



# Allentown

435 Hamilton Street  
Allentown, Pa. 18101

## Minutes - Final

### City Council

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Wednesday, July 19, 2023

6:30 PM

Council Chambers

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#### Invocation:

#### Pledge to the Flag

#### Roll Call

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

#### Courtesy of the Floor

##### Courtesy and Privilege of the Floor Rules

Ms. Jeani Garcia, 208 S. 13th Street, stated that she is happy to hear that money is going towards affordable housing. She talked about the violence prevention money and the process. She stated that she hasn't heard anything about the money.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated you are here to make statements and not ask questions.

Ms. Sharon Billington, 1509 Chew Street, stated that she wants to talk about fireworks and the night of July 4. The fireworks pierced holes in her zucchini plants and tomato plants. This is beyond noise, inconvenience and anything else. She has debris coming down her yard. This is fire and safety hazards.

Mr. Louis Shupe, stated that he wants to talk about the Homelessness Commission Meeting. He drove around the block trying to find a parking spot. Why does that particular meeting has to happen at 10:00 in the morning? Why it happens upstairs?

#### Contract Approvals

[15-6054](#)

R109

Authorization for Contract with McMahon Associates in the amount of \$279,850 to perform services for the proposed improvements for the American Parkway Traffic Signals Improvement Project. This project is part of a Green Light-Go grant fund. There were four proposals, contract is for two years with the potential of a six months extension.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R109 - McMahon Assoc.](#)  
[Resolution #30661](#)

Mr. Mark Shahda gave a quick review of the timeframe. It is for design services on the Green Light Go Grant. The award is for the design work to get the project started.

MR. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any questions from his colleagues or the public.

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

Enactment No: 30661

[15-6053](#)

R110

Authorization for Contract with TD Equipment Finance for \$2,223,332.54 to finance Ten (10) Mobile Radios Model XG-25M, Fifty (50) Mobile Radios Model XL-18M, Ten (10) Portable Radios Model XL-95P, Fifty (50) Portable Radios Model XL-200P (Yellow), Three Hundred and Fifty Five (355) Portable Radios Model XL-200P(Black), Radio Accessories Metal Belt Clips, "D" Clips and Antennas, Radio Batteries and Radio Battery Chargers, there were four proposals, the lease is for five years.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R110 - TD Equipment Finance](#)  
[Resolution #30662](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she has Ms. McNeil on the phone. She can't hear her.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as Quote #23 and advertised on May 1, 2023. The public opening was held on May 29, 2023. The city received five quotes. After the department reviewed the quotes, they are recommending an award to TD Equipment Finance.

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

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if this leases for five years and how much we are paying in interest over the five years.

Ms. Vicky Kistler asked Ms. McNeil if she knew the answer.

Ms. Sarrah Mcneil stated over the course of the five years it will be \$225,484.71.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that we are spending another quarter of a million dollars on interest. Do we not have this money in the General Fund Budget to buy these outright.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that would be a Finance question. Ms. Patel is not here right now.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that Mr. Zucal raises a very interesting question. He reviewed both of these contracts. The interest rate that the city is paying on this lease/purchase is between 4.4 and 4.6 percent for five years. Currently, they are investing the free cash for close to five percent. While there is interest expense associated with it, over the course of the loan the city will earn more with the free money than paying in interest. While the Notes are for five years, the life of this product is well longer than five years.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that the only issue that Mr. Glazier stated is that the city will make the money back on these items. What about future items they are going to buy.

Mr. Jeffery Glazier stated that he thinks that Mr. Zucal raised an interesting point. It is a topic they can discuss in the future. These two certainly make good financial sense. The Purchasing Department and Public Works have done a good job putting them out to bid.

Ms. Candida Affa asked if they entertained the thought of ARPA paying for this.

Mr. Jeffery Glazier stated that once again, you could but you are running five percent on your ARPA money. The interest rates on these Purchase contracts are 4.4 and 4.6 percent.

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

Mr. Pas Simpson, 215 N. Ninth Street, stated as they hear these large numbers on equipment. Look at our babies. He stated that he wants Council to see the faces of the people that they are leaving behind. These babies, \$1.5 million is what we ask for to protect these children.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated to Mr. Simpson that Council is talking about this Bill.

Mr. Pas Simpson stated that he gets to speak. He stated that Mr. Hendricks interruption is outside of parliamentary procedures.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that only on what Council is discussing. It was Courtesy of the Floor to have this conversation.

Mr. Pas Simpson stated that all of that wraps into this. He stated that they are spending over \$2 million which is more than \$700,000 that was asked for the youth. It is absolutely ridiculous that they keep spending money on everything other than protecting our children.

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

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

Enactment No: 30662

[15-6052](#)

R111

Authorization for Contract with BankFunding, LLC in the amount of \$612,884.24 to finance one (1) Caterpillar Model: 962-BR Wheel Loader and one (1) Galbreth Roll Off Vehicle.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R111 - BankFunding LLC](#)  
[Resolution #30663](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler asked Ms. McNeil to comment on that one.

Ms. Sarrah McNeil stated that this was done as Quote 2023-08 and advertised on June 7, 2023. The public opening was held on July 6, 2023. The city received three quotes. As the department reviewed the quotes, there are recommending an award to BankFunding LLC. The amount of interest over the course of the loan would be \$56,775.79.

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

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

Enactment No: 30663

## Minutes of Previous Meeting

[15-6008](#)

June 15, 2023 Special Committee Meeting - Bill 47 Minutes

**Attachments:** [June 15, 2023 Special Committee Meeting - Bill 47 Minutes](#)

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

[15-6024](#) June 21, 2023 City Council Bill 23 Public Hearing Minutes

**Attachments:** [June 21, 2023 City Council Bill 23 Public Hearing Minutes](#)

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

[15-6009](#) June 21, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes

**Attachments:** [June 21, 2023 City Council Meeting Minutes](#)

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

[15-6028](#) June 28, 2023 City Council Special Meeting on City Solicitor and HR Director Appointments Minutes

**Attachments:** [June 28, 2023 City Council Special Meeting on City Solicitor and HR Director Appointments Minutes](#)

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

## Communications

### Disclosures pursuant to the Ethics Code:

**Mayor Tuerk and Councilperson Napoli noted for disclosure purposes, they had an email exchange with Sherri Binder of RCI on a potential ARPA request.**

### Ethics Provision:

**(3) Mandatory disclosure. Officials and employees who have had communications of any kind with individuals or entities seeking to do work for the City, or seeking to receive government funds, must disclose those communications to the City Clerk prior to the government taking action in designating who will conduct the service, receive the contract or receive the funds. Such disclosure will take place on an electronic or paper form or process to be prepared jointly by the Administration and Council.**

[15-6055](#) President Council Note: As required by the Commonwealth, the annual IDA report has been filed and is available to the public as an attachment to this agenda..

