



Allentown

435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101

Minutes - Final

City Council

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

6:00 PM

Council Chambers

Budget Amendments

Roll Call

Present: 7 - Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

Special Council Meeting: Pursuant to council rules, this is a special meeting to consider amendments to the city budget, a meeting follows this to adopt the city budget. An amendment must have two sponsors to be on the published agenda. There are two proposals for council consideration this evening – one proposal sponsored by Councilpersons Affa, Hendricks and Napoli and a budget memo submitted by the mayor that increases the Mayor's operating budget by \$50,000 to support the Conference of Churches in providing an additional day of weekly services for homeless support.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated Pursuant to council rules, tonight is a special meeting to consider amendments to the city budget, a meeting will follow to adopt the city budget. Procedurally, a format has added an amendment must have two sponsors to be on the published agenda. The intent is not to blindsides the public or Council with amendments. He stated that they have two proposals for council consideration this evening - one proposal sponsored by Councilpersons Affa, Napoli, and himself in a budget memo submitted by the mayor that increases the Mayor's operating budget by \$50,000 to support the Conference of Churches in providing an additional day of weekly services for homeless support. He stated Clerk would you read the first proposal.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that this is a proposal sponsored by Affa, Hendricks, and Santo and read the proposed amendments.

[15-8105](#)

Proposed Amendments:

Proposed Amendments:

1.A proposal to decrease the solid waste fee by \$50 and reinstate the tax increase at 3.96%. (Affa, Hendricks, Santo)

Background: On November 19th City Council amended the General Fund Budget to remove the mayor's proposed 3.96% tax increase. At that time,

the Mayor proposed a compromise that would reduce the solid waste fee by \$25. President Hendricks scheduled a special meeting on December 3 to review the mayor's compromise. After reviewing the compromise and reviews by the Finance Director and the City Controller, Councilpersons Affa, Hendricks and Santo are proposing a reduction in the solid waste fee by \$50 and reinstatement of the mayor's proposed tax increase. The General Fund would lend funds to the Solid Waste fund which would be paid back over time – a common practice this city has used multiple times. In the recommended alternate proposal the property owners least able to absorb increases remain protected. In the new proposal fixed-income taxpayers are NOT disproportionately impacted. The City still generates the revenue needed to sustain services. The alternate proposal lowers the garbage fee and results in little to no increase for lower-valued homes and some even pay less than they are paying currently. Higher-valued properties contribute slightly more, which reduces the burden on residents living on fixed or limited income. This makes the alternate proposal a more equitable option for our community while maintaining essential revenue for services. The new proposal would have a positive impact on 23,000 single family residents – out of a total of 26,000. The impact is presented on the spreadsheet attached to the agenda. This policy would retain cash reserves and a fund balance that would lower borrowing costs for projects everyone on this dais has approved. It follows recommendations from our Finance Team, Controller and Financial Advisor.

2. Proposal submitted by the Mayor found on Budget Memo 2: Increase the Mayor's operating budget by \$50,000 to support the Conference of Churches in providing an additional day of weekly services for homeless support.

000-09-00908-0091-50040 - \$50,000

\$50,000

Attachments: [Amend FV.docx](#)

[2026 Finance Budget Memo 2.docx](#)

[For 12.10.2025 Meeting - Garbage Fee Data.pdf](#)

[Smaller Sample of Properties For 12.10.2025 Meeting.pdf](#)

[\\$50 Proposal Impact Single Family Residence Detailed Tax Impact.xlsx](#)

[Unhoused Coor Svcs 2026 revised.pdf](#)

[Finance Budget Memo No. 1.pdf](#)

[HC.pdf](#)

[Background Verification Analyst Job Description Final 11. 2025.docx](#)

[Per Unit Garbage Fee Cost and Revenue.pdf](#)

[Property Tax and Garbage Fee Analysis-12.2.2025.xlsx](#)

[Recommended Alternate Proposal.pdf](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he will open it up at this time to the

Sponsors, beginning with Ms. Affa.

