

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	President, District 8
Nick Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Heather S. Heidelbaugh	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
James R. Burn, Jr.	-	District 3
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5 (via telephone)
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
William Russell Robinson	-	District 10
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

Allegheny County Courthouse
Fourth Floor, Gold Room
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Tuesday, February 7, 2012 - 5:05 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

James Flynn - County Manager
Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Jack Cambest - Solicitor

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I call the meeting of Allegheny County Council to order. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance, and remain standing for a moment of silent prayer or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Please be seated. Roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Thirteen (13) members present.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Proclamations/Certificates.

6706-12.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Mr. Gerald (sic) Aufman for his 55 years of service to the Ingomar Volunteer Fire Department. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd also like to invite Council member Drozd up here, and I'd also like to invite the Aufman family; Jerry Aufman, his wife, Bev, and his son, Rich. And I'm honored here today to stand with Jerry Aufman, who has served for 55 years on the Ingomar Volunteer Fire Department. Mr. Aufman's entire life has been dedicated to serving his community. Besides his 55 years of service to the fire department, Mr. Aufman has represented the residents of the town of McCandless, Ward Two, for 38 years, and he is currently the Council Vice President.

In addition to serving as Council Vice President, he serves as Chair of the Public Works Committee and Vice Chair of the Zoning Committee. He is a delegate to the North Hills Council of Governments' Executive Board and a liaison to the Joint Recreation Board. Mr. Aufman has served also as a member of the North Park Council of Friends for ten years. And another thing I'd just like to say about Jerry Aufman is, no matter when you see him, no matter where you are, he's the type of man that he always says hello to you. And there really are few people in life who do that. No matter where I see him, no matter what I'm dressed in or walking the lake or whatever, he always takes the time to stop and say hello to you. I'd like to read his proclamation.

WHEREAS, throughout the history of our storied county, brave citizens have answered the call of duty by placing their lives at risk to secure the safety and protection of their neighbors; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Gerald J. Aufman, Jr., is being honored by the Ingomar Voluntary --- Volunteer Fire Department upon 55 years of distinguished service; and

WHEREAS, throughout his tenure, Mr. Aufman has made himself available at all hours of the day and night, often at great personal risk, to protect the lives and property of those in his community; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Aufman is a shining example of the most cherished traditions of duty, sacrifice and citizenship and deserves our most heartfelt gratitude.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, does hereby honor and recognize Gerald Aufman for his many years of loyalty and commitment to the Ingomar Voluntary Fire Department. Furthermore, we thank

Mr. Aufman for his dedication and serving --- and his service to the community. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. AUFMAN: Well, first, my name is Gerard, although everybody calls me Jerry, but 55 years is a long time to be in a fire company. And I guess most of you know that I won't be crawling around in a fire anymore. That's beyond me; I would be a casualty. I'm barely able to move around, but age does that to you. Anyway, I want to recognize ---. My son told me. I didn't realize this was coming off tonight until my son told me that we had to go to a meeting tonight and dress up. Well, I was to a meeting last night dressed up, and that was town council meeting, which is every Monday night.

Anyway, he said --- we're coming down the road and he said a man by the name of Joe Catanese wants to see you, and I said Joe Catanese; well. He said, do you know him? I says no; yeah, I've known him for a long time. I've known Joe for --- we were just trying to figure how long. So I said, well, it can't be too bad if Joe wants to see me. I said, what does he want me to do, go referee a football game or something? But you never know. I wouldn't be able to do that very much. I might be able to keep score or run the time clock or something like that; certainly, not up and down the field. My old legs would crack up at the first time.

Anyway, I want to thank everybody for having me in here tonight. And Jan, I certainly appreciate --- this is quite a surprise. I was president of the fire hall for 30 years. During that time, we purchased two pieces of property, one behind the old fire hall, which is now where our new --- a new fire hall is being constructed as we speak. The other one was a piece of property up on Route 19 up in the flats, because we purchased that in the '70s because we saw the growth, and we started to realize that we were going to have to have a sub-station to kind of serve the northern territory, so that's what we did.

So right now we're pretty active, and we got a lot of young fellows who are really fired up and ready to help out, so that's good, because we've got to have the young blood. So you retire and let the young blood take over. So thanks, fellows, and ladies and gentlemen of Council and everybody else. I appreciate this.