**Attachments:** [2022 Financial Statements - ALLENTOWN COMMERCIAL AND INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY ACIDA 2022 IDA Report](#)

## Old Business

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Mr. Hanlon and asked if there was anything for Old Business.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she understands that in the previous meeting that the Resolution for Affordable Housing and Infrastructure was tabled. In that meeting it was stated that they would then during this meeting have a broader conversation about process. She asked when are they having that tonight?

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that is not tonight.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that is in some of other point. She asked if they can schedule a meeting.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it could have when they can speak to the administration regarding that \$5 million that is in the Budget for next year.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she looks forward to seeing that.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there was anything else for Old Business.

**REPORTS****Public Hearing for Liquor License Transfer - August 2, 6:15 PM****Budget and Finance: Chair Napoli, Hendricks, Gerlach**

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for July 27th at 5:30 PM - the agenda will deal with budgetary priorities.

**Community and Economic Development: Chair Mota, Napoli, Affa**

The committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for July 27th at 6:00PM- the agenda will deal with budgetary priorities.

**Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chair Santos, Zucal, Napoli**

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for; the next meeting is scheduled for July 26th at 6:30 PM - the agenda will deal with budgetary priorities.

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

The Committee met on June 15th; those items are on the council meeting this evening. The next meeting is scheduled for July 27th at 6:30 PM. - the agenda will deal with budgetary priorities.

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

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; ; the next meeting is scheduled for July 26th at 5:30 PM - the agenda will deal with budgetary priorities.

**Public Works: Chair Zucal, Santos, Hendricks**

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 26th at 6 PM - the agenda will deal with budgetary priorities.

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

The committee met this evening; a future meeting has not been established.

**Controller's Report (3 minutes)**

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that the interns are working very hard on their projects. On August 9th, they will present their Process Flows to Council and urged them to attend. He stated that he will have an Audit Report at the next meeting.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he also had the pleasure of meeting with them at lunch time today. a group of three interns. They are very intelligent and very dedicated. They have learned a lot and appreciated the opportunity to work with the staff. He looks forward to their Report to the full Council on August 9th.

**Mayor's Report (3 minutes)**

None

[15-6051](#) Controller Reports

Attachments: [Accts Payable June](#)

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

[15-5829](#) Bill 31 Community and Economic Development Committee, forwarded favorably  
Provides for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1976, as amended; The Homeless Emergency Assistance and Rapid Transition to Housing Act of 2009; and Title II of the National Affordable Housing Act of 1990, as amended; for the purpose of undertaking programs of housing and community development within the City.

Sponsors: Administration

Attachments: [Bill 31 - HUD New Account Setup](#)  
[Ordinance #15913](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that this is the standard HUD Plan that they put forth for the Homeless Emergency Assistance. She stated that they are the pass-through agency for the Regional Homelessness Assistance Board (RHAB). This is the pass through of that money to the RHAB to address homelessness throughout the Lehigh Valley.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Kistler and asked if there were any comments from his colleagues.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated that she does not know if she just missed it, but why are they trying to remove \$5,000 from OATH.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that the city's previous submission for summaries carried over from the previous year. Those were expenditures funded in 2023. Not the expenditures for 2024. We had to remove them by an amendment because it was introduced and tabled.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that somebody needs to make that amendment.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked Ms. Kistler is she could speak to the \$25,000 for ACLV and \$20,000 for Other Public Services.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that those were three things that were funded for



the previous. The HUD year goes July 1 to June 30. Those were things that were previously applied for and funded from July 1 of last year to June 30 of this year. When Maria sent forth the Ordinance, she inadvertently left those three in. Those are not three expenditures that are funded at that same amount in this year's report, so we need an amendment to take them out and make the accurate listing you have in that attachment for this funding year.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked about CACLV's rising tide has been around for a while. She stated that she went on their website and asked if they do anything Allentown specific. She is having trouble seeing what they do that is Allentown specific. She stated that the micro-loans are spread out from Carbon County, Lehigh County, Monroe County, Northampton County and Upper Bucks and then Bethlehem Small Business. It is a revolving loan fund exist and a small business opportunity loan fund with lines of credit. She stated that she did not see anything specifically for Allentown.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that with the Rising Tide any expenditures that happen with the exception of the RHAB monies are overarching, but the Rising Tide does do small business work here in the city of Allentown as well. She can get more information or Mr. Hartney can tell her first hand since he is the city representative to CACLV.

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that the Rising Tide is a Community Development Finance Institution. They provide loans to small businesses in Allentown. Most of the businesses that they work with are not bankable with traditional banking. They will work with them to provide financing with the idea that they do become bankable.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that they should update their website.

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that he can find out how many loans they have.

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

Mr. Pas Simpson stated that since Ms. Gerlach asked about CACLV a little clarify. He stated that they have CADCA which is part of CACLV which houses all of these young people here.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked anybody else from the public.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks, seconded by Cynthia Mota, that this Bill be amended to Remove Oath in the amount of \$5,000.00, Add Rising Tide in the amount of \$25,000 and change Other Public Services to \$4,585.00.**

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

Enactment No: 15913

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

Enactment No: 15913

[15-5856](#)

Bill 40

Amending the 2023 General Fund budget to add revenue accounts to the Risk Management Bureau's budget and transfer funds from the unappropriated balance to fund this payment process change. The adjustment is needed to account for the change to paying all active employee elective health benefit plans upfront instead of relying on manually produced payroll deduction paper checks for payment.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 40 Risk Management Employee Benefits](#)  
[Ordinance #15914](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that Risk Management is doing a much more efficient process to make those deductions. This is their request to Council to make this happen so that they are not manually cutting checks.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there are any questions from his colleagues.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that there is no amount of money here.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they are just creating an account.

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this is just for the creation of the account. It is cost neutral. These are all for the voluntary plans funded completely by the employees. They pay for all the benefits themselves. They needed to establish the accounts so the money can go into a revenue account. This is no cost to this. It is completely funded by payroll deductions by the employee.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were questions from his colleagues or from the public.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that everything that Ms. Baraket said was correct. Under the old system, checks under the voluntary coverage was literally cut directly from a payroll withholding account. It was not a transparent process. His office by ordinance supposed to look at every expenditure, did not have a chance to look at those expenditures. Risk and Finance came up with some consultant with the Controller's office with a much clear and a more better and a more efficient process and that is what they are asking you to vote on this evening.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15914

[15-5922](#)

Bill 49

DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023, BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO ESTABLISH THE SALARY OF THE CONTROLLER EQUAL TO 80% OF THE MAYOR'S SALARY WHICH IS CURRENTLY AT \$95,000.

