

**Julio Guridy, President**  
**Ray O'Connell, Vice President**  
Frank J. Concannon  
Jeanette Eichenwald  
Cynthia Y. Mota  
Michael Schlossberg  
Peter Schweyer

**Allentown City Council**  
**435 Hamilton Street**

Allentown, Pa. 18101  
AllentownPa.Gov



**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**April 18, 2012**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**Council Meeting – 7:00 PM**

- 1. Invocation:** Jeanette Eichenwald
- 2. Pledge to the Flag:**
- 3. Roll Call:** Eichenwald, Guridy, Mota, O'Connell, Schlossberg, Schweyer  
Dale Wiles represented for the Solicitor's office

**4. Courtesy of the Floor**

Kenneth Heffentrager, 11<sup>th</sup> and Washington Street, stated that it seems every meeting has a certain amount of people that don't know what is going on. Is there a way the City of Allentown can advertise a little better. A lot of people seem not to know what is going on. Not everyone gets a newspaper besides the weekend thing.

Mr. Guridy thanked Mr. Heffentrager and stated that they will look to see how it can be more assessable to people.

Mr. Richard Young, 2121 E. Tremont Street, stated during the budget discussion in November and December there were discussions on setting aside some funds on Spanish Classes, and Councilwoman Eichenwald graciously offered her time to conduct those classes. He stated that he has been attending those classes and he does not care how much money Council would have spent, they would have not gotten anything better than you are getting from Councilwoman Eichenwald. She is doing a fantastic job and is an excellent teacher.

Mr. Guridy thanked Mr. Young for saying that and he thinks that Mr. Young took the words out of his mouth. He saw that video and Ms. Eichenwald is the best.

Ms. Eichenwald thanked Mr. Young and said she appreciates those comments and she will assure him he will get an A, not only for his brilliance in learning, but complimenting the teacher. It is truly her pleasure.

Mr. Guridy stated that she made it look so nice and he wanted to come to the class.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that you are always welcome.

Mr. Guridy stated for those of you that did not have an opportunity to see it, the Morning Call's website has a video and said to Mr. Young having the right person is what counts, not the money with anything we do in life.

**5. Approval of Minutes: April 4, 2012**

Minutes approved by common consent.

## 6. Old Business

Mr. Guridy stated that pursuant to the Administrative Code, copies of transfers council has signed are on the desk in the back desk and will become part of these meeting minute. Mr. Concannon resigned from City Council and they went ahead with the process and the final day for the applications to fill council vacancy was today at 4:30 PM. We have several great candidates and from here on they are looking to start the interview process on April 26<sup>th</sup> and May 1<sup>st</sup> and making a decision on May 2<sup>nd</sup>, before the Council meeting at 6:00 PM. He asked any comments on that.

Mr. O'Connell asked how many candidates are there now. There were two additional ones. For the record, fourteen people applied and we wanted to interview all fourteen people and make it as transparent as possible. We want the questions created in the next week and go out to the candidates several days in advanced of their interviews. He asked did they set up the interviews at this point. We will do seven one night and seven the other night. Last time we had an opening for Mr. D'Amore and we had twelve applicants and this time we have fourteen applicants for the vacancy of Mr. Concannon and that is wonderful and that is to be commended of so many people being interested in filling the seat of Mr. Concannon and so many people are interested in moving Allentown forward and making Allentown a better place. He briefly looked at the resumes of all fourteen today, and we do have an outstanding field of candidates and he looks forward to interviewing all fourteen and selecting someone to fill Mr. Concannon's spot on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Mr. Hanlon stated fourteen.

Mr. Schweyer stated that his comment was unrelated to the Council vacancy so if any of his colleagues wanted to address that first, he would defer to them.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she would like to add one comment to what Mr. O'Connell said. This particular vacancy is extraordinarily important because it is clearly a four year term. She too adds her voice on how pleased she is that fourteen residents of the city would like to join them and we will take this process very seriously especially because of the duration of the term that this involves.

Mr. Schweyer stated that as a point of information, Mr. Guridy will be collecting potential questions via email from Council for the interview process.

Mr. Guridy stated that same process they used before.

Mr. Schweyer stated that his same process of old business and will address to Mr. Young. The 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and DEP, have we heard anything yet.

Mr. Young stated that they are doing the review right now. That is good news.

Mr. Schweyer asked if they were guessing how long it would take.

Mr. Young stated within a few weeks.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he did receive correspondence from the Deputy DEP Secretary acknowledging our letter to him and their plan.

Mr. Schweyer asked Mr. Dougherty to keep them updated on how DEP proceeds.

## 7. Communications

None

## 8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chairperson Schlossberg

The committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for April 25<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM.

Public Safety: Chairperson Eichenwald

The committee has not met since the last meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for May 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Community and Economic Development: Chairperson Schweyer

The Committee met on April 11<sup>th</sup> and forwarded items on tonight's agenda. Every item on the agenda had to do with the Community Development Block Grant process; the next meeting is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup> – we are also rescheduling the HIVE tour. He would like for them to vote on, address and review all the CDBG package as one.

Parks and Recreation: Chairperson Mota

The Committee met this evening at 6:00 PM; the next meeting is scheduled for May 16<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works: Chairperson O'Connell

The Committee met on April 11<sup>th</sup>. They have eight items tonight to discuss. The next meeting is scheduled for May 9<sup>th</sup>.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: No Chair

Mr. Guridy stated that there is no chair, but they will make two appointments further in the agenda.

Rules, Chambers, Intergovernmental Relations and Strategy: Chairperson Guridy

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

## OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

Pension Board – Councilperson Schlossberg

Mr. Schlossberg stated that the Pension Board has a brief meeting and the discussion was made to put out an RFP and solicit bids for a potentially for a new financial consultant. Pierce Park is currently the financial consultant for the entire Aggregate Pension Fund. They have done a very good job, but it has been five years since the contract has been bid out so the contract board are going to seek bids from both different firms and will vary in terms of their scope and in terms of them consultants, they will be taking a more active role.

Parking Authority – Councilperson O'Connell

Ms. Eichenwald stated that her comment is about City Council representation on the Parking Authority. She heard that perhaps the Parking Authority was considering closing the option to allow the parking lot by Symphony Hall to be opened during concerts and she knows that is a great concern from the concert goers and she hopes that we will watch over them.

Mr. O'Connell asked Ms. Eichenwald to say that again, the one by Symphony Hall.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that it is the intention of the Parking Authority to close the parking lot by Symphony Hall. By closing she means that concert goers will have to pay.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he is the representative and nothing was stated in January, February, or March about that. We do not meet in April. He stated that they will make a note to call Tamara tomorrow morning to see if there is any truth to that.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that her purposes of bringing that up is to put it on the radar screen that as representatives of the entire city that we watch over them.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he agrees.

