

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



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

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**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**February 16, 2011**  
**COUNCIL CHAMBERS**  
**7:30 PM**

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

**2. Pledge to the Flag**

**3. Roll Call:** D'Amore, Donovan, Eichenwald, Guridy, O'Connell, Schlossberg, and Schweyer were present. John Marchetto represented for the Solicitor's Office

**4. Courtesy of the Floor**

Mr. Leonard Donnell Martin, 1135 Chestnut Street, concerned about homeownership and tenants that do not feel that their landlord cares. The properties are rundown and landlords are just sucking the money out of the property. We need a program that transitions renters into homeowners that does not create debt for them. He asked for a response.

Mr. D'Amore asked for specific addresses and homes that Mr. Martin wanted to talk about.

Mr. Martin stated that he lives at 1135 Chestnut Street and the family right across from him is a big problem. He knows the kids and he had to buy a video camera and surveillance system to watch these kids because the parents do not care. He asked where his rights are as a homeowner.

Mr. D'Amore asked Mr. Schweyer if he had a comment.

Mr. Schweyer stated that the question Mr. Martin started off with is a big question. There is no policy. You can not force anyone to buy a house. We can't force someone to be a landlord. You can buy a property and rent it. That is what you are allowed to do. He stated that homeownership is a significant problem and much greater homeownership is the goal of all of us. He stated that the city has a Homesteading Program run by our department of Community and Economic Development that works with Community Banks such as KNBT that allows for folks to buy these Blighted Properties we have in the city that we have acquired in Imminent Domain and take them for next to nothing. He stated that he is talking \$5,000 to \$10,000 and then they can apply for a \$50,000 or \$40,000 construction loan up to the value of the property when it is fixed up. You are buying and renovating a property for \$40,000 - \$50,000. We have community partners with the Housing Association Development Corporation that build communities. There are a bunch of things being done.

Mr. Martin asked who was taking a leadership role and are they taking an active leadership role to push that out to the community.

Mr. Schweyer stated our department of Community and Economic Development. He stated that he just acknowledged three very important Community Partners. We are doing that. If you go to the North Street fire zone a few blocks from here you will see houses where it was a fire and they all were destroyed and now they are owner occupied. He stated that he buzzed because no one was saying anything, then he got to a specific

with one of his neighbors. If it is something specific with one of your neighbors than we can certainly have someone from the Administration to get the address and asked Mr. Martin to provide his contact information to Mr. Bennington.

Mr. Martin stated that he will give that information to Mr. Bennington immediately.

Ms. Janice Bowman, east side of Allentown, stated she has a question regarding the gas explosion and the infrastructure of the UGI piping being that it is 1929. She stated that she knows that is not the only spot in town that is 1929. What is on the agenda to make sure that this is not a frequent?

Mr. D'Amore stated that members of Council have already asked those questions. It was an initiative of Mr. Schlossberg and other members of Council concurred that what they wanted to do is have a public hearing on an inventory on the pipe infrastructure and what they found out when they contacted their legal representatives the state law is very clear on this that the city or municipality has no authority on these matters. All we can do is put more pressure on the PUC. PUC is the only authority that can compel UGI to do an inventory that we were hoping to have done. State Representatives are a great way to do that.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that is an excellent question and is a concern of the seven of them, everyone in the room and in the city. Gas pipelines are no by no stretch of the imagination the infrastructure in the worse shape. We have water, steam, and sewer lines in the city that are over hundred and twenty years old and are miraculously operational. While as a city we can not have a direct affect perhaps on the UGI issue or the gas pipeline issue what we need to have a harder and longer conversation about is look at the infrastructure that we do control which is water and sewer and at some point as a community we are going to have to step up and say do we want to pay twenty dollars extra a month on our tax bills in order to drink clean water and knowing that our sewer is being treated properly or do we want to roll the dice and take a chance. As a community, state, and nation we are having a massive infrastructure crisis and if anything comes out of last week's tragedy, he hopes that it is a stronger and harder need to replace the infrastructure.

Ms. Bowman stated especially the bridge on 15<sup>th</sup> Street. Why is it taking us ten years when we know it is a problem because the money is not coming in? Now, it is at the point where the bridge is going to fall over. We are building so many things. Some things are more dangerous to us and we are doing other things. Show us the danger and tell us you are fixing it.

