

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

James R. Burn, Jr.	-	President District 3
Charles J. Martoni	-	Vice President District 8
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Edward J. Kress	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Nicholas Futules	-	District 7
Robert 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, April 5, 2011 - 5:00 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:

Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services  
Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services  
Jennifer Liptak - Budget Director  
Jack Cambest - Solicitor

PRESIDENT BURN: Welcome to the regularly scheduled meeting of the Allegheny County Council for Tuesday, April 5th, 2011. I will now call this meeting to order. We will begin with the Pledge of Allegiance, after which we will have a moment for silent prayer or reflection. And in that regard, let's please remember this historically for the loss of Martin Luther King. Let's remember this unfortunate week for the loss of our city, police officers two years ago and a day. Let's also please remember Officer Kuzak today, who was injured in the line of duty in Clairton, in our silent prayer or reflection. Thank you. We'll start with the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Please call the roll.

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?

MR. GASTGEB: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

(No response).

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: 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. Burn, President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Twelve (12) members present.

PRESIDENT BURN: Our next order of business will be the filling of the Allegheny County Council vacancy for the district that was recently held by our former president, who is here with us tonight, Mr. Rich Fitzgerald. Rich, it's always good to see you, sir. Good to see you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: In that regard, the Democratic Caucus of the County Council did discuss filling this seat and vetted some candidates. We'd like to thank all who participated. At this time, I would defer to our Caucus Chairman, Mr. John DeFazio.

MR. DEFAZIO: Okay. We have agreed to put on Barbara Daly Danko from Council District 11; is that right?

MR. FINNERTY: Eleven (11). You're right.

MR. DEFAZIO: Barbara?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yeah. So is that a motion to appoint Barbara Danko to fill the unexpired term of Council President Fitzgerald?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah, I'll make that motion.

MR. FINNERTY: Second the motion.

PRESIDENT BURN: Does there need to be any discussion on the motion or can we proceed to the yeas and the nays?

MR. CAMBEST: Proceed.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. First I'd ask, are there any other nominations? Any other nominations? Any other nominations? Motion to close nominations. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? Roll call vote, please.

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?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?  
(No response.)  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?  
MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?  
MR. MARTONI: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?  
MS. REA: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?  
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?  
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes 12, noes 0. It passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: In that regard, we would invite Barbara Danko up at this time to our podium for the administration of the Oath of Office.

JUDGE FIRESTONE: Mrs. Danko, Barbara, will you please raise your right hand? Please repeat after me. I, Barbara Daly Danko, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of member of Council of the County of Allegheny and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, defend and obey the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MS. DANKO: I, Barbara Daly Danko, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of member of Council of the County of Allegheny and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, defend and obey the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Council would like to recognize and thank the Honorable Judge Firestone for being with us this evening and administering the oath to our newly-elected member of Council, Councilwoman Danko.

JUDGE FIRESTONE: My honor.

PRESIDENT BURN: Judge, thank you, sir, for being with us. Councilwoman, welcome aboard. Would you like to say a few remarks before joining us?

MS. DANKO: Just very briefly. Since I haven't stood for election with the general public, I want to thank the members of County Council for having faith in me and giving me this honor to be appointed to fill the

vacancy of the seat of Rich Fitzgerald, who I know you've worked with for a long time. And I'll try to live up to the energy and passion that Rich brought to the job. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilwoman. Our next order of business is the filling of the County Council vacancy for the Republican at-large position. And in that regard, I would defer to our Caucus Chair of the Republican party, the honorable Councilman Vince Gastgeb. Councilman?

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you, President Burn. I also want to thank the Republican candidates who showed interest and due diligence during the process. Also, my Republican members, thank you for your time over the last month. The Republican Caucus has met and talked to a variety of individuals, and it's great to see we have the interest here in Allegheny County for this body and for the issues that are in front of us. At this time, I'd like to make a motion to nominate Ed Kress for the vacancy to the Council-at-large Republican position.

PRESIDENT BURN: So moved. Is there a second?  
(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: There is a second. Please call the roll.

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?  
MR. GASTGEB: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?  
(No response.)  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?  
MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?  
MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes 13, noes 0. Confirmed.

PRESIDENT BURN: To administer the Oath of Office, please welcome the Honorable Judge Judith Olson to our chamber. Judge, it's great to see you.

JUDGE OLSON: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: And Mr. Kress, if you can please come up to the podium for the administration of the Oath of Office.

JUDGE OLSON: Please repeat after me. I, Edward J. Kress, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of member of Council of the County of Allegheny and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, defend and obey the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MR. KRESS: I, Edward J. Kress, do solemnly swear that I will faithfully execute the office of member of Council of the County of Allegheny and will, to the best of my ability, preserve, protect, defend and obey the Constitution of the United States and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE OLSON: Congratulations.

MR. KRESS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilman Kress, it's going to be a pleasure to work with you.

MR. KRESS: Likewise.

PRESIDENT BURN: Would you like to say a few words, sir?

MR. KRESS: Yes. I'd just, first of all, thank Your Honor for being here. It means so much that you're here today.

JUDGE OLSON: It's my honor and privilege. Thank you.

MR. KRESS: Thank you again. And to my fellow members of Council, thank you for trusting me with such a valued position. This means so much to me. And I look

forward to working with you. And to the residents of Allegheny County, I was born here. I was raised here. I lived here my entire life. And I look forward to serving you. So thank you very much.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilman. Please let the record reflect that Councilwoman Green is with us. Councilwoman Green. Proclamations and certificates. 6270-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation declaring April 2011 as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Allegheny County and recognizing A Child's Place at Mercy for the efforts to treat and assist abuse victims. Sponsored by Council Members Macey, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Gastgeb, Green Hawkins, Martoni and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Member Macey?

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council, and the rest of Allegheny County. Could I have Dr. Mary Carrasco and Joan Mills please stand by me? I thought it would be appropriate during Child Abuse Prevention Month that we did a proclamation to a wonderful organization that we have right here in Allegheny County, and that is A Child's Place at Mercy.

A Child's Place at Mercy is the Allegheny County child advocacy center, a fully-accredited child advocacy center of the National Children's Alliance. Many times parents have a gut feeling or are concerned about their children's behaviors or statements and don't know where to turn. A Child's Place is a good place to look for guidance and direction to have a better, clearer plan of action. A Child's Place has functioned for nearly 20 years and has involved more than 20,000 cases of suspected child abuse. 600-plus children are evaluated each year, and about one-half disclose abuse. Of the group that's disclosed abuse, about one-half of those cases result in community --- excuse me, criminal prosecution. Services that are provided, various forensic interviews, which includes sexual abuse, physical abuse, emotional abuse and inappropriate internet conduct, developmental evaluation of children, physical examinations, forensic examinations and foster care examinations. And one of the great things that this organization does, it will go into the community and train different organizations and professionals on this particular issue. I forgot the proclamation.

MR. FUTULES: You don't know it by heart?

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilman, I thought you were reading off it.

MR. DROZD: No, he isn't, not mentally.

MR. MACEY: Some of us need evaluated at our age. Let's be a little bit more serious.

Whereas, each year, more than one million children in the country are documented as child abuse victims, and at least 1,500 children die as a result.

And whereas, organizations throughout the country dedicate their missions to raising awareness of child abuse to prevent its reoccurrence.

And whereas, A Child's Place at Mercy of Pittsburgh Mercy Health System is the Allegheny County child advocacy center, a fully-accredited center of the main National Children's Alliance.

And whereas, the center has been a team for almost 20 years and has been involved with over 20,000 cases of suspected child abuse, providing advice and guidance to those who seek help for children subjected to abuse.

And whereas, by maintaining an open-door policy, A Child's Place at Mercy has helped thousands of abused children. Their commitment to abolishing child abuse is a mission that should be adopted widely by everyone in our community.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby declares the month of April as Child Abuse Prevention Month in Allegheny County.

Furthermore, this Council commends A Child's Place at Mercy for helping to treat and prevent child abuse in our county. Sponsored by myself and members of Council. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. MACEY: Dr. Mary Carrasco, if you would like to say a few words.

DR. CARRASCO: I'll leave that to Joan.

MR. MACEY: Okay. Joan Mills. She's the manager of A Child's Place at Mercy.

MS. MILLS: Thank you, Mr. Macey.

MR. MACEY: You're welcome.

MS. MILLS: He's also my Council representative. I guess I'll vote for him again. Thank you very much. I'm very proud of our county and the work we do here. When we travel across the state, we're always proud to

come back home because I think we do a really great job and probably the best job in Pennsylvania in addressing child abuse issues and assessing them and dealing with them. So thank you for this proclamation. On a side note, thank you for mentioning the anniversary of the Pittsburgh Police officers. I'm also a mother of a Zone Five Police Officer, so thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6271-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring CCAC Alumna Therese Rocco for her service to Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Members Martoni and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Members Martoni and Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. Right before Dr. Martoni joins me, let me say that I'm never surprised when we have outstanding people in this county who graduated from the Community College of Allegheny County. Ninety-five (95), maybe 98 percent of our graduates are still here in this county. They're your family members. They're your friends, mothers, fathers, your colleagues. And several of my colleagues here on this Council have had the opportunity to attend Community College.

Dr. Martoni and I are both affiliated with the college. As you know, I'm Chairman of the Board of Trustees, and Dr. Martoni is an administrator and teacher at our Boyce Campus. In fact, he's responsible for the Boyce Campus day to day. So we have the opportunity to work with you here as Council members and serve all the people of this county and then also serve the county's college, the people's college, the Community College of Allegheny County. And the alumni that we recognize represent just a small fraction of the men and women who attend our college and have attended and the great citizens that they are. So Doc and I are always pleased when we have a double opportunity to recognize the Community College.

If Ms. Rocco will join me, please. Many of you know her from another carnation --- incarnation, yeah, not carnation. Incarnation. All right. I've got it right. Okay. And certainly I'll comment on that.

Whereas, Ms. Therese Rocco, a 1976 graduate of Community College of Allegheny County's Administration of

Criminal Justice Program, has exemplified the definition of a dedicated citizen of our great county with her demonstration of professional, civic and community leadership throughout her four-decade-long career as a law enforcement officer.

And whereas, at the time of her graduation from CCAC, Ms. Rocco was an established member of the Pittsburgh Police Department as the captain of the Pittsburgh Police Missing Persons Bureau.

And whereas, Ms. Rocco graduated from the University of Pittsburgh in 1978, earning magna cum laude honors and a Bachelor's of Science in Administrative Justice. With her education and experience, she was soon promoted to commander and then to assistant chief of police, making her the first woman to be appointed as a police chief in a major U.S. city.

And whereas, Ms. Rocco received many distinctions throughout her career because of her excellence, including honors from the FBI and the Italian Sons and Daughters of America, the Veterans Organization and Amen Corner where in 2008, she was named to the Hall of Fame. In 1997, the Bureau of Police Headquarters' main conference room was dedicated and named in her honor. And in 2002, CCAC distinguished her as a Legends in Leadership Outstanding Alumni.

And whereas, Ms. Rocco's volunteerism with Angels' Place, a nonprofit family development organization, has assisted in improving low-income families' lifestyle.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that this Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, recognizes Ms. Therese Rocco, a 1976 graduate of the Community College of Allegheny County, for serving the County proactively and honorably.

Furthermore, her fine leadership should be adopted by the residents of this county for the betterment of our community.

This is sponsored by myself and Dr. Charles Martoni, but I'm sure I reflect the sentiments of my colleagues, as many of you know her in a previous life. And you probably didn't know that she was a graduate of Community College of Allegheny County. I want Doc to say a few words, and then we'll hear from the commended.

