

Michael D'Amore, Ph.D., President
W. Michael Donovan, Vice President
Jeanette Eichenwald
Julio A. Guridy
David M. Howells, Sr.
Tony Phillips
Peter Schweyer



Allentown City Council
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COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
November 4, 2009 - COUNCIL CHAMBERS

COUNCIL MEETING - 7:30 PM

1. Invocation: Julio A. Guridy

2. Pledge to the Flag

3. Roll Call The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM. Councilpersons D'Amore, Donovan, Eichenwald, Guridy, Howells, Sr., Phillips, and Schweyer were present.

4. Courtesy of the Floor

Lou Hershman, Gilmore Street, asked what would the Mayor have introduced if he didn't have two million dollars of relief under Act 44, requested a copy of the Capital Improvement Plan, and asked why an actuarial study wasn't completed pursuant to City ordinances.

Dan Mest, Jackson Street, suggested the Planning Commission meet at night to facilitate public input.

5. Approval of Minutes: The minutes of October 7 and October 14 were approved by common consent.

6. Old Business

7. Communications

Mrs. Eichenwald noted a letter was sent to the Mayor requesting him to make appointments to the Ethics Board as soon as possible.

Mr. D'Amore stated Council will have an executive session immediately following this meeting for an update hiring process.

8. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES:

Budget and Finance: Chairperson Donovan

The Committee met on October 28th – there are no future meetings scheduled due to the budget review.

Public Safety: Chairperson Howells

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

Community and Economic Development: Chairperson Schweyer

The Committee met this evening; a future meeting has not been scheduled.

Parks and Recreation: Chairperson Phillips

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

Human Resources, Administration and Appointments: Chairperson Eichenwald

The Committee has forwarded two appointments on tonight's agenda.

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

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

Mr. D'Amore stated the dates of the following budget schedule:

Tuesday, November 10, at 6:30 PM

Parks and Recreation, Golf Course - Equipment and Capital Projects if applicable

Wednesday, November 11th, at 6:30 PM

Public Works, Solid Waste, Water, Sewer, Liquid Fuels - Equipment and Capital Projects if applicable

Tuesday, November 17, at 6:30 PM

Community and Economic Development - Equipment and Capital Projects if applicable

Wednesday, November 18, at 6:30 PM

Finance, Human Resources, Risk Management, Debt Service - Equipment and Capital Projects if applicable

Tuesday, November 24th, at 6:00 PM

Public Safety: Police, CommCenter, EMS and Fire - Equipment and Capital Projects if applicable

Tuesday, December 1, at 6:30 PM

Mayor, Managing Director, Controller, Solicitor's Office, Council

Review of Outstanding Budget Issues

Wednesday, December 2nd, at 7:30 PM

Adoption of the Budgets

9. APPOINTMENTS:

Margie Maldonado – Reappointment to Health Board – Term to Expire – 01/01/2014

Sandra Easterling – Reappointment to Police Civil Service – Term to Expire – 1/26/2013

The reappointments were approved by Council, 6-1 (Phillips).

10. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL PASSAGE:

Bill 66 Street Vacation

Providing for the vacation of South Ann Street from East Hamilton Street to East Maple Street in the Fourteenth Ward of the City of Allentown.

It was noted the Administration favored the vacation and there were no objectors at the Public Works meeting.

The bill passed 7-0.

Bill 73

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of One Million One Hundred Twenty-nine Thousand Forty-nine (\$1,129,049) dollars in Homelessness Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program funds, for homelessness prevention and rapid re-housing pursuant to the approved Consolidated Plan amendment, appropriate Federal Law and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations.

Mr. Schweyer noted the committee forwarded this bill favorably and would like a follow up on implementation.

Mrs. Eichenwald requested that Council receive updates on the program.

Mr. D'Amore suggested the reports that are filed to be given to the office to be presented to the CEDC for review.

The bill passed, 7-0.

Bill 74

Amending the 2009 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of One Million (\$1,000,000) Dollars to provide for a pass through grant from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania Office of the Budget to the Allentown Housing Authority for work done on the Hanover Acres Project

An amendment changing the second section to read as expenditure rather than appropriation was passed by common consent.

The Bill passed, 6-0, Mr. Gurdy did not vote citing a conflict as a member of the Housing Authority Board.

Bill 75

An Ordinance providing for the expenditure of Seven Hundred Thirty-seven Thousand Nine Hundred seventeen (\$737,917) dollars in CDBG-R funds for activities pursuant to the approved Consolidated Plan, appropriate Federal Law and United States Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) regulations; such monies are received by the City of Allentown from funds authorized under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009.