Mr. Schweyer stated that he does work for the Commonwealth and the state legislature does not have the authority over the PUCR. It is an independent commissioner and the state legislator and you do not live in his boss's territory. This is just a public service announcement are able to advocate much like members of council and individuals of the public can, but they can not force members of the PUC to do anything.

Ms. Bowman stated that maybe they can do a petition.

Mr. Schweyer stated that they public is allowed to petition them directly and conversations with them directly.

Ms. Paulette Hunter asked that they consider mandating that any grants that we give to provide organizations that concern children that they partner with the Allentown School District. We give a lot of grants out and the children are the same. They are not aware of the programs. She stated that she does not see the outcome from these programs. She is concerned about as her son gets older, it gets more expensive and the Mayor has done a great job to maintain that we do not have a real estate increase. She is concerned about the police and the fire overtime. When the budget comes up we see a big overtime that we did not know about. Check it every quarter or every month to see where they are at. We need someone that will check it thoroughly. She does not want it to balloon during the budget and we have to pay more real estate taxes.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that there is public information available in response to when we give out our CDBG dollars. There are other reports that are available as well.

Ms. Hunter stated that there is a report, but no mandate that they partner with the school district.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she shares that concern. There is no way that they are supervising from our end. The idea is not to increase the partners, but increase the experience with each one of the children.

Mr. Donovan stated that he agrees with the youth strategy and the cooperation with the school district and the partners. As far as the overtime, they get a report monthly and in the past year they have talked about it extensively and controls have been better over the last year in a half. Part of the reason that it is still high is on March 9<sup>th</sup>, the Budget and Finance Committee will be discussing the issue of trade off of hiring more people to reduce overtime versus the cost associated with that and the cost of overtime.

Ms. Hunter stated that one of the things she wanted to mention was with her past job a lot of time when overtime is given to people that have been there for a long time and that is more money when people that are new have been there less time, it will be less money.

Mr. Donovan stated that we are aware of those risks.

Mr. Guridy stated that Mr. Donovan answered part of his question because he is the Chair of the Budget and Finance Committee. He stated that most of the overtime comes from the Public Safety which is fire and police. They are definitely looking at that by meeting with the Chiefs. One of the things that you will see next year will be a mad exodus of the fire department and that is going to create overtime. We will see that in the budget. We have to continue to hire more people. We have a minimum by the union a staff requirement everyday. That will continue.

Mr. Bennington stated that the fire contract expires at the end of the year. Those things will be in negotiations.

Mr. Guridy stated correct they will be in negotiations, but he thinks that even though it will be negotiated there will still be people that are going to leave and they need enough people in the firehouse.

Mr. Strathearn stated that is already built into the budget. The question is how many of them are going to retire this year. The number could be as high as seventy. Hopefully, it will not be that high. That is half the department. They have to figure out the transition between the retiring and the cadets that are coming in. It is a sixteen week training course. We have already built it in this year. In the budget, it is a large set aside for overtime and it is fine now because of the contracts.

Mr. Guridy stated the reason why he says this is because people like Ms. Hunter are going to be looking at this budget and it is not going to go away.

Ms. Hunter thanked the City Council and the Mayor for doing a good job. She stated that her last question and they can respond to her later on or respond to her right now is that she went to the Parking Authority about the handicap because her son is in a wheelchair and he is getting older. She stated that she got a handicapped sign at her house and a couple months ago she came to them and told them that she put it up and everyone was handicapped and she never got to park in front of her house. She stated that she had to remove it in order to park in front of her house. She stated that her friend in Virginia has a parking sticker and a parking sign with specifically for that car and sign. The law that is now is it an Allentown law or a state law.

Mr. D'Amore stated that it is a state law. He stated to Mr. Martin that there is a rule one time around with courtesy of the floor.

Mr. Pearson, 942 E Tilghman Street, stated with summertime and spring coming soon and if funding is available work on Hanover Avenue will begin. We were notified that work may also commence on the Tilghman Street Bridge that is in bad shape which he believes that the east side is a buildup of traffic. He stated that he hopes everything works out and they will have to restore the ferry at the Bucky Boyle Park so that people can go across. He asked how many people remember the near disaster that occurred last year on Hamilton Street when they were working on the gas and water lines there. Someone hit into a newly installed gas line and sent all the gas into two or three homes on Hamilton Street. He stated luckily in that case no stark occurred.

## **5. Approval of Minutes: February 9, 2011**

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Minutes approved by common consent.

