

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



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**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**August 1, 2012**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

**Council Meeting – 7:00 PM**

**1. Invocation: Jeanette Eichenwald**

**2. Pledge to the Flag**

**3. Roll Call:** Davis, Guridy, Eichenwald, Mota, O'Connell, Schlossberg Schweyer  
Dales Wiles represented for the Solicitor's Office

**4. Courtesy of the Floor**

Mr. Don Ringer, 1801 Ridge Street, asked City Council to kindly come to their senses with the water and sewer agreement. It is not a good deal when you put that kind of money in the administration's hand here in Allentown. They have not done too well with money here before. Think about the seniors in this town that are paying all these taxes. Possibly look at Act 47 and get these unions in control. Bring them to the table and negotiate these outlandish pensions that we have in this city that are killing the seniors and everybody else.

Mr. Lou Hershman, 405 N. Gilmore Street, stated that the .35 percent wage tax he was told that they have it. He believes that the wage taxes were comingled with the regular income tax. It violates the City Charter and asked the City Council if the solicitor's office issued an opinion. He asked for the solicitor's opinion to be a public record.

Mr. Schlossberg stated to Mr. Hershman that this is something that you brought to our attention and a question he asked some time ago, we did receive a response from the administration and then we then reviewed the item as an agenda item more in-depth in Budget and Finance. He thinks the city is ok and does not think that anything was violated in the Charter based on the information that was presented to us. This issue is at a point to agree to disagree. The answer was given to you and the answer was no. Just because you make an accusation doesn't mean we have to follow up on it especially with the total absence of any evidence. We have already addressed it multiple times and as far as he is concerned this is a settled issue.

Mr. Hershman asked for Mr. Schlossberg to get a Legal Opinion and base it on precedence. He wants to see a Legal Opinion stating that what you did was legal.

Mr. Schweyer stated to Mr. Guridy once again from past practice when he was Council president and when Mr. D'Amore was Council president and since Mr. Guridy has been Council president, we have been constantly and consistently asked for a solicitor's opinions to be private to Council and he would like to reiterate that is still his policy and sincerely hopes that is the policy of Council.

Mr. Guridy stated that is the way it has been even when Mr. Hershman was on Council.

Mr. Hershman stated that you could release the opinion. It would be a good idea.

Mr. Guridy stated that they could certainly do that. He stated that he would talk to Mr. Hershman offline on this.

Mr. Dan Poresky, Allentown, stated that he has a couple comments on the water privatization that the Mayor has. He knows that the city has this humongous financial problem that the mayor has done everything he could possible, do to solve in regards to these enormous pensions that in a few years it would cost the city as much as \$25 million every single year just to pay off a couple hundred people who benefit from these pensions. One out of four tax dollars for a couple hundred people. He tried to get out of the contract and did everything he could do and a solution is to privatize the city's water or lease it for over \$150 million is the number he heard. Some private investor is going to give the city money so that the mayor could use to fully fund or nearly fund the pension obligation to bring down the annual amount the city has to pay to something that is manageable. This company is going to come in a give the city \$150 million because they love us, of course not, they are exchanging it for something that we already have. We have a water and sewer system and they get it and we get the money. We give the money to the pensioners and we are left with nothing. It just switches hands, but it solves the problems. It doesn't really solve the problem. A big mistake was made when that pension contract was signed and Council certainly had a role to play in it even though they're not the ones that created it. You also are going to have a role to play in approving this. You are not going to approve the contract, just the request for proposal. If you don't approve it and you are not satisfied it will stop and maybe they will find other solutions. He asked them to be cautious. Here is the problem he has, if they are willing to give us \$150 million, it has to be worth a whole lot more. When he puts \$150 into something he is going to make money off of he needs to make a profit on it. They have people to pay. The city's water and sewer must be dishing out a whole lot of money every year and profits every year so this private company can give us an upfront payment. The city's water and sewer gives a little bit of money and a little bit of profit so where they are going to get this profit from. The only way is to cut cost, labor or to raise rates enormously year after year. Once the initial moratorium expires which the mayor says it is not going to happen or we are still going to have control over the amount of water we are going to get and that is not going to happen because they have to sell more water in order to make money.

Mr. Bill Hoffman, 1518 W. Pennsylvania Street, stated he is also here to discuss the leasing of the water and sewer plant. You, City Council are making important decisions on this transaction. In order to solve a huge pension problem which we have that pension plan was created by the Afflebach administration and approved by that City Council and as we seen it had a long-term and un-proceeding path for the city that has been huge. If the city is going to get something they have to give something up and if it seems too good to be true, it probably is or maybe you don't understand. Are you convinced that this proposed transaction is the best long-term alternative in order to properly fund the fire/police pensions? Do you understand the assumptions that are in the studies that put and evaluation on it. The assumptions are what drive it and the assumptions would be what the administration is proposing have happen. Have you had all the alternatives lined up beside you so that you can understand and evaluate the impact not only the water and sewer rates, but also the city taxes. It so blustering to him to say Alternative A, Alternative B, and Alternative C we have to pick one, but Alternative A might to do nothing unless you can have it spread out in front of you and you truly understand all the alternatives. It is really hard to make the best decision. If you're not convinced that this proposed lease structure is a good long-term economic decision then perhaps there is a political decision being made to make the pension problem go away regardless of the costs? He asked them to please consider these questions carefully.

Mr. Guridy stated to Mr. Hoffman that he wanted to point something out on a clarification on one of the points you said and that was in regards to you mentioned initially that Council approved the contract of the

police and fire. We didn't approve the contract. Council did not approve the contract, what we did was drop the lawsuit that we had against the contract.

