

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 Kress	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5
John Palmiere	-	District 6
Nick Futules	-	District 7
Robert Macey	-	District 9
William Russell Robinson	-	District 10
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
Jim Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, September 6, 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:

James Flynn - County Manager
Michael Wojcik - County Solicitor
Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Jennifer Liptak - Budget Director

PRESIDENT BURN: Good evening, everyone. I'd like to call to order the regular meeting of the Allegheny County Council scheduled for Tuesday, September 6, 2011. I would ask my colleagues and all those with us to join me in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Please, call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?
MS. DANKO: Here.
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?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Here (via telephone).
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Present.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?
PRESIDENT BURN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Fifteen (15) members present.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Catanese.

Proclamations and Certificates. 6498-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Bethel Park upon its 125th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you very much, Mr. Catanese. If I could ask the Bethel Park 125th Anniversary Committee to come up and some of the elected officials we have here from Bethel Park. And welcome to County Council's meeting, first one back, actually, on the --- I guess, from the break in September. And for me, this is a real honor to continue, I think, the progression of the celebration which --- probably, about a year old. Bethel Park started their anniversary about a year ago with a lot of fanfare and a lot of things in the community that were very important. Kristen is not here right now. A book was written and published on the history of Bethel Park. There has been balls. There's been events. This Saturday, we're going to have our Community Day in Bethel Park. And part of the Community Day is going to be the 125th anniversary celebration at Bethel Park.

In addition, at night --- Bethel Park's building a new high school. The old high school is going to host any graduating class, I think, in the history of the school; to go in and kind of partake in the gymnasium and look at the old school one last time. And contrary to popular opinion, I did graduate from Bethel Park High School, so I will be there on Saturday night. I think a few Gastgebs will be there. But I think we're seeing the scope of this project and the scope of the involvement and the scope of the volunteers and the municipality, the school district, the community members, just a lot of people in Bethel Park who are putting this together. We have banners up, I think, on every major road; county road, state road and municipal road, with Bethel Park's logo and sponsorship. It could be a business; it could be an elected official. It could be a civic group all over. Almost every square mile is almost covered by this, so there's so many people that have been involved in this. I think it's appropriate to recognize the people that are here. I want to mention that Joe and Diane Klink (phonetic) are here from the committee. And Joe is a former police chief of Bethel Park. Dick and Pat Kraft --- I'm not sure if they're here. Boy, Dick has just been a driving force in this. And the e-mails and the things he puts out is just someone --- I try to recognize him. There's Jim McLean, a member of Council. We have Lorrie

Gibbons, a member of Council, and we have Jack Allen. He's a member of Council, as well as Council Vice President. So I'd like to read this proclamation in the record, and then, you know, collectively or if somebody wants to say a few words ---. Before I do, I want to mention that I've been privileged to be on Council for 12 years, and I've represented a lot of towns and been proud to represent. But this being my hometown, the relationship, I think, that the county has with Bethel Park is something special. I'm proud of that. I see Mr. Flynn is here. I want to thank him publicly because a lot of things that we do, your directors are part of that and associate with the municipality. Bethel Park's one of the largest municipalities in the county. There's a lot going on. I'm going to read some of the things that Bethel Park has, but they're very dependent on Allegheny County. And we can't do it if we don't have Mike Wojcik and the law department, or Jim Flynn or some of the Council people I serve with, so thank you.

This will be written into the record, but it is one of the largest communities in Allegheny County, with 32,313 people. Half of South Park are county parks in Bethel Park. We have a major mall, South Hills Village. The T goes through Bethel Park. And really, two major lines ends in Library and also ends in South Hills Village. We have the CCAC, Bethel Park Branch Campus, state of the art community center; one of the first communities to build a veterans' memorial in Veterans' Memorial Plaza. We have a new high school being built with, and it has blue ribbon designation by the U.S. Department of Education.

As I mentioned, we're having a Community Day this Saturday, which is always an annual event. So without further ado ---.