## **6. Old Business**

Mr. Donovan asked if the EAC Representative that we recently approved was Council recommended or the Administration.

Mr. D'Amore stated that is the Mayor's appointment. He stated that it is still an appointment on the EAC, it is a Council appointment and he is looking for any suggestions.

Mr. Donovan stated that given the power of appointment is in the Mayor even though we recommend that person is still appointed by the Mayor.

Mr. D'Amore stated that is not how the Ordinance is written.

Mr. Donovan asked if the Ordinance superseded the Charter.

Mr. D'Amore asked Mr. Marchetto does he want to add to this.

Mr. Marchetto stated that there is no battle of interpretation. It was historical when the EAC Ordinance was passed, the Mayor agreed to give City Council the ability to give the appointment powers.

Mr. Donovan asked if that superseded the Charter.

Mr. Marchetto stated that if the next Mayor comes in here and does not like it, he or she would have a basis to argue that. A City Administration can not supersede the Charter by being into an Ordinance that is contrary to the Charter.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that it is one of the few opportunities that they have.

## **7. Communications**

Mr. Schweyer stated to Ms. Hunter that the next conversation which where we are in terms of the Council of Youth is scheduled to happen with William Allen students. We have been at Dieruff twice. It will be tomorrow at 1:00 PM. We will continue after that for a bigger Summit and we will do a full report after we are finished. The invitation is open to any member of Council.

Mr. D'Amore stated that he just received a Memo of Understanding between the City of Allentown and the Fraternal Order Police regarding the Domestic Partner Ordinance.

**Committee of the Whole Meetings:**

**February 23, 7:00 PM** – Bond Issue

**March 2, 5:30 PM** – Human Relations Commission Strategic Report -

**March 16, 6:30 PM** – Parking Authority Strategic Report

**April 6, 6:30 PM** – Recreation Commission Strategic Report

**April 20, 6:30 PM** – Arts Commission Strategic Report

**8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:**

Budget and Finance: Chairperson Donovan

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for March 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 PM where the budget process will be discussed, Transfers will be reviewed and we will have a preliminary discussion on analyzing the City's labor capacity. He reported on the Pension Board Review that took place yesterday stated that Act 205 gave the authority for the city to use the EIT to help fund the unfunded liability because we moved into a certain level of unfunded liabilities also requires two other steps to be taken. The first is to reorganize the Pension Board that now exists as three into one. The second is to merge the assets in the three funds to one although the accountant would be kept separate. They have to have controls on the expenses which will help manage the fund. We are required by the state to develop an administration plan that looks into a variety of factors.

Mr. Donovan stated that it will come up when they talk about the Bond next week.

Ms. Eichenwald asked if he will include it in the discussions.

Mr. Strathearn stated if they are going to discuss the Moody's Report they also have to include the Standard & Poor's Report because that was not negative.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she was concerned about the Moody Report with the outlook being negative.

Public Safety: Chairperson Guridy

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 6:00 PM – where the COPS program will be discussed; at 5:30 PM prior to this meeting, there will be an executive session on the emergency management plan.

Community and Economic Development: Chairperson Schweyer

The Committee has not met since the last council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:00 PM.

Ms. Eichenwald asked if there was anything new with the Allentown Redevelopment Authority. She asked if they have reached an agreement.

Mr. Schweyer stated that they have not reached an agreement. He stated that he spoke to Mr. Hoffman on Wednesday or Thursday last week and received an email that he shared with Ms. Hailstone and they talked about it early today along with Mr. Jerry Snyder. There are some sticky points from both sides.

Parks and Recreation: Chairperson Ray O'Connell

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting has not yet been scheduled. Mr. O'Connell asked when they have the Strategic Reports what time we are looking at 15 minutes or 30 minutes. That will determine the meeting time for Parks and Recreation.

Mr. Donovan stated that he would like an hour. He stated that as Mr. O'Connell saw with the school department and they are so important.

Mr. O'Connell stated that the Parks and Recreation meeting will be on the March 16<sup>th</sup> and they have two Ordinances and one Resolution to discuss. He would like to meet at 5:45 PM.

Mr. D'Amore stated that they want to make sure when they have legislation they might have to be flexible on the Strategic Reports.

Public Works: Chairperson Schlossberg

The Committee has not met since the last Council meeting; the next meeting is scheduled for February 23<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 PM.