Housing Authority – Councilperson Guridy

Mr. Guridy stated that he belongs to the Allentown Housing Authority Board and they are meeting next Thursday and he will bring them more information about that once it happens.

### **Controller's Report**

Ms. Mary Ellen Koval stated that she does not have a report this meeting. As Mr. Schlossberg said, they will be meeting on April 25<sup>th</sup>.

### **Managing Director's Report**

Mr. Dougherty stated that a number of points to discuss tonight. The Pennsylvania Secretary of Health has accepted his invitation to visit Allentown on May 31<sup>st</sup>. He has not formalized the agenda, but he encourage and hope that some of Council will participate in one or two of the roundtables that he plans on having that day with the Secretary of Health. He is happy to announce that the city's Health Commissioner, Vicky Kistler is making tremendous progress in her rehabilitation on her new knee and we expect her back in two or three weeks. He forwarded to Council two or three weeks ago the announcement that our Human Resources Director, Jim Maley will be retiring at the end of the month and Mr. Guridy has agreed to serve on the selection committee as well as representatives of the administration for that process. The job description has been updated and it is now being advertised in a variety of mediums. This is a nationwide search. We have not received any resumes today. The announcement went out in the last few days. The water meter project that he spoke about last time they have had a kick-off meeting with various contractors and they are now putting together a semblance of a draft communication's plan together. He requested through Mr. Guridy and Mike Hanlon to have some time on the May 2<sup>nd</sup> agenda for them to present the public education plan. That is a draft. His intention as he promised them is to look at that draft and comment on that draft and how they can finalize that together. He considers this the most important segment of this project, the education piece. Hopefully, he will have some time with the consultants and his team to come in and start vetting some ideas and getting ideas from you. In the month of May, they will be introducing the long overdue quality of life resolution concerning parking on grass and some additional litter ordinances to consider and one of the action items is to increase the sweep ticket fine for littering to \$100. As you may recall there was basically a two-tier system for \$25 or \$100 which caused confusion with police and other sweep officers and now it is \$100 across the board and will make everyone's life a lot simpler. On Tenth Street homes, Pennoni has completed its field work and we are expecting a report by week's end. The street portion of Tenth has been completed and the final seal for asphalt has been put on it today. We still have some sidewalk work to complete, but the street is completely done. Thanks to Craig Messinger and his crews. The city has gotten the invoice to pay for the clean out of the basements of the effected homeowners and that was a total of \$6600 and as agreed, we will be paying that for them. City Hall lighting projects (he showed Council some pictures) and this is a final phase of a lighting upgrade that began some time ago. Part of that lighting project included putting state-of-the-art LED lights around city hall from the 5<sup>th</sup> floor. That is the sample of the blue shade of the color the other night. We are still in the midst of testing this, but this has the ability basically to have 10,000 shades of color coming from city hall. We are going to really lighten up the skyline of downtown Allentown with this. He asked for Council for assistance as he promulgates some policy rules. We expect a lot of our nonprofits and other citizens to request specific lights colors at certain times of the year and we think it is probably important to have some

rules and regulations pertaining to that outside of that besides for purple for Alzheimer's and pink for our Cancer concerns. This is a very popular thing and he thanked Mr. Don Hoegg for managing this. We are in the final phases of this and he will be working with Council to see that they could get it out to our citizens, tell them about it, and get them involved in this excitement. Allentown 250<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, we hired a contractor, David Olsen to help quarterback the events of the 250<sup>th</sup>. This was the letter that went out to all the volunteers and chairs of the various committees. He stated that before his time here, it basically lost some momentum. The object of this is to regain the momentum as they go in the final half of this very important 250<sup>th</sup> year. With the actions of David and what he is doing are in the letter would get us to where we need to go especially in the summer months. Today, he read a proclamation by the mayor to Allentown's first defenders out in West Park today. This is the 151<sup>st</sup> Anniversary of those fine Allentownians who replied to President Lincoln's call for volunteers to defend the nation's capital in the early days of the civil war. Our guest here today was Nate Klein. He stated that they have additional appointments tonight, that Council will consider. He stated that when he first started he told them that it was very important to him to get a real grip on our ABC's. We are making tremendous progress on filling these vacancies and will have more going forward.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he is a card caring member and an honorary member of the first defender's. It was not after the civil war Bhattie. It is a fine organization and what you said is true and on Friday night, they are having their annual dinner out at the Roadway Inn and Nate Klein is always the mayor's representative and the proclamation and it was very well received. He asked about the streets in Allentown. He was driving down the streets in Allentown and every corner you make and every street you go down there are repairs going on. UGI is doing a big job on the west end and probably all over where they are taking meters from the basement and putting them on the streets. Are they required to have flagmen? On Liberty Street, there were no flagmen.

Ms. Eichenwald thanked Mr. Dougherty and stated that she likes to hear his report. She asked if the gentleman that was just hired David Olsen is he in the City of Allentown. The lights, where does the funding come from, do we have that in our budget?

Mr. Dougherty stated that he is and he owns two businesses here.

Mr. Don Hoegg stated that it was federal grant money that spends to four different projects in the city. They kept on growing it.

Ms. Eichenwald asked was it something denied and we did this instead or were this always the plan.

Mr. Hoegg stated that this was always the plan. There were formally lights around the perimeter that were very inefficient and half of them did not work.

Ms. Eichenwald asked did Ms. Hodge find housing from the Tenth Street homes.

Mr. Dougherty stated that Duane Tolsen continues to work on that and he does not have any additional information besides the status quo. She is still in the shelter.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she hoped next time we could make progress in that area. She gave Mr. Dougherty a big thank you for the filling of vacancies. She stated that as someone that was the appointments chair and going through many years of frustration, she really appreciates that. It is just essential and they need to be able to do their work.

Mr. Schlossberg asked Mr. Hoegg if it was EECBG money that was approved. It was a special meeting.

Mr. Hoegg stated that it was 2010.

Mr. Schweyer stated that with regards to the lighting and what he likes about it is that when they had the experts in for the National Institute for Architecture and they talked about the downtown plan and part of what they talked about was to incorporate looking at our other assets and looking at additional lighting along and he is glad that when they do their own public infrastructure they pay attention to the planning work that has been done by a nonprofit organization who had targeted Allentown for their own expertise. He appreciated that they did that. He spoke to Ms. Hodge and he thinks she is closer to finding a more permanent housing. She mentioned that she was getting really close. If he hears anything he will keep her abreast to it.

Mr. O'Connell asked about the recent development at Club Horizons over the weekend which is located on Airport Road. He asked for numbers from the Police Chief on how many times they have been called out to Club Horizons for disturbances. It was a terrible situation.

Mr. Dougherty stated that it was and he will get that to Mr. O'Connell as soon as possible. That is something that they have been tracking for some time now. It has been an area of interest for some time.

Mr. O'Connell asked if Club Horizons is an after hour's club or a bar/restaurant.

Ms. Mota stated no, it's a nightclub, a regular nightclub.