WHEREAS, Bethel Park is a Home Rule Municipality in Allegheny County and was founded June 7th, 1886 and was formerly known as Bethel Township; and

WHEREAS, Bethel Park currently encompasses 11.7 square miles of land, contains nine wards governed by nine Council members and a mayor; and

WHEREAS, in the 2010 census, the population of Bethel Park was 32,313, making the municipality the third largest community in Allegheny County; and

WHEREAS, Bethel Park is home of the South Park, South Hills Village, two light rail transit lines,

community college branch, state-of-the-art community center, a veterans' memorial, a new high school and also the J.R. Taylor Bridge, which is a Montour Trail walking bridge, which was dedicated this weekend, that connects Allegheny County and Washington County; and

WHEREAS, to celebrate Bethel Park's birthday events and activities, a parade will be held on September 10th during the municipality's annual Community Day. It will end at Bethel Park High School campus; and

WHEREAS, the establishment of the Bethel Park celebration committee is now a testament to the volunteers' spirit and the spirit of Bethel Park.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, hereby honor Bethel Park on the 125th anniversary of its founding. Sponsored by me, Councilman Vince Gastgeb. Everyone, thank you for what you've done. Congratulations on this terrific day that we're going to have. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. ALLEN: First of all, I'd like to thank Vince Gastgeb, plus all of County Council, for the proclamation for Bethel Park. I'd certainly like to be around for the 150th, but we'll take the 125th. I'd like to invite you all to our Community Day. The week hasn't gotten off on a good start weather-wise, but we do have a large crowd out there. Maybe you will be able to see every organization that we have, whether it's sports, churches and so on. They all take pride in what they do. They all have booths, and we'd invite you to come out and spend the day with us. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

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

MR. CATANESE: 6499-11. Proclamation honoring Eureka Fire Rescue EMS, for providing 125 years of fire rescue and 75 years of emergency management services. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

6500-11. Proclamation congratulating Blackburn Pharmacy upon its 75th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

6501-11. Proclamation congratulating Ms. Juliann Sheldon, for earning the Miss Pennsylvania 2011 title. Sponsored by Council members Futules and DeFazio.

6502-11. Proclamation honoring Chuck --- Charles V. Wagner, Jr., Head Coach of the Springdale High School football team, for his 50 years of coaching. Sponsored by Councilman Futules.

6503-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 50th anniversary of Bob and Vilma Koribanic. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public Comment on Agenda Items.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Approval of Minutes.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Presentation of Appointments.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Unfinished Business.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Liaison Reports. Do we have any liaison reports?

MR. GASTGEB: I have one.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Gastgeb.

MR. GASTGEB: I wasn't able to make the last meeting because of business, but over the summer during our break, South Park was home to an event that housed, I think, around 2,500 people in the fairgrounds and about 800 classic cars. And there was a person from Bethel Park --- actually, the football organization that put it together. But what a great, I guess, outreach of a volunteer group or a sports group using our parks, affecting the whole fairground area, parking 800 cars that are classic cars, bringing families in during the day. And the comments I got will allow South Park --- really looks good. I haven't been to the fairgrounds in a while, and it's just good to see some of this. So again, the partnership of our working with municipalities and directors and us elected officials, I think, goes a long way. So I wanted to bring that forward. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Gastgeb. I would like to announce to the room and to our viewers, that Thursday, September 8th, 2011, 6:30 p.m., at North Park, we will have at the United States Flag Retirement Plaza, our flag retirement ceremony. The guest addresses will include our Chief Executive, Dan Onorato, Army Major John McCabe, Congressman Jason Altmire and Councilman Nick Futules, who is the Chair of our Parks Committee. So for more information, please feel free to take a look at our webpage or contact the County Council Office. Another

liaison report? Council member Drozd, do you have something?

