eminent Domain.

Ms. Kelly McElroy stated correct. There are officially certified before we can step in and start the process.

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

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she thinks that the public has to be aware of the fact that they have been told about it. They have been asked to improve it. It gets to a point where we have given them every opportunity to fix it up. They come to the meetings. She stated that she is on the board. The owners will come to explain and we give them so much time to repair and fix their properties. She stated that the city is very lenient.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that the bottom-line is that the city and the Redevelopment Authority does not want to take a person's home. The worse is if people are not going to comply after many opportunities to do so, sometimes you are left with no choice.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that it is not fair to the surround areas. For your neighbors, it is an eye-sore and nothing is being done. It is not fair to the people that do take care of their properties in the neighborhood.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that even if we take the property, we pay just cost of the property to the owners. They will get compensated, if we take it.

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

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

Enactment No: 30114

[15-3958](#)

R152

Approves the following transfers: \$16,848 in CED for Laptops; \$68,250 in Recreation for concession stands at Percy Ruhe and Mack Pool; \$50,000 transfer in Parks for a leaf loader; 267.24 in Human Resources to implement a 2021 Virtual Wellness Program; \$40,000 in Engineering for the Livingston Watershed project at 6th and Sumner; \$22,800 in Police/Public Safety for Ongoing Maintenance for In-Car Cameras, Body Camera and Software Maintenance for 2020 – 2021; \$10,499.91 in Health for overtime due to COVID-19 case investigations and \$7,000 in Risk Management for CARES Grant Funds for the elevator project.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R152 Transfers](#)

[Funds for 76 Construction Contract Account To Construct The Livingston Watershed at 6th and Sumner](#)
[CARES Grant Funds City Hall Elevator Project Funded 50 Percent](#)
[Additional Overtime Hourse Required Due To Covid-19 and Follow Up](#)
[To Purchase Supplies and Equipment To Renovate The Concession Stands at Percy Ruhr Park](#)
[2021 Virtual Wellness Program](#)
[Ongoing Maintenance for In-Car Cameras - Police](#)
[Purchase Supplies and Equipment To Renovate Concession Stands at Percy Ruhe Park and Mack Pool](#)
[CovidComputers](#)
[Resolution #30115](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated just cleaning up some open money. He asked if there were any questions from his colleagues or the public.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach asked about the Cares money before the elevator project. How are we using Cares money for an elevator project. They are now doing the project in-house. The roof is completed and the block wall is completed. Now, they can do the interior work and they will do it in-house at a cost of approximately \$68,000 which is for both Concession Stands, Mack Pool and Percy Ruhe. He is hoping that they can do it, even under that budget.

Ms. Meloney Sallie-Dosunmu stated that they needed to provide additional control over where the elevators go in order to manage the flow through the building. They are having the elevators programmed so you need to swipe your card to get off on certain floors and they can turn off access to various floors without having a swipe card. That would give them more control with flow through the building and that was a project that they put in place because of Covid just to give them more control over that traffic flow.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Sallie-Dosunmu.

Ms. Candida Affa asked about the Concession Stand at Mack Pool.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated it is for Mack Pool and Percy Ruhe. It was a savings to do them both at the same time.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she thought they did that a year ago before Covid.

Mayor Ray O'Connell stated that they did a roof, not a Concession Stand.

Ms. Karen El-Chaar stated that she will also ask Rick Holtzman to join in, but the Mayor is correct. They were working on the roof and for the Concession Stand with both areas, Mr. Holtzman is going to explain why they have entered the request at this time.

Mr. Rick Holtzman stated to Ms. Affa that the Mayor is correct, they did the roof appropriately two years ago. Parks did a block wall in front of the Concession Stand about a year and a half ago. He went out for bid for Mack Pool Concession Stand for plans that they have done last year for all the work. The actual bid came back at \$88,000.

Ms. Candida Affa asked about the roof and the center blocks were on both Ruhe Park and Mack? That work has been already done?

