

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**  
**MAY 7, 2008**

**Confirmation Hearing – 7:00 PM**

**R29**

Community Development Director Appointment – Joyce Marin

Mayor Pawlowski said AEDC's Executive Director, Joyce Marin, is before you as the nominee for Director of Community Development. She is accomplished, innovative and resourceful. She possesses the skills to run the department. He eagerly looks forward to Council confirming her this evening.

Joyce Marin said she's looking forward to this opportunity. It's an exciting time for Allentown.

Ms. Eichenwald said she's concerned about the managerial aspect of your experience. The department you will be managing has close to 100 employees. She would like her to share her managerial style and why you feel confident that will bring success to you and ultimately to the City. What in your professional experience do you see are similarities to the challenges that you will be facing in the new position?

Ms. Marin said she sees similar issues between her experience in Emmaus and here.

Ms. Eichenwald asked her to share an example of the challenges she faced in Emmaus that are relevant to this new experience.

Ms. Marin's comments are inaudible.

Ms. Eichenwald asked what will she do her first day in office. She's still focusing on the managerial issue.

Ms. Marin said she would like to meet the bureau heads and staff.

Mr. Donovan said he's had the opportunity to work with her on AEDC. What assets and processes does the City have or needs to be in place to allow us to begin a much more aggressive and sustainable recruiting effort for businesses, in particular, businesses that have larger scale employment opportunities?

Ms. Marin said (inaudible).

Mr. Donovan said we have some very key institutions in the City that have been here for many, many years, including colleges, hospitals, and corporations. How do you see us leveraging collaboration among those groups by taking advantage of their global and national contacts, expertise and the fact they are long standing institutions that care about our City. Do you see your position as able to help?

Mr. Donovan said Allentown is known for being a multi-cultural center of the Lehigh Valley. In a world of massive global training and investment, what thoughts do you have on how to take advantage of that asset?

Mr. Schweyer said the nature of the role you're going to be entering, you have one of the largest departments, not only in terms of manpower but also in scope of responsibilities. One of the biggest concerns on this Council is the creation of jobs. The Lehigh Valley has a very unique history. Allentown is the oldest municipality. We need to keep in mind that we are not other municipalities in the area.

Mr. Guridy asked Ms. Marin what will she do to change the perception of public safety?

Mr. Guridy said you talked about a Farmer's Market. That's been done already.

The Mayor said each plan adds to the ultimate end goal of redeveloping the downtown. One of his professors once told him don't expect 100% of your plan to be implemented. If you get 10% or 20%, you're doing a good job.

Mr. Guridy said we need to improve our customer service.

Ms. Eichenwald said you mentioned you would use interns as a way of using them as a point of opening business development in the City. That concerns her. She would hope that we would use a higher echelon, more experienced people, who would be operating in the realm of business development.

Ms. Marin said there is a business development specialist. They would work with her.

Ms. Eichenwald said she has a concern with that. Between the top officer and interns, there's a lot of levels of people who could be better utilized to draw businesses in the City. That's the life blood of our City. The other thing is Enterprise Zones. They are a valuable tool to draw businesses, but the downside is every time we put someone into an Enterprise Zone, it's off the tax rolls. She'd like to know what she feels about Enterprise Zones.

Ms. Eichenwald said she would like to see greater employment opportunities. She shares Mr. Guridy's frustration. She knows Muhlenberg's president is interested in the 19<sup>th</sup> Street run. Have you given any thought to utilizing Muhlenberg College in that 19<sup>th</sup> Street planning process.

Ms. Marin said she's met with the 19<sup>th</sup> Street neighborhood group and walked their neighborhood.

Mr. Guridy moved to forward R29 favorably to Council.

### **COUNCIL MEETING MAY 7, 2008**

1. Invocation: Julio Guridy

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Roll Call

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

4. Courtesy of the Floor

Harry Crapser, 1522-1/2 Chew Street, asked about the stop sign at 16<sup>th</sup> and Chew Streets?

