

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, October 18, 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
Jack Cambest - Solicitor

PRESIDENT BURN: Good afternoon, everyone. At this time, I would like to call to order the regularly scheduled meeting of the Allegheny County Council scheduled for Tuesday, October 18th, 2011. At this time, I would invite our members and our guests to join us in the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silent prayer and/or reflection. In your prayers and reflections today, please let's remember the Lower Burrell police officer and hero Derek Kotecki, who lost his life last week in the line of duty. All of our thoughts in this county and this region and our prayers go out to Officer Kotecki's family and friends and the community.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 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?

(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: Fourteen (14) members present.

PRESIDENT BURN: Proclamations and certificates.
6559-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring the Pittsburgh Affiliate of the Susan G. Komen Foundation for raising breast cancer awareness and naming the month of October 2011 Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Members Burn, Danko, DeFazio, Drozd, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Gastgeb, Green Hawkins, Kress, Macey, Martoni, Palmiere, Rea and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: I'd like to thank you, Mr. Catanese, for the reading of this very important proclamation into the record. At this time, before I make a few remarks and invite our speakers --- our guests up here to receive the proclamation, I would like to invite my esteemed colleague, Barbara Danko, Councilwoman Danko, to say a few words. Councilwoman?

MS. DANKO: As most of you know, I don't often get up here and talk about proclamations, but this is one that I really can't pass up because on some level, I've been living with breast cancer my whole life because of my family: my aunts, my mother, my grandmothers. And it's just so important. And I want to talk about the work of the Komen Foundation. But I know that sometimes if you tell a story, people remember the story.

I was 13 years old when my mother was diagnosed with breast cancer. My youngest sister was four years old. My mother was 48. And we can talk about how she had a baby at 44, but that's another story. She was diagnosed. She found a lump. She went to the doctor within ten days. She had surgery within a month, a radical mastectomy. She had the complete radiation. About six weeks later, she had a hysterectomy. She did everything she could. And because she acted at that early, early stage, as soon as she found that lump, we had her for another 25 years. She lived to see that four-year-old sister of mine graduate from college and go on and get her first job.

Fast forward: As the daughter of someone who had breast cancer, I was always very proactive. My sisters and I, we, you know, get screened every year on the clock. I was part of the Susan Komen study when I was, I think, 49. I went through all the screenings, had

my mammograms every year. I've had a number of false positives over the years.

So I wasn't surprised when they said, well, we're going to do a test. I was shocked even still when I was diagnosed. I always felt it was not if, but when, and when came in 2005. Now I also can say that, you know, I always figured I'd get it. But I thought because I was so proactive, it would be stage I, stage II --- bam, bam, done. It was stage III. Eighty (80) percent lymph nodes positive. I'd have to have radical surgery, radiation, chemo for six months. And I had to do it again a year later. But the reason they caught it, the reason I'm still here today, even though it was stage III, is because I went in for that mammogram on the clock. If I had waited another six months, put it off, I might not be here now.

So the point and one of the reasons we have Breast Cancer Awareness Month is to remind people to get screened. There's a lot of men in this room, but you have wives, daughters, sisters, mothers. Tell them not to wait. Get screened. I hope to do what my mother did and live another 25 years. You know, I'd like to be on the 70-year plan. But, you know, hats off to the Susan G. Komen Foundation in their efforts to make people aware of the need for breast cancer screening. That's it.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilwoman. I would invite the recipients of the proclamation to join us at this time from the foundation, if they could come up, if they're here. Councilwoman, I'm not going to even read my prepared remarks because your story and those whose stories are similar, if not just like with yours, speak in volumes. At one point, I had prepared remarks. And thank you for the awareness that you bring to this. And with your permission, I will read the proclamation on behalf of my colleagues and I into the record at this time. And then we will invite you, if you would, to just say a few words.

Whereas, breast cancer is one of the leading causes of cancer-related deaths among American women.

And whereas, research shows that deaths from breast cancer could be reduced significantly if women followed breast cancer screening recommendations, including routine mammographies, regular examinations by a physician and monthly self-examinations. Following these

guidelines increases survival. And approximately 2.5 million breast cancer survivors live in the United States.

And whereas, organizations across Allegheny County and the United States come together every October to spread the important message of breast cancer awareness.

And whereas, Susan G. Komen for the Cure is the world's largest grassroots network of breast cancer survivors and activists who fight to save lives, empower people, ensure quality care for all and energize science to find cures.

And whereas, during National Breast Cancer Awareness Month, we renew our commitment to fighting this disease, raising awareness and supporting those affected by breast cancer.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, does hereby proclaim the month of October 2011 as Breast Cancer Awareness Month in Allegheny County. We commend the efforts of the Pittsburgh chapter of Susan G. Komen for the Cure. And we call upon government officials, business owners, communities, healthcare professionals, educators, volunteers and the residents of Allegheny County to continue our community's strong commitment to preventing, treating and ultimately curing breast cancer. On behalf of myself, my colleagues, our Chief Executive, who's here with us tonight, and John Weinstein, both of whom turned the fountain pink this month, we congratulate you for your efforts and your leadership on this important issue. And this proclamation is for you and your efforts. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MS. HERSTINE: I'm Judy Herstine. I'm a member of the Board of the Susan G. Komen Pittsburgh Affiliate. And I just want to thank the Council for this proclamation and bringing even more awareness to breast cancer. It's all about prevention. It's all about early detection. And hopefully we can have a cure in our lifetime. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: We have one more proclamation that's not going to be read into the record, and then we have several that are going to be read into the record. I'd ask our parliamentarian or Jared, Joe, whomever ---

our Chief Executive is here to submit his 2012 Comprehensive Fiscal Plan and budget message to the Council. What do I need to do procedurally to move the Chief Executive's presentation to the next item on the agenda?

MR. BARKER: That's actually the president's discretion. You can do that on your own at this point if you would like to.

PRESIDENT BURN: Unless there's an objection from my colleagues --- our Chief Executive is here. Many of his directors are here. Folks are here to listen to his remarks on his presentation. Unless there's an objection, I'd like to utilize that discretion and invite our Chief Executive up at this time to submit his 2012 Comprehensive Fiscal Plan. Dan?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you. Mr. President and members of Council, good evening. It's good seeing all of you again. It's a full house tonight. This is my eighth budget, my last budget, and let me just say thank you. Well, many of you were here all eight years with me, some of you part of those eight years. But I think together we, and I say we, have been pretty good at putting together balanced budgets, holding the line firm with taxes and providing adequate services to the residents of Allegheny County. And we all know it's getting harder and harder to do.

And the budget that I'm presenting tonight, it's probably the most unique budget out of all seven --- or all eight that I've presented. And this one does something different than any of the other seven have done. So I'm here to talk about it and lay out the strategy of what's happening and of what I'm proposing. And then I realize this is sort of the beginning of the conversation, because I present my views for the budget for next year, but then it becomes your budget after tonight. And I'll be looking forward to your responses in turn over the next several weeks as you go through these line items and make amendments and changes and have them in conversation.

Let me first start with --- it's probably the most significant thing that you're going to hear tonight that is so different from all prior years. The 2012 proposed budget that I'm presenting to all of you today is \$37.2 million less than last year's budget. And let me stress that number again: It's \$37.2 million less than last year's budget. Why? Well, let me tell you what's

happening and why this budget is so much lower. We have seen over \$33 million, \$34 million of federal and state money disappear over the last year, and we will not get it next year. That's one reason why our budget is lower.

A public safety grant, which we certainly have received over the years, of \$7.5 million, is now zero. Consolidated court grant, which has been around \$2 million to \$2.5 million, is now zero. Both of those were state grants, now gone. Public defenders, we used to get about \$1 million to reimburse us for juvenile defenders. That's now zero. Shuman Center reimbursement, years ago we used to get \$5 million of the \$10 million to \$11 million budget reimbursed by federal dollars. That dried up several years ago. The state stepped up and replaced that \$5 million for us. Now they have walked away and made it zero. So those four line items are \$16 million alone that we had a year ago that are now zero. Children and Youth and Family Services, that's cut almost \$25 million to \$26 million. Part of that is because we're having a hard time making a local match, and we continue to be forced to pay for services that historically have been picked up by the state or the federal government. When you add all of them together, it comes to \$37.2 million reduction in revenues. Well, state and federal revenues.

So once the revenues were reduced, we have to figure out where to reduce the expenditure side to present you with a balanced budget. And this is the hard part. Trying to find any cuts is hard. I can tell you that every single department is being cut, every department, with the exception of the Kane Centers, which is actually neutral. There's a zero percent change. It's the same as last year. Every other department is taking a cut. Some departments are taking significant cuts compared to others. And again, this is my proposed budget to all of you to review.