Mr. Schlossberg stated to Mr. Hoffman that he asked three extremely good questions and three questions that we are going to have to answer for the public no matter how we vote on this. He stated that he will answer for himself and by and large he is speaking on behalf of some of his colleagues. First, are they convinced that this move is in the best interest of the city, the answer is no not yet. At least he is not convinced yet. They are going through a very deliberative process right now and Mr. Guridy will announce in a few minutes that they just say in an hour and a half Executive Session. Many of us have research folders that are this thick and we have four public meeting to attend and we have numerous briefings to attend on behalf of our attorneys, our financial advisors, and the consultants that Council has hired to represent Council's best interest at the table. He is not saying that he won't eventually come to the conclusion that this is the best interest, but he is certainly not there yet. Second, do we understand the assumptions behind any sort of valuation, the answer to that is also not yet, but is something we are working on? Part of the meeting that we held today was questions about how do we know what the valuations of the water and sewer system are based on. A couple of us, including Ms. Eichenwald specifically requested a meeting with our engineer, the firm that conducted the valuation study in order to determine it and what we were talking about and this is for the public that information behind the assumptions and the actual valuation is not public because that would not be in the best interest of the city to publicly say we think this water and sewer is worth X or Y because quite frankly in an ideal situation we would be able to possibly get more. Third, as for do we know what the alternatives are to this; the answer to this is to a large degree yes. We know that municipal bankruptcy is without a doubt beyond question, not an option. We know we can't declare municipal bankruptcy because state law in Pennsylvania does not allow a third class city to declare bankruptcy. We could enter Act 47 which is a municipal distressed law that governs distressed municipalities in Pennsylvania, but if we enter that, what would happen we will have to come up with financial recovery plan that will say we will raise taxes that we will probably have some combination of tax hikes, service cuts, and asset sales. We don't know the formula of any specific alternative yet. That is something that we are still deliberating. He did want to answer those. He is sorry that he took so much time, but those are three really good questions and all of us have to be really comfortable with all three of those answers.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that certainly that much more debate she has to disagree with Mr. Schlossberg's third point. She doesn't think there are only two Alternatives to solve this problem. Bankruptcy and selling an important asset she thinks somewhere in the middle still needs to be explored.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that Ms. Eichenwald is absolutely right, those two are not the only two options there are other options. That would be the best option as he understands it right now, but there are certainly more options that they are exploring.

Mr. Dennis Pearson, East Allentown Rittersville Neighborhood Association, stated that when he thinks of what's going on in terms of water and sewer because of pension problems he hopes that they are not going back to the future and becoming Wiesenberger. Wiesenberger was the guy that built the pre-treatment plant in western Lehigh Valley that had gone bad and caused the great agony of Allentown downtown and only solved by only going to the west end. The west end spoke out before that the east side was supposed to defend itself and think that the problem was becoming from Bethlehem Steel. That is what Daddona said. There are some questions here regarding the water and sewer issue. If the sewer plant is part of the issue then what will happen to your agreement with Delta Thermo, do you get any funds or will it just go to LCA or somebody else. What happens when the factory is not an incinerator? What will happen to your agreement with PPL which you have co-generation and power. These are the issue that has to be decided

too. Will the City of Allentown will lose in a situation where these funds are transferred if it goes to LCA rather than the City of Allentown being counterproductive.

Ms. Milly Canales-Ramos, Old Allentown Neighborhood stated she wants to talk about Article 720. Last time she spoke she told them that she was not happy with Article 720 especially in regards to skateboarding and bike riding and then she hears that on a Wednesday when she is not present it got passed and there was some part of it that did not make her happy. Today, thirty kids rode on their bikes to meet you guys at 6:00 PM and there was nobody here at City Hall. There was no cancellation meeting posted on the web and not only did the kids have sad looks on their faces they were very disappointed because they really wanted you guys to hear what they had to say. In the room today, we do have a few of them that are still here. They did make an effort today to come out and address the public safety committee. Especially in regards to a portion of Article 720 addressed that a child that is ten years old who rides their bikes especially down Seventh Street may possibly get a SWEEP ticket. The way that the ordinance is written, it says that a skateboard is defined by anything that is on a narrow board with wheels that is pushed by either human or gravity. A scooter can possibly, not that we are saying, it is a scooter, but it could possibly be given a SWEEP ticket especially there on Seventh Street. Our concerns as parents are that is a ridiculous amendment. They would like City Council to revisit Article 720 and look into getting us a park in Center City. Stevens Park was allocated \$500,000 this January 2012. Since January 2012 nothing has been done in Stevens Park other than events that Old Fairgrounds have put out in their own funding. Not one city event has been ever held in Stevens Park in the last five years. We couldn't even get a movie free from the City of Allentown. She paid \$1,200 to get a movie in Center City this year out of pocket. Wells Fargo and Community Action along with Old Fairgrounds got this moving. We have 55 patrons come out at night. Thank God for the police department. They are not here for her to actually say it in public, but they were the best. They helped us. We had no lights and she paid for a generator. It was the worst in that park trees are falling; the grass is more than six inches. It is a shame because not only should that park and it is in the Center City be given some attention, but that park is given negative attention and she is just distressed and it gives her concern. She did address this with Mr. Ismael Arcelay and she did point it out that they would come to the table with any discussion. Recently, they did the mayor's walk and we had over 200 residents come out. She recently sent a letter to the mayor letting him know that she appreciates him and the residents appreciates him. There was a picture on Facebook. They were excited to meet the mayor. He was out there walking with the police. Everyone was saying what a great job he was doing in Center City and yet we have this park in the middle of our neighborhood that is awful.

Ms. Cynthia Mota stated that they will look into it.

Ms. Milly Canales-Ramos stated that she does not want Council to just look into it. She actually wants you to do something for it. There is already a state park proposal already with funding sources with ideas and already a diagram. All we ask is for you to do with that money to Stevens Park as it is allocated. Meet with the residents and come up with a plan. There are no official plans. There are no public meetings set aside for any residents at Old Fairgrounds or anywhere around Stevens Park and also to address that it is a shame that the Parks Department don't even return your call to say that at her event there were no garbage cans and nothing done for her. She stated that Randy Cope gave her the key and they did it themselves.

Mr. Guridy asked the administration and Mr. Dougherty is it true that there was \$500,000 allocated for Stevens Park. What is the hold up? Are there any plans for anything especially for the summer?

