

**Michael D'Amore, Ph.D., President**  
**W. Michael Donovan, Vice President**  
Jeanette Eichenwald  
Julio A. Guridy  
Ray O'Connell  
Mike Schlossberg  
Peter Schweyer



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**COUNCIL MEETING**  
**September 15, 2010 COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 PM**

**1. Invocation: Ray O'Connell**

**2. Pledge to the Flag**

**3. Roll Call**

Councilperson D'Amore, Councilperson Donovan, Councilperson Eichenwald, Councilperson Guridy, Councilperson Schweyer, Councilperson O'Connell, and Councilperson Schlossberg were present. Fran Fruhwirth represented the Solicitor's office.

**4. Courtesy of the Floor**

Bill Villa, Allentown, stated that he was there to expose the amazing statement Mike Donovan made about him at City Council on September 1 after he left that 69 News caught and reported on the next day. He stated that Donovan said that if he had done something wrong, he would have been the first to apologize to Mr. Villa. Mr. Villa stated that ok here are ten things that Donovan did wrong, his apology should follow. It was wrong and highly provocative of Donovan to allow his fellow Morning Call blogger, Bernie O'Hare to post and sign cruel and libelous comments about his family and him on Donovan's blog the whole month of March knowing that he had filed a lawsuit against O'Hare for libel the month before. Donovan's provocation of him obviously worked, but it was wrong. It was wrong of Donovan not to monitor it more closely and not delete the hundreds of cruel comments about his family that built up on his blog in the month of March. For an example one foul comment suggested that he engaged in necrophilia with his deceased daughter Sheena stayed up on Donovan's blog for seventeen hours before he finally saw it or got cold feet staring at it for seventeen hours and deleted it. Clearly, it was smoking gun wrong of Donovan to encourage vile comments against his family on his blog by commenting himself that the blog comments were quote fun to read as was also caught and reported by 69 news. It took Donovan four months to clean house and delete all his blog filth about his family and waiting that long was wrong. It was wrong of Donovan to terrorize his family at the same blog he uses to promote civility and mutual respect when blogging to constituents about matters of City Council. As an Allentown Arts Commissioner, it was wrong of Donovan to encourage threatening comments about removing the Villas band from the Mayfair schedule and disrupting their performance with noise makers and it was unbelievably wrong of Donovan to encourage personal insults and attacks against his wife Angie, a community volunteer who accepted an Arts Ovation Award from the City in May on behalf of the Chen Arts Group she co-founded to help revitalize downtown Allentown. It is wrong of Donovan not to admit wrong-doing. It is wrong of Donovan to refuse his family an apology and it is wrong of Donovan to put the City of Allentown through this at every City Council meeting. So there are ten things that Donovan did wrong. Mr. Hanlon, I am now giving the balance of his time to Councilman Donovan to apologize and because it is his time remaining Donovan can use the time to apologize, but nothing else. Councilman Donovan. This is my time gentlemen.

Mr. Donovan stated Dr. D'Amore. He believes that he was yielded the floor. He yielded the floor to the next speaker.

Mr. Villa stated that it is his thirty seconds.

Mr. D'Amore stated thank you Mr. Donovan. No, it is not and he explained it to Mr. Villa that they have received a definitive statement from the Solicitor. City Council time limits are maximum time limits for opportunities for citizens to speak on a matter for up to three minutes. This is not the Congress, and you don't have the right (public) or the ability to yield time. You made your statement. You are finished and Mr. Donovan is not going to yield time with anybody else either and at this point forward there will be no more yielded time so Mr. Villa will have a maximum of three minutes to speak and after that he will say thank you Mr. Villa as he is saying now. Thank you, Mr. Villa.

Mr. Villa stated that President D'Amore he would invite Councilman Donovan to address any comments to his face. After I leave....

Mr. D'Amore stated thank you Mr. Villa. Thank you, Mr. Villa. Please step away from the microphone. Mr. Villa, last warning. He asked the officer if he could escort Mr. Villa out of the Chambers, please. Mr. Hershman, how are you, sir.

Lou Hershman, Allentown, stated that he picks up the paper all the time and the firefighter was ruled out of bounds. Then he reads that Mr. D'Amore was the Treasurer for the firefighter's campaign and Mr. Hoffman's campaign. His concern is when he reads the Ethics Code. It says if a city employee were to get involved as Mr. D'Amore did and raise money for the candidates he lose his position. He thinks that City Council should look into elected officials serving as Treasurer's in campaigns and raising money on behalf of City Council, the Controller, and the Mayor. He stated that it is not fair that an employee can lose their job, but Mr. D'Amore can keep his job. He asked Mr. Donovan to reconvene his ethics committee again and look into if it is an ethics violation. He is still waiting for their decision and opinion on pay to play. He stated that they promised to give him the quarterly reports on contributions that will pay for the five year plan study. Two weeks later, he had not seen it yet.

Mr. D'Amore stated that they did not get it yet.

Mr. Schlossberg stated to Mr. Hershman that he wanted to comment on Mr. D'Amore being the Treasurer for other candidates. He stated that Mr. Hershman is dramatically misrepresenting the facts. He stated that Mr. D'Amore in his political capacity is entitled to support, endorse, or fundraise for whom ever he wants. He is not entitled to use his official position in a political capacity. He stated that would clearly be an ethics violation. He stated that Mr. Hershman basically stated that none of them can fundraise or politic for other candidates. He stated that it is a difference between an elected official and a city employee. He stated that they are elected official and that it is a political nature to that. There is appropriate state and federal law banning certain civil service positions from being politically active.

Mr. Hershman stated that he will bring in the Civil Service Law. He stated that there are certain things they can and cannot do.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that they can't use their elected official capacity in the course of campaigning. That is clearly incorrect, but of course they are entitled as elected officials and by nature as politicians to politic on behalf of their selves or on behalf of other elected officials.

Mr. Donovan stated that they had an extensive discussion at the Ad Hoc Committee on Ethics about elected officials, appointed officials and employees and they did not address the issue of an elected person partially because of precedence. He stated that they spent a long time making sure that the language that should be in there applied to appointed officials or employees. They did not address the issue of the elected official. It could be a healthy debate to say if an elected official should hold a position for an election. He stated to Mr. Hoffman and Ms. Eichenwald on the pay to play they spent some time talking about what's the best way to

control that and they looked at other cities and what they were doing. He has to look at the minutes from that to see what was concluded. They have not followed up on the recommendations. There are things in the report that they have not acted on so they will have to communicate or have another meeting.