Mr. O'Connell asked if they play by different rules than a bar. They serve liquor?

Mr. Dougherty stated that he will get that information.

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

<b>Ed Diaz</b>	<b>Human Relations Commission</b>	<b>12/13/2014</b>
<b>Rudy Ackerman</b>	<b>Arts Commission</b>	<b>01/03/2016</b>

Mr. Schlossberg asked if they are going to vote on them separately or all as one as part of our standard practice.

Mr. Guridy stated that it does not matter to him. By common consent they will vote for them together.

Mr. Schweyer stated that Mr. Ackerman is here.

Mr. Ackerman stated that he has served for twenty years and this is the first opportunity that he comes without asking for money.

Mr. O'Connell thanked Mr. Ackerman and stated that he is a very well respected person in the community, especially in the arts community. He stated that he personally thanked him for being on the Arts Commission and so much for Allentown and the kids and as a former educator, he thanked him.

Mr. Guridy stated that he knows Mr. Ackerman for over twenty years and he has been a gem to us, him, his wife and his whole family. He stated that Mr. Diaz is not here, but he is also a wonderful individual. Him and his wife Julie has been a member of the National Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and has been involved in many organizations.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**10. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:**

Mr. Guridy requested to move R28 to the front of the agenda. A motion would need to be made to suspend the rules to do this.

Mr. Schweyer made a motion to suspend the rules so they could move R28 to this point of the agenda.

Ms. Mota seconded the motion.

The rules were suspended and R28 was read into the record.

**R28**

Authorizes the Conveyance of a Decommissioned 1986 Mack Fire Truck to the Mack Truck Museum

Mr. Dougherty stated that he inherited a Mack Fire Truck that was decommissioned for over two years. When he made inquiries it was one thing after another. Through your former colleagues Dave Bausch, it was he who recommended that this was a significant historical piece and recommended to reach out to the Mack Museum and American on Wheels to ascertain if they had any interest in it. He did that and was able to get in contact with the president of Mack Museum who is here tonight.

Mr. Don Shoemaker is the curator of the Mack Museum. He certainly could come here for this. Mack and the City of Allentown have a long history in terms of fire apparatus for probably seventy years. This truck we are talking about is the last fire truck the City of Allentown purchased from Mack Trucks. Mack Trucks left the fire apparatus business in 1990 and that forced a lot of communities and cities to pursue other suppliers. On behalf of the Mack Truck historic museum, he would like to thank the City of Allentown and the Allentown Fire Department for this 1986 MC685 Fire Truck to Mack Trucks Historic Collections. Mack Truck Historical Museum is a nonprofit corporation separate from Mack Trucks Incorporated. Essentially everything they have has been donated. It is one of our last models that were built and it will be a complement to other fire apparatus that we have in the collection. The Mack Museum is located just passed the hanger at the airport. It is open to the public being a 501(c) (3) it contributes to the welfare of the community. Anybody is welcomed to come to the museum. There is no admissions charge. We would like people to come Mondays, Wednesdays, and Fridays, but they can come other days too. In about three weeks it will be in its permanent position at the museum.

Mr. O'Connell asked Mr. Shoemaker is he a former Mack worker and for how many years? He asked how the Mack Bulldogs Silver and Gold ones worth are.

Mr. Shoemaker stated yes. He stated that he started in December 1957. He stated that you can buy it in the Mack shop for \$50.

Mr. Schweyer stated that it is a simple yes vote and he had an opportunity to visit the facility. The LVEDC had a regional event there and he was blown away. He stated that he lives on the other side of Voltese Street in those homes. You are in my backyard and it is an amazing facility and he encouraged for anyone that is interested in Allentown's history or our industrial needs to visit it.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**Bill 11 Union Street Bridge Replacement**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an appropriation of Five Million Seventy Thousand Dollars (\$5,070,000) reflecting a combination of 80% reimbursable federal funds, and 15% reimbursable state funds for the Construction, Construction Management and Inspection of the proposed Union Street Bridge Replacement Project. Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds.

Mr. O'Connell stated that it was one of eight items. There were two members here and we moved it favorably to the entire Council by a 2 – 0 vote. He asked Mr. Young to give a synopsis.

Mr. Young stated that it is setting up an account for the state and federal funds. This project will be going for bids for construction later this year and we already have appropriated our local match. This is the state and federal portion of this project.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

**Bill 12 American Parkway**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an appropriation of Fifty-Eight Million Dollars (\$58,000,000) reflecting 100% reimbursable federal funds for the Construction, Construction Management and Inspection of the proposed American Parkway Project. Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds.

Mr. O'Connell stated that it was moved forward to the entire Council by a 2-0 vote. This is 100% money from the Federal government.

Mr. Young stated that this is similar to the others except this is a 100% federal funded project for construction and they will be advertising for construction May 10<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. O'Connell stated that they are hoping that it is completed by Fall of 2013.

Mr. Young stated that they are hoping, but there have been delays on the right of way acquisitions which may push that date back a little bit.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he thought they took care of all that stuff with the church.

Mr. Young stated that was not the church that was more difficult, railroads. We are in a week or so to come to terms with the railroads. We are close enough that PennDot is allowing us to proceed with the advertisements.

Mr. O'Connell asked if they were still working on railroads.

Mr. Guridy stated that he remembers saying in 1999 when he ran for City Council the first time he stated that he will make sure that that bridge is built one day.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

**Bill 13 South Albert Street**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an appropriation of Three Hundred Fifty-Five Thousand Eight Hundred Ninety-Six Dollars (\$355,896), reflecting 100% reimbursable federal funds for the Design, Construction, Construction Management and Inspection of the proposed South Albert Street Bridge Replacement Project. Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds.

Mr. O'Connell stated that this was moved favorably to the entire Council by a 2-0 vote and it is 100% reimbursement.

Mr. Young stated that the South Albert Street Bridge by Trout Creek was damaged during hurricane Irene and this is funds that we will be receiving from FEMA for the replacement of the bridge.

### **Ordinance Passed, 6-0**

#### **Bill 14 Curbing and Sidewalk**

#### **Public Works, Forwarded Favorably**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for an appropriation of Four Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$400,000) reflecting receipt of funds from property owner reimbursement to install replacement and new curbing, sidewalks, crossovers in advance of the 2012 Streets Improvement Program. The Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds.

Mr. O'Connell stated that this was also moved forwarded favorably to the entire Council 2-0. We did have dialog and do appreciate the vendors being local vendors. The more we could use the local vendors that would be very much appreciated by Councilmembers.

Mr. Young stated that the Charter does allow for five percent for Allentown firms, but it is a bid process.

Mr. Dougherty stated that it is not by Charter any longer. We had the referendum when he was here last that procurement perimeters are now set by Ordinance, not by Charter. We and City Council have the ability to revisit the level of preferences that we give to city residents.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he suggest that we revisit that because we want city residents to get the jobs because they live in the city and we could give a higher percentage.