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated that he will look into it.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he and Ms. Canales-Ramos are meeting at 2:00 PM tomorrow. Skate Parks are something that we talked about at length and Mr. Weitzel tried to put one at Cedar Beach when the first proposal came up and the biggest reason why Council or he objected to it because it was not near the highest concentration of children and when we looked at the city, we looked at different locations and we talked about it and quite frankly we had a Parks Director at the time that liked Skate parks and had money that he could put it where he wanted to and that was about the end of it, with all due respect. When it comes to Stevens Park, to say that there has been no movement in the six years that he has been on Council is not entirely true. From the new fencing that has been put up. When he was first elected Council they we did along with Karen Beck-Pooley and other residents, a Comprehensive Community Study to see what was there and they had conversations about should it be a skate park or a full court basketball half court. Should it be Sprinkler Park, a spray park? It is not to say that he disagrees with the idea of a Skate Park because he doesn't. He is 100% in favor of it and has been on record about that and continues to be on record. You are right, the next Director of Parks and Recreation, it should be a priority for them. He does not know if that is the right place because they have already done so much in investigation of what the community wants there and the \$500,000 was three years of vying for funding until we got it. He has been on Council for six years and they have done a Comprehensive Plan, they prioritized at first, they got the attention of the community and private donors and it took three years to actually implement that. Unfortunately, sometimes that is the way it works and you know that and I know that. Assuming that we have done nothing at Stevens Park isn't true. To say there is money sitting out there that has not been allocated yet is true, and his assumption is that we don't have a Director of Parks and Recreation right now. He will sit down with Ms. Canales-Ramos to see if they could find the ideal location. The deep west-end or the deep south-side does not make sense because it is not necessary where the kids are. His pledge to them they will continue to do that.

Ms. Canales-Ramos stated that yes, there is a new fence in Stevens Park and there are some toys in Stevens Park, but you can't get to the toys if you have to fight the grass.

Mr. Schweyer stated that the maintenance of it is a different issue and he was not justifying that. Please don't misunderstand. He is talking about the structural layout of the parcel of land.

Ms. Canales-Ramos stated that the residents are not asking us to fight for different funding. We are asking from the city is a conversation. Sit down and converse. We invite Old Fairgrounds to monthly meetings and we invite the city every month and no one has shown up to the meeting. She meets with different areas, but in regards to the residents this is what they are asking and as their president they always push me to come forward to do that.

Ms. Mota stated to Ms. Canales-Ramos that she is glad that she is doing it and becoming the voice. That is great. We will have some answers.

Ms. Canales-Ramos stated that she hopes soon because she does not want to wait another year.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that what we just heard is distressing and suggested to Ms. Mota that they have a Parks and Recreation and Committee of the Whole meeting at which we ask some representatives from the Parks Department to come and we continue to engage in this discussion. We are operating without a Parks and Recreation Director. Someone needs to come here and tell us what the plan is.

Ms. Mota stated to Ms. Eichenwald that is a great idea and we will do that.

Ms. Canales-Ramos stated to address that there is not like there is not things going on throughout the city. What we are saying is that there is nothing going on at Stevens Parks. You have movies throughout the city, but nothing at Stevens.

Mr. Richard Ramos, 530 W. Allen Street, stated that he wants to talk about the lack of initiative for a Skate Park in Allentown or the Center City area. Our Skate Park is now at Keck Park which is too far from Center City.

Mr. Guridy asked if Mr. Ramos was the young man that sent the great letter. He thanked him and stated very well done. He thinks that most of them, if not all of them agrees that we need a Skate Park in Allentown and he believes that most of them, if not, all of them wants one. It is just the logistics of it and the community is asking for it and he thinks that they heard from Mr. Schweyer and Ms. Mota that they are committed to it and hopefully they will get something very soon. Bethlehem has one and they developed another one and expanded it. He is one that has been talking about it for years because his kids used to ride skateboards and they still do. He stated to Mr. Ramos that he got his support on it and thanked him for coming.

Mr. Joshua Ortiz, 515 Elm Street, stated that he is going to talk about Article 720. He thinks that the Article is not fair because they have a lot people in the city that ride bikes, skateboards, skates and anything you can travel on. The rumor that has been going on is that if they catch us riding bikes or anything like that after a certain time limit, they will fine us. He stated that he does not get it. What if it is an emergency and we need to go somewhere and a car doesn't work or we have no transportation. What is there left. At least a skateboard will get them to the emergency. If he goes to an emergency and he gets a fine that's not fair. There is a skate park in Bethlehem and that's too far from where we live. He lives at 5<sup>th</sup> and Allen and it's too far and Keck Park is too far. He likes to ride bikes and he has a group and if they were here right now they would agree with him. It is not fair. They should have a park at Stevens closer to where they live because that park all you guys are doing is not enough. Building fences is not enough. There are fights and he cannot bring his little brothers to the park because something else ends up happening. Either a fight or it is too dirty. We should have the right to put a skate park there so that they could at least have something fund because the skate park in Keck is way too far to get to. He stated that if his little brothers need to ride in the street because it is after a certain time limit to ride on a sidewalk to get a fine, that's not fair, what if they get hit or something. He does not agree with this Article 720 because most people here when they were younger used to ride bikes. Nobody said anything about this Article 720 that you can't ride a bike after a certain time limit. On Hamilton, they are businesses there that told us if they catch us they will fine us and he respects that because they have been telling us for a long time. They are handing out fines now, and not giving us warnings and now, Seventh Street and past Hamilton. Everywhere they catch us, we will get a fine. He stated that his voice and their voice the city should just listen to it because they have great questions and answers that you should answer.

Mr. Guridy thanked Mr. Ortiz for coming here and expressing yourself so eloquently.

Mr. Schweyer stated to both young men, excellent job. He stated that we have a city of 118,000 people with the exception of Mr. Hershman that comes every two weeks. We routinely get five or six people and we do genuinely appreciate that. He stated that both Mr. Ortiz and Mr. Ramos beforehand spoke about the skate park and he is going to put that aside because we already addressed that. There was some misinformation that was in that ordinance. It is pretty abundantly clear to us that what was stated is vastly different. He asked the administration that at the next neighborhood meetings in the Old Fairgrounds area and the 500 Block of Allen Street if they could get someone from the SWEEP's department to go and actually explain that to the residents that are demonstrating the most amount of concern about that and that way we could can sort of make sure that we are talking the same language. Some of the things that you

are saying maybe are what is being said out there, but it might not be entirely true. A lot of the stuff is already in City Hall and we put it together. If we could make that request that would be an appropriate way. He asked Ms. Milly Canales-Ramos if that works for her.

Ms. Canales-Ramos stated that Ms. Ann Saurman is coming next month. She knew they were coming today.

Mr. Schweyer asked if someone from the Allentown Police Department could be there as well to talk about enforcement issues.

Ms. Canales-Ramos stated that Captain Mould will be there.

