

BETHLEHEM CITY COUNCIL MEETING
10 East Church Street – Town Hall
Bethlehem, Pennsylvania
Tuesday, April 7, 2015 – 7:00 PM

INVOCATION

Reverend Suzanne M. Trump, of the St. John's Windish Evangelical Lutheran Church, offered the invocation which was followed by the pledge to the flag.

PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

1. ROLL CALL

Acting President Michael D. Recchiuti called the meeting to order. Present were Bryan G. Callahan, Eric R. Evans, Michael D. Recchiuti, Cathy Reuscher, Louis N. Stellato, and Adam Waldron, 6. J. William Reynolds was absent, 1.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes from March 3, 2015 were approved.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. OLD BUSINESS.

A. Members of Council

None.

B. Tabled Item

1. Bill No. 17 – Amending Article 1306.01(a) of the Zoning Ordinance – Dimensional Regulations for the R-R Residential District, Creating Maximum Impervious Coverage in the R-R and R-S Districts

C. Unfinished Business

None.

5. COMMUNICATIONS

A. *Mayor – Request to Fill Vacancy – Community and Economic Development*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Mayor Robert J. Donchez requesting to fill the position of Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development. The budgeted salary for this position is \$78,334.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 A is on the agenda.

B. *Mayor – Request to Fill Vacancy – Mayor's Chief of Staff*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Mayor Robert J. Donchez requesting to fill the position of Chief of Staff. The budgeted salary for this position is \$57,000.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 B is on the agenda.

C. *Mayor – Request to Fill Vacancy – Housing and Community Development Planner*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Mayor Robert J. Donchez requesting to fill the position of the Housing and Community Development Planner. The budgeted salary for this position is \$70,907 and is funded by CDBG and HOME administration funds.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 C is on the agenda.

D. *Mayor – Request to Fill Vacancy – Bureau of Engineering Section Engineer*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Mayor Robert J. Donchez requesting to fill the position of the Section Engineer in the Bureau of Engineering. The budgeted salary range for this position is \$52,905.03 - \$74,109.32.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 D is on the agenda.

E. *Council President – Amending Article 117 – Officers and Employees*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Council President Reynolds attached to which is an Ordinance amending Article 117, Officers and Employees. The Recreation Board is being deleted from Section 117.01(b) since the Authority to appoint members now resides with the Mayor. The Environmental Advisory Council is being added to Section 117.01(b) and a new subsection refers to the appointments by the Mayor and City Council, to the Human Relations Commission.

Acting President Recchiuti stated the Ordinance will be placed on the April 21, 2015 agenda for First Reading.

F. *Director of Public Works – Recommendation for Award – Pennoni Associates, Inc.*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Public Works Director, Michael Alkhal, recommending a contract with Pennoni Associates for a traffic study on Elizabeth Avenue to determine if a travel lane can be removed for pedestrian safety, and for plans and permitting for the installation of flashing pedestrian beacons. The term of the contract is one year from Notice to Proceed. The estimated cost is \$17,990.10.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 E is on the agenda.

G. *Director of Public Works – Recommendation for Award – Joao Bradley Construction Co.*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Michael Alkhal, Director of Public Works, recommending a contract with Joao Bradley Construction Co. for the replacement of aging water mains in the Birchwood Farms subdivision located in Bethlehem Township. The term of the contract is 90 calendar days from Notice to Proceed. The estimated cost is \$360,302.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 F is on the agenda.

H. *Director of Public Works – Recommendation for Award – Belloview Pumps, LLC*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Michael Alkhal, Director of Public Works, recommending a contract with Bellview Pump for the replacement of an aging water main on East Fifth Street between Williams and Arnold Street. The total estimated cost is \$152,905. The term of the contract is 90 calendar days from Notice to Proceed.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 G is on the agenda.

I. *Director of Water & Sewer Resources – Recommendation for Award – S. C. Engineers, Inc.*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Edward J. Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources, recommending a contract with S.C. Engineers to provide consulting services associated with the City's USEPA mandated Industrial Pretreatment Program and miscellaneous assignments for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. The total estimated cost is not to exceed \$20,000. The term of the contract is January 1 to December 31, 2015.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 H is on the agenda.

J. *Director of Water & Sewer Resources – Recommendation for Award – Cherry Weber & Associates*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Edward J. Boscola, Director of Water and Sewer Resources, recommending a contract with Cherry Weber & Associates for construction related services associated

with the repairs to the Wild Creek Spillway. The total estimated cost is \$14,400. The term of the contract shall run from the Notice to Proceed until December 31, 2015.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 I is on the agenda.