MR. MARTONI: Most of us don't realize that Therese is recognized nationally. She's been in all kinds

of national observances as the best in her field. And I was blessed that she went to the Boyce Campus of the Community College of Allegheny County and I was blessed to become very close to her at that time. And she is one fantastic person and probably one of the most outstanding individuals in the United States of America in her field. And she was recognized as such. So it's a great honor I have to be here with Mr. Robinson to help present this proclamation to one of our, if not the most outstanding police officer that we've ever had in the City of Pittsburgh.

And the fact is when she was making her way through this, it was quite unusual --- and I hate to say that. In that day, it was quite unusual for a woman to make the accomplishments that she made in the criminal justice field. So we are very proud of her. I'm particularly proud of her because she --- in addition to being one of the most outstanding police officers in the United States of America in her field, she is also a graduate of the Community College of Allegheny County. And to take that step further, she's a graduate of the Boyce Campus of the Community College of Allegheny County. So I am particularly proud that all these years I've been her friend. And I'm particularly proud to be here today for her to receive this honor. Therese?

MS. ROCCO: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. ROCCO: This is my first opportunity to thank Chuck because he was my first advisor. And I have to say he advised me well. I would like to thank the Community College of Allegheny County Alumni Board, the Honorable Chuck Martoni, the Honorable Mr. Bill Robinson and the Allegheny County Council for this great proclamation. I am truly grateful for this honor.

I spent many years as a Pittsburgh Police captain in charge of Missing Persons before I was offered the opportunity to pursue a degree at Community College. And it was something that I did want all of my life. And unfortunately, because of my financial stress when I left high school, I couldn't afford it.

The rigorous education taught by the highly-skilled faculty, who themselves worked in the areas of constitutional law and criminal justice, espoused invaluable professional perspectives, perspectives that enhanced by critical thinking skills and augmented my

previous training, which led me to my appointment as the first woman assistant chief of the Pittsburgh Police.

Community College was an integral step in my overall education experience. It's because of the leadership within this county, especially the County Council, who makes it possible for people to obtain degrees and grasp the brass ring, your community college, a true, true regional asset. I recommend CCAC to so many young people who desire to pursue a career in criminal justice or any field of study. Community College lays a solid foundation, making it possible for active, viable and hardworking women and men to contribute to Allegheny County. I will always love Community College and will always consider it as having been one of the greatest things that ever happened to me. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6272-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation recognizing the birthday of the late A. Philip Randolph and his contributions to the Civil Rights movement. Sponsored by Councilwoman Green Hawkins and Council Member DeFazio.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Members Green Hawkins and DeFazio, please. Let the record reflect that one of our good friends and colleagues from across the street is with us, the honorable City Councilman Doug Shields. Mr. Shields, it's always good to see you, sir.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: I'm going to ask members of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity to come up and join me for the presentation of the proclamation.

It's an honor to present this proclamation tonight as a person who works for the Steelworkers' Union here and appreciating Pittsburgh's rich flavor of history. To talk about A. Philip Randolph and to do him justice, we could never do it in just one night. But just a little brief history on him.

When you think about Title VII and preventing race discrimination in employment, I often tell people, before that became law in 1964, you had people like A. Philip Randolph advocating for employment without race discrimination for a long time. He was negotiating that in collective bargaining agreements long before it became law.

Also, when you look at our Pittsburgh Courier, which is celebrating 100 years, it was --- it is a paper

that the members of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters carried with them as they worked on the rails from places like Pittsburgh to New York and south to Virginia and to Georgia and South Carolina and Louisiana and Mississippi and to Chicago. These were places, particularly in the south, where a lot of African-Americans only got information about the Civil Rights movement from The Pittsburgh Courier and publications like it. They did not get this information through various media channels in their home states. So the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters and A. Philip Randolph's work with this union was critical to the Civil Rights movement.

And critical is the best word I can use because that's still and understatement of the breadth and the scope of this man's work. I highly encourage you to do some research on him, to watch documentaries about him, because he's truly an amazing person. And I'm honored to present this proclamation to his fraternity brothers, who are standing behind me, just some of his fraternity brothers. It's a worldwide organization. And with that, I will read the proclamation.

Whereas, citizens of our country have sought freedoms and civil liberties by actively demonstrating for their rights.

And whereas, April 15th, 2011 marks the 122nd birthday of A. Philip Randolph, a great orator, labor leader and champion of civil and human rights, who was one of the central figures speaking out for African-American rights during the 1930s and 1940s.

And whereas, Mr. Randolph organized the Brotherhood of the Sleeping Car Porters in 1937. The organization was the first all-black union that secured better wages and benefits for its members.

And whereas, Mr. Randolph assisted in leading movements that fought to end discrimination in Defense Ministry jobs in the military. These movements resulted in President Franklin D. Roosevelt banning discrimination within the government and defense industry in 1941, and President Harry Truman barring discrimination in the military in 1948.

And whereas, Mr. Randolph founded the Leadership Council on Civil Rights in 1950, which assisted in urging the passing of the Civil Rights Act of 1957. He assisted

in fighting for the 1964 Civil Rights Act, the 1965 Voting Rights Act and the 1968 Fair Housing Act.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby recognizes the accomplishments, leadership and the 122nd birthday of A. Philip Randolph. Mr. Randolph was a leading figure in the United States Civil Rights movement. His essence as a champion of civil and human rights for all people still lives today. And we hope it continues to be recognized in the future. Sponsored by myself and Council Member John DeFazio this 5th day of April, 2011.

(Applause.)

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. The United Steelworkers for the State of Pennsylvania, I was a civil rights coordinator and a human rights coordinator. And I'm just glad we're here today to honor A. Philip Randolph for his contributions to the Civil Rights movement. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: I'd like Mr. Malfred to have a few words for his brothers behind me.

MR. MALFRED: Thank you, Councilwoman, and again, thank you, Councilman DeFazio, for your support of this resolution. As Councilwoman Green Hawkins stated, A. Philip Randolph was a premiere leader in the fight for social justice, human rights, civil rights and also the labor movement. And this proclamation couldn't be coming at a better time as we celebrate his birthday, his legacy in a county like Allegheny and a city like Pittsburgh where we know that it's a strong presence and it's good on the backs of working families. So we thank you on behalf of the fraternity. And if my brothers could just wave and let everybody know you're here and say thank you as well. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6273-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring the 30th anniversary of Bethlehem Haven. Sponsored by Councilwoman Green Hawkins.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you. I'm going to ask Executive Director Lois Mufuka-Martin to join me. Bethlehem Haven provides programs and support for homeless women. Its mission is to end homelessness through

collaboration with the community. And they're celebrating 30 years. I'm honored to present this proclamation to you for all of your work.

Whereas, Allegheny County Council recognizes the organizations who profoundly impact our communities by providing exceptional services to fellow citizens who are in need of assistance.

And whereas, for 30 years, Bethlehem Haven has provided hope for homeless women in our community.

And whereas, in all capacities, the nonprofit organization maintains four main principles, hospitality, compassion, integrity and empowerment. The Haven uses these pillars to rebuild lives.

And whereas, Bethlehem Haven's mission is to end homelessness through collaboration with the community, and it accomplishes this mission by utilizing outreach and housing programs that help individuals regain self-respect and confidence.

And whereas, on April 29th, 2011, Bethlehem Haven celebrates its 30th anniversary with the Lighting of the Night event, which will celebrate the organization's rich history while focusing on expanding its mission in the future.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby honors Bethlehem Haven upon its 30th anniversary and commends its mission of providing programs and support for homeless women in our community. Sponsored by myself this 5th day of April, 2011.

(Applause.)

MS. MUFUKA-MARTIN: Thank you so much, Councilwoman Green Hawkins. On behalf of the women we have served since 1981, our Board of Directors and our community, our longtime community volunteers, I accept this proclamation and I thank you. Please know that our work of leading women from homelessness to housing and self-sufficiency is not done. Tonight we will have almost 100 women in our beds. Tomorrow some will be placed in housing. Others will access our supportive services. And still many will be on the streets as you leave this building tonight. But most importantly, those that we serve will have been served with hospitality, compassion, integrity, and most of all, dignity. Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6274-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Valerie McDonald Roberts for her service to Allegheny County and for receiving the Women in Business Award from The Pittsburgh Business Times. Sponsored by Council Members Green Hawkins and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Member Green Hawkins and Council Member Robinson, please.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: I'm going to ask Ms. Valerie McDonald Roberts to join me up here. And I'll just read the proclamation and Councilman Robinson will say a few words.

Whereas, Allegheny County employees lead by excellence and set professional examples that others in our area may follow.

And whereas, Ms. Valerie McDonald Roberts has served an elected public office for over 18 years. She began in 1989 as a Pittsburgh School Board member, and in 1994, she became the first African-American woman elected to Pittsburgh City Council

And whereas, in 2001, Ms. McDonald Roberts was elected as the recorder of deeds in Allegheny County. She was the first African-American elected to that office. And in 2008, she was appointed as a manager of this county's Department of Real Estate.

And whereas, Ms. McDonald Roberts has served on over 25 nonprofit boards and has been an active member of our community throughout her life. She has received the YWCA Tribute to Women Leadership Award and distinction as a New Pittsburgh Courier Woman of Excellence.

And whereas, Ms. McDonald Roberts recently received the Women in Business Award from The Pittsburgh Business Times for brilliance as a professional.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby commends Ms. Valerie McDonald Roberts for her service to Allegheny County and for her continual professional excellence. Sponsored by myself and Council Member William Russell Robinson this 5th day of April, 2011.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBINSON: I've known our honoree long enough to call her Valerie. We're friends from many years ago. I remember when her career started as an elected official, and I watched her on our school board here in

Pittsburgh and serving on our City Council, also followed her career as she moved on to be a distinguished elected official in this county, making some history of her own as recorder of deeds of our county.

Certainly she has a reputation for being hardworking and innovating. And I can probably thank her for her assistance in helping me as Chairman of the Budget and Finance Committee to make sure that this county receives all tax dollars that are due. And she didn't make a big fuss of it. Neither did I. We simply wanted to do something that has benefited all the people in this county in terms of making sure that everybody's paying their fair share and working with the other municipalities in our county. So I add my personal congratulations, my professional congratulations. And I know she will continue to serve us well in county government.

(Applause.)

MS. MCDONALD ROBERTS: Thank you very much. Thank you, Councilman Robinson and Councilwoman Green Hawkins and all of Council. It is a privilege to be here because this is home. This is family. I belong to Allegheny County.

When I was first approached by the nominator for, you know, submitting the questionnaire for The Pittsburgh Business Times, I immediately responded back to her, you've got the wrong person. Do you forget where I work? I said, this is business. And she said, I know. And I said, well, I don't --- I'm not a business person. She says, yes, you are. And she says, in Allegheny County, do you collect money? Do you manage revenue? How much do you manage? Oh, over \$100 million. Do you manage employees? And she went on and on. And she says, yes, you do business. She says, you submit those questionnaires. And I said, okay. So I did to the best of my ability. And as I looked through it, I realized what I actually had done. I had not taken --- I hadn't kept track of the accomplishments until I had to, you know, respond to those questions. And I said, wow, you did a lot, Val. You did a lot. And it makes me feel good about, you know, what I've done for Allegheny County and Allegheny County has benefited me. So I submitted that. There were over 100 applications, and 15 women were selected, and I was one. So I am really honored for The Pittsburgh Business Times, of all organizations or businesses to bestow this type of award.