(Applause.)

MR. AUFMAN: I've been listening to my wife for 55 years, Beverly. She makes sure that I do the things the right way and nothing funny. When Jan says bring your family up, I only have part of my family because there's three other kids and 13 grandkids and a great grandchild, too. So we could fill the chamber if they all come in. So thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. DROZD: I just want to say something real quick on Jerry's behalf and his family; you know, Gerard. But I thought he was going to say 55. I thought, wow, 55 years old. That's really --- you know, he's younger than I am and that makes you --- he's robbing the cradle with his wife. So that's great. But I want to say, every place he goes --- and Jan captured --- Councilwoman Rea captured so well --- everywhere you go you see him. You see him at meetings. Everywhere you go, he's there. He's what really personifies what service means to fellow human kind. And I don't know if it was John Kennedy or Martin Luther King, whoever said it. It says there's no greater love, no greater care than one person to show for human kind for their fellow person, than to give service. And he personifies that, and this is what he does.

And lastly, he's one of those ---. I think, Bob, you're on the fire department, too.

BOB: Yes.

MR. DROZD: People like this --- and I don't know anybody else is. But this is what --- without people like this we would not have ---. Just for one paid fire department like Coraopolis would cost \$2,000,000 a year to a small fire department to the people of Allegheny County. So what they do is unbelievable; anything we can do. Thank you so much, and thank you for supporting him. Behind every good guy ---

MR. AUFMAN: There's a good woman.

MR. DROZD: --- there is a good woman. That's it.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: The rest of the proclamations will be read into the record. Okay? 6707-12.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation congratulating the South Park Demonstration Garden for receiving the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's 2011 Community

Greening Award. Sponsored by Council members Finnerty, Gastgeb and Palmiere.

6708-12. Proclamation recognizing Mr. Daniel P. Kinross for his 20 years of service as a Commissioner for Ross Township. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

6709-12. Proclamation congratulating the Municipality of Mr. Lebanon upon its 100th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

6710-12. Proclamation naming January 28, 2012 as a Day of Learning in Allegheny County and thanking the Bengali Association of Pittsburgh for raising awareness of Bengali culture. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

6711-12. Certificate of Achievement recognizing Mr. Rick Tatrnr, Head Coach of the Deer Lakes High School boys' volleyball team, for his 2011 induction into the Pennsylvania Volleyball Coaches Association Hall of Fame. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea and Councilman Burn.

6712-12. Proclamation congratulating KU Resources for being named one of the Best Places to Work in Pennsylvania for 2011 for small to medium-sized businesses. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6713-12. Proclamation honoring the Carnegie Library of McKeesport, upon the occasion of its 110th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6714-12. Certificate of Recognition honoring Mr. William G. (Bill) Drury, for his 50 years of services to the West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Company Number 3. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6715-12. Certificate of Recognition honoring Ms. Genevieve Therese Bush, upon the occasion of her 90th birthday. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6716-12. Certificate of Recognition congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Robert and Audrey Karpinsky, upon the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6717-12. Certificate of Recognition honoring Mr. Charles R. McAbee, upon the occasion of his 100th birthday. Sponsored by Council members Green Hawkins and Robinson.

6718-12. Proclamation honoring Mr. Andrew Frazier, Sr., upon the occasion of his 80th birthday. Sponsored by Councilwoman Hawkins.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Public Comment on Agenda Items. We have four speakers scheduled.

MR. CATANESE: We have four.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Barney Oursler --- yes, he is. Barney, if you would give us your name and address and then begin, please.

MR. OURSLER: Yes, sir, President. I'm Barney Oursler, and I live at 6323 Douglas Street, in Pittsburgh, 15217. I come before Council tonight to address what will be the largest public investment that we ever see and --- looking at you all --- in our lifetimes. Some of the young people may see more some day, but under the Consent Decree that ALCOSAN has signed and the Consent Orders that 83 municipalities, including the City of Pittsburgh, have signed to stop combining sewer overflows into our rivers. We're going to be witnessing the largest public investment that we've ever, ever done.