**Sponsors:** Affa, Gerlach and Napoli

**Attachments:** [Bill 49 Charter Proposal - Controller's Salary Ordinance #15915](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there is any clarification needed.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked if it will be 80 percent of the current \$95,000. Let's say if they vote to raise the mayor's salary to \$120,000, would it be 80 percent of that or will it remain \$95,000.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that if or when Council changes the mayor's salary, the Controller's salary would follow. It would have to wait until an election. You can't change someone's salary within a term. The salary has not changed since 1997 which is 26 years.

Mr. Ed Zucal asked will Mr. Glazier then become full-time. Right now, you are currently part-time.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that it is a part-time salary. He will meet the letter of the ordinance.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that the Home Rule Charter list a lot of responsibilities. He put the notes in there. At the committee meeting, the Controller was noting the work that he does by looking at various websites and based on the amount of work was for a pretty active full-time Controller.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he checked seven different municipalities, and they were all part-time. This would roughly be \$72,000. The average salaries or those seven or eight jurisdictions was around \$38,000. He

asked Mr. Glazier what is his current salary.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that his current salary is \$49,900. One of the things that he did was look at the Charter and Ordinances that these folks operate under and the responsibilities they have are in many cases are much more limited than what the city Charter has for the current Controller's position. He looked at what their published works is. He spoke of what the other municipalities do. It is not controller, it is accounting.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he would support this, but recommended a need for more complete audits of individual departments for the future.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier thanked Mr. Zucal and stated that he will take it under advisement.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked where is the part that says that position will be full-time.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that it is the last sentence in the notes.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that they are notes based on conversations from the committee.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she finds it important that it is so easy to look at the person in the seat and not the position. It is not about Jeff Glazier, it is about the position. It is important to state that it is full-time work. She does not want to happen that voters go in and just hit yes and get someone who is never here.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that would have to be an amendment.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that Council had that discussion before and it did not pan out.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that it is not in the Mayor's job description and not in Council's job description that you are going to fulfill specific hours.

Mr. Ed Zucal agreed with Mr. Glazier and stated that Council can't dictate whether he becomes full-time or part-time.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that this will take the salary for the position at approximately \$75,000.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she believes that it is the quantity and quality of work that Mr. Glazier has at least since she has been here. He is always

available, and she knows that he works more than 30 hours a week. We have the third largest city in Pennsylvania and if we have not given a raise since 1997, it is kind of ridiculous. She doesn't see why they will penalize this Controller and not give him a raise. She stated that it is one of the most important jobs in the city.

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that they keep talking about the new Controller. Part of this, we have to be competitive as a city to attract talent. To attract talent, the city has to be in a better ballpark to attract. It is important to take care of this. If there is a day Mr. Glazier decides not to run, we want the next person to be talented and attract the talent with the correct compensation.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she is in agreement. Every time they meet him, he is always available. That is what we need.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated 1997, it is ridiculous that they waited this long. It is time to change and the same with City Council. He asked if there were any other comments from Council or the public.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that when the legislation was crafted, it took the percentage difference in the year it was established and created it as 80 percent again.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15915

[15-5923](#)

Bill 50

DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO INCREASE THE SALARY OF THE CITY COUNCIL TO \$15,000.AND THE PRESIDENT OF COUNCIL SHALL RECEIVE ONE THOUSAND DOLLARS IN ADDITION TO THE SALARY OF A REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEMBER.

**Sponsors:** Affa, Hendricks and Mota

**Attachments:** [Bill 50 Home Rule Charter City Council's Salary - Question](#)  
[Memo on Salaries/Comparison](#)  
[Ordinance #15916](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this doesn't need clarification. He asked if

there were any comments.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that the fact that Council's salary is \$6,400. They are the lowest, next to Reading. Harrisburg with 50,000 people gets \$20,000 a year. York and Erie, \$15,000 or \$16,000. The last time they had a raise was in 1997. They chair committees and on the phone. The burden that they carry and decision that they make can affect generations. They work hard and deserve a raise. She likes to let the voters decide. She is going to vote no.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that by the time the public sees what's on the agenda and the amount of work that went into it. Most people it is here and they are going to vote yes or no. There has been so much more work beforehand and conversations and research because of this particular one. She stated that she loves the legislative process and the policy making process. She does not need a raise or want a raise. Her neighbors aren't getting raises.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that again, 1997. The rate of inflation is far more than that. He asked if there were any comments from the public.

Mr. Pas Simpson, 215 N. Ninth Street, stated poverty is violence. He agreed with Councilwoman Gerlach. If we are not addressing the poverty or the violence, we should not be increasing anyone else's pay. How do you get a raise before you address the issues?

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 5 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, and Santo Napoli

**No:** 2 - Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Natalie Santos

Enactment No: 15916

[15-5936](#)

Bill 52

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifteen Thousand Dollars (\$15,000.00) from the unappropriated balance to the Capital Fund Contribution of the Trexler budget. The funds were received from the Trexler Trust as part of the 2022 operating budget, the additional funds are from the 30% capital requirement from the total award.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 52 - 2022 Trexler Additional Capital Appropriation](#)  
[Ordinance #15917](#)

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that this is just an accounting move to get Trexler money into the operating fund so that they can use it for projects this year. Into the Capital Project Fund.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if his colleagues had any questions on this or from the public.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15917

[15-5937](#)

Bill 53

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Two Hundred Sixty-Five Thousand Three Hundred and Forty-Six Dollars and Ninety-One Cents (\$265,346.91) from the Automatic Meter Reading and Bill capital account to the Administrative Order capital account. This will allow the Administrative Order (AO) fund to have the additional funds needed to complete the City's requirements under the Concession Lease Agreement.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 53 Administrative Order Capital Account Transfer](#)  
[Ordinance #15918](#)

Mr. Mark Shahda stated that it is a housekeeping measure. The AMR Capital Project was completed. They are shifting that funding from that capital account into the Administrative Order Capital Account to complete that project.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15918

[15-5938](#)

Bill 54

Amending the 2023 General Fund budget to accommodate the reorganization of positions to allow the Department of Finance to operate at a level more in line with the job responsibilities currently assigned to the staff and be in compliance with the home rule charter.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 54 Finance Clerk Reorg](#)  
[Ordinance #15919](#)

Ms. Jessica Baraket stated that this is the reorganization of the Finance Clerks to put them more in line with the job responsibilities that are being carried out by the Clerks in the Finance Department.