Mr. Schweyer stated that would be the best way to dispel, but obviously if Ms. Canales-Ramos has any concerns or questions to come see Council.

Ms. Tatiana Tooley, Community Engagement Coordinator for the Allentown Promise Neighborhood as well as the Resurrected Community Development Corporation at 441 N. 9<sup>th</sup> Street, stated that the reason why she chooses to represent the CDC she works for is because in April she did a police/resident workshop for children of Center City Allentown, the Allentown Promise Neighborhood. They had twenty children from the ages of eight to fourteen with two police officers and we did a three hour workshop which was absolutely fabulous. This young lady was one of the parents that were there. She has an amazing and beautiful poster that shows the unity and the friendship that was between the police officers and these young people. It was a great day. Our children have an opportunity to look at a police officer with respect and honor and one of them ask how do I become you. If we have police officers on Seventh Street and she is not talking about the other areas given citations to an eleven year old for riding his bike on Seventh Street that is going to undue the work that she has been doing for a very long time in Center City which means unifying the police department with our families. She knows that her police officers will not do that because they will have compassion over children. You never know that one will catch himself on the wrong day at the wrong time and may do that because an eleven year old may just be very aggressive with a police officer. She stated that she is trying to be proactive in a sense she is trying to have our children off a high traffic street such as Seventh Street. That is the street she is concentrating on. She knows the age is from ten and under, but an eleven year old has no business riding his bike on Seventh Street because of those cars. That is her concern. It is a safety issue and she is trying to prevent something horrible from happening and she is trying to continue to install the relationship that her police officers have with her families in Center City and that's why she is here.

Mr. Guridy asked if anyone from the Recreation Committee would like to address any of this.

Ms. Tooley suggested that if they are going to have an age thirty and under. She can deal with thirteen and under because fourteen year olds should know better. A twelve year old and an eleven year old and a thirteen year old are still at that very delicate age in their childhood and she is very concerned about their safety first. She hopes that they take that into consideration when they amend Article 720.

Ms. Takenya Webb-Lawrence, 935 W. Chew Street, stated that she is here regarding Article 720. She has two children that live in the city and her daughter is at the age, she is twelve and riding her bike and she participated in the program that Tatiana mentioned and she got her bike and met the police officers and was very excited. She has the same concerns as Tatiana because when she tells her daughter to go to the store, she tells her to go to the store on the busiest streets because she is a young female and if something were to happen there will be more people that would see her and know what happened versus if she tells her to go to the store on a quiet street where it is just a corner store. Therefore, Seventh Street for us is a

big street and a lot of stores are there and she can tell her to go to the store and not be so concerned. If she is riding her bike to the store she will find it distressing if she gets a ticket because she stayed on the sidewalk versus being in the street. That is a concern she has as a parent. As a resident of Allentown and as a driver she would be devastated if she hit someone's child because they were forced to ride in the street instead of the sidewalk. She understands the concerns and her focus is mainly Seventh Street, not so much Hamilton because of the businesses, the large corporations that are there. Because there so much community focused mom and pop stores that we use more often our kids are most likely to go to Seventh Street so she thinks that they should relook at the Article and see what we could do so that way we are not hindering the safety of our children by forcing them to ride in the streets.

Mr. Guridy asked the community to revisit the Article to see if it is appropriate and see if anything could be done in regards to the questions that were asked by the residents.

Mr. O'Connell stated that they are specifically speaking of Article 720 that addresses skateboarding and bicycling. Those were the additions to the Neighborhood Improvement Bill 35. We will look at that.

Mr. Guridy stated that you heard Mr. O'Connell. It would be looked into and you are welcome to stay for the rest of the meeting. Thank you for coming over.

## **5. Approval of Minutes: July 18, 2012**

Approved by Common Consent

## **6. Old Business:**

None

## **7. Communications**

Mr. Guridy stated that the City Council held an executive session tonight for about an hour and a half and the subject matter was the sale/leasing of city assets particularly the water and sewer plant. He stated that Mr. Schlossberg very well eloquently indicated some of the comments that he made in regards to that particular meeting. We will continue to discuss. There is a meeting schedule for tomorrow at 6:00 PM over at Dieruff High School and encouraged everybody particularly if you are from the east side to attend that meeting. There will be a meeting in Center City and a meeting on the west end and a meeting on the south side of Allentown. The meetings will be the next four Thursdays at 6:00 PM. The next Council meeting will be held at the East Side Youth Center at 7:00 PM. One thing he wanted to do is bring Council to the community. We will hold meetings in different areas of the community. The first meeting we will hold outside Council Chambers will be the east side youth center next Wednesday of the month which will be the 15<sup>th</sup>. He thanked the East Side Youth Center's Directors for allowing Council to have the meetings at that location.

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

Budget and Finance: Chairperson Schlossberg

The committee met and reviewed the city's finances. All the major income seems to be on track. We are cautiously optimistic and the next meeting is on August 22<sup>nd</sup>.

Public Safety: Chairperson Eichenwald

The committee was scheduled to meet this evening at 6:00 PM. That meeting was cancelled in lieu of the executive session they had at 5:30 PM. The next opportunity to have a Public Safety Committee Meeting will be the first Wednesday of September.

Community and Economic Development: Chairperson Schweyer

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; a future meeting is tentatively scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup>.

Parks and Recreation: Chairperson Mota

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next regularly scheduled meeting is on August 15<sup>th</sup>.

Public Works: Chairperson O'Connell

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; a future meeting is scheduled for August 8<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM. There is one item on the agenda. He wants to review Bill 35 – the Neighborhood Improvement Amendment, particularly Section 720.13 Skateboards and 720.1 Bicycles. He wants to have a discussion and the people that spoke tonight.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chairperson Davis

The Committee met on July 25<sup>th</sup> and forwarded some items on tonight's 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**

None

### **Controller's Report**

Ms. Mary Ellen Koval stated that at the last Council meeting she told them that they had interns for the past 13 weeks at the Controller's Office and she just wanted to do a follow up from the Budget and Finance Committee meeting where the two young men who worked on projects for us presented a report for the Budget and Finance Committee and if anyone would like copies she would be happy to give it to them. They actually did a revenue flow at three different locations within the city. They did a process flow and a customer flow. Tonight she just wanted to introduce the two young men to the rest of City Council because they did such a wonderful job for us. They are Boshen Wang from Lehigh University and Daniel Wong also from Lehigh University. Boshen will be graduating at the end of the year and Danny will be going into his junior year starting in the fall. We are happy of what they did.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that he wants to echo what Ms. Koval said. It was a genuinely fascinating full report. It was a truly interesting report. It definitely brought to light a very interest in-depth process on revenue flows are specific and recommendations. It was phrased with the same quality of work that we get from our auditors and you should be proud of what you did. He stated that when mentioned to Mr. Strathearn he stated that he will have administration responses to it and he is looking forward to seeing those.