In fact, last fall, ALCOSAN was projecting numbers at somewhere between \$2 billion and \$4 billion that we're going to be spending stopping raw sewage from going into our rivers. This is not a mistake; it's a problem. It was the result of the designing that engineers used to do when they were figuring out what to do with all the storm water and all the sewage. And in the old days, the idea was just get it in the rivers and make it go on down to the next community down the line. That's no longer allowed. And now for several years, the municipalities and ALCOSAN have been planning what we're going to do about this.

And I come before you tonight --- I'm with a Pittsburgh orientation, Pittsburgh United, that is a coalition of organizations and five organizations, two of which are with me here tonight and have joined together to try to educate the public about this issue and to really advocate that from this largest public investment, that we see the most jobs that we can possibly get from both construction and long-term maintenance jobs. And we see the largest return to the communities where people live, who are going to have to make this investment as rate payers of ALCOSAN and the various sewer and the water authorities in the municipalities.

Right now, ALCOSAN has been under a very clear directive to stop the overflows; what they've not been able to do is prioritize the number of jobs and the value of green infrastructure, in terms of rebuilding our communities and watching property values and business districts come back and grow strong. We are urging that the two members that are before you tonight, to be one re-

appointed and one newly appointed to the ALCOSAN Board. Recognize that this is the number one priority for ALCOSAN, and we would argue for the entire community that is served by ALCOSAN. So I just wanted to bring this to the Council's attention tonight. A couple of other members of our coalition are going to develop some other aspects of that. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Brenda Smith?

MS. SMITH: Hi, I'm Brenda Smith. I live at 1934 Beechwood Boulevard, Pittsburgh 15217. And I'm the Executive Director of the Nine Mile Run Watershed Association, and I'm also here to talk about the same issue because of the two people who are being nominated to the ALCOSAN Board this evening. For those of you who aren't familiar with our organization, Nine Mile Run is the stream that runs through the bottom of Frick Park, and it's the site of the largest and most successful urban, stream and wetlands restoration that's been done anywhere in the United States by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Our watershed association works throughout the southern square mile watershed, which includes Wilkinsburg, Edgewood, Swissvale and the heart of the City of Pittsburgh, to introduce cost effective ways to better manage storm water, to help protect our restoration and continue to improve water quality in the stream. What made us decide to get involved in the Clean Rivers Campaign? Well, it's simple, really. For the last decade, we've been demonstrating the very real improvements that can be made in communities through green infrastructure technologies. In the case of Nine Mile Run, what used to be a dangerous polluted eyesore has been turned into a significant regional amenity.

We've shown that rain barrels, rain gardens, permeable paving, green roofs and other similar green approaches really work right here in Allegheny County, and we'd like to see these techniques more widely applied. When we started looking at how ALCOSAN is planning to comply with the Consent Decree. It became clear to us that our region could end up spending a vast sum of money to build giant tunnels deep underground, but they still wouldn't have done anything to solve the local flooding problems that some residents in our watershed and others suffer with. Adding green infrastructure to the plan would help with both problems and help to keep the cost of

the sewer fix down, which are really important to a lot of residents of our watershed, especially in Wilkinsburg and Swissvale. In short, we felt that sharing our experience with the feasibility of green infrastructure would be helpful in bringing about a better solution, and that's why we joined the campaign and why I came here today. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Mary Ellen Deckard?

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: She's not here today.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: She's not here today.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: I assume she got stuck in traffic.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. Tom Hoffman?

MR. HOFFMAN: Hi. My name is Tom Hoffman. I live at 7115 Willard Street. I am the Western Pennsylvania Director for Clean Water Action. We're a national organization that has about 1.2 million members in 16 states. We have three offices here in Pennsylvania; one in Harrisburg, one in Pittsburgh, one in Philly. We're 30 years old and cut our teeth on the Clean --- on passing the Clean Water Act, so both the Clean Water Act and our organization are celebrating our 30th anniversary this year.

A lot of you know our work on air, but we really have the longest history of working on water issues. And we're really glad to be working with Pittsburgh Interfaith Impact Network and the Sierra Club, Nine Mile Run Watershed Association, Action United and Pittsburgh UNITED, on this issue of the ALCOSAN solution. So we're part of an informal policy grouping in D.C. to really be thinking about how our society uses water sustainably, and that's something that our national office is very interested in, how we do this in Pittsburgh.