Let me talk about some of the highlights of the budget and where the cuts are taking place and where the reductions are taking place. The Department of Human Service is now almost \$19 million into the loss of revenues. The Department of Juvenile Court Placements is down almost \$1.4 million due to the loss of those revenues on the expenditure side. Non-departmental is down \$3.5 million. \$2 million of that \$3.5 million was a lawsuit settlement for the jail case last year that we don't have to pay next year in '12. So \$2 million of that

\$3.5 million is helping us reduce it. Jail medical is being reduced by \$1.3 million. A \$7 million reduction to Community College on the \$22 million subsidy that we give them. It's being reduced. Every other department in county government is being reduced.

And we anticipate in this budget that I'm presenting to you today 120 positions I want to talk about. I want to point out while there's no property tax increase in this budget, there's also no layoffs. But this budget does anticipate the elimination of 120 positions over the year through natural attrition. We see anywhere from 2 to 250 people retire every year. So we believe through attrition, we can handle that. But there will be no layoffs due to this budget, but there will be pain and it will be a significant change. You don't eliminate \$37.2 million in the budget and not have an impact.

But I believe this does reflect the new reality. Federal grants, significant state cuts. That trickles down to us. And we're not raising property tax. I'm not proposing to raise property taxes for the eighth year. I'm giving you a balanced budget. And our revenues are significantly down and our expenditures are significantly down, and this is what it looks like. This is what the cuts look like. This is what reality looks like today. I wish I had better news for you. But last year I stood here --- you might recall we used a lot of one-time revenues. It was kind of controversial when we talked about those one-time revenues. Well, most of them are gone. This is reflecting real revenues. And our expenditures now are lined up with our revenues.

I'll add that none of us last year --- if you recall, we didn't know what the new state budget would look like. You passed it in December. We didn't get the state budget until June or July. This reflects the new state and federal budget and what it means to counties. And it's a significant impact. You know, we cannot continue to pick up and pay for the programs that the state used to pay for. And that's why you're seeing great programs from the Department of Human Service are now in jeopardy, because there are real cuts here, and we want to point them out. Community College is going to take another big hit in the proposed budget that I'm putting forward. \$7 million is a big number. And every other department is going to feel the pain.

We're going to continue to try to find ways to downsize this government through attrition, but, you know, I want to point out that in my eight years as County Executive, we are down 686 positions and bodies from when I took office. You know, my first year in office we started at 500. But the thing that the County Manager and the Budget Director that are with me here today --- all my directors in this room, I've asked them to continue to do more with less for eight years and 686 people --- less people. We started with 5,911 eight years ago, and we are down to 5,225. Not only did we eliminate those positions, but we kept them off the payroll. A lot of times people eliminate a position and they just re-hire and you're right back to where you were. We were able to keep those positions down. That's how we made it through eight years without a property tax increase.

But this is a different day because we've never had to deal with significant cuts in our state funding like we're dealing with now. So the budget I'm presenting you today reflects that reality. It is balanced. It does not have a property tax increase. It does not have a layoff. But it has real, real cuts across the board.

The other information I wanted to talk about that's in this budget, and then I'll answer your questions you might have, is on the capital side. The Capital Budget is also being presented. And on the capital side, a Capital Budget of \$91.3 million, \$45 million of that is funded by the state and federal reimbursement and other sources, including the Regional Asset District. \$45.9 million is anticipated to be funded through our county bond issue. The budget represents a total decrease of \$21.5 million from the 2011 Capital Budget. But it includes a slight decrease of \$1.1 million for our roads and bridges. And again, that's a slight number compared to the overall budget.

The remaining reductions are related to the one-time projects that were included in the 2011 budget that, obviously, are not in '12. You also will see the \$735 million Grants Budget and the \$789 million special --- 2012 proposed Grant and Special Account Budget will total \$735 million and \$84 million respectively. This is compared to 2011's budget, and they are both down. Last year's adopted Grants and Special Accounts Budget were \$789 million and \$100 million, and this year they're \$735 million and \$84 million.

So the real story today, though, that I wanted to stress is talking about the Operating Budget, because that's where the significant change is taking place that will have real results and impact based on what we're presenting. But last year you might recall that I put a \$4 million line item in for money from nonprofits. Highly controversial. The question was, could we ever get it? Is it a real number or are you just throwing it out there? And to be honest with you, we set a goal. When I presented a budget, we weren't sure how we were going to get it or legally if we could get it. I can tell you that we have at least \$3 million of that \$4 million already in the door. We believe we will get to \$4 million. The budget that I'm presenting today, we didn't increase that number. We kept it at \$4 million again. And that's why I said this is a real, real budget. It's trying to reflect the realities of the revenues that we're getting in and what we can spend.

So I present this to you today. I have legislation here. I know that you have a lot of work ahead of you to go over. I'm throwing a lot at you right now in going through the departments and what exactly the decreases mean. But I do want to assure you that I presented you with a balanced budget, eliminating a lot of the one-time revenues that we had the luxury of using in the past that are gone, but also reflecting what I believe are lost state and federal revenues that are not coming back, at least not in the near future. And this is what it looks like in Allegheny County now. So I'll end there. And throw any questions you might have.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Executive, and thank you for your presentation of the proposed budget. Do any of the members of Council have any questions for the Chief Executive at this time? Any questions? Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you, Mr. President. And Executive Onorato, thank you for your presentation. We were together last, I think, a couple weeks ago at the Parks Foundation. And you told me to hang on because you were going to deliver something. So I kind of was anticipating --- maybe not this, but I kind of primed a little bit and was kind of thinking about not so much the budget. I don't think it's fair to run numbers by you right now because we have an eight-to-12-week process, but just some policy that might help and, you know, gets to

the bottom line for Marcellus Shale and, you know, the airport. It's a county entity and, in my opinion, it seems like we do own the mineral rights. Just from a policy perspective, what do you think could be done, and could you do anything before your term does end, to help if you think there is an impetus to move forward with any of this? Could the revenue from the rich deposits of Marcellus or even coal help out in any capacity? Is it too long-term to be thinking like that or could they be used?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: No. There are things we can do before I leave office, and we're currently doing those. We are aggressively going after the Marcellus Shale drilling revenues out at the airport, the 9,000 acres. We have our lawyers looking at the issue of who actually gets the revenues and where could they be used. I agree with you. I believe they're our revenues. I believe they're our mineral rights. And I believe that the county has a real claim on those revenues. The FAA takes a position. They believe that all those revenues must stay on airport property for airport activities. That's something that has to be resolved, probably through some administrative hearing.

But we are looking at --- we've had to look at all the case law in other states and other airports that have done drilling. It's not clear. There isn't much case law. And I can say at best, this is a gray area because the mineral rights are something that are kind of silent. But in the best-case scenario, 9,000 acres. If you take the average of 3,000 acres and you take 15 to 20 percent royalties of what's been given over the years to other landowners that are out there, you could be looking at anywhere from, you know, \$30 million to \$40 million up front, lump sum money, if we got the right number per land.

And by the way, the numbers --- the market is low right now, soft. That's why we're not doing the RFP, because I don't want to go out in a low market. But even with the royalties, it's something that could be used in the near future, but that up-front money is a one-time number. Let's be clear on that: That's a one-time number on the --- the royalties could be a significant amount of money, depending on when they drill and how much comes out of the ground.

So in the best-case scenario, I don't believe you're going to see it in our operating numbers for at least a year to two, maybe three. And that's assuming everything goes our way legally and we can get this done. So I didn't want to put it in this budget knowing that --- there's no way next year --- in '12 I don't believe you're going to see it come to the door. But I believe that we do have access to it. I believe it's ours. And I believe one day, we will see it in this operating budget. So I'm with you on that. I just don't think it's going to happen, realistically, in 2012.

MR. GASTGEB: Okay. And just as a follow-up, I agree with you on the gray area. I mean, the federal government and the FAA does seem like, through --- it's not a statute; it's a regulation. So maybe we can do something to get a delegation in here or allow some local autonomy there to fester over that. The second thing is, you know, the airport versus the Authority versus the county. And to me, it seems like we should be the ones putting the RFP out, not the Airport Authority, because the mineral rights in case law in Pennsylvania are the ones who really do put the RFPs out. So I don't know if we should push the issue or try to get them together again, because in order to get to that two or three-year time frame you just mentioned, we've probably got to start now. But it seems like it's worth looking at because there really is no revenue enhancer outside of maybe that.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yeah. Let me just clarify my position: We are looking at it now. We are aggressively going after it. I didn't mean to imply that we're waiting. I'm in full agreement, too. I had staff and my Director of Economic Development taking a lead on this out at the airport. It's being done under our department.

MR. GASTGEB: Okay.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I've also got a general understanding with the airport. Before we do an RFP, that --- and I don't know if it was you. I forget on Council we dealt with, but it's going to be made up of a committee with the Executive Branch, somebody from County Council, somebody from the Airport Authority. The RFP does not go out until we have a consensus on what's in that RFP and where the money's going so that in any position where our own authority is fighting with our own legislative body and the Executive Branch, we're driving

that from here and making sure that everybody is at the table when we put that out.