Mr. Dougherty stated that the numbers that are apparently used from different age.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that he is on the committee, but was not at the meeting and he does apologize for that. He stated for them to forgive him if this was discussed already. The \$400,000 recommends the property owners match is an estimated receipt and how much we are going to get. Is that correct?

Mr. Young stated that the \$400,000 is what we anticipates the project to be and the reason it is increased the funds, this does not impact the city's bottom line because this is all property owners.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that we estimate we are going to receive \$400,000 from property owners. If we happen to receive less, how will that affect the project?

Mr. Young stated that is correct. It is based on the amount of work that we do.

### **Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

Mr. Schweyer stated that he wants to correct the record. Even though we all assume, they are in South Whitehall Township. There corporate address is 1308 N. 18<sup>th</sup> Street which is in S. Whitehall Township just over the border.

Mr. O'Connell stated that it is right over Roth Avenue.

Mr. Young stated that in that case, even though they have an Allentown address they will not be able to get the amount is now.

Mr. Schweyer stated but if they would love to move in the city, they certainly could.

Mr. O'Connell stated we know where they could move.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she would like to get back to the changing of the five percent for awarding contracts. Under what committee would that be, can we start the process.

Mr. Hanlon stated Budget and Finance.

Ms. Eichenwald stated to make sure it is red lighted or green lighted or blue lighted so it gets on the agenda.

### **Bill 15 Transfer for American Parkway**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a transfer of funds in the amount of Three Hundred Thousand Dollars (\$300,000) from the 15th Street Bridge Project 1728 to provide local matching funds for the American Parkway utility relocations Capital Project 1753. Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the funds.

Mr. O'Connell asked Mr. Young to explain why we didn't need the money for the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and now it is at the American Parkway.

Mr. Young stated that the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge was estimated at a little over \$11 million and it went out to bid and when the bids came in they were down around \$8.2 million and this will be our local match for that project. Just as the project for 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge came in over then we expected. The utilities were higher than we expected. This is transferring money from 15<sup>th</sup> Street to American Parkway.

### **Ordinance passed, 6-0**

Mr. Schweyer stated that at this point in time, we have Bill 17 and as he mention during his committee report he would like to move that they vote Bills 17, 18, 19, and 20 and Resolutions 20 and 21 all at this point in time on the agenda. They all have to be voted on individually, but if we could discuss them all at once. They were all a part of CEDC and CDBG conversation.

Mr. Guridy asked if they could do that by common consent.

Mr. Schlossberg stated yes.

Mr. Schweyer stated that Bills 17, 18, 19, 20 and Resolutions 20 and 21 were all recommended favorably by CEDC. We did a CEDC meeting and it was not a Committee of the Whole, but all members of Council were asked to join us and he knows several members were here for that who were not on the committee and with us as she always has been for twenty-something years, is Ms. Heidi Baer who will answer any questions we may have on CDBG. He stated to Ms. Mota that he understand that you spent some time with her as well to go over the conversation.

Mr. Guridy asked any comments or questions from the dais or questions to Ms. Baer, Ms. Hailstone and anybody else.

Mr. O'Connell stated that if they read the paper today, you saw and we talked about it last year that Allentown has received \$1.5 million less over the last two years. When you receive \$1.5 million less, it is going to trickle down and you saw some of the programs we offered to young kids are not going to be as readily available and he thinks in the long-run it is going to hurt Allentown. On the flip side of that he thinks Heidi and her staff, Jessica did an outstanding job and a fair a balanced job, equitable job dolling out the money and you and your staff are to be commended for that.

Ms. Eichenwald asked did they lower everyone's allocation by a certain percentage as it was reported in the Morning Call or did you make adjustments.

Ms. Baer stated that last year our maximum allocation request for funding was \$15,000 per agency, this year we let them know it is being reduced to \$10,000. If you recall last year, we came to you with one budget, letting you know that we anticipated a cut. We had to come back to you because we had almost a \$ ½ million cut. We were able to balance our budget without affecting the public service agencies. They did not have their \$15,000 reduced. This year because as the dollars we received gets reduced, our cap is also reduced and we can only use 15 percent of our CDBG dollars for public services. We did not have a choice. We did it across the board, \$10,000 maximum and all the agencies that applied except for two received what they asked for. There are some odd figures there, not everyone was \$10,000. We had a 9363 and 7500 and two agencies were new agencies and not quite ready for the CDBG funding and Mr. Hanlon sat on a panel also. We did offer to work with them over the next year on ways to improve their application and to bring the organizations to that level of funding to meet the federal requirements.

Ms. Eichenwald asked other than those two, were there any other organizations that were denied funding.

Ms. Baer stated no, just those two.

Ms. Eichenwald stated to her understanding there are no reprieves to this, correct. In other words, we won't get any more funding.

Ms. Baer stated correct. Not this year. It is rare that, last year we knew it was coming and see there are two pieces of legislation for round two of our emergency shelter which is called the Emergency Solutions Grant, but we knew that was coming.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that is what she was referring to.

Mr. Schweyer stated that to Mr. Dougherty has there been any formal issuance of complaints to the federal government stating once again we are receiving this cut which is further attacking our urban core and Allentown is certainly not the only out there. Has the administration had any correspondence besides for the mayor hanging out with the President this weekend? Is there anything out there more formal from the city expressing our displeasure and opposition for the cuts of CDBG?

Mr. Dougherty stated not that he is aware of personally. He is sure that there are and he would not minimize the amount of time our mayor has been down at the White House advocating on behalf of Allentown. He has not seen any formal correspondence on that level.

Ms. Baer stated that the mayor is on the Conference of Mayors Community Development Committee and he has been involved in letting Congress and the President know how important and vital the CDBG Home ESG funds are for cities like Allentown and across the nation. As a result of some of that work if you remember the New York Times did an article about Allentown that was one of the results that the Mayor had done.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he is going to speak on behalf of Council stating that this is a direct funding issue that impacts every resident in the City of Allentown either directly or indirectly. We will certainly offer our support to those efforts to try to get that restored and a more formalized letter or resolution coming from Council will aid in the slightest bit showing a unified front from our city. If you would like a resolution to go along with anything in the future, he is certainly willing to do so.

Ms. Baer stated thank you.

Mr. Guridy thanked Mr. Schweyer.

Mr. Schweyer stated that they are voted on the Bills and Resolutions separately with public comment for each one.

Mr. Guridy stated that they can do that.

### **Bill 17 Rental Rehab Program**

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown from the repayment of loans made through the Rental Rehabilitation Program; authorized to expend One Hundred Five Thousand (\$105,000) Dollars received from the repayment of loans made through the Rental Rehabilitation Program in accordance with regulations issued by the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD).