Ms. Candida Affa asked Mr. Hendricks if he wanted her to explain why.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated yes, if you want to make a comment.

Ms. Candida Affa stated yes, well she believes it is a great proposal. She thanked the administration and the mayor for sitting down and working out a new proposal. By \$50 off of the garbage fee would save a lot of people money. She stated hypothetically, if you have a mortgage tax of \$2,000 and round it off to four percent with the tax decrease, you would only be paying \$80.00 a month and you knock off \$50 for that a month and that is \$80 a month and you knock off \$50 of that and now you are down to \$30 a year. She stated that she believes Bina, can you explain what she thought was a really good explanation on the amount of house that this will affect as far as the proposal that the mayor has.

Ms. Bina Patel stated sure, thank you Ms. Affa. She stated so they provided the data and ran the data on \$26,000 residential parcels. She stated out of the \$26,000, 23,000 properties either had some savings or we are keeping the same rate, the payment for them would be the same as they were paying it in 2025 so it is helping 23,000 properties with this new proposal.

Ms. Candida Affa stated what she is to understand that 23,000 homes out of 26,000 have a savings with this new proposal.

Ms. Bina Patel stated yes.

Ms. Candida Affa stated alright, so that being said she believes it is so necessary to having a tax raise every year just by little increments, that gives the people a chance to understand how much they are going to pay, so on and so forth, but she has to tell her the reason why she is sponsoring this she believes this is the best thing for our citizens. She stated that she doesn't know what will happen if they don't. She stated what is going to happen next year. She stated that Whitehall is going up 20 something percent, Wilkes Barre Township 63 percent. She stated that you have no idea what is going to happen and now we are having back to back snowfalls. She stated that they don't know what is going to happen in the future and by knocking off \$50 off of the garbage fee, basically 23,000 people are saving money from what they had. It makes sense to her, to pass this Bill and raise the taxes to the 3.9 percent, knock off the \$50 and they can work with that. She stated that she is afraid about next year and the year after, they are going to find ourselves in a position that Whitehall Township and other places are finding out when they don't and stated we

experienced this. She stated Pawlowski for 13 years didn't raise the taxes and then when Mayor O'Connell came in, the city had to raise it by 27 percent. She stated that they cannot live a life without taxes. She stated that we will have to understand that we have to pay them. Where they are going? How much can we use? How much do we need? She stated that she doesn't want to see and stated that she chairs Public Safety and ran on public safety. She stated as far as she is concerned, the police department, the fire department, EMS and all our workers get three percent, non-union and they deserve that three percent as far as she is concerned three percent raise yearly. She stated that they work really hard and keep having to keep our city afloat. She stated without and they know that it's constantly and the prices keep going up on everything and unanimously here, City Council voted for Capital Projects. She stated our fire department, our police department, all of these. She stated that if we don't keep our Bond Issue up here, and we may slip if they don't have this increase. She asked what is going to happen when they go to do these Capital Projects. It is going to cost us more because our Bond Issue goes down, our interest goes up. She stated in the future, she is talking next year and the year after. She stated that they have to look at so many aspects of why we are raising the taxes. She stated that she thinks this proposal is a good one. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Affa. He stated to expound on what she presented, he just wants to explain on November 19th, City Council amended the General Fund Budget to remove the mayor's proposed 3.96 percent tax increase. He stated that at that time the mayor proposed a compromise that reduces the Solid Waste fee by \$25. He stated that president Hendricks scheduled a Special Meeting on December 3rd to review the mayor's compromise. After reviewing the compromise, and reviews by the Finance Director and the City Controller, Councilpersons Affa, himself, and Santo are proposing a reduction in the Solid Waste Fee by \$50 and reinstatement of the mayor's proposed tax increase. The General Fund would lend funds to the Solid Waste Fund which will be paid back over time. He stated that this is a common practice the city has used multiple times. He stated the recommended alternative proposal property owners least able to absorb increases remain protected. In the new proposal fixed income taxpayers are not proportionately impacted. The city still generates the revenue needed to sustain certain services. He stated that alternative proposal lowers the garbage fee and results in little to no increase for lowered valued home and some even pay less then they are paying currently. Higher valued properties contributes slightly more which reduces the burden on residents living on fixed incomes or limited income. This makes the alternate proposal a more equitable option for our community. while maintaining essential revenue for services. The new proposal will have to have a positive impact on 23,000 single family

