

Julio Guridy, President
Ray O'Connell, Vice President
Joseph Davis
Jeanette Eichenwald
Daryl Hendricks
Cynthia Y. Mota
Peter Schweyer



Allentown City Council
435 Hamilton Street
Allentown, Pa. 18101
AllentownPa.Gov

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**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 21, 2014
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

COUNCIL MEETING – 7:00 PM

1. Invocation – Joe Davis

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Roll Call: Davis, Eichenwald, Guridy, Hendricks, Mota, O'Connell, Schweyer
John Marchetto represented for the Solicitor's office

4. Courtesy of the Floor

Mr. Lou Hershman stated that you failed to introduce a Capital Annual Budget.

Resident (Male), 130 Allen Street, stated that the Court is not finished.

Ms. Paulette Hunter stated that she received a ticket because of snow removal.

Mr. Kenneth Heffentrager, 733 N. 11th Street, stated that properties are disgusting.

Mr. Dan Poresky talked about Delta Thermo receiving permits and Rules changes for Courtesy of the Floor.

Mr. Rich Fegley, 1002 S. Bradford Street, stated he is following up on what Mr. Poresky was talking about Delta Thermo.

Ms. Heather Saritino, 33 N. 9th Street, stated she is here to express her concerns on the housing situation. She is trying her best to keep a roof over her kids head.

Mr. Julian Kern, 252 E. Walnut Street, talked about 246 E. Walnut and cops waiting for the owners to show up.

Ms. Antoinette Reynolds, 8th Street, stated that summer is coming and she doesn't know what to do about the music. When the cops come out, the music goes down. She has a front porch and back porch and I am stuck inside my house the entire time.

Mr. Dennis Pearson talked about Kline's Island will be reported to the people. He stated that LCA should report to the residents what they are doing.

Mr. David McGuire talked about Delta Thermo and the burning of plastic in this particular system will not have the production of dioxide or bad gas.

5. Approval of Minutes

None

6. Old Business

None

7. Communications

The Watson Skinner Memorial Award was presented to Milagros Canales Ramos.

Mr. Guridy stated that follow-Up information from May 7 Council meeting, from the Administration will be read by Mr. Hanlon.

Mr. Hanlon read the following follow up information from the May 7 Council meeting.

1. \$1.7M negative balance in the capital fund is a legacy issue – it is a result of a capital expenditure dating back to 2005 and earlier, authorized in EDEN without securing the financing - i.e., expenditures were authorized and no ‘bond issue’ followed. Policies changed when the current Mayor, under the tutelage of Larry Hilliard, changed the policy requiring funding to be secured prior to any authorization of capital projects and corresponding expenditures. The Administration is looking at ways to rectify the negative balance. (Hahn and Hunsicker)

2. Inspection at 117 S Gilmore has been referred to Code. (Julian)

3. Trash and graffiti issues in regard to South Albert Street by the Bridge were sent to SWEEP (Julian)

4. 20 LED billboards are not going to be illuminating City Parks. The City contracted with Premier Media for the installation of a digital outdoor network on appropriate City property. The initial plans included a sign at MacArthur Road and the perimeter of Jordan Park directly across from the porn shop, White Castle, and next to Jiffy Lube (not in the park itself). Other proposed locations include: Mack South Fire Station, 2028 W. Hamilton (across from HamFam), the City Hall Parking Desk, Basin Street, and future New England Avenue, and other locations to be determined (excluding parks) .It is not yet determined when Premier Media will begin their projects. (Clara? And Fegley)

5. Water and Sewer Capital Projects: There are approximately \$10.25MM of capital projects listed on Schedule 7 of the Concession Lease Agreement (CLA). These projects cover a period of 5 years and are projects the Concessionaire is required to complete under the terms of the CLA. All are projects that would have had to be done by the City even if there were no CLA. The costs of the projects would have then been factored into the City’s water/sewer rates. (Hunsicker)

These projects consist of items such as:

- Centrifugally Spun Cast Iron Pipe & Water Distribution Replacement
- Schantz Spring Main Improvement
- Motor Control Center
- Belt Filter Press

The costs of these projects will be recovered by the calculation of a Capital Cost Recovery Charge (CCRC). The CCRC cannot be incorporated into the rates until either 2016 or until the project has been completed and is on line. This is spelled out in detail in the CLA. The City will not need to do an appropriation for these projects.

The cost of these capital requirements will be met by the CCRC not the money (\$20m) for the Pension Obligation Bonds.