MR. DROZD: Yeah, just very quickly. I just want to remind everybody about the air show, which is a fabulous air show. It's going to be on at the airport this coming --- I believe it's Saturday and Sunday. At noontime it's going to dedicate in honor of 911, at their Borough Building at, I believe, ten o'clock on the 10th, a memorial in commemoration of those people that ultimately paid the ultimate price. So all are welcome, and I hope you do participate in honor of the vets that are honored and those people of 911. And they will really recognize the township for doing something nice for the people and in their memory. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilman. Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes, I have one thing. Verona will be celebrating their Fall Festival this weekend. It will be Thursday, Friday and Saturday, and it is their 140th anniversary for Verona. See you this weekend.

PRESIDENT BURN: I would be remiss to mention that Millvale Borough has its annual Holidays Festival on September 17th --- 15th, 16th and 17th. For more information, please go to Millvale Borough's webpage. Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: I guess since we're doing all of the municipalities, this weekend, the 8th, 9th and 10th, is Carnegie Days, which is a tremendous event, with many bands and many booths. So if you get a chance, stop down it is on Main Street. You'll have a great time. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. I would be remiss if I didn't mention that West Mifflin is having their Community Days on September 10th. It will be held at the Allegheny County Airport, and a parade will start at 12 noon at Holy Spirit Church. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you. McCandless is having their Community Day on Saturday, September 10th, at the Municipal Building. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you very much. New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions. 6505-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing County policy for reviewing the status of all properties owned by the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and which currently are granted exemption from property tax under the Institutions of Purely Public Charity Act. Sponsored by Councilman Kress.

PRESIDENT BURN: The bill was referred to the Committee on Government Reform. And as tradition, we will at this time only allow the sponsor to say a few words. Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Thank you. UPMC has classified itself as a non-profit entity. As such, Allegheny County taxpayers receive no tax revenue from UPMC-owned properties. UPMC has received massive bond financing, refinancing from Allegheny County taxpayers in order to save UPMC debt service costs and have received a tremendous amount of the public's money in the form of donations and grants. UPMC is a non-profit. A for-profit company would be answerable to shareholders, and its main goal would be to generate profit for its shareholders. However, since UPMC is a non-profit, it's not to be driven by a private profit motive; but instead, it's a mission philosophy to improve the healthcare of the people in our community. Instead of being accountable to shareholders, it is accountable to the community. UPMC has stated, it will not review --- excuse me --- will not renew in-network provider contract with Highmark, because they will not work with a competitor, since Highmark has decided to purchase the financially-troubled West Penn Allegheny Health System.

Based on a statement that UPMC has given in failing to renew in-network provider contract with Highmark, we must question whether UPMC is truly acting for the benefit of this community, as there are many in our community that, if this contract is not renewed, they may not be able to pay the 20 percent additional costs for treatment at a UPMC facility or get new insurance because of the pre-existing condition or a significant rate increase. Therefore, this order shall review whether UPMC should still enjoy the tax exempt status of new properties in Allegheny County. The Institutions of Purely Public Charity Act expressly authorizes taxing bodies that maintain their tax rolls, such as Allegheny County, review the usage of any properties owned by tax-exempt entities,

to determine whether those properties are, in fact, being used to advance the owner's charitable purpose. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Kress. 6506-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing acceptance of 20 grave sites at Allegheny County Memorial Park, 1600 Duncan Avenue, Allison Park, Pennsylvania, for use by veterans of Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: The bill will be referred to the Committee on Public Works. Ordinances and Resolutions. Do we have any other business at this point, before we move forward? Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: I believe Mr. Finnerty and myself have something we'd like to present. I'll defer to Mr. Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. Thank you. I have an ordinance that I would like you to distribute. I'll talk about it once you get it.

PRESIDENT BURN: Before I ask for a motion to place this on the agenda, I'll allow Jared to pass it out, please, and then ask Mr. Finnerty or Mr. Robinson to speak on its content.

MR. FINNERTY: I'll make the motion to put it on the agenda.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Any discussion on the motion? Any discussion on the motion to place it on the agenda? All those in favor of placing this bill on the agenda, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? This bill is now placed on the agenda. I would refer --- before I refer I will welcome discussion. So I will invite either Mr. Finnerty or Mr. Robinson to comment on this ordinance and its intended purpose. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. The purpose of this ordinance is to get certain things under control, especially our annual agency funding, within a budget-controlled atmosphere. And that's the main purpose here, to look at things a little differently in --- put some things under a microscope, so we can see where exactly our agency funds are being spent. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of Council and, of course, Mr. Finnerty. I'd also like to thank those of you who have chosen or will choose to support Mr. Finnerty and I in this effort. This bill is a continuation of my efforts as Budget Chair to allow this Council to be more integrally involved in the budgeting process from start to finish. And this bill certainly is within the four corners of our authorization in the Charter and in the Administrative Code, and I look for a very spirited debate on its affectability. And certainly, Mr. Finnerty and I have had several conversations. And also with President Burn, we believe that this bill is most appropriate.

PRESIDENT BURN: In that regard, please add me as a co-sponsor. This bill shall be referred to the Committee on Budget and Finance. I'm sorry. Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes. I'd like to be added as a co-sponsor as well, please.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good.

MR. MARTONI: Myself, also.

PRESIDENT BURN: Dr. Martoni, Jim Ellenbogen, John DeFazio, Nick Futules. Yes, Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes. I would like to also be included, please.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Mr. Palmiere, as well.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, may I read the caption to put in the record.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes. Thank you, sir.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing Part A of the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 801, entitled Comprehensive Fiscal Plan 5-801.06, entitled Adoption of Budgets, in order to provide a uniform mechanism for adoption of the county's annual agency fund budget.

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, Mr. Gastgeb.

MR. GASTGEB: Please add me as a co-sponsor, as well.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Please add Council member Gastgeb as a co-sponsor of this legislation. Thank you.

MR. DROZD: Add me, too.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd, as well.

MR. KRESS: Add me, too.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Mr. Kress and please add Councilwoman Rea. Is there anyone who has not put their hand up?

MS. DANKO: I'll wait until I read it.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good. Thank you, Councilwoman, as will Councilwoman Green. This does appear to me to be a good piece of legislation that allows this body to work within its parameters as it is instructed to do in the Charter. I look forward to discussing it and moving this bill.

MR. FINNERTY: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. FINNERTY: I also have a motion I'd like to put up.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. Well, let's do this, Mr. Finnerty. If it's a motion, then let's get into the motions section of the agenda.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay.

PRESIDENT BURN: We have one on now. Then after that, I'll ask --- I'll invite you to introduce it.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Anything else under New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions? Seeing nothing, we'll move on to New Business, Motions. 6507-11.

MR. CATANESE: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County, expressing the Sense of Council and urging the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center (UPMC) and Highmark, Incorporated (Highmark), to resume negotiations with each other in order to reach an agreement that would allow individuals insured by Highmark to continue to receive care at UPMC facilities at in-network rates. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council member Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'm not going to go through the same thing that Councilman Kress did. I think everything he said in regard to Highmark and UPMC is pretty straightforward. But the reason this motion is there is because we would love them --- at least, I would; I know a number of other Council people here would love them --- to come to some kind of agreement for the sake of our citizens of Allegheny County. Their health and welfare is extremely important. And to put them in a situation where it's possible that they could not get hospital help for

specialized illnesses and to put them in a predicament where they have pre-condition that would disqualify them, maybe, from getting health insurance from another carrier, is a situation that should never happen. I implore UPMC and Highmark to come to some kind of agreement for the health and welfare of the citizens of Allegheny County. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes. I also agree with that, and I'd like to be added to this. Both of these groups, UPMC and Highmark, have to get together for the benefit of everyone else. A lot of people depend on both groups, and they should be working together to solve the problem. So I'd also like to be added to this.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Councilman DeFazio. Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I'd like to be added, also. But I'd like to say; you know, I just went through a situation that required both of them. So you know, when you're healthy, you don't think about this kind of stuff. But trust me, when you go through something like I went through, you really appreciate the fact that they're working together, because I --- like, I had Highmark talking to my doctors at UPMC. So you know, everybody has people in their family that have been ill. And this is some serious stuff, and I really wish those folks would really, like, put their heads together and not use the words like profit on television. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Please add Mr. Ellenbogen. Please add Mr. Futules. Mr. Futules, do you have any remarks?

MR. FUTULES: No.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add --- Mr. Gastgeb, do you have some remarks?

MR. GASTGEB: I do.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. GASTGEB: I just basically have a question. I know, as this motion alludes to, that we had a Committee on Health and Human Service meeting on August 3rd. I also know --- I believe that the state had a committee meeting --- I think it was in this room --- almost for the same purpose. I'm just wondering if we should extend a hand or maybe some partnerships to our state partners and maybe combine a committee of stakeholders between county and state. We do have precedents in regard to the City

Council, on occasion, where we have avenues or issues that involve both county and city. Since UPMC and Highmark are headquartered inside of this county, this might be an opportunity to have a working group of state and county officials that credences the sincerity but also the serious measure of this issue. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Would you suggest, perhaps, that we reach out ---? Do you suggest, Councilman, perhaps, that we reach out to our state leaders in a bipartisan fashion and invite them to discuss with us the concept of working in a collective fashion and engaging in these two entities?

MR. GASTGEB: I would. It has to be collective among state and county and also, certainly, bipartisan. Maybe the committee chair or one of the leaders in the Council could do it; you know, you or Mr. Martoni. But however it get done, I think it just shows that we're willing to pool our resources together with the state, since we both had two separate meetings, to show the seriousness of this issue.

PRESIDENT BURN: Let's reach out. We'll draft a letter, and I'll invite all members of Council to sign it, reaching out to the state leaders to work in a cooperative fashion and continue to have this conversation. I've seen the meetings we've had, and I've seen the meetings that Harrisburg had in this office or in this room. So I think when we work in a collective fashion for the best interests of this county, the better off we're all going to be.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, Mr. Ellenbogen and ---
yes, sir.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just wanted to say at the end, that a lot of their medical facilities are located in the city. Would it be appropriate to reach across the street?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. I think that's --- in addition to going East, I think we should go across the street, as well. We'll put that letter --- we'll put something together that, hopefully, we can have that out --- let's see by the end of the week, perhaps. Yes, anybody else on this side? Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: If you want to really make it a collective opportunity, we should actually reach out to, say, McCandless Township, the UPMC-Passavant. You know,

those local municipalities, they certainly are in partnerships with the hospitals. Also, our federal officials should understand the gravity of the situation for this region, for the state of Pennsylvania and for this region. So I would certainly not exclude them and just say, maybe, collectively, if we were all together as one voice representing people, saying, you know, this is not something that we are not taking seriously; and we really want you to reconsider what's going on and come back to the table and negotiate. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: That's a good point. That's a good point. Let's work on the language of this invitation, or at least deem that they should begin this discussion as soon as reasonably possible. We made the comments last month that we are a citizens' council, based on the way this charter is drafted. And Dr. Martoni says that all the time; we are a citizens' council, which puts us as close to the constituency as any other elected body. And in that regard, I believe this is a letter that we should write to our colleagues, not just in the city or McCandless or Harrisburg, but also to Washington, as well, as many folks in the room as possible, to show the importance to these two entities of this issue and how imperative it is for all folks out there, like Councilman Ellenbogen, who have had to go through this and have the uncertainty, in addition to the other pressures that they may have because of the reasons that they're even in the system. The sooner we move, the better. So we have to work on that posthaste. Very good. Mr. Macey? Oh, Mr. Drozd, then Mr. Macey.

MR. DROZD: If you recall, quite some time ago, I suggested that we have a summit in the essence to see the collaboration between these entities, these healthcare entities. You know, my background is strong in the healthcare. And I also suggested a motion similar to what Councilman Finnerty --- and I agree with him. And you, Council, chose to write a letter instead of adding a motion. But this goes a lot deeper than just the idea of the insurability of who's going to honor what insurability. This goes into the collaboration, the positioning of those facilities, the strategic positioning of those facilities. There's no collaboration as I can see. This matched more profit than it does the motivation or, at least, the incentive seems to be more profit-motivated, rather than community oriented. And their

point of that is quite --- it was about a year or so ago, I believe, you attended that meeting with me, Councilman DeFazio, and we had West Penn in that meeting. And my question to West Penn was, what is your bedding capacity. I have no problem with an organization --- a healthcare organization where they see that something is going, where they have to revitalize --- not --- revamp where they position their facilities, because they can't cover the overhead and it will suffer other facilities. What the problem is, is that West Penn said, well, our bedding capacity out there is approximately --- in Monroeville, is approximately 60 to 70 percent. And my question to them at the time was --- I said, well, let me ask you this. If you're only 70 percent of capacity, why then is UPMC moving to put a facility in Monroeville right in your back yard, where you're only utilizing 70 percent of your facility.

Did you two sit together and discuss this and strategize on how you best can serve the communities, particularly that community. And the answer came emphatically, no. So that problem really ensues here. It goes beyond just insurability. We're seeing here a hodgepodge, and motivation is going ---. I don't see where they're serving communities. I don't hear that, and I agree with what another councilman said, their profit. We're not the profit. They're not supposed to be the profit. They're not-profits, yet they have and they do have a lot of areas where they're profit-oriented; and they're not taxed, because under the bill and the state law reads, because it was researched by one of our staff members, you can't tax that entity if, in essence, a good percentage of that is for non-profit and they do have profits. You can't tax the profit areas. Go after those. Yet our burden of the taxes have to fall on our constituency out there. There's a lot more to this than just who --- insurability and who's going to assume and allow that insurability in that hospital. Those catenaries, and that's what it's called, patient catenaries are not being served, as far as I can see, strategically, and that's where it has to be addressed. This goes far beyond that, and I don't think it's a letter. Someone here, whether it's Council or whoever, has to take a lead position and to bring them to the table and say, how are we serving this community? What are your strategic plans to serve this community? And how are you

collaborating to reduce ---? You know that golden hour where they have to get that patient care, such as the councilman had? How are they doing that? They're duplicating services. And you know what? The taxpayer is paying the end result, because a lot of duplication of efforts, they're going to pay for. Believe me. And Medicare is coming down the line, and they're going to make a lot of changes here. And they better be on board real quick of what they're going to do to serve these communities and how they're going to best serve the needs of the people of Allegheny County and the surrounding nine counties and wherever they may be located. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey, did you have something?

MR. MACEY: Yes. I'd just like to be added as a co-sponsor. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Mr. Macey. And Mr. Robinson wanted to be added, Councilwoman Rea. Please add myself, Mr. Gastgeb, Ms. Green, Mr. Kress, Ms. Danko.

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President, and I also would like to have myself included.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Council member Palmiere. Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Yeah, just on the heels of what Mr. Drozd said, I guess, my vision of a summit would be --- you know, I'd love Highmark and UPMC to come because they want to come, not because they have to come. But even independent if they elect not to come, if I can believe the verbiage in their written press releases, the summit would still continue. You'd have federal, state, county and city officials. And if I remember correctly, when we did it last time, this whole area in front of us was a table. We had about 20 chairs kind of placed opposite each other, if not more. And what comes out of it is ideas.

And if I was heading up Highmark or UPMC, I'm not sure how many ideas I would want to come out of that summit, because maybe those ideas wouldn't be very beneficial to my organization. And we've seen some comments made by the ranking member of the state committee, some of the Council members. You know, they should want to come because, you know, you have that many people in the room with the ability with competitively to change some things, I would think they'd want to be here,

to be part of that, because they want to be here. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: And seeing them from both sides of the aisle is just as effective, I would think. And I think we'll see that, too. Very good. With respect to the motion, I'll ask for the procedure at this point. Is there any other discussion on the motion? Any other discussion? Any other discussion? All those in --- Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I wasn't going to say anything, but I wasn't going to say anything since I'm in the public; you know, that it's personal. But when I first went in the hospital, I went in West Penn. Then they decided it was --- there were some things that could be done in Shadyside. Now can you imagine? I'd probably be in a box right now if this thing would have been --- because I had to go from a Highmark situation to UPMC. I mean --- so it can be very real. So that's --- like I said, I don't like to say myself like that. But for the betterment of the public, I think --- I mean, you realize that, how serious it can be.

PRESIDENT BURN: In the six years that I've been here, this is one of the issues if not the issue, that I have received more phone calls and e-mails and inundation, in anything I've seen since I've been up here. And I think everybody else up here probably has a similar story or is going to say the same thing. So we do have an obligation as a citizens' council, to bring everybody in here, to this room, and have that conversation. So thank you, Mr. Ellenbogen. Any other discussion on the motion? Any other discussion? All those in favor of this motion, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The motion passes. Any other motions under New Business? Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yeah. I have another motion.

PRESIDENT BURN: I'll wait for the motion to be distributed, then I'll invite you to discuss it. Thank you. And procedurally, do we have to ---?

MR. FINNERTY: I should make a motion to put this on the floor.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor of putting this motion on the floor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? Very good. Now I would ask Mr. Catanese, could you read the motion, the heading on the motion for us? Then I'll invite Mr. Finnerty to discuss it.

MR. CATANESE: Amending Article 5 of the Rules of Council of Allegheny County Council, to the creation of a new Section C.2 governing appropriations within the County's annual operating and capital budget.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This is similar to what we passed in relation to the county parks, which will have ---. It's a line item. It has to be a line item if it's over \$200,000 in the budget. And it has to be specific and descriptive. And that's about the gist of it.

PRESIDENT BURN: So it seems similar to the bill that was introduced by Mr. Gastgeb, which you amended in committee, which, when we hit a certain number in public works, there will be some --- there's some accountability and a mandate that we continue to have conversations with the administration?

MR. FINNERTY: Correct.

PRESIDENT BURN: So you're taking what we did in that one specific instance and putting it across the board?

MR. FINNERTY: That is correct.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good.

MR. FINNERTY: I don't know if Mr. Robinson wants to say ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson, do you have any comment on this?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council, and I thank Mr. Finnerty. Mr. Finnerty is a member of the Budget and Finance Committee. And on several occasions, he's heard me talk about --- not in our responsibilities but areas in which the administration and Council can work more closely in shaping a budget. And this motion is consistent with what I believe we should be doing, and that is playing a more active role in the budgeting process than we're already playing, but not outside the four corners of our

responsibility to the Charter and the Administrative Code. And I thank Mr. Finnerty for taking this initiative, and I certainly will second his motion.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Anybody else want to join this? Please add me to this motion. Again, I think this is consistent with what I've seen in the last several meetings; and that's, this body establishing itself and exercising its due diligence under the four corners of its mandates, as required by the Home Rule Charter. Mr. Macey, do you want to be added?

MR. MACEY: I want to be added. Thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. PALMIERE: I'd also like to be added to that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Mr. Palmiere. Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Mr. Gastgeb, as well, Mr. Kress, Dr. Martoni, Councilwoman Rea, Mr. DeFazio, Mr. Ellenbogen, Mr. Drozd, Mr. Futules. Mr. Robinson, I think you're already on. I put you on twice. Very good. And we will move this motion, at this point, for a little further discussion, into the Committee on Budget and Finance. Very good. Notification of Contracts.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public Comment on General Items.

MR. CATANESE: We have two.

PRESIDENT BURN: Michael Connors, followed by Ronald Lynn Miller. Mr. Connors, are you with us? Yes, sir. Please come on up to the podium. And under our Rules of Council, you have three minutes to say a few words on the issue that you came down to speak on. We have a timer for you. We'd ask that you give us your name and your address, please.

MR. CONNORS: Michael Connors, Parkway Avenue in Chalfont Borough, East Pittsburgh. We would respectfully ask Council to consider re-naming the 16th Street Bridge in honor of author and historian and Pittsburgh native, David McCullough. Hosted by columnist Brian O'Neill, it's addressed this idea in an August 21st article and subsequent letters to the editor and embrace the idea, as well. Most notably, perhaps, is President and CEO of the

Heinz History Center. As you know, the county has renamed bridges for Clemente, Warhol and Carson. McCullough has won two Pulitzer Prizes and a national humanities medal, as well as the Presidential Medal of Freedom. His ancestors have lived in southwestern Pennsylvania since prior to the American Revolutionary War. He has served and continues to serve quite admirably as an unofficial ambassador to the region. I believe the Council, by acknowledging a native son, that it would be acknowledging a contribution that equals that of the impact of Rachel Carson to environmentalism, Warhol to art and even Clemente to baseball. I spoke with Arthur Ziegler, President of Pittsburgh History and Landmarks Foundation earlier today, and he asked me to assure you that if this idea has any way of taking off in Landmarks, with the complete and total support and gladly, which just takes the claim. But I firmly believe that re-naming the 16th Street Bridge would be a positive reflection on the city, the county and this County Council. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Ronald Lynn Miller.

MR. MILLER: Dr. Ronald Lynn Miller, 40 Beltzhoover Road, Founder/Director, Center for Global Studies International Interdisciplinary, incorporated in Pennsylvania in 1998. I'm a member of the American Anthropological Association. I recommend that Council legislate to protect local production of a means of globalizing identification of a genetic code for any human within their role, accompanied by unique individual linguistic and cultural idiosyncrasies. Anthropologically, many national emigrants have settled in the U.S.A.; Germans in the North section of the U.S.A., Minnesota and the Dakotas, Italians in northeast, Massachusetts, New Jersey, New York, Boston, New York City. In Pennsylvania, Germans in and around Lehigh County, Germanville (sic), Italians in Philadelphia County and the city and Allegheny County, Pittsburgh. And the Pittsburgh Germans concentrated initially in Doyceburg (phonetic), Germantown on the North shore, Italians in Italia Piccolo, Little Italy, Bloomfield. My father had two German parents; my mother, two Italian ones. My maternal grandfather, Guiseppe Riga (phonetic), emigrated from the Benito, Italy, to the U.S.A. and Pittsburgh, where he built houses. My paternal first forefather, Frederick Miller, whose father emigrated into

the U.S. from Bulgaria, Germany, worked with J&L Steel making the I-beams beams that Joe Riga used in his houses. These were among the hands that built America. I owe them. You, too? My German and Italian antecedents are first and third in the numbers of national immigrants into the U.S.A., 1820 to 2008. Mexicans are second. Germans, 7.5 million, Italians, 5.6, Mexicans, 6.9. With Mexicans as second, no two national groups have contributed more to the biogenetic makeup of the U.S. tribe than Germans and Italians. No others have added more in a linguistic and cultural and anthropological sense, as well. These were the hands that built America. In my view, we need immigrants again. This hypothesis is that living things select sexual reproduction to get an advantage from different LLs when confronted with organisms struggling to survive. Biogenetic diversity is necessary to raise the probability of mutations for possible adapted advantages. The past adapted advantage of the U.S.A. which led to his success as a nation derived, in part, from its becoming the most biogenetically diverse nation in the world. We need that now. Allegheny, Pennsylvania and the rest of the U.S.A. should encourage more, not less, legal selected immigration, especially from Africa, Asia and the Americas. These will be among the brains that must build a new U.S. America. For all of us rejecting digital, nano-scale neural implants, the goal will be a global intelligence as the evolution of a positive non-cyborgian, enochian.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Motion to adjourn?
(Chorus of motions.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Second?
(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Meeting adjourned. Thank you.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:45 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

Beth A. Quigley