Richard Young said the traffic study hasn't been completed yet.

Marvin Wheeler, 1610 West Chew Street, said it really is a safety issue.

Mr. Schweyer said he noticed the last accident involved a Lanta bus.

Kay Pickel, 1529 West Liberty Street, said the residents are using the street daily. She supports the replacement of the stop sign.

Dan Mest, 940 Jackson Street, said a developer has pulled out of the townhouse project. Everyone is in favor of turning this property into greenfields.

Mr. Donovan said he enjoyed the tour.

Mr. Mest said this is a gateway to the Parkway.

Dennis Pearson, 942 East Tilghman Street, said newspapers around the world say crime has not been reduced.

Reverend Dr. Karen Holmes said she encountered ethnic intimidation. Part of the problem is that the police report is not correct. This is not the first time this happened. We were told it's being looked into. We have policies and procedures. She's finding it's ineffective. These things are escalating. The police were given information and still couldn't find the perpetrators, whereas, within one hour a friend of ours was told and found out where he worked, lived and then had him confessing and telling on the other 2 people who were involved. The police still have not picked up this person. He works right near them and the other person that was with him lives in the same complex they live in. They don't feel safe. People don't want to report because nothing happens. For Kari, we need ethnic

intimidation to be part of the charge. It usually isn't. If you go into police reports or prosecutions. The state can't do anything if they don't have that. Hate crime is not even a category in our Police Department. She's asking for help.

Mr. Guridy said he's sorry this happened to Kari. He heard about the ordeal she went through. We know racial and ethnic intimidation happens. We should look into making hate crimes an issue that should be investigated in the Police Department. He's sure Mr. Dougherty is going to look into this and let us know what happens.

Ms. Holmes asked what can they do?

Mr. D'Amore said for some of these investigations it's difficult to know when it can come to an end.

Mr. Guridy said she told a friend about it and he found the information right away, and the police don't want to give any information.

Ms. Holmes said now that people know who this man is, and he's not been picked up, she's concerned people are going to take the law into their own hands. She's not for that. How do we have ethnic intimidation? Simple assault is not good enough.

Mr. Donovan said he's heard enough of these stories. If Allentown wishes to be a city it needs to live together. You're offering some very serious claims which we need to research. If you wish this Council to follow the procedure to put in legislation, he certainly would sponsor that. It concerns him greatly that the Human Relations Commission in this City answers to Building Standards and Safety. It also concerns him greatly that Human Relations is in the basement of our Police Station. That's symbolic of the seriousness that we give to the issue of living together in this City. To stand here and offer the claims and concerns you have are very courageous. It is a discussion that must occur. He's sure people will not like him for what he has said, but it's something that's very dear to his heart.

Ms. Eichenwald said she also adds her voice of concern. She appreciates Ms. Holmes coming before them this evening. There is federal anti-police crime legislation, and she thinks that's one place we need to begin is investigate how that federal law pertains to our local municipality. If you came here to ask us for help, then she asks her for help. If you could please write down some procedures that you feel will make this City safer and better for us. Unfortunately, often we don't understand the bureaucracy until we fall into it. She sits there as someone of concern and interest as City Council's representative on the Human Relations Commission, and she will certainly do her best to follow it through. If you help us by listing what happened to you and what you think could make that procedure better, then we have the tools with which to operate.

Mr. Schweyer said we're at the point of the conversation where everything's been said but not necessarily everybody has said it. At the risk of sounding redundant, he certainly sincerely and heartfeltdly agrees with his colleagues. When we express our extreme outrage at the incident that happened – one of the reasons his wife and he have chosen Allentown to raise our family is because of the rich diversity of the City. I like the fact that my neighbors are a little different from me, and I like the fact that we're allowed to exchange ideas and talk frankly about issues. From a community standpoint, that's important. He wants to express as clearly as he can that no member of this Council will ever justify, stand for, or agree with any of the inherent reason or rationale for the assault on your daughter. Everyone has reached out to the Police Department to express our concerns about the investigation. Echoing Mr. Donovan's and Ms. Eichenwald's sentiments, he will lend his concern that we review our policies when it comes to assaults with ethnic intimidation or hate crimes so that we have a better understanding of our protocol, and so that protocol is streamlined and made more effective.