Mr. Guridy stated that the interns did a wonderful job and thanked them for coming over with your expertise and your suggestions were wonderful.

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

Mr. Fran Dougherty stated that he sent through the City Clerk late this afternoon a missive from Pennoni and Associates with some very good news that half of the homeowners are allowed back now on 5<sup>th</sup> Street. They include 816, 818, 824 ½ and 826. Before, they were talking about 828, 829 ½, 822 and 824. Pennoni still needs to conduct one or two additional studies for them. Thankfully we get some homeowners back into their homes. David Paulus is here and he is expediting that process by contacting the board up contractors to work with the homeowners, get them in their homes. That was good news that we received today, and he sent to Council that Pennoni letter to each of you through the Clerk. He stated to Mr. Guridy that with his permission that he would use the remainder of his time to divide up between Rich Young and Vicky Kistler. He asked that Vicky comes up first. He asked Vicky to give us an update on the Corbett administration's attack upon the health department's and the poor that this Commonwealth is taking. It is

very distressing and you need to hear this first hand of what exactly is happening and the affect upon urban areas like Allentown.

Ms. Vicky Kistler stated that public health funding has been a very complicated infrastructure for years. An antiquated Act 315 allows for \$6 per capita for each city resident to receive funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Health to a local county, municipal health department. In the state of Pennsylvania, there are ten county or municipal health departments. Allentown, Wilkes Barres, York City, Bethlehem, Alleghany County, Montgomery County, Philadelphia, Bucks County, Berks County, and Erie County. Everyone else is covered by the Pennsylvania State Department of Health. Those ten county municipal health departments cover 41 percent of the population in the state of Pennsylvania and are covered by those health departments. The law apparently was written that it was up to \$6 per capita for Act 315 funding. There is an additional law called Act 12 that funds \$1.50 per capita for apparently up to \$1.50 per capita for environmental health services so that if every year if the city generated a local match we would have received that \$6 and that \$1.50. Recently, as recently as several quarters ago our population estimates were changed. The governor's office chose the population estimate of 2008 where 107,815 citizens and paid us the \$6 and the \$1.50 ahead on that. That was unusual to us however, we kind of accepted that. In January of this year, the first quarter the Act 315 payment did not arrive nor did the April Act 315 payment. Now, they have been late in the past. We always get a letter telling us that what our allocations will be and then we always get the checks. When they are late, we actually solicited your help to shake loose those checks in Harrisburg. She knows that Councilperson Schweyer has helped us through Jennifer Mann's office at times to say where is this money and the checks have miraculously have arrived. This year, on July 3<sup>rd</sup> they received a letter that we were getting a \$66,000 cut for January to June. The came on July 3<sup>rd</sup> for services already provided under a letter already received from what our funding would be, unprecedented. They also announced that they were reducing the Act 12 funding in that same period. From a \$1.50 to \$1.34 per capita and they stated that their rationale for this was the Pennsylvania State Department of Health had a \$2.9 million shortfall in their budget. They were passing that on to the county and municipal health departments throughout the state. For those of us in Allentown, that is a significant hit, but for Montgomery County, Philadelphia and Erie who are a big health departments, we are talking millions of dollars retroactive to January 1. For those health departments that are small like Wilkes Barres City who only have ten employees left, that's devastating. Essentially, they are at a point now where they are dismantling the public health infrastructure. Last night at 9:30 PM, we received an email of a letter that states our funding from July 1 of this year to December 31 of this year which includes additional cuts. Now, those additional cuts take the Allentown Health Bureau allocations down in total of about \$89,000 from the state. What we are essentially looking at using their Census data that they are no longer per capita paying us for about 22,000 of our residents in the per capita budget arbitrarily out of the blue. Luckily and proactively, we did not budget in the city budget that we were going to receive every single dollar that they had promised us. Although we will be experiencing cuts, she does not think they have a full analysis yet of exactly how much that cut will be, but the intended cut for the state was about \$90,000. Now, this occurred to public health in Pennsylvania at the same time that the governor eliminated what was called Act 537 funding. That is storage enforcement money. Now, that did not come to the Allentown Health Department because we don't enforce storage here, but it did go to Montgomery County to Philadelphia and to places where they do have to enforce storage and added an additional \$500,000 cut to the health department throughout the state, many of them. What we essentially have is already we rank 50<sup>th</sup> in the nation for public health infrastructure. That is the fewest number of public health workers per capita from any state in the nation and now they have taken that and further reduced that. At the same time, the Center for Disease Control has announced that federally we are no longer permitted effective October 1<sup>st</sup> to vaccinate any individual with any type of health insurance. If you have Medicaid, Medicare, Med anything, private insurance, public insurance, we can no longer vaccinate you with state provided or CDC provided vaccine. We got a special exemption to be able to conduct flu clinic for one last time, but we cannot deliver a flu shot to a home of a homebound Medicare eligible recipient unless we

choose to buy that flu vaccine out of city tax dollars. The kids that get excluded from school because they are missing a shot will have to wait weeks until they can get a primary care doctor's appointment to get in to get that shot because they are not sick kids. They take lower priority over children who are ill, but those mandates are coming at the same time. The calls that we would get from our citizens saying I have a \$40 co-pay to get a vaccine can I get help from you, we now have to say no and one of the things that we will have to do as a result of some of this is to institute some very, very strict residency requirements where people who have dispersed family members who live outside our city we used to be able to treat the whole family and we are not going to be able to do those things no more. We just wanted to bring this to your attention to tell you that they are working diligently and she wishes she could say to them that she would work harder to bring more funding in to offset this cost, but she has to admit that they can't any harder. We are applying for grants that they have the opportunity to apply for. We are trying to bring as much capital as we can and now we are facing a point where we have to look at the reduction of possible services in order to handle the fiscal climate that is being given to us by the state. She asked the question of what cuts are they taking from the State Department of Health, but she has not received an answer. She can't fathom that a state is going to have a \$2.9 million deficit in a health department budget and they don't know that it is coming until they allow us to do six month spending to let us know that it is coming down the pike. To her, she would expect them to fire her if she did that. She can't imagine that they did not see a \$2.9 million deficit until six months after we already delivered services.