- K. *Director of Parks & Public Property – Request for Resolution – Northampton County Open Space Initiative Grant*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Ralph Carp, Director of Parks & Public Property requesting a Resolution to apply for a \$25,000 Northampton County Open Space Initiative grant for a new Skate Plaza Shade Canopy. The Resolution is a requirement for the application.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 J is on the agenda.

- L. *Director of Public Works – Request for Resolution - PennDOT – ARLE Program Agreement*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Michael Alkhal, Director of Public Works requesting a Resolution to authorize the execution of an Agreement for the Automated Red Light Enforcement Program Project in regards to pedestrian improvements around Liberty High School. The Resolution is a standard requirement of PennDOT.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 K is on the agenda.

- M. *Director of Public Works – Request for Resolutions – Transportation Alternative Program Grant Agreement – Intergovernmental Agreement Bethlehem/Easton: Bethlehem/Allentown*

A memorandum from Michael Alkhal, Director of Public Works requesting a resolution to authorize the execution of an Agreement for the Transportation Alternatives Program Federal Aid-Reimbursement Grant Agreement – Shared Lane Marking Expansion Project.

A second Resolution is requested to authorize the execution of an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Bethlehem and the City of Easton and between the City of Bethlehem and the City of Allentown. Bethlehem will be overseeing the project and an agreement must be entered into with the other cities to allow the selected contractor to enter each city and install the shared lane markings. The Resolutions are standard requirements of PennDOT.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolutions 9 L and 9 M are on the agenda.

- N. *Health Bureau Director – Recommendation for Award – Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Kristen Wenrich, Health Bureau Director, recommending a contract with the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition to provide insurance contracting and billing management solutions through UPP Technology. The initial cost is estimated at \$5,000 and revenues generated by billing. If the contract is renewed, the amount paid to the contractor will be based on billing revenues. The term of the contract is one year from the date executed and will automatically renew for an additional one year unless terminated by written agreement from both parties.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 N is on the agenda.

- O. *City Solicitor – Use Permit Agreement – ArtsQuest – TEDxNJ Event*

The Clerk read a memorandum from City Solicitor William P. Leeson, Esq. attached to which is a proposed Resolution and associated Use Permit Agreement. The Permittee is ArtsQuest. The event is the TEDxNJ Event. The duration of the agreement is May 3 to May 6, 2015. The location is Founders Way between 1st and 2nd Streets.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 O is on the agenda.

- P. *City Solicitor – Use Permit Agreement – Sun Inn Preservation Association Festival*

The Clerk read a memorandum from City Solicitor William P. Leeson, Esq. attached to which is a proposed Resolution and associated Use Permit Agreement. The Permittee is the Sun Inn

Preservation Association. The event is the Sun Inn Festival Weekend. The duration of the agreement is May 13 to May 17, 2015. The location is Nevin Place, adjacent to Sun Inn Courtyard.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 P is on the agenda.

Q. *City Solicitor – Amending Article 531, Parking Generally*

The Clerk read a memorandum from City Solicitor William P. Leeson, Esq. attached to which is a proposed Ordinance amending Article 531, Parking Generally. The subsections are being added regarding parking at Saucon Park and related violation penalties.

Acting President Recchiuti stated the Ordinance will be placed on the April 21, 2015 agenda for First Reading.

R. *City Solicitor – Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement – City of Bethlehem/Northampton Borough Municipal Authority*

The Clerk read a memorandum from City Solicitor William P. Leeson, Esq. attached to which is a proposed Ordinance and associated Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement between the City of Bethlehem and the Northampton Borough Municipal Authority to delineate their respective right to provide water service to an area encompassed with the territorial boundaries of Allen Township and Hanover Township.

Acting President Recchiuti stated the Ordinance will be placed on the April 21, 2015 agenda for First Reading.

S. *Director of Planning and Zoning – Request for Resolution – DCNR Grant*

The Clerk read a memorandum from Darlene Heller, Director of Planning and Zoning requesting a Resolution in support of a grant application to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources. The amount is \$375,000 for the extension of the South Bethlehem Greenway for the development of two separate plazas.

Acting President Recchiuti stated Resolution 9 Q is on the agenda.