Kari Holmes thanked each of them for their prayers and words of condolence. She asked for some action items. She would like to know from each of them if they foresee them being possible and by the dates which she proposes. She was the individual that was involved and attacked with the ethnic intimidation with the racial and sexual slurs, it means much to her that we proceed in a way, and with the commitment of City Council, that will actually produce tangible results. There are individuals with hate intentions, and they're very clear about their intentions, not only by words but by actions, and that was made clear this past April 24<sup>th</sup> when this attack was suffered. In particular, she would like to call upon the Mayor and the City Council of Allentown, the City she was born and raised in for 30 years, to call a town meeting and invite the public to attend. With a number of individuals being affected by hate crimes, both verbal, physical and property damage, she's sure there won't be any problem in having the community to attend. She asked that Council, appoint from this body, a secretary to record and to retrieve and retain that information that is shared during that town hall and public meeting. Any necessary time limits, such as you have here this evening being implemented, would be necessary and possibly a number of counselors on hand for those

that might become very emotional in telling their story, as she has. There's a certain degree of fear, trepidation on recounting the incidents that can come over you at any moment. It would be careful and considerate for Council to have someone present to offer their counseling help. From there, during that town meeting, called by the Mayor and the City Council of Allentown, in reviewing our policies and procedures that we currently have in place, we would be able to hear first hand from individuals, such as herself, there are some faulty and incomplete places where procedures are not in place, and places where those procedures are in place, however, they're not followed, as necessary. For them to be followed, such as the review by the victim of the initial police statement that was provided to the officer responding to the 9-1-1 call, or what have you. That is a checks and balances that is in place in the APD, but it was not been implemented in her particular case. We think this could have been prevented. There is an incorrect statement that is now on file. She is also calling upon City Council to please help her to ensure that that amendment is made so that anytime that officer's report shows up, that the amendment is there on her correct report. And, lastly, she asked that by July 28, 2008, that we have after this meeting finally, a review of policies and on implementation of any policies that are missing by reviewing those other cities and states that have ethnic intimidation and have addressed this issue successfully in their city, county or state.

Mr. Donovan said that's a very impressive list of very doable things. He supports her call for action, of a joint effort between the Mayor and Council, to make a statement and to really review procedures that should be implemented. You do have his support.

Mr. Guridy said he requested the Clerk to start researching this. He also indicated he will be sponsoring his legislation. He does understand her ordeal because in the last month he had 2 other people who called him about the same type of thing. He's been dealing with the Police Department. Yesterday somebody called him about another incident. It's not isolated. It's rampant. Sometimes when we have an economic turndown, the issue tends to flourish.

Ms. Eichenwald said she asked for a list of concrete action and she's happy to hear that she did that. The more concrete procedures that you can identify, the better for them to follow. The more information you provide to us, the better we will be able to rectify the problem.

Mr. Schweyer asked if Council can have movement on a meeting? It's a very good suggestion. Within the next week so we can start planning and moving forward on her timeline.

Mr. D'Amore said he meets with Mr. Dougherty this week on this matter.

Paulette Hunter said she's here about a kindergarten. She's been to the school board several times about a full day kindergarten. The budget secretary for the board came down to indicate there was a full day kindergarten. She wanted to make sure there were openings. One of the things they said was a problem with buildings. There have to be enough buildings and stuff. She's here to ask that we try to work with the school district in order to create more buildings because the kids need a full day kindergarten in order to succeed. Other counties are doing it; we're not doing it. We have people that really need it. She asked that they work with the school district in order to get more buildings so we can have a full day kindergarten. If the state wants to pay for it, but if we don't have a building in order to do it, then it can't be done.

