



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, February 18, 2026

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

Invocation:

Pledge to the Flag

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Courtesy of the Floor

Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that we will start with Courtesy of the Floor. This is for items that are not on the Agenda and you are welcome to come up and speak. He stated that you have three minutes. If it is something that we can direct to a department, we can work on that and can get back to you at a later time with more answers on your concerns. He asked Mr. Hanlon do we have any.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated yep, Kyle Ropski.

Mr. Kyle Ropski stated good evening everybody stating his name is Kyle Ropski and he is the chair of Allentown Environmental Advisory Council. He will be brief here today and would like to more or less invite them all formally as well as all the members of the public to an event that Allentown EAC is hosting next week on Tuesday, February 24th from 6:00 PM to 8:00 PM at Hamilton Family Restaurant. The event is in collaboration with the League of Women Voters of Lehigh County. It is an educational forum focusing on air quality. They are going to have experts from the Department of Environmental Protection and Environmental Justice office. They are going to have experts from Lehigh University with the focus on the Lehigh Valley Breeze Initiative and they also are going to have representatives from the city of Allentown Health Department. The intent of this is just to be able to and learn about the air quality in the city of Allentown and ask questions to experts, understanding what we are doing about it. It is free and open to the public because it says February 24th from 6:00 to 8:00 PM at Hamilton Family Restaurant. The information is posted on our social media as well as the League of Women Voters at the Lehigh County website and our Allentown EAC.org website. Thank you.

He stated that he hopes to see them there.

Ms. Inid Santiago, 1243 S. Jefferson Street, stated hi everyone. Long time, no see. Unfortunately, here she is again. She stated that she is here for two issues today. She stated the snow and stated if we get snow on Sunday, we are going to be buried forever. She stated there is no going around it at this point. She stated that she has not been able to get to work for almost a month now because the Parking Authority told everyone to throw the snow in the back of the parking spot, not on the sidewalk, not on the street. She stated that her garage is buried at the Women's Reentry House. She stated completely buried. She has not been able to work at Pest Control because Hanover Avenue and they know how many accidents happen there regularly. She stated that there is still snow and she has her business there, a daycare next door and a handicapped person that lives in the building right next door. She stated that none of them can park there. She stated that they are swinging all over that area on the eastside to try to figure out where to park. She stated that is issue Number 1. She stated that issue Number 2 is the joke of the Parking Authority. She stated that what is happening on Social Media. She stated that is a sh*t show stating pardon her French. Throwing the blame on the city is embarrassing. Everybody is watching the show. She stated that she doesn't know if everybody needs to do a Kumbaya, figure out a meditation session or something to get together and figure out how to resolve your issues, but dumping everything on the citizens is not the answer. She stated that she brought some paperwork here. She stated that she sent Mike an email and was not planning on being here today, but she decided to come anyway. She started highlighting some of the messages they are putting on social media. When she realized she was highlighting the entire Facebook page. She stated that she stopped and sent an email with a link and printed some. She stated that the first two pages have highlights. The rest of them is ridiculous, the way that they are speaking to you, your residents, to her neighbors. The lovely 72 hour enforcement that we have now. The way that they are answering questions is an embarrassment. She has a lady here that says if she leaves and happen to come back to the same spot and she can still get towed stating you find any reason to rob Allentown residents. She stated that they all know that already. How do you know the person isn't leaving and returning to the same spots. She stated that if she leaves her house and she parked in front and takes her child to school, she comes back, her parking is still there and she parks there, her car can still get towed because according to their answer, it is simple. It is actually not complicated. Once you become familiar with the Rule that they said was here since the 1900s so City Council really needs to take a look at this. She stated that they are blaming it back on City Council. She stated that the way that it works is that if you come with a car marked by an officer. There are no physical markings. If it has been

marked for three days or more or so they claim and it is at the same location, they will tell you. She stated so they put down here let's say you go to the store or something and park in the same spot where the marking officer has no way of knowing that you moved the car so the best practice is not to park back where the parking was. So the best practice is not to park back where there is an open parking because they have no way and no Plan of figuring out if that car was moved or not. She stated that they have snow all over the city right now stating we already have a parking crisis. She stated that she is personally not affected by this because she is lucky and privileged enough that she has a huge driveway where she fits all of her vehicles, but there is no reason why all her neighbors in Center City and the eastside and the southside have to deal with this harassment that is happening right now it is targeted harassment of poverty. She stated that there is nothing else. She stated that she doesn't have a garage, she doesn't have to worry. She stated that her neighbor doesn't have a garage. They have to figure out how to do this and stated that she is sorry, for \$25 now, they can provide you parking for a week, but if you park for three days in front of your house, your car is getting towed. She stated thank you and she is leaving this here for you guys.