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

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that this was actually in the Budget and Finance Committee and one of the things that were most important was the ability to retain talent in that department. It is very important that this is completed. It decreases the amount of transiency and folks leaving the department. It makes their job a little bit harder to accomplish.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanks Mr. Napoli and asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or from the public.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15919

[15-5939](#)

Bill 55

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Four Thousand and Ninety-Six Dollars and Thirty-Eight Cents (\$104,098.38) to the Opioid Settlement revenue account (000-5216) to fund a third Hospital Opioid Support Team (HOST) position through Lehigh County Drug & Alcohol. This will allow for 24-hour coverage in City of Allentown hospitals to connect substance use overdose victims with appropriate care.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 55 Health HOST](#)  
[Ordinance #15920](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that is amazing and will allow 24 hour coverage in the city of Allentown hospital to connect substance use overdose victims with appropriate care.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked Ms. Kistler if she wants to say anything about this.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated no. This is a great and valuable service and they



are thrilled to be able to add more with Council's approval.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there are any questions or comments from his colleagues or the public.

Ms. Natalie Santos asked how the city will be advertising this once it is rolled out so that more people are aware.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that these are current county positions throughout the day and travel throughout the city and approach individuals who look like they may be suffering from a substance abuse disorder. They are well known and connected to the population. The county heavily promotes the use of these individuals to all of our law enforcement, first responders, and community service agencies. What this does is funds the unfunded shift. They are wildly busy and very well known to most in the community. The city will promote that they are out there on a different shift now.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15920

[15-5940](#)

Bill 56

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental additional appropriation of Sixty-Two Thousand Five Hundred (\$62,500) Dollars from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources (DCNR) to support construction of Irving Pool.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 56 Irving Pool DCNR](#)  
[Ordinance #15921](#)

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that the quote for Irving Pool came over budget. They were able to ask DCNR to increase our grant award. This is the amount. It is 10 percent of the original award. They gave the city more money.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15921

[15-5941](#)

## Bill 57

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Thirty-Five Thousand Dollars (\$135,000.00) from the unappropriated balance to the Parks and Recreation Grounds Maintenance Equipment expense account. The funds will be used for new holiday decorations and lights that are compatible with the newly installed light poles on Hamilton Street from 5th to 12th.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 57 Parks and Rec Equipment](#)

[Ordinance #15922](#)

Ms. Many Tolino stated that this is for Hamilton Street. The new project that was completed. It is the ongoing streetscape. The old decorations unfortunately won't work with the new light poles. These are also nearing the end of the last third of their use and they have to replace these. They were not going to do it for another year so and that is why it is an unexpected expense. Now, they realize that they old decorations will not be used on the new poles. They have to order these decorations in the summer time in time for the holiday season.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Tolino and asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or from the public.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15922

[15-5942](#)

## Bill 58

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Six Hundred Thousand Nine Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$600,950.00) from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency (PCCD) Gun Violence Investigation and Prosecution Grant for the purpose of purchasing equipment.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 58 - PCCD Grant](#)

[Ordinance #15923](#)

Chief Charles Roca stated that part of this thing is to be able to explain what they are doing and getting money approved for the grant request. They submitted those two grants previously and talked about adding technology to help us. This one is specifically geared towards gun violence investigations and a prosecution grant.

Captain Kyle Pammer stated that the Bill is for a grant allocation that they received from the Pennsylvania Commission of Crime and Delinquency which Council approved for them to apply to. They received approval for the grant through PCED a couple of months ago in the amount of \$600,000 this year and roughly \$900,000 next year for a total of \$1.5 million specifically for gunshot technology and quail gun violence and investigations into gun violence.

Chief Charles Roca stated that the technology is going to be life-changing. It will allow officers to get to locations much quicker and increase the communities efforts in reporting crime and being able to also give that information back to the community and that is what Council wants. That is something that will be positive for the city.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if they already been using gun tracking technology. The city has not had it up to now.

Chief Charles Roca stated no. He stated that is correct.

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

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she forgets if it was Chief Roca or Assistant Chief Granitz stated that there was something where it is some type of device where it would be able to determine with some degree where the gun shot came from.

Chief Charles Roca stated that is correct. They were researching it, but the company that they went with has a proprietary equipment and technology and that is the one we are going to go with which is going to triangulate the detection of the sound.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated ok. It was just being looked into. It was not purchased. She asked if the Consumer Commission on Crime and delinquency with PCED provide grants on preventative stuff as well.

Chief Charles Roca stated absolutely. That is one of the things that Ms. Garcia talked about with the Lieutenant Governor here. He is the chairman of the PCED and there are grant opportunities and he would not mind working with the people that are represented here today. They do a lot of good work as well.

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

Ms. Candida Affa stated that anything the city can do to help the Police Department curtail gun violence and of course, she will vote yes for this.

Ms. Natalie Santos stated that it is more like technology itself. There is a difference between the sound of fireworks or a car.

Captain Kyle Pammer stated that the company that they are going with have a 90 percent success rate in terms of where the technology is. It detects it and triangle it. You will get an alert. It does not differentiate it 90 percent of the time between a firecracker or fireworks or a car backfiring. He stated that 90 percent of the detections are actually gunshots. It is in 42 states and already used in 1,500 different cities. Their success rate is 90 percent. The background is that is each one is a false negative will be a firecracker. There is a computer system that will look at that and generate soundwaves.

Chief Charles Roca stated that they call it the algorithm. He is not the technical expert in this. There are certain algorithms that a gunshot and firecracker give off and that is what is analyzed.

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

Ms. Jeani Garcia, 208 S. 13th Street, stated that she loves APD is working with PCEC for this type of equipment. Just imagine if they had the \$1.5 million for violence prevention to match what they are doing. It would make a difference. We are the third largest city in Pennsylvania and need to get upbeat. They are working on the state level PCED and the federal level to provide assistance. Shootings happened all over Allentown. This is an us problem.

Lou Shupe, 1101 Hamilton Street, stated that he remembers reading some of these gunshot protection systems make various errors. He asked what is the name of the company.

Captain Kyle Pammer stated that the company is called Flock Safety. The rate of success is 90 percent for a gunshot. Over the years, it did get a lot better and did differentiate between fireworks and glass breaking, and tire screeching.

