



## *City of Bethlehem Memorandum*

**TO:** Adam R. Waldron, City Council President

**FROM:** Mark W. Sivak, Director of Budget & Finance *MWS*

**DATE:** October 11, 2018

**SUBJECT:** Assignment of Fund Balance Resolution

---

The Government Account Standards Board issued Statement No. 54, Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions (GASB 54), providing for new standards on the categorization of available fund balances.

GASB 54 dictates how certain Fund fund balances are shown on the annual audited financial statements. The Administration is requesting Council adopt the attached Resolution authorizing the Business Administrator and/or the Director of Budget & Finance to assign portions of available fund balances for specific purposes in accordance with GASB 54.

Assigning portions of available fund balance will impact the way fund balance is broken out on the audited financial statements but in no way commits spending for current or future budgeted years.

If you have any questions or need additional information please let me know.

cc: Members of Council  
Mayor Donchez  
E. Evans  
G. Yasso

**RESOLUTION NO.**

**A RESOLUTION OF THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF BETHLEHEM  
AUTHORIZING THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR AND/OR THE DIRECTOR  
OF BUDGET & FINANCE TO ASSIGN CERTAIN FUND BALANCE RESERVES  
IN ACCORDANCE WITH GASB STATEMENT NO. 54.**

**WHEREAS**, the Government Accounting Standards Board issued Statement No. 54, *Fund Balance Reporting and Governmental Fund Type Definitions* (GASB 54), providing for new standards on the categorization of available fund balances;

**WHEREAS**, GASB 54 provides for the classification of portions of available fund balance as restricted, committed, assigned, and unassigned based on the relative strength of the constraints that control how specific amounts can be spent.

**WHEREAS**, amounts in the *assigned* fund balance classification are intended to be used by the government for specific purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the Administration is best able to determine those portions of the fund balance which should be *assigned* for specific purposes; and

**WHEREAS**, the City Council currently receives monthly financial reports from the Administration which include detailed revenue and expense information.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED**, by the Council of the City of Bethlehem that the Business Administrator and/or the Director of Budget & Finance, is hereby authorized to *assign*, in accordance with GASB 54, portions of available fund balances for specific purposes and for these assignments to be recognized as such on the City of Bethlehem financial statements for 2017 and subsequent years.

Sponsored by: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**ADOPTED** by Council this                      day of                      , 2018.

\_\_\_\_\_  
President of Council

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
City Clerk