But I'm here not to represent just me. This is what is good about government. There is a lot of good that goes on in government every day, every day. There's more good than bad that goes on. It's just that sometimes the bad, the media headlines pick up. There's a lot of good. And it's not just my department. There's a lot of offices and there are a lot of individuals that make this county good, that make all of government good. I have to give a lot of accolades to my staff. Without my staff and the passion that they have in being good public servants and wanting to really make that office shine, it wouldn't have happened. So again, it's a collaborative effort. It's a team effort. And I'm just very grateful to be part of one aspect of government, particularly Allegheny County, and showing what we can do well. So thank you all very much for this honor.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6275-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring the Braddock High School football teams from 1954 to 1959 for their unprecedented success as a high school sports team. Sponsored by Council Members Macey, Martoni, Burn, DeFazio, Drozd, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Gastgeb, Green Hawkins and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Member Macey? Council Member Martoni?

MR. MACEY: I'm going to wait for my esteemed colleague. Actually, Braddock is in his district, but I was approached by one of my good friends, Councilman Martin from Duquesne. And this is going to be a well-deserved proclamation.

Throughout the years, many times we recognize our sports teams for their accomplishments, and generally it's our young people. In this situation, we're recognizing a team from 1954 through 1959. Unfortunately, some of these people are being recognized posthumously because they are no longer with us. However, attending is Coach Chuck Klausung, Coach John Gooder (phonetic), Reverend Elwood Martin, Larry Reaves, Emanuel Smith, Father Ray Henderson, Ron Reagan, Tom Organ, Joel Peoples, Jim Thompson, Leon Page, Vernon Stanfield, Dr. Tom Qualey and Tony Buba. Could they come up here and join us, please?

This proclamation is honoring Braddock High School football teams from 1954 through 1959 for dominance in football. From 1954 through 1959, this team totaled a 56-game unbeaten streak. 1959, the team made it into the WPIAL Hall of Fame in 2010. Unfortunately it took this long to get this together for you.

They won in WPIAL a record 52 straight games and 6 consecutive WPIAL championships. Considered one of the, if not the best team in the WPIAL history. Coach Chuck Klausing went to coach college football and was later inducted into the College Football Hall of Fame in South Bend, Indiana.

The proclamation reads, whereas, Allegheny County serves as the home of legendary sports teams that have contributed to this region's history of competition and achievement.

And whereas, Braddock High School's football teams from 1954 to 1959 amassed a 56-game unbeaten streak, building a record of 55-0-1 and setting a WPIAL record for consecutive victories by winning 52 straight games.

And whereas, Chuck Klausing commanded the teams during this era, the 1959 Braddock High School football team, which concluded the high school's run of winning six consecutive WPIAL titles, was inducted into the WPIAL Hall of Fame in 2010.

And whereas, the team finished the 1959 season 9-0, outscoring opponents 278 to 75. During the season, the team set the WPIAL win streak record of 52 games.

And whereas, throughout the six seasons under Coach Klausing, Braddock High School outscored opponents 1,471 points to 302. The unprecedented dominance of this team is attributed to the outstanding guidance and direction from the coach and to the athletic supremacy and teamwork of the athletes.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby honors the Braddock High School football teams from 1954 through 1959 for their success as a high school sports team. We recognize the 1959's team for its induction into the WPIAL Hall of Fame. And we commend the great coaching of Chuck Klausing, who provided throughout his leadership to one of the greatest high school and college coaches of our nation's history. Congratulations, Coach.

COACH KLAUSING: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. MARTONI: I actually contributed to their success; okay? They started their winning streak beating our team in Swissvale. So in some ways I'm a part of this; okay? And they beat the heck out of us, too; okay? And they kept beating us for the next five years. Never, ever in the history of Pennsylvania or the United States have we ever had a winning streak like that. They're not only a great team. They're great players and obviously the greatest coach, probably, in the United States of America at the time. So I made a small contribution; okay? They beat the heck out of us. So thank you, guys. We all admire you; okay, Coach?

(Applause.)

COACH KLAUSING: I was surprised when my secretary told me that Reverend Martin was on the phone and wanted me to come for this great honor. I was especially surprised because I don't have a secretary. But I do want to congratulate all of you who are honored here today. And I'm very proud of the team that we had at Braddock.

And I'd like to give a little history lesson if I could. From 1954, the largest business district in Allegheny County was the City of Pittsburgh. Second largest business district was good East Liberty. The third largest business district was Braddock. And what a great community. And what a great school that we had. We had great teachers, great principal, great superintendent, great school board.

And I went to coach there in '54 and we had no field. And we got on a street car and they handed me these brown bags for lunch. And we went to Frick Park, walked down over the hill, practiced for about two hours at Frick Park. And since we had no showers back in Braddock, we bathed in the creek. And 19 boys sat down, and every boy on that team was white. And I said, we're supposed to have some blacks on this team. And someone said, the blacks will not come out until school starts because we haze them. There will be no more hazing. If we don't have the black boys out for the team tomorrow, I'm leaving and I'm not going to coach you. The next day, there was 11 black boys. And we were the first complete desegregated team in Allegheny County. And I'm so proud of the opportunity I had to coach them. We were counting

before. We had five preachers on that team. And they were a great group. And the community was so proud.

And another history lesson. I know a lot of you know where Westinghouse Bridge is. And there's a creek going under that bridge called Turtle Creek. And there's an area where the Port Perry --- where the creek enters into the Mon River. And there's a hillside there that the Americans ran the redcoats and General Braddock up that hillside. And at the top of that hill is an area called Cress' Terrace. And the boys from Cress' Terrace started to walk down over the hill and come to Braddock High School. And when we did, we had great success. The community was so proud. Friday night for a football game, we had to borrow the County Police. They'd come out on horseback and ride up and down the sideline so that we could keep the crowd back. And the business district of Braddock was going great.

And I hope --- please --- I'm apologizing. I'm using up too much of your time. But I'm so proud to have had this opportunity and for you to honor this great team. And I've been fortunate. My days are getting shorter and my shadows are getting longer, but I'm so proud to be educated in Allegheny County and to have had the opportunity to coach in Allegheny County. I'm so proud of you all.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Member Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. To Coach Klausning and members of the team, Dr. Martoni, I, too, am a part of that proud history at Braddock High School. Back in 1959, my high school, the Schenley High School Spartans, were beaten by Braddock 36 to nothing. It was an exhibition game where city schools played the suburban schools. And in my era, we couldn't beat them. The only team that came close, I think, was Westinghouse High School, which had an excellent football team. But I remember --- I believe if you look through the records, we were the 39th team to lose to Braddock. And in those days, if Braddock was on your schedule, you might as well put an L beside it.

They were not only an excellent football team. They were well coached. They were gentlemen. We never had any problems with them playing dirty or any roughhousing. They just simply beat you. They had an excellent blocking attack, running attack, defense. You

name it. And I think the only reason they didn't beat Schenley High School by a larger score is because of the integrity of the coach and the players. They had us beaten when we came out of the locker room. They scored their 36 points. They played their first stringers. They played their second stringers. And when they saw their third stringers could have probably scored another 36 points, they didn't do it. They let us leave that field with some pride, 36 to nothing.

And I'll never forget that evening. I was only in for a couple plays, playing offensive and defensive end. And I remember my white uniform never got dirty. Not that they weren't running at me. I never tackled anybody. I couldn't catch a pass. They were the most outstanding football team I had ever experienced.

And even today, when I'm talking about college football or professional football and teams that have undefeated seasons and winning records, I always think of Braddock. At the time they were running up this record of 52 and 0, they were ranked as the most outstanding high school football team in the United States of America. No one even came close. There weren't even college teams that came close to that kind of record.

And I'm glad I'm here today to say thank you to the coach, to the players, to the school, to the people of Braddock for producing something that will live on for ages. Anyone who knows about football in western Pennsylvania knows that Braddock High School stands at the top of the heap, and no team has even come close. Thank you, gentlemen.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6276-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Gary Rigdon for his contributions and service to the Friends of North Park. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. Gary Rigdon has joined me. I ask Nick Futules to join me. Christine Fulton is here and Andy Baechle is here. We're here this evening for Gary Rigdon, who's a member of the Friends of North Park. He's being recognized tonight for being a true friend of all of Allegheny County and all of its residents. He works tirelessly to beautify our community,

and he really inspires others to do so. I'm going to read the proclamation.

Whereas, Allegheny County's citizens dedicate themselves to serving the community and to improving our county parks.

And whereas, Gary Rigdon is the Chair of the Friends of North Park and a board member of the Northern Area Environmental Council, he has served North Park as a volunteer since 2004.

And whereas, in North Park, Mr. Rigdon has organized litter cleanups, promoted and helped obtain funding for construction of a memorial trail, organized public meetings on park projects, and created proactive community partnerships.

Whereas, in 2008, Mr. Rigdon helped to form a partnership between the Friends of North Park, the Northern Area Environmental Council and Allegheny Land Trust to promote and raise funding for the Irwin Run Conservation Area, which preserves undeveloped woodlands in the Irwin Run Valley.

Whereas, Mr. Rigdon is currently involved in additional projects in North Park, including the restoration of the Irwin Run Marsh, and his constant dedication has assisted in preserving North Park.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby commends Mr. Rigdon for his continual service to North Park and for contributing his expertise to preserving wildlife and natural elements in Allegheny County. This Council hopes Mr. Rigdon continues to assist the county in maintaining and bettering North Park and our whole northern area. And we are very grateful for all of his efforts. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. RIGDON: I'd like to thank Jan Rea and the rest of County Council. I'd also like to thank my family and friends and colleagues, many of whom are here this evening. This is truly an honor. Thank you very much, everyone.

There are many things that make the Pittsburgh region a great place to live, our corporations, foundations, hospitals, universities, colleges, sports teams, the arts, affordable housing and the great people, and last but not least, our wonderful parks. Our parks contribute immensely to the quality of life we enjoy in

the Pittsburgh region. Our parks provide us with opportunities to pursue recreation, experience nature and live healthy lifestyles. Our parks help attract and retain talented people who contribute to the economic prosperity of our region. Our parks are a vital part of our community. Without them, life as we know it in the Pittsburgh region would simply not be as good.

We all should feel grateful that the men and women who preceded us had the foresight to create a county park system. Our parks deserve the attention and commitment of resources that will ensure that they are properly maintained and improved for the benefit of everyone living in our region today and for the generations that will follow us.

The value of our parklands, open spaces and greenways should not be taken for granted. We need to fully commit ourselves to providing good stewardship for these special places and do everything we can to support the Allegheny County Parks Department, the Allegheny County Parks Foundation and the Allegheny Land Trust. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. FUTULES: Thanks, Gary. As the Chairman of the Parks Committee for the county and also with Andy Baechle with us, our director of parks, and Christine Fulton of the foundation of Allegheny County, we do certainly understand what volunteerism means. And without people like yourself, the parks would not be what they are today. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BAECHLE: There's no substitute for good leadership. I've known Gary for many years in several capacities. And he's provided a steady hand at North Park. North Park is very dynamic. It's our largest park, with over 3,000 acres and as many user groups. And it's a lot of moving parts. So he's done well to keep them all balanced. Very committed. I'm very proud of your efforts and I'm really thankful for them. For our parks to realize what they can be, we need people like Gary. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. FULTON: Gary, congratulations. Your leadership is inspirational. I think that's evidenced by the show of friends and family here today as well as the impact that you've had on the park. North Park is a

terrific place, and you and other volunteers have really contributed to that wonderful park. So thank you very much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6277-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring the 25th anniversary of the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center. Sponsored by Council Member Finnerty.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Member Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. It's a great honor to have Robert Stock, who is the associate director of the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center, with us today. This center has actually put Allegheny County on the map in regards to computers. It's a high-speed --- ultra-high-speed processor to research. And it's something that is --- it's unbelievable, actually, is what it is. I was there about two or three years ago when you had an open house. And it's just something that --- it's just fabulous. I can't believe the amount of data it can process out there. And I would like to read the proclamation. And I'm sure Robert can explain a little better than I can about the Supercomputer Center.