MR. GASTGEB: Okay. And one more thing on the follow-up: I'm not sure if you read the legislation that was in committee that just was introduced in the last month or so. One of the aspects I find interesting is, as you mentioned, the acreage is 9,000 acres. It's not clear that all 9,000 really should be under FAA purview. Some of that might have been bought by the county before the federal government gave us the money in the '50s. We might own more than we think, and somehow it just got in a transfer agreement. But that would allow us to cut through a lot of red tape, so just to throw that out there.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yeah.

MR. GASTGEB: I know we've had committee meetings that we've brought that up.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: And I've had the Solicitor, Mike Wojcik, and his office --- they've actually researched all of the land purchases out there, going back to pre-1950, and how it was paid for, whose money was used. And there's an argument we made, there's a lot of bond money. Our local bond money might have helped purchase that. But the FAA takes the position, and I totally disagree with them, that a penny of federal money for the airport is their right to claim all activity on the airport. It's a pretty broad view of looking at the law. I think that you and I probably would argue that you could at least do a proportional argument of how much of our local money is in it versus what their money is in it, and we get our share of it out of it. So that's the other angle we're looking at.

MR. GASTGEB: Well, it sounds like you're doing good due diligence, which is great. I'll just leave you with that the federal government has been known to lose court cases, so we'll see what happens.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Gastgeb. Mr. Drozd and then Mr. Futules. Did you have your hand up?

MR. FUTULES: Yeah.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd, followed by Mr. Futules.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. If I were to ask you the question, what made you decide not to run again, I think the answer is tonight. And I can't blame you for it. My questions --- you know, I was going to ask

you about this. You know, we all have it running in our heads with the public defenders and a little bit about the prisons. You answered those questions quite clearly in your message. I would ask you, being how this is your last time addressing Council and for those that are going to stay behind, you know, to work through the whole process, what's your vision? What do you see? I like to look down the road and not wonder. I always say that in our projections. What do you see for Allegheny County based upon what's happened now that you see, in your honest opinion? I know you do that.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Well, I think we can all take a lot of pride in the last eight years with this international and national economy problems that we have. Allegheny County continues to be in a much better position than a lot of other counties and a lot of other cities. I think a lot of it is due to how we govern, that we haven't raised property taxes in years. We have downsized the payroll over eight years. We have made the cuts that we had to make. Yet, we invested. We invested and we cleared 3,000 acres for water lines and sewer lines. Environmental problems are now clear with Act II clearance. The airport alone over the last eight years has 14 million square feet of new space, manufacturing/office complex. That wouldn't have happened if we didn't put the infrastructure in out there. It's why our unemployment is three percent below the national average.

So while we're dealing with a tough budget that I'm proposing today, which is really a result of federal and state dollars drying up on us overnight, I think we're in a position to at least deal with these problems because we've been doing this for the last decade. We haven't waited. I think a lot of other municipalities and local governments are going to be in a tougher position because they're late to the game. So I think we're in a great position looking forward where economic activity will continue to grow. As the economy does turn the corner, we're going to be in a much better position to take off quicker than the other areas.

MR. DROZD: As a follow-up to that, I'd ask you, you know, when you see this line going this way, you know, the revenues from the state and federal side, and businesses may be out there having decreases in employment and revenues from employment, where do you see that line

crosses where Allegheny County is going to have to make some tough decisions in cash flow in the next year --- well, in the next two years? Where do you see that?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I would say that the budget I'm presenting tonight is a good indicator of crossroads and where you ought to be. \$37 million, that's a big number to take out of the budget. And again, that's just starting the conversation. You're going to have to make some of these decisions now with me.

MR. DROZD: Two other things I want to just propose to you before you leave office, if you'd really look at it seriously.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: You're not asking me to resign again?

MR. DROZD: No, no, no. As I said before, you know, I've said it publicly, I want you to complete your term; okay? I support your efforts, all right, as long as you're always in the right road, and I know you are. You know, I propose that we look at inventory. We really need to take an inventory, not only at the airport, but in our parks where that Marcellus Shale and that gas is. If we're going to keep a lid on taxes in Allegheny County and where else in southwestern Pennsylvania --- you know, we have an opportunity here. We're sitting on Saudi Arabia in America, and we can't let that slip through our hands.

But I think about that, and I was on the school board. It's not only, you know, our lands, our parks, but it's also --- and the school boards, they sit on a lot of excess land. And underneath that excess land are minerals and resources they own and we own. And I recommend that we really need to take an inventory of that to give us an idea of what we have in those resources. It really should be looked at. I think it would be money well invested and to give us that alternative to protect those resources. If it belongs to the taxpayer, maybe we can help. That would be one area.

The other area I think --- it was really great going through the comprehensive plan. But it was more of the plan --- the comprehensive plan was more on a land use plan. What I propose --- when I first came on Council, what I like to see more of is strategic planning and where we involve, you know, our directors in from the bottom up, where they have input, as well as our municipalities out there. And then we can also drive from the other side, and we'd meet somewhere halfway between, where we know

where we're going. We can plan --- you know, wherever we are, we're more proactive than reactive. And it's something that you might want to look at, those two areas, maybe, before you leave. It would be really great to see that. And I know you have vision. You know, I know you do have creativity. And I think those are two areas that really --- you could really lend a lot of clout to and really guide that before you leave office.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Council Member Futules, followed by Councilwoman Rea and then Councilman Ellenbogen.

MR. FUTULES: Actually, I was hoping to be after Vince, but Matt actually asked you that question because my question is going to be, Allegheny County owns a whole lot of other property other than the airport. Is there any other consideration other than the airport for Marcellus?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Sure. As you know, we own 12,000-plus acres of park land in Allegheny County. There's actually a couple companies that have bought land adjacent to our parks that had the idea of drilling on private property but going under our park --- that's horizontal drilling now --- and paying us. I made a decision that the first test case should be the airport land. I think it would be --- it's one less issue we've got to deal with, because the parks have protected status.

But I wouldn't preclude it. I mean, I think that the city made a big mistake by doing that ban. It was the wrong signal to send to the country. It was the wrong signal to send to the industry. I think it's got potential and I think we should embrace the industry and demand accountability and do it right with proper regulations and environmental protection. I think you can have both. I think we should do it and work with the industry to get it done the right way. But before you even consider park lands, I think the airport is the best way to go.

And remember, no matter what we do under the Home Rule Charter, it's county-owned land, so you all have to approve it. It's one of the things in the Charter that Council has complete control over, and that is leasing or selling of property, of county-owned property. So that issue will ultimately get in front of you.

But all of our land has been assessed. We have an inventory of it, and each piece has its own unique issues, good and bad. Some of it might be too close to residential areas. Some of it might be that it's too close to watershed areas, other areas that --- it's the park. But I'm not going to preclude anything. I think we need to evaluate it and then all of us collectively make a decision. The money that we can get from drilling, is it worth doing it on that particular piece of property? And we'll do that piece by piece and make these assessments and go forward.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any more questions?

MR. FUTULES: Yes. How about the reassessment issues that are coming through? What effect would that have, if any, on our income for this county?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Well, it will actually have no effect other than we'll spend more money and lose money. As you know, I'm against it, but we're under a Court Order right now. The County Manager is doing what he has to do to meet the Court Orders and move forward. And I continue to fight it politically and governmentally. You know, I hope to work with whoever the County Exec-elect is in a few weeks, to go to Harrisburg and continue to look at the court ordered moratoriums until the state fixes this problem.

But to answer your question directly, as you all know, if we do this, the county's revenues will be revenue neutral. But we're the ones that have to pay for it. You're going to probably get anywhere from 9,000 to 100,000 appeals based on the last two reassessments. I'm not making that number up. The last two reassessments in '01 and '02 both triggered 9,000 appeals each. So I think you could probably anticipate 100,000 appeals. That costs money, let alone the havoc that it wreaks among everybody. And the fact that we'd be the only county doing it again puts it in a pretty bad situation.

And I also believe --- this is my opinion based on my studies as the Controller when my predecessor did two of these, is that it will trigger property tax increases at the school board level and a lot of municipal levels because there's no law which exists to make sure that the millage rates get rolled back appropriately and that there are some property tax windfalls. The reality is the last time the county did a reassessment, 85 percent of every property saw their tax bill go up, not their

assessment. Their tax bill went up. It wasn't revenue neutral.

MR. FUTULES: Right.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: It wasn't a third, a third and a third. They can tell you all they want. The reality is there's 175 millage rates in Allegheny County, and we control one. That's the problem. You need a statewide system, a statewide control, a statewide protection per household and a uniform system so that we know exactly what every county's doing and the property owners know they're going to be protected from these backdoor property tax increases. So where does it stand? Who knows? I think Harrisburg has one more shot to help us before January, and we'll see what they do.

