

**CONFIRMATION HEARING ON PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR
MARCH 19, 2008**

The Mayor said it is a great pleasure to recommend the nomination of Richard Young as Director of Public Works. He has served as interim director since the beginning of November. He has proven he possesses the necessary skills, experience and knowledge to deal with multiple tasks associated with the functional operation of the department. Richard is a licensed engineer with 33 years of experience in the field. He joined the City as a senior civil engineer in 2002. He was promoted to Manager of Engineering and City Engineer in 2006. He was then named Deputy Director of Public Works in 2007. In addition to be a licensed engineer, Rich holds a PennDOT certification as a bridge safety inspector. From 1986 to 2002, he performed road layout and other duties for Keystone Consulting Engineers, Bausch and James, and Panoni Associates. He is a member of the American Society of Civil Engineers, America Society of Highway Engineers and American Public Works Association. He is also a member of the Pennsylvania Society of Land Surveyors and Institute Transportation Engineers. Rich is known for professionalism in the execution of his duties and enjoys a stellar reputation in his field. Some time ago I created a committee comprised of mostly individuals from the private sector to interview some of the finalists in this particular position, and they determined as I did, that Rich is the right person to lead this department. His job performance has been recognized outside of City Hall. He is one of 3 Allentown employees to be named in the 2007 outstanding municipal partners in support of erosion and sediment control program by the Lehigh County Conservation District. For all these reasons, I'm confident you will be as impressed with him as I am. He urged their unanimous consent for his approval.

Richard Young said in his professional career, he started out as a draftsman and gradually worked his way up. He is a native of Allentown.

Mr. Phillips said there's been a lot of emotion about certification. You are a PE?

Mr. Young said that's correct. He's licensed as a professional engineer in Pennsylvania and Maryland.

Mr. Schweyer said there have been a number of good innovations at the Department of Public Works. Most notably have been the installation or the process of installing solar panels on some of our properties in order to reduce electric costs. Will you continue those efforts started by others in your department?

Mr. Young said absolutely. There's an RFP that's ready to go out right now, if it hasn't already gone out for the installation of the solar panels at Bridgeworks. We also put in a request for a grant to add solar panels at the Wastewater Treatment Plant to help generate electricity there. We're doing a lot of . . . we're burning methane and generating electricity at the power plant to offset significant costs of power there.

Mr. Guridy congratulated him on his appointment. He asked if there are plans to repave some of the streets and alleys?

Mr. Young said it takes funding. We have done some projects, even though the funding has slowed. He's pursuing financing. This year they're going to spend about a half million dollars on streets. We do get Liquid Fuel funds of \$1.9 million for this year. That will be used for streets, staff, street sweeping, etc. If the finances are going in the right direction, he would like to expand the street program. He would like to get into a replacement program for doing something on every street at least once every 30 years. We have 430 miles of streets – once every 30 years – that's about 15 miles of street per year. This year we're doing about 7 or 7-1/2. We still have a good size street program, but it should be increased.

Mr. Guridy asked if he has any suggestions for Public Works that the committee should look into and support you?

Mr. Young said one of the things he started working on is a pavement management system software program that would do a more intelligent evaluation of the streets. We would send inspectors out – right now, we do our worst first. If you have an alley or narrow street that gets 2 cars a day, and it has a rating of 4, and you have another street that has 20,000 cars a day, with a rating of 6, you should do the street that has 20,000 cars a day first, before the alley. There's going to come a time when you want to do the alley, but when you're looking at the funding sources, you want to concentrate on your higher volume.

Mr. Guridy asked how would you like us to support you on that? Is that something we should be looking into?

Mr. Young said when we come to you with the streets program, they'll have that evaluation, and if it's presented and there's a proposal to reduce the budget, what we can show with this software package is what impact that will have on future years. The streets that are bad, aren't going away. If you don't fund it this year, you're going to fund it next year, plus whatever is coming on the back end. The number of streets keeps growing even though you may not be doing as many.

Mr. Guridy said one of the things he heard the Mayor say was that you have a bridge certification.

Mr. Young said he's a certified bridge safety inspector.

Mr. Guridy said most of the people who are dealing with bridges are checking our bridges. How do you see our bridges in the City? How many bridges do we actually have?