Mr. Guridy said the Mayor has expressed he's working with the school district. He heard the Governor talk about it a week ago. They're working on it at a state level. Our City budget does not fund those types of services, but we can collaborate.

Louis Hershman said Dennis Pearson brought up a good subject. Cameras. City Council is responsible for the placement of these cameras. He doesn't think Allentown has any procedures in place. Who really is responsible for placement of these cameras? They're popping up all over. He's not against them. There should be some procedures in place where they should be placed. A billing person was told they want a camera in front of every business, and they have to pay for it. If he has to pay for a camera for his business, he thinks Council should set a procedure for the costs involved for the placement of the camera. If there's a cost involved, we could cover the cost. Council should look into the placement of the cameras. It's a good thing, but there should be some procedures in place to control where they should be placed.

Mr. D'Amore said he agrees. There were 2 camera bills. They were grants for funding businesses who sought cameras.

Mr. Schweyer said this is a concern of his. It hasn't been arbitrary by any stretch of the imagination. After looking at the plan, he saw no problems with it.

Mr. Hershman said Philadelphia has to follow state law on procedures. Allentown should, too.

Mr. D'Amore said our cameras are wireless. There are limits to where we can place them.

Mr. Hershman said the prior president of City Council always got a response when a taxpayer came here and raised questions.

Mr. D'Amore said he has a meeting with Mr. Dougherty this week, so he'll get some answers for him.

5. Approval of Minutes: April 2, 2008

6. Old Business: None.

Transfers are in the packet of this agenda, and shall be made part of the minutes.

7. Communications: None.

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

### **COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – Council President D'Amore**

The Committee of the Whole met tonight.

### **ADMINISTRATION – Chairperson Donovan**

The Committee met on April 23<sup>rd</sup> and reviewed the actuarial reports of the Police, Fire and O & E; and will meet on May 14<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 PM, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.

### **COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT – Chairperson Schweyer**

The Committee met tonight and referred some items on tonight's agenda; we have a St. Luke's tour scheduled for May 24<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM.

### **PUBLIC WORKS – Chairperson Guridy**

The Committee met last Wednesday and referred some items on tonight's agenda. The next meeting has not yet been 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 is currently considering some appointments and will refer them for the next 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 AEDC has not met since the last Council meeting

**Arts Commission** – Mr. Donovan said the commission has not met since the last Council meeting.

**Connect the Parks** – There has been no meeting since the last Council Meeting

**Lehigh County COG** – The committee met on April 29<sup>th</sup>

**Pension Board:** The next meeting is scheduled for May 20<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 AM.

**Presales Inspection Meeting:** Mr. Donovan said the committee met on May 5<sup>th</sup>, at 5:30, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room; an organizational meeting is scheduled for June 25<sup>th</sup>.

**Blighted Property Review Board:** Mr. Schweyer said the next meeting is scheduled for June 9<sup>th</sup>.

**Council Reform** – Mr. Schweyer said the committee members have been selected, information is being compiled so they can hit the ground running, and a meeting will be scheduled in the near future.

**Human Relations:** The next meeting is scheduled for, [Wednesday May 14<sup>th</sup>, at 7 PM, in the 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Conference Room.](#)

**Lehigh Valley Planning Commission** – Mr. D’Amore said they met the last Thursday of every month.  
Reminder: Easton Community based Zoning – get power point presentation

## **CONTROLLER’S REPORT**

Mr. D’Amore and Mr. Schweyer moved to suspend the rules and bring R29 to the front of the agenda.

The rules were suspended by common consent.

### **R29**

Community Development Appointment – Joyce Marin

R29 was approved, 5-0.

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

### **Bill 5**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Four Hundred Ninety Thousand (\$490,000) Dollars reflecting receipt from a Department of Transportation and Housing and Urban Development Agency grant for signalized intersection upgrades.