Mr. Schlossberg asked if Ms. Kistler's health department lost from the state total fiscal year \$90,000.

Ms. Kistler stated that calendar year. Their fiscal year is July 1 to December 31. If she adds together calendar year, it is approximately \$90,000. Again, we are not \$90,000 in the hole because we did not budget that to begin with, but that is the allocation loss. That is the allocation based on their screwy population estimate. If they had gone with the true population 118,032 residents we would have lost \$130,000. They are draconian cuts. Again, it's straight across the board.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that throw the word draconian around after watching this governor in action. He does want to confirm that he understands this appropriately. He is looking at the budget and it looks like you had about a \$2.9 million budget this year. Just to give everybody a perspective, in 2007 it was a \$3.2 million budget and in 2008 it was \$2 million, in 2009 it was \$2.6 and then \$2.7 and \$2.8 and now about \$2.9. You actually gone backwards about \$250,000 since 2007 and you just lost another \$90,000.

Ms. Kistler stated that they are working diligently to ration toilet paper and Band-Aids. We have not diminished services. In fact, we have doubled or tripled services over this period in many of our categorical areas. She can't do any more with any less. We have to now finally start doing less. It is just not any more give that we could have. The good news is we are still bringing in categorical grants and we have four big grants proposals out there. We are looking to the private sector to see if we could bring additional funding in to bring sources to Allentown. We are not giving up on this and she certainly does not want her staff to feel that we are going to give up on this or the residents to feel that we are giving up on this. She thinks the Philadelphia Inquirer kind of said it best when they said that the governor has launched an assault on the poor and he has won the battle. We can't let that happen so we are going to work diligently for those services that our taxpayers who got accustomed to being able to come and get a vaccine for their grandmother or come in pop in and get a flu shot. That is all going to end. The city employees' access to those things is going to end. You are going to have to make an appointment with your doctor or stand in line at a Walgreens and that will be the best we can offer them.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that it is a deep irony to this. You cut spending and you can run around and say I cut X amount of dollars from the budget, but at the end of the day all you need is ten people to get sick

because you wound up absorbing catastrophic health costs over and drain Medicare, Medicaid, and you lost money on the deal.

Ms. Kistler stated that she can't think of a bigger economic development issue. People are going to miss work to go to a doctor to get a vaccine to prevent an illness. They are not going to do it. The other thing is that you are going to have employees that are out, kids that are out. It's a lost work time issue. It is a huge economic development issue, not to mention a public health, and a community development issue.

Mr. Schweyer stated first and foremost he feels her pain having served for the last six years now and on the board of LANTA and the last two as chair. They took a \$1 million hit between two counties provided access in the middle of our year after we agreed to service pass through dollars from the county to provide transportation cost to people that are trying to get to and from work. This is regrettably have become the MO of this administration. He stated to Ms. Kistler that she mentioned that the CD one that bothers me just as much. What is the cost of a flu vaccine on average? It cost \$40 for a co-pay, but he knows that flu vaccines are nowhere near that. What are they?

Ms. Kistler stated that a vaccine on the market is about \$11 then an administration fee at a pharmacy takes it to \$25.

Mr. Schweyer stated and you were providing it to everybody regardless if they had insurance or not.

Ms. Kistler stated that they got them at public health prices much lower if they brought them ourselves or they were provided free through the government.

Mr. Schweyer asked if Ms. Kistler could put together a quick memo or report on what the cost is.

Ms. Kistler states sure and the other issue that goes with that is that this is part of Obamacare's attempt at forcing people to their medical homes, forcing people to use their insurance to the fullest extent and go to their medical homes. We understand that and she does not understand that when you are an uninsured or underinsured individual it takes weeks to months to find a medical home and then weeks to months to get into it.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he sees CeCe from the Allentown School Board in attendance and he is sure they have been in contact because that will affect them.

Ms. Kistler stated no, actually we got this letter literally last night at 9:45 PM and you are the first people who we are telling. She needs to get in touch with the school district.

Mr. O'Connell asked who is the supervisor for healthcare.

Ms. Kistler stated Bobby Malcolm. They are going to have many meetings on how they are going to do this and she is already plotting with staff and we are going to reach out to primary care providers to say we need some special, even the kids on SHIP we can't take care of them so we need some special arrangements that these kids are not going to be out of school for two or three weeks.

Mr. O'Connell stated that you know full well that even in a good year we have kids out for two or four weeks at a time. He stated that in the Daily News it is not just this governor that has an attack on the poor it is an attack on woman also services that are provided to women.

Ms. Kistler stated many. She can tell him that one of the cuts and the areas that they have opened is sexually transmitted disease clinics where women get pregnancy tests, but women also get screened and so do men and that is one of the areas where we had a gentlemen's agreement that we would not turn anybody away from anywhere. We are going to have to institute a residency requirement which has a horribly effect on kids in college who are not residents here and it is going to turn into a real interesting dilemma because those people are going to access emergency rooms which is going to drive up the cost of healthcare.

Mr. O'Connell asked if this affects the mammogram program.

Ms. Kistler stated that we are going to try not to let it, but anytime we lose this type of funding we are down to staff.

Mr. O'Connell asked what can the administration and Council do to help this situation.

Ms. Kistler stated that she can't say enough how supportive you have been to this health department for the decades that she has worked here. As they identify areas where they can make changes and where we can rally support we are going to come to you and ask for that, but right now they just wanted you to be aware and honestly they are reeling from it and has not had a chance to put it together. Once they do sound analysis, they are working with Fran and Sara to see what we could do and we have to work harder on that on our public/private partnerships and we may need your connections to do that.

Mr. Guridy asked Ms. Kistler and Mr. Dougherty to get Council some kind of letter so they probably can by Resolution send opposition to this and get us some information on all those cuts that you mentioned. We can do a Resolution and send to the Legislators.