Mr. Jose Rivera, 215 N. Ninth Street, stated that he and Chief Roca bump heads a lot. He will support this for one reason is because he trusts him and trust Council. This is another system in place for reaction. It is not preventing anything. Just because you put this up, you are not going to stop the shootings. You are too focused on the reactions. When they are going to start going back to preventive things.

Ms. Sharon Borrington, 1509 Chew Street, stated that she agrees with what everyone says about prevention versus reaction. She asked if the technology is all Allentown city limits.

Captain Kyle Pammer stated that it will be a couple square miles in the Center City area and will expand.

Ms. Sharon Borrington stated that the main technology is centrally located. She asked what is the response time.

Captain Kyle Pammer stated that each officer will have the system in their car to respond to. He stated less than 60 seconds. It will go to the Communications Center as well as every officer in the city of Allentown.

Mr. Neil Sing, 1946 S Delaware Street, stated that he is a Wildlife Biologist by training and familiar with some of the technology that going to be used or how it will be used with this scenario. It would be an auto monitoring device that uses spectrograph analysis and an algorithm of some sort with specific sound signature of a gunshot to compare it to other types of sounds that might be similar and try to triangulate it. This is a technology that monitors bird populations. He is astounded that it is being used in this capacity to monitor the people of Allentown. This is an invasive form of monitoring in policing in the community.

Mr. Pas Simpson 215 N. Ninth Street, stated that this technology is necessary. He supports the Chief, the Captain because it has to be done in tandem. This is a reactionary model. He is proactive by bringing his babies here. They partnered with the school district.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if it was anybody else that had a comment.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15923

[15-5943](#)

Bill 59

Amending the 2023 General Fund budget to allow for the Maintenance Mechanic Specialist position currently budgeted in the Trexler Fund to move to the General Fund Parks and Recreation Department. This will help to balance the Trexler Fund budget for the year 2023.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 59 Trexler Position to Parks](#)  
[Ordinance #15924](#)

Ms. Mandy Tolino stated that the Trexler Fund is based on investments and budget based on finances best on what the investment will return. Unfortunately, this past year, the investments did not return the same amount of funds they had anticipated. They were able to balance the Trexler Fund by moving some positions out of the Trexler Fund into General Fund.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15924

[15-5948](#)

Bill 60

Amending Article 507 (Traffic control Maps) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Allentown. The request is from the Administration. The Administration is authorized to establish and evaluate traffic regulations for a temporary period not to exceed 90 days. This legislation makes the temporary changes permanent.

**Attachments:** [Bill 60 Traffic Control Maps](#)  
[Traffic Control Sign Ordinance 05 31 2023](#)  
[Ordinance #15925](#)

Mr. Mark Shahda stated that the Traffic Control Maps are updated quarterly to reflect some of the new signage that was added throughout the city. This Ordinance is before Council for approval to ordain these changes so they can be enforceable.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that this was in the Public Works Committee and sent favorably, 3 - 0.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15925

[15-5967](#)

Bill 61

DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN

VOTERS ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO LIMIT THE TERM OF THE OFFICE OF CITY CONTROLLER TO TWO (2) TERMS

**Sponsors:** Gerlach and Mr. Zucal

**Attachments:** [Bill 61 City Controller Term Limits](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it was in his committee and it was moved favorably, 2- 1 to the full Council.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he would like to make the same comment that he referenced earlier for Bill 62. It is sometimes important that we add some new and replace the old. It is not to be intentional or against somebody. He agrees with Mr. Hendricks that citizens actually determines that choices anyway. It is an opportunity for a level playing field or create a leveled playing field for those that are interested in serving in government.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues. He reiterated that he has gotten no input from the public regarding this or requesting this. He feels strongly if people are not doing their job, people are going to vote you out. He is not a big fan of term limits. In this case, he would vote not in favor of it.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she believes everybody from Congress to City Council need fresh new ideas. We are talking a Controller and that will be two terms. That is eight years. That is a long time. When we get to City Council, that is 12 years. That is a long time for someone in a position. She is not in favor of unlimited terms. We need term limits.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she agrees with Mr. Hendricks. She stated to Ms. Gerlach that every time you ran, you were the top vote getter. It may be disappointing to a lot of people if they encourage you to run again because they feel you are doing a good job and a good service. After the four or eight years you learn how better to deal with the administration and directors. They have faith in you. She will not vote for this.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks added the experience knowing the city and knowing the people who run the city. He has been here for 45 years. He doesn't know anybody on Council or before him that have spent more time in service to the city. That is important to have that experience and it put someone with the experience on a different level. He asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that if Council passed this and the public endorses it, it will not personally affect him on the ballot in November. He

said that it would be his last term. He will be old enough to retire by then. He looked back at the history of how long people have served. He looked at both Council and the Controller. He went over the terms of the former Controllers and Council and the benefit of serving in the position.

Ms. Natalie Santos asked if this will be limited consecutive terms or terms in general.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that it is consecutive.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that it is two terms.

Attorney Charles Smith read the portion of the Bill which reads to amend the City of Allentown Home Rules Charter to limit the term of the Office of City Controller to two (2) terms.

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that is true.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 3 - Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Natalie Santos

**No:** 4 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Santo Napoli

[15-5966](#)

Bill 62

DIRECTING THE LEHIGH COUNTY BOARD OF ELECTIONS TO PLACE A REFERENDUM QUESTION BEFORE THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN VOTERS ON THE NOVEMBER 7, 2023 GENERAL ELECTION BALLOT TO AMEND THE CITY OF ALLENTOWN HOME RULE CHARTER TO LIMIT THE TERM OF THE OFFICE OF CITY COUNCIL TO THREE (3) TERMS

**Sponsors:** Gerlach and Mr. Zucal

**Attachments:** [Bill 62 City Council Term Limits](#)

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

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were any comments from his colleagues. This one is even less favorable to him then the Controller. They are one of seven members of a Council. If the voters feel that they are not doing a job commemorated with the responsibility of the position, they vote you out. The last election showed that they have a number of new candidates that applied for the position and clearly by the election the favor was to the incumbents.

Ms. Candida Affa stated she agrees with Ms. Gerlach as far as youth. Ms.



Santos is a prime example of the voters voting in youth. People on the board for several years have the wisdom and experience and we have someone young like her who has fresh ideas. That is up to the voters.