residents out of the total of 26,000, as our Finance Director had mentioned. He stated that the impact is presented on the spreadsheet attached to the agenda. He stated that this policy will retain cash reserves and a fund balance that would lower borrowing costs for projects everyone on this dais has approved. It follows recommendations from the Finance team, Controller, and Financial Advisor. He stated that at this time he will ask another one of our sponsors, Mr. Napoli would you like to comment.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated sure. Thank you. He stated that he has a question for the administration and stated when we talk about loaning this loan between funds, he asked do we have a schedule for repayment or is it over five years or seven or three.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that we are looking at a five year payment plan. The first year would and the first payment will begin in 2027.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that the payments would be approximately, and not to the penny, but.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that we will lend \$2 million to the Solid Waste Fund.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated ok. He asked if it is going to be evenly distributed over the five years or.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that is what we are looking at. Currently, they would also monitoring the interest rate at that time. She stated that why it wasn't included in the proposal, but it would be the base. The principal amount is \$2 million and then if you equally divide that by five, it is about \$400,000. She stated that the interest at three percent was coming to somewhere around \$400,000 and then the interest at three percent was coming to somewhere around \$421,000.

Ms. Santo Napoli stated that \$21,000 for a year of interest, ok. He stated that honestly this is a good Plan B. It is not his original thought. He stated he thought the four percent increase and when Council sat through these budget meetings a month ago or a month and a half ago in every department reported to us and spoke about their budget for this season and stated sorry, for 2027 and he heard the same thing over and over. He stated our budget remains flat or we decreased it with the exception of labor costs. He stated that is all he heard from every department. The more he started hearing was this budget increase was really about people and we talk a lot about our city staff. We talk about they are the ones delivering our city services. He stated that for those who come to these meetings on a regular basis, you know as an employer he advocates for our employees probably more than anyone because he values what they

bring. their greatest asset to the city and again, it is a Plan B. He stated that he would personally would prefer to go back to the original Plan which was a four percent increase. He stated that the data that they had was the average homeowner in Allentown was going to pay about \$23 a year with the four percent tax increase so we are talking about \$2 a month. It wasn't going to impact residents of like we are seeing in other neighboring municipalities. He stated that they are paying \$20 to \$25 a month extra. He stated to him, it was a small price to pay to continue to receive the city services at many of our residents depend on and it is something that there were no new programs or no new positions. It was just let's keep things going and continue to deliver what residents would like for us to deliver so if we can go back to that, that would be great. If we can't this Plan can be an option that still is something that he knows he looked into other municipalities have done. It is a procedure that is been done before in many places, including Allentown and other municipalities. It is an option, but again, it is a small price to pay for what we are trying to accomplish this year in a growing city. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Napoli. He stated that now he would allow the administration to make a statement.