There was an amendment changing the last line that reads HPRa to CDBG R which was passed by common consent. The bill passed, 7-0.

Bill 77

Amending the 2009 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Seventy Thousand (\$70,000) Dollars in Main Street funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development to provide funding necessary to continue the implementation of the *Main Street Program* in Main Street Program Area.

The bill passed 7-0.

11. ORDINANCES FOR INTRODUCTION:

Bill 79

Referred to Public Safety

Amending the 2009 General Fund Budget to provide for an additional Five Thousand (\$5,000) Dollars be appropriated to the Emergency Medical Services Premium Pay account to pay overtime costs to paramedics who will be giving vaccinations at the Health Bureau's seasonal and H1N1 flu clinics scheduled over the remainder of this year (2009). The Pennsylvania Department of Health will reimburse the 100% for this cost.

B80

Referred to Public Safety

Amending the 2009 General Fund Budget to provide for a supplemental appropriation of Eighteen and Seven dollars and fifty cents (\$18,007.50) as a result of payment from the Lehigh Valley Iron Pigs Baseball Team to the City of Allentown Paramedics for providing on-site Emergency Medical Services during baseball games at Coca-Cola Park for the months of June, July and August 2009.

B81

Referred to Budget and Finance

Amending Article 130.07, Amendments after Adoption, by establishing rules for the transfer of funds by raising the threshold required for Council approval from \$5,000 to \$25,000; requiring any transfer below this level to be forwarded to the Controller and Council, and any transfer above this level to be sent to a committee of Council and, if recommended, to Council for approval; and removes some inconsistencies between the capital project transfer provisions by subjecting transfers within a capital project to these procedures but requiring transfers between capital projects to be approved by Council as an amendment to the Capital budget

B82

Referred to Public Safety

Amending article 507 (Traffic control Maps) of the Codified Ordinances of the City of Allentown by removing all parking meters along the north and south sides of Chew Street beginning on the west side of 8th Street continuing west on Chew Street to the east side of 10th Street and establishing a two (2) hour time zone along the north and south sides of Chew Street beginning on the west side of 8th Street continuing west on Chew Street to the east side of 10th Street

The bills below were referred to the corresponding budget review committees noted above.

B83 Adopts the Solid Waste Enterprise Fund: \$14,046,921

B84 Adopts the Solid Waste Fee: Continues at \$340

B85 Water Fund Budget: \$14,643,865

B86 Adopts Water Rates for 2010

B87 Sewer Fund Budget: \$16,406,137

B88 Adopts Sewer Rates for 2010

B89 Adopts the Liquid Fuels Fund: \$2,618,196

B90 Adopts the Trexler Fund Budget: \$1,165,005

B91 Adopts the Golf Course Fund Budget: \$1,465,916

B92 Adopts the Equipment Fund Budget: \$798,366

B93 Adopts Risk Management Fund: \$17,193,404

B94 Adopts the 2009 Capital Projects Fund: \$432,000

B95 Adopts the 2009 Debt Obligations Fund: \$7,108,427

B96 Adopts the 2009 911 Fund: \$2,769,312

B97 Adopts the 2009 General Fund \$81,169,070 net a vacancy factor of \$1,118,495

B98

Adopts the 2009 Tax Rate: Ten and Seventy-one Thousand Nine Hundred Seventy-nine Hundred Thousandth (10.71979) mills on improvements and Fifty and Thirty-eight Thousand Thirty-one Hundred Thousandth (50.38031) mills on land.

B99 Refer to Public Works
Providing for the vacation of Clyde Street from East Brookedale Street to Wabash Street

12. CONSENT AGENDA

CA1 Certificates of Appropriateness for work in the Historic Districts

The items on the consent agenda were split and voted on separately. The certificate for 537 North 6th Street passed 7-0 and the certificate for 16151/2 West Turner, 6 – 1 (Donovan).

13. RESOLUTIONS ON SECOND READING: None

14. RESOLUTIONS ON FIRST READING:

R70 Referred to CEDC
HARB Denial at 1613 Linden Street

R71 Referred to budget deliberations
Adopts the Capital Improvement Program for 2010-2014

R72 Referred to Public Safety
Requests Flashing School Warning Devices for Jackson Elementary School on Allen Street

R73 Referred to Rules
John F. Pressman Memorial Trail

15. NEW BUSINESS

16. GOOD AND WELFARE

17. ADJOURN

If you have any questions on the legislation, please contact Council Office at 610.437.7556 or email the City Clerk at hanlon@allentowncity.org.

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, or contact the Clerk at hanlon@allentowncity.org to receive an email notice of the meetings.