6. Mr. Hershman was denied his request for capital projects opinion – the solicitor’s office reviewed the capital project issues and found no violations. (Poll was taken on distributing the opinion – no support to distribute and solicitor’s office recommended not distributing opinion.)

7. Ken Heffentrager’s list of properties – have been forwarded to the Bureau of Building Standards and Safety for action.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chairperson Schweyer

The Budget and Finance Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for May 28th.

Public Safety: Chairperson Eichenwald

The Committee met this evening; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Community and Economic Development: Chairperson Davis

The Committee met this evening; the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chairperson Mota

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Public Works: Chairperson O’Connell

The Committee met this evening; there are no future meetings scheduled at this time.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chairperson Hendricks

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chairperson Guridy

The Committee met on Monday and forwarded an item on tonight’s agenda that will be reported on at the appropriate time. There are no future meetings scheduled.

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Anti-Bullying Meeting – Councilperson Mota

The Committee met on Monday and will be making a case to the Human Relations Commission to look at a “No Place for Hate” Campaign which would consist of an anti-bullying and choosing civility program – as two potential projects.

Special Committee – Tax Exempt Properties – Chairperson Eichenwald

The Committee has not met since the last meeting; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled

Pension Board Meeting – Councilperson Davis

The Committee met Tuesday and signed a formal agreement with National Penn Bank, Institutional Advisors, to manage short term investments for our five year pension cash obligations. The board is continuing looking at diversifying its portfolio.

Controller’s Report:

None

Managing Director’s Report:

None

9. APPOINTMENTS:

None

10. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

Bill 8 Zoning Code and Map Amendment

Amending the Zoning Code and Map by adding a Commercial District called the Innovation and Workforce Development Zone to facilitate the appropriate reuse of land/buildings and rezoning an area at 555 Union Boulevard from Limited Industrial District (I-2) to B/IWD (Innovation and Workforce Development Zone – the new district).

ORDINANCE PASSED, 7 – 0

Bill 17 Staffing Pattern Changes - Parks and Rec and Public Works

Amending the 2014 General Fund, Parks and Recreation Department, by eliminating three part time Maintenance Worker positions and creating a full time Clerk 3 (union) position for the parks maintenance office and transferring the Tree Inspector position to Public Works.

ORDINANCE PASSED, 7 – 0

Bill 18 Staffing Pattern Changes - Police

Amending the General Fund, Police Department, by eliminating one Sergeant Position in the Academy budget, creating a Lieutenant position in the Police Operations budget, and transferring a patrolman position from Police Operations to the Academy budget.

ORDINANCE PASSED, 7 – 0

Bill 19 Staffing Pattern Change – Health Bureau

Amending the General Fund, Health Bureau by eliminating one Clerk 3 position and creating a Sanitarian position.

ORDINANCE PASSED, 7 – 0

11. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:

Bill 20 Arts Walk RACP

Referred to Budget and Finance

Amending the 2014 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifty Thousand dollars, (\$50,000) as a result of a grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania to the City of Allentown in the form of a RACP pass through grant to Allentown Art Museum.

12. CONSENT AGENDA:

None

13. RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:

R14 Council Rules

Amends council rules relating to the introduction of legislation, appointments, consent agenda, and extending the floor to the public on bills and resolutions

RESOLUTION PASSED, 6 – 1 (Davis)

14. RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING:

R15 Encroachment 645 Hamilton Street

Referred to CEDC

Authorizes the installation of planters & grade separation at 645 W Hamilton (Two City Center)

R16 Encroachment 27 N 7th Street

Referred to CEDC

Authorizes the installation of a connector bridge from 27 N 7th Street (Four City Center) to Linden Parking Garage

R17 Police Officer Hire

Police Officer Appointment

RESOLUTION PASSED, 7 – 0

R18 Certificates of Appropriateness

Certificates of Appropriateness for work at 1120 Linden Street, 917 W. Gordon Street and 624 N. 6th Street

RESOLUTION PASSED, 7 – 0

R19 Supports House Bill 1648

Supports Identification Programs for Undocumented Immigrants and PA House Bill 1648

RESOLUTION PASSED, 7 – 0

16. GOOD AND WELFARE

17. ADJOURNED

Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:00 pm in Council Chambers. For copies of the agenda or meeting announcements, please visit our website at www.allentownpa.gov or contact the Clerk at Michael.Hanlon@allentownpa.gov to receive an email notice of the meetings.