Mr. Young said the City has a total of 63 bridges.

Mr. Guridy asked how would he rate them?

Mr. Young said most of the bridges are in the Parks – pedestrian bridges, in the golf course. Of the vehicular bridges that are 20 feet or more, we have 23, those PennDOT actually inspects. We get an inspection report every 2 years on those bridges. The other bridges, for the most part, are okay. We do keep an eye on them. We don't want them to get to the point where he'd sooner do a maintenance on it, than a replacement. Maintenance is a whole lot cheaper than replacement. You can stretch out the life of the bridge if you do proper maintenance.

Mr. Guridy said we don't get to see much of the Engineering Department because they aren't in City Hall. He would like to take a ride with him some time to see what's going on in the City. We have a very diverse City. He would like him to hire the best people we can possibly find but keep diversity in mind.

Mr. Young said sometimes it's not finding the best person for the job as much as it is finding the person that fits the job correctly. If someone has a Ph.D. in engineering, he's very qualified to do the drafting, but it's probably not a good fit to do that job.

Mr. Guridy said all Cabinet members have to live in the City. Are you planning to live in the City?

Mr. Young said he lives in Bethlehem, and he plans to move to Allentown.

Mr. Howells said you have always exhibited the highest degree of initiative and motivation and desire for professional ethics. You are a hands-on supervisor. You are also highly appreciated and supported by your subordinates as well. That's something you need to get your job done. You've always been very receptive and responsive whenever I needed anything. He said his vote will be yea.

Ms. Eichenwald congratulated and welcomed Mr. Young. She looks forward to working with him. She noted he had extraordinary experience in the Engineering Department. In management, on the other side of this position, have you thought of any innovations in that area that you wish to bring to the department?

Mr. Young said there are some areas that he'd like to see improvements in. He anticipated a question of priorities. He has a number of priorities. One is in order to get traffic to move more smoothly in the downtown area, there's what they call a closed loop system where all the traffic lights are tied together as a network and one intersection communicates with the other intersection. There are detectors in the pavement so if a particular card is getting more traffic on it, the timing on that card will change and allow that traffic to move more smoothly. He'd like to see that implemented. Some of our equipment is old. Some of our controllers are in the 35/40 year old range. You can't get parts for them any more. We recently secured a grant through Congressman Dent's office to replace a good many of them, but he doesn't know that that will complete the job. We want our equipment to be up to date. Crosswalks – a simple thing. Most crosswalks are due 6" wide lines spaced 6' apart. He'd like to go with what he calls a piano key. It's 2' wide stripes spaced 2'. They're a lot more visible for a crosswalk. It's pedestrian safety.

Mr. Howells said for example, that would be on 9th Street, at the PPL Plaza.

Mr. Young said you're correct. He'd also like to keep up maintenance on the City's infrastructure. Maintenance is a whole lot cheaper than replacement. We need to do it in an intelligent fashion.

Ms. Eichenwald said his answers show initiative and interest. She looks forward to seeing from where these issues develop. She is a strong believer that we get the most for our dollar if we can combine with other entities, be it the County, School District, or local colleges and universities. Is there any way we can maximize our purchasing potential of equipment and services by uniting with the other entities?

Mr. Young said we do that to a certain extent already. We buy a lot of our supplies from a state contractor. Some of our materials – because we have a large volume, and it's close – we get better prices than they get on the state contract. The state contract is wide spread so they can be delivering anywhere – Lehigh Township, Alburdis. They have a lot of delivery work. They know they're getting a large quantity right here. We do get better prices on paving materials, stone, etc. We already do try to go to the state contract whenever possible, whenever we see it's the most economical.

Ms. Eichenwald said maybe we can look further into partnering with our other local entities.

Mr. Young said we share our fuel with the County, and they pay us for it. It gives them more locations to fuel on.

Mr. Phillips asked about the piano crosswalk. What's the cost? Will it cost more or less to do that type of . .

Mr. Young said we're talking paint. Instead of \$25, it might be \$40.

Mr. Phillips said in your tenure, in the next 4 to 6 years, what kind of strategic plan do you have for Public Works overall? What is your long term vision?