Whereas, the Pittsburgh Supercomputer Center, the PSC, a collaborative effort between Westinghouse Electric Company, the University of Pittsburgh and Carnegie Mellon University, was founded in 1986 by Michael Levine and Ralph Roskies.

And whereas, the goal of the PSC is to provide supercomputing resources to researchers across the United States. The organization has become integral to large research projects because of its impressive array of superprocessors.

And whereas, the center's five supercomputers, named Bigben, Pople, Salk, Codon and Warhol, are each capable of processing monumental amounts of information at unfathomable speed. Bigben, for example, processes 20 trillion operations per second when it functions at full capacity.

Whereas, projects requiring high levels of computation, such as climate modeling, astrophysics, molecular dynamics utilize the PSC's supercomputers. The PSC is home to the National Resource for Biomedical Supercomputers and is an integral part of the National Science Foundation's TeraGrid.

And whereas, the center invests in developing educational programs such as online safety practices and science and technology teaching programs for high schools, middle schools and corporations in Pennsylvania.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby honors the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center upon its 25th anniversary. The center is a focal point for important research projects in the United States, and it has assisted in establishing Allegheny County as the technical research capital of our country. And this is sponsored by myself, Michael Finnerty, the 5th day of April, 2011.

(Applause.)

MR. STOCK: I do just want to thank Councilman Finnerty and all of the Council members for honoring the Pittsburgh Supercomputing Center today. Yes, Bigben was named after Big Ben. And I also was glad to have an opportunity to say hello to my classmate, John DeFazio. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. STOCK: Oh, yes. Councilman Finnerty did mention he came to the open house a few years ago. We have another one on April 15th. We hope you will come. We're on Craig Street in Oakland. Thanks.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: The remaining proclamations and certificates shall be read into the record.

MR. CATANESE: 6278-11. Proclamation honoring the Rankin family of Brackenridge Borough for displaying heroic actions during a fire on February 8, 2011. Sponsored by Council Member Burn.

6279-11. Proclamation honoring the Court Appointed Special Advocates of Allegheny County for providing abused and neglected children with caring volunteers and advocates. Sponsored by Council Member Burn.

6280-11. Proclamation honoring the career of broadcaster Bill Hargrove and naming April 8, 2011 as Bill Hargrove Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Members Burn, DeFazio, Drozd, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Gastgeb, Green Hawkins, Macey, Martoni and Robinson.

6281-11. Proclamation honoring the Pennsylvania chapter of Second Chance at Life Charity for its efforts to raise awareness of transplant patients, research and treatment. Sponsored by Council Members DeFazio and Palmiere.

6282-11. Certificate of Achievement honoring Brandon Bachman of Boy Scout Troop 180 for earning his Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Council Member Burn.

6283-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 100th birthday of Barbara Dorish. Sponsored by Council Member Finnerty.

6284-11. Proclamation honoring the 50th anniversary of McKeesport Little Theater. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

6285-11. Proclamation honoring the Propel School of McKeesport for receiving the Silver Effectiveness --- I'm sorry --- Participation (sic) Incentive Community Award for its excellence. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

6286-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring Army Sergeant Vincent Hoover for receiving the Silver Star from the United States Air (sic) Forces. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

6287-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 50th anniversary of Daniel and Nancy Jacobs. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

6288-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 60th anniversary of Orville and Sue Drescher. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

6289-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 90th anniversary of Macedonia Baptist Church. Sponsored by Council Member Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on agenda items.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: We have some speakers for non-agenda items; correct?

MR. CATANESE: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Approval of minutes. 6297-11.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the March 1st, 2011 and March 15th, 2011 regular meetings of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The minutes are approved. Presentation of appointments?

MR. CATANESE: None.

PRESIDENT BURN: Unfinished business. Committee on Government Reform. Second reading. 6048-10.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny authorizing the county to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the City of Pittsburgh under which the county and the city jointly will share and implement a financial reporting system known as Enterprise Resource Planning. Sponsored by the Chief Executive and the County Controller.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes. This bill was referred to the Committee on Government Reform in December of 2010. We needed to wait for some events to transpire in the City of Pittsburgh Council. That has happened. Bill 6048-11 (sic) is an ordinance authorizing Allegheny County to enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement with the City of Pittsburgh under which the county and the city jointly would share and implement a financial reporting system known as Enterprise Resource Planning. The Intergovernmental Cooperation Act generally provides two or more municipalities may jointly cooperate in the exercise or in the performance of their respective government functions, powers or responsibilities. Section 2305 of the Act provides that a local government may enter into an Intergovernmental Cooperation Agreement upon the passage of an ordinance by its legislative governing body.

The city has done that and moved over to here. We are doing that now. It came out of committee with an affirmative recommendation. So we look for a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, seconded. Any discussion? Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

(No response.)

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?  
MR. GASTGEB: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?  
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?  
MR. KRESS: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?  
MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?  
MR. MARTONI: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?  
MS. REA: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?  
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?  
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: 6217-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, stating Allegheny County's opposition to the proposed privatization of the Pennsylvania Liquor Control Board Wine and Spirit Stores. Sponsored by Council Members DeFazio, Futules and Burn.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. This was referred to the Government Reform Committee on 2/15/11. There was a meeting on 3/24/11. We held the bill because there was some discussion about some factors and additional information. Those were provided at the 3/31/11 meeting, at which time this bill was moved with an affirmative recommendation. Would either of the two sponsors like to make a few remarks before I ask for ---? Well, no. First, is there a motion to approve?

MR. MACEY: So moved.

PRESIDENT BURN: Second?

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Discussion? Mr. DeFazio and then Mr. Drozd.

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes. First of all, this is a situation where they're making a lot of money with this right now. And there's also we don't want young kids ---. I mean, look, when you put this in all kind of stores, younger people are more apt to get alcohol in places. And a lot of DUIs come out of this, and a lot of other problems. So there's a lot of reasons. And also, people have jobs. They would not have them if this would go through. So there's a lot of reasons. And I know Nick and other people --- maybe you, too, Jim, will speak. But we feel that they shouldn't privatize it.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Mr. Drozd and then Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. DROZD: Yes. I've asked for some data on this. Specifically, I believe before Council wants to endorse one idea or another idea or whatever it may be, Council needs to have its facts in order. And I asked for facts and statistics to show what income areas there would be to the taxpayers of not only the State of Pennsylvania, but to Allegheny County. Nothing was presented. Nothing was put forth from there on. I asked for that data, that specific information at the committee, and I did not receive that. I don't know of any other Council members.

But I did my own research. And there is research online that can be found by the Commonwealth Foundation. They did extensive research on this. Now, there are other states within the Union that do sell outside, wherever it may be. As far as whether teenagers get it or not, it's controlled because the State of Pennsylvania wants to hold the distribution rights. It's the retail level where it's going to bring income.

I must again remind our viewing audience and my Council members that this state is \$4.2 billion in the hole. Right now, I left a school today, inner city, that's very concerned, among other cities I've been in in this past many several months or two to three months where they're concerned about cutbacks in education, cutbacks in higher education and cutbacks where it's going to hurt us here in the pocketbook when they say --- when the state's not going to pick up the tab, that the local residents are, which I'm adamantly opposed. I think the people of this state have paid enough in taxes in this county. And this is one of the areas that are showing some initiative to bring revenues into this state.

If you would look and see the research done by this Commonwealth Foundation, and you would also ask who did it, it was done by one of our esteemed, pristine universities right here in Pittsburgh, Duquesne University, a Dr. Davies. It unequivocally shows that economically, this is the right thing to do, not a bad thing to do. And I say we're going to protect our citizenry and those youth because the state is going to retain the distribution rights to those, and they can cut off any time they want from any people that so does anything off.

Again, I think this is something that is going to be necessary in this state. This is one of those ideas to lift the burden off the taxpayers. We have to do that. It will bring more monies into our coffers that we can lift the burden off the taxpayers. This is critical to the State of Pennsylvania to look at these issues, wherever it may be.

As far as jobs and employment, it will enhance and create more jobs because it'll go into those other stores or whatever and create more jobs. We're not in the business and the Commonwealth is not in the business to create jobs in the government entity, only to create economically. And that's what this will do.

So I urge you not to support this. If it does not maintain --- or retain the full vote and support of this Council, it holds no water. It holds no water. And I would ask it so be noted in the record and this resolution, wherever it may be sent, just show where there are dissenting votes, such as mine, when we vote on it. This is not a good idea to be voting on these type of resolutions without having the stats and the facts on how it affects the taxpayers and their pocketbook. We don't have those. We didn't have them. But there is valid information how it will hurt the taxpayers if they don't privatize these type of things and bring more coffers. It's going to hurt us big time.

\$4.2 billion. I was in those hearings in Harrisburg listening to what the Governor said, listening to what the Legislature said. There isn't any more money. We've got to get creative. And this is one of those ways. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, my Council members, for listening.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Drozd. I remind my colleagues this is a resolution. I understand the

legislation hasn't even been introduced yet. The Governor's put the study team together and may not even have a recommendation until July. Again, I remind my colleagues this is simply a resolution. Mr. Ellenbogen, followed by Council Members Gastgeb, Rea and Finnerty.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President. In my other life, I am the chief enforcement officer for Allegheny, Washington and Greene Counties for the Pennsylvania Department of Revenue. I work hand in hand with the LCB and also with the State Police. My agents and the State Police work hand in hand in enforcement.

That being said, I don't feel that it's proper for me to even comment on this, so I just want the public to know why I'm abstaining on this bill --- or resolution. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Ellenbogen. Council Members Gastgeb, Rea and Finnerty.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you, President Burn. I think your words are very true, that this is a resolution. It's just supposed to be a sense that we have on a local level. The bill hasn't been drafted, so we're just speculating. But since we're going to have here some sort of debate, this vote tonight, I'm afraid, will not reflect the will of the people of Allegheny County. And I say that because I went online to look, and every poll that I've looked at, whether it be a formal one or informal poll, be it local newspapers or sometimes radio stations and the media, it's overwhelming that people in Allegheny County want the state store system to go away and to have a privatized system. By overwhelming, I mean, I'm not sure if I've seen any polls under 70 percent. That's just me looking. So I mean, I think that we're not following the will of the people with this.

The second thing is we know this has been happening over the last decade. We go back to other governors that proposed this. The difference this year is there's a new normal, and Mr. Drozd spoke of it. The State of Pennsylvania isn't just broke. It's \$4.2 billion in the red. This is an idea that helps alleviate that burden and it may alleviate the whole deficit, depending on how the bill is written. It's just an opportunity that cannot be offhandedly dismissed, certainly in April of 2011 in advance of the bill. The state bill, that is. So I find this very ill-conceived from a timing perspective.

The amount of money that will still be available via taxes, that's not going away. The system's not going to dry up. Nearly all the states in the Union have a privatized system. And the youth of those states are not somehow disadvantaged compared to Pennsylvania's youths. We can go back and forth with point and counterpoint and statistics, I'm afraid.