Ms. Eichenwald stated to Mr. Donovan that she concurs of what he said. They but did not reach any conclusions. They have an ethics committee that is functioning and suggested to reconvene the meeting. She stated that it is a real distinction between an employee and an elected official because by nature the word elected they have to elected they have to do election hearing. She stated that the question is how much are they allowed to or is it ethically responsible for them to do beyond their campaigns.

Mr. D'Amore stated that he and Mr. Hershman agree on one thing that city employees should be sanctioned in their political activity. He stated that if he was a city employee especially if he lived in the City of Allentown that he would be very upset if he was precluded in taking part in elections that matter to him and impacted his job and his life. He supports any city employee's right to take part in politics. He thinks that they should all have that protection.

Dennis Pearson, 942 E. Tilghman Street, stated that in 1954 at the Allentown State Hospital they had 2200 residents. Earlier this year, they were down to 178 residents and a report dated September 10, 2010; they are now down to 59 residents and 187 employees. Where have the residents gone. They may be successful in vacating the property. The Allentown Neighborhood Association is concerned about what is going on there and if there are any committees by the state, county, the city, or the school district, they want a representative from East Allentown on the Board. They want a representative on the Board.

Mr. Molovinsky, stated that he saw in the paper and city website the scapegoat of shame and he believes that the landlord is the fourth scapegoat of shame. He stated the Council will be working on an Ordinance again where they will attempt to legislate pride of ownership. He can assure them as a landlord for thirty-five they can not do that. He stated that he wanted to bring to their attention an article he wrote last year entitled Neglect has its own reward. Two of the buildings in which the Mayor stood in front of that were photographed and tagged with large tags were bought by the Redevelopment Authority for double their market value. One was a two unit that was sold for \$93,500 and the other was a two unit that was sold for \$99,000. He stated that he knows the landlord and he was delighted and had he known this was going to happen, he would have gone into the neglect mode a long time before then. He stated that IAC will be at the Brew Works and recommend what should be done on Hamilton Street. Four years ago they had the Vision Group about Four Years before that they had the Hunter Group. He stated as a citizen and a taxpayer that it gets frustrating.

Ms. Eichenwald stated to Mr. Molovinsky said that the properties were sold for double their value by the Development Authority. She asked if they know this is accurate.

Mr. Bennington stated that he asked Mr. Paulus that and they are not sure. They have to check on that.

Mr. Molovinsky stated that when he says the value, the value is an arbitrary thing. He stated it was a two-unit building at 343 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street and two-unit building 345 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street. Both were border up and both were vacant and both were tagged as unfit for human habitation with multiple violations. If these were worth \$50,000 a piece it is very dubious.

Ms. Eichenwald asked what is the process by which the Redevelopment Authority determines the amount of money that they pay. How many appraisals and who does the appraisals. She asked Mr. Bennington can they find that out.

Mr. Bennington stated that he told Mr. Paulus when he gets that information to call him.

Mr. Romancheck stated that he is the former head of the Allentown Republican City Committee. He stated that he has a few comments about the ethics board and it seems as if it has been functioning as it had in the past, but he stated that he does have a complaint in that he filed a complaint through the ethics board and he was waiting for notification when the hearing was going to be held and then someone tells him that they had been advertising in the classified section in the newspaper. He asked how many of them read the classified section to see what meetings are taking place, nobody does. He said that if his complaint is on the agenda then it seems to him that he would have gotten written notification. He has not received anything. The second thing is that he received a letter from them asking for additional information. The letter was very curious. The letter was from Gross McKinley and it had all the lawyers printed on it. This is from the Ethics board. He stated that you don't send something like this out...an ethics board complaint with Gross McKinley on it. He stated that someone who is not aware of the procedure they get scared right away when they see a lot of lawyers on the letterhead. He stated that he beat Gross McKinley in a lawsuit that he filed with the city. He stated that he is not afraid of them, but that is absolutely ridiculous. They should have letterhead that says the Ethics Board and not Gross McKinley. He thanked them last week because the city repaved the streets. His neighbor's car was stolen. If you don't advertise about thefts then people don't know about it and think it is wonderful. Everything is not wonderful. He lost \$4000 on his Wrangler and his neighbor lost his car. Another neighbor was going to lose his wheels off his car, and another neighbor lost a computer from their house.

Mr. Donovan stated that he agrees with the comment on the letterhead issue. It bothered him when he was charged. He stated to Ms. Eichenwald that it is an important issue.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that once again she concurs and believes that these are important issues. She stated that you know when the Ethics Committee is charged to deliberate, the deliberations may be in private, but they take public testimony. It would appear to her as minimal sound policy that the person who issues the complaint be called to testify. Once again they have another reason why the Ad Hoc Committee needs to meet and with best interest with the Ethics Committee to clearly lay out the procedure that clearly needs to be followed. It is inappropriate.

Mr. Donovan stated that he was not notified either of the meetings.

Mr. Romancheck stated that he worked in the private industry for quite a few years and he knows certain procedures and he can not believe that this group does not understand how they suppose to act and what they suppose to do. He stated that he finds that appalling.

Mr. D'Amore asked Ms. Fruhwirth to help them out on this. He stated that Mr. Hanlon in his capacity as city clerk independent of City Council does processing work on behalf of the Ethics Committee notices.

Mr. Fruhwirth stated that her recollection of the city ordinance is that the City Clerk's will provide administrative help to the Board.

Mr. Bill Stauffer, 119 S 16<sup>th</sup> Street, Allentown, raised concerns about his neighborhood. (Not audible)

Mr. Donovan stated that he heard from Bill earlier in the week and he passed the information to Mr. Hanna. He stated that he was out of town when they reported this issue and lives a few blocks and wanted a report of where this all stands.

Mr. Hanna stated that they are following up on the incident. He stated Mr. Stauffer if he had any contact with his PSA Captain. He asked did Mr. Stauffer make phone calls or reports on the incidences that have occurred. He asked to speak to Mr. Stauffer outside for a few moments after he finish and asked for his number and stated that he will give Mr. Stauffer the numbers and the PSA Captain can provide him with the statistics as well as what they will do from a strategic stand point.

Mr. Guridy stated that people are experiencing crime throughout the city. The police needs to be more public and as crimes are happening throughout the city. Crime is down throughout the city, the nuisance crimes consider to stand. He knows that the police cannot be everywhere. They need to keep the neighborhood safe.