Mr. Rick Holtzman stated that the roof at Mack Pool has been completed. The block wall at Mack Pool has been completed. The roof at Percy Ruhe Concession Stand is in processing right now. There is a PO issued for that work. Now, it is all the material work. They have been trying to piecemealing this job. They were hoping to have a contractor come in and get some of the work done at reasonable price, but obviously \$88,000 is astronomical. They are going to do it themselves in-house and save a lot of money and have the same product.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that this is interior and is right in assuming that work had been done to Mack and Ruhe. This is interior work now, right?

Mr. Rick Holtzman stated that this is all the interior work to have the Concession Stands up and running for the 2021 season.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that this will be done in-house for this price here, correct.

Mr. Rick Holtzman stated yes. Electrical, plumbing, and carpentry. All work will be done in-house.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated in other words we are saving money. This is great.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other questions about this Resolution.

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

Enactment No: 30115

[15-3988](#) ARA Presentation

Attachments: [City Council Presentation ARA](#)

[15-3977](#) R154

A Resolution Urging Congress to Pass the Restaurants Act – legislation that would provide support and relief for people/businesses drastically impacted under the Covid Crisis

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

Attachments: [R154 Res Act](#)

[Rest Bill](#)

[Resolution #30116](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she thinks that this is one of the best ideas to come up with. These poor restaurant owners. She stated that she owned a business for 37 years. They don't have to pay their taxes. They can collect their taxes. Any kind of relief that we can give these restaurant owners. She stated that she doesn't know if she would have survived had she still had her business. She stated that she is all for this. It is a great idea and encouraged everybody to plead with Congress to uphold this.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he would agree.

Mayor Ray O'Connell asked Council to sign on to make it unanimous. He agreed with Ms. Affa that these are very, very tough times.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated much so. He asked Mr. Hanlon to add all of Council's name and conduct the vote.

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

Enactment No: 30116

[15-3984](#)

R155

Certificates of Appropriateness for work at 347 N 9th Street, 343-345 N 9th Street, and 440 N 10th Street

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R155 HARB Approvals](#)
[COA Reviews FINAL](#)
[Resolution #30117](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from his colleagues on the Resolution. it is pretty much self-explanatory.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there were no comments.

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

Enactment No: 30117

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

[15-3970](#)

Bill 90

DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE MAY 18, 2021 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO EXTEND THE GEOGRAPHIC LIMITS OF THE CITY RESIDENCY REQUIREMENT FOR CITY HEADS OF DEPARTMENTS, OFFICES AND AGENCIES

Sponsors: Administration, Affa, Mr. Zucal and Hendricks

Attachments: [Bill 90 Charter Amendment - Residency Requirement of Heads at time of appointment](#)
[Ordinance #15666](#)

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

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if this was a request from the Mayor. Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated no.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated it was from the administration, Ms. Affa, Mr. Zucal, and Mr. Hendricks.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated yes.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that this should have been referred to the Committee of the Whole. For some reason, it did not update.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Enactment No: 15666

[15-3972](#)

Bill 91

DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE MAY 18, 2021 PRIMARY ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO PERMIT THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPOINT A COUNCIL SOLICITOR FOR LEGAL ADVICE.

Sponsors: Affa, Hendricks, Mota and Mr. Zucal

Attachments: [2021 Bill 91 Charter Amendment - Council Solicitor](#)
[Ordinance #15667](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there were no comments from the public.