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chairperson Eichenwald

The Committee met this evening; a future meeting needs to be scheduled to review the labor contract issue.

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

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

**OTHER COMMITTEE REPORTS**

These are listed here on your agenda if you want to give a report: - they are not listed on the public's agenda

Blighted Property Review Board - Councilperson Schweyer

AEDC - Councilperson Donovan

Arts Commission – Councilperson Donovan

Housing Authority – Councilperson Guridy

Human Relations - Councilperson Eichenwald

Lehigh Valley Planning Commission Report – Council President D'Amore

Ad Hoc IT Committee – Councilperson Schlossberg – the committee has not met since the last council meeting – the next meeting is scheduled for March 2<sup>nd</sup> at 1:00 PM.

Urban Observatory – Councilperson Schlossberg – The committee has not met since the last Council meeting – the next meeting is on March 1<sup>st</sup> at 1:30 PM – they are waiting for feed back from the administration on the survey questions and information on the survey that is being planned by the committee that is putting together the five year plan.

**Granicus Presentation**

Mr. Schlossberg stated that he, Mr. Hanlon and Ms. Whitehead attended a meeting with Granicus as well as Mr. Bennington and other members of the Administration. They are a business that does Government Transparency and technological upgrades. We saw a presentation on possible improvements on the way in which we take minutes that could automate the system, record our meetings provide training via video and there may be a gain of efficiency by purchasing the system which would ultimately make it a benefit not only for our residents, but a fiscal perspective from the city. He stated that he will keep Council and the public abreast.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he would like to make a recommendation that the Safety Taskforce and the School District that we take that committee off. We had several meetings and he and Mr. Donovan attended three. He stated that they talked about initiatives and alternatives in school. They talked about buses students and the last item on the Agenda that they wanted to discuss was uniforms and since it has not be a precluding meeting he thinks with Dr. Zahorchak's Presentation tonight it would be best to take it off.

## **CONTROLLER'S REPORT**

None

Mr. D'Amore stated that before this meeting and before the meeting with Dr. Zahorchak, there was an Executive Session with members of the City Council and the City Solicitor regarding matters of real estate property in the City of Allentown. It was done in coordination and respect to the Sunshine Law of the State.

## **9. APPOINTMENTS:**

### **Oscar A. Morffi - Health Board.pdf**

#### **Appointment of Oscar Morffi to the Health Board, term to expire 1/02/2016**

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she put Dr. Morffi up for consideration and there is an issue. Dr. Morffi is not a resident of the City of Allentown. He does own two residential properties and has his office in the City of Allentown. The Rules from the Allentown Health Board do say when someone brings to it enormous expertise that it is part of the process and has that approval. She stated in light of that she would like to share that Dr. Morffi is a Chief at General Pediatrics for the Lehigh Valley Hospital Network and in addition he is the President of the Lehigh County Medical Society. He comes to this position with great expertise and this position would be in effect until 2016.

Mr. Schlossberg stated that from what Ms. Eichenwald read it does qualify as extraordinary expertise.

Resolution passed, 7 - 0

## **10. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE: None**

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

### **BILL 4 ICE CREAM VENDING.doc**

#### **Referred to Public Safety**

Amending Title One, Businesses and Licensing, of the Business Regulation and Taxation Code of the City of Allentown by adding Article 308, Ice Cream Vendor, providing for the regulation and licensing of ice cream vendors.

### **BILL 5 DCNR TRAIL GRANT.doc**

#### **Referred to Parks and Recreation**

Amending the 2011 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Three Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$350,000.00) Dollars to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This grant will provide funding which will be used to assist with the construction of a new trail as part of the City Wide Trail Network plan that will connect Cedar Creek Parkway to Union Terrace and the Little Lehigh Parkway.

### **BILL 6 HPRP REALLOCATION.doc**

#### **Referred to CEDC**

An Ordinance providing for the re-allocation of funds within the Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program (HPRP) Grant Program in the amount of Three Hundred Seventy-One Thousand Five Hundred Fifty-Four (\$371,554) Dollars.

### **BILL 7 JACKSON ST PARK.doc**

#### **Referred to Parks and Recreation**

Amending the 2011 Capital Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Hundred Thousand (\$100,000.00) Dollars to provide for the receipt of a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. This grant will provide funding which will be used to assist with the Jackson Street Community Park Development Project.