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

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she is going to keep it real. She stated that they all run campaigns and knows how much money it costs, the connections you need to have in order to win. You know as an incumbent there is a clear advantage.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that being a Councilperson is really hard especially when you have kids and a husband. She comes to City Council three or four times in a week. She gets lots of phone calls and make sure she answers for the most part. It takes a lot of time and dedication. She does not do it for the money. She works full-time and very passionate. When she serves, she serves with her heart. Her first term she was still learning and got comfortable in her second term. After the third term, she does not think she is going to run again because it is really difficult.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion failed by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 3 - Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, and Natalie Santos

**No:** 4 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, and Santo Napoli

[15-5989](#)

Bill 63 CED, Recommended Favorably, with amendment Amending the 2023 General Fund & HUD Grants Fund budget to accommodate a reorganization of positions to allow the Department of Community and Economic Development to enhance current operations for both HUD and non-HUD grant funding and administer grants more efficiently cross-departmentally while remaining in compliance with the home rule charter.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 63 Grants Staff Reorg](#)  
[Ordinance #15926](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that basically it moves the Grants Coordinator position into DCED and couples it with the HUD Grants position. They will need an amendment since this came out after they submitted their initial submission. She asked for an amendment because the titles are changing. The proposal is to rename the people in the department to Grants Compliance Administrators instead of HUD Grants Compliance Administrators so they can be two to three deep on every grant. If they lose

a Grant Coordinator or someone working on a HUD program, they are not stymie or paralyzed. They are reclassifying a position down a grade to make the organizational structure work and to call the accountant in the grant program, the accountant so they can do the fiscal side of the accounting as well as writing and monitoring the grants.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that it was in her committee and recommended favorably.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they have lost some Grant Coordinators in the past.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they lost the Grants Manager and the Grants Coordinator, and all the titles are incredibly confusing. They are trying to close that up by renaming for those that work directly under the grants and monitoring and having a Grants Manager and a Grants Accountant.

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

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be amended. The motion carried by the following vote:**

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

Enactment No: 15926

Mr. Michael Hanlon stated that the Bill needs to be voted on with the amendment.

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

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

Enactment No: 15926

[15-6002](#)

Bill 64

Amending the 2023 ARPA Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000.00) to Cortex Residential. These funds will be used for an affordable housing project in the Walnut Square Apartments at 40 South 8th Street.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 64 Cortex Residential ARPA](#)

[WSA - CED Presentation\\_v3](#)

[Ordinance #15927](#)

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that this was in her committee, and it was voted favorably to the full Council.

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

Mr. Santo Napoli stated that one thing he noticed driving over the Eighth Street Bridge and thinking about this project, it is not just about the affordable housing and how it impacts out residents which by the way between March and May he spoke to a lot of residents and affordable housing was on the tip of everyone' tongue. It is an issue that is prominent in the city. It is not just about the affordable housing, it is about the impact of that neighborhood and that block. It is a parking lot and it is not lit. This is a project that will bring a building to the corner, lighting, landscaping, and change that whole block. It will add community space offering services.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she agrees with Mr. Napoli. Not only is it affordable housing in which they desperately need. Using this money and giving the \$2 million is an investment in our city.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated that he will be voting no. He stated that quite frankly he enjoys his freedom. Maybe not next year, but a few years later. The ARPA Funding was very specific on how this money was supposed to be spent. It was to be spent for the recovery of city finances for people who suffered during Covid and for affordable housing. However, it was his interpretation when Mr. Lightner was here through nonprofit organizations. Not for a private industry to make a profit down the road.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that she has similar concerns with the lack of process. They have no goals or metrics of success. She does not want to fault him or not have 50 plus units for people to have a stable place to live and provide for their families and stay in the same schools.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that she understands Ms. Gerlach's frustration. She is going to vote yes. This is a really great project, and we need affordable housing. We all know that the place that he is trying to build is a high-density crime area and the community is going to benefit a lot. When it is going to be built, it is going to be beautiful.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Ms. Mota and asked if there were any other comments from the dais or the public.

Mr. Pas Simpson, 215 N. Ninth Street, stated that how important this project is. He agrees with Ms. Gerlach that this should have been a process, but we can't allow that to throw us off of the need. There is a

growing need for affordable housing. The average one bedroom is \$1,500. He had people come speak to the young entrepreneurs that are in their 50s and 60s that don't even make \$15 an hour. They can't afford to live here. The city is slowly, but surely gentrifying. He asked for them to support Mr. Strauss' ability to build affordable housing in a neighborhood that needs it.

Ms. Sharon Billington, 1509 Chew Street, asked if has a timeframe for this to be built. She asked if they have the additional funding that is needed to do this.

Mr. Strauss stated that they will be breaking ground in 2024. They are actively applying for tax credits. This funding and having municipal support enhancing your chance at being funded by the state agency.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that he can assure there will be oversight regarding the funds and be compliant with all those regulations and monitored by CEDC.

Ms. Sharon Billington stated that she just wants the accountability that they are going to build it.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that is a requirement that he has to comply with.

Mr. Jose Rivera, 215 N. Ninth Street, stated that he is for this. He grew up in the projects and from the projects he went to prison. It is becoming harder for someone like him with a prior act or acts to find housing. The work he has done these prior years to change his whole life around and make a decent wage, he still gets turned down because of his convictions. At the end of the day, look at the neighborhood that this is being built in. He grew up right around that area. This is what it needs. He believes in Mr. Strauss and what he does in the community. It is a yes. It is keeping people close to Center City.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if it was any other comments.

**A motion was made by Daryl Hendricks that this Ordinance be approved. The motion carried by the following vote:**

**Yes:** 6 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

**No:** 1 - Ed Zucal

Enactment No: 15927

## CONSENT AGENDA

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if anybody is presented that wants to speak to

any of these items.

Chief Charles Roca provided a rundown of the candidates for Police Officers:

Nikolas Erikson is 22 years of age and graduated from Bradford area high school and graduated from the University of Pittsburgh, going through the Act 120 training in the Allentown Police Academy and was a United States Army National Guard Sergeant who is serving as well. David Lawrence, Quakertown, PA got him from another Police Department in Lehigh County. He decided to work for the Allentown Police Department. He wants to become part of what they are doing. He graduated from Clark Summit University and the Allentown Police Academy in December of 2021. Todd Hartman, Levittown, PA is 21 years of age and graduated from Conwell - Egen High School and Lockhaven University with a degree in accounting. He is currently going through the Police Academy and the Police Department looks forward to having him as well. Peter Brito, Allentown, PA is 30 years of age and graduated from William Allen High School, successfully completed LCTTI and received his welding certificate. He works for Triangle Tech and currently in the Police Academy learning to get his Police Certification. Sarah Ronsani, York, PA is 34 years of age, graduated from Taconic Hill Central School District, served in the United States Army National Guard from August 2012 to March 2021. She is currently serving in the Pennsylvania Air National Guard from March 15, 2020 until present. She is currently in the Academy earning her Act 120 certification. The class started in July. They have a few more months before graduation set for December. He invited Council to come to that graduation.