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

### **Bill 18 ESG Amendment**

An Ordinance amending the Consolidated Plan One Year Action Plan for the 2011-2012 Fiscal Year of the Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) which allocates \$68,371 of additional ESG funds.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

### **Bill 19 CDBG Reprogramming**

An Ordinance amending the Consolidated Plan One Year Action Plan for the Thirtieth, Thirty-first, Thirty-second, Thirty-third, Thirty-fourth, Thirty-fifth, Thirty-sixth and Thirty-seventh years of the Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG) which re-programs Three Hundred Seven Thousand One Hundred Ten (\$307,110) Dollars of unexpended funds.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

### **Bill 20 Federal Funding**

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of certain monies received by the City of Allentown under Title I of the Housing and Community Development Act of 1974, 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, authorizing the expenditure of Three Million Three Hundred Forty-nine Thousand Six Hundred Seventy-five (\$3,349,675) Dollars in Community Development Block Grant Program (CDBG), HOME Investment Partnerships Program (HOME), and Emergency Solutions Grants Program (ESG) funds for the July 1, 2012 to June 30, 2013 grant year, for housing and community development programs pursuant to the approved Consolidated Plan, appropriate Federal Law and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

**R20 HUD Action Plan**

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

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**R21 Consolidated Plan**

Approves the Submission of an Amendment to the City of Allentown's Consolidated Plan One Year Action Plan (for the period July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2012) to the United States Department of Housing and Urban Development.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**Bill 21 Jordan Creek Greenway Development Project**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Three Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$350,000.00) Dollars to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This grant will provide funding which will be used to assist with the development of the Jordan Creek Greenway Development Project.

Ms. Mota stated that it was voted favorably 2-0.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

**Bill 22 Stevens Community Park Development Project**

Amending the 2012 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand (\$250,000.00) Dollars to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This grant will provide funding which will be used to assist with the Stevens Community Park Development Project.

Mr. Schlossberg made a motion to amend the Bill 22 to replace all mentions of \$100,000 to \$250,000

Mr. Schweyer seconded the motion.

Mr. Guridy stated by common consent. He asked were there any comments from the dais.

Mr. Schweyer stated that Stevens Park has been a pet project for a number of ours through the course of years. He stated to Mr. Weitzel the first time they yelled at each other was over Stevens Park and that was several years ago. He stated that it is such a key part of the city in an area of the city that does not have a tremendous number of recreational activities, safe recreational activities going back to when we had a chain-link fence with holes in them and balls would get out of and people were dodging traffic and kids on Sixth Street and Tilghman Street. This will be a wonderful addition to our city. This is the second or third urban park that is under develop in Center City core or redevelopment as the case may be with the Jackson Street Park and Percy Park on Ninth Street once we are able to find funding for that. He really appreciates a job well done to you and your staff.

Ms. Mota stated that it was voted favorably 2 – 0.

Mr. O'Connell asked Mr. Weitzel has he ever thought of renaming that park. Do you know why it is called Stevens Park?

Mr. Weitzel stated that he knows the history and it is related to the school district.

Mr. O'Connell stated which is long gone. He still can call it the Stevens Community Park, but there was a school in that park and there was never a push by community residents to rename it.

Mr. Weitzel stated no, sir.

Mr. Gurdy stated that he heard of residents talking about renaming it.

Mr. O'Connell stated that if you go back, you have Jackson Street with Mr. Mest. Do you remember the advocate that was gun hoe years and years ago, Mr. Bigford.

Mr. Weitzel stated that he has not seen Mr. Bigford in years.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he was a community activist for that area and to be commended for that.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

#### **Bill 24 Capital Projects Amendment**

Amending the 2012 Capital Project Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Twenty-Three Thousand Three Hundred Sixty-Four Dollars and Eighty-Seven Cents (\$123,364.87) from various closed-out Capital Projects to three Capital Projects which need additional funding.

Mr. O'Connell stated that this was moved favorably by a vote of 2 – 0 to the entire Council.

Mr. Young stated that it has a number of different components to it. This was taking funds from a lot of different sources and redirecting it from projects that have been completed and some of it is city hall security upgrade. He stated that one from Public Works was bridge repairs, \$30,000 for bridge repairs. We have a number of bridges that need some work.

Mr. O'Connell asked Mr. Young if he was taking that pool of money and finishing various Capital Projects. Mr. Dougherty talked about it during various committee meetings at City Hall.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he thought it was an opportunity when they were closing out all of the capital accounts that still had some money left over after being completed and closed. The projects working with Mr. Hanlon he knows there was a short-slightness in completed the security project around city hall. This was a couple of things, one was the panic buttons that were recently installed in some offices in city hall, but not in the council's office upstairs where Mr. Hanlon and Ms. Whitehead sit. The old panic button that is also on the dais is also going to be upgraded which includes security cameras for the first time in city hall in the foyer. He felt it was important that this new level had to be completed with City Council.

**Ordinance passed, 6 – 0**

#### **11. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**Bill 25 Old Allentown Streetscape Project**

**Referred to CEDC**

Amending the 2012 Capital Project Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Seventy-Five Thousand Dollars (\$75,000) from the Hamilton Street Reconstruction Capital Project to the Old Allentown Streetscape Project.

**Bill 26**

**Referred to Public Works**

Amending the 2011 Solid Waste Budget to provide for supplemental appropriations of One Million Dollars (\$1,000,000) from the Department of Energy and Two Million Dollars (\$2,000,000) from the Commonwealth Finance Agency.

**Bill 27 Local Massage Therapy Codes Replaced by State Code**

**Referred to CEDC**

Repeals Ordinance No. 13360, Article 1157 of the Codified Ordinances, in its entirety to conform to the state massage Therapy Act of October 9, 2008, P.L, as Amended

**Bill 28 Public Works Reorganization**

**Referred to Public Works**

Amending the 2012 General Fund and the 2012 Solid Waste Fund by reorganizing the Public Works Department by creating the position of Deputy Director of Operations (18N).

**12. CONSENT AGENDA: CA-1 Certificates of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts**

Mr. Guridy asked were there any comments from the public.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**13. RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:**

**R15 PPL Agreement**

Authorizes the Administration to Enter into Agreements with PPL Renewable Energy, LLC to Continue Biogas Electricity Generation Services Provided to the City by Constructing a new Combined Heat and Power Facility on Certain City Property

Mr. O'Connell stated that he sees some representatives from PPL here tonight. At the Public Works Committee meeting Steve Gabriel gave a presentation. He stated that he and Ms. Eichenwald were here and we asked Steve many questions about the renewable thing and questions were answered to our satisfaction therefore we voted favorably 2 – 0 to move this to the entire Council. We had a very good relationship over the years with PPL and we want to continue that relationship with PPL. They are a vital part of the Allentown community and it will help us down the road. He thanked the representatives from PPL here tonight.

Mr. Young stated that they have been a great partner and we would like to continue the partnership.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she was extremely interested in this project. It is environmentally sound and it will save the city money.