Ms. Kistler stated that she already had some conversations with Senator Browne and had a conference call with the other nine health directors from the state and they will also be able to garner some support and protest there. We were one of many mental health was cut, transportation was cut and a number of others.

Mr. Guridy stated that a lot of times these people just go line item and say let's cut this and they don't know the specific attack on the poor, women or disenfranchised they make by doing that.

Ms. Kistler stated that she can see that from July 1 to December 31, but she does not see how you go back to a line item and whack a line item for services that already has been delivered.

Mr. Guridy stated especially when they undercounted us.

Mr. Dougherty stated that he thought it was very important to bring it to Council's attention because it has a direct effect on your constituents. He asked Mr. Rich Young to give a brief overview on some of the more important infrastructure projects and milestones including the 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge and American Parkway. He handed out a matrix of other important infrastructure projects between parks.

Mr. Rich Young stated that they have a number of projects that they recently received bids on and the contracts are in process. One is American Parkway, the estimated price tag on American Parkway was \$40 million and the low bid was \$32.4 million. This is 100 percent federally funded project. That came out pretty well and that contract is in process with PennDot because it is federally funded the funds come through PennDot.

Mr. Guridy asked if \$30 million to do the bridge is all.

Mr. Young stated that the total project which includes the bridge was \$32.4 million. The estimate was at \$40 million. The 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge Project, if you have been out there.

Mr. O'Connell asked if Decker got the bid.

Mr. Young stated that the low bidder was New Enterprise. New Enterprise has home offices in New Enterprise, PA. They are a very large contractor and have done a lot of work for the Turnpike Commission.

Mr. O'Connell asked union or nonunion.

Mr. Young stated that he was afraid that you would ask that. He does not know the answer.

Mr. O'Connell stated that it was something in the paper the other day. It was a nonunion job.

Mr. Young stated that he was not surprised by that.

Mr. Dougherty stated that it was related to their previous conversation.

Mr. Young stated that he does know that New Enterprise purchased a contractor in Center Valley. He is not sure when, but Eastern Energy is a subsidiary of New Enterprise which is a local contractor. How much Eastern Energy will be involved in the project he does not know. The 15<sup>th</sup> Street Bridge, if you have been out there. You will see the work going on out there. They have done some clearing of shrubs that are alongside the road. They got the temporary traffic signal installed at 15<sup>th</sup> and Martin Luther King. They have their job trailers set up and the erosion settlement controls in place. They are waiting for PPL to hook up the power for the temporary traffic signal. Once that power is hooked up there will be a seven day period where it is on flash just to let people know there is a new traffic signal there. Once that is operational they will close 15<sup>th</sup> Street and start the demolition of the bridge.

Mr. O'Connell asked about the temporary traffic signals.

Mr. Young stated at 15<sup>th</sup> and Martin Luther King, yes that is temporary.

Mr. O'Connell stated that could really be permanent because that is a busy road.

Mr. Young stated that he understands what Mr. O'Connell is saying and he is not sure what the warrants are for that intersection, if it needs it or not. When the work is finished that is something that they can take a look at and if it meets warrants he will make sure it gets a Capital Project.

Mr. O'Connell stated to Mr. Young to keep Council posted on that.

Mr. Young stated Union Street Bridge there is an item on the agenda for introduction that is related to the Union Street Project. That is the procurement process that we have to go through. PennDot came up with a new procurement process that requires them to revise their ordinance. They want that revised before they advertise for the construction inspection portion of the project. They won't let the project out for advertisement for construction until they have our construction inspector on board. It is a critical timeframe. The East Side Fire Station, the plans and specs are in purchasing right now. They just this past week received the report on adding a PLA to that contract and as soon as that gets done that will be advertised and they will be able to receive bids and get started on the construction of the East Side Fire Station.

Mr. Fran Dougherty asked if there were any other questions on the matrix.

Mr. Young stated that they also received bids on the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Streetscape Project. The lower bidder there was Marina. If you are familiar with the work that just was completed in the Old Allentown area. Particularly the work along Turner Street basically between 9<sup>th</sup> and Tenth, it does not go quite all of 9<sup>th</sup>, but particularly that area on the south side of the road. That is the same contractor and the low bid there was just shy of \$1.4 million. We will be going out very shortly with a contract for new fencing around the Fairgrounds and then follow-up with some final designs for the rest of the 19<sup>th</sup> Street Theatre District area. There will be some improvements in that area.

Mr. Joe Davis asked were there any further movement on the stone wall at the Parkway.

Mr. Young stated that is another one where the contract is in process. We selected Pennoni and Associates to do the evaluations. That contract is being prepared right now that we will move forward with that also.

Mr. Schweyer stated just quickly looking at the matrix, Sacred Heart Streetscape Phase. He stated that they have a bunch of stuff from the Agricultural Society and there are no Agricultural Societies in our neighborhoods. He believes that should be in the 19<sup>th</sup> Street district.

Mr. Young stated that it was. Those projects are completed now.

Mr. Schweyer stated that they all are done. They have about \$4,000 left in that budget and they are working on a partnership with Jordan Heights.

Mr. Guridy asked about the Eighth Street Bridge. He heard that the fence was approved to stop people from jumping, but he does not see anything on the Eighth Street Bridge matrix here.

Mr. Young stated that the Eighth Street Bridge is a PennDot bridge and is currently under design by PennDot. He stated that it was two months ago, they had a public meeting in Chambers here about that bridge. He does know that the design is proceeding. He does not know the timeframe on it.

Ms. Kistler stated that they were told that in review of the plan that the money was allocated and it would be anywhere from a year to about three years until construction is done. The city is putting the camera in place that they asked for with your help. They also have a small donation and a committee working on the possibility of eventually having call boxes to call for help. Some of the things that will hold them in the interim, but apparently PennDot renovations take time. The money is in the budget and within the next one to three years they told us that the project should be completed.

Mr. Young stated that one of the things that they do have with them is that they probably will not start construction on Eighth Street until 15<sup>th</sup> Street is finished. He would not want 15<sup>th</sup> Street and Eighth Street out at the same time. We already get too much traffic over Shrivvers Bridge and they had to do some emergency repair work to Shrivvers Bridge and that work is completed and back open in both directions even though Shrivvers Bridge is not the signed detour. The locals do know it is the shortest route.

Mr. Guridy asked were there any other question or comments on this matrix. He would like to see Eighth Street move forward a little bit, but is out of our control.