Mr. Ed Zucal stated aside from the William Allen graduate, how many live in the city.

Chief Charles Roca stated that he will have to get back to them.

Ms. Cynthia Mota asked how many females again.

Chief Charles Roca stated one female and four males.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that they started last Monday and graduating in December.

Chief Charles Roca stated mid - December.

Ms. Candida Affa asked how many females does the city have on the force.

Chief Charles Roca stated he and Captain Pammer talked about this and it is probably about an 85/15 percent split between men and women. They did a substantial recruitment of females and continue to do so. Anybody who wants to be a Police Officer regardless of their gender, race, ethnicity, will be successful here if they give it their best effort. They want to recruit, but it is a substantial number. They have patrol investigations and support services and leadership positions as well.

Ms. Candida Affa stated that she noticed a lot of them played on the softball team. They are good athletes.

Chief Charles Roca stated that is correct.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if there were anybody else wants to speak to any of these items. He asked if there were any comments from his colleagues or the public.

**Yes:** 6 - Candida Affa, Cynthia Mota, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

**Abstain:** 1 - Ce-Ce Gerlach

[15-6048](#)

R112

Candida Affa, Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals, Term Expiration: 12/31/2024

**Attachments:** [R 112 Appointment Candida Affa - Nuisance Abatement Board of Appeals Resolution #30664](#)

Enactment No: 30664

[15-6058](#)

R114

Authorizes encroachment for a marquee sign for Archer Music Hall, which will be located at 939 Hamilton St.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R114 - Marquee Encroachment 939 Hamilton St full packet perm encroachment Resolution #30665](#)

Enactment No: 30665

[15-6061](#)

R115

A resolution of the Governing Board of Allentown City, Lehigh County, Pennsylvania, authorizing, empowering and directing the proper officers of the Governing Board to appoint a liaison between it and Berkheimer, the duly appointed collector of local taxes for the district, for the express purpose of sharing confidential tax information with the district for official

purposes

**Attachments:** [R115 - Berkheimer  
Resolution #30666](#)

Enactment No: 30666

[15-6057](#)

R117  
Police Officer Appointments

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R117 - Police Officer Appointments  
Resolution #30667](#)

Enactment No: 30667

[15-6060](#)

R118  
Authorizes submission of a formal application to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for a grant of One Million Two Hundred Ten Thousand Six Hundred and Fifty Dollars (\$1,210,650) to support the construction of a 1.2 mile extension of the Martin Luther King Drive (MLK) Trail.

**Attachments:** [R118 - DCED Grant Application MLK  
Resolution #30668](#)

Enactment No: 30668

[15-6072](#)

R119  
Stephen Davies (Business Owner), Zoning Hearing Board, Term Expiration: 11/04/2026

**Attachments:** [R119 Stephen Davies - Zoning Hearing Board  
Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Stephen Davies - Zoning Hearing Board  
Resolution #30669](#)

Enactment No: 30669

[15-6073](#)

R120  
Joseph Peterson, Zoning Hearing Board, Term Expiration: 11/04/2026

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [R120 Joseph Peterson - Zoning Hearing Board  
Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Joseph Peterson - Zoning Hearing Board  
Resolution #30670](#)

Enactment No: 30670

[15-6074](#)

R121

Robert Knauer, Zoning Hearing Board, Term Expiration: 1/03/2027

**Attachments:** [R121 Robert Knauer - Zoning Hearing Board](#)[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Robert Knauer- Zoning Hearing Board](#)  
[Resolution #30671](#)

Enactment No: 30671

[15-6075](#)

R122

Alan Salinger, Zoning Hearing Board, Term Expiration: 1/02/2027

**Attachments:** [R122 Alan Salinger - Zoning Hearing Board](#)[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Alan Salinger - Zoning Hearing Board](#)  
[Resolution #30672](#)

Enactment No: 30672

[15-6076](#)

R123

Hamp Smith, Board of Recreation, Term Expiration: 2/20/2028

**Attachments:** [R123 Hamp Smith - Board of Recreation](#)[Memo from Mayor Tuerk regarding Hamp Smith - Board of Recreation](#)  
[Resolution #30673](#)

Enactment No: 30673

[15-5828](#)

R81

Approves the submission of the Action Plan to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Sponsors:** Administration**Attachments:** [R81- 49 Action Plan HUD](#)[49 A - RESOLUTION - NEW ACCOUNT SETUP - 2023 updated 7523](#)  
[Resolution #30674](#)

Enactment No: 30674

**RESOLUTIONS FOR FINAL PASSAGE (To be Voted On):**[15-6059](#)

R113

Authorizes the Administration to sell a portion of the city-owned real property identified as tax map parcel no. 640725455330



**Attachments:** [R113 Sale City Owned Real Property](#)  
[Legislative Template - Land Parcel](#)  
[727 N Meadow 5-2-23](#)  
[Resolution - Land Parcel](#)  
[Resolution #30675](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that she will let Mr. Hartney describe the property and the terms.

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that behind 727 N. Meadow Street, there is a parcel of land that the owner of 727 Mr. Hyman petitioned the city to purchase. This adjoins his property and he wants to expand his parking behind there. Pursuant to the city's administrative processes, this was reviewed by the Property Review Committee. This parcel is part of a larger parcel that they are not giving to Mr. Hyman. They carved out this little piece. The city doesn't have a need for this parcel. The property review recommendation was to put it back on the tax rolls and sell it to Mr. Hyman.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked when they do that, do they have an Assessment made.

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that on a parcel like this, we do not because no one else can use it. The only way to dispose of a parcel like this is to an adjoining property owner. You could not buy this parcel and develop something on it. You need to own the land next to it. There is another adjoining property owner that they did consult with. He was not interested in purchasing the property. Otherwise, the city would have had them bid on it.

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

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach asked how much did he pay for it again or how much will he pay. Where does that money go? What fund does that money go? Can it go to affordable housing?

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that the city has not sold it to him yet. His offer is \$50,000 per acre and this is about 3.34 acres. It goes into the General Fund. Mr. Jeffrey Glazier stated that interestingly enough most of it will go to the General Fund and 10 percent of the proceeds to land sales is supposed to go to defray the cost of the 2006 lockbox money that the city bought. He doesn't know how they will do that because it has been refinanced. They can certainly set up an escrow account. He stated that 90 percent will go to the General Fund and 10 percent will pay for the borrowing for the lockbox money. At some point the county will assess a

value on this.