Mr. Young said what he'd like to see – the American Public Works Association has an accreditation program where they accredit Public Works Departments. In Pennsylvania, there's only one that is accredited, and that's Allegheny County. He'd like to see Allentown be the second one. You start with a self-evaluation. You then bring in a group of public works officials from around the country who will look at your Public Works Department and make recommendations for improvement and efficiency. It gives him a sense of what they're doing is the utmost performance, and they're getting the most for their dollar. It gives you and the Administration a level of comfort that what they're doing is the best that can be done and the cheapest.

Mr. Phillips said he's looking for his plan. Your strategic plan.

Mr. Young said the self-evaluation process is developing a strategic plan.

Mr. Phillips asked what does the accreditation cost?

Mr. Young said it depends on the population of the City and the size of the department. The range was \$12,000 to \$25,000. That's why he was reluctant to say anything in public. He does want to go through the self-evaluation, which doesn't cost anything. The cost is to bring the officials in here.

Mr. Phillips asked what does that do for us beyond the planning stage, as far as liability, insurance – we're self-insured, but what will it do for us as far as liability?

Mr. Young said he doesn't know if it would give us a leg up on grants. It let's everyone know they're operating on top level efficiency, based on outsiders.

Mr. Phillips said we don't know if it's cost effective.

Mr. Young said absolutely.

Mr. Donovan congratulated him on his appointment. Public Works is one of those departments you don't notice until something is wrong. He was pleased to hear him talk about new street lighting management system. It strikes him the downtown is a bit archaic and the traffic light systems would have a tremendous impact on gas utilization and cars.

Mr. D'Amore said he supports his nomination. The two big concerns he has are the 15th Street Bridge. It's such a main artery. Where are we at on repairing that bridge? When can we expect that bridge to be completely repaired?

Mr. Young said they're going to be repairing it within the next month. They are going to totally replace the bridge. That replacement will probably start sometime in 2009 and will take about 18 months. There are things they are going to do to try to minimize that closure. We can do it in some of the substructure units before we start removing the bridge. Once it's down, the detour around it is not easy. There are steel plates covering holes on the deck. There are holes in the girders that have rusted through. We also had an analysis done of the piers. We initially wanted to replace the beams and the deck and leave the piers and abutments in place, but they don't hold up to the latest design standards, so we have to replace everything. There are 5 spans there now. They will be replaced with 2 spans when it's finished. Instead of 4 piers, there will be one pier.

Mr. D'Amore asked where are we on the American Parkway Bridge?

Mr. Young said American Parkway is scheduled for the start of construction in 2010. We had some difficulties with the American Parkway project with tail water conditions. Adding piers in the river – we're going to have 3 piers in the river. It caused water elevations upstream to back up. They backed up into Catasauqua. It took a while to work through some solutions. That has been resolved, and it's moved forward again.

Mr. D'Amore said Mr. Phillips wanted him to ask about the cost.

Mr. Young said PennDOT has assured us, both verbally and in writing, when American Parkway is ready, the funds will be there.

Mr. Howells said there are 2 bridges over the Lehigh. One is known as the Ward Street Bridge and 15th Street Bridge.

Mr. Young said they did look at that. The cost was prohibitive. Removal of that film material that's between the 2 bridges really added a lot of cost. They would have preferred having one bridge that would have gone over Martin Luther King Drive and the Little Lehigh and span the area between it also.

Mr. Howells said why don't we white out the name Ward Street Bridge because no one ever refers to it as that name.

Mr. D'Amore said last year he made a productive trip to Harrisburg visiting with the Secretary of General Services regarding cost savings issues for the City. One of the things he brought back was a plan for ESCO (Energy Saving Corporations). It's a mechanism for us to work on finding funding for energy saving initiatives. He doesn't know whatever became of the project. Do you?

Mr. Young said he doesn't know. We're continuing to look at opportunities to save money. One of the things we saw was a demonstration of LED street lights, not traffic lights. You get a lot more light for the energy that's used, a dramatic reduction in energy and the light – most of our street lights are high pressure sodium. They have a yellowish tint to it. These are like the old mercury vapor lights. They're white. Even though the level of light is the same, it looks like more light. The problem they're encountering right now is they're on a rate schedule for all of our street lights, and it's based on the high pressure sodiums. If we were to change to the LED right now – PPL doesn't have a rate schedule for the LED lights. The sales rep is trying to work with PPL to develop a rate schedule for them. Because of the difference, he'd like to try them anyway. The City has a lot of very good people working for them.