But let me leave you with this. We've sat on this body through a budget process, scratching our heads. The State of Pennsylvania can't even pay us medical reimbursements on time. Almost every aspect we deal with has failed. No matter what governor --- what party's in power or who controls whatever chamber, it's been one comedy after the other of disappointment. Why does anyone think the State of Pennsylvania should be running retail liquor distribution? Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilman.  
Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. I think Mr. Fitzgerald echoed all of my thoughts. I think ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Gastgeb or Mr. Fitzgerald?

MS. REA: Oh. Excuse me.

PRESIDENT BURN: I didn't say anything.

MR. FINNERTY: Gastgeb.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Rea. Sorry. I didn't say anything.

MS. REA: Anyway, okay. I'm talking just about the bill. But privatization has been talked about for a long time in Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT BURN: Let her talk.

MS. REA: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Allow the Councilwoman her remarks, please. Thank you. I'm sorry, Councilwoman.

MS. REA: In Pennsylvania. And I agree with Mr. Gastgeb that Pennsylvania would absolutely, if it were a referendum, say privatize the liquor stores. I'm curious as to why we would say it's to protect minors that is our, you know, main issue for this resolution because I believe that whether it's a state store or a privatized store, minors are to be protected, just as they are with cigarette sales. I mean, they're sold in every whatever, general store, public store. And I see it often happen that a sales clerk will say, you know, show me your ID. So I'm sure if a state store is privatized, that would be a priority for a state store because I'm sure there would

be serious fines put on a store who would sell to minors. And just as minors can go in today and purchase liquor from a state store somehow --- kids are pretty creative and they have their fake IDs. But I think to use that excuse is really not the true reason.

I agree that there might be a loss of jobs, but you know, people in the private stores will need to hire people, too. So even though this, I guess, is still an idea moving through, I think we're really way ahead of the game saying that we would support this and that we don't support the privatization until we have all the facts before us. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilwoman. Council Member Finnerty, then I do believe Council Member Drozd has a point of order. Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. The state stores of Pennsylvania are an asset. They bring into the state \$100 billion in profit a year. That's not including the \$400 million that they also bring in because of taxes. That makes it a very, very important asset as we talk about budgets. To sell off something for a one-time return is something people up here have talked about many times and related to the City of Pittsburgh selling assets off. Something that brings in revenue like that should not be just sold if it's for \$2 billion because it's going to continue to contribute that. It's a moneymaker.

People talk about there could be abuses in relation to this once they sell it off. There definitely could be if we stop and think about it. If you've been to New Jersey or New York, you can find some blocks that have three, even four liquor stores on them. I don't think we need that in the State of Pennsylvania. That, to me, is something you should consider when you talk about this. Many people up here have opinions about many things. Someone has an opinion in relation to if we don't have a 100 percent vote. Remember it's an opinion. It carries absolutely no water.

The other thing we have to look about when we talk about the state stores is we're in a position now that one of the big, big things that people running for office constantly say is jobs, jobs, jobs. We want jobs. And if you think for one minute that by selling the state stores and eliminating all of those jobs is going to help this economy, I think you're really not looking at the situation because the state store jobs, I would assume ---

and I wouldn't know. I would assume that they're well-paying jobs that pay benefits. And if you look at what someone might be making at Walgreens or Walmart or CVS, I don't think they're in the same class.

Now, remember what I said about an asset. Now, we're talking about \$100 million profit after wages, insurance and everything else. \$100 million profit and \$400 million in tax revenue. \$500 million a year goes into the state budget, the general fund, from the state stores. That's a lot of money. That's a lot of money. And I think if anybody's going to stop and say, well, let's sell them and we're going to balance the budget this year, what's going to happen next year and the following year and the following year? That's something that's very important to consider here when we talk about this. I thank you very much.

MR. DEFAZIO: Point of order.

PRESIDENT BURN: Point of order?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. You can check with the Solicitor. Look, I just --- we might as well correct it now because we keep going on. When someone has a point of order like Mr. Drozd has, you have to do that at the time someone's making a point. Then you interrupt and then you state your point. I'm not saying you don't ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: Point of privilege. I don't think Mr. Drozd has put a point of order on the floor. He may have whispered something in my ear, but he didn't put it on the floor.

MR. DEFAZIO: Well, you said that he has a point of order.

PRESIDENT BURN: Then I was incorrect to say it. He said something to me in an off-the-record fashion that something was coming but it hadn't come yet.

MR. DROZD: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: So I didn't mean to violate the rules or anything of that nature.

MR. DEFAZIO: No. Look, I don't care if he speaks. I'm not doing that. I just wanted to say ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: Point taken.

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. Okay.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good. So Mr. Drozd, do you have a point of order?

MR. DROZD: Yes, yes, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: I was being considerate to the Chair and to my fellow Councilmen to at least give him a heads up I was going to ask for this. Point of order is this. You know, we all want to make sure that when we vote, we don't have a potential conflict of interest. And those of you that are Council members that might hold liquor licenses, maybe this is a very deep gray area, if anything, at least that, but well may be a conflict of interest. As an example, one of the cosponsors, Mr. Futules, who has --- and I'll tell you this, has an outstanding and reputable establishment. He really does. But he also holds a liquor license. And I'd like to ask if we have within our Council members such as Mr. Futules, is this not --- at least a very, very, very dark gray area, if not a conflict of interest to vote on this bill because it can affect how his distribution and the liquors are distributed. Thank you.

MR. CAMBEST: Mr. Drozd did ask that point?. I don't believe from my knowledge that Mr. Futules is a business that would be a conflict of interest for him. He is one of a license holder of many in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. I don't know that it would have a direct effect on his business. Some people might say that by privatizing, we may pay a lower price for it. So I don't know. I don't know if it would have an effect on him. But I don't think it would be a direct conflict of interest under our ethics law to vote.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you very much. Mr. Futules, you were next to speak.

MR. FUTULES: Yes. Well, as our Solicitor just said --- I did think about that, too, by the way. My idea is that if it's not broke, don't break it. But as a license holder, I do ask the question, just who will get the licenses? I can only imagine saying, attention, Kmart shoppers, in aisle six we have a display for a new line of vodka today. And you know, you say to yourself, who is going to get these licenses? There was a big fight years ago just exactly who would get the licenses. And as far as I can see, it looks like the people with the most money. And nowadays I recall the day when we used to go to our grocery and buy groceries. Now we go to the grocery store, we go to the banks, we have stores, we have pharmacies, we have everything in one big store, and there's no more community around us. It's just one big store, and everybody else is out of business.

And that's one of my thoughts, that I have more questions than anything as a licensee, because I know for a fact that the prices will not be the same in every store because it is privatized. Your areas where your more affluent people live, you're going to pay higher prices. If you live in Fox Chapel, Shadyside, Upper Saint Clair, you're definitely going to pay more prices for this stuff because they can get it.

There will be no store networking. When you go to a state store and they don't have a product that you're looking for, they're on a network across the state to the next store next to you, so they'll know if that product is in the store next week. Do you think Kmart or Walmart is going to know where that alcohol is that you've been looking for for your party? I mean, that's another issue.

My other point is the fact that I am a wholesale license holder. Will I still receive that ten-percent discount at the time when they change to privatization? So now as a liquor owner, you say to yourself, where do you come into play as far as the privatization? Do I walk up and down the aisles in the retail stores and purchase liquor, or do I get the liquor out the back door as I do now? That's a question. And I think the state needs to clarify that. That's just some of the things.

And of course, selling to minors. Alcohol is sold in state stores for a good reason, because they are licensed by the state and they go to school. They are trained individuals to make sure that they do not sell alcohol to minors. Yes, somebody may have a false ID and get through a store. That could be true. But they are agents of the state, and they would purposely never --- not necessarily a minor, but a person that is visibly intoxicated would not get served in a state store either.

Maybe we should put together a list of questions along with our resolution, questions like what if. I think that's very important for us as this Council to put those questions together. How do we all feel other than just as a resolution? I think it's important that we ask these questions, the what-if questions. And that's my concern.

And then, of course, we talk about the jobs. There's no doubt about this. The state will save money by selling their state stores. I will not disagree with that because they'll lose their utilities. They'll lose their rentals. They'll lose everything. They'll lose their

employees that they have to pay hospitalization and pensions to, and good jobs. Of course they're going to save money. But the question is, is the state in the business of eliminating jobs? I thought the state was in the business of creating jobs, not eliminating, because that's what I see this as, as an elimination of good-paying jobs, separating the upper class from the lower class, and there will be no more middle class. This is just another step in that direction. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you very much, Mr. Futules. Again, I remind my colleagues, this is a resolution. Perhaps we can attach the transcript and send it to the Governor's study committee on our views on both sides of this. But again, this is a resolution. We've been debating now for 20 minutes. Mr. Drozd and then Ms. Rea. And then I really would like to wrap this.

MR. DROZD: Yeah. Just a real quick point. Mr. Futules just proved my point because he had said in his testimony he just gave, he said, this will benefit me by not privatizing these stores. That's a conflict. And again, I'd ask to remove his name from here.

Secondly, I'm going to vote on behalf of the taxpayers. What was said here, it says, well, it's going to create areas where people will pay the most. This is what it's all about. Take the burden off the taxpayers. That's what we want to do. That's what the state wants to do. Shift the burden off the taxpayers. That's what I want to do. That's what I'm going to do. That's why I'm going to vote for this. We need to look for new revenues, not to the taxpayers and their pockets anymore. We need to get revenues elsewhere, and this is what this is going to do. So I'd propose those two points, and I think that's very good, and I'd like to add it to the record. As was just said it will be an enormous benefit to keep it, okay, the way it is. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ms. Rea, Mr. Finnerty, then we're going to vote.

MS. REA: Thank you, President Burn. I guess I'm just sitting here --- Mr. Futules, with due respect, you said that you had a wholesale license and your concern is that you will need to pay more money for alcohol. And I think that is a conflict of interest. I mean, a serious conflict of interest. And I think that you did prove Mr. Drozd's point. So I would really reconsider your name on the resolution. If you benefit financially from something

and you are opposing something, I think there is a conflict of interest. And I would say that to you, Mr. Cambest. Initially, I heard what you said, but then he spoke again, and it's in the record, that he is saying it will financially hurt his business. Thank you.

MR. CAMBEST: Point of order.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Cambest?

MR. CAMBEST: I think we all need to understand that this body does not have any effect on whether this legislation passes or not. It is a sense of preference or whatever you want to call it. I think the conflict of interest comes if this body had the authority to actually privatize liquor in Allegheny County, then we might have a serious issue. Once again, it's only a sense of a resolution purpose.

PRESIDENT BURN: I agree with the Solicitor. The Chair doesn't see a conflict, either. Mr. Finnerty and then Mr. Futules. I don't think you need to rebut, but if you wish. Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. Some things that were said here got my head going around. Number one, Councilman Futules stated that the state stores are costing the State of Pennsylvania money. That's totally ridiculous. They make \$100 million a year. Now, I don't care what they pay their employees --- I shouldn't say it. I do care. Or what it costs them for utilities or whatever. That's a business. So they pay \$100 million in profit. It doesn't cost the State of Pennsylvania any money. They make \$100 million. You're a businessman. You know that. So by eliminating --- we're not talking about something like that. We're talking about \$500 million that we're talking about annually coming in. So that, to me, is an important number that comes into the budget.

And if you take a look at it, you stop and think to yourself and say, hey, this makes no sense. And for sure, if it makes no sense, it's not going to make any dollars. So what we should do is stay in this state store business that makes \$100 million a year and provides \$400 million of revenue. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: I could always put this bill back into committee if everybody continued to debate it. This resolution. I'm sorry. Mr. Futules. Yeah, I don't think you need to speak because we ruled on the conflict issue. Mr. Gastgeb and then we're going to vote.

MR. GASTGEB: Yeah. Just in rebuttal real quick. Again, this could go either way. It's probably healthy debate. And maybe the state will just look at the comments and move forward. But just a couple things I've written down in my humble opinion.

People are acting like nobody ever, under 21, has been served at a state store. That's something that's never been done. If someone would change it, the flood gates would open up. I don't know if that's true.

I would agree on the one-time sale because every other one-time sale, you lose the entity. On this one you have taxes galore and revenue streams galore that will continue. And if the state's making \$100 million, anybody else would probably make \$200 million or \$300 million because whatever they're doing is probably the most backwards way to make the money. So that's still going to continue. The revenue stream's not going to end.

And as far as jobs go, the grocery stores, the drug stores, there'll be more people from the volume coming in, not to mention new stores opening up that someone has to work and be able to man. So just point and counterpoint. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, all, for that healthy and spirited debate. Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Nay.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Abstain.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: No.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?  
MS. REA: No.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?  
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?  
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes 9, noes 4, with one 1  
abstention. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Committee on Parks. Second  
reading. 6261-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance authorizing the  
County of Allegheny to convey two parcels of land in the  
City of Duquesne to the Regional Trail Corporation.  
Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. On March 22nd, we had  
a meeting of Parks, and this was moved with an affirmative  
recommendation. I'll explain it briefly for those of you  
who weren't at the meeting, or should I say TV purposes.

Allegheny County acquired two parcels in  
question from the Norfolk Southern Railway Company in the  
City of Duquesne in order to enable the Regional Trail  
Corporation to develop the Great Allegheny Passage as a  
continuous public hiking and biking trail through the  
Monongahela Valley, the City of Pittsburgh, the City of  
McKeesport, and terminating in Cumberland, Maryland.  
Should I do the amendment after the motion? I'll make a  
motion to approve first.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, seconded. Is there any  
discussion on the motion or amendments?

MR. FUTULES: Why don't I present the amendment?  
I believe Mr. Barker will be ---. Another amendment  
to ---.

MR. BARKER: Once a motion to amend has been  
made and seconded.

MR. FUTULES: Okay.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. We'll get it straight.  
This is pretty simple. When we had the meeting on March  
22nd, some of the transactions between the properties were  
not quite complete on dates in the ordinance. If you look

at page three in the third whereas, it states at 5516-11, March 29th, 2011. And that is the amendment because we didn't have that at the time of the meeting. I make a motion to approve that.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved and seconded. Is there any discussion on the motion to amend? Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?  
(No response.)  
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?  
MR. GASTGEB: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?  
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?  
MR. KRESS: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?  
MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?  
MR. MARTONI: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?  
MS. REA: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?  
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?  
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 0. The amendment

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Now on the bill as amended, please call the roll.

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. Gastgeber?  
MR. GASTGEB: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?  
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?  
MR. KRESS: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?  
MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?  
MR. MARTONI: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?  
MS. REA: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?  
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.  
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?  
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.  
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Liaison reports. Any liaison reports? Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. I want to do a liaison report relative to the Community College. As members are aware, a couple weeks ago, Mr. Calvin Clinton, president of the African-American Workers Union, and some of his Board members presented themselves to us and raised questions concerning the building of the K. Leroy Irvis Science Center on the Allegheny Campus of the Community College of Allegheny County and also indicated that he felt that his union was excluded from participation in that project and there were discriminatory activities were going on at the Community College.

With the assistance of Councilwoman Amanda Green Hawkins and our Council President, Jim Burn, a meeting was held with representatives of the Community College and also representatives of the Onorato Administration to more

clearly identify the issues as they're related to Community College. We also had present at that time legal counsel, Mr. Bob McTiernan, who is the legal counsel for the college relative to the K. Leroy Irvis Science Center. Mr. Mike Wojcik was also present, our County Solicitor, and our County Manager, Mr. James Flynn.

We had a pretty good airing of what we understood to be the issues that were presented. There was no written material provided to us by the African-American Workers Union. Since there was no material provided to us and no substantiation for their concerns, we decided to do two things. One, we would look at what information they could present to us, mainly to Council President Burn, Councilwoman Amanda Green Hawkins and myself.

As Council members chair the Community College Board of Trustees, in that particular meeting I'm referencing, I was a representative of County Council, representing the college and our president, Dr. Alex Johnson, and our Vice Chairman of our Board, Mr. Peaslee, Greg Peaslee. We felt that we certainly wanted to get more information. We were going to do two things as a follow up. And Councilman Burn and Councilwoman Green Hawkins decided that it would be best for this County Council to keep this matter within our purview since it was presented to us. And we presumed that the request was for us to do something relative to Community College to pursue this issue.

We will be meeting with the African-American Workers Union hopefully in the next two weeks. We also are meeting with the Allegheny County Labor Council because some issues were raised as to whether or not their participation at the Community College in some way prevents the African-American Workers Union from participating.

Also, we took the bold step to request that the Administration, this administration, the Onorato Administration, work with us to see if the issues that were being raised by the African-American Workers Union in any way impacted on the County. We wanted to be proactive to make sure that we look for a solution. If there's something that was applicable to the county, we would do those things as we needed to do.

We want to assure the African-American Workers Union and the general public that we took serious the

concerns that they have, that we are pursuing them, and we certainly will be reporting to this Council at the appropriate time. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Robinson. Mr. Futules and Mr. Ellenbogen and then Mr. Finnerty.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Mr. President. A few months ago, we passed a resolution for a green burial in Penn Hills. And as a matter of fact, last night, they had voted to accept it. And it will now be a 30-acre wooded burial site near Penn Hills Park, and it's called the Penn Forest National Burial Park. And it will be the very first exclusive cemetery in the State of Pennsylvania. I want to congratulate Penn Hills and Allegheny County for being first. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir.

MR. FUTULES: I just have one more. I forgot about the Health Board issues that seem to be in the news. They're talking about changing the rating system. I would ask that they come to County Council and answer some questions to the Health and Human Services Committee.

PRESIDENT BURN: That's a very good point, sir. That would be our new Chair, Mr. Palmiere. That would be his committee. One of the liaison reports tonight is he's going to be new Chair of Health and Human Services, replacing Councilwoman Cleary. So Mr. Palmiere, if you could check your schedule, we'll schedule a meeting with your committee. Perhaps we can invite our folks over and maybe answer any questions or address any issues Councilman Futules or any of our other colleagues have with respect to that issue. And we'll work with Jim there to set that up for the Chairman. Thank you. Very good. Mr. Ellenbogen and then Mr. Finnerty?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President. Before I speak, at least in regards to Councilman Futules' cemetery in the district, at least no one can accuse him of having --- doing this so that these people can vote for him.

That being said, on a more serious note, I am really not sure I want to bring this up, but I'm kind of --- when something's said, it needs to be answered. I read an article in the media the other day about an exorbitant amount of money, which I think was almost \$700,000, that was put into a field in North Park. And my colleague, Councilwoman Rea, who was, according to the

article, completely off guard by it and knew nothing about it. I would like to say I also knew nothing about it.

As we sit up here and we struggle to find money to fix this transit authority, this drink tax, the possibility of raising property taxes and all the other issues that are financial here, I'm very disturbed that almost \$700,000, I think I'm correct, was put into a field without us even knowing about it. And I just hope that somebody up here could shed some light on this for me. Did anybody up here know anything about that?

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: I guess the only thing I have to say is it wasn't a line item in the budget, so I don't know how we could be aware of it unless someone came directly to any one of us on Council and said that this \$670,000 was going to be put into Stone Field. When I became aware of it, it was --- the project had already been started. But I don't believe anyone on this Council approved a \$670,000 expenditure for turf on Stone Field. Thank you.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: You know, I'd like to comment on who holds the majority of the permits for that field. And I'm not going to comment on any alumni that might have been involved in those decisions. But I will say this. What does that say about us as a Council and about our authority when we as a Council are sitting up here struggling for nickels and dimes, and almost \$700,000 is aloofly put into a field when that money could have been used elsewhere? Councilman Burn himself wanted to put another few million dollars into the Port Authority. We have some serious problems here. I mean, you know, I'm normally open for open discussions, but personally, I see something seriously wrong with this, particularly in light of the situations that the taxpayers are facing right now. I just wanted to make comment on that.

PRESIDENT BURN: What's your pleasure, Councilman?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Well, my pleasure is, Mr. President, I would appreciate if you would send a letter across the hall to ask them, you know, first of all, where this money came from, and second of all, why we weren't advised of it, and third of all, you know, what would take priority over the kinds of issues that Councilman Robinson would be more qualified to answer, he is the Budget Chairman, as opposed to the money being used in some situations that are dire in this county. If anybody had

any objection to that ---. I'd appreciate a letter from all of us.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Chair Robinson of the Budget and Finance Committee?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Before any communication is sent over to the Administration, I would suggest that members check with our own staff. Oftentimes when we are approving the capital budget or the amendments to the budget, specific projects are identified. When the money is actually spent, it appears to be a surprise to some people. But we have given authorization to the Administration. I don't believe this Administration has spent one penny that we as a Council have not authorized. So I would hope we check with our staff first, see if this was a project in our capital budget, and recognize that there are many opportunities for the Administration to conduct projects that they think are in the best interest of the county as long as the funding has been approved by this Council.

Now, that is not to say that someone should not be concerned when three quarters of a million dollars is put into an athletic field. There are a number of projects that have been on the drawing board for several years. And from time to time, one of those projects is funded through a bond issue. But every year when we approve our capital budget, there are lots of projects that members perhaps don't really look at.

I would think that we ought to be very cautious before we give the Administration some suggestion that they have done something, one, they aren't authorized to do, or that they should inform us every time they initiate a project. I am not adverse personally, if this Council would like to do so, to have the Administration come back here as often as you'd like and get approval for all the projects, even though we approve them, tell them to come back before they turn a spade of dirt. They won't like that. They'll argue against it. But we can put that condition on them. So I would just caution members. As Mr. Drozd suggested earlier, let's get the facts. Let's get the figures. And if we want the Administration to do something different than what they're presently doing, I certainly am open for that.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Excuse me, Jim. I'm going to go to Councilwoman Rea and then I'll come back to you,

sir, and then Mr. DeFazio. For the record, this is a liaison report, but this is a healthy discussion amongst the body, Mr. Futules. Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: With all due respect to Council Member Robinson, the first person that I did go to was our staff. I did talk to our budget director. She assured me there was nothing in the budget that we saw that would indicate to any member of this Council that \$670,000 was going to be put into a field at Stone Field, a turf field. So whether we agree or disagree that the Administration has the authority to arbitrarily do that without notifying either the Parks Chairman or someone on this Council, it's, I guess, an issue we need to discuss. I understand that monies are moved in budgets, but an expenditure of that magnitude I do think, out of respect to this Council, we should have been notified. We could have voiced our opinions. The reality of it is maybe everyone would've agreed on Council that it might be the right thing to do. But I think when we are told --- especially in the budget straits that we are in, that we are told something like that, it's almost insulting not to know as a public official that a project of that magnitude is going on in your district. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Ellenbogen and then Mr. DeFazio?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: In deference to Councilman Robinson, I'd like to say that I am more than aware that we approve miscellaneous appropriations. How the Administration decides to spend the money on miscellaneous appropriations is --- you know, it's nothing --- they didn't do anything wrong. I'm not alluding to that. But I'm saying there are some things that, number one, have the appearance of impropriety, and there are other things that are morally wrong.

Now, if this Administration wants to answer to a public that can't get money to ride the bus, that may have their school taxes raised, that may have their property taxes raised, that their bridges --- we have the worst bridges in the state. And I can tell you that, as a former chief of special services, a lot of these county bridges I was responsible for. I know how bad shape they're in because my ironworkers are the ones that put them back together. If they want to answer to that that a field is more important, then that's fine. But I'm not going to sit up here and just keep my mouth shut with

things that I think are wrong. The public elected us to open our mouths.

And I'm just not like --- I didn't just come out of this thing and just start talking about this. I had numerous people stop me that have read that article that have mentioned various things --- and had my chops busted because of, you know, I can't get on the bus, but you've got money to put in for a field, you know, for a private institution. You know, I'm going to have my property taxes raised, but you've got money for a field?

Well, you know what? I just want the public to know that I disagreed with it, that if that's how the Administration felt about it, they're well within their rights to do that. But I want to be on the record to say that I feel that even morally, like Councilwoman Rea had said, we should have been told. And if that's the kind of respect that we have as a Council, then we as a Council ought to do something in terms of some kind of law or changes in the Charter to make us more valuable or we might as well be in the back playing ping-pong. Thank you, Mr. President, for tolerating me.

PRESIDENT BURN: No problem at all, Mr. Ellenbogen. Mr. DeFazio, then Mr. Macey.

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes. According to everybody up here, no one knows about it. And the staff said they don't know anything about it. So if this wasn't agreed to in the past a long time back, I don't know how this could be done. If this is a miscellaneous money, I think we have to approve it. You know, if you're going to spend that kind of money, we have to approve it. Someone correct me if I'm wrong. So if the staff don't know about it, we don't know about it, it just don't add up.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey, then Mr. Gastgeb.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. It's interesting to me that North Park seems to be the focus of --- seems to be everything. We're already spending, and this is including state subsidies, \$21 million on the lake. That's wonderful. It's a good thing. It's a good thing for the residents of Allegheny County. It's a good thing for the people who live in that neighborhood. Now another \$670,000 for North Park?

It seems that, you know, as far as I'm concerned, when I look at the Mon Valley, we get nothing. And I have to go on record as saying that when it comes to recreation, sure, we have White Oak Park. We have Round

Hill Park. What do we have in Round Hill Park? We get a vegetable garden? Why? So we can afford to feed the people in the Mon Valley. They're so desperate for food and sustenance.

We would love to have a field. We have several entities. We have Penn State. We have Serra Catholic. We have quite a few ball teams down there. We could have a baseball field in White Oak Park where we can raise money with tournaments and can actually bring revenue into our community to help people.

And to see millions of dollars going to North Park without us getting a piece of the action in the Mon Valley, it's hurtful. It's hurtful to me. It's hurtful to the people of the Mon Valley. And yes, people are telling me and asking me, why? Why does somebody else get \$700,000 when we can't get anything in Mon Valley? Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Gastgeb and then Mr. Drozd.

MR. GASTGEB: I guess since it's liaison, I'll ask for some privilege from the President because ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you. Regarding parks, it's hard to not agree with what Mr. Ellenbogen started. I think you bring up a good point. We're the fiduciary of this county. However, there's another aspect, too, we have to look at. We also control conditional use of the land. Every conditional use comes to us. Every gift. We've taken horses or whatever in the past. Anything within the confines of the park system, it comes to us.

Now, I don't know if the conditional use of the land is changing. I don't know if we're using county workers. I don't know if there's a bid in this. But all those questions need to be asked because if the conditional use of that park's changing, that alone, outside of those finances, should come to us.

Which brings me to my next concern. And this is not in my district, but I feel concerned, and you'd have to talk to Mr. Finnerty about this. But at Settlers' Cabin, I'm being told by somebody who lives out there that there's a private concern that the Administration is privatizing certain interests. I wrote a letter to Chief Executive Onorato on March 23rd, just casually asking if he could shed some light on it. I'm still waiting for a response back. This is yet another maybe conditional use

of the land that I hope we're not going to be omitted from. And then you have the second thing.

So now we have a trend at North Park and Settlers' Cabin, and it just comes back to the respect level of this Council but also what we're supposed to be doing. You know, we were maligned because certain members filed a lawsuit. Well, it's a shame you have to. You know, we should be able to understand the rule of law and work within the rule of law. So this whole park situation is very concerning.

Regarding the Health Board, let's not forget we are the only body that can pass an ordinance. Whatever the Health Board decides on the restaurant side doesn't mean anything as far as application to law. It does as far as health policy. So it's amazing to me that we have to ask, probably a year into the debate, to have a Health and Human Services Committee meeting to bring us up to speed. What's going to happen is we're going to bring them over and they're going to get mad if we change the period, because then it has to go back to the Health Board again. And there's no reason to have that type of relationship. There has to be a better way. It's really not on our end. It's on the Health Board end and maybe the Administration.

Lastly, since we're talking about surprises, I've got a good one for you guys. Marcellus Shale. We know about the airport. How could the Airport Authority put out RFPs or propose to put out RFPs for Marcellus Shale extraction when Allegheny County owns the mineral rights? There's almost no disputing who owns the mineral rights. You could dispute because the Airport Authority leased and then they owned, who owns the brick and mortar, but Allegheny County owns the mineral rights under the ground. What type of vendor could possibly respond to an RFP knowing that we are not signing off on it? And how foolhardy would we be to sign off on something when the mineral rights go to the county and we're just going to give them up? You talk about giving things up to the Administration. How in the world do we give out an RFP to anybody not knowing any of the deals? We're not writing the RFPs. No one up here has seen the RFPs. Yet this may happen.

So this kind of stuff has to come to a head. I don't know who or what or how, but I'd be a willing part. And I really think these are bipartisan issues that's

strictly County Council, no matter what party you're in, that really need to answered. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. It just bodes a question in my mind. I think we need another column in Budget and Finance. What it is, you must remember anything that we expend on behalf of this county is the taxpayers' dollars. And we have to know where we're going to get that ROI, that's where the column should be, on any monies that are expended. We should know what is the return on the investment to the taxpayers in the form of enhanced services, in the form of monies that are going to come back to us and the form of those expenditures. That's what we have to start asking the question. And I think the Administration has to do that. They need to do that. They should be doing that.

Lastly, I want to say just as a little privilege here, read Time Magazine, as follow up to Mr. Gastgeb, on Marcellus Shale. Look at that. This is the Saudi Arabia of America. And none of that should go out of here without these taxpayers benefiting from what goes out of here to alleviate the tax burden on them. Look at Time Magazine. I think it was maybe one or two issues. Please read it. Go see it. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. I'd like to thank all my colleagues for a great discussion that started --- it hit on a lot of things. It hit a lot of things that concern all of us in a bipartisan fashion. We're going to drill down on each one of those in an individual fashion over time. But let's start with the one that was raised by Mr. Ellenbogen.

Mr. Ellenbogen, you brought up the point about the funding to North Park, and Ms. Rea having to do due diligence with our staff, indicating there was no knowledge or indication. Mr. Robinson did bring up a great point, however, indicating that it is possible that it may have been approved/allocated in the past. So Mr. Ellenbogen, assuming hypothetically that we have done our due diligence, assuming hypothetically that we have no record on this side of the building as to when, where or what had taken place, do you still wish me to send that letter making an inquiry?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Well, possibly you might want to put it in one of your committees, Mr. President, even your own, the Government Reform because I think this issue

goes far beyond, you know, building a field. It might have more to do with what our rights are as Council in terms of --- or what --- you know.

PRESIDENT BURN: Well, let's start with a letter to the Chief Executive asking him for some more details on this specific issue. And then the conversation that you're having and all of us are having is a conversation we need to have, perhaps, in Government Reform, i.e., do we need to close loopholes or do we simply need to enforce already existing procedures? And that's a conversation we'll have as well. Next on liaison reports, we have Mr. Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir.

MR. FINNERTY: You were right. We did take a long time there, Mr. Ellenbogen. I would just like to comment on one thing before I get to my liaison report. I do know exactly what's going on at Settlers'. And before anything happens, it will have to come to Council.

MR. GASTGEB: I think, again, just for my own edification. That's all.

MR. FINNERTY: I will. In fact, I have the drawings and stuff. But the reason why I did want to make a liaison report is because some apprenticeship programs are opening up. The cement masons' pre-apprenticeship program opportunities are opening up and the number for you to call is (412) 761-6310. And they're going to --- applications have to be returned by May 3rd. So if you call that number ---. They're located at 2606 California Avenue and it's Pittsburgh, PA 15212.

Also, the Joint Apprenticeship Committee on the Heating and Frost Insulators and Asbestos Workers Local Number Two is opening up their apprentice program also. And if you would like to contact them, the number is (724) 695-2902. They're located at 1057 Clinton Road, and it's Clinton, PA 15026. And you have to do that before May 26th. That's the postmark date for applications. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you very much, Mr. Finnerty. The last liaison report I'd like to share with the Council was with respect to the Special Committee on Public Transportation. I would like to thank some of those that have been in negotiations for keeping me apprised of the situation. And I'd like to thank all that

are in there and encourage them to continue talking about short and long-term solutions.

With respect to the Special Committee on Public Transportation, the first meeting of the Special Committee will take place at 5:00 p.m. in the Gold Room, this room, next Tuesday, the 12th, at 5:00 p.m., immediately following Chairman Robinson's Committee on Budget and Finance.

The Committee is designated as a committee of the whole, which allows all Council members to participate. I will serve as Chair pursuant to the Charter. Port Authority CEO Steve Bland, Mr. McMahon of the ATU, and other transportation group officials and experts will be invited to participate in the Committee's discussions. Many have called, e-mailed and asked to be on the Committee. Under the Charter, unless you're a member of the County Council, you cannot serve on the Committee, but you will be invited to be a participant in our deliberations and our discussions.

The purpose of the Special Committee is first to recognize all of the principals. Second is to recognize all of the issues relevant to a long-term solution for the Port Authority. Third, it is to work in a cohesive, unified fashion toward a proposed solution that can then be taken to Harrisburg. But I would indicate that no recommendations will be taken to Harrisburg until we as a county and as a community, which appreciates the importance of public transportation to this region's growth, show that we have exhausted all local remedies and have worked within our own means to fix the deficiencies in the Port Authority which all sides acknowledge currently exist. So I look forward to next week's meeting to first identify the principals and then proceed to work in a cohesive fashion toward short-term and long-term solutions.

New business, ordinances and resolutions.  
6290-11.

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 BURN: Refer to Committee on Government Reform. Mr. Palmiere, would you like to comment this evening?

MR. PALMIERE: Not at this time, Mr. President. When we go into committee, I'll have more to comment on.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Very good. 6291-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Article 903 of the Administrative Code, Section 5-903.02, restricting county purchases of goods or products made in sweatshop conditions in the course of the formal procurement process, in order to specify a complaint and investigation procedure, and amending Articles 203 and 215 of the Administrative Code of Allegheny County in order to clarify the applicability of the anti-sweatshop ordinance to the county authorities and agencies, respectively. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: This will be referred to the Committee on Government Reform. Yes, Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes. I would like to be a cosponsor on that, please.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Mr. Macey as a cosponsor. 6292-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances, Chapter 435, entitled Minority Business Enterprise Program, 435-3, entitled Advisory Committee, in order to clarify the qualifications for individuals serving on the county's MBE Advisory Committee. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to the Committee on Government Reform. 6293-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2008 Capital Budget for Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to Budget and Finance. 6294-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2011, Submission 05-11. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to Committee on Budget and Finance. 6295-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution approving a project for the benefit of the Carlow University, the University, to be financed by the Allegheny County Higher Educational Building Authority by the issuance of the Authority's tax-exempt or taxable bonds, to be issued in one or more series, in an aggregate principal amount not to exceed in excess of \$18,750,000, providing that the taxing power of the County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania shall not be obligated in any way with respect to the bonds, hereinafter defined, and determining that the purpose of the financing will be to benefit the health and welfare of the citizens of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to the Committee of Economic Development. 6296-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the Council of the County of Allegheny authorizing the pursuit of a Tax Increment Financing Plan for portions of the River Edge of Oakmont Redevelopment Area to be located in Oakmont, Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to the Committee on Economic Development. Are there any other motions --- or are there any other ordinances that are not on the agenda?

MR. KRESS: President Burn, I have something I'd like to add to the agenda list, please.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Do you have a copy?

MR. KRESS: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please pass it out.

MR. GASTGEB: I'll second it.

MR. KRESS: That's a motion to put an ordinance on the --- a motion to put it on the agenda, please.

MR. GASTGEB: I'll second it.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved and seconded. I would suggest to my colleagues, there's been a motion and a second to put this on the agenda. Before we discuss the particulars, let's vote on the motion. We can do the yea or nay. All those in favor of putting this on the agenda signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The ordinance is now on the agenda. Do we need now to give it a number and read the caption?

MR. CATANESE: I can just read the caption.

PRESIDENT BURN: We don't have a number. Please read the caption.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing a system where senior citizens who own property on which property taxes have fallen delinquent would not be sold at a tax sale, but would instead be listed for sale with a licensed real estate agent to get as close to fair market value for the senior citizens as possible.

PRESIDENT BURN: Sponsored by Council Member Kress?

MR. CATANESE: That's correct.

PRESIDENT BURN: This will be referred to the Committee on Government Reform. Mr. Kress, would you like to comment?

MR. KRESS: Yeah. This is something --- we have the second largest population in the country of elderly residents. As we know, with property taxes, you never actually ever own your property. And you have people that pay property taxes for 30, 40 years, and the only source of sole savings they may have is equity in their property, and I would never, ever want to see them lose that equity in their property to a tax sale and only get maybe pennies on the dollar. My concern is if somebody has a house that's worth \$200,000, to see that property sold for \$20,000 or \$30,000, because these people need this for their healthcare, for their maintenance, their wellbeing, and this is something I truly believe in. That's the reason why I'm here on Council, because I believe in protecting our seniors. So thank you very much.

MR. DROZD: This is a good ordinance. I'd like to cosponsor it, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Drozd. Please add Council Member Drozd to be a cosponsor to this legislation.

MR. MACEY: And as a bipartisan, I'd like to as well.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Members Macey, Palmiere, Councilwoman Rea, ---

MR. GASTGEB: Myself.

PRESIDENT BURN: --- Council Member Gastgeb, Mr. Futules. Anyone else? Mr. DeFazio. Yes, Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Actually, I wanted to ask Jack a question if I could.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. The bill has been referred to committee. Are we off the subject of the bill? Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: My question is on the bill.

PRESIDENT BURN: With respect to the bill?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yeah.

PRESIDENT BURN: The bill is only going down to the first floor, so you can ask that if you want, sure.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yeah. Jack, I mean, when it comes to, like, sheriff's sales and that, is there, like, laws governing all this?

MR. CAMBEST: Yes.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: So the question I have is the legality of it. I think it's a great idea. I just feel ---.

MR. CAMBEST: That's something for myself to look at. The first time I saw it is tonight.

PRESIDENT BURN: Sir, that's the process --- that's the vetting process that will take place in committee. Those are the type of questions that our sponsors and cosponsors now, I'm sure, will be happy to answer and address as we discuss this bill further and give it the due diligence that it deserves.

MR. KRESS: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT BURN: New business, motions?

MR. CATANESE: None.

PRESIDENT BURN: None? Notification of contracts.

MR. CATANESE: None.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on general items. We have three speakers invited --- or signed up tonight to discuss non-agenda topics. First, we welcome to the podium Mr. Jim Barr.

MR. BARR: Good evening. My name is Jim Barr. I live in West View Borough. At the March 1st, 2011 regular Council meeting, there was an announcement that the Council President was stepping down as a Council member. There was no public comment on this business. We, the people, were not given an opportunity to speak on this appointment of the new Council president, nor was the appointment or resignation on the agenda. The Council policy of registering to speak on general items in advance of the regularly-scheduled meeting is disingenuous of the open government --- of an open government society. The audience that sat through the very long farewell to a

politician that left the office of Allegheny Council to pursue a high office is not --- is also disingenuous.

Keep in mind that a politician that seeks a higher office while holding an office indeed uses his current position and name recognition to further their own agenda, not the agenda of the people that elected them to serve in the office that they were elected to. This self-serving practice used by politicians is why we ultimately end up electing politicians with name recognition instead of electing statesmen.

I urge this Council to amend the public comment on general items policy to include open comments that anybody can speak. If you wait all this time, let's see how many people there are. I think it's very evident right here at the end of the meeting the policy should be allowed to let any individual that wants to sit this long to speak. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Next is Mark Brentley, followed by Byron Shane. Mr. Brentley, it's good to see you, sir.

MR. BRENTLEY: Good to see you, Mr. President. President, members of Council and to my honorable Council person, Councilwoman Green, I want to first say I'm here today just to make some suggestions. I am a member of the Pittsburgh School Board. I've been on the Board for 11 and a half years, in the middle of reelection this coming May. One of the things I was successful in doing on the Board was trying to find a way to attract men, getting men active, getting men involved and just getting men involved in terms of great role models. And in 1999, I kicked off the first Pittsburgh Public Schools' Take Your Father to School Day. We're now into our 13th year. And last year alone, we had over 5,000 men who signed up. The process is simple. You just simply sign up, and on that day, you stop into the school and you sign up and you sign up to get involved in PTOs, PTAs, PSCCs.

What we found out was that there's a lot of rippling effect. A lot of good things have happened after that. Role models. We're offering father programs. We're offering training. It is very moving to have some of the young fathers who will come to you and simply pour their heart and say, hey, I'm no longer with my child's mother, but will you help me to be a better responsible father?

I'm here today, Mr. President and members of Council, to suggest to you --- I know that Pittsburgh is probably the only city in this country that can boast about having such a wonderful day at a drop of a hat. All we have to do is call, and men and fathers will respond. And I'm here today to suggest to you this may be the backdoor way of addressing some of the problems that we're having not only in the City of Pittsburgh, but also in the county. Why can't we be the first county in this country to say that one day we encourage men to go out and get up and get active and get involved? Does that mean my time is up?

PRESIDENT BURN: Thirty (30) seconds.

MR. BRENTLEY: Okay. And so I'm here today. I was able to bring a packet for you all, a resolution to be just introduced this year. I also have sign-in sheets from the previous two years, the numbers of schools and the number of fathers who participated. And I also have for each of you the official Take Your Father to School Day cap. I'm more than willing to talk to you about it. It's important, Mr. President, we address this issue. The county has the same issues as the city has with violence, the lack of positive men, the lack of positive role models that's black, that's white, that's young and that's old. It has been very, very successful. This year we will kick off the 13th, and it's on the 20th of May. So if you're in or near any Pittsburgh Public Schools, don't take my word for it. Just stop into a school and watch and enjoy yourself.

Finally, Mr. President I will tell our superintendent and our principals in the district as the founder and chair of this wonderful, wonderful day, I will get the men into your building. It's your job to find a way to keep them. And they have been very, very successful with keeping men actively involved in the lives of their children. I have this packet I will leave here, and I also have the caps. Thank you so much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: I look forward to having the conversation on an outstanding idea. As an elected official who's here at the podium, do any of my colleagues up here wish to ask anything of Mr. Brentley? Yes, Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Very, very quick. You're so right on, Mr. President. My fellow Council members and those of

you here, I spent today not long, maybe a matter of three hours, two or three hours before in one of your schools, not far from here in a middle school, talking to five young men who were in detention. And these young men had a lot of issues going on in their lives, one of which, without identifying that young man, 13 years old, was in the Shuman Center previous to this. And they all really didn't know --- were so lost in so many ways. There's so many young people in there that are being raised by a grandmother or great aunt or whatever it may be. There was another teacher in that room with me. And her point to me was exactly what you're saying. She says, you know, we don't have enough male role models to come in and discuss this and address these issues. It's so very critical. I'm telling you it's to the point of crisis, not only in this school district and all our school districts across America because we just go home and we forget a lot of these kids really need us. So thank you for bringing this to light. I, for one, am not going to forget.

MR. BRENTLEY: Thank you. May I respond briefly, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Have a conversation when we get done. As soon as we get off the record, please, yeah. And we appreciate the idea exchange. Thank you, Mr. Brentley.

MR. BRENTLEY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Byron Shane.

MR. SHANE: Hello. My name is Byron Shane from Amalgamated Transit Union Local 85. I'd like to thank you guys for the opportunity to speak here today and to thank the leadership for providing all your help on trying to resolve this funding crisis we have at the Port Authority.

Our president, Patrick McMahon, couldn't be here this evening. He had a prior commitment. But he asked me to come here and update you guys on the last few days, things that have been going on since our last --- we had that meeting Wednesday.

So as of now, there are still 15,000 people without their public transit lifeline. Many thousands more are being subjected to overcrowded, longer commutes and the unnecessary conveniences of just not having a bus. There are 160 workers that have lost their family-sustaining jobs and are expecting --- or experiencing anxieties that no one should have to suffer

unnecessarily. Also, the closing of the Harmar Garage and the economic impact that that will have on the Allegheny Valley.

I'm also sad to report that little progress that has been made because Chief Executive Dan Onorato refuses to work on short and long-term solutions simultaneously. He is insisting that transit cuts will not be restored until issues regarding retirement healthcare costs are addressed.

It is our position that we agree that those issues must be addressed. And we are prepared immediately to begin talks again and to keep the process moving while the short-term solutions are put in place and transit services have been restored to the pre-March 27th levels.

On Monday, President McMahon sent a letter to the Chief Executive, which I believe he forwarded to County Council. If he has not, I have copies here that I can provide you when we're done speaking. And you will see in this letter that he delivered to the Chief Executive that we have put our money where our mouth is. We have agreed to do what it takes to put the amount of money that Dan Onorato said was needed to prevent some of these cuts.

The one positive development from our first meeting that happened on Friday is the Chief Executive and the Port Authority both have now agreed that our numbers are correct and that one-percent cut in wages is equal to \$1.43 million in savings that were proved from the actuary reports.

Our offer to do what it takes remains on the table, and our willingness to proceed with negotiations have never wavered. However, we cannot negotiate by ourselves. And good faith negotiations will never work if the Chief Executive keeps on moving the goal line. It is wrong for Mr. Onorato to hold the 15,000 transit riders, the 160 transit workers hostage just to get what he perceives to be an upper hand in the negotiating process. Anything this respected body can do to move this process forward and restore these unnecessary cuts will be greatly appreciated. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you very much. Motion to adjourn?

MR. MACEY: So moved.

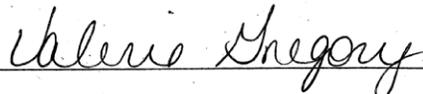
MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Meeting adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:35 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