Bill 5 was adopted, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

### **Bill 24**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Fifty Thousand (\$50,000) Dollars in Elm Street funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development for implementation of the *Elm Street Program* in Old Allentown

Mr. Schweyer said Bill 24 was recommended favorably, 3-0.

Bill 24 was adopted, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

### **Bill 25**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide Thirty-Six Thousand (\$36,000) Dollars for a supplemental appropriation of reimbursement revenue to be received from fuel purchased by Lehigh County from the City of Allentown, Public Works Department.

Mr. Guridy said Bill 25 was recommended favorably, 3-0.

Bill 25 was adopted, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

### **Bill 26**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 Sewer Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Five Thousand Three Hundred Twenty-four Dollars and Fifty-two Cents (\$5,324.52) to reflect contributions from the Borough of Catasauqua, City of Bethlehem, and Easton Area Joint Sewer Authority, toward the City of Allentown’s costs in the development of letters and technical comments to the Delaware River Basin Commission (DRBC) proposed rulemaking to establish certain criteria for water quality for the Delaware River Basin.

Mr. Guridy said Bill 26 was recommended favorably, 3-0.

Bill 26 was adopted, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

### **Bill 27**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Twenty Five Thousand Five Hundred Eighteen (\$25,518) Dollars from Pennsylvania Department of Health Division of Immunizations to the Health Bureau’s Immunization Program budget, Thirty Thousand Five Hundred (\$30,500) Dollars from The National Association of Chronic Disease Directors to the Health Bureau’s Nutrition & Physical Activity Program budget, and Fourteen Thousand (\$14,000) Dollars from the Philadelphia

Affiliate of Susan G. Komen for the Cure to the Health Bureau's Cancer Prevention Program. The total supplemental appropriation for these three programs would be (\$70,018) Dollars

Mr. Schweyer said Bill 27 was recommended

Bill 27 was adopted, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

**Bill 28**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Five Hundred Seventeen Thousand Forty-five (\$517,045) Dollars reflecting receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Energy Development Authority to install a solar photovoltaic power plant. The Bureau of Engineering is supervising and monitoring the grant.

Mr. Gurdy said Bill 28 was recommended favorably.

Bill 28 was adopted, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

**10. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:**

**Bill 31**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the 2008 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Ten Thousand (\$10,000) Dollars from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, DCED grant from State Representative Jennifer L. Mann to the Communications Bureau of the Police Department to provide for CCTV Security cameras and related equipment at the Communication Center.

Bill 31 was referred to Public Safety.

**Bill 32**

Introduced by the Administration: Amending the General Fund by reorganizing the Department of Finance to eliminate the Executive Secretary, 7(N); creating a new position of Finance Manager, 16(N), and eliminating the Office Manager position in Community and Economic Development (N).

Bill 32 was referred to Administration.

**Bill 33**

Introduced by Council and the Administration: Refunding of Second Series of 1997 Bonds and 1998 Bonds

Bill 33 was referred to Administration.

**Bill 34**

Introduced by the Administration this transfers money for American Parkway

Bill 34 was referred to Public Works.

11. **CONSENT AGENDA:** None

12. **RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING:**

**R1**

Encroachment for a Handicap Ramp at 301 North 9<sup>th</sup> Street

Mr Gurdy said R1 was recommended favorably.

R1 was approved, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

**R16**

Revision to Sewage Facilities Plan for Central Park Development

Mr. Gurdy said R16 was forwarded without a recommendation.

Mr. Hahn said he'd like to know why a road on the east side was not developed 60 years ago. He doesn't understand why now everything is feasible when it wasn't feasible for the last 60 to 70 years. What are they going to do with the property adjoining the State Hospital which leads to Bethlehem and also causes runoff to the Little Lehigh and is not going to be controlled into the canal. If you can find a way to table it, he'd appreciate it.