Mr. Stauffer that what happens is people start leaving.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he has a very good friend the lives on the 100 block of S. West Street and they had issues a couple of years ago. He appreciates Mr. Stauffer bringing that to his attention. He stated that they discussed the drug offences. They are going to take another two weeks to examine the bill. He stated that it passed and they will put it on the final Council's Agenda.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated the Chief MacLean keeps an open door policy. They make every effort to address the needs of the citizens. He stated that the public should feel free to reach out to them.

Mr. Donovan stated that he repeated has been contacted by citizens and he stated that Mr. Hanna is committed to doing things for the city.

Mr. D'Amore said to Mr. Stauffer please do not confront criminals. If the police come then it is on record of the offense.

Mr. Chris Casey stated that recently they busted the guy who was robbing all of the convenience stores. What types of police efforts are being made? The vandals that were doing all the break-ins were from Macungie and they were doing it in Allentown. He asked are there any permanent units to monitor this situation.

Mr. D'Amore stated that he did not and asked the Assistant Chief if he had any or was he able to respond to the question.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that they do not have a permanent unit, but they have an open line of communication with all the local police departments. District Attorney Martin is the one who spearheaded and coordinated the surveillance team that apprehended the robber that Mr. Casey eluded too. They are in constant communication with all the police departments not only in Lehigh County, but also Northampton County.

Mr. Casey asked would Assistant Chief Hanna's department be in favor of a permanent alliance for treating crimes crossing the borders.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that they are working toward and spearheaded by the District Attorney's office. They are working toward an electronic network of communication of which each officer will have access to all information or crimes that is in the process and it is budgeted to they county and will be up and running next year. He stated that they try to do most cost efficient and effective in combating crime. He would not be opposed to a permanent alliance. He thanked Mr. Casey for thinking out of the box stating this is the way that crimes are solved.

Mr. D'Amore thanked all of his fellow citizens to use courtesy of the floor on what it is intended for about important and relevant issues.

A Crossing Guard stated that he gets \$32 and today he got parking tickets. Three times he got a parking ticket. This year he got a part-time job as a crossing guard.

Mr. Donovan stated that he was briefed on his situation and stated that he was on the Parking Authority board and he understand that he is a crossing guard and understand that he is there long enough to get a ticket. He asked Mr. Bennington if you are a municipal employee, are you required to pay the meters.

Mr. Bennington stated that when he parks at a meter he pays quarters out of his pockets.

Mr. Donovan stated that the current policy is a need to go back to put coins in the meters and there are no provisions for parking for crossing guards or any other employees in the city.

A Crossing Guard stated that he is only getting \$32 and three times he has to put money into the meter which \$2.25 he has to put in for five days.

Mr. Donovan stated that they heard the concern and he would like to talk about it with his colleague at the Parking Authority because he hears him saying that given the amount of money that he makes that he is forced to do the meters do present a hardship for him. He stated that tonight they will not have a solution. They heard his complaint and concern and he understands his concerns.

Mr. O'Connell asked when the Crossing Guard is crossing the children at Seventh and Chew is he there when the Parking Authority is issuing him a ticketing. Has he verbally spoken to the person?

The Crossing Guard stated no.

Mr. O'Connell stated that the Crossing Guard has not witnessed the Parking Authority giving him a ticket through his line of duty. How far is his station from his car?

The Crossing Guard said when he could get a parking.

Mr. O'Connell asked could he visibly see his car from the station.

The Crossing Guard he stated that he could see his car.

Mr. O'Connell stated that they will do further investigation into this.

Mr. Donovan asked if they had his phone number to contact him.

The Crossing Guard stated that yes, they have the number.

## **5. Approval of Minutes: September 1, 2010**

Minutes Approved by Common Consent.

## **6. Old Business**

Mr. Donovan stated to Mr. Bennington that the Mayor has indicated to Council that he would take action on the pension question that was brought up in the last meeting with a Police officer. They have not received legislation out of the administration. Mr. Hoffman stated that this was a contractual issue the same time Mayor, the Council and the administration need to wrestle with the merit of the particular request. He does not want it to go too long. He asked Mr. Bennington to look into that.

Mr. Schweyer stated Mr. Bennington that it reminded him of the conversations with the folks from 16<sup>th</sup> Street. He wants to schedule a future meeting with the Police department to discuss where they are with statistics. He reminded for Mr. Bennington and Mr. Hanlon to get together.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that they discussed creating or establishing a new policy for grants and loans to small business and asked have they created a new policy.

Mr. Schweyer asked Ms. Hailstone. He stated that they met and talked about it this week. They are reviewing the application process and see what the actual application looks like and supporting documents that would be needed and a review board will created in some capacity. Those were the two biggest areas of lack of oversight that they noticed. The administration has not moved forward to any grants since that process since the concerns have been raised and they have not approved them on any of the grants or loans.

Mr. Bennington stated that she stepped out for a minute.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that there is good news and bad news with that. The good news is that they are not hastily giving grants and loans and the bad news is that there are businesses out there that can benefit for the grants and loans.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he and the Administration agreed and he will reiterate that if anyone comes to them, they will not disburse any grants or loans without the express approval as it was agreed as the conversation with Mr. Donovan's role in ADEC and a his role as Chair in the committee. The one time they asked for them to look at a loan issue, they both reviewed the information that they had and they said ok to it. The Administration has followed everything that was asked and he stated the he and Ms. Hailstone had a long conversation about it.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she looked forward to seeing the policy when it is created.

Mr. Donovan stated to Mr. Bennington that he spoke to their friend from Fountain Park on weekends.

## **7. Communications**

Mr. Donovan stated that he was going to report under Communications the conversation he had with Scott Unger about ADEC. Mr. Unger stated that he will try to get a hold of Mr. Schweyer. There were two old loans with technical issues that they approached them to brief them on and none of the technical issues seemed out of line. His recommendation was to put a written memo in the file. It was in regards to a move that was forced to and had to occur because the building they were in was designated as unfit so they were forced to move and the contract says they were not suppose to move so the city forced them to leave. They are communicating with them. They want a written proposal.

Mr. Schweyer stated that it was not a new distribution and he should have mentioned that.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she knows the wheels of government turns very slowly, but what the city needs more importantly are jobs and anything they could do to facilitate that making it a business friendly environment is very important.