Mr. Young stated that is correct.

Mr. Dennis Pearson stated that this is a coal generation project in which they are taking from the product that the waste water treatment plant is producing, the methane and some materials that are developed as a result of that in order to burn it off and turn it to electricity which is different from the Delta Project. One would have assumed that they would have done the same thing to have a head start. They would have

had to start from scratch. Taking the byproduct that is in solid form and doing what it is. This is doing the exact material that is in the system that creates methane gas and burning as much as possible.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**R19 Fire Escape Encroachment**

Authorizes the installation of a fire escape and catwalk for 1353 Chew Street

Mr. O'Connell stated that this was an appeal to the entire City Council. The property owner came and presented why he needs this catwalk and fire escape. Mr. Hanlon sent out twenty letters to neighbors in that area. There were no opposition to this and that is why we moved it favorably 2 – 0 to the entire Council for tonight's vote.

Mr. Guridy asked were there any comments from the public.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

**R22 Swimming Plan**

Supports the Adoption of Swimming Towards the Future, A plan for Allentown's Pools and Spray Parks

Ms. Mota stated that the committee met today, they had a great presentation and was moved forwarded with no recommendation.

Mr. Guridy asked were there any comments from the dais.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he would reserve his comments to after.

Mr. O'Connell stated as a committee member it is a plan and a resolution. Mr. Weitzel did an excellent job and the two consultants did an outstanding job in what they were asked to present. They were hired to present a plan about our aquatics program and he feels that they gave a good comprehensive plan; however, there were six residents who had some concerns about the plan. Some saying they are hearing the plan for the first time and he thinks their concerns and reservations they have at this point has merit. Therefore, we did send it forward with no recommendations because we want input from the entire Council before they vote.

Mr. Guridy thanked Mr. O'Connell stated that it was a committee meeting that the members of Council attended. He agrees and thinks Mr. O'Connell is right. There is a lot of information here and it would be a huge change through the city's parks and swimming pools and he personally thinks that it is something that they should discuss a little further and he is not sure what Council would like to do with it. He would like to hear a little bit more for the Councilpersons that were not here and have questions from the consultants and from Mr. Weitzel.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she does appreciate the efforts that went into this, but there is no way that she would be prepared to vote even though she fully understands that this is just a plan on something that was given tonight. It needs a lot more public input as the six people that spoke here earlier this evening that were representative of and she thinks it is incumbent of us to do our work and our homework and to have more public input and more opportunity to study what has been presented. Every time we are told that it is a plan, just a plan let's vote on it, we do a disservice to the public. The input should come at the very beginning, not later on when we are already looking at how we are going to implement it. She personally

will not vote on accepting this plan this evening, not because she is against it, just because she did not study if or has enough information to make a conscious and intelligent decision.

Mr. Guridy stated that he does not want to speak for the consultants and Mr. Weitzel, but he did hear that they had over 800 comments from the public or inputs. Looking at the meeting and bringing this to some of the Councilmembers for the first time and some of the members of the public who spoke has legitimate questions and rationale. It is something that we need to continue to talk about.

Ms. Eichenwald stated to Mr. Guridy that it is a difference between public input from the very beginning. People voice their opinions then a plan is drafted. She thinks the public needs another opportunity to look at what was drafted as a result of their input. There is a big difference between developing those stages and the plan.

Mr. Guridy stated that he agrees with her.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he agrees with Ms. Eichenwald and it is not a knock on you two gentlemen. You two were hired to do a job and you did it well, but that committee meeting for six residents who live in this city to voice their concerns and apprehensions about this plan and listen to them. There was one gentleman that he had a concern and one gentleman said for Fountain Pool was in terrible shape and it has been terrible shape for years. We have to look at our community as a whole and make sure we use the resources we have to take care of the community and address their needs as a whole, not this pocket, that pocket and the whole bit. He heard people speak tonight that was really concerned about this plan and he agrees with Ms. Eichenwald he thinks they need to go forward and get more questions answered from us. He made a motion and Ms. Mota second it to send it to the entire Council without a recommendation. He stated that they need more questions answered. Let's slow down a little bit and let's look at it and review it and do it right. He stated that he would actually make a motion to table it.

Mr. Guridy stated that it is a major difference for something you table or keep it in committee. He prefers that it goes back to the community and have the community get those meetings so the public has an opportunity of the final project and discuss it and put it together and get a lot more information on it. It may have to be done in stages or phases. He thinks this has a lot of legitimate issues and he agrees with most of it. The plan is well done, but he thinks they need to give the community.

Ms. Mota stated that she agreed with Mr Guridy that they did a great job with their presentation and she really liked what she saw, but the reality is the public has to own it. The citizens of Allentown and she believes that it would be a great idea to have meetings by the public.

Mr. Schweyer stated to Mr. Weitzel and the consultants that it is really a solid effort and clearly they are hearing where Council is going with this. We just want to have a conversation. He concurs with his colleagues, he is not going to belabor the point. In here, all six are existing facilities and talks about removing some of them and changing some over or existing. He stated that as one of the two south Allentown residents here, Roosevelt Park had a pool and has tennis courts now and that area of Allentown is dramatically under served to have access to our pool. We have a public housing project nearby, and if there is any opportunity to talk about the construction of the new facility which he understands that they will be number seven on the priority list, he would like to see a conversation about Roosevelt if that was not already in here. He does not want to sound like a person that says you need a spray park or pool at every park. South Allentown is a very large swath of the city and it has one recreational facility and that is Mack Pools. In your RFP and in your contract did you talk about our fresh water access to the Lehigh River at Bucky Boyle, is that possible to include.

Mr. Weitzel stated that it was not included in the RFP.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he understands it is not necessary something for these folks, but in your department as a supplement if Mr. Weitzel can come up with some ideas on how or what the departments plan is for that. The fact that we have the Lehigh River and nobody can get to it unless you are a member of the boat club, use a lot or own a home on Adam's island. It used to be a very popular place for people to swim when he was growing up. He stated that programming is not talked about. He stated that during the committee hearing, he was in the back and Ms. Easterling talked about Valania Park adding a spray park because there are a lot of people that can't swim and thought it was a safety way since there is not a risk of drowning. Is there a programming issue that we can talk about to teach people how to swim. This is a facilities plan and he understands that, but with any facilities management plan increase or improvements and if we could talk about a programming aspect we on Council and the public has an idea, not only what we are doing in terms of improving the facilities, but what our stated goals are in terms of not only usage from a programming standpoint. Building more basketball courts is great, but if we are not building basketball leagues, what's the point. He stated to Mr. Weitzel that he wants to make sure that he has his questions ahead of time so that in two weeks, three weeks we convene, you know where he is coming from.