6. REPORTS

A. *President of Council*

B. *Mayor*

Saucon Park

Mayor Donchez mentioned the Administration would be more than happy to give an update on Saucon Park in two weeks. Ralph Carp, Director of Parks and Public Property, and his department have done a good job. Mayor Donchez continued, we met with the public and had a public hearing about a month and a half ago on this subject. If Council wishes, we will certainly give a presentation or a written memorandum on what the Administration will be doing regarding Saucon Park beginning the first weekend in May.

Incident at City Hall

Mayor Donchez stated he wanted to commend all of the Police Officers, the Chief, Deputy Chief, and Moses Miller, the lead Detective in the situation we had this past weekend regarding a bomb threat. It would have been a very dangerous situation. He stated this just a great example of the professionalism and handling of this fluid situation. Mayor Donchez just wanted to commend them publicly for their work.

*Deputy of Community and Economic Development
Mayor's Chief of Staff*

Mayor Donchez continued to say that Justin Poremba, who will be the new Deputy of Community and Economic Development and Patrick Fligge, who will be his new Chief of Staff, are in the audience at this meeting.

C. *Finance Committee*

Mr. Recchiuti, Chairman of the Finance Committee, gave an oral report of the meeting held on Tuesday, March 31, 2015 at 7:00 pm in Town Hall. The Committee reviewed and recommended that Council approve Ordinances for the following: Amending Non-Utility Capital Budget - DCED-Monocacy Creek Improvements Grant - Overlay/ADA Curb Ramps - Drainage System Improvements; Amending Liquid Fuels Fund Budget - Final Allocation; Amending General Fund Budget - Health Bureau Budget Amendments; Amending Community Development Budget - Final 2015 CDBG and HOME Allocations. The Committee also received an update from the Administration regarding personnel vacancies related to the budgeted early retirement program.

D. *Public Safety Committee*

Mr. Evans, Chairman of the Public Safety Committee, gave an oral report of the meeting held on Tuesday, April 7, 2015 at 6:00 pm in Town Hall. The 911 Center was the only agenda item. Prior to the Committee Meeting, the Administration did provide an informational tour of the 911 Center at 5:30 pm. The Administration presented an update at the Committee Meeting regarding the 911 Center operations and finances. No votes were taken, and the Committee agreed to meet again in early July for the next quarterly update on the 911 Center.

7. ORDINANCES FOR FINAL READING

A. *Bill No. 16 - 2015 - Amending Zoning Ordinance - Articles 1302 and 1318 - Solar Energy Devices*

The Clerk read Bill No. 16 - 2015 - Amending Zoning Ordinance - Articles 1302 and 1318 - Solar Energy Devices, on Final Reading.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. Bill No. 16 - 2015 now known as Ordinance No. 2015 - 16, was adopted on Final Reading.

B. *Bill No. 18 - 2015 - Amending Zoning Ordinance - Article 1319.1 - Off-Street Parking*

The Clerk read Bill No. 18 - 2015 - Amending Zoning Ordinance - Article 1319.1 - Off-Street Parking Spaces, on Final Reading.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. Bill No. 18 - 2015 now known as Ordinance No. 2015 - 17, was adopted on Final Reading.

C. *Bill No. 19 - 2015 - Amending Community Development Budget*

The Clerk read Bill No. 19 - 2015 - Amending Community Development Budget, on Final Reading.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. Bill No. 19 - 2015 now known as Ordinance No. 2015 - 18, was adopted on Final Reading.

8. NEW ORDINANCES.

A. *Bill No. 20 - 2015 - Amending Non-Utilities Capital Budget*

The Clerk read Bill No. 20 - 2015 - Amending Non-Utilities Capital Budget, sponsored by Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan and titled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM,
COUNTIES OF LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING
THE 2015 CAPITAL BUDGET FOR NON-UTILITIES.

Acting President Recchiuti noted that Ordinances 8A, 8B. and 8C were all discussed at the Finance Committee Meeting.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. Bill No. 20 – 2015 was passed on First Reading.

B. *Bill No. 21 – 2015 – Amending Liquid Fuels Fund Budget*

The Clerk read Bill No. 21 – 2015 – Amending Liquid Fuels Fund Budget, sponsored by Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan and titled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM,
COUNTIES OF LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING
THE LIQUID FUELS FUND BUDGET FOR 2015.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. Bill No. 21 – 2015 was passed on First Reading.