Ms. Bina Patel stated that she would echo what Councilperson Napoli and Ms. Affa stated that and this initial proposal was a fair proposal as well and as the mayor provided a second thought and reduction in garbage fees, by \$25 and then further Council President Hendricks, your suggestion reduce it down by \$50 per unit fee. She stated that she thinks it is an excellent proposal. It not only keeps revenue coming in for our services that we to provide for our taxpayers. It helps our residents and the city ran the data as requested by you from the 26,000 and this is actual data. She stated that they ran the Reports out of 26,000, 23,000 parcels are either receiving and paying less than what they are paying in 2025 so this is her request that you to approve this. She stated what's in front of you it's going to help our taxpayers. She stated so keeping the cash balance and with the recurring revenue, this will be recurring revenue and as Ms. Affa stated when you have the recurring revenue, they are looking at Capital Improvements in the near future. She stated that they need to keep the cash balance. The cash balance keeps when we go out for Bond Issues, it keeps the rates for borrowing lower. She stated that helps our taxpayers in the long-run. She stated that they have to look beyond even just today, tomorrow and net year and the year after that. She stated that this is a fair proposal for our taxpayers in the long-run and even in the current year. The current year for budget is 2026. She stated it is helping. She stated 23,000 parcels so at this point she doesn't know what else this administration can do to help you understand. She urged them to please vote yes to this proposal.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated to president Hendricks that he just wants to commend you for your leadership. He stated that they disagree politically about a host of different things. He stated but he and Mr. Hendricks and he was able to work with many other City Council members to just to get passed the point of political disagreements to find common ground. He stated that is your job. He stated that he can remember a couple of years ago, he and Mr. Hendricks talking on the phone during a budget, while they were working through the budget to try to understand where they can find a point of agreement on a place where they had disagreed in the past. He stated that they are looking for common ground. He stated that we are all united and we want to provide the highest level of service to the taxpayers to the residents of the city of Allentown. He stated that he wants to make sure people's streets are plowed when it snows. We want to make sure that our street sweepers are getting out there, picking up leaves when leaves are falling and sweeping up dust and dirt the rest of the year that are parceled meticulously. He stated to maintain the firefighters, the police officers, and paramedics show up at the worst of times. He stated that is our commitment as elected officials to make sure our residents have access to the services that they need to help them get ahead. He stated that they also have a unified commitment to protect the taxpayers money. This is fundamentally the money the taxpayers and we want to make sure they can for our taxpayers, particularly in challenging times. He stated that they put a proposal together after consulting with every single member of City Council and deliver it by October 15th. They should a 3.96 percent tax increase and deliver it the same level of services that they expected. The way they delivered it in 2025. We deliver it in 2026. He stated that they were able to go back and forth. They are looking at a place of common ground where they can continue to deliver those high level of services and support households that are struggling with a host of different increases to costs. He stated this agreement, the initial thing that he presented on November 19th, he is appreciative of the three Council people who took that need and went a little further that find a way to continue to protect our residents who are facing increasing costs, but also preserves the services that they come to expect in a truly deserved. He stated that he is grateful to you for fully engaging in that spirit of compromise. He stated that we go back and forth and find common ground. That is what the three of you have done in proposing this amendment. He stated that his hope is that your colleagues will join you in and ask for your compromise and find something that is a little bit better than what we started with. He stated that it is not exactly what we would have hoped for Councilman Napoli had suggested, but it is closer than what you have hoped for than what we started with. He stated that it does two things, Number 1, it preserves the quality of service that many of these men and women deliver to our residents every day, but it will also make sure that people who are struggling aren't getting hit harder than they need to. They are making a sacrifice for preserving our ability to

continue to serve residents. He stated that he just wants to thank them in engaging in that spirit of compromise and hope that other colleagues who have listened to the discussion will seriously consider making a move in the right direction here and supporting our residents while also taking care our residents and protecting them. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mayor Tuerk. He stated that he will now open it up to the dais, Mr. Zucal.

Mr. Ed Zucal thanked Mr. Hendricks and stated well, that is absolutely right. Normally, you have to increase taxes so you can create revenue. He stated that our city really has no extra revenue coming in, except for taxes per se. He stated now, he agrees with them, it is our goal. One goal, right. He stated that you are asking Council to do certain things to give you your budget, however, it is also the obligation of the city to do their part. He stated when you met with Council, Ms. Patel, you told us that it is going to be a three percent raise for non-bargaining members across the board. He stated that he asked her for the salaries for 2025 and 2026 what she sent him and there are people getting nine percent raises when our contract saw people getting three percent raises. He stated that to him is not due diligence. He stated that there were people getting nine percent raises. He stated that is just insane when you are asking the public to give you a four percent increase. He stated that the other issue he has is that he doesn't think the city is doing their due diligence in creating revenue. He stated let me give you an example. On page three of the General Fund, the Parking Authority as about five weeks ago and he got these number from Mr. Shahda. He stated thank you sir for the most to date or five weeks ago, they have spent 385,000 cleaning the streets and he means the street cleaning part stating we are not plowing snow or whatever and last year or 2025, it's in the book. He stated that these are not my number, a thousand dollars. He stated next year we are projected to get \$2,000. He stated that we spent \$385,000 and we have taken in \$2,000. He stated that is not good arithmetic. He stated as far as the services go with or without this increase. He stated that we have great employees. He stated that he doesn't care if they are cops, firefighters, EMS. Those gentlemen sitting back there. The city will continue to provide those services and he doesn't care what union you belong to or non union or whatever. That is just the people that we have. Asking someone to give something to you and you not contributing your end of it stating he is sorry he can't do that.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked anybody else, Ms. Mota.