Mr. Guridy stated that he wants to clarify that although there are certain steps on how to implement it and the first step is that Council approves it. He is not saying they are not going to approve it, let's take it, call Council and get Council involved in case there are any more questions. He stated that they advertise this later and have a bunch of people coming in from different areas of the city talking to us. There were very few and he was perplexed there were people here. For something like this, he was expecting a lot more people. We had one park that we changed one time and we had people outside the hallway and now we have all the parks being changes and we have six people. Something is not working right. Council has to make sure that people know what is going on in every area. He stated that Mr. Schweyer touched on pocket parks like Valania Park and other little playgrounds here and there that we need to take a closer look at to see what should be done. He does not want to go through this and two or three years from now have to say that we missed something because we have an opportunity to do it right. Can we send this back to the committee and have the committee look into this and try to move this forward? We are talking about \$10 - \$11 million. Keep going over the strategies and keep working on this and revise it if it needs to be revised. That does not mean we cannot continue to look for funding. That does not mean you don't have to look for funding for this?

Mr. O'Connell stated that they cannot go forward looking for funding until the Resolution is approved.

Mr. Weitzel stated that as they stated before more than 800 residents contributed to this plan over the last two years and it is unprecedented for the amount of what the outreach and steering committee and consultants put into this. Going out to the facilities and doing a statistically valid survey which in his knowledge in the city in the last six years and he does not know if that was ever done on any projects where we hired an outside firm to do a survey and come back with some really valid percentages and statistics that we could use specifically related to this aquatics. He agrees that the more people that they can get involved, the better and getting out the word to the best of our ability is very important. To that end, you may have seen in the Adventure Allentown in the recent addition which went out 90,000 copies, the centerfold was dedicated to this entire plan. Ninety thousand copies went out to every school student and was distributing to over 25,000 copies to the Morning Call and the plan is on the website and the independent website as well. He stated that they have not just put it on the shelf and let it sit. We are trying to spread the word as much as we can about the project for a lot of very positive response about the vision this plan lays forward. More importantly he wanted to address that this resolution is a requirement of our state funds and essentially this is a DCNR resolution. This is not a city resolution, this is a requirement

of our state grant and our state grant is set to run out by the end of this year so we do have some time if we wanted to kick this back to committee, but he knows if they do not have a resolution adopting this plan, we will not receive the remainder of our funds from the state. There are some federal and state as they mentioned in the presentation. They are not up to code on almost all of our facilities for ADA compliance and if we do not have a plan in place, it's going to cost of money. We have to have two ramps in every facility. The cost is a couple hundred thousand dollars that we have to spend in addition to what we have right now. He does not have those figures right now and the consultants would know what to do if we could not pass the plan for this year.

Mr. Tom Poulos stated in specific the ADA compliance is in the folder part. They are not in the executive summary. He does not have the figures right now they pulled the pools in terms of the requirements for each and every body of water. It is based on a rectangular shape versus a more organic shape in the lineage around the pool. It is not only into the pool it is from the point you park to the access to the Bhatthouse when you transact cash and into the pool. He stated that is where you have to take care of the compliances and it is a pretty powerful number. It was more than a \$100,000 to take care of all your needs. It was upwards of millions or close to, if you were to do everything. That does not mean you have to do everything, you have to have a plan that you are going to address this.

Mr. Weitzel asked when the federal law went into effect.

Mr. Tom Poulos stated March 15<sup>th</sup> it went into effect.

Mr. Guridy asked is it this year?

Mr. Tom Poulos stated yes.

Ms. Eichenwald asked how much time we have for compliance on this.

Mr. Tom Poulos stated that the regulations are when people come up and complain they are not being serve, you are in default right now. You have to have a plan right now on how you are going to comply.

Mr. Guridy stated that he does not want to table it; he wants to send it back to the committee. It want be put on the shelf somewhere, he wants the committee to be active on it. He asked Ms. Mota and Mr. O'Connell, Ms. Mota, and Mr. Schweyer to become active in this committee to move it forward and work with Mr. Weitzel, the consultants and bring it back to Council in a very short time. Obviously, we are not in compliance when he looks at some of the pictures like Cedar Bhatthouse issue ADA issue is not in compliance. There is a lot this around the city and he personally like to see compliance as soon as possible. Give people a chance.

Mr. O'Connell stated to bring it back to committee how do suggest, public input.

Mr. Guridy suggested to advertise it to let people know it is coming.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he would be perfectly comfortable if they did the CEDC meeting in conjunction with the president's council meeting and do it at another public related organization.

Mr. Guridy stated that is a good suggestion to go through the community group. They are part of the presidents' council.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that it is an excellent idea and they two members of the press the Easton Express and the Morning Call and if they would put an article in the paper that would stir.

Mr. Schweyer stated or recognition.

Mr. Eichenwald stated that they could do this and would like to respond to what Mr. Weitzel said about 800 residents that is wonderful and she is pleased to hear that. There is a difference from people giving their initial input, they still needs an opportunity to know what the plan is. She attended some of those meetings and she was really happy to hear the input and people wanted to know what the results of the input. We can work expeditiously and a few weeks doing our homework or research on what people wanted and expect to be in the best interest of people concerned.

Ms. Mota agrees with Ms. Eichenwald and said if we are going start working the faster the better.

Mr. Tom Poulos stated that they did this at the earlier meeting too purely on levels of service as we are talking larger numbers of the system of Allentown as he has seen for a city of 100,000 this is the largest percentage of aquatic parks he has seen, not in terms of quality, but in quantity by sheer numbers. This is from his operational experience.

Mr. O'Connell stated that number surprise, one pool for 40,000 people. We need three pools.

Mr. Guridy asked were there any suggestions or comments. We are not voting on this today. It is not a vote.

Mr. Dennis Pearson stated that he could give them a better understanding on how they got here historically. In 1980, we had eight swimming pools. The City of Allentown wanted to get rid of a lot of the swimming pools. The first to go was Roosevelt, but that was not the initial reason to get rid of Roosevelt. The pool on Delaware Avenue, the lifeguards were acting unruly so they fired them and transferred the lifeguards from Roosevelt to the Delaware Pool and the Roosevelt, then they closed Keck Park and closed Bucky Boyle which had a full scale swimming pool. They wanted to close Irving, but that was stopped. Various times Fountain went down. They wanted three or four swimming pools saying that was the trend, not Allentown's tradition, but the trend. That is the history of the situation. Except for the spray parks, you are going to do what management wanted to do in the 1980s and you're going to finally get to what they wanted to do there. He understands the situation on the south side, but another section of town the east side with their spray park they won't have a swimming pool and our young kids have to go to Jordan which is quite a distance unless the swimming pool at Dieruff opens up. The entire area in which Dieruff draws its student population if there is no swimming pool will not have any swimming pools in the Dieruff area.