Certainly, as part of the outline, it's certainly no secret that the current situation of dumping our sewage in the river is not really sustainable. People in Cincinnati got a little upset about that. We're under court order to fix it. We don't really have any choice. I understand that the local government economy has spent a whole half day talking about this problem. So the real question is, how do we do this in the best way possible, one that gives us the most benefits to our community, the most jobs? We're involved very heavily in this issue in the District of Columbia, Philadelphia, Boston. And what

we find over and over again is an approach that maximizes the green approaches to catch that water where it falls, rather than trying to move it around. This clearly is the way to go. It improves communities; it improves property values; it creates jobs. So I just want to say that we look forward to working with ALCOSAN and the new appointees to find the best and greenest solution for this problem for Allegheny County. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Approval of Minutes. 6731-12.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the January 3rd, 2012, regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and second. Any questions? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ruled. Motion 6732-12.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the January 10th, 2012, regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered. Presentation of Appointments. 6704-12. We're going to hold that to the next meeting because Mr. Burn is not here. It's his appointment; okay? 6734-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Sala Udin to serve as a member of the Sports and Exhibition Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved in second. Question? All in favor?

MR. CATANESE: I'm sorry.

MR. FINNERTY: Point of order. It has to go to the committee.

MR. CATANESE: It has to go to committee.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Appointment Review Committee.

MR. DEFAZIO: They all go ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: They all go to Appointment Review; right.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Point of order.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes, ma'am.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I have some questions regarding this process I'd like to ask.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Ask Mr. Finnerty.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: May I do that?

MR. FINNERTY: These are going to committee.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: They're all going to committee, so that's the process. I misspoke.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: So there's no questions?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I misspoke; they go to committee.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: So I'm not allowed to ask any questions?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Well, I don't want to say you're not allowed. That's what the committee is for, to do that.

MR. FINNERTY: That's the process; that's the way it works.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. Next, 6735-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Jennifer M. Liptak to serve as a member of the Retirement Board of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31st, 2015. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Appointment Committee. 6736-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the re-appointment of Daniel J. Griffin to serve as a member of the Regional Asset District Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2015. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: 6737-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Joseph G. Brimmeier to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Port Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: We'll take the next three together. They go to the same committee. 6738-12, 6739-12, 6740-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment/re-appointment of Mary Ann Eisenreich, Senator Jay Costa, Jr., Charles M. Powell, to serve as members of the Community College of Allegheny County Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2015 and 2017.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. 6741-12, 6742-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Ashley Henry Shook and Allegheny County Council member Jan Rea, to serve as members of the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: 6743-12, 6744-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment/re-appointment of County Treasurer John K. Weinstein and Representative Harry Readshaw, to serve as members of the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2012 and 2016.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: 6750-12.

MR. CATANESE: 6745.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yeah, 6745-12, 6746-12 and 6747-12, 6748-12, 6749-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment and re-appointment of Kotayya Kondaveeti, Dr. Edith Shapira, Donald Burke, M.D., Joan Cleary and William B. Youngblood, to serve as members of the Allegheny County Board of Health for a term to expire on January 2014 and 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Appointment Committee. 6750-12.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the re-appointment of Deborah D. Booker to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Housing Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Unfinished Business. Committee on Budget and Finance, Second Reading. 6700-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2012 (Submission 12-1). Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. Move for approval.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and second. Question? All in favor?

MR. CATANESE: No, you've got to do a roll call; you've got to do a roll call.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Roll call; we'll have roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?
(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?
MS. DANKO: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?
MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?
MR. DROZD: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?
MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?
(No response.)
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?
PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 13, noes, 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Liaison Reports?

MR. FINNERTY: I do have two here.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mike.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. I just have a few apprentice programs that are opening up. Joint Apprentice Committee is Local Union Number 5, the IBEW and Western PA Chapter NECA --- we'll try it again. This program will open up March 13th and continue to the 17th and then March 20th to the 24th. That is at 5 Hot Metal Street, Suite 100, Pittsburgh PA 15203. There's also a Clearfield Training Center, which is at 1400 Leonardo Street, Clearfield, PA 16830. And on March 24th, you can pick up an application there from ten a.m. to one p.m. All applications must be picked up in person by the applicant and completed at that time.