Mr. Donovan stated to Mr. Bennington that he realizes that Assistant Chief Hanna has left. A resident of the city has commented that apparently at the gun shops that juveniles were apprehended a week or two ago. The gun was taken from a car where no one was in the car and the observation was that they have issues and they have a law in the books that says if someone does not report a gun there will be an issue. He stated that he does know from time to time there has been a variety of legislation around the country concerning access

to guns. He stated that it was a very interesting thing that someone left the car and he does not know if the car was broken into or was unlocked in which a loaded gun was in a car unsupervised. He asked if Mr. Bennington could discuss that with the Allentown Police Department.

## **8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

### Budget and Finance: Chairperson Donovan

The committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for September 22<sup>nd</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Mr. Donovan stated that the monthly report for city finances came in. The Administration is doing a good job in controlling expenses. There are overtime issues, but they are properly requesting transfers to cover those. He passed on a question that has to do with sewer receipts and sewer capacity. They are way behind budget this year and it turns out some billing went out late. They are running ahead of EIT and it will settle down in the next few months.

### Public Safety: Chairperson Guridy

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for October 6<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM.

### Community and Economic Development: Chairperson Schweyer

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

Mr. Schweyer stated that the final draft of the city's Zoning Ordinance was submitted to Council.

### Parks and Recreation: Chairperson Ray O'Connell

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for October 20<sup>th</sup>.

### Public Works: Chairperson Schlossberg

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

### Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chairperson Eichenwald

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; a future meeting needs to be scheduled for the campaign finance bill and to interview the candidate for the Planning Commission.

Ms. Eichenwald went over the memo about a new process for appointments. The major change is that they are requesting that they will interview future members that are suggested appointments by the Mayor for both the Planning and Zoning Boards. She stated that they have recommended that it would be a time limit that would be made. She stated that it is a memo on her desk from the Mayor stating that he reserves the right to control the process. She stated that none of the issues take the rights from the Mayor, but it also comes with responsibility to make sure that appointments are made in a timely fashion. She stated that they requested an opinion from the Solicitor's office and hopefully they will find a way to put into action that there will be a time limit for vacancies.

### Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chairperson D'Amore

The Committee met last week; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

## **OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Blighted Property Review Board - Councilperson Schweyer

AEDC - Councilperson Donovan

Donovan stated that AEDC and several other organizations in the region hosted at Bridgeworks Incubator this week a manufacturer's networking session to develop a network of manufacturers in Allentown and other place to share ideas. He stated going with Ms. Eichenwald's point about jobs, he feels that ADEC is moving forward in a variety of constructive ways to push that forward. He met someone from Penn State Lehigh that has established some innovative educational opportunities at Overlook Park in coordination with the Housing Authority. It is an example of the Academic Institutions and Medical Institutions are doing with students in Allentown.

Housing Authority – Councilperson Guridy

Mr. Guridy stated that they did not have a full meeting, but did have a committee meeting and they are dealing with union negotiations. They are still dealing with Teamster negotiations with some of the maintenance workers at the Housing Authority. He stated that he wanted to ask the Administration about New England Street where they have the Community Center that is abutting the New England Street Pass way that will be established and it suppose to have a traffic signal. They have questions about it. He wanted to know what the holdup is and are they going to start it soon. He wanted to know the status.

Mr. Bennington stated that Mr. Young will get back to Mr. Guridy tomorrow.

Safety Task Force – School District – Councilperson O’Connell

Mr. O’Connell stated that the Safety Task Force committee will get an email regarding the next meeting on Tuesday, September 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM at the Allentown School District Board Room. They will have a follow-up discussion in October. They are looking at busing some of the High School students are their shift at the Voc Tech. The Superintendent is looking at an Alternative Ed site for disruptive students. They may tackle school uniforms for next year and they are following the guidelines of the Pottstown School District which took two years from implementation, but it is going very well.

Ad Hoc Tech Committee – Councilperson Schlossberg

Mr. Schlossberg stated that there will be more about this later, but he wanted to announce the creation of the Allentown’s Ad Hoc Technology Committee. It is a joint Council/Administration venture. They have members of varies city departments as well as outside experts. The goal is to examine how the city operates its technology with an eye on increasing employee efficiency, government transparency, and saving taxpayers money.

Urban Observatory – Councilperson Schlossberg

Mr. D’Amore stated that the Urban Observatory has been in existence for two weeks and he stated to Mr. Schlossberg that he is quite sure that he has solved half of the city’s problems by now.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that they are being solved right now.

Mr. Schweyer stated that they are in the process of working on the Shade Tree Commission stuff. He stated Parks and Receptions and Shade Tree Commission working together to hash out the Ordinance and the meeting Friday morning at 10:00 AM.

Mr. O’Connell stated that they are meeting Friday morning at 10:00 AM.

Mr. Bennington asked if that is with Mr. Weitzel.

Mr. O’Connell stated yes.

Mr. Schweyer stated and Laura Harper from the Shade Tree Commission.

## **CONTROLLER’S REPORT**

Mr. Hoffman stated that normally at this time of the year, he would be decrying about the excessive overtime from the Fire Department from the uncontrolled sickouts of some of its members. Instead he wants to applaud the Administration for taking bold steps to stop this in your face theft of taxpayers’ money. Not only the immediate overtime dictated by the bizarre union contract, but in the inflated pensions that result. What remains to be known is if it is an act of collusion between the sickouts and in the near term retirees. He stated that he does not know and he does not know if they will ever know.

Mr. Guridy stated to Mr. Hoffman that he had several questions asked of him about what was in the paper about the sickouts and the alleged abuse of sick days. He asked is there a way for Mr. Hoffman to work with the Pension Board for the Fire Department. He asked if they can do auditing specifically on that issue.

Mr. Hoffman stated that it is easy to document each pension given in overtime portion in the Pension. What is harder to say is that did person X who happen to be sick know that person Y who happens to be called for overtime was going to retire next year. He stated that he thinks that is some sort of communication between two people which is very hard. The documentation is very simple. The cause and effect part would be very difficult for him to know.

Mr. Guridy stated that when it happened to the FOP several years ago Lou Hershman, Davey Bausch and he formed an Ad Hoc Committee to try to find out what was going on and investigate it and they found out that someone was working 48 hours in a day or something like that and there was an inclusion. The important part was many people in the city do really know how the pension was calculated at that time for the Police department. Through this process they were able to find out how it was calculated and some of the abuses that were perpetrated by people that are no longer here in the city. He would like to see if they can minimize the abuse that has taken place. He stated that he wants the Administration to do much more.