MR. FUTULES: I was also interested about the Judge Wettick Decision to make the county reassess the city first for taxing purposes. Is that considered spot enforcement? Wouldn't it be as a whole ---?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: We're trying to argue to the Judge that's wrong. He would argue it's not because he's just saying they go first with the numbers. But everybody would use numbers in '12. Here's the main problem with that move, just so we're all clear: The county is working on numbers, as you all know, under the Court Order. If he would let us go and do what we need to do and let the professionals do what they want to do, somewhere in mid-January, you'd probably have a preliminary number for all the properties and all the municipalities in Allegheny County. If we're going to be forced to do the city first, the municipalities that are not part of this first group could be pushed back as far as March, April, May before their number is read. We think that's wrong because it's just going to cause problems.

MR. FUTULES: I agree.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: So there's some court battles to be fought yet as we move forward in our procedure. And hopefully a lot of these things get resolved.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. Chief Executive, I'm interested in the --- I commend you for collecting \$3 million to \$4 million nonprofit dollars that you asked for. And I don't know if you can share with us who the nonprofits were that did send the \$3 million in. And I don't know who're working on for the last million.

And I know you say in this year's budget there's another \$4 million. In your opinion, is that something that you think we should be working with the Legislature to change the law about the nonprofits if you think about all the properties in Allegheny County that are not taxed? And I'm really curious who the companies were, who stepped up and decided that, yes, we do provide services for them.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Your second question first. Yes, I think the Legislature should deal with this issue. And I'm going to try to remember, just don't quote me, on who did the \$4 million. We got a discount on our insurance, a direct dollar discount from Highmark to the tune of \$1.5 million. We also had Highmark contribute to the foundation at the Community College of \$1.3 million, which helps us with our local match, which is a direct impact on our operating. UPMC --- remember last year we lost our sponsorship for fiscal rights? UPMC just entered a contract for how much?

MR. FLYNN: \$350,000 in cash for county services.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: And county services. So you add them all up, we're getting real close to \$4 million. So really, the two big nonprofits stepped up so far.

MS. REA: The two big nonprofits that are in the news all the time?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yeah, exactly. My guess is you might even have a little more leverage out of them next year, so that's why I left \$4 million in there.

MS. REA: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Ellenbogen, followed by Mr. DeFazio, then Mr. Drozd.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President, I was just trying to get your attention when Councilwoman Rea wanted to talk.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. You sure you don't want to say anything?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: No. I'm being good.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. DeFazio, followed by Mr. Drozd.

MR. DEFAZIO: Well, my question was basically the same as Jan Rea's. But real quickly, I mean, she asked that question. You know, the part of it --- you're saying, I basically put in almost \$3 million yourself?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yes.

MR. DEFAZIO: And UPMC put in, you said, ---.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: About \$350,000.

MR. FLYNN: \$200,000 for tax and \$150,000 in county services.

MR. DEFAZIO: So about \$350,000?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: So far.

MR. DEFAZIO: And the biggest one was Highmark with, like, almost \$3 million?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: That's so far, yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd, followed by Ms. Danko.

MR. DROZD: I'll defer to Ms. Danko.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Matt. Thank you, sir.

MS. DANKO: This is just a procedural question: I don't understand how, if you've got to keep going with the reassessments that you would be done in mid-January; but if you have to do the city first, you won't get done until March, because it's the same number of properties. I just don't get it.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Oh, because --- and I'll ask Jim if he can help me out here. What happens, to do the city first, we have to shift all of the people that are everywhere right now in the county to get the city done on time. And if you want to talk about the informals and what happens in a shifting and why it falls back ---.

MR. FLYNN: Right now we're under the Court Order, as Dan said, to put every one of our reviewers and assessors focusing only on the city, whereas when you put --- we have parts of the county are in various stages of completion. We could have completed those and then shifted everybody to the city at the very end to get it done. So right now, you know, it's just strictly the City of Pittsburgh, and everything else was shelved.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: And in the issue of the informals --- here's where he really loses it. The Judge is actually asking questions --- he has to get a Court Order yet on this --- that he's tinkering with possibly letting the city --- and the school district or just the city?

MR. FLYNN: Right now he's questioning whether anybody needs an informal.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yeah, that we wouldn't have to do the informals, which you absolutely have to do the informals. We're going to fight that to the end. So there's this rush because the city is making the argument

that it's going to cost them money not having the numbers in December. And we're saying they're no different than we are. Our budget is a calendar year, too. So are a lot of municipalities. So by having us take all of our people and shifting them from where they are currently to just do the city, we're going to lose time on all the other ones, because the city will have their numbers done on time. And all the work we've got to do, if we're forced to do informals, we don't know yet. That's a big gray area, big question mark. They'll be the only ones ready to go because we didn't go through anybody else. They won't even be doing informals because they don't have numbers yet. Now we're really moving bodies everywhere. We had it set up to get a number on every property by a certain date for any informals, get it all done. That would now all change if we're forced to do this and concentrate ---. By the way, it's not just the city. How many regions in the county? It was the city plus ---.

MR. FLYNN: Four ---.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Remember it was the city plus a couple parts of the county?

MR. FLYNN: The eastern suburbs.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Yeah. There were a few municipalities with the city that would go first. So it wasn't just the city, but maybe a quarter of the county would be going with the city. But it's going to really --- you know, all the numbers will be using '12, but some of the municipalities won't get it until March or April if we have to do it this way.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: By the way, that calendar was determined not by me and Jim, but by the property assessment; right?

MR. FLYNN: Right.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: He even put together his calendar and testified in front of the Judge how he wanted to get this done by January 15th, mid-January, and that it would definitely slow up the whole process if he's forced to do one section at a time. So it's from him, not from us.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: I want you to know I have your picture with a postcard on my desk.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Okay. Did you send it?

MR. DROZD: No, I didn't send it out. Do you want me to?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: No.

MR. DROZD: Or anyone else here? One of the things that we are getting, you know --- and it's not a question but a point, is that, you know, I did have a constituent call me. And they're confused because, you know, they say, hey, did my assessment go up? When in fact, when I explored it, it was really the school district that had raised the millage. And that's where a lot of this is coming from and a lot of --- whatever it might be.

I would ask before you, maybe, leave office, too, that you maybe break it down in three components, you know, in cash flow, capital, capital infrastructure improvements. And thirdly, what we don't see is the social aspect of what we provide in our human services in those areas. You know, I just left the university today. The other day I was at Oliver, and the third area was in Perry right in the backyard. And I see a lot of young people, and these young people are really concerned. You know, they have visions, and some of them don't even have visions and they don't know what they're going to do. But we have the Shuman Center here. We have a lot of people out there. The investment in America, right now I believe we're really at risk.

So those programs, what worries me --- and you don't have a lot to control, but you can voice like I can, and we can say it publicly, is that, you know, those shortcuts that are coming out into those young people, you know, and those programs that are going to make them what they may be in the future, productive, is going to hurt us very, very badly so that short-term what we try to cut is going to cost us so dearly in the long run. And that's what we don't see, and believe me, it's going to happen. It's going to happen very quickly within a short period of time.

So I'd ask maybe when you can ask your people in those areas, that we can try to organize what little monies we have and where we're going to get a return on those investments, the standards of performance, so to speak, that we are getting a return. Maybe some ideas outside the box. And don't just leave us. You know what I'm saying? Don't just walk away. Stay in touch; okay? Not just on a postcard.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: If I knew you cared that much, I might have run for a third term.

MR. DROZD: Depending on the outcome, I might put a write-in. In any event, you know, you have a wealth of knowledge. You have eight years here. And besides that, you were here before on Council and elsewhere in the controllership, so don't just walk away. You know, give us some guidance and some ideas.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Okay. Thank you.

MR. DROZD: Thank you ever so much for your service.

PRESIDENT BURN: Dan, Mr. Gastgeb has another question. And Mr. Finnerty has his hand up as well.

MR. GASTGEB: Dan, something came to mind when you were mentioning the informal appeals in your mind, and I agree with you. And I know this is fluid, but it was my understanding that through Judge Wettick, that there weren't going to be informal appeals. And even to get --- and a regular appeal before your assessment number would go into effect would be iffy because of when the deadline was, and the numbers would just hold. Now it seems a little bit even more murky than that. If the city is able to do any appeal, whether informal or not, I agree with you. 100,000 people will appeal countywide. Probably 30,000 of that percentage will come from the city. Well, then where would the suburban people go? When you've got 30,000 people in front and then you're waiting to come in, I mean, it's almost like you're not going to get an appeal for maybe 12 months after you get your tax notice. That's going to be very confusing.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: I agree. It's very frustrating because, obviously, we don't want to do it. We have a Court Order and now it's being hurried up. That's in the worst case scenario. We all experienced that the last time we hurried up ten years ago, what happened to this county. And I think it's the worst possible thing. And in a perfect world, you have the informals and a formal comes down before you use these numbers to go out. And it appears that we're going down a path where we're not going to be doing that, and that's going to cause even more problems.