REFERRED TO THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Enactment No: ORD 15-010

[15-3973](#)

Bill 92 Public Works, forwarded favorably

Amending the 2020 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Three Hundred Thirty-Two Thousand Four Hundred Seventy Dollars and Ninety-Two Cents (\$332,470.92) as a transfer of funds from multiple project accounts to provide Bridge Repair Funds. Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds. Also, corrects negative balances in projects 1753 – American Parkway NE and 1282 – Hamilton Street Safety Improvement From 10th Street.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 92 Bridget Repair Transfer](#)
[Ordinance #15669](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there were no comments from the public.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Enactment No: 15669

[15-3978](#)

Bill 93

Amending the 2020 General Fund and the 2020 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Seventy-Four Thousand Eight Hundred and Seventy-One Dollars and Eighty-Four Cents (\$174,871.84) from the Municipal Police Officer's Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) for tuition and salary reimbursement from Act 120 Training to be used to replace the roof on the Police Academy and fund the renovations to Public Safety Building.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 93 Police Capital Project - MPOETC](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there were no comments from the public.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-3982](#)

Bill 94 Public Works, forwarded favorably
Providing for the vacation of South Fountain Street from the centerline of Maple Street to the centerline of Walnut Street in the Third Ward of the City of Allentown and School Street from the centerline of South Fountain Street to its West Terminus in the Third Ward of the City of Allentown:

Attachments: [Bill 94 S Fountain St from Maple St](#)

[S Fountain St from Maple St Street Vacation Engineering Report](#)
[South Fountain St from South Maple St to Walnut St Engineering Report](#)
[S. Fountain St and W. School St from W. Maple St to S. Fountain St Maps](#)
[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding S. Fountain St and W. School St from W. Maple St to S. Fountain St to West Terminus](#)
[Letter from Irene Woodward regarding Allentown City Planning Commission Approval of S. Fountain St and W. School St from Maple St](#)
[Letter from Lehigh Valley Planning Commission regarding South Fountain St and W. School from W. Maple St Ordinance #15670](#)

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that there are two comments.

Hi Mr. Hanlon,

I am a resident at 958 W. Walnut Street and I am getting in touch about the proposed garage along Walnut that is coming up for a vote.

I have been a parking subscriber in the Fountain Lot for 14 years. My main concerns are:

Where will we be able to park during garage construction? Can the Parking Authority create zone parking in our neighborhood while this takes place?
In the 900 block of W. Walnut there are just 3 properties with off-street

parking out of dozens of homes and rental units. Plus the buildings on Jackson St have zero street parking so parking is quite limited in the neighborhood.

And as a subscriber, will we be given preference to obtain a permit for the new garage? I fear the new apartments will be given priority for garage spaces and those of us in the neighborhood might miss the chance before it fills up. My household works entirely from home and 24-hour parking is important to us.

Thank you for considering my comments and concerns.
Sincerely,
Sarah Fulton

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he will forward the comment to the Allentown Parking Authority and ask if they would respond to that. He stated that he does not know what the answer to that would be.