Mr. Hoffman stated that he agrees and what the Administration has done was take huge steps to eliminate it. He stated that they need an investigation to solve that or answer the question.

#### **9. APPOINTMENTS:**

**Appointment Process**

**Memo circulated**

No appointments

#### **10. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:**

##### **BILL 46 LED STREET LIGHTS.doc**

**Recommended Favorably, change to \$37,800**

Amending the 2010 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Thirty-Seven Thousand Eight Hundred (\$37,800) Dollars as a result of a grant from the PPL Electric Company for a LED Street Light Pilot Project.

Mr. Schlossberg Motioned to amend from \$37,500 to \$37,800

**Motioned approved, 7 - 0**

**Ordinance passed, 7 - 0**

##### **BILL 47 ENTERPRISE ZONE.doc**

**Forwarded Favorably**

Amending the 2010 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifty Thousand Dollars (\$50,000) in Enterprise Zone funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for implementation of the City Enterprise Zone program.

Ms. Eichenwald asked what would be the funds be used for. The \$50,000 would be used for salaries or advertisements and is it an on-going grant. She asked would it reduce the budget for the program by the \$50,000 or are they spending more money. Is it in the budget already?

Ms. Hailstone stated salaries, supplies, etc. She stated that it is a competitive grant from the state, but it is typically a five-year. Once you get into the program you usually get it. They budgeted for this \$50,000. It is in the budget.

Mr. Schlossberg asked what year of the program they are in three or four.

Ms. Hailstone stated that she wants to say three.

### **Ordinance passed, 7 - 0**

Bill 50 delayed by two weeks. (removed from the agenda)

#### **Bill 51 Noise Ordinance.doc**

#### **Forwarded with no recommendation**

Amending the Noise Control Ordinance by changing the enforcement fines and penalties, by increasing the penalty for repeat offenders.

Mr. Guridy stated that the reason for no recommendation is there are two noise ordinances that were implemented one was this one and the other one is automobiles driving throughout the city with loud speakers. He stated that he discussed this with Assistant Chief Hanna and Mr. Schlossberg. He stated that it was \$1000 and it was brought down to \$100, \$150, and \$250.

Mr. Schlossberg made an Amendment to strike "not less than one hundred dollars from 710.99 on page 14 Section 710.99 number 9 citation fees there is a typo on the third line "not less than one hundred dollars should be stricken." It is being removed from the ordinance and replaced with underlined section. This Bill provides a tiered system in which it provides repeat violators of the noise ordinance will be fined an increasingly high amounts it establishes a system of fines of \$25 for the first offense, \$50 for the second, \$100 for the third, and \$250 for the fourth and any subsequent violations. They originally provided a fine as high as \$1,000 for fourth or more violations. He stated that the goal of the Noise Ordinance is to try to help with enforcement. It is difficult according to the Chief. He believes that someone with repeat violations will think twice about turning up their stereos and blasting it as loud as can be and know that it would cost them \$250 instead of \$25. The system is setup so that if a person violates it eight times is fined \$25 and if someone who violates the law the first time gets fine \$25. He stated that he does not think it is fair and that is why he proposed this ordinance.

Ms. Eichenwald stated what concerns her is the idea of difficulty of enforcement. She asked if they had any statistics about enforcement and how much police time is taken on this. Do they have a success rate in collecting any of the money? She stated that it is wonderful to pass Ordinances and certainly they agree that people that violate this should have to pay a fine, but is that actually happening.

Mr. D'Amore stated that he does not know if Assistant Chief Hanna has all those answers, but he knows that he is there to speak to the matter.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that the best person to speak to is Tom Harper. He keeps track of the Sweep Tickets and he would be able to provide them with some of that information. He stated that he does not have that information at hand, but they can certainly get that to her if she would like that.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that it is not usually her policy to ask for a delay and she certainly obviously in favor of people who violates this to be issued fines, but she wanted to know if this carries any meat or just an exercise to make them feel better or are they actually able to enforce this. She personally would prefer to wait until someone can address those issues.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that when they speak to the difficulty of enforcement, what they are speaking about is they have or if anyone drives through the city at any given time they are going to find these violations.

The officers can and are inundated with these violations. He stated that he thinks this will serve as a deterrent and that is one of the most important components of this Amendment.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that anecdotally we feel that police officers are responding when they are driving down the city and they see or hear a violation.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that the answer to that is yes, and he can speak from a personal standpoint because he personally stops vehicles with loud music and he would personally call an officer to write that.

Ms. Eichenwald asked do they have a success rate in collecting the fines, anecdotally. She recognized that he does not have the statistics.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that he could not answer that. He does not know what the success rate is.

Ms. Eichenwald asked Assistant Chief Hanna is he comfortable with this as it now stands.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that he is comfortable with the Amendment as it has been read and written.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she still thinks they should know what their success rate in collecting the fines is.

Mr. Donovan stated that Ms. Eichenwald has raised his concerns. He stated that he is a co-sponsor of this and he does not disagree with the escalation of fees, but as someone who repeatedly in the morning during the school year faces illegal mufflers as well as serious booms that vibrates on the window. He stated that enforcement is very hard for something like that. Because you only have a few people to enforce it and with citation you run into logistical issues such as measurements and legal issues as it relates to the courts. He stated that one day when he was coming out of his house someone had dropped someone off at the high school and their car was shaking itself like in the movies. He gestured to lower it and he got the finger thrown at him and the fellow stopped and rolled down his window and had several explicatives. He question is at what extent they can give warnings to people that at least start the process that they are being watched. He had a problem with one of his neighbors that were loud for two years and every time they would complain, the officer would come and by that time they would turn it down or the barking dog did not bark when the Sweeps person was there. The loud mufflers are the real things and he can not believe that the State allows that. He asked what extent they can give warnings to people that in which will start the process.

Assistant Chief Hanna asked if Mr. Donovan is referring to Law Enforcement and Sweeps giving the warning or is he himself.

Mr. Donovan stated not him, but if someone has a complaint in a house and he knows the officer is not able to write it up if they have not heard it. They could at least state that they had a complaint in the neighborhood so they will know that people are concerned with the noise if they exist. He asked is that possible to do?