Junior Apprenticeship Training Committee
Plasterers' Local 31; it's located at 1900 Andrew Street,
Munhall, PA 15120, and the office number is 412-464-2851.
And again, it would be a good idea to call, and you have
to pick up the application in person.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: I have one more.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, sorry.

MR. FINNERTY: Joint Apprenticeship Training
Committee for the Plumbers, Local Union 27. It's located
at 1040 Montour West Industrial Park; it's Coraopolis, PA
15108. And the phone number there is 724-695-9047; and it
has a Coraopolis address, but it's actually out by the
airport and Marriott off the Parkway. So you can give
them a call if you're interested in that program. These
are all great jobs. It's something to try, to get into
one of these apprenticeship programs and have a living
wage job for the rest of your life. Thank you, Mr.
President.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Matt?

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. Thank
you, my fellow Council members. I don't know if any of
you had an opportunity to go over and visit the appeal
process where they are doing the appeals across the way
here in the other building or had even attempted to go
through the process; I did. I did so just approximately
about an hour before now. And I've got to tell you, these
assessments are really flawed, they really are. And just
to give you a little bit of an example, I used to live in
the North Side. In that community, in that neighborhood,
I had renovated, along with other people pioneered to
renovate that neighborhood, to bring it up, and bought ---
purchased approximately 20 years ago four lots right
alongside each other, approximately --- exactly the same,
maybe a little difference in variation, and for back
taxes.

Just now I got a reassessment on these lots,
three of which --- two of which tripled in value, one
quadrupled in value and one was cut in half. And since
that I purchased them, they were zoned hillside, because
they're difficult to build on those lots. No one possibly
could have went out to look at these lots, there's no way.
I don't believe that they could have went out and looked
at these lots. And I want to tell you that people are
courteous over there, don't get me wrong. But as I sat

there and I talked to some of the people --- I went and visited some of the people who were waiting for their assessments. The whole point and process of this assessment process was, it was supposed to help communities --- they were over-assessed --- where the people were trying and struggling to come up with their family levels and in those areas where the average income was much lower than other parts of the county. There was one gentleman from Wilkinsburg, which would fall into that classification, that category. His assessment went up 130 percent. There was another gentleman; his assessment went up 300 percent. There's something dramatically wrong with this assessment and the assessment process, and someone needs to do something about it.

And I say this; it's a mistake. And I'll say this wherever it may be and to whoever it may be, that these assessments should have never went out in the first place. And we should have just delayed it, and I think the system and the court system should recognize that and hold back until the system is fixed. These people are getting shock, assessment shock, out there when they get their assessments and very concerned. So take a minute to go over and visit and talk with some of the people. And I know you do, and I know you all share my concerns and my concerns, too. You're good Council people and you care as much as I do about the people out there and these assessments.

They shouldn't have gone forth. They should be stopped and this process fixed. It's flawed, without a doubt. There's no doubt whatsoever in my mind, and I think a lot of you feel the same way. I can't speak on your behalf, but I know you're good people like our constituents and you feel the same way and care the same way. Thank you, Mr. President, and thank you, fellow Council members.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, Mr. Drozd. Okay. New Business; Ordinances and Resolutions. 6719-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Section 5-207.08, entitled Filing of Appeals, in order to provide a mechanism through which County taxpayers can be afforded stability in property values that are subject to appeals by taxing bodies. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

MR. MACEY: Mr. President?

MR. FINNERTY: That goes to ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead.

MR. FINNERTY: We're sending it to Government Reform.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Government Reform; okay.

MR. MACEY: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead.

MR. MACEY: Yes. I'd like to co-sponsor that bill, please.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Did you get that, Joe?

MR. FINNERTY: Just real briefly, this is an ordinance that attempts to make sure that a school district doesn't continue to appeal year after year after year after they lose their first appeal, at least five years into another re-assessment is --- occurs or some kind of improvement occurs to the home. Thank you.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yeah. I've got a question for the solicitor. Jack, I like what Mike's saying, but are we even allowed to do that?