**BILL 8 EMS RIGHT OF FIRST REFUSAL.doc**

**Referred to Public Safety**

Amends Article 311, Special Events, of the Codified Ordinances giving the right of first refusal to the City for public safety services needed during events on City property.

**12. CONSENT AGENDA:**

**CA-1 HARB Approval.DOC**

**HARB Approval Case Reports.pdf**

Certificates of Appropriateness for Work in the Historic Districts  
Resolution passed, 7 – 0

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

**14. RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING:**

**R6 ROBERTS PLAZA.DOC**

**Referred to Parks and Recreation**

Names the City property located at Union Street and Martin Luther King Jr. Drive as the “**Harry E. Roberts Plaza**”

**R7 WALKING PURCHASE PARK.doc**

**Referred to Parks and Recreation**

A Resolution Supporting Adoption of the Lehigh Mountain Walking Purchase Park Master Plan

Mr. Donovan stated that they had asked Mr. O’Connell about the EAC being involved with the discussion. He thanked Mr. O’Connell for bringing it to their attention.

Mr. Bennington stated that was discussed at the EAC meeting last night and he attended with Mr. Weitzel. Mr. Weitzel did discuss it with Mr. McGuire at that time. He stated that Mr. Weitzel wanted to be here tonight, but will review the plans at the Parks and Recreation meeting.

Mr. D’Amore stated that they will make sure at the Committee meeting that they have a Report from the EAC.

**R8 NSP-3.doc**

**Referred to CEDC**

Submission of a Neighborhood Stabilization Program Round 3 Grant for Jordan Heights Neighborhood

**R9 STEVENS PARK.doc**

**Referred to Parks and Recreation**

Grant for the Stevens Park Renovation

**R10 PPL PARK GRANT.doc**

**Referred to Parks and Recreation**

Grant for PPL Parking Lot Pocket Park

**R11 OUTSOURCE CCR PRINTING.doc**

Authorizes the Outsourcing of the Consumer Confidence Report

Mr. D’Amore stated that the Administration asked for them to vote on this evening. This is a pressing matter.

Mr. Bennington stated that it is a pressing matter because DEP requires it to be out to customers by July 1<sup>st</sup> and they ran it across the union at it will cost \$3195 to go outside and they agreed. He stated that they discussed this on Friday.

Mr. D’Amore asked if there were any objections to voting on this evening.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she does not know if she has an objection, but the word Outsourcing after the discussion that they had.

Mr. Bennington stated that they are following the process. He stated that he went through the union and now they bringing the Resolution to Council.

Ms. Eichenwald asked what happened when they went to the union.

Mr. Bennington stated that they approved them.

Ms. Eichenwald asked was it a committee. Did you go through that process or just through the union?

Mr. Bennington stated that they went through Ryan Hunsicker.

Mr. D'Amore stated to Ms. Eichenwald that as part of their packet he thinks it is part of the written packet as well. There should be a letter from the SEIU. He asked Mr. Hanlon was there a letter from the SEIU that we have received.

Mr. Hanlon stated that they received an email last Friday.

Mr. D'Amore stated that Ms. Molitoris was supposed to add it to the packet.

Mr. Bennington questioned if Ms. Molitoris added it to the packet. He stated that she showed them the actual letter that was signed by Mr. Hunsicker.

Mr. D'Amore stated that he can attest to his colleagues that they did indeed that is the case, but he thinks that perhaps his colleagues would want to see it for themselves.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that as far as she is concerned that if Mr. D'Amore saw it with his own eyes then we will accept it. In the future we need to follow that process. She stated whenever she sees outsourcing they need to follow the process which means they need to see it.

Mr. D'Amore stated that is correct. He stated that he is quickly looking through his email to see if he has a copy from Ms. Molitoris that they can project on the screen so that everyone can read it. It was absolutely agreed upon.

Mr. Schweyer stated that is fine.

Mr. Donovan stated that he is fine with that.

Mr. D'Amore asked if there was an objection on voting on it this evening.

Mr. Schweyer stated no objections.

Mr. D'Amore stated that since there are no objections are there any comments from Council or comments from the public.

Resolution passed, 7 - 0

15. NEW BUSINESS

None

## 16. GOOD AND WELFARE

Mr. Schlossberg stated that he is sure that he is speaking for all of his colleagues when he says that the Emergency Team and First Responders responded absolutely flawlessly. He stated that two days after the explosion he was at a meeting at work and he was with a couple of their counterparts from suburban townships in the area and it gave him an opportunity to brag about how outstanding the emergency management went. He stated that it is a credit to the Mayor.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that she agrees and believes it should be a formal recognition of that. She stated that whether they do it in a form of a Proclamation or Ordinance.