Ernie Atiyeh, 1909 East Congress Street, said he's had the pleasure of working with Mr. Young on a couple of projects. Right now we're working on a project on 7th Street. He's a true professional. A dedicated City employee, like most of them. He's a phone call and email away. Before we contracted out the City garage, it used to be under Public Works. He would like them to review that contract and get it back with the City.

Mr. Howells said he also would like to see it back in the City.

Mr. D'Amore concurred. It's not just about cost effectiveness; it's about getting the job done right. We can control the job, when we control the garage.

Mr. Donovan and Mr. Schweyer moved to recommend Mr. Young's appointment favorably.

Mr. D'Amore said this will be voted on at the regular Council meeting tonight, immediately following the Controller's report.

The meeting was adjourned.

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
MARCH 19, 2008**

1. Invocation: Jeanette Eichenwald

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Roll Call

Mr. Donovan, Ms. Eichenwald, Mr. Guridy, Mr. Howells, Mr. Phillips, Mr. Schweyer, and Mr. D'Amore.

4. Courtesy of the Floor: None.

5. Approval of Minutes: None

6. Old Business: None.

7. Communications: None.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

ADMINISTRATION – Chairperson Donovan

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; future meetings will be scheduled on the 4th Wednesday of the month at a time convenient for the members. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 26th at 7:00 PM. The committee will meet every 4th Wednesday of the month.

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Chairperson Schweyer

The Committee met on March 12th; a future meeting has not yet been scheduled.

PUBLIC WORKS – Chairperson Guridy

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

PUBLIC SAFETY -Chairperson Howells

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

APPOINTMENTS - Chairperson D'Amore

The Committee forwarded appointments on tonight's agenda.

LEGAL AND LEGISLATIVE – Chairperson Phillips

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

RULES AND CHAMBERS – Chairperson D'Amore

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

OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS

AEDC

Mr. Donovan said there is a meeting tomorrow morning.

Arts Commission

Mr. Donovan said there is no report at this time.

Pension Board

Mr. Donovan said there is no report at this time.

Blighted Property Review Board

Mr. Schweyer said the committee met last Monday. There were 34 properties that were reported from the Redevelopment Authority. They all were approved to be blighted. They will be taken off the blighted property list as long as their properties are brought up to code.

Mr. D'Amore said many of our committees in the City are staffed by members of City Council. If there's any member of Council who wishes to report on anything that is important on the committees you serve, please report at this time, and at future meetings as well.

CONTROLLER'S REPORT

Mr. Hoffman said they have met with the Redevelopment Authority, Parking Authority, AEDC and ACIDA to get involved with those organizations who have significant cash flow, and where there are cash flows, the Controller's Office is interested. They're working in the initial stages. They had their first quarterly Controller's meeting where the Controllers from Allentown, Bethlehem, Lehigh and Northampton Counties got together to know each other and exchange information, i.e., what do they do for Purchasing, how do you handle transfers. It's a good source of information.

Mr. Phillips said he's looking for the pension actuary. Do we have that yet?

Mr. Hoffman said we have Fire and O&E. No Police. He believes Mr. Hilliard is on vacation. On his return, he was expecting to have the Police actuarial study at that time.

Mr. Phillips said he'd like to see it as well.

9. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

There was a motion to suspend the rules to bring R12 to the front of the agenda.

The rules were suspended by common consent.

R12

Appointment of the Public Works Director, Richard Young

R12 was approved, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

Bill 9

An Administration bill that amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$1,500 to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Keystone Active Zone. This grant is for the support of the City's playground program.

Mr. Schweyer said the committee recommended this bill favorably, 2-0. This will benefit the Recreation Program.

Bill 9 was adopted, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

Bill 12

An Administration bill that amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$5,000 to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Community Revitalization Assistance Program garnered from Representative Mann's office. This grant is *for the support of the revitalization of Cedar Creek Parkway to make the renovations accessible.*

Mr. Schweyer said the committee recommended this bill favorably, 2-0. This is for the purchase of playground equipment for Cedar Creek Parkway. The committee asked Greg Weitzel if the funds were going to be used for the creation of a handicap accessible playground for Paulette Hunter and other interested folks. He assured us it was.