MR. GASTGEB: Well, again, just to reiterate, I think the numbers going out in a staggered way is problematic. It allows a certain class of people to have an appeal over another on the basis of where they live.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: That hasn't been determined yet, so that's fair. It was in conversation in the court proceedings. There is not a court order yet saying when and if informals should happen in the city or those other municipalities. There's been conversations. The other thing that has been changed, the Judge has given a Court Order to the city first, which we disagree with, but there's a Court Order right now.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Finnerty, you had a question, sir?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: You're welcome.

MR. FINNERTY: I'm glad to see you here, Dan.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Councilman.

MR. FINNERTY: I just want to mention that, you know, we're in a position that we're cutting a lot of services to the people that need it the most. We all feel tremendously, sickening to me, that this is going on. And it puts you in a bad position and it puts us in a bad position. It puts the Director of Human Services, Marc Cherna, in a real bad position to pick and choose these kind of things. And we're very concerned, and I'm sure you are, with how it affects our young people, our children that are in school, our children that have somehow gone to the juvenile services area from foster care, et cetera.

I think it has to be pointed out that this is all due to the cuts that are accompanying cuts that the state government has passed down to us. I mean, let's look at where it really is and say, hey, this should have never happened because this put it down to this level. And everything that the state has done has moved it down to local, not only to us, the school districts, to the local municipalities. And we're in this position because of what happened. Anything on our own did not cause this problem. And we do care. We care tremendously about our young people. I think it's something that we all care about. And myself as a former teacher, it truly does care more than I can even express on what has happened to our education system because of these cuts, teachers getting laid off, what's going to happen and is happening right now to our human services where we have to discontinue service to people who need it the most. And I think it's extremely important that people realize that these

cuts --- why these cuts are happening. And this isn't something we like to do. It's something we have no choice about at this time. And we need the revenue. And thank you very much.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: I think Councilwoman Rea has another question for you.

MS. REA: Well, maybe a question. Thank you, Mr. President. Chief Executive, I know we talked about the airport a lot. And I'd like to ask you just for your insight. Have you been approached by many people who think that with the resources under the airport, say, strategically speaking, how many years from now that Pittsburgh again could become a hub because of the gas that needs turned to liquid fuel? Because it's a beautiful airport, but it's an empty airport. And do you think that's feasible, and have people come to you and asking to you about doing something like that? Say, if the federal government says we get anything that's --- you know, we're not going to get any tax dollars out of this, we will take the money, but that we could create an industry out there that we could make that a hub again.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Obviously, it's one of the issues I constantly work on. The airport --- air travel is the number one issue for our CEOs. It's the biggest issue for every business.

MS. REA: Right.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: And there's nothing more important right now, but that's why I constantly work on it. There's good news and there's bad news on the airport. Let me share with you one story. You might recall years ago I was going to try to put the parking out for bid and sell it and get enough money from it that we would write down the debt to zero. And the cheapest airport in the United States had no debt at all. And we would have received enough money from that parking to cover it. The reason we didn't do it is that I talked to probably three or four CEOs after I announced that plan, and they said the cost is not the issue. It's the biggest misunderstood issue here. The cost at that airport is not the problem.

The problem is with de-regulation and the FAA not controlling the slips and where planes can go. Everybody wants to be on the East Coast and the West Coast. That's why Philadelphia, LaGuardia and Kennedy are

all jammed. Philadelphia is proposing a \$5 billion expansion to their runways. They don't have any land. And we have a \$1 billion airport out here not being used, and they want to build a new one. I believe the answer is, going forward, the FAA, if they were smart, would say, before we build another air runway and waste a penny of your tax dollars, let's use the airports that are already built. We could take a percentage of the traffic on LaGuardia, Kennedy and Philadelphia and use Pittsburgh. We're only a 45-minute flight from the East Coast.

In the meantime, while this was going on, I got a call from Cleveland and Cincinnati's airport. They're both on the verge of losing hubs, and they wanted to know, how did we survive when we lost it? When we lost the hub, the good news here is that by bringing in these low-cost carriers, we increased our local travel, what they call O&D, origination/destination, from \$6 million to \$8 million. The airport wasn't made for that. That's why we go out --- if you notice, the parking lot is full. If you go outside the building, it's empty because we now have two million more people driving to our airport than we did just six years ago. But we have 15 million less people in the building that were coming in by planes when we lost the hub. So we've got a parking lot full, an airport empty, because it's built upside down for what we use it for now.

As recently as last week, I was with the president of Southwest, and I was asking him why he's canceling his flights to Philadelphia. He's canceled there and in a few other places, too. He says it's all about volume. He said, we just can't fill them enough. And my theory there is that's going to allow US Air to jack the price up to Philadelphia again once the competition's gone.

But this is what the market is dictating. Every city our size that is not a hub, we are doing just as well as they are, if not better. The problem is we are all used to what the hub gave us here, and that's what we compare it to. The only way you're going to get that activity back, I think, if the FAA says, you know what? We're going to have a strategy here to use some of these buildings the taxpayers already built. I think it's good for national security. I think it's good for the economy because you have these economic hubs everywhere and you

can relieve the traffic on the East Coast and West Coast by using these buildings.

But that's going to require that ---. I'm in conversations right now, my office is, with Senator Toomey and with Senator Casey on that particular issue. They both have a real interest in it. They're both exploring it with us right now. And I'll be sure to turn over where we are, all this information, to whoever the next county executive is so they can enter into the decision. But I'm with you. It is the number one issue. It's the one thing I work on every week. And we're trying to stay focused on that and seeing if we do get gas money, it's something we can do with that money to make that place even more valuable.

But the good news is you should know the other reason we didn't sell the parking, we --- the taxpayers are going to own that building outright by 2018. In seven years, there will be no debt on the building. That's how fast it's being paid off. So there's some good signs out there.

MS. REA: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Dan, this is your last time up here as Chief Executive to introduce your proposed budget. I've been here for six of your eight presentations. I watched the first two when I was a local mayor in Millvale. And personally, I commend you for the service you've given to this county. I say that to you as a citizen, as a municipal official and as a county official. I've watched you here now as a councilman for six years come to this body, whether it's to present the budget or to answer questions on scheduled visits. You've never run from a question. You've answered every question that anybody up here has ever asked you. You've been direct in your responses. And you spend as much time as we've asked you to in that regard.

I've seen you make tough decisions, some unpopular decisions, some popular decisions. Many of us haven't always agreed with you, except, of course, Matt, who has agreed with you all the time. But we've had some tough issues come through this county. I've seen it as a local official when the flooding came through. You and other members of this body and the state and federal came to help many municipalities. I've seen you make difficult decisions on other matters involving this county as a councilman and as a municipal official. You've never run

away from a problem. You've always run to a problem. And although folks don't always agree, that's the nature of public service and leadership. No one, no one can dispute your willingness to lead, your willingness to serve and your ability to look at any issue, stare it down and make a decision that you thought was in the best interest of this county. It's been a pleasure to work with you.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: And it's been a pleasure to be your friend. I look forward to working with you in the future, Dan. Thank you so much.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE: Thank all of you, too, and good luck.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: We're going to go back to proclamations and certificates at this time. Before we do the next one, Amanda's, we'll allow some time to reorganize, just about two seconds.

(Short break taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6560-11. Proclamations and certificates.

MR. CATANESE: Let the record show that Councilman Kress is present.

Proclamation proclaiming the week of October 15th through the 22nd, 2011, as Homeless Children's Awareness Week in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Members Green Hawkins, Burn, Danko, DeFazio, Drozd, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Gastgeb, Kress, Macey, Martoni, Palmiere, Rea and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Green Hawkins, good afternoon.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Good afternoon. One out of every 50, or approximately one and a half million American children go to sleep without homes of their own each year. According to the National Center of Family Homelessness, the total number of homeless children in Pennsylvania is approximately 43,103. Locally, and these are results from the Allegheny Intermediate Unit Homeless Children's Initiative, 2,000-plus school-aged children and youth are experiencing homelessness in the region. And I'm honored tonight to present this proclamation to the Homeless Children's Education Fund to thank them publicly for the work that they do. With us we have Bob DeOrio, who's the chairman, and we also have Susy Robison, who's the outreach and volunteer services manager.

Whereas, the Homeless Children's Education Fund, a nonprofit organization, was established in 1999 to supplement federal funding for the educational needs of local homeless children.

And whereas, the mission of the Homeless Children's Education Fund is to serve as a voice of the homeless children of Allegheny County and to ensure that they are afforded equal access to the same educational opportunities and experiences as their peers.

Whereas, without such dedicated effort, homeless children would be set adrift, unable to attend school, isolated from their peers and deprived of the experiences necessary for healthy growth and development.