Mr. D'Amore stated that they are trying to gather up all the individuals because they do not want to miss anybody or business.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that they should issue an invitation to the various people of the organizations. She stated that what does concern her is the issue with donations and the American Red Cross. She stated that she thinks in the beginning when everyone made donations were under the assumption that it would be a direct funneling from the American Red Cross to the families. Later on that it was reported in the Morning Call and she is not saying that she objects to this, but we need to look at it. The process was not so that if you made a donation to the American Red Cross, it went to the American Red Cross for them to use for all of their disaster relief. It left many people that wanted to make a direct donation without a way to do it, and it took about a week and a half for the Morning Call reported that we could give our donations to KNBT who was setting up a separate fund. Hopefully, we will never be in a situation such as this again. It behooves us to have a conversation with the American Red Cross about how this process works. She stated that she understands the reasoning of the American Red Cross. They are saying that the money goes to all disaster relief, but in fundraising it is important to recognize the wishes of the donor.

Mr. Guridy stated that he used to be on the board of the American Red Cross for some time. He stated that you can actually designate your donations.

Ms. Eichenwald stated that was not said. She stated that her point is without getting to the specifics of it, they need to clarify. If people want to give donations directly, there needs to be a coordinating way to do that.

Mr. D'Amore stated that clarity is necessary. He stated that his wife was particularly concerned about that as well and pointed that out to him. It was not upfront a way to designate.

Mr. Donovan stated that he was extremely impressed and pleased. The one question he had is a logistical question for them. He found out because he got a phone call from his ex-wife in Maine at 7:00 AM because she seen it on the news. He stated that he thought that they developed a policy of notifying Council if there are major events. He never received a text or email.

Mr. Schweyer stated that it was to contact the Chair of the Public Safety Committee.

Mr. D'Amore stated that Mr. Donovan is correct.

Mr. Donovan stated that if he would have gone to work, he would have not known until noon or 1:00 PM.

Mr. D'Amore stated that they will discuss it with Chief Scheirer at the Executive Review. He stated that Mr. O'Connell, Mr. Schweyer and himself came to the knowledge and made their way to the site. He stated that

Mr. Schlossberg stated that if he would have known he would have come down. He stated that personally he would take responsibility for not calling everybody. He stated that he thought that at 11:00 PM, it was inappropriate to call everyone. He was not sure who else was awake other than him. He found out that Mr. O'Connell and Mr. Schweyer were.

Mr. Donovan stated that he is not upset, but can see other situations where it would be absolutely necessary in some way or capacity.

Mr. Guridy thanked the Public Safety Team, City Council and the Mayor who assisted. He stated that he was concerned because he did not know where to meet. He stated that he went to the site, but it was a yellow tape and he did not know if he could cross it or where to go. It was a command center on 14<sup>th</sup> and Allen and he did not know about. He stated that he could have done more, but he did not know where to go. He stated that he was able to help the family.

Mr. Bennington stated that he agrees with Mr. D'Amore that they should address this with the Chief on the night of the Executive Session. He stated that when he was called, he got to the AG Hall at a quarter to 1. He assumed that everyone was contacted.

Mr. Guridy stated that he thought he might have been thrown out because not everyone knows he is a Councilman. He stated that he is a commissioner for the Allentown Housing Authority and those people were also evacuated.

Mr. D'Amore stated that it is certainly an issue that they need to take up. It is important and speaking for all the members of Council they feel passionate about the well-being of their constituents as much as the Mayor does. They want the opportunity to show that even if it is in the capacity of providing a little comfort.

Mr. O'Connell stated that he shares his concern with his colleague Ms. Eichenwald that people are ready and willing to donate and they want that donation to go directly to the family. He stated that he was not aware that when you donate to the American Red Cross, it could go to any relief in the world. At the Allen and Dieruff game it was an impromptu collection with cooperation of the city and the school district and \$1600 was raised. Central Catholic was playing Emmaus at home and it was an impromptu collection and they raised \$1400. Between Allen, Dieruff and Central Catholic the city schools raised \$3000 and that was impromptu.

17. ADJOURNED 8:40 PM

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