Bill 12 was adopted, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

Bill 13

An Administration bill that amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$10,000 to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Community Revitalization Assistance Program from Senator's Browne's office,. This grant is *for the support of the renovation of Cedar Creek Parkway to make the renovations handicap accessible.*

Mr. Schweyer said the committee recommended this bill favorably, 2-0. This is also for the playground for Cedar Creek Parkway. The same situation applies. It is to make the playground handicap accessible.

Mr. Phillips said he's listening to all these plans and monies that we're doing for the Cedar Creek renovations. Why are we accepting money if it doesn't pass?

Michael Moore said these are all part of the plans, and the grant requests were made, and the grants were approved through Representative Mann and Senator Browne.

Mr. Phillips said if this project is denied, than what do we turn to for grant money?

Mr. Moore said these are grant specific items.

Mr. Phillips said but the project is not approved in its entirety, so then we have to return the money.

Mr. Moore said he'd have to get back to him on that. He has to look at the grant to see exactly what the language is.

Mr. Phillips said the grant says it's for these projects. If Council doesn't approve the revitalization of the Park, then we can't accept these funds. Why are we voting for something before we approve the plan? He has already voted for 2 of them, and now he's thinking how can we vote for them if the plan isn't approved? We've gotten ahead of ourselves. He knows the money is there, but the money should be held until the plan is approved. Procedurally, it should be done that way.

Mr. Schweyer said regarding the community revitalization grants. The money is site specific. Without special exemption from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development these funds could not be used if they weren't used specifically for this project. The germination of this grant – from an administrative standpoint – this initial request did not come from Greg Weitzel. There's always going to be a development of a playground at Cedar Beach. That was then merged into part of the bigger plan. The community revitalization grant process takes up to 18 to 24 months. Even if the entire Cedar Creek Parkway is approved by Council, it could be used for just this playground. It is for playground equipment. It's not for any of the work.

Mr. Phillips said he understands that. Should we still be accepting funds before any of these projects are approved? That's what his concern is.

Mr. Donovan said Mr. Schweyer said what he was thinking. These funds do seem to have a specific purpose, and he was aware they were requested and they were plans for various improvements to the park before Mr. Weitzel was hired. He understands Mr. Phillips' concern. Occasionally, it does seem that certain things go forward before the overall plan is presented. This strikes him as a separate project into a potential overall plan. Perhaps there needs to be some clarification. He doesn't see why they can't accept the funds. They go into escrow until they're needed.

Mr. Gurdy said we can accept the funds and place them in an account in the budget and hold them there until we decide what we're going to do. If we can't use the funds, then we give them back. At least we should accept it right now.

Ms. Eichenwald said often grants are time specific. In other words you have to complete a project by a certain day. That also adds to what Mr. Phillips was saying.

Mr. D'Amore asked Assistant Solicitor Danks that by passing this ordinance and accepting the \$10,000, are we not authorizing the playground, which is what this is specifically for, not only the playground but to make the playground handicap accessible. Are we not effectively authorizing that project by accepting this money?

Assistant Solicitor Danks said he doesn't know exactly. He would think this is strictly moving money from one account to another. You have a financial administrative ordinance in front of you. You don't have a plan or playground. The minutes aren't going to reflect that you considered the merits or demerits of the playground. This just puts – if he understands our budgeting process correctly, and he's not the expert on that – this is all routine, administrative financial work, and it doesn't have anything to do with approving a particular plan or project. It just puts the money in place for it. He thinks these things have already been approved or maybe pending approval . . . This is one little piece of a much bigger process. This isn't the one single piece of paper that is going to create a park or playground

Mr. D'Amore said his sense at the committee, along with Mr. Schweyer, when we accepted these grants and when we forwarded these bills favorably to Council, that we were indeed approving the project, and he was willing to approve the projects because they were very specific and those specifically mentioned what these projects are for.

He knows members of this Council have already expressed serious questions regarding the overall Cedar Beach plan and the Parks Master Plan, in general, and he shares many of those concerns as well. He doesn't think in anyway what we're doing is implicitly – by accepting this money tonight, if we do, he doesn't think that we are, in any way, implicitly approving the entire Cedar Beach Master Plan nor are we supporting the entire Parks Master Plan or giving the authorization for the go ahead for the implementation of that Master Plan. Is that assumption correct?