Dr. Cynthia Mota stated thank you Mr. president and wants to begin by thanking the mayor and the administration for the work they have done over the past two weeks to share this proposal and engage in conversation with

Council. She stated that back in September, we spoke openly about our concerns with this cost. She stated that she sincerely appreciates that you listen and understood the financial strain that every day Allentown residents are facing. She stated so let me say this, affordability is the number one issue facing America today. She stated any decision we make, they must consider the ripple effect it has on our residents, their family, small businesses and seniors who are already struggling to keep up with the rising costs. She stated that she meant what she said on election night. She stated that she will stand by the people who voted for her and asked her not to raise her taxes. So while she fully supports reducing the garbage fee, she cannot support a property tax increase this year. She stated she made a promise and if her word means nothing then she has failed in her responsibility as an elected official. She stated that she wants to continue collaborating with the administration and as they look ahead to 2026, she hopes that they can begin this conversation earlier in the process. She stated that they should not be coming back to the drawing board at the final hour. She stated over the past two weeks, she listened, she learned, and carefully evaluated the information presented and tonight, as one of the seven votes, she is voting in a way that reflects the wishes and concerns of the people she represents. Thank you.

Dr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Mota. He asked anybody else, Ms. Gerlach.

Ms. Cynthia Mota thanked Mr. Hendricks.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated oh, yes. She stated that she appreciates the concern for those who are working class, on a fixed income. She stated that she hears that and definitely appreciates that and because of that, it would have been great if that concern were in place much earlier. If the concerns were in place much earlier. Then perhaps like they had the last meeting when they talked at length about amusement taxes, entertainment taxes, renegotiating contracts with folks like the IronPigs and reaching out to our legislators about the language in the NIZ legislation. She stated that they just heard information about the Parking Authority and that could be a better revenue source. She stated that she believes that the contract is pretty antiquated. She stated that they will be talking about impactful fees on developers. She stated that they are not talking about any of that. She stated that she appreciates the new focus on preserving affordability for the working class, but again, if that is truly the intent, then they will be also be looking at more institutional ways to tax the wealthy and they have not done that. She stated that she too will be voting against this. Thank you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Gerlach. He asked anybody else. He stated seeing none, he will open it up to the public for comment. He asked

is it anybody from the public that wishes to comment.