Dennis Pearson, 942 East Tilghman Street, said they paid to protect that land from being developed. There are going to be problems associated with this

Joel Weiner, attorney for the developer, said he doesn't think people understand the proposal. It's a sanitary sewer module for the sewage flow to be accepted in. The stormwater issues, as Council is aware, perhaps the public is not, is something that has to be dealt with, approved and was reviewed extensively by the City Planning Commission, as required. This is simply an authorization to allow the flow from this to flow into the City. It is something that in the permits that went through the Engineering Department, it is his understanding there is more than ample capacity in the City on the east side to flow to this septic system to Kline's Island and be treated. In fact, it's probably better for the City to take it from some development in the City then letting the outside develop it. Apart from that comment, he thinks it's important the committee look at the allowance of this area, for whatever reason, it's an urban infield site. It's appropriate for inclusion within the plan. There have been extensive revisions of the development plans at the request of the City Engineering Department to comply with what the City wanted – going through pumping stations and everything else the City required. Those monies were all spent. The City Engineering review was done with the expectation of sewer service. The developer has done everything it can, and now it comes to City Council asking you to amend the plan to allow this urban infield at this place solely for sewage. If there was no sewage capacity, then the developer will have to look at online septic, which is unusual. He spoke with Mr. Young, and there's a sewage enforcement officer in the City, so apparently it's a possibility that exists within it. It's clearly not the preferred method, but in terms of where we are, we're at technical requirements not something that's timed to the last review. A second guess is -- some of the public may ask for something that's been long before the Planning Commission, which the City Administration extensively followed.

Mr. D'Amore asked Richard Young what is the number of facilities that have online septic in the City of Allentown?

Richard Young said he's not sure. It's not a big number.

Mr. Guridy said there are about 10 different issues that needed to be complied with from the Planning Commission. He's not sure if those were complied with.

Mr. Young said those were retaining wall issues They have addressed those. One was for the Corps of Engineers' jurisdictional determination. He was handed the email, dated April 21<sup>st</sup>, for that, and Attorney Joel Weiner has addressed this. It does indicate that the Corps of Engineers apparently has no problem.

Mr. Guridy asked if you use the emails and not the original permit?

He said they wouldn't sign the mylar for it until they got the final document.

Mr. Young said he already mentioned about the opinion of the right to discharge the stormwater. He did send a letter to the Solicitor's Office with his opinion. They were looking for the Solicitor's Office's confirmation of that opinion. He's not heard back on that yet.

Mr. Guridy said he wanted to caution Council that we're not getting ahead of the permits needed.

Mr. Donovan asked who owns the property now?

Attorney Weiner said it's owned by Bruce Loch and James Burgos. It's a company called Allentown Community Development Company.

Mr. Donovan asked why apartments? The reason he's asking is that it is a density issue. If we were to not act favorably on this, and we receive more information down the line, we could approve this later on?

(The responses were inaudible.)

Mr. D'Amore asked what would be the time frame in the process on a septic system?



Mr. Young said it's been a while since he's done one. You're probably looking at a few months. They do a test, septic system design, process.

Mr. Young said he's not aware of any septic systems that have been installed in the City recently. The ones that are here are old homes that might be in remote areas where sewer doesn't have to be provided to them.

Mr. D'Amore asked who puts in septic systems?

Mr. Young said that's done through a combination of the property owner and the City's SEO.

Mr. Hahn said he's been accused of not having the right information. So as fast as he can he's going to tell them that in the 70's when the sewer pipes in Midway Manor were not correct, and they had to enlarge them and they rolled down to Hanover Avenue, which caused a problem. The lids were actually popping off the manholes. The City at that time purchased the machine that does the grouting. as a result of the complaint that he wrote back then because the water wasn't there. That's how they got the machine to go and regROUT these streets, so when this is added to this, and the water that's rushing down and the lay of the land, this water will cause all these lanes on Hanover Avenue to be enlarged by the number of flushes that's required and create the problem back where we had the houseboat folks and the sump pumps put in because we had to redo the sewage system on the east side of Allentown.