And whereas, during Homeless Children's Awareness Week, the Homeless Children's Education Fund will feature a 5K run/walk at Frick Park, a 15-minute Stand Up for Kids Event on the lawn of Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum, and a Latin-themed party called Extraordinary Evening with keynote speaker Roy Juarez, Jr., at the Grazie Event Center in Wexford.

Now therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council, on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County, does hereby proclaim the week of October 15th through the 22nd, 2011, as Homeless Children's Awareness Week in Allegheny County. We commend the efforts of the Homeless Children's Education Fund. And we call upon government officials, businesses, educators, volunteers and the residents of Allegheny County to continue our strong commitment to the homeless youth of our communities. Sponsored this 18th day of October, 2011, by all members of Council.

MR. DEORIO: Thank you. I'm Bob DeOrio and I'm proud to serve as Chairman of the Board of the Homeless Children's Education Fund. I'd like to thank Councilwoman Green Hawkins and all the members of County Council for this proclamation. As far as we can tell --- we know that Pittsburgh is a city of firsts. As far as we can tell, this is the first Homeless Children's Awareness Week anywhere in the country. So thank you for helping us make it possible.

As mentioned, our mission is to serve as a voice for homeless children in Allegheny County, ensure that they're afforded the same educational opportunities and experiences as their peers. And as we all know, the cycle of poverty can only be broken through education.

As mentioned, there are, right now as we speak, 2,000 homeless children identified in Allegheny County. It's estimated that that number is probably another 2,000 that are unidentified. And we work through our programs and services to provide tutoring at homeless shelters, through learning centers at homeless shelters and meeting the Homeless Education Network Initiative in partnership with the County Department of Human Services in reaching those kids and making sure that they get their education as their parents are getting back on their feet and finding permanent housing.

Our innovative programs are really having a significant impact. And again, thank you for helping us make this the first Homeless Children's Awareness Week in the country. I'd like to introduce Susy Robison to talk a little bit more about the program.

MS. ROBISON: Yes. I'm the manager of the outreach and volunteer services for Homeless Children's Education Fund. And just so you know, on Thursday afternoon at five o'clock in the afternoon at Soldiers and Sailors' lawn, there will be volunteers standing there in what we call an art installation. They'll stand there for 15 minutes in silence holding a drawing of a face of a child in front of their own face to represent the children that we now have identified as homeless in Allegheny County. Volunteers from the shelters as well as shelter and staff will be also with us. And we're looking forward to this being an opportunity to take time for these children and to recognize them. We say that no one is listening to these children because, of course, they're invisible. We don't see them.

The McKinney-Vento Act, which is a national bill, provides for the transportation of the homeless children back to their home school. And the McKinney-Vento Act designates children that are homeless are ones that do not have fixed adequate permanent housing. So if a child is in a homeless shelter or living in a car or a motel or if that child is doubled up with their family, that child is still --- because it's not fixed --- if they all of a sudden had a fire or some other circumstances where they had to move in with their neighbor or a friend or family for a period of time, that child is considered to be homeless by the national standard. So I really appreciate this opportunity. Thank you so much for

presenting us with this proclamation for this first Homeless Children's Awareness Week. Thank you so much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

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

MR. CATANESE: 6561-11. Certificate of Achievement honoring Thomas Lizik of Boy Scout Troop 510 for earning the Eagle Scout rank. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

6562-11. Proclamation congratulating the McKeesport College Club upon its 90th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6563-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring Mr. Luke Riley for his 30 years of service as Liberty Borough Chief of Police. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6564-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 50th anniversary of Joseph and Christina Pellecchia. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6565-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 60th anniversary of Paul and Marie Cmar. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6566-11. Certificate of Achievement honoring Jeffrey McDonough, Jr. of Boy Scout Troop 1111 for earning the Eagle Scout rank. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6567-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the New Pittsburgh Courier's 50 Men of Excellence. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Catanese, those are all the proclamations and certificates on the agenda that are to be read into the record. Regarding this last one, the Pittsburgh Courier's 50 Men of Excellence, do you have any proclamations in front of you that you'd like to share with the group?

MR. CATANESE: Yes, I do. I have one special proclamation. A proclamation congratulating and recognizing the Honorable William Russell Robinson for being named a 2011 Man of Excellence by the New Pittsburgh Courier. Sponsored by Councilman Burn.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilman.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: I'm going to read this proclamation with your permission, sir, into the record.

Whereas, Allegheny County and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been blessed with exemplary leadership throughout the history of our great nation, with visionaries of great knowledge and determination making invaluable contributions to our communities, our country and the world.

And whereas, the Honorable William Russell Robinson has 30 years of experience as an elected official and has served eight years as a member of the Pittsburgh City Council, 14 years as a member of the Pennsylvania House of Representatives and eight years thus far as a member of the Allegheny County Council.

And whereas, Mr. Robinson has served on the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees since 1997, presently serving as Chairman of the Board.

And whereas, over the past 30 years, Mr. Robinson has taught political science, history and government at CCAC, Carlow, Duquesne and Point Park Universities and the University of Pittsburgh.

And whereas, Mr. Robinson has been active in the community for many years and currently is a Board member of Boys Foundation and of the Western Pennsylvania School for the Deaf. He has been a devoted member of Saint Luke Baptist Church for nearly 58 years. He's also a life member of the Pittsburgh Branch of the NAACP, a life member of the Ohio State University's Alumni Association and is a member of the university's varsity track and field.

And whereas, it is fitting and proper that the New Pittsburgh Courier has recognized Mr. Robinson as a Man of Excellence.

Therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council hereby congratulates the Honorable William Russell Robinson for being named the 2011 Man of Excellence by the New Pittsburgh Courier. The citizens of Allegheny County and this Council are grateful for your community service, exemplary leadership and tremendous contributions to the cause of good government. On behalf of my colleagues, and I, Councilman, well done and congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBINSON: Just a couple quick comments: I want to thank all the people who have made it possible for me to come this far in my political career and in my personal life. It's always good to have an opportunity to thank people who help to make you who you are and what you

are. And so I thank everybody today. I thank those at the New Pittsburgh Courier and those who made my nomination. I thank them for having enough confidence in me to let me carry that banner for the 50 Men of Excellence for the year 2011.

I want to particularly thank my mother, Annie Kemp Robinson; my sister, Barbara Potter; and all my family: my son William and my daughter Nyota for their faith and their determination to allow me to be those things that I told them are the right things to do, and to support me at all times.

Particularly, I want to thank my colleagues here. I've worked with many of you for eight years, some less than that, but this has been a very exciting and exhilarating experience, sort of caps off my political career. And I want to thank lastly all the boards that I served on over the last 30 years for selecting me and allowing me to be a popular contributor to their particular excellence. So when an award is put into my hands and I have a chance to speak, I'll simply say thank you, thank you, thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: We surprised Bill with this, and some of our colleagues may not have been aware of it. So at this time, I'd invite my 14 colleagues if they wish to cosponsor the proclamation. Does anyone not want to cosponsor? Okay. We're all on. Let's all jump in for the picture.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on agenda items. Do we have any speakers?

MR. CATANESE: We have one, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: Sir, come on up and introduce yourself and you'll have three minutes.

MR. WILSON: Good evening. My name is Bob Wilson and I live at 1123 Haslage Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15212. I'm an elected committeeman in my district. I'm an officer of SOAR, Chapter 2015. And presently I'm working with the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid in Washington, D.C.

And I'm here on behalf of them to support a resolution. I believe it's 6572-11. And on behalf of that national committee, I'm urging the continuation of the federal government's Social Security, Medicare and

Medicaid program benefits at their current levels. For so many of our retirees, Social Security is the only source of income, while Medicare and Medicaid provide them with adequate healthcare. In a recent poll commissioned by the National Committee to Preserve Social Security and Medicare, it shows that Social Security is not a partisan issue. In fact, it's a program supported by all Americans of all forms. Eighty-three (83) percent of Democrats, 73 percent of independents and 58 percent of Republicans are against cuts in Social Security to reduce the deficit. Social Security is a promise that was given to us, and I hope we keep that promise in this county.

What we're working on is a --- we're working with Senator Toomey. He's a member of the Super Committee. He's a member of 12. There's six Democrats and six Republicans. And they have to come up with spending cuts to give to the Congress by November 23rd. They have to come with approximately \$1.2 trillion to \$1.5 trillion in spending cuts. And we'd like to have a meeting with Senator Toomey. I sent him a letter on behalf of the National Committee, and it's been endorsed by every major union in this state. And again, I'm here to support this resolution that you have, 6572-11. And thank you very much.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Wilson.
Approval of minutes. 6568-11.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the September 20, 2011, regular meeting of Council.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The minutes are approved. Presentation of appointments. 6569-11.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Phillis D. Lavelle to serve as a member of the Property Assessment Appeals and Review Board for a three-year term to expire December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by Council Members Green Hawkins and Robinson.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to make a motion that we approve her reappointment, please.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? Can we do this by voice? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? Appointment approved. 6570-11.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Joe Downing to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization, Hartwood Acres, for a term to expire on October 18th, 2013. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Rea?