Mr. James Whitney stated he would like to make a comment on the Walnut Parking Deck. He stated that he heard about the Vacation of Fountain Street. He was opposed to the project because he was afraid of what it would mean for his commercial property at the corner of Walnut and Fountain Streets. He did not see at the time why they had to get with a sidewalk connecting them for the people that are parking on along Hamilton Street. He stated that he has done his own research and now he understands why that is not feasible. While you could have two decks. The decks individually would be smaller, but the ramp that would necessarily move the cars up and down the deck would stay the same size so it really would not work to have these amount of cars in these decks with the ramp taking up so much space. The ramp is the most expensive part. It just wasn't feasible. From a purely selfish standpoint, he wishes that Fountain Street could stay. However, putting the city first, he feels that the activation of the 900 Block of Hamilton Street is so important to the future of our city and finally will link our city's gateway to our vibrant downtown. It is important to get this project done right now and Center City Allentown response to his concern adding a pedestrian path through the parking garage so they can still integrate Jackson Park to those properties which was one of his main concerns. It is not financially feasible to do the two decks with the sky bridge connecting them and the activation of the 900 block of Hamilton is so important. In the five years that we have had these empty lots on Hamilton Street and it is so important to activate that block and get this economy moving. He supports the Vacation of Fountain Street. it gives him a little pain because for him he wishes it could stay, but for the city, it is the right thing to do to support it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Whitney for his input on this and your understanding.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Mr. Whitney will be notified when they have the committee meeting.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that she knows that it is up for introduction at this point, but she wanted to make a brief comment. She walked over and she lives at 9th and Walnut and walked over. A lot of the focus is on S. Fountain Street. She walked over to see where this School Street. She never actually seen a sign for it. It turns out that School Street is behind the homes on the north side of Walnut Street. In the Planning Commission meeting, they are labeled with letters C through I. It is used. Someone shoveled out the space that's behind the garage. Someone obviously uses that garage. There were three cars and a motorcycle parked back there. She has concerns about those properties becoming landlocked based on the current plan for this development. she is looking at Article 915 for Street Vacations and some of the things as Council that are supposed to consider before we vacant a street. It is her understanding that these are streets to nowhere or grassy areas or streets that are not used. We are talking about an actual street that connects Hamilton to another main street. She warrants a little more conversation and a little more questioning than the typical Street Vacation where it is just a street to nowhere. She knows that it is just for introduction so she is not going to belabor it, but as they move into committees, she would urge her colleagues to ask more question than you may typical ask about a Street Vacation just because this is as someone who lives in this neighborhood despite what Traffic Studies will tell you. This is a highly used street by neighborhood residents and this will adversely affect the neighborhood residents. According to Article 915, it has to be considered number 2 whether the pubic will be adversely affected.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if Ms. Gerlach has an opportunity to speak to Mr. Whitney by chance.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that they texted earlier today. She understands that he has a change of heart. That is fine. She stated that she has not.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is certainly something to look into. He would hope that the Planning Commission looks at all aspects of something like this before they make the rulings they make, but certainly if you have time to look at it, that is the time to do it.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Enactment No: 15670

[15-3983](#)

Bill 95 Public Works, forwarded favorably
Providing for the vacation of South John Street from the centerline of Union Street to the centerline of Walnut Street in the First Ward of the City of Allentown:

Attachments: [Bill 95 S John St from Union St to Walnut St](#)
[S John St from Union St to Walnut St - Street Vacation](#)
[Letter from Mike Hanlon regarding S. John Street from Union Street to Walnut Street](#)
[Letter from the Lehigh Valley Planning Commission regarding St. John Street with Map](#)
[Letter from Irene Woodward regarding Allentown City Planning Commission Approval of South John St from Union St to Walnut St Ordinance #15671](#)

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

Mr. Julio Guridy asked if it in the First Ward.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that is what it says.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that the First Ward is all the way down there isn't it.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that it was confusing to her too. She went down there and could not find it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to keep in mind this is S. John Street, not Saint John Street. He stated that Saint John is on the Southside.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that Union runs in the Second Ward, the Third Ward, the Thirteenth and the Eighteenth.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he will check it out. Maybe it is a mistake in the ordinance.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that it was never opened. It is a part of the property right close to the tire shop. That is why you do not see it.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that it is a paper street.

Ms. Ce-Ce Gerlach stated that when you are going on the east side.

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that makes sense.

Mr. Craig Messinger stated that when you are going over to the east side on the left side there. It is the Tire Shop that sits off by Walnut.

REFERRED TO PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

Enactment No: 15671

RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):**NEW BUSINESS****Clerk: Note Election of President and Vice President at January 6th meeting**

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he has a note from Mr. Guridy to run for the office of President next year. That vote will take place on January 6th. He got a request from Ms. Mota and Mr. Hendricks to run for the position of Vice President. They have to decide who will be voted on first. He stated that since Cynthia is on the phone, why don't you call heads or tails.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated heads.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Daryl will be voted on first.

GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Julio Guridy stated that he will not be at this meeting. He will be on the phone. They have done this before. The last time was with Mr. MacLean. He wished everyone a great holiday.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks wished everybody a happy and safe holiday and look forward to meeting in the new year.

ADJOURNED: 7:51 PM