Attorney Danks said he believes so, but he'd have to double check that before he can tell him it's correct.

Mr. Schweyer said the City should have already signed that contract with the Commonwealth as part of the Community Revitalization Grant Project. The only way it could get to this point is if a contract was already signed between the City of Allentown and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The other caveat about this type of funding is that it has to be spent within 12 months, not completion of the project. These funds have to be spent for that. So if the purchase of equipment say, the handicap accessible swing sets or a water fountain, has to be purchased by then, but the project does not have to be completed within those 12 months.

Mr. Phillips said he's not in opposition with it. He's just trying to figure out how we procedurally . . . He's familiar with the grant process because he's been involved with a couple of non-profits. He understands all that. He's just trying to get it straight, logistically, if we should be accepting money if this project . . . he understands we want to do this project, but it hasn't been approved by this Council. So should we be approving it? He wants to make sure we're doing it so that it's going to get done, and the plan is in front of us and we have it. He doesn't want this money to get lost.

Ms. Eichenwald said this discussion points out again how important it is to have the appropriate member of the Administration here when we're discussing an issue. When we see 3 or 4 items that have to deal with Parks, it would behoove the Administration to have someone here so that when we have questions we can have them answered appropriately.

Mr. Guridy asked if we're in the process of approving this?

Mr. D'Amore said we are. We approved Bill 12 and in the process of discussing Bill 13.

Mr. Guridy moved to amend Bill 13 by setting the \$10,000 into the General Fund of the unappropriated balance and then remove from this ordinance the expenditure in Other Contract Services. The money will be there but it will not be authorized until Council has approved the Cedar Beach Parks Plan.

Attorney Danks said if he understands what you're doing, you're just going to take Section Two out of the existing ordinance. You can amend these ordinances any way you care to.

Mr. D'Amore said his understanding here would be that if we . . . is there a second to the amendment?

There was no second to the amendment.

Mr. Donovan said he's looking at the word revitalization and he's not seeing support of the Master Plan, and to him revitalization could be as simple as trimming a tree or putting in a bush. When he sees the phrase this grant is for the support of the revitalization of Cedar Creek Parkway, he doesn't see the Master Plan. He sees something that was established in the past, before the Master Plan was being developed. That this is for a particular project at Cedar Beach with a specific use that is required by contract. While he grants Mr. Phillips' concern about the cart before the horse, as he said in a prior meeting about doing the Rose Garden, in particular, he thinks we can get by on this with the funds coming in. It would be illegal to spend the money in any way other than this, and it is for a specific purpose.

Ms. Eichenwald said the problem she sees is Bill 12 is for the revitalization, but Bill 13 is for a renovation. Renovation applies to an actual physical change.

Ms. Eichenwald and Mr. D'Amore moved to table Bill 13 until they have further information.

The motion to table Bill 13 was approved by common consent.

Mr. D'Amore said basically Bill 12 is exactly the same as Bill 13. Motion to reconsider will be out of order until the next Council meeting.

Bill 14

An Administration bill that amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$4,888 to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Council on the Arts. This grant is *for the support of the City’s Summer Concert Series and Art in the Park.*

Mr. Schweyer said this bill was recommended favorably, 2-0.

Ms. Eichenwald said the obvious question is are we approving the concert series and Art in the Park, or are we in the same predicament as we were with the others?

Mr. D’Amore said that’s up to our discretion.

Mr. Phillips said he thinks this is a work in progress with the organization and the construction of the program. He thinks it’s something we can move forward.

Bill 14 was adopted, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

10. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:

Bill 17

An Administration bill that Amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$5,000 from St. Luke’s Hospital to the Communications Program of the Police Department to provide for public education for our 911 program

Bill 17 was referred to Public Safety.

Bill 18

An Administration bill that Amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$22,000 as a result from a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community & Economic Development (PA DCED), Community Revitalization Assistance Program to the Fire Department, for Thermal Imagers

Bill 18 was referred to Public Safety.

Bill 19

An Administration bill that amends the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of \$75,000 in Main Street funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to provide funding to implement the *Main Street Program* along Seventh Street

Bill 19 was referred to CEDC.