C. *Bill No. 22 – 2015 – Amending General Fund Budget*

The Clerk read Bill No. 22 – 2015 – Amending General Fund Budget, sponsored by Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan and titled:

AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM,
COUNTIES OF LEHIGH AND NORTHAMPTON,
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA, AMENDING
THE GENERAL FUND BUDGET FOR 2015.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. Bill No. 22 – 2015 was passed on First Reading.

9. RESOLUTIONS

A. *Approve Hiring – Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development*

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-64 that approved the filling of the position of Deputy Director of Community & Economic Development in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Ms. Reuscher reported she wanted to read some comments from President J. William Reynolds who is unavailable this evening. "Please accept my sincerest apologies for missing the meeting tonight. I am participating in a program at Moravian College regarding Public Service. I would like to thank Mr. Recchiuti for running the meeting and filling what otherwise would be an empty chair. Please accept this statement as proof of my full support for Mr. Porembo to be the new Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development. He has all the necessary skills and prerequisites to be the perfect fit for this job. He will surely do a great job in this newly created position and be a great addition to our team. Justin's impressive ability to interface and communicate between different departments and disciplines in City Government always with a smile on his face, a respectful demeanor, and an ability to listen first will continue to serve the City well as he applies these skills to building the necessary bridges between the public and private sector. I am sure the rest of Council looks forward to continuing to work with J. P. in his new role." Ms. Reuscher informed she would like to echo those comments.

Mr. Stellato stated he seconds that.

Mr. Recchiuti also supported what Mr. Reynolds stated regarding Mr. Porembo's advancement to the position of Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development. Mr. Recchiuti expressed, with no offense to the Mayor, that he believes Mr. Porembo was somewhat underutilized in his current role. Mayor Donchez replied with humor that he thinks Mr. Porembo will take issue with that. Mr. Recchiuti continued, he believes Mr. Porembo has the talents to serve the City in a much broader capacity in his new role as Deputy Director of Community and Economic Development.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

B. *Approve Hiring – Mayor's Chief of Staff*

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-65 that approved the filling of the position of the Mayor's Chief of Staff.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

C. *Approve Hiring – Housing and Community Development Planner*

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-66 that approved the filling of the position of Housing and Community Development Planner in the Department of Community and Economic Development.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

D. *Approve Hiring – Bureau of Engineering – Section Engineer*

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-67 that approved the filling of the position of Section Engineer in the Bureau of Engineering, Department of Public Works.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

E. *Authorizing Contract – Pennoni Associates, Inc.– ARLE Project*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-68 that authorized the execution of a contract with Pennoni Associates, Inc. for pedestrian safety improvements for Liberty High School – ARLE Grant.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

F. *Authorizing Contract – Joao Bradley Construction Co. – Water Main Replacement – Birchwood Farms*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-69 that authorized the execution of a contract with Joao Bradley Construction Co. for the Birchwood Farms Water Main Replacement on Norfolk Drive and Hampton Road.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

G. *Authorizing Contract – Belleview Pump, LLC – Water Main Replacement – East Fifth Street*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-70 that authorized the execution of a contract with Bellview Pump, LLC for the East Fifth Street Water Main Replacement between William Street and Arnold Street.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

H. *Authorizing Contract – S. C. Engineers, Inc. – Consulting Service – Industrial Pretreatment Program & Miscellaneous Assignments*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-71 that authorized the execution of a contract with S. C. Engineers, Inc. for 2015 annual consulting services for the Industrial Pretreatment Program and Miscellaneous Assignments.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

I. *Authorizing Contract – Cherry Weber & Associates – Wild Creek Dam Spillway Repairs*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-72 that authorized the execution of a contract with Cherry Weber & Associates for the Wild Creek Dam Spillway repairs construction services.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

J. *Authorizing Grant Application – Northampton County Open Space Grant – Skateplaza Shade Canopy*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-73 for the City of Bethlehem to obtain funds from the Northampton County Open Space Grant in the amount of \$25,000 for park development at the skateplaza.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

K. *Authorizing Grant Agreement – PennDOT – ARLE Program*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-74 for the City of Bethlehem to execute an Automated Red Light Enforcement Program Project Funding Agreement for pedestrian improvements in the vicinity of Liberty High School.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

L. *Authorizing Grant Agreement – PennDOT – TAP Grant Agreement/Shared Lane Marking Expansion Project*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-75 for the City of Bethlehem to execute a Transportation Alternatives Program Federal Aid-Reimbursement Grant Agreement for the Shared Lane Marking Expansion Project.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