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that it is possible. By design and the way things are written the requirement of the officer to actually view or hear the violation. It is designed that way to avoid any erroneous or frivolous reports. An example would be two neighbors feuding and one utilizing the Police Department or the Sweep officers as a tool against their neighbor.

Mr. Donovan stated that with stopping cars he realizes that if the officer writes up a citation then they have to go to court etc. To what extent the officers are told to be aggressive to warn drivers so that way that would have some impact on the community.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that they continue to encourage the officers to address the nuisance violations and specifically those that involve the noise ordinance with residential and vehicular. That has been on their forefront and continues to be because that quality of life issue negatively reflects the city as a whole or affects the quality of life of citizens, but it sends a negative message to those visiting the city.

Mr. Bennington stated to Ms. Eichenwald that normally on Friday they have a meeting with Council President and Council Vice President. Mr. Harper is scheduled to attend for a specific issue on Friday. What he will ask him tomorrow is to try to come up with this collection rate of success and to present to the two gentlemen and provide the information to the rest of Council by Friday.

Ms. Eichenwald asked if they will delay the vote.

Mr. D'Amore stated that if she wants to make that motion to table that would be appropriate.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she would like to make that motion to table so if they get the results on Friday they will begin a discussion on finding out some of the statistics. She stated that it is financial responsible to wait until they have all of the answers.

Mr. Schweyer and Mr. Schlossberg objected the motion.

D'Amore stated that they will take a motion to table.

Mr. Donovan stated that he seconded it and he does feel that he has a problem on sometimes trying to over legislate. You can't enforce it or it is very difficult to enforce it. Noise control in the city is partially a boundary issue where people lost sense of their boundary space. You can try to legislate, but it is difficult to legislate. He stated that he would vote no on the motion, but it is important to take Ms. Eichenwald's motion very strongly. They really need to look at more than fines to try to solve the noise problems in the city.

Mr. Guridy stated that he felt that they should table this until they get more statistical information from the committee meeting. He stated he was convinced to move it forward with no recommendation. He stated to Ms. Eichenwald that he feels the same way about this. He feels that they should do everything possible to curtail the noise in the city from some of these loud cars. There are two noise ordinances in the city and throughout history in the nine years he has been in the city; he has been approached that they have too many laws that are not enforced. He they do enforce then he feels they should have some statistics on it.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he is confused. He said that they have two noise ordinances in the City of Allentown on March 25, 1996 the Police Department was given enforcement powers. Less than two years ago in 2008 five of the seven members on the dais voted on behalf of expanding the enforcement ability of the city to enforce ordinances when they allowed Sweeps Officers to enforce Sweeps violations. If his colleagues are now saying there is an inability to enforce noise ordinances then he is saying the last fourteen years of legislative history disagrees with that sentiment including legislation that he voted for in 2008 and four of his colleagues on the dais that voted for it in 2008. He stated that they have a long standing history in the City of Allentown that every community in the Commonwealth and United States talking about noise being a problem. No one wants noise in their neighborhood, no one wants loud cars and they understand that it is an enforcement problem because they only have 204 or 208 officers on duty and a handful of Sweeps officers. He stated that at the very least the ordinance gives them an opportunity to curtail the noise problem. He said by tabling it tonight it is delaying the inevitable. He thinks that the question to table has been answered over the last fourteen years of legislation history.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that noise ordinances are notorious difficult to enforce. They are not making any additional enforcement demands on the Police Officers. All they are doing is telling some of the folks in city

hall track who gets fined and those records are there, and those systems are there. This ordinance would standardized their ordinance and make it match the noise ordinances of Bethlehem, of Erie, of Easton, of Reading and it will make our (City of Allentown) ordinance in line with ordinances within the city of Allentown that have tiered structures including the second half of their noise ordinance. This is one part of the battle. This is by no means the only way to enforce noise in the City of Allentown, but this is a deterrent to noise violations. He stated that he does not understand why they would wait when it seems to be a good law.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that all she is requesting is a two week delay. The reason for the delay is that she thinks it behooves them to be fiscally responsible and to find out what are the statistics. She is not arguing the value of having a noise ordinance. She stated that of course it is necessary, but what she personally would like to know and have a discussion on someone that has the answers is what the success rate on the fees is. Does it make sense for them to increase the fees? Would that be difficult to achieve the end result to pay the fines? She stated that this is not an emergency and it does not have to be enacted in order to get any money. Let's be fiduciary responsible and have all the information.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he understands Ms. Eichenwald's asking for and he understands Mr. Schlossberg and Mr. Schweyer are saying. No matter what you set the fines and penalties for the statistical data one way or another it is good to have the statistics and the data. He stated that he hears enforcement. They have a noise ordinance now and enforcement could be enforcement on people running stops signs, running red lights or speeding. He stated that he loves the cell phone ban. He sees more people on cell phones then he ever seen in his life in the City of Allentown and obviously enforcement. If you are looking at the fee schedule and the fines and the penalties the data that they would collect now might not be different from the data they collected three years or three years in the future. He will vote no on the table.

Mr. D'Amore asked Assistant Chief Hanna with his position as the Chief of Operations for police would it makes a positive difference if they pass this ordinance.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that it is a question that begs a speculative answer. In his thirty one years of experience it would most certainly not hurt and he thinks that it will serve as a deterrent. They have to keep in mind the enforcement of quality of life issues that they have in the forefront, but they also have and stated to Mr. Schweyer one hundred and ninety eight officers who are handling a constant volume of service calls and servicing the public and that supersedes the quality of life and noise ordinances. Sometimes when you see an officer driving by a loud car, he may be responding to a call which is priority over that noisy car. He stated that they should put everything into perspective. His best assessment that it will certainly act as deterrent and there are no downsides to this.

Mr. Guridy stated that he does not mind if they pass it now or if they pass it later. He would like to get statistics on this. This procedurally if they were to table this, the existing law still stands. There is no harm being done by waiting. They are still going to get people ticket, but it would be at a different rate.

Mr. D'Amore stated that it would be at the current rate.

Mr. Guridy stated that he does not want people to think that he does not want this law. He wants them to know that what he is saying is he wants statistics. He is not saying this law is bad, it is good and he is not saying that they should not pass it, he thinks they should. He just wants statistics.

Mr. D'Amore asked was it anymore comments from Council to table, or comments from the public on the motion to table.

**Motion to Table failed, 5- 2 (Eichenwald, Guridy)**

Mr. Schlossberg stated he had no comment.

Mr. Guridy stated that he thinks that it is a good bill.

Mr. Schweyer stated to Assistant Chief Hanna that when his officers are able to go to a call regarding loud music that they are offer DCRs as well. He stated that is also a deterrent from noise when people realize that they can lose their apartment over playing loud music in addition of a hit in the pocketbook.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that they certainly do because that has been a valuable tool for them since its inception that has given them some teeth in areas where they could not file charges in order to enforce it. Theoretically it gives them another level of enforcement.

Mr. Donovan asked Assistant Chief Hanna if this were to pass would the officer be required to tell the person if this happens again it is an escalation.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that he did not know.

Mr. Donovan stated that it would be on the second time the person gets a ticket that they find out there are escalations.

Assistant Chief Hanna stated that is correct.

Assistant Chief Hanna asked Council if they could provide them funding for about 250 or 275 officers, they could certainly do that.

Mr. Ernie Atiyeh 1909 E. Commerce Street – Midway Manor, thanked Mr. Schweyer and Assistant Chief Hanna stated that this is no ways affects the DCRs.

Mr. Schlossberg said that is correct.

### **Ordinance passed, 7 - 0**

#### **Bill 52 Penalties Illegal and Unfit Units.doc**

#### **Forwarded Favorably**

Amending Article 1759.99 of the Property Rehabilitation and Maintenance Code by establishing a penalty of One Thousand Dollars for units that have been identified by the City as “unfit for human habitation” or “occupancy unlawful” and are occupied; and for each occupied unit that has been identified by the city as an illegal unit.

Mr. D’Amore stated that Mr. Molovinsky made a comment during courtesy of the floor stated that there was a benefit to letting one’s property be rundown and actually get to a point of a possible of getting taken. They need to investigate it. This bill takes it a step forward to make it unprofitable to let your building rundown that no one can occupy the building. They have buildings in the city that are unfit for human habitation and they are unfit for a reason. They were fit at one time and the person that owns the building with primary responsible of that building falling into that degraded state.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she hopes that it will be some strong legal way in which if the property is sold they would have a right to recover these fees.

Ms. Fruhwirth stated that she will certainly look into that for further enforcement of the ordinance.

Ms. Eichenwald asked if there was a way to include it in the ordinance. She stated that she would hate to see a property being sold and the city not having the right to claim these fees.

Mr. David Paulus stated that if they read the ordinance the last line says any unpaid charges relative to this penalty will be subject to a lien being placed against the property.

Mr. Schweyer stated to Ms. Eichenwald when it comes to the blighted properties or unfit for human habitation those stay with the properties regardless if it is sold between person to person which is a question that he had originally. He agrees that is an issue.

Ms. Eichenwald asked even if it was purchased by the Redevelopment Authority.

Mr. David Paulus stated that he does not know what happens to those types of liens.

Mr. Schweyer stated as far as liens that is a very good question. He does not know an answer for that.

Ms. Eichenwald asked could they look into that.

Mr. D'Amore stated that not only will they look into that and asked Ms. Fruhwirth if the Solicitor's office had any suggestions for further legislation please send them with the LSI.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that they are going to pass this bill tonight will that then be included in it. What is the process of having it?

Mr. D'Amore stated that if they pass this bill tonight then theoretically they could frame a new ordinance and adds to it and if the solicitor comes back saying no recommended new language necessary then they would leave it as is.

Mr. Guridy stated that this ordinance is a good one. He stated that this is good because it gives landlords and people more time to work on fixing their properties and making sure that apartments are not rented unfit for human habitation. He stated that this is something that they needed.

Mr. Donovan stated that he too was a co-sponsor to this bill, but wants to raise a point. The slow degradation of a building is a combination of the landlords and tenants responsibility. They realize that the landlord owns the building and therefore should be managing the tenants appropriately and sometimes that gets hard. He is in favor of this, but Council need to think about the fact of how do they work on improving public policy that encouraging renters to let them know that they have some responsibilities. He stated working with neighbor organizations and groups that work with individuals who are not tenants throughout a number of agencies some education can occur and that education is extremely important. It certainly makes it easy for the landlords and makes it better for the city.

Mr. D'Amore stated that Mr. Schweyer's bill that they are not taking a look at tonight will take them in that direction.

**Ordinance passed, 7 - 0**

**Bill 55 809 HAMILTON LOAN.DOC**

**Forwarded Favorably**

Creates a special revenue fund entitled Revolving Loan Fund (fund 008) in the 2010 Budget and, in addition, provides a supplemental appropriation of Four Hundred Thousand (\$400,000) Dollars in Housing Redevelopment Assistance (HRA) funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. These funds will be loaned to provide funding opportunities for development projects

throughout the City. Initially, these funds will be utilized for the purpose of developing the upper-floor housing at 809-813 Hamilton Street within the City's Central Business District.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she knows that they had an initial discussion on this, but are there any further information on the financial stability and wealth of the recipient of this loan.

Ms. Hailstone stated from what she reviewed the financial stability of the property developer is very strong and they will be able to lien the property.

Mr. Donovan stated that he is in favor of the loan and he will vote for it, but he does have a couple of points. He stated that he disagree the KOZ should be used as residential. He stated that he put a lot of money in his house and he would certainly like exemptions from taxes. He thinks a lot of people feel that. Those types of tax advantages are usually for commercial operations and job creation not necessary for residents. He stated that he is curious about the zero percent loan, why not one percent.

Ms. Hailstone stated that they looked at the total project and the need is and what is in the project and the gap and after running the numbers that \$400,000 at zero percent will fill the gap.

Mr. Donovan stated to Ms. Eichenwald that he met the developer and received presentations from him and believes that he is extremely talented. He thinks that he will do really good work there and while he may disagree with the residential component of it, he thinks it is a good project overall. He stated that it is his understanding that this loan had to be used for some component of housing and asked is that correct.

Ms. Hailstone stated that it is under the Housing and Redevelopment Assistance Program. It did not have to be specific for the housing, but was part of housing and redevelopment. It made the application more competitive.