Ms. Ce Ce Gerlach stated that any opportunity they have to procedurally put money into housing, they should do so.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks stated that this piece of land is not in the most desirable location.

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that if the property had any economic value or other people would potentially be interested in it, the city will either bid it out through the city in a public bid process or in certain cases AEDC or ACIDA have assisted the city in disposing of properties like that. Attorney Charles Smith asked if it gets incorporated in his existing parcel through or becomes a separate tax parcel.

Mr. Mark Hartney stated that he will have to go through a land development process to incorporate it into his parcel and will have to review his plans for the parking lot. He will go through a whole process to do that. This Resolution just authorizes the city to sell the property.

Mr. Daryl Hendricks thanked Council and asked if there were any other comments from his colleagues or the public.

**Yes:** 6 - Candida Affa, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

**Absent:** 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30675

[15-6020](#)

R116

Approves transfers: (1) \$100,000 in Fleet Maintenance (Garage) for Additional Funding Needed to Cover Parts and Supplies for City Vehicles, (2) \$30,000.00 in Fire to Wrong Budget Account for Expenditure/Computer Microsoft HUB Equipment & Filing and Storage Cabinets Being Ordered for Fire Academy, (3) \$11,303 in CED Additional Funds Needed for After Hours Work Due to Staffing Shortages in Zoning, Melissa Velez Worked Extra Hours to keep the Department Current with its Responsibilities.

**Attachments:** [R116 Transfer Funds](#)  
[Wrong Budget Account for Expenditure - Fire](#)  
[To Cover Parts and Supplies for City Vehicles](#)  
[Due to Staffing Shortages in Zoning Funds Are Needed for After Hours Work](#)  
[Resolution #30676](#)

Mr. Daryl Hendricks asked if Ms. Kistler wanted to speak to this.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated no, unless someone had any questions.

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

**Yes:** 6 - Candida Affa, Daryl Hendricks, Ed Zucal, Ce-Ce Gerlach, Natalie Santos, and Santo Napoli

**Absent:** 1 - Cynthia Mota

Enactment No: 30676

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

### [15-6065](#)

Bill 66

Amending the 2023 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eighty Thousand Dollars (\$80,000) from the unappropriated balance to the Department of Community and Economic Development – Health Bureau equipment expense account. The funds will be used for purchasing a mobile medical response trailer and an SUV to be used in public health response.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 66 Health Preparedness SUV](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

### [15-6064](#)

Bill 67

Amending the 2023 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of Thirty Thousand Dollars (\$30,000.00) from the Parks Maintenance Facility capital project fund to the Mack Pool capital project fund to provide for an evaluation and recommendations for repairs to the Mack Pool facility.

**Attachments:** [Bill 67 Parks Facility to Mack Pool](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

### [15-6063](#)

Bill 68

Amending the Firemen's Pension Fund Ordinance.

**Attachments:** [Bill 68 Firemen's Pension Fund Amendments](#)  
[IAFF CBA 2021-2025](#)

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

## REFERRED TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

[15-6062](#)

Bill 69

Amending the Employees' Retirement and Pension System Ordinance.

**Sponsors:** Administration**Attachments:** [Bill 69 OE Pension Fund Amendments](#)

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

## REFERRED TO THE BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE

[15-6049](#)

Bill 70 Refer to Allentown and Lehigh Valley Planning Commission, and the Community and Economic Development Committee  
Amending the Zoning Map and Zoning Ordinance of the City of Allentown by (i) rezoning certain parcels to B-5 Urban Commercial District, and (ii) providing for a repealer clause, a severability clause, and an effective date.

**Attachments:** [Bill 70 Riverside Drive from BLI to B5](#)  
[Letter from Urban Residential Properties regarding Rezonign Request](#)  
[Petition - Riverside Drive](#)  
[Bill Riverside Drive from BLI to B5](#)

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

## REFERRED TO THE ALLENTOWN AND LEHIGH VALLEY PLANNING COMMISSION, AND THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6069](#)

Bill 71

Amending the 2023 General Fund budget to accommodate the reorganization of positions to allow the Parks and Recreation Department to operate more efficiently, prepare for future project work and be in compliance with the home rule charter.

**Attachments:** [Bill 71 - Parks Reorg](#)  
[ReOrg Chart](#)

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

## REFERRED TO THE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

[15-6070](#)

Bill 72

Amending Part II General Legislation, Chapter 298 Flood Control, Article IV Administration by updating the language in Section 13 and Article VI by updating the language in Section 26.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 72 - Flood Control Amendment](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

[15-6050](#)

Bill 73

Amending Chapter 406, Administrative Code, Nuisance Abatement.A. Board Solicitor for Hearings by having the Appeals Board select a Solicitor for purpose of the appeal hearings. The legislation basically does some housecleaning on the measure that was previously passed.

**Sponsors:** Affa and Hendricks

**Attachments:** [Bill 73 Nuisance Abatement Appeals](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

[15-6066](#)

Bill 74

Amending the 2023 General Fund budget to create three (3) new positions and upgrade two (2) positions in the Allentown Health Bureau. The funds for these positions were awarded as a grant from the Center for Disease Control.

**Sponsors:** Administration

**Attachments:** [Bill 74 Grant Funded Health Positions](#)

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that they have one comment of this being referred to committee. The Pennsylvania State Legislature is just now releasing grants that are coming to the city to start in October. They will be bringing this one with Community Housing and Lead Federal Grant before Council prior to the Budget Season. They have a hopefully start date of October 1. That is why we are introducing them so late in the game.

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE

## **RESOLUTIONS FOR INTRODUCTION (Can be voted on or Referred to Committee):**

[15-6056](#)

R124

Denial of a Certificate of Appropriateness – 1033 ½ W. Court Street

**Attachments:** [R124 HARB Resolution to DENY - 1033.5 W Court St](#)  
[1033.5 W Court St Final Review](#)

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

REFERRED TO THE COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
COMMITTEE

**NEW BUSINESS: NONE**

**GOOD AND WELFARE: NONE**

**ADJOURNED: 8:55 PM**

[15-5720](#) Council Rules  
Procurement Procedures  
Code of Ethics

**Attachments:** [Council Rules 2023](#)  
[Contract/Procurement Procedures from the Code](#)  
[Ethics Code](#)