



## **Minutes - Final**

### **Public Works Committee**

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Wednesday, September 21, 2022

6:10 PM

City Council Chambers

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#### **Roll Call: Chair Zucal, Affa, Hendricks**

#### **Allentown Sustainability, Improving Green Building Initiatives - Kyle Ropski, Intern**

#### **EPA Administrative Orders Update - Act 537 Plan**

Mr. Ed Zucal asked his colleagues if they had any questions.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks assumed that all the contributories will be assessed according to how much usage they have.

Mr. Dan Koplish stated that is the biggest challenge through the contracts. It basically says who does what to whom. There will be a lot of arguing. Macungie is developing like crazy as compared to Salisbury that has little development. Different communities have different perspectives of the future and what the signatories are going to be. The politics and the discussions are going to be the toughest thing. The consultants and the engineers to deal with the left-hand side of the egg, they can get it down to some choices that are the most logical. Dealing with the other issues isn't there.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if there were any other questions from his colleagues or the public.

Ms. Jennifer McKenna stated she wanted to introduce Mr. Ropski and let him get started. He will be with the Public Works Department through the fall. Perhaps Mr. Ropski can come back and give a more detailed Report. She asked that he briefly say what the goals were.

Mr. Kyle Ropski thanked the committee and stated in essence, he was going to talk about what goes into green building, the aspects, focusing on the people, the planet and profit, a variety of different initiatives. There are so many that organizations look to green building rating systems as a way to kind of see through that. He was going to talk a little bit about the one that is the standard when it comes to green building referred to as LEED (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) and the reason why we should pursue that in city buildings and the benefits that come to that. Benefits to our people, the city employees, to the environment, and the

Lehigh Valley community as well as opposed to the economic benefits and the money saving that we would get from that. There are also benefits that are not quantitative. That come with just the guidance in pursuing sustainability goals as well as promoting transparency and accountability through our actions. He stated that they set goals and make motions to achieve them. It is not just throwing 30 percent reduction by 2030. This program will actually help us to see what we can do, where they can do it, and go forth to actually achieve those goals. He stated that he will come back and talk a little bit more about it later. It is a lot of support in the community. There is support for the city's Sister City in the region and is an overall good program.

[15-5313](#)

Sustainability Report  
AO and Act 537 Update  
Annual Report

**Attachments:** [AllentownSustainability-Kyle Ropski](#)  
[PW Committee Act 537 Update - September](#)  
[Water Sewer Systems - 2021 Annual Report](#)

**Adjournment: 6:14 PM**