MR. CAMBEST: Yeah. There's nothing wrong with the bill as it is right now.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Okay. Could I --- Mr. President, would you add me as a co-sponsor in that bill?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes, you're a co-sponsor. Thank you.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I have a question to the solicitor.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Wait, wait. This is going to committee.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Well, when I --- obviously, I'm now allowed to ask a question. But when other people are --- like, that's not a liaison report that we just heard.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Well, we always have liaison reports.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Okay. Well, Mr. Ellenbogen just asked a question to the solicitor; I'd like to ask a question to the solicitor.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead, ask the question.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you. On page two of this proposed ordinance, 69 --- 6719-12, it indicates that the said --- after the last countywide re-assessment, which is 2002. How could we allow this to go forward to committee when we've already had ruling after ruling that

says that the assessments from 2002 are unconstitutional, they're too old?

MR. CAMBEST: As I remember this, if the process moves forward as it is and we have the assessment and the appeals and the assessment numbers for 2013, this would kick in for that. This would kick in --- that would be the next re-assessment.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I would appreciate those type of questions to be asked in committee.

MR. CAMBEST: And the numbers ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That's the whole idea of having committee, to do the groundwork.

MR. CAMBEST: It's a little bit more involved. The numbers aren't unconstitutional. I think the process is what the Supreme Court said is unconstitutional.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: 6720-12.

(Brief off record discussion.)

MR. DROZD: All right. I'll comment later.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: 6720-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances through the creation of a new Chapter 785 entitled, Natural Gas Extraction, in order to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the County's residents by establishing a registry of permitted natural gas wells within Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilman Palmiere.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. CATANESE: It's going to go in committee?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: It's going to Government Review Committee, yes.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. I think this is very timely, considering the fact of the Marcellus Shale and all the conversation and all the harvesting of our natural minerals that are taking place. So I would like to --- I would like to see a registry form here so that the people are informed, so that they don't wake up some morning and find derricks and drills in their yard and didn't know a thing about them. So thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. 6721-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances through the creation of a new Chapter 785 entitled, Natural Gas Extraction, in order to provide for the health, safety and welfare of the

County's residents by prohibiting the placement of new natural gas wells and new natural gas compressor stations within 1,000 feet of a residential structure or school or within 500 feet of a permanent surface water source. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That goes to the Economic Development Committee.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This is a bill primarily for the health, safety and welfare of our people of Allegheny County. It sets perimeters on gas drilling. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. 6722-12.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. President, if I may, 6721, you put that in Economic Development. Should that be Government Reform?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Economic Development; yes.

MR. CATANESE: Economic Development?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I'm sorry. I said it too fast.

MR. CATANESE: 6722. Just for the record, Councilman Burn and --- Councilman Gastgeb is on the phone, but Councilman Burn is present.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, great. Welcome. 6722-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance authorizing the extension of the terms of Ordinance Number 43-09-OR, enacted December 15, 2009, allowing the Department of Public Works to take certain action on behalf of the County Council with respect to the issuance of highway occupancy permits, the grant of certain licenses, rights of entry and easements and the amicable acquisition of certain real estate affecting County Public Works projects and other matters for calendar year 2010 and 2011. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Public Works Committee. 6723-12.

MR. CATANESE: Authorizing the County of Allegheny to sell a 0.3235 acre parcel of excess land for the sum of \$30,732.50 to Parkway Park Associates and further authorizing the refund to the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation of the sum of \$30,732.50, representing the Parkway Park Associates Parcel 211, approved donation credit for construction of Settler's Cabin Interchange. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: It goes to the Committee on Public Works. 6724-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, repealing Ordinance 11-08-OR, which authorizes the transfer of the County Bureau of Weights and Measures. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Committee on Government Reform. 6725-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny, ratifying amendments to Allegheny County Health Department Rules and Regulations pursuant to Section 12011 of the Local Health Administration Law, 16 P.S. Section 12001. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Refer to Committee on Health and Human Services. 6726-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny, ratifying amendments to Allegheny County Health Department Rules and Regulations, pursuant to Section 12011 of the Local Health Administration Law, 16 P.S. Section 12001. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Committee on Health and Human Services. 6727-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing County policy with regard to the operation of the County's Military and Family Courtesy Center, a service currently provided by the Allegheny County Airport Authority on County property; namely, the Pittsburgh International Airport. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I think Councilman Gastgeb's on the phone here; am I correct?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes, President Martoni; if I could have the record reflect that I'm available by phone?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I'm sorry. I can't hear. Can anybody make that out?