Ms. Betty Cauler (sp), 222 Tilghman Street, stated not to sound like a broken record again and stated that she propose that they freeze the property tax rates for senior citizens. She stated that they earned it. You are all talking about fixing and stated thank you Ms. Mota on what you said. She stated she appreciates it. She stated that other neighboring states do this and there is no reason why they can't propose it. She stated that they can also propose a rent freeze. Because you know what is going to happen to renters when the taxes go up, the property owners and will pass it along to them. You will have more homeless and we know how everybody feels about those people. She stated that Pittsburgh and Philadelphia are already do this stating everybody says it is not in the Constitution, but every municipality can do their own rent freeze so it would be nice if we could look into that. She stated that if you want to raise more revenue, cancel the NIZ. She asked is it even legal. Is it even legal and don't you think that developers like J B Reilly have gotten enough of a free ride. She stated there is your tax money going to development and developers who don't need that money. She stated get the corrupt Allentown Parking Authority to pay its fair share to the city and stop claiming debt every year. Everybody's in debt. She stated either bring back waste management and stated she does not know what the deal was why they change to JP Mascara. She asked why can't we get the city to do the trash pick up. Is that possible. She knows is not allowed to asked questions, but she is asking a question anyway. She asked can't the city do that. Jobs, more jobs. She stated that her big pet peeve is cut the bloated Police Budget. She stated cut it by one percent and make up the tax increase. She stated for crying out loud, more officers do not equal less crime. She stated that she thinks they are seeing that on the streets, right and stated that she knows. She stated that it's tough. She stated somebody, and she stated that she guesses it was you that brought up the wealth tax. Why can't we do a wealth tax earning \$400,000 more like other municipalities in other states have done. There is no reason why we can't do that. There is plenty of ways to make more money. Another big thing that lastly that would probably would help a lot is stop involving the city in lawsuits against the alleged criminal behavior of this administration that then gets passed down to us and have to pay for. She stated that she doesn't know how many lawsuits there are against the city, but it is just ridiculous. She stated that it is also a proposed data center for the merchant square. She stated that she does hope that you guys vote this down, please. She stated Number 1: our electric bills are going to go through the roof. They are going to suck up our water and they just had a meeting about the water. Tax them at 75 percent if they want to move in. There is your money. She stated ok. thank you very much.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Cauler (sp) and asked is there anybody

else from the public.

Mr. Quinn Allen, Allentown, stated on what's really going on in America. He stated a proposal to decrease the Waste Fee by \$50 sounds nice. Until he sees an increase of 3.96 percent per which we don't really know what the general public typically don't even know what that number even means because that could be from any number which will be above \$50 and we end up paying more than \$50 which is a nice little sneaky trick by they way. He stated that he is pretty good in math, in fact he taught math in his 12 grade classroom for his teacher. That is how good he was. He stated that they already have a bunch of homeless people in Allentown which are not even being taking care of as it is and there are many people in Allentown that are one tax increase away from being homeless. He asked what are you going to do for those people who cannot pay your taxes. Evict them from their own home. You don't even own their homes. They own their homes. He asked should they have to pay property taxes to begin with. He believes it should be going against the 5th and 14th amendment, Life, Liberty, and Property to which we all have rights to here in America to have. He stated today, he was invited, last month he got invited to a homeless meeting that was on the 5th floor today and only one person in the Council and Mayor was here. He stated thank you, Ce Ce. He stated that he love her for that. He stated that just shows how much only one of you cares and although right now he will say thank you to Cynthia for saying what she said. Even though we disagree on some things. He stated ok, so to be honest, we don't need to increase taxes. He stated that they could even decrease taxes and still get the job done here in Allentown. You just have to be able to handle the money that belongs to people, not you.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked is there anybody else. He stated seeing none. He stated sorry, sir. Step up.

Mr. Anthony Hollowell (sp), Senior representing SEIU, sated that he also is in the process of buying his mom's house because she can't afford it no more. He stated that she is ready to lose it. He stated that she lives at 2333 S. Lumber. He stated that Zucal knows her. She worked with Zucal. He stated if you want to cut money out, start looking at these positions that are in the city. Start looking at these new positions that are coming out. He stated cut those out. He stated part-time \$87,000 a year and stated come on. He stated that SEIU doesn't even make that. He stated that they are in Contract talks and he is not going to talk about that. The city is coming back to them with nothing, with garbage, but we are getting blames for this four percent tax. He stated that is what pisses him off. He asked why are we getting blamed for it stating they have to keep up with the leave cleaning, the plowing, the paving, this, and that. When they are not even going to see it. He stated like you said Zucal, nine percent raises for these

top people. He stated that is what is in the budget. He stated put this stuff out. Cut these new positions and then you will see the city run a lot better. He stated that is all he has.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hollowell (sp). He asked anybody else. He stated that there is a (inaudible) Budget Memo at this time to increase. He stated that there is a (inaudible) Budget Memo at this time to increase the mayor's operating budget by \$50,000 to support the Conference of Churches in providing an additional day of weekly services for homeless support. He stated that he would now ask the administration for a comment on this.