Attorney Weiner said in answer to your question about the online septic. There is an identification code that continues to refer to the Planning Commission that all items shall be connected to the sewer. The fact that this was approved by the Planning Commission, he would submit indicated that there was the expectation of the hookup. He thinks everyone's gone under that assumption. It would be the goal on the intelligent part of everybody there is a 33,000 gallon per day flow, he believes, and Engineering has extensively reviewed it. While he respects the opinion of others, he has to look at Engineering and know the City Engineering Department has looked at all these items. We're here on the technical issue, not on an Engineering denial. One item that's still open is something that was submitted to the Solicitor's Office on March 6<sup>th</sup>.

R16 failed, 0 Yeas and 5 Nays (Schweyer, D'Amore, Donovan, Eichenwald, Guridy)

#### **R19**

Encroachment for a Fence at 963-969 East Union Street

Mr. Guridy said R19 was forwarded favorably, 3-0. When they bought the property the fence was already in place.

Mr. Young said the only reason it's here is because of the distance between the right-of-way line and curb line.

R19 was approved, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

#### **R20**

Encroachment for a Mailbox at 795 Benner Road

Mr. Guridy said R20 was forwarded favorably, 2-1. It's conforming with the rest of the houses in the neighborhood.

Mr. Dougherty said the Administration supports this. He commends the homeowner for taking the time to come forward and use the process.

R20 was approved, 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.

### 13. **NEW RESOLUTIONS:**

#### **R28**

Appointments to the Environmental Advisory Council

Mr. D'Amore said the committee forwarded R28 favorably, with the exception of the appointment of Mr. Dave McGuire, which was forwarded with no recommendation.

Mr. Schweyer and Mr. Donovan moved to amend R28 to add Jennifer Morrison.

R28 was approved, as amended, 5-0.

Mr. Schweyer and Mr. Guridy moved to suspend the rules to introduce and vote on R30

The rules were suspended by common consent.

**R30**

Appointment to the Planning Commission – Anthony Toth

Mr. D’Amore said the appointment was forwarded favorably.

Mr. D’Amore said he and Mr. Schweyer had discussed the Planning Commission attend the Community Development Committee meetings and discuss matters with the members.

R30 was approved, 5-0.

Mr. Schweyer and Mr. D’Amore moved to suspend the rules to introduce and vote on R31.

The rules were suspended by common consent and R31 was read into the record.

**R31**

Recommends Lehigh County Commissioners Reconsider Funding for Safe Streets Program



CITY OF ALLENTOWN

No. R-31

**RESOLUTION**  
*Introduced by City Council on May 7, 2008*

- 2008

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**Recommends Lehigh County Commissioners Reconsider Funding for Safe Streets Program**

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***Resolved by the Council of the City of Allentown, That***

**WHEREAS**, Lehigh County Executive Don Cunningham and District Attorney Jim Martin proposed a crime package to the Lehigh County Commissioners that included \$1 million in funding for a Safe Streets Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the funding to be used for community policing had overwhelming broad based support from local law enforcement executives and public officials; and

**WHEREAS**, dealing with public safety is a key to maintaining our neighborhoods and a key element for attracting economic investment to create job opportunities for residents of the Valley; and

**WHEREAS**, the program offered a means to encourage more local collaboration and partnerships to deal with public safety issues.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the City Council of Allentown that they hereby request the Lehigh County Commissioners reconsider the funding of the Safe Streets Program.

The City Clerk sent an email detailing the language for the resolution.

Mr. D’Amore said he was shocked and appalled at their lack of concern for public safety in the City of Allentown.

Mr. Schweyer said it’s an absolute abomination that they’re not concerned with public safety anywhere.

R31 was referred to the Committee of the Whole that is scheduled for Wednesday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, at 7 PM.

14. **NEW BUSINESS:** None.

15. **GOOD AND WELFARE:** None.

16. **ADJOURN**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 PM.

Michael P. Hanlon  
City Clerk