M. *Authorizing Intergovernmental Agreement – Bethlehem/Easton; Bethlehem/Allentown – Share Lane Marking Expansion Project*

Mr. Recchiuti and Mr. Callahan sponsored Resolution No. 2015-76 for the City of Bethlehem to execute an Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Bethlehem and the City of Easton and between the City of Bethlehem and the City of Allentown for the Transportation Alternatives Program Federal Aid-Reimbursement Grant Agreement for the Shared Lane Marking Expansion Project.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

N. *Authorizing Contract – Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition*

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-77 that authorized the execution of a contract with the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition to provide billing management solutions.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

O. *Authorizing Use Permit – ArtsQuest – TEDxNJ Event*

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-78 that authorized a Use Permit Agreement with Artsquest for the TEDxNJ Event May 3, 2015 to May 6, 2015.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

P. Authorizing Use Permit – Sun Inn Preservation Association Festival

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-79 that authorized a Use Permit Agreement with the Sun Inn Preservation Association for Sun Inn Festival Weekend May 14, 2015 to May 17, 2015.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

Q. Authorizing Grant Agreement – DCNR Grant – Greenway Plazas

Mr. Stellato and Ms. Reuscher sponsored Resolution No. 2015-80 that authorized a grant application to the Department of Conservation and Natural Resources for the South Bethlehem Greenway Plaza Developments.

Mr. Waldron asked Ms. Heller about the site at Founders Way.

Ms. Heller informed there is a project where Founders Way meets Route 412 or Daly Avenue. There is a long triangular parcel at this intersection. There will be a surface parking lot created in the portion of that property and an open plaza area where the lot is too narrow for parking. It will be an extension of Founders Way and will connect to a little bit of a plaza area that we have at the end of the Greenway at Hayes Street.

Mr. Waldron knows that the Redevelopment Authority was looking at that space and had a design plan. He queried how that works with or without this plan.

Ms. Heller stated the Redevelopment Authority funding is the match for this, but the scope of the project would be scaled back if the DCNR funding is not available.

Mr. Waldron wondered if Ms. Heller and Tony Hanna, Executive Director of the Redevelopment Authority, are working on this together.

Ms. Heller replied yes, they are designing the plazas with consultants and coordinating with the City, because it functions along with the Greenway and along with the other surface parking area.

Mr. Waldron mentioned he just wanted to make sure these were not two separate plans that were competing for the same space.

Ms. Heller stated no. This is the same plan.

Mr. Evans mentioned there are two plazas and asked about the other one.

Ms. Heller noted the other plaza area is between Adams and Webster Streets. They have been working with Lehigh University who has already paid for the design work. In that block the abutting property owners are the Holy Infancy School, Boys and Girls Club, and Lehigh University also owns a parcel. We designed this plaza to be a little bit more of an active area for the school and for the Boys and Girls Club. Ms. Heller added this would be for Phase One of the project, which would include some play equipment, and some connections to the rear of Holy Infancy School and the Boys and Girls Club, as well as some small garden areas. Ms. Heller noted Lehigh University would be the funding match for this area, and the other half would be the DCNR funds.

Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti,
6. The Resolution passed.

Considering Resolutions 9 R through 9 X as a Group

Mr. Callahan and Mr. Evans moved to consider Resolutions 9 R through 9 X as a group. Voting AYE: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti, 6. The motion passed.

R. Certificate of Appropriateness – 831 East Fourth Street

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-81 that granted a Certificate of

Appropriateness to install signage in the storefront at 831 East Fourth Street.

S. *Certificate of Appropriateness – 312 East Third Street*

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-82 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install signs at 312 East Third Street.

T. *Certificate of Appropriateness – 110-112 East Fourth Street*

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-83 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to reconstruct the pre-existing porch structure at 110-112 East Fourth Street.

U. *Certificate of Appropriateness – 701 East Fourth Street*

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-84 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to retain and modify the handrail installed on the storefront at 701 East Fourth Street.

V. *Certificate of Appropriateness – 825 East Fourth Street*

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-85 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to retain signage on the window and door at 825 East Fourth Street.

W. *Certificate of Appropriateness – 201 Broadway*

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-86 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to reface the existing pylon sign and replace lettering on canopies at 201 Broadway.