Mr. Juan Perez, 632 W Greenleaf Street, stated that he believes what Mr. Schweyer said. We have a lot more small parks that need to be revitalized. Fountain is needed. Why don't they change their plans to revitalize Fountain? He sees that Cedar Beach getting the biggest remodeling of the whole pools that they want to do. Why don't they take some money and work on Fountain. He stated that they are only looking at certain areas. He stated that he has been in Allentown for twenty-six years and that is when he was old enough to move on his own. When he was eight or nine years old he used to visit Allentown for summer vacation because he used to live in New York. He has seen changes and instead of getting better, we are going backwards. We are not really at the way of the people; we are looking at the way of somebody else.

Mr. Guridy asked the committee to take this back, work on it and come back within a month.

Mr. Schweyer stated that they will work on a schedule and they will do it with one of the public groups either recreation or the presidents' council.

Mr. Guridy stated that the president's council meets every month. He stated to Mr. Weitzel that it sounds to him like he wants to do it before.

Mr. Weitzel stated that preferably he wants to do this before they open the pools this summer. From what he is hearing from the experts, it's a critical need that they have a plan to adhere to the new federal rules that just passed in March.

Mr. Guridy asked when they open on Memorial Day.

Mr. Weitzel stated that they open the first week in June and as far as extending the scope of work for these two gentlemen or the consultant firms he needs to speak to the managing director about that.

Ms. Eichenwald asked Council to look at the schedule and see when they can hold a meeting. She does not think they have to wait until the Parks and Recreation committee meet. It will be a committee of the whole and we can get the publicity out and let's try to move it forward rather than wait the whole month.

Mr. Guridy asked Mr. Hanlon did he get that.

Mr. Hanlon stated yes.

### **R23 Cedar Creek Plan**

Authorizes Mayor to apply for a grant and enter into an Agreement if it is granted that would restore the Cedar Creek as it flows through Allentown's Cedar Creek Parkway

Ms. Mota stated that it was voted favorably 2-0.

Mr. Guridy asked any questions from the dais or questions and comments from the public.

**Resolution passed, 6 – 0**

## **14. RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING:**

### **R27**

### **Referred to Public Works**

Authorizes the installation of steps for 23 N. 6<sup>th</sup> Street side on Court Street

## **15. NEW BUSINESS**

Mr. Schweyer stated to Mr. Dougherty as per their conversation that he spoke with Judge David Howells, Jr and he would be interested in the Ethics Board. He knows that they need a republican appointee for that so if the mayor sees fits and contacts him and if he would be appropriate in your estimation that would be one. Second, he does not know who this belongs to on the Mack South Fire Station there is a sign for the industrial park that goes back there and politely, it looks terrible, it is rusted out and is atrocious. It is on city property, however, he highly doubt it is a city sign. It needs to be repaired, it is disgraceful. He stated to Mr. Young that Reading Road, the Reading Road Bridge is a county problem, not a city problem. He asked for a briefing on if the city has a position on it, if they don't then fine. What you know or what you are hearing. The water commissioner intent is not to fund that and maybe that is the appropriate thing he simply does not know, he simply wants to learn more about that. He stated that he has a complaint about

Jordan Creek that it is a disaster in that area by Central Catholic. There is debris and it looks terrible and he is not sure who the appropriate folks to look at that are. He stated to Mr. Young that they have spoken before about the 900 Block of Liberty Street. The conversation about UGI repairing lines, it is chopped up and was not repaired properly. It still feels terrible when you drive down there. He stated that he takes Liberty Street to go downtown frequently and on the street, on the south side serving those row homes on the south side of Liberty Street in the 900 block. He stated to Mr. Hanlon on Bill 25 which is on first reading today, which is the Old Allentown Streetscape project, if he would be so kind to make sure that when we have it at our CEDC hearing we have folks from Old Allentown and Hamilton Street here. He would suggest Ms. Cox and Ms. Suhr to make sure all parties are aware of what we are discussing.

Mr. O'Connell stated that maybe some Councilmembers could refresh my memory. The ice cream vendors that are in Cedar Beach do they have to have a license.

Mr. Guridy stated that everybody that has a business in the city must have a license.

Mr. Schweyer stated that there was an issue with the health inspections. We were looking at doing.

Ms. Eichenwald stated and child abuse.

Mr. O'Connell stated that they put that on hold because that was from a former Councilmember. The ice cream vendors that are parked and Cedar Beach Park for three, four or five hours at a time they have a license to be there.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he thinks they are prohibited from being in the park.

Mr. O'Connell asked if the city could get dibs on some of their profits. They are making tons of money down there.

Mr. Dougherty stated that there are tons of issues and chief among them is looking at the whole protection area of our pools. It is a great disservice on whoever has the concession down at Cedar and yet you have the ice cream trucks coming on city grounds right in front of the pool and entrance way basically taking money.

Mr. O'Connell stated that the pools are not open now.

Mr. Dougherty stated that they attempted to chase them away in the past and we had discussions as recent as last week to deputize the parks department personnel and sweep officers as we done for the health department employees as well which will allow them to give fines out this way we can chase the off the streets. They are legal to be on the street if they have a business license, but we could get them off our property.

Mr. O'Connell stated that his assumption would have a business license. He is not looking to ruin the fun for the kids going to the park looking for an ice cream cone, but we are missing a real viable resources here on any given weekend there are hundreds or thousands of kids in that park. He appreciates what Mr. Dougherty is doing and asked him just keep it moving forward.

Mr. Dougherty stated that the convened a meeting with the deputy chief Hanna, you, himself and Sara from DCED because there are so many facets of this health, finance, getting the money, equity in terms of our concessionaires. We are looking at the issue very closely.

Mr. Hoegg stated to Mr. Dougherty that parks is also looking at licensing a particular vendor for each pool that would have an RFP and the city would get part of the cut, but they will park the trailer there during business hours.

Mr. Dougherty stated that is part of the larger discussion on how we do concessions in the city.

Ms. Mota stated to Mr. Young that she would like to publicly thank him for putting up the signs on Appel Street. People are not getting lost any longer and she thanked him for that.

Mr. Guridy stated to Mr. Young that this was touched earlier and the only other thing he has is the same question Mr. O'Connell brought up in regards to the streets outside Turner Street. It is terrible from 15<sup>th</sup> Street all the way down to Fourth Street. He does not know if they put waterlines or gas lines and they did not pave them right, but it is really bad, Turner Street from 16<sup>th</sup> to 4<sup>th</sup> Street.

Mr. Young stated that we require when they do it that it settles for thirty days, then they come back and do the permanent restoration. There are a lot of cuts in the road where they are doing services for a house and the full length of that work, half the length of the street built and do an overlay on it so you don't get a series of patches.

Mr. Guridy stated that it is not the patched that looks really bad, it is the part where they put the macadam there and they don't level it right. It looks like they don't have one of those steam rollers that should go over.

Mr. Dougherty stated that this will be an important part of the public works meeting on the reorganization of public works to improve the level of communication with our utilities and accountability that goes along with it.

## **16. GOOD AND WELFARE**

## **17. ADJOURNED 8:52 PM**