Mr. Donovan stated that this is a philosophical comment and he asked the developer this question at the Chamber meeting where he gave the presentation. He stated that they have to be very careful about second, third and fourth floor residential on Hamilton Street and recognize while they are useful in cities and downtown cities have residential on floors, they are talking about people that often leave during the day. They may not work downtown and go to lunch elsewhere and there are other issues on moving downtown still. He stated that he would like to see as you walk into some of the older buildings you feel like you waling in the 50, 60 and 70s and there are a lot of people that have been laid off and downsized in this economy in the past ten years and there are a lot of professionals out starting independent work. A lot of downtown cities have small legal, tax, IT consultant etc and he realize that they are in a recession right now, but believe in his professional experience on economic development is that if you rely too heavily on housing on the upper floors you might not have as quick of success as you have small businesses sending people out to lunch and you don't have to worry about night as much yet and the traffic builds and the restaurants and the shops during the day and eventually they start opening up at night. He stated that he understands with the nature of the loan it had to be residential.

Mr. Guridy stated that the project was started and asked when it will be completed.

Ms. Hailstone stated in the next few months. It is currently under construction.

Mr. Guridy asked is the idea is to get another restaurant there at restaurant row. He asked are there any prospects.

Ms. Hailstone stated that the developer is in private negotiations. She stated that if you do not have anything there, it is hard for potential tenants to imagine what will be there and yet at the same time they do not want the project remain vacant.

Mr. D'Amore stated that he also met with the developer and he is very serious and committed to this particular block of the city. He stated that they as Mr. Schweyer pointed out made a tremendous commitment to this block of the city and it is an important thing to follow through on and the revitalization of this block will impact their ability to market the other properties surrounding particularly the property formally known as Johnny Mananas.

Mr. Hoffman stated this they are looking at it as a revolving loan fund in the future and asked is this the first lien, second lien or third lien. He asked was it any developer equity. He said that they will have a lien, will they have any personal guarantees or it the real estate. He stated that if the project does not work, they have a good change they will not have a \$400,000 to be recycled so it is not an automatic.

Ms. Hailstone stated yes. She stated that it is the real estate.

Mr. Donovan stated that Economic Development strategies get too conservative like a banker and not take some of the risks for them to leverage opportunities. He stated that he is comfortable of the fact that they have real estate.

**Ordinance passed, 7 - 0**

**11. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**Bill 56 EMS IRONPIGS OT.DOC**

**Referred to Public Safety**

Amending the 2010 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Twenty Two Thousand Nine Hundred Sixty (\$22,960.00) Dollars as a result of payment from the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Baseball Team to the City of Allentown Paramedics for providing on-site Emergency Medical Services during baseball games at Coca-Cola park for the months of APRIL, MAY, JUNE and JULY 2010

Mr. O'Connell asked what happened to August.

Mr. Van Allen stated that the last two seasons of baseball is billed now and they will get a corresponding ordinance with it.

Mr. O'Connell stated August and a little bit of September after Labor Day.

**Bill 57 EMS DONATION.DOC**

**Referred to Public Safety**

Amending the 2010 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Two Thousand (\$2,000) dollars as a result of a donation from the Lehigh Valley Half Marathon to the City of Allentown Paramedics for providing needed EMS services for the event over the last three years. The donor requests that the money be used for training materials for the paramedics.

**Bill 58 HOMESTEADING LOANS.doc**

**Referred to CEDC**

Amends the Revolving Loan Fund in the 2010 Budget and, in addition, provides a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) Dollars in Housing Redevelopment Assistance (HRA) funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development. These funds will be loaned to provide funding opportunities for development projects throughout the City. Initially, these funds will be utilized for the purpose of rehabilitating blighted properties for our Homesteading Program.

**BILL 59-2010 NEW ZONING ORDINANCE AND MAP 9 15 10 (2).doc**

Referred to Planning Commission, LVPC, and CEDC

Provides for a New Zoning Code

**12. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**CA-1 Certificates of Appropriate.DOC**

**HARB Certificate of Appropriateness.pdf – HARB Reports**

Certificates of Appropriateness for Work in the Historic Districts

Resolution passed, 7- 0

**13. RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING: None**

**14. RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING:**

**R44 601 N 8th Street.doc**

Referred to Public Works

**Encroachment 601 N. 8th Street.pdf**

Encroachment for a Basement Door Repair with Raised Application at 601 N. 8<sup>th</sup> Street

**R45 OAPA STREETSCAPE.doc**

Referred to CEDC

Authorizes submission of a Redevelopment Assistance Capital Grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for Streetscape Improvements in the Old Allentown Preservation Association District

**R46 STATE HOSPITAL HRA GRANT.doc**

Referred to CEDC

Authorizes submission of a Housing Redevelopment Assistance grant application to develop a best use plan for the State Hospital Site

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Donovan stated that they should start scheduling the Budget Hearing soon. He asked Mr. Bennington about the city's revenue projections for the month of October.

Mr. D'Amore asked all members of Council in the next few days they can forward and take a look at their calendar and forward their availability in November to Mr. Hanlon. He stated that on Friday when he comes in to meet with Mr. Bennington they can hash out the provisional budget schedule.

Mr. Schweyer stated to Ms. Eichenwald that it occurred to him that they had three different issues in Bill 58 that was just referred to CEDC regarding the Redevelopment Authority. He stated that it came up at least twice that the Homesteading Program is partially operated through the Redevelopment Authority. He stated that they do not have a Board Appointment on the Redevelopment Authority, there are five members and none of them are a member of Council. He stated that it would behoove all of them if the next Community and Economic Development meeting that Mr. Hanlon and he stated to Ms. Eichenwald that he wants to make sure they coordinate with her schedule as well that they have Dr. Beck-Pooley there so she can answer questions that Mr. Molovinsky brought up and the unfit units question from Dr. D'Amore legislation and the bill 58 which is again the HRA. He stated that he believes she will be there because it affects the Redevelopment Authority.

**16. GOOD AND WELFARE**

Mr. Schlossberg thanked the officer for handling a difficult situation with grace and professionalism and thanked him for being there.

Mr. D'Amore stated that they did have a visit from the Community Fellow from Lehigh University and his name is John Tamtelen. He stated that he is a Master's Degree student at Lehigh University in Political Science and he is their (Council) Community Fellow for the next twelve months. He stated that they welcome him and hopes that his experience is as successful as Mr. Schlossberg's when he was a Community Fellow at Lehigh.

17. ADJOURNED 9:34 PM

*Council meetings are held on the first and third Wednesday of each month beginning at 7:30 pm in Council Chambers. For copies of the agenda or meeting announcements, please visit our website at [www.allentownpa.gov](http://www.allentownpa.gov), or contact the Clerk at [hanlon@allentowncity.org](mailto:hanlon@allentowncity.org) to receive an email notice of the meetings.*