MR. BARKER: Vince, can you repeat that, please?

MR. GASTGEB: I want the record to reflect I'm available by phone.

MR. BARKER: One more time.

MR. GASTGEB: I want the record to reflect that I'm available by phone.

MR. BARKER: He merely indicated that he'd like the record to reflect that he's available by telephone. I don't believe he wants to make an introductory comment.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. We send it to Committee on Health and Human Services. Thank you. 6728-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny authorizing the acceptance of the Fiscal Year 2011-12 distribution from the Pennsylvania Gaming Economic Development and Tourism Fund for the restricted purpose of distribution to a community infrastructure development fund of a county of the second class, to fund construction, development and improvement and maintenance of infrastructure projects through the Allegheny County Economic Development, Community Infrastructure and Tourism Fund, established and administered by the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County, as agent for the County of Allegheny; appointing the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County as agent for the County of Allegheny for the purpose of administering the Fiscal Year 2011-12 fund provided for use in the County under the Pennsylvania Race Horse Development and Gaming Act; and approving an Agency Agreement with the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County regarding the Fiscal Year 2011 and '12 funds. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: It goes to Committee on Economic Development and Housing. 6729-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution approving a project to be financed by the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority (the Authority), by the proposed issuance of Authority revenue bonds, notes and/or other obligations (collectively, the Bonds), in the aggregate principal amount not expected to exceed \$130,000,000, and the loan of such proceeds to Carnegie Mellon University, a Pennsylvania non-profit corporation (the Borrower), provided that the taxing power of the County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania (the County), shall not be obligated in any way with respect to the Bonds, and declaring the financing of such project as desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people in the county. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Committee on Economic Development and Housing. 6730-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2012 (Submission 12-2). Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Committee on Budget and Finance. New Business.

MR. CATANESE: I have nothing.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: No new business/motions. Notification of Contracts. 6733-12.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the County Manager, Jim Flynn, submitting Executive Actions related to contracts for the month of December 2011. Sponsored by the County Manager.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I would appreciate a motion to receive the file.

MR. FINNERTY: You have that motion.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and second.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Any questions? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered. Public Comment on General Items. Okay. We have one speaker, Larry Liller --- Harry. Harry, I would appreciate if you would not shout at us.

MR. LILLER: My name's Harry Liller. I live at 438 Ruxton Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. I want to read into the public record; Robert Mueller, FBI Director, 935 Pennsylvania Avenue Northwest, Washington, DC 20535-0001. This letter is dated March 2nd, 2009. Dear Mr. Mueller, Allegheny County Sheriff Pete DeFazio stole cocaine from a Pittsburgh drug dealer nicknamed the Sheraden Mafia. DeFazio is being investigated by WPXI-TV, Andy Gastmyer, for DeFazio's involvement in a prostitution ring. DeFazio's number two in charge, Dennis Skosnik, as part-time mayor of McKees Rocks, pulled two police officers under surveillance of bookie, Robert Mancini, who was murdered ten minutes later.

Mancini's murder still goes unsolved with law enforcement's involvement. Pittsburgh Mayor, Tom Murphy, and Pittsburgh Judge, Richard King, made a 16-year-old girl have sex with them at the Sheraton Inn at Station Square. The night manager, maintenance manager, Pittsburgh Police Chief Robert McNeilly and two Pittsburgh police officers witnessed these criminal acts. Allegheny County Commissioner, Tom Forrester, took a pick ax and destroyed a drug enforcement agency's surveillance camera. Nothing happened to Forrester. The Pittsburgh media is too corrupt to tell the truth. When I notified the local

Pittsburgh FBI Office that my telephone was being illegally wiretapped, they laughed at me and did nothing. I want a special prosecutor with a new staff of investigators to hold grand jury investigations. The public's trust and safety has been violated. Signed, Harry Liller. I want this put in the public record. I want everyone to have a copy of this. At the next meeting, we can talk about this and you have Petey get a lawyer and take me to the court. For the past 12 years, DeFazio lied about me, so now I'm going to start telling the truth about them.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay.

MR. LILLER: Here is my record (indicating), public record.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. That's it.

MR. FINNERTY: Move for adjournment?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Move for adjournment.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved and second. All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: So ordered.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:50 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.


Court Reporter