CA1

406 North 8th Street and 323 North 8th Street

CA1 was approved, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

CA2

Appointment of Michael J. Adams and Robert F. Davies to the Shade Tree Commission

Mr. Phillips asked if any of the appointees are here tonight?

Mr. D’Amore said he did not believe so.

CA2 was approved, 6 Yeas and 1 Nay (Phillips).

CA3

Planning Commission Appointment: Richard Button

CA3 was approved, 6 Yeas and 1 Nay (Phillips).

CA4

Recreation Commission Appointment: Julie Ambrose

CA4 was approved, 6 Yeas and 1 Nay (Phillips).

CA5

Human Relations Appointments: Daniel C. Bosket, Tatiana Tooley, Allyson Hamm, Janet Ney, Rabbi Dr. Robert Lennick, Raymond D. O'Connell, Erlinda Aguiar

Mr. Phillips said doesn't Ms. Aguiar work for the City?

Mr. D'Amore said yes.

Mr. Phillips said she's wearing 2 hats. Wonderful!

CA5 was approved, 6 Yeas and 1 Nay (Phillips).

CA6

Zoning Appointments: Geoffrey Brace, Michael J. Engle, Daniel K. McCarthy, Michael Rosenfeld

Mr. Schweyer said as a former Alternate member of the Zoning Hearing Board, he had the opportunity to serve with Mr. Engle and Mr. McCarthy, and they are both exceptional and very committed Allentonans.

Mr. Donovan said he'd like to add his support for Geoffrey Brace, whom he has gotten to know. He believes he's going to be an outstanding community leader over the run. He is a strong, committed center city resident and has strong knowledge of urban centers.

Mr. Guridy asked how long are these appointments for?

Mr. D'Amore said 3 years.

Ms. Eichenwald said she feels compelled to talk about Mike Rosenfeld, who has vast experience and expertise in this area.

Ernie Atiyeh asked if these appointments are new or reappointments?

Mr. D'Amore said Mr. McCarthy will continue as Chair. Mr. Engle will be a member. Mr. Brace and Mr. Rosenfeld will be alternates.

CA6 was approved, 6 Yeas and 1 Nay (Phillips).

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

13. **NEW RESOLUTIONS:**

R10

Authorizes the Mayor to submit an application to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania for an Enterprise Zone Basic Grant in the amount of \$50,000

Mr. D'Amore said this is a resolution put forward by the Mayor's Office. We passed this resolution but without a specific dollar amount. In order for it to be official, there needs to be a specific dollar amount, so that's why it is before you.

Mr. Phillips said we voted on this without a dollar amount?

Mr. D'Amore said yes.

Mr. Phillips said when we voted on this the first time, what was his vote?

Alan Salinger said you voted yes.

R10 was approved, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

R11

Declares Sunday April 27, 2008 Workers Memorial Day in the City of Allentown

Mr. D'Amore said this was at the request of the Lehigh Valley Workers Memorial.

R11 was approved, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

Mr. Howells and Mr. Phillips moved to suspend the rules to introduce R13 and R14.

The rules were suspended by common consent.

R13

Reimbursement for Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Act

R13 was approved, 7 Yeas and 0 Nays.

R14

Approves the Sale City Property located south of the intersection of South Albert Street and East Johnson Street

R14 was referred to Administration.

14. NEW BUSINESS

Mr. D'Amore said we received a number of transfer requests. Many were received from Parks and Recreation which totaled over \$500,000. At the time, he made a discretionary decision that those numbers were far too large for us to consider a paper transfer. He informed Greg Weitzel that he would need to bring those in ordinance form and submit them to Council for consideration.

Mr. Atiyeh, 1909 East Congress Street, said he thought the previous Council approved the Parks . . .

Mr. D'Amore said he doesn't believe there was an approval.

Mr. D'Amore asked Mr. Schweyer to contact Greg Weitzel and work that issue out with him.

Mr. Hoffman said anytime you're asked to transfer money, it would be good for Council to have a presentation – Power Point or Excel – to understand what's going on, because these things are confusing to everyone.

15. GOOD AND WELFARE: None.

16. ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Michael P. Hanlon
City Clerk