Mayor Matt Tuerk stated that he will give them some background on where this came from. He stated that he is grateful for a resident name Julie Thomases hosting a roundtable on Homelessness at Congregation Sons of Israel on December the 7th and asked if that is correct Councilwoman Gerlach. He stated that Councilwoman Gerlach spoke and there was a presentation by the Executive Director of the Conference of Churches and in a side conversation, he and Councilwoman Gerlach has spoke with Abigail Goldfarb who is the Director of Conference of Churches and/or our Chair on the Commission on Homelessness and they are talking about the challenges that the unsheltered people face in Allentown at the moment, including not really having anywhere to go on a Saturday or Sunday because while organizations like Ripple and the Conference host drop in services Monday through Friday for breakfast, lunch and dinner and not open on Saturdays and Sundays. He inquired on what it would cost to add an additional couple of days of service to get them open on the weekend through the year and Ms. Goldfarb estimated \$50,000. He stated that is the motivation for the Budget Memo and Amendment here. He stated that they have to withdraw this memo and stated that it will be fiscally irresponsible to add another \$50,000 of expense to a budget that Council is bent on drawing from the reserves. He stated that he wishes he could support this through the initial proposed budget, but if it is possible, the administration would just withdraw the Memo at the moment.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated ok and stated Mr. Hanlon, the proposal to withdraw it.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that he would just say this, historically you have treated the Budget process as introducing proposals with sponsors just like you introduce legislation and if you pull your name, it will be gone.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked who were the sponsors of this Bill.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated it was the mayor.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated the mayor, ok. He stated then in that case, this will be considered as a removal and no longer valid and no longer held for a vote. He stated at this point, he is going to adjourn this meeting.

Yes: 3 - Daryl Hendricks, Candida Affa, and Santo Napoli

No: 4 - Cynthia Mota, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, and Ce-Ce Gerlach

Bills for reference:

[15-8040](#)

Bill 84

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing the General Fund, Administrative Order Fund, Risk Management Fund, Debt Service Fund, Equipment Fund, and Golf Fund Budgets for 2026.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No. 84 -2026 BUDGET AND TAX RATE.docx](#)

[15-8041](#)

Bill 85

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing and adopting the Building Code Fund Budget for 2026 for Community and Economic Development per Chapter 270 of City code for Building Fees.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No 85 .- 2026 BUILDING CODE FUND.doc](#)

[15-8042](#)

Bill 86

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Liquid Fuels Fund Budget for 2026.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No.86 - 2026 LIQUID FUELS.doc](#)

[15-8043](#)

Bill 87

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh, and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing and adopting the Rental Unit Licensing Fund Budget for 2026 and amending Article 1759 – Landlord and Rental Fee by maintaining the Residential Rental Fees.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No.87 -2026 RENTAL UNIT FUND.doc](#)

[15-8044](#)

Bill 88

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing and adopting the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund Budget for 2026 and amending Article 1131, Municipal Waste Storage, Collection and Disposal by increasing the Solid Waste Fee at Seven Hundred Forty (\$740) Dollars.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No. 88- 2026- SOLID WASTE FUND AND FEE.doc](#)

[15-8045](#)

Bill 89

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing and adopting the Stormwater Fund Budget for 2026 and amending Article 393.15 – Stormwater Utility Fee by maintaining the Stormwater Utility Fee at Twenty (\$20) Dollars per Five Hundred (500) square feet of impervious surface.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No.89- 2026 STORMWATER FUND AND FEE.doc](#)

[15-8046](#)

Bill 90

An Ordinance of the City of Allentown, County of Lehigh and Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Trexler Fund Budget for 2026.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill No.90 - 2026 TREXLER FUND.doc](#)

ADJOURNED: 6:37 PM