

CITY OF BETHLEHEM

Inter-Office Memorandum

SUBJECT: Amending Rules of Council – Rule 8

TO: Members of Council

FROM: Michael G. Colón, President of Council

DATE: November 14, 2024

Attached is a resolution to amend the Rules of Council, specifically Rule 8 – Committees.

During my time on Council, matters related to the Bethlehem Parking Authority have come before this body and often been referred to the Public Safety Committee, per our rules. During this period, conversations have been had about the relevance of the Parking Authority to Public Safety rather than Community and Economic Development. More recently, items related to the Parking Authority have been brought to City Council, including an ordinance amendment that is pending committee review, and I feel now is an appropriate time to move the Bethlehem Parking Authority from the scope of the Public Safety Committee and place it within the scope of our Community and Economic Development Committee.

This change would allow City Council to continue our due diligence while placing issues related to the Parking Authority in a committee more appropriate for these matters. Please reach out to me with any questions regarding the change.

Thank you,



Michael G. Colón
President of Council

cc: Stephanie J. Steward, Esquire, City Council Solicitor

RESOLUTION NO. 2024- _____

BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the City of Bethlehem that the following amendment is hereby made to Rule 8 of the Rules of Council:

That the following in Rule 8 which reads as follows:

RULE 8. The President of Council shall appoint the following standing committees and designate the chairpersons, with duties as indicated:

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - All matters relating to health, code violations, recycling, Planning, Zoning, Housing Rehabilitation, Inspections, Economic Development, landmarks and property of historical interest, and Redevelopment Authority issues.

FINANCE - All matters relating to finance, taxes, indebtedness, bond issues, penalties, the operating and capital budgets, water and sewer rates, and fees.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT - All matters relating to personnel and quality of life in the city, with particular attention to environmental matters and human and social concerns, plus Housing Authority issues.

PARKS AND RECREATION - All matters relating to City parks and recreation.

PUBLIC SAFETY - All matters pertaining to Police, Firefighters, ambulance service, and Parking Authority.

PUBLIC WORKS - All matters pertaining to streets, sewer and water systems, water and sewage treatment plants, engineering, electrical, mechanical maintenance, and City property and buildings.

No committee shall consider any matter which has not been referred by the Council except for matters which historically have been considered by the specific committee. Council may establish special committees, as needed. The President of Council shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of all committees, except in the case of a tie.

The committee listings shall be amended to read as follows:

RULE 8. The President of Council shall appoint the following standing committees and designate the chairpersons, with duties as indicated:

COMMUNITY AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT - All matters relating to health, code violations, recycling, Planning, Zoning, Housing Rehabilitation, Inspections, Economic Development, landmarks and property of historical interest, **Parking Authority**, and Redevelopment Authority issues.

FINANCE - All matters relating to finance, taxes, indebtedness, bond issues, penalties, the operating and capital budgets, water and sewer rates, and fees.

HUMAN RESOURCES AND ENVIRONMENT - All matters relating to personnel and quality of life in the city, with particular attention to environmental matters and human and social concerns, plus Housing Authority issues.

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No committee shall consider any matter which has not been referred by the Council except for matters which historically have been considered by the specific committee. Council may establish special committees, as needed. The President of Council shall serve as an ex-officio, non-voting member of all committees, except in the case of a tie.

Sponsored by _____

ADOPTED by Council this day of , 2024.

President of Council

ATTEST:

City Clerk