Ms. Michaela Bell stated that she is sorry. She is trying to get to her notes asking please don't start the timer until she starts and said there we go. She stated good evening, her name is Michaela and was here last month and today she is going to talk about to different topics. One of the topics she was talking about last month is rent control. She stated that after doing some extra research and looking into this. She realized that Pennsylvania is a landlord state so what that means is basically landlords could charge whatever they want and cities and municipalities can't put rent control on there because it is a state law so in order to get that changed, she would have to drive to Harrisburg and she is going to do it when it gets a little bit nicer. The snow is crazy. In that retrospect, she does have an idea for the City Council and that is something not like rent control, but it is a Program where landlords can opt in. It is city funded program where people will charge the median income. What that means is a one bedroom for \$900, a second bedroom for \$1,100, a three bedroom for \$200 more and so forth. What the landlords would get is interest for that would be something like free taxes or discounted taxes. They will also get city taxes of permits. They would get free permits if they are part of the program and stuff. She stated that way it is helping out some of your residents in the area to be able to afford it and instead of everybody saying they are sorry you grew in Allentown, if you don't like it get out. She stated that is a horrible thing to say. Second, is again, backing off to what she just said. The Allentown Parking Authority this year was a complete joke and she is going to be honest with it. She stated that she will look at every one of you guys and look at the mayor as well and say you guys dropped the ball healthily. She

stated that they had everybody move off of emergency routes and everybody that can't park there towing people's cars and she can tell them right now for her driving around and they towed over 35 cars for parking on emergency routes. Then when the snow was done, did someone come down the emergency routes to clear it, no because Sixth Street is still a one way street and luckily the weather is nice and it melted a little bit, but what if that wouldn't have happened. Then we are sitting there. She stated that then you got Allentown Parking Authority coming right behind them and enforcing them like crazy. She stated that oh, you are parked in the middle of the street. You are clearing the snow, here is a \$100 ticket. Here is that ticket and then everybody will say, oh, you can go ahead and contest it. She stated that is a joke too. She stated because when you consent it at the Allentown Parking Authority, guess who says it and there is one lady sitting in the back, nope and she says no to everything. She stated send it to the court. She asked ok, do you know how you send it to the court and asked does anybody know the process. She stated that she beat they don't. It adds \$70 to \$90 to the parking ticket at the highest amount. Then when you go in front of a judge, the judge will just laugh at you because they will say you are a criminal for parking. She stated that she is a criminal and they give you attitudes. Now, you have a \$30 ticket that now is a \$135 and you have no choice, but to pay it or you get what, a warrant for your arrest. She stated that her thing to the Council today is she understands that they are all sitting up here and you guys do jobs that are something incredibly hard, but you can't not turn a blind eye to the things you don't know. She stated that the city Parking Authority is over a multi million dollar nonprofit agency. Every year, they are upping their CEOs where they get paid more money or more money off of the citizen and yet you guys don't know the processes of what happens down there. She stated how is that possible. Thank you.

Ms. Millie Canales stated good evening. She stated that her name is Milagros Canales and she is here to speak on behalf of the residents of Center City Allentown. She stated that she recently experienced a storm removal effort that looks less like city service and more like a tactical raid. At 12:22 AM, she stated that their streets were filled with blaring sirens, flashing lights, and voices shouting through bullhorns, threatening to tow our property without any prior written notice. Now, we all want clean streets, the method used by the police department was an unnecessary escalation that caused deep distress across our community. She stated that the psychological impact they needed to talk about. The trauma that this deployment causes in this neighborhood that was already economically stressed. The sound of sirens at dawn isn't a signal of safety, it is a signal of prices. She stated in case somebody is wondering this neighborhood has already been affected by more shootings than any other parts in the city. She stated that she could give them the links to all of the prior

shootings in the 500 block of Allentown. She stated that she is not here for that. She stated at one point it was so dangerous that you couldn't sit and drink your coffee on your porch without a shooting near your house. She stated so the residents of this neighborhood can't or don't forget. This shock and awe tactic for a parking violation triggers acute stress responses. In affect, the veterans with PTSD. The mother trying to sue the terrifying child and the elderly neighbor who thinks that this is a life threatening emergency. When you use the tools of a high speed chase and active crime to handle a snow shovel. You are practical, actively intimidation. You are telling us that we are not neighbors, but are subjects to be clear. She stated that they must address the lack of proper notice and more affluent areas, residents receive digital alert or flyers. Instead in the city, we get the bullhorns. This disparity is glaring. A towed car in this neighborhood can be the catalyst for a family total financial collapse. By bypassing the courtesy of a Notice stating you are gambling with our neighborhoods. She stated that we have spend some significant energy on initiatives in Jordan Heights to foster warmth and cooperation with our Police department and community and that work was erased in the first five minutes of those lights. When the Police Department choose to scream and laugh at us rather than speak to us says a lot to her and she needed to come here. We are asking for a formal change in policy. No more sirens for snow. No more bullhorns, please. Thank you.

Ms. Betty Cauler stated that she is not going to speak about the Parking Authority. She stated you know me and my address so you don't need it. She stated at the last three meetings, she had questions about the tax increase, the Parking Authority, and the lack of timely snow removal. She stated that she was told by Council President someone would get back to her on each of those things. No one has so she appreciates it if you don't say that anymore because it is not coming true. She doesn't know if there is anybody that will answer our questions or with the last president they were not allowed to ask questions. She stated so now they are asking questions and just wondering how they are going to get answers so she didn't get any answers. No one got back to her. Secondly, she wants to express her grievance over the fact that a citizen of this city who was on the Parks Board came forward and spoke about an item on the tax increase that she didn't understand and she didn't say anything negative about the mayor. She didn't say anything confidential about the mayor, nothing, but he retaliated by removing her appointment from the board and she would just like to say she thinks that sucks big time. She stated that you don't retaliate. If you are going to retaliate mayor, have a reason why you are retaliating. And, the reasons that are on the Ethics violations, if you get off your phone and listen.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated Ms. Cauler, Ms. Cauler, just direct it here.

Ms. Betty Cauler stated ok stating she is directing it at him because you guys vote to bring each appointment in. She stated that she hopes that Council will keep that in mind when they are voting for the appointments tonight. She stated as far as the snow removal that sucks too.

Ms. Rebecca Ramos, 500 Block of Allen Street, stated that she has two problems that she wants to discuss with the matter. She stated that the first one is there was a problem with APD. She stated that they had an incident in the early morning on January 6th. A dog was roaming the streets and got hit by a car. It died right on the street and bled out, full blown. She stated that we have buses coming through the block taking kids to school. An officer finally came on the scene. She stated that she would ask him nicely can you just get your bag and cover the dog up and he blatantly said no, he can't. She stated that there are buses coming through and people are seeing that this is a dead mammal, can you just cover it. He said no, it's dead. It is going to be fine. The first trucks are coming soon. They will handle it. She said ok. She goes inside and gets a garbage bag because her daughter has to go to school for the bus and she doesn't want her to see this incident or the kids coming by so she is about to go and he stops her and says no she can't touch it. She said ok and the fire truck comes and they handle the situation nicely. She stated that the cop was very rude. He is a young new officer you guys have and it was just rude. The whole incident was just plain rude early in the morning. She let that pass then on February 7th at 12:22 AM, she is sitting on the couch at 2:00 AM and kids are sleeping. She was sitting on her couch at the middle of the night and the kids are finally sleeping and she hears loud sirens, not loud, but like regular sirens, but like real crazy sirens. She asked have you ever watched the purge movie, that is how the scene felt. She felt like something really bad was going on and she goes outside because she is like, what is going on and the cop is just doing u-eyes and going around with the bullhorn yelling you got to move your cars, you got to move your cars now. Not respectfully, not in a nice manner. Just blatantly rude in the middle of the night at 12:22 AM. She stated that she is yelling at him stating what is the issue. He stated that snow now, you got to move your car. There are signs there since Thursday. She stated that the signs were there since Tuesday, but she stated on the Parking Authorities Facebook page it says snow removals and street cleaning, snow removal canceled for District I, District II, and District 9. Normally, they would precede on February 9 to the 13. She stated as a resident, you will see and that is what you are posted on everyone's Facebook and pages. She stated ok, this snow removal and this block is canceled so for them to come at 12:22 AM Saturday morning, doing this was a shock for everyone. Everyone is running out their houses trying to move their cars and trying to find parking. She stated that you can't park on Seventh or Sixth Streets. There is no parking nowhere

anymore because of the snow. She stated that it was hard. She stated that her father was handicapped. Her neighbors across the street are handicapped so they literally moved their cars from 12:22 AM all the way to 4:30 AM waiting for the snow to be finished. They had tow trucks coming and towing the cars and she said well since they are towing the cars on that side, can you start on this side. They said no, they can't start because they have to wait for the cars to get towed. She stated that they did not finish that. The way the cops handled the situation is very rude and very not nice manner at all. She stated that finally they had officers come out their cars and write their license plates down and went out and knocked on people's doors, but unfortunately there is no parking. People park where they see a parking spot so their are people that didn't get towed that live on our block at all. She stated that she feels really bad for them in that case. It was just a lot to have to go through that in the middle of the night. It was not nice. She stated that she has been living in Center City Allentown all my life so this was the first time it ever happened so it was just not cool. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated in the interest of some of the public comment, he did reach out to the Parking Authority this morning and there is a meeting that we are working on tentatively we are looking at April 8th, Mr. Hanlon. He stated he thinks it was April 8th to have the Parking Authority come to City Council to take questions from Council regarding parking issues and also give us updates on items we are working on. He stated that is something that they again reached out and try to make that happen. He stated we will keep them posted on that. He stated regarding another issue with snow removal, there is a Public Works Committee meeting that vice president Mota on March 11 and they will be discussing the snow removal with our Public Works team and learning more about that so concerns that residents have, they are definitely working on.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated point of clarity about snow clearing.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated snow clearing, sorry.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that it is very important to distinguish between the terms right now. Thanks.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. Thank you. He stated that these are issues that we do here and taking action to learn more and to figure out our next steps. He stated that they will move along so they are going to start with Contract Approvals.

Contract Approvals

[15-8237](#)

R14

Authorization for Contract with KS StateBank in the amount of

\$307,690.35. To finance Toro Equipment for five (5) years. One (1) proposal was received.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R14 - KS StateBank](#)

[Resolution #31213](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that we have Ms. McNeil for some background.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as Bid #2026-32 - Toro Equipment Financing. It was advertised on Public Purchase on January 13, 2026. The public bid opening was held on February 9, 2026. The city received on Bid. From review of the Bid it was determined to award to Sole responder KS StateBank.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, thank you. He asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the public on R14.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31213

[15-8235](#)

R15

Authorization for Contract with BankFunding, LLC. in the amount of \$402,562.40. To finance one (1) Milling Machine for four (4) years. Three (3) proposals were received; however, one (1) proposal was rejected.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R15 - BankFunding, LLC](#)

[Resolution #31214](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, Ms. McNeil.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as Bid #2026-31 - Milling Machine Financing. It was advertised on Public Purchase on December 31, 2025. The public opening was held on January 28, 2026. The city received three bids. One was rejected due to them not properly responding to the solicitation. Upon review of the bids, it was determined to award to the lowest bidder, BankFunding, LLC.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. McNeil and asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais on R15. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31214

[15-8234](#)

R16

Authorization for Contract with Asphalt Maintenance Solutions, LLC, Chemung Supply Corp., H&K Group, Inc., New Enterprise Stone & Lime Co, Inc., and PMG SM PA LLC (d/b/a SealMaster PA) at the unit prices identified on the bid tabulation, for an estimated sum of \$2,650,000.00 to furnish and/or deliver and/or apply road materials, including but not limited to geotextiles, competitively bid.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R16 - Road Materials](#)

[Resolution #31215](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, Ms. McNeil.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as Bid #2026-01, Raw Materials. It was advertised on Public Purchase on January 5, 2026. The public opening was held on February 2, 2026. The city received seven bids. Upon review of said bids, it was determined to award to five vendors for various parts of the contract.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. McNeil and asked any questions or comments from the dais or the public on R16.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31215

[15-8238](#)

R17

Authorization of Cooperative Contract(s) in an amount greater than \$40,000.00 to provide the City with various goods/services, for Advanced Electronic Design Inc., Koch 33 Ford Toyota and CDW, Inc.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R17 Cooperative Approval](#)

[Resolution #31216](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, last one, Ms. McNeil.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that these are all just being purchased through various cooperative contracts. He asked if there are any questions or comments from the dais or the public on R17.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31216

Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-8253](#) January 21, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [January 21, 2026 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Communications

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that visitors to City Council meetings are encouraged to park next door in the government deck and to see our City Clerk for a Chaser to pay for your parking. He stated that is for all City Council meetings.

Chasers - If you parked in the city lot next to City Hall, please see the City Clerk for a voucher.

Old Business: NONE

REPORTS**Public Hearing - President Napoli**

City Council received a request for the transfer of Liquor License Number R-21060 to The Felix Restaurant LLC, 395 S. Cedar Crest Boulevard. We have scheduled a public hearing on March 4 at 6 PM to take public testimony on the transfer. A resolution will be on the council meeting that follows at 6:30 PM to allow City Council to approve or disapprove the transfer.

Budget and Finance: Chair Pungo, Mota, Gerlach

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting. The next meeting is scheduled for February 25 at 5:30 PM - the agenda includes a review of Bill 12 being introduced this evening, the monthly financial reports, a continuation of our review of the budget process, a brief explanation of the tax structure in the NIZ district and perhaps a brief brainstorming discussion on setting up a future meeting for a presentation of alternative revenue sources - the administration has looked at (Director Patel has forwarded some information to us) and what alternatives we might want considered - time permitting.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that also goes to a member of the public concern about something we are working on. He stated that more to come on alternate revenue sources.

Community and Economic Development: Chair Gerlach, Binder, Napoli

The Committee met this evening and has one Agenda item which is on the Agenda tonight, Bill 8 and it was forwarded favorably.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Binder, Santos, Affa

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

Parks and Recreation: Chair Santos, Pungo, Binder

The Committee met this evening; the next meeting is scheduled for March 4 at 5:30 PM to review Bill 11 which is being introduced this evening and the EAC report that has been submitted.

Public Safety: Chair Affa, Mota, Santos

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for March 4 at 5:45 PM to review Bill 9, being introduced this evening. I will be setting up another meeting to look at capital projects as they relate to public safety.

Public Works: Chair Mota, Pungo, Affa

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is

scheduled for March 11 at 5:30 PM to review Bill 10 being introduced this evening, to review the city's snow plowing and removal policies, Administration and Committee priorities, and a review of capital projects as they related to Public Works - time permitting.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations, and Strategy: Chair Napoli, Mota, Gerlach

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; they do have two meetings scheduled. The first is a meeting scheduled for March 5, 2026, at 6:00 PM - it will be a public workshop meeting with Lehigh County Administration and Board Commissioners. The second Public Workshop is on March 10, Tuesday, 6:00 PM with Allentown School District administration and School Board Members. Both meetings are an opportunity to communicate and collaborate on shared goals and initiatives.

Controller's Report: The Controller has submitted a report which is on tonight's agenda.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that the Controller is out tonight. He asked Mayor Tuerk did he not submit anything.

Mayor: The mayor has not submitted anything.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that he did not, but has a brief Report if you are interested.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. We will take it.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that he will take the Controller's time stating that he doesn't know. He stated that the Controller is turning into a no show at these meetings. He is giving him all his time. He stated that he is glad that they have a couple of new City Council members that might not be aware of a particular initiative that they have been working on. He stated that you might have missed it as well because it kind of got announced back in September and there are a lot of other stuff going on at the moment. He stated back in September and Genesis helped them with this when she was over at the mayor's office. He stated that they launched something called our spotlight city status with Work for America. He stated that it is an organization that started up in the wake of the Trump Administration releasing a lot of federal workers in a lot of different ways. He stated that Work for America was founded to help return people to work in local government and in 2025, Allentown was chosen as a spotlight city for Work for America. He stated what that is meant for them is that Work for America has been helping the city of Allentown in a variety of different ways, but one of the key ways is helping the city to develop an employer value proposition where they can clearly articulate what makes the city of Allentown a

great place to work. What makes public service so laudable as a career. They have been working closely with us in the mayor's office through Michaela Boyer in her role as Executive Assistant to the mayor. She has been working closely with the HR department to help tell the story of working for the city using the voices of our employees. He stated that they will continue to help us with modernization of job descriptions. Training our hiring managers to find and keep the best talent and to broaden our recruitment reach. Making sure that they have the best possible pool of talent looking for jobs at the city of Allentown. He stated since day one, of his time as mayor, it has been obvious to him that and heard him say this a lot of times that the city of Allentown is fundamentally a service business and like all service businesses, they can only do what they can do when they have excellent employees. He stated that you heard from some of our residents today, just how important the service delivery model is and how the success or failure of our work sometimes in the hands of how an employee handles their work so they are going to continue to invest in our employees both through Work through America stating Work for America, excuse me and a host of other initiatives. Over the past four years, make sure that every employee has had access to training around innovation, around using information to improve decision making and cross jurisdictional collaboration at the expense of not the city, but of Philanthropic organizations. They were able to send employees to training programs to Harvard University to John Hopkins and at international conferences. He stated that the city is going to continue to invest in those employees and Work for America is helping them do that. He stated at the moment, they only have three job openings. He stated that it is not even about, the three job openings at the city of Allentown right now. One is Maintenance Worker II in Mark Shahda shop. There is a Project Manager position open in Community and Economic Development and a Diesel Tech position in the garage. He stated that is three positions that about 900 employees at the city of Allentown. There are some vacancies in our Police Department that we would love to fill as well. He stated that the point is this, at the moment, it is not a ton of places for people to Onboard in the city of Allentown. He stated that they want to make sure that as they continue to see positions open up, they are accessing the best talent. They are thoroughly articulating what makes working at the city of Allentown such a special opportunity in part because you know you can see this work is getting harder and harder and it is going to get more and more complex and requires the best talent and deeply understand how to engage with our residents. How to delivery high quality services and how to try to do new things to meet the needs of growing and evolving city. He stated that they want to create an environment that becomes the envy of all of our residents. He stated that we love to build the city of Allentown where everyone in the city wants to work and where everyone wants to pitch in and lend a hand. He stated that he says all of that in part to lead up to letting you know and asking you, here is my call of action to you. He stated that those three regular positions that are posted, Maintenance Worker II, Diesel Tech and Project Manager. He stated we can use your help filling those, but the thing that they really need help is the summer

jobs. He stated so all those summer jobs: lifeguard, the cashier at the pool, the summer playground instructor are all posted now. He stated that they need them all to help us tap into your networks to make sure you are hiring those positions. She stated that they are excellent jobs for young people in Allentown. Some of you might have and asked anybody ever a lifeguard. He stated that Councilman Pungo was at the city of Allentown. He stated that it is a great foot in the door for public service. He stated that his hope is that they will help them fill those positions and give young people something to do as a way to make a couple of bucks during the summer and hopefully spark that long-term interest in serving the people and in young people of today and into the future. He stated that he hopes that you can help us do that. You can or people can go to Allentownpa.gov/jobs to see the open positions. He stated that it is always a challenge and they are working like crazy to make sure we get all those young people in and we fill all those lifeguard positions so we can have the pools open for the summer. He stated that he needs their help doing that. He stated two final things by way of announcement. He stated on February 28th at 1:00 PM, they will be working with Councilperson Mota. Council Vice President Mota to do a flag raising for Dominican Independence Day. It is 1:00 and going to be the Flag Raising. He stated to be here a little bit earlier if you can. He stated we will have music, dance, readings, they are going to sing the Dominican Independence or the Dominican National Anthem. He stated that maybe he will learn it for this year. He is going to keep trying, but it is a phenomenal celebration. The bringing together Allentown Dominican, actually more than just Allentown Dominican Community. He stated that he thinks that Dominicans from across eastern Pennsylvania come to Allentown to celebrate Independence day so February 28th at 1:00 PM. He stated that they will count on seeing them and hoping for good weather for that and then afterward we will do a celebration up at the Americus with food ad more music and more dance. The other thing is before our next City Council meeting is Read Across America Week. It is not just Read Across America Day. He stated if you haven't gone to read to young people at elementary schools in Allentown, this is your week to do it. He stated that he knows Central Elementary has lots of openings, but pretty much any elementary school in the city has openings for you to come read. He stated that the kids are amazing and you saw EV here, she is in second grade. He stated those kids loves the opportunity to hear from their public officials. They look up to you and if you can make the opportunity and show up for just a half an hour and read to kids, that's and guesses that it is March 3rd through and stated that he thinks the 3rd is a Monday. He stated March 2nd through the 6th is Read Across America Week in Allentown. Show up if you can stating that goes for the general public as well. He stated that they welcome volunteers from across the city. He stated that is my Report. Thank you very much.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. Thank you and thank you Vice President Mota for all the hard work you are putting into that event for Dominican Independence. He stated that they are going to move along.

[15-8265](#) Controller Report

Attachments: [ap](#)

ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-8209](#) Bill 8
Amending Part II General Legislation, Chapter 400 Noise, Section 400-1 Definitions, revising the definition of Zoning Classifications, and Section 400-6 Sound levels by receiving land use, revising Table 1 Receiving Land Use, to be consistent with the zoning classifications within Chapter 660 Zoning, adopted October 15, 2025, effective January 1, 2026.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 8 400 Noise - Revisions RE Zone Allentown.doc](#)
[Ordinance #16191](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that they will start off with Ordinances for Final Passage and there is only one and it is Bill 8.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Bill 8 amends Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 400 Noise Ordinance, Section 1 Definitions, and another section by bringing the Noise Ordinance into compliance or conformity with the new Zoning Code.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated that this was in Chair Gerlach's committee this evening.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated yes it was and it was forwarded favorably. Thank you.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. Gerlach. He asked if there are any questions or comments from his colleagues on Bill 8. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 16191

CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Santo Napoli stated next is our Consent Agenda. We have a bunch of Bills stating R18 through R27. He stated that they are mainly reappointments and appointments. He asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues. He asked any questions or comments from the public.

Mr. Michael Hanlon asked should he just quickly read them into the record.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated yes, please.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated ok, R18 is a Certificate of Appropriateness for work at 943 - 951 W Chew Street, R19 is the appointment of Michael Comick, R20 is the appointment of David Snyder to the Board of Parks and Recreation, R21 is the appointment of Nancy Wilt to the Board of Parks and Recreation, R22 is the appointment of Michael Drabenstott to the Board of Parks and Recreation, R23 is the appointment of Diane Purdy to the Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals, R24 is the appointment of Councilperson Affa to the Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals, R25 is the appointment of Councilperson Affa to the Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals, R26 is the appointment of Council President Napoli to the Police Pension Board, and R27 is the appointment of Council President Napoli to the Aggregate Pension Board.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. Thank you.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

[15-8229](#)

R18
943-951 W Chew Street (HARB)

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R18 943-951 W Chew Street - HARB Resolution.docx](#)
[943-951 W CHEW ST-FINAL-REVIEW.pdf](#)

Enactment No: 31217

[15-8243](#)

R19
Michael Comick, Board of Parks and Recreation, 2/19/2031
(Reappointment)

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R19 Michael Comick \(Board of Parks and Recreation\)](#)
[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding reappointment to the Board of Parks and Recreation - Michael Comick, 2-19-2031](#)
[Resolution #31218](#)

Enactment No: 31218

[15-8244](#)

R20
David Snyder, Board of Parks and Recreation, 2/19/2031 (Reappointment)

Attachments: [R20 David Snyder \(Board of Parks and Recreation\)](#)

[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding reappointment to the Board of Parks and Recreation - David Snyder, 2-19-2031](#)
[Resolution #31219](#)

Enactment No: 31219

[15-8245](#)

R21

Nancy Wilt, Board of Parks and Recreation, 2/19/2031 (Reappointment)

Sponsors: System

Attachments: [R21 Nancy Wilt \(Board of Parks and Recreation\)](#)

[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding reappointment to the Board of Parks and Recreation - Nancy Wilt, 2-19-2031](#)
[Resolution #31220](#)

Enactment No: 31220

[15-8246](#)

R22

Michael Drabenstott, Board of Parks and Recreation, 2/19/2031
(Replacing Becki Kiss)

Sponsors: System

Attachments: [R22 Michael Drabenstott \(Board of Parks and Recreation\)](#)

[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding reappointment to the Board of Parks and Recreation - Michael Drabenstott, 2-19-2031](#)
[Resolution #31221](#)

Enactment No: 31221

[15-8247](#)

R23

Diane Purdy, Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals, 02/19/2029

Sponsors: System

Attachments: [R23 Diane Purdy \(Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals\)](#)

[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding appointment to the Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals - Diane Purdy, 2-19-2029](#)
[Resolution #31222](#)

Enactment No: 31222

[15-8248](#)

R24

Candida Affa, Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals, 02/19/2029

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R24 Candida Affa \(Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals\)](#)
[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding reappointment to the Disruptive Conduct Board of Appeals - Candida Affa, 2-19-2029](#)
[Resolution #31223](#)

Enactment No: 31223

[15-8249](#)

R25

Candida Affa, Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals, 2/19/2028

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R25 Candida Affa \(Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals\)](#)
[Memo from Mayor Matt Tuerk regarding appointment to the Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals - Candida Affa, 2-19-2028](#)
[Resolution #31224](#)

Enactment No: 31224

[15-8251](#)

R26

Santo Napoli, Police Pension Board, 01/01/2027

Sponsors: Affa and Mota

Attachments: [R 26 Appointment to Police Pension Board - Santo Napoli](#)
[Resolution #31225](#)

Enactment No: 31225

[15-8250](#)

R27

Santo Napoli, Aggregate Pension Board - 1/01/2027

Sponsors: Affa and Mota

Attachments: [R 27 Appointment to Aggregate Pension Board - Santo Napoli](#)
[Resolution #31226](#)

Enactment No: 31226

RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):

[15-8252](#)

R28

City Council and Mayor Matt Tuerk authorize the civic naming of the 2000 block of Liberty Street in honor of Rose Kennedy.

Sponsors: Administration, Affa, Mota and Napoli

Attachments: [R28 Dedication](#)[Mascari Request](#)[AOH Letter in Support of Rose Kennedy Way Letter](#)[E. Riley Letter in Support of Rose Kennedy Way](#)[K. Paxson Letter in Support of Rose Kennedy Way](#)[L. Arnold Letter in Support of Rose Kennedy Way](#)[M. Miller Letter in Support of Rose Kennedy Way](#)[Dedicating City assets](#)[Resolution #31227](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Mr. Hanlon and stated that he believes they have someone present. Ms. Diane Mascari is here to speak on this.

Ms. Lisa Arnold, 720 N. 26th Street, stated she passed the buck to me. She stated that she is a resident of Allentown. She stated that on behalf of the Allentown St. Patrick's Day Committee, she would like to thank the City Council for considering our Petition to rename the 2000 block of Liberty Street to Rose Kennedy Way. She stated that they made the Petition in honor of our beloved friend, a proud Irish woman and a huge supporter of the Allentown St. Patrick's Parade. She stated that in 2008, the Allentown St. Patrick's Parade moved to the west end and found a remarkable goodwill ambassador in Rose Kennedy. She embraced the parade and spearheaded the house decorating and porch parties on the parade deck. She stated that Rosie involved her whole block on Liberty Street, creating one continuous party with decorations and parade day spectators such that she received their Parade Committee Porch Party and Decorating Contest Award many times. She stated that Rosie had an extraordinary love for her Irish Heritage and for the St. Patrick's parade. She supported all the parade committee events throughout the year. In 2020, Rosie was the recipient of the Barney McNulty Spirit Award from the Allentown St. Patrick Parade Committee. An acknowledgement of her love of the parade, her Irish culture, and her community. She stated once you knew Rosie, you discovered that her hospitality and warm heart did not stop at the sidewalk. Her caring for her neighbors was not a one day thing. It was a year round, genuine love for her community. When Rose Kennedy said you're welcome, she meant you're welcome and when she asked you how you were, she generally wanted to know. She stated that Rosie is dearly missed since her passing in 2023 after battling pancreatic cancer and it is in her spirit that our porch party contest has been renamed the Rose Kennedy Porch Party and Decorating Contest. When you pass by her old address on Liberty Street on parade day, you are sure to see her daughters, one of whom is here with us tonight, Rachel along with the entire neighborhood. Keeping the party going in memory of Rosie stating her ability to inspire neighbors of all ages, all cultures, to come together and celebrate the day as a testimony to her enthusiastic spirit and warm Irish

Heart. It is this legacy that we seek to preserve. By renaming the 2000 block of Liberty Street as Rose Kennedy Way. She stated thank you for your time.