MS. REA: Yes. I'd like to make a motion to reappoint Joe Downing as a member of the Council of Friends, Hartwood Acres.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? Appointment approved. 6571-11.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Ken McCracken to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization, Round Hill Park, for a term to expire October 18th, 2013. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd like to make a motion to reappoint Ken McCracken to serve on the Council of Friends for Round Hill Park.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: So moved. Second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The appointment is approved. Unfinished business, Committee on Budget and Finance, second reading. 6550-11.

MR. CATANESE: Resolution of the County of Allegheny approving certain interdepartmental transfers in the Operating Budget for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2011 and ending December 31st, 2011. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. In moving for approval, let me

indicate that Ms. Liptak, our budget director, worked directly with the Controller's Office and with the Administration in monitoring and giving pre-approval to these transfers. I make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? 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?

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 15, noes 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: 6552-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2011, Submission 10-11. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson?

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

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? 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?

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 15, noes 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Committee on Economic Development and Housing, second reading. 6544-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing county policy for tracking police calls to properties eligible for rental under the Federal Housing Choice Voucher and other public housing programs, and forwarding records of such calls to any housing authority within

Allegheny County administering the Housing Choice Voucher and other public housing programs in order to facilitate such authorities' ability to provide the safest possible living environment for tenants. Sponsored by Councilman Kress.

PRESIDENT BURN: Chair Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of the Council. This was released from the Economic Development and Housing Committee with an affirmative recommendation. I'd like to move.

MR. ROBINSON: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I'd like to ask a question.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir, Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President, if the Chair would indulge me in explaining the significance of this to me.

PRESIDENT BURN: The Chair or the ---?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Anybody. I don't care.

PRESIDENT BURN: Chair Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. This is through the committee process. We vetted this. This is already done by our Housing Authority. This codifies it and it makes it a little more timely to simply identify these houses that have police calls.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you. Because I was under the assumption it was already being done. Thank you. I appreciate that.

MR. FINNERTY: It definitely is being done and has been done for years, actually.

PRESIDENT BURN: Let me invite our sponsor, Mr. Kress, if you'd like to ---.

MR. KRESS: Yeah. I mean, whatever we can do to improve public safety, that's the big thing. And that's the reason why we decided to do this with the 911 tracking system. And I just want to say our county Housing Authority is doing a tremendous job doing background checks, but this is just something additional to make sure everything is done appropriately.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, gentlemen.

MR. FINNERTY: Just one thing.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, Chair Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: They do do background checks, but they also record the calls. They just don't do it weekly; all right?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Any other discussion? Any other discussion? Any other discussion? 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?
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 15, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Committee on Parks, second reading. 6547-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, permitting the use of the Flower Show Building and Annex in South Park for the operation and management of a theatre. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Chairman Futules.

MR. FUTULES: Last night the Parks Committee passed unanimously to extend the South Park building for the Flower Show. I'd like to move.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved and seconded. Any discussion? Any discussion? 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?

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 15, noes 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Liaison reports.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes. Mr. Robinson and Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. ROBINSON: If it's appropriate, I'd like to make a couple comments. They're not directly under

liaison reports, but with your indulgence, just a few comments.

PRESIDENT BURN: You have the floor, sir.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, sir. I want to make a few comments on behalf of the late, recently deceased Dock Fielder, Jr. He not only was a community leader and a civic and political leader at the east end City of Pittsburgh, specifically the 12th Ward, but he also served as an assistant to former Allegheny County Commissioner Thomas Foerster.

In many respects, Mr. Fiedler's passing signaled an era that had been completed in terms of politics and community service. And while his passing and his service is no greater or more important than anyone who has served us here in Allegheny County, it is indeed very significant. Mr. DeFazio and I are probably the only two people at this dais today who were directly impacted by Mr. Fielder and had quite a few conversations, both public and private. Mr. Ellenbogen as well, Mr. Danko, Mr. Burn. His fame and expertise touched many people.

But one of the things I think is very important for us to remember is, aside from any statement we may read or hear, this was a very generous man. And in many instances, I saw his generosity, not from a political perspective, not because he represented Commissioner Foerster, because he's probably much softer and much nicer and much more agreeable than oftentimes his appearance presented. Dock enjoyed in many respects being pictured and projected as a broker. He sometimes relished that projection, but in quiet he'd oftentimes laugh about it. It made things easier for him in the rough and tumble politics and government of his time.

And it would not be fair or decent not to pause and recognize his passing and send to his family our well wishes to them and to let them know that we appreciated his service. And yes, he was a character, but there were many characters during these times. And perhaps he's the last of those high-profile characters. And our county is lesser for his passing, but we're better for the time that he spent with us. Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. One of my boyhood idols was the late Art Rooney, Sr. A lot of what's happened in this town,

whether it be sports or whether it be business, you'll find Art Rooney, Sr., there. And that being said, there was a man that walked among kings but yet can sit in a bar with a bunch of people and you'd never even know who he was. That was the kind of man he was. That's the kind of quality he was.

That being said, I wanted to tell the members of Council that I had talked to Mr. Barker that I intend to introduce a bill at the next meeting changing the name of the Seventh Street Bridge to the Art Rooney, Sr., Bridge in honor of all the contributions, not only in sports, but in the community of Allegheny County and City of Pittsburgh he has contributed over the many years. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Any other liaison reports? New business, ordinances and resolutions. 6572-11.

MR. CATANESE: Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania urging the continuation of the federal government's Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid program benefits at no less than the current level. Sponsored by Council Members Green Hawkins, DeFazio, Martoni, Burn, Finnerty and Macey.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. The 2010 U.S. census reports that poverty in this area has increased substantially. And I've seen various numbers about the percentage of people below the poverty line, but I'm not here to dispute what the exact number is. In my opinion, the number is just way too high. It has increased substantially, especially with the number of people being unemployed going on. And we know that Social Security benefits help people stay out of poverty and they actually help people who are living in poverty. And any cuts to these benefits, in my opinion, would make the poverty level, as high as it is for this area, as high as it is for the country in general, go up even higher. And we already talked about the number of homeless children in this area. Think about the number going up even more. And it's just not something that I think we can tolerate, not something that we should allow. And I think that we need to let our representatives in Washington, D.C. know that we can't allow this. With that, I would like to waive the second reading of this.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Motion to waive has been seconded. Any discussion on the motion to waive? Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. Under remarks, I'd like to say a few things. When you talk about Social Security, Medicaid, Medicare, they're literally affecting the most vulnerable people in our community. But let me talk for a minute on Social Security: There's a lot of misinformation out there, and it's a shame that the people hear. A lot of you have heard about all the problems with Social Security, but actually, if they don't do anything, if it stays the way it is, that's good until 2036 or 2041. That's what they're talking about. If they make a slight adjustment, it will go on for 40 years. If you do what some of the people are saying the right thing to do is start cutting on the cap, take the cap away, that's the most ridiculous system I've ever seen. Someone that makes \$106,800 pays the same into the program as someone that's a billionaire --- millionaire, billionaire. The same. That has to be corrected. That's not right. That's not fair.

Now, I don't know how or why they talk about Social Security and you're talking about a cut. That has nothing to do with the deficit. You heard people talk about it's going bankrupt. That's not true. It's impossible for Social Security to go bankrupt. Why? Because everyone that works pays 6.2 percent and their employer pays 6.2 percent. So as long as there's people working, it can't go bankrupt. That statement about going bankrupt is impossible. And if you don't have anyone working, we got a bigger problem in this country than Social Security. The whole country is gone altogether.

So what I'm trying to say is, watch your bank account. When people put money into that for ten, 20, 30 years or more, and now people are trying to say, hey, let's cut it, that's not fair. And there are some people that don't need it. So for the most part, people need that Social Security money. And even more, they're lucky they're eating. They're lucky they have a roof over their head, or a home. They really need this money. So you shouldn't even talk about cutting Social Security. That is a no-brainer, that and Medicaid and Medicare. So I just want to say to the people here I think we all should vote for it. This is crazy to talk about anything other

than keeping it the way it is. In fact, there should be more to help the people. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Before I invite other comment, there's a motion on the floor to waive the second reading. If we could limit discussion on the motion to waive the second reading and then we can discuss the bill, per se. Is there any other discussion on the motion to waive the second reading? Any other discussion on the motion to waive? Any other discussion? Can we do a voice vote on the motion to waive? All those in favor of the motion to waive, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? Okay. It has been waived. 6572-11 is on the floor. Is there any other discussion on the bill per se? Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Just one comment: Social Security and Medicare and Medicaid are programs that we as individuals that work have paid for. It's something that we have paid for, and so we deserve it. Any thought of cutting those programs should be totally off-limits, completely off-limits. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: I just want the record to reflect that I want to be a cosponsor.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Councilman Futules as a cosponsor, Council Members Robinson, Palmiere, Martoni.

MR. CATANESE: He's already on there.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. I thought I saw Doc's hand. Councilwoman Danko. Mr. Ellenbogen, was your hand up? Mr. Ellenbogen as well. Mr. Drozd. Please add Mr. Drozd. Any other requests to be added? Any other discussion on the resolution? Mr. Drozd and then Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. DROZD: This is subsistence for so many people. Many of us have other forms of income. But there are people out there that just live on the subsistence of these programs. And it's just kind of a duty and obligation, I think, of all of us to make sure that no one is out there --- or at least has some sort of income that's going to sustain. A lot of us go home, we have other sources of income. There are people I know --- I remember --- in fact, I believe there was talk about wages. In many cases, it's their total source of income, the total source of income they might have. I remember my

aunt. She used to get on the --- out in Castle Shannon, take two transfers at five o'clock in the morning to go to work at the hospital. It wasn't paying much. It wasn't much of a pension, if anything at all. So there are a lot of people still like that in America. We got to make sure they're protected.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Did someone else have their hand up? Mr. Ellenbogen and Ms. Danko.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just want to say that it's true that a society that doesn't recognize its history has been repeated. I'm probably a little more familiar with this because my great uncle was in the United States Congress that passed the Social Security bill. And if you look at when Franklin Roosevelt did all this, the stock market had crashed. Sounds a little familiar with what's starting to happen around the world; doesn't it? Middle class was starting to come apart. People can't feed their kids. You know, more people going into the poor class. The country at that time was in a major depression, and there could have been --- Lord knows what could have happened. They did this for a reason. To touch this could possibly point us back in that direction. I mean, if you look at the signs economically, we're starting to see a lot of the things that happened back then. I mean, this is so important because without this, it just --- I mean, not only the mass confusion, but, you know, when people are hurting, they're not eating, all kind of weird things happen. So I think Councilman DeFazio is right on target with this. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: As some of you might remember, I went to the LBJ School, and President Johnson was the architect of the Medicare and Medicaid programs. Social Security, Medicare, Medicaid, those are all basically paid for. There is the issue with the Part D Medicare for prescription drug coverage, which my understanding is has never been fully funded, but this resolution states sort of a baseline. We don't want to go any lower than where we are right now as far as funding Social Security, Medicare and Medicaid. And I will be supporting this resolution.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Please list me as a sponsor, Mr. Catanese.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Council Member
Gastgeb. Any other discussion? Any other discussion?
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?
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 15, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Green Hawkins,
congratulations on an outstanding resolution, as always.
6573-11.

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

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to the Committee on
Budget and Finance. New business, motions. Do we have

any motions? There is a motion? Okay. Are we going to introduce it?

MR. CATANESE: We have the budget first.

PRESIDENT BURN: I understand. What's the procedure? That's why I asked.

MR. CATANESE: I'll read the caption on them and we'll accept them and place them on the agenda.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Please do.

MR. CATANESE: The first one is the Operating Budget. A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting an Operating Budget pursuant to Article 4, Section 2 and Article 7, Section 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of Allegheny County and for meeting debt charges for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2012, and ending December 31st, 2012.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is there a motion to place that bill on the agenda?

MR. ROBINSON: So moved.

MR. GASTGEB: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The bill is now on the agenda. And at this point, the bill shall be referred to the Committee on Budget and Finance. And what else do we have, sir?

MR. CATANESE: The second one, it would be on the Capital Budget. A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting a Capital Budget pursuant to Article 4, Section 2 and Article 7, Section 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses for capital expenditures during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2012, and ending December 31st, 2012.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is there a motion to place ---?

MR. ROBINSON: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The bill has been placed on the agenda. The bill shall be referred to the Committee on Budget and Finance.

MR. CATANESE: The next one will be the Grants Budget and Special Accounts Budget and Agency Fund Budget. A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Grants Budget and Special Accounts Budget and Agency Fund Budget by setting forth appropriations to pay said expenses during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2012, and ending December 31st, 2012.

PRESIDENT BURN: Motion to place on the agenda?

MR. ROBINSON: So moved.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The bill is now on the agenda. The bill shall now be referred to the Committee on Budget and Finance.

MR. CATANESE: Finally, the tax levy.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, establishing the tax levy upon all real property subject to taxation within the limits of Allegheny County.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is there a motion to place the bill?

MR. ROBINSON: So moved.

MR. GASTGEB: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The bill has been placed on the agenda. The bill is referred to the Committee on Budget and Finance. Do we have any other motions? Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. There is a document before you which outlines a motion that speaks to the public hearings that are required by law as it relates to our budget deliberations for the year 2012. That document includes the names of three members of this Council, at a minimum,

who were kind enough to sponsor this motion. The dates for the public hearings are clearly identified. And Mr. President, with your leave, the clerk could read that. Then I'd like to make a motion to approve the setting up of our public hearings.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please proceed, Mr. Catanese.

MR. CATANESE: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing the Budget and Finance Committee to conduct public hearings pursuant to Section 801.05 of the Administrative Code on Wednesday, November 9th; and Thursday, November 10th, 2011, beginning each day at 4:00 p.m. in the Gold Room of the Allegheny County Courthouse. Budget and Finance Chair William Russell Robinson will serve as the presiding officer.

PRESIDENT BURN: Motion to place on the agenda?

MR. ROBINSON: So moved.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The motion is now on the agenda. Any further discussion or requests with respect to the motion? Do we need to refer it or would you like to waive and vote?

MR. ROBINSON: I'd like to waive and move for approval.

PRESIDENT BURN: Motion to waive the second reading?

MR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion on the motion to waive? Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? It has been waived. At this point, any discussion on the motion to approve? Or is there a motion to approve?

MR. ROBINSON: Motion to approve.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion on the motion to approve? Any discussion? Any discussion? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The motion is approved. Are there any other motions? Any other motions? Any other motions? Notification of contracts.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on general items.

MR. CATANESE: We have one.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ronald Lynn Miller.

DR. MILLER: Dr. Ronald Lynn Miller, 40 Beltzhoover Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA, (412) 381-3753, founder and director of the Center for Global Studies International Interdisciplinary, Pennsylvania, 1998.

I urge this Council to legislate to protect county development of wearable individualized seismometers which globally integrates subsurficial data and predicts seismic activity. There are three major shields, venal distortions, regarding the exploration of the Marcellus Shale, the immense rock formation in Pennsylvania containing much natural gas. One shield in relation to the exploration of the shale is a distortion of information from the social sciences and arts. The social sciences' shield is that exploration of the shale would have minor negative consequences for society in Pennsylvania and Allegheny, and the complex of intermunicipal and individual relations making up our main towns, townships, boroughs and neighborhoods. I'm a member of the American Sociological Association and the American Historical Association. And county will need consultants from the disciplines of sociology and history.

Another shield in relation to the shale is the distortion of information from the humanities. The humanities' shield is that exploration of the shale will only, in few ways, adversely affect the musical and visual arts cultures of Pennsylvania and Allegheny. I'm a member of the American Musicological Society and the American Society for Aesthetics. County Council will need consultants with differing views from musicology and the visual arts.

Still one other shield is a distortion of information from the material scientists. The material scientists' shield is that the exploration of the shale will produce minimal damage to the physical environments of Pennsylvania and Allegheny. I'm a member of the Geological Society of America and the Association of American Geographers as well as the American Chemical Society and the American Physical Society. Consultant availability from geology, geography, chemistry and

physics with contrasting views is crucial for the Council's analysis to be objective.

Particularly important are the subdisciplines of petrogeology focusing on oil and gas discovery, and hydrogeology and hydrogeography, which focus on water processes. Petrogeology and hydrogeology have mainly to do with subsurficial geonature, hydrogeography with surfacial nature, natural features. More resistance to hydraulic fracturing used to extract gas from shales comes from disciplinary specialists in hydrogeology and hydrogeography. Less resistance to fracking comes from disciplinary specialists in petrogeology.

Overall, the use of an analogy between PA in 1860s beginning with Drake and PA in the 2010s is specious at best, and I think unwise. The PA 1860s process was more drilling down into the lithosphere in extracting energy source. The PA 2010 process is less drill down, more inject, spray, liberate the rock and extract. There are other analogies as well.

PRESIDENT BURN: Duly noted. Thank you, sir.
Motion to adjourn?

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

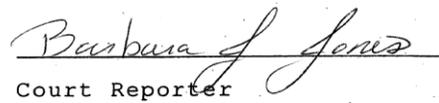
(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Meeting adjourned. Thank you.
Have a good evening, everyone.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:00 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