Mr. Young stated that the design is proceeding.

Mr. Guridy asked when the 15th Street Bridge will be completed.

Mr. Young stated that is about an eighteen months process. A lot will depend on when PPL can get their traffic light up. They did announce this.

Mr. Guridy asked Mr. Young to let PennDot know it is a priority for us. They probably will move it faster.

Mr. Young stated that the city has.

**APPOINTMENTS:**

**Christian J. Brown      Allentown Planning Commission      Term to Extend to 06/03/2015**

**Resolution passed, 7 – 0**

Mr. Christian Brown stated that he was not sure if they had any questions for him since there is a face or two that's new since the last time he was before Council. As he is entering his second term on the Planning Commission he would like to say that so far it has been going really well and he is bringing the representation of the Shade Tree Commission and the new ordinance that the city has passed is really good. It has been helpful to have that representation on the Planning Commission. He thinks in general the Planning Commission is really starting to challenge the developers to step up the game and he wanted to contribute to when he came onboard the first term and he looks forward to doing it for more years.

Mr. Guridy thanked Mr. Brown for all the work he does.

Mr. Schwyer stated that one of the reasons why they specifically were hopeful that he would take the Planning Commission is because the Shade Tree Commission was always overlooked with Planning issues in our 34 – 35 year history in having a Shade Tree Ordinance. There has been a significant urban revitalization that has happened here and he knows Mr. Brown has been a part of it. He thanked him for all he has done.

**10. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:**

**Bill 40 Capital Transfers 2.doc**

Amending the 2012 Capital Project Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Two Hundred Fifty Thousand One Hundred Seventy Dollars and Thirty Cents (\$250,170.30) from the Hamilton Street Reconstruction Capital Project and the City Hall Elevator Replacement Project to two Capital Projects which need additional funding.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that this was recommended favorably by a vote of 3 – 0. The only question that was raised was if the funds were there and transferable and Ms. Giguere stated that in fact they were.

Mr. Dougherty stated that they promised that they will be back to Council with both our short-term and long-term plan to clean up old Capital Accounts. This is one short step towards that lower-term goal and with that as you well know we have a number of priority Capital Projects that have gone unfunded for too long of a period of time throughout our many buildings. This will help us with some of those important projects including all the public rooms in our health department in Alliance Hall which are literally falling apart. As the chair of the Budget and Finance Committee has said the real question is whether the money is here and with that he will ask Lauren Giguere to reveal through her forensics that the money is there.

Ms. Lauren Giguere stated that she did a review of the source of funds where the money is being transferred from, the original bonds that they came from which she actually went back to the bond papers

to make sure that the bonds were passed and the money was put into the accounts and she did a check to make sure the money was actually in the account and they are there. Upon her review she makes the recommendation that Council approve Bill 40 which approves the transfer of funds.

Mr. Guridy thanked Ms. Giguere and asked were there any questions.

Mr. Schweyer stated that once again he would like to thank the administration for all your hard work. There is one thing that we had spoken about is that through the course of the past couple of years was adding and increasing our ability to expand our camera network and the \$140,000 which is the total number that and a tremendously popular program for good reasons. He stated that Ms. Giguere has been very helpful and he appreciates that.

Ms. Giguere stated that as Fran mentioned this is part of the short-term process of getting the money moved from accounts that are not in of the accounts for programs and projects that are in need of the funds. We are in the thick of the review of all of the projects. She has met with all of the project managers over the past month along with Deb Bowman. We are continuing to review the accounts and as promised we will be back in September with our findings.

Mr. Dougherty stated that they just had last week from meeting with the Baum School and the Art Museum expressing to us the urgent need for a police camera at the intersection of 5<sup>th</sup> and Linden. They had a number of broken windows at both institutions, but it just brought home that need to expand and the need to find some money for it. The police department is trying to find other grant monies for it. We can do our part here. He pointed out the work of Mr. Don Hoegg in helping us priorities where to put some of this money towards our infrastructure.

Mr. Guridy asked any further comments from Council or the public.

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

#### **Bill 44 IT Reorganization.doc**

Amending the 2012 General Fund and Sewer Fund, creating, eliminating, and reclassifying a number of positions related to reorganizing the Information Technology Department – with a net savings of approximately \$53,567 (Fifty-Three Thousand Five Hundred Sixty-Seven).

Mr. Davis stated that the committee discussed this and they had a discussion with Mr. Schlossberg on the technological committee that started it. It is more or less updating the IT program and reorganizing and saving \$53,567 and it was passed favorably 3 – 0.

Mr. Schlossberg thanked the administration, the AdHoc Committee, and Mr. Leibert for working so closely with Council on this. This is truly a great example of Council/Administration cooperation to work together to advance a goal and save \$53,000, increase efficiency and get our technology up to par that it certainly should be. It is very easy these days to forget these days how important technology is, but as he said at the press conference, every single one of us felt the pain of our server malfunctioning or our smart phone syncing up appropriately. Hopefully, we keep that to a minimum and move the ball forward.

Mr. Dougherty stated that a lot of the work Mr. Schlossberg was a great assistance in helping us reorganize and as you know he comes before you in reorganize Public Works and some of the water positions. This was next on the list of priorities and led to a more adaptive organization. This is an organization that technology changes every day and needs the flexibility to adapt with it. He was very pleased to get himself



**R39.docx**

**Premier Media Detailed Summary Proposed Digital Outdoor Network.pdf**

Authorizes the Administration to Enter Into a 15 Year Contract with Premiere Media Allentown, LLC

Mr. Davis stated that they had a good discussion on this and had questions that were answered by the representatives. He proposed an amendment to this Resolution. Adding amendment R39 by deleting the third Whereas and adding to provide and construct the digital outdoor network at the end of the last phrase.

**Amendment passed, 7 – 0**

Mr. Schweyer asked is \$44,000 a year is our best guess. Even though these locations aren't necessarily in our parks, Mr. Weitzel was pretty adamant in doing advertisements in our Parks System. Is this phase one of all of that or is that no longer happening because Mr. Weitzel is not here?

Mr. Dougherty stated that it is currently no longer happening.

**Resolution passed, 7 - 0**

**14. RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING:**

**15. NEW BUSINESS**

**16. GOOD AND WELFARE**

**17. ADJOURNED 8:36 PM**

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