Mr. Santo Napoli thanked Ms. Arnold. He asked if there were any questions or comments from the dais on R28. He asked if there were any other comments or questions from the public.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that if he may briefly from the administration's perspective. He walked in the parade multiple times. You know this block if you walked in the parade stating this is the block that just jumps off the street because it is so thoroughly decorated. He stated when he stopped to talk with the Kennedy sisters stating last year it occurs to me that what Rose Kennedy did for this block is enomatic of what we want our entire city to do to bring everyone together, put the celebration on their shoulders any just come together for the city for at least one day a year around something special. He stated to him when he saw this and saw the way the entire block comes together and the importance of this parade has for a city. It was evident to him that he put the suggestion out there to Diane and the team and he is just so glad that you are considering this. He stated that he hopes that they will take the appropriate action and dedicate this block of the street as Rose Kennedy Way.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated thank you. He asked is there any other public comment.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated Mr. President it is obvious in the middle of February. It feels quite far off from the St. Patrick's Day Parade which is this year, March 22nd. He stated that he is sure he will see many of them out there for that. He stated that on March 20th is the Annual St. Patrick's Day Coronation with the Hibernians, his hope is that either on the 20th or the 21st which is also a 5K on the 22nd, but one of those days they are going to pick to make sure the whole block can be out there perhaps decorating. The is a whole ceremony where they will place the Rose Kennedy sign on Liberty Street for all to see. He stated that he hopes that and make sure Council knows the exact date and time and he hopes to see them all out there officially pulling off your dedicating this as Rose Kennedy Way. He thanked Council for their action tonight and look forward to seeing you before the parade in March for the unveiling.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. He stated that they are going to move along to R29.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31227

[15-8254](#)

R29

\$41,500 Transfer – placing authorization for the unhoused access to restrooms, drinking water, hydration systems, laundry facilities and animal care into proper accounts for expenditure; \$58,828 for a journal reclass for fuel and \$42,000 to place money in a construction contract account.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [R29 Transfer](#)

[Health Unhoused rentals & civic donations](#)

[Fuel Reclass and Construction Account](#)

[Resolution #31228](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok, thank you. He asked if there were any questions or comments from his colleagues. He asked if there were any comments from the public on R29.

Yes: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, Santo Napoli, Jeremy Binder, and Cristian Pungo

Enactment No: 31228

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

[15-8239](#)

Bill 9

Amending the 2026 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Sixteen Thousand One Hundred Thirty-Six and 55/100 (\$16,136.55) Dollars from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the State Fire Commissioner Grant to the Allentown Fire Department to purchase 1¾" fire attack hoses and nozzle compliments.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 9 - Fire Equipment Grant Appropriation](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any questions or comments from the public.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-8240](#)

Bill 10 Refer to Public Works Committee

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an increase of Three Hundred and Forty-Six Thousand One Hundred Fifty-Eight Dollars (\$346,158.00) to partially fund the reconstruction on Lehigh and Union Street as part of the Pennsylvania Local Share Account Grant the City was awarded. This grant is fully reimbursable and once the project has been completed, the City will be reimbursed.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 10 - Lehigh Union Street LSA](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any comments from the public on Bill 10. He stated you may come up. He asked Mr. Hanlon when will you post it on Granicus.

Female audience members asked where she can find Bill 10 on the website.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated yeah, it is on the website. On the city website under the and stated that he can show her. It is on the city website and you go to public meetings and you will see the Agenda where this is stored and you will just hit Bill 10 and this will come up.

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE

[15-8241](#)

Bill 11

Amending the 2026 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Four Hundred Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$480,000.00) from the Trexler operating budget into the WPA Capital Project account and Trexler Monument Capital Project account. These funds will be utilized for the repairs of the Lehigh Parkway staircase and flagstone around the General Trexler monument.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 11 - Trexler Allocation to WPA and Monument](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any public comments on Bill 11.

REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

[15-8242](#)

Bill 12

Amending the City Code Part II, General Legislation, Chapter 633, Water, Article V, Water Service and Charges to add Section 633-53, Water and Sewer Rebate – by creating a sliding schedule of water and sewer rebates.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 12 - Water and Sewer Rebate](#)

Mr. Santo Napoli asked if there were any public comments regarding Bill 12.

REFERRED TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

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

NEW BUSINESS: NONE

GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE

ADJOURNED: 7:20 PM

[15-6577](#)

Reference Materials:
Council Rules
Procurement Code
Ethics Code

Attachments: [Procurement Code](#)
[Ethics Code](#)
[Rules](#)