X. *Certificate of Appropriateness – 113 East Third Street*

Mr. Evans and Mr. Stellato sponsored Resolution 2015-87 that granted a Certificate of Appropriateness to install a sign at 113 East Third Street.

Voting AYE on Resolutions 9 R through 9 X: Mr. Callahan, Mr. Evans, Ms. Reuscher, Mr. Stellato, Mr. Waldron and Mr. Recchiuti, 6 . The Resolutions passed.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

Mary Pongracz

Mr. Callahan reported he wanted to acknowledge the passing of Mary Pongracz. He noted that she was very protective of her beloved South Side of Bethlehem. He continued, whether you agreed or disagreed with her, Ms. Pongracz had a passion for the City of Bethlehem. Mr. Callahan stated he would take some brotherly joy a few years ago in watching her get up at Council Meetings and grill the former Administration. Mr. Callahan does want to acknowledge her passing. Ms. Pongracz was very passionate about the issues in the City.

Acting President Recchiuti pointed out Mary Pongracz will be missed.

11. PUBLIC COMMENT.

City Responsiveness

Stephen Antalics, 737 Ridge Street, mentioned at a recent Council Meeting a student at a local institution came and presented an idea which he thought was fascinating. It is called Before I Die..., a program that has caught on all over the world. Mr. Antalics mentioned the student was referred to the Director of Parks and Public Property, and since then she has not heard from anyone. Also, what impressed her, was the fact that this is her first time in the presence of a democratic institution, which she did not have in her own country. Mr. Antalics noted that she was ill at ease speaking to Council but was deeply impressed to be able to address Council. Mr. Antalics remarked that he had an in depth conversation with her about this. He spoke to other students from other countries where the government is rather repressive. He noted, these are decent people who come here and get an education, and going back to their country, they never get a sense of democracy. Mr. Antalics related this was a powerful eye opener for her, and possibly, when returns to her home country, she may become involved, because this opened a new avenue for her. Mr. Antalics informed that what this

student did not see, as of yet, is that democracy should be a two-way street. He continued, years ago when the public came to City Council meetings there was an interaction between the public and Council. If a citizen had a problem they addressed it and it was discussed between Members of Council. Mr. Antalics mentioned it is true democracy when the people listen and respond, and air the issues. Mr. Antalics believes this student is not witnessing democracy as a two-way street. Mr. Antalics remarked this brings up the idea that at one time, people at this podium could speak as long as they wanted to, and a person presiding had the ability to gavel them if they were out of order or if they spoke too long. Mr. Antalics noted rather than exercise that, Public Comment was reduced to twelve minutes; then it went down to five minutes. He added, now when someone speaks about something within the government, there are no comments. Mr. Antalics related what this is doing is creating a tremendous barrier between the citizens and the public officials they elected to office. Mr. Antalics stated he did not want to bring this up to this person because he does not want to diminish her feelings. He continued, this institution is contrary to real democratic principles. When it is safe to respond to something, such as this idea of Before I Die..., she did not even get an answer from Council. Mr. Antalics noted this does two things: it says to her that her request is not that important, or that we really do not care. Mr. Antalics thinks Council needs to review how they are responding and what they are doing to the democratic process.

Police Presence

Mary Galvan, 636 Atlantic Street, noted she is the homeowner and has been living there since she was 23 years old when she bought the home. Ms. Galvan stated she has always lived on the south side of Bethlehem. The reason she is at this meeting is to ask for more police coverage in her neighborhood during the spring and summer time. Ms. Galvan mentioned the Police Chief can see by her calls that she does not call during the fall or the winter, because everyone is well behaved and inside the homes. Ms. Galvan sees the drug dealers living in her neighborhood. They are loud at night, and do whatever they want, such as throwing garbage in the streets. Ms. Galvan noted it is spring and summer time again, so she is just asking everyone here, including the Police Chief to have more police coverage in her area. This will be the last year she will be living on Atlantic Street because her goal is to leave that neighborhood. Ms. Galvan reported she has been in this neighborhood for many years, and is tired of fighting with her neighbors and the drug dealers. Ms. Galvan noted the police better get their act together by next year, because next year she will not be living in that neighborhood. She believes that next year, the 600 block of Atlantic Street will look like 7th and Gordon Streets in Allentown. She continued, if you have ever been in that area of Allentown, you know this is the worst neighborhood in Allentown. She sees the 600 block of Atlantic Street looking like that in the near future.

12. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

ATTEST: