

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	President, District 8
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

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

Wednesday, November 7, 2012 - 5:00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Walter Szymanski - Budget Director
Jack Cambest - County Solicitor

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance, lead by Barbara Danko. Please remain standing following for a moment of reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of Reflection.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Please be seated. Roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

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?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ten members currently present.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Proclamations/Certificates.

7225-12.

MR. CATANESE: All proclamations will be read into the record. Proclamation declaring October 6 through 12, 2012, as Physician Assistant Week in Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive and Councilwoman Danko.

7226-12. Proclamation honoring Ms. Cynthia Maleski Groch, for being recognized by the Polish American Congress of Western Pennsylvania Division, for her volunteerism and leadership. Sponsored by Councilman Futules.

7227-12. Proclamation congratulating the Bridgeville Public Library, upon the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Sponsored by Council members Gastgeb and Finnerty.

7228-12. Proclamation designating Thursday, October 18, 2012, as Conflict Resolution Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilwoman Heidelbaugh.

7229-12. Proclamation recognizing Auberle, for being named Agency of the Year by the Alliance for Children and Families. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7230-12. Proclamation congratulating Christ Lutheran Church, located in the City of Duquesne, Pennsylvania, upon its 120th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7231-12. Proclamation congratulating the Pittsburgh Action Against Rape (PAAR), upon its 40th anniversary, and thanking the organization for helping victims heal and preventing sexual violence in the community. Sponsored by Council members Macey, Danko, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Gastgeb, Green Hawkins, Heidelbaugh, Martoni, Palmiere and Rea.

7232-12. Certificate of Recognition congratulating Tom Clark Chevrolet, for 25 years of operation in McKeesport, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7233-12. Proclamation honoring Ms. Swintayla, Swin, Marie Cash, Women's National Basketball Association (WNBA) player and native of McKeesport, Pennsylvania, for her community service and for her contributions to Allegheny County's long legacy of sports champions. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7234-12. Proclamation honoring the late Mr. Ben Dunkerley, a Glassport, Pennsylvania native, for being inducted into the West Virginia University Sports Hall of Fame. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7235-12. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Mr. Scott Webb, of Boy Scout Troop 99, for earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

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

MR. CATANESE: That's correct..

PRESIDENT MARTONI: First speaker is Barney. Barney, are you here? Okay. Al Turner? Al, are you here? Over here, Al. We always start with a name and address; okay, Al, your name and address?

MR. TURNER: Albert Turner. I live at 416 Bark Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15214. Good evening, everyone. Thank you for allowing me to speak tonight. We need to have a separate hearing with UPMC and its non-profit status. I've lived in Pittsburgh all my life. There used to be good jobs for the working people like myself. If you worked in the steel mills, you could buy a house, raise a family and send your kids to college. But now UPMC is the biggest provider of jobs in our community. And I can tell you, it's almost impossible to support a family on the wages UPMC pays.

For the past two years, I've been working as a shuttle driver for UPMC, although my salary is above minimum wage, I feel like it's sheer profit, because my paycheck after tax and deductions from UPMC for healthcare and parking fees, there's barely enough money left to pay bills, my food, my gas for my car. UPMC makes hundreds of millions of dollars in profit every year. They cannot --- they can't afford to pay us living wage. My coworkers and I started to stand up for ourselves and improve our jobs by forming this union, management fought back hard.

They spend enormous amounts of money to try to keep us quiet. They put signs up saying we couldn't talk about the union during work hours. I was called into the office and questioned about organizing. They told me that if they found out about anyone organizing on company property ---

PRESIDENT MARTONI: You have 30 seconds.

MR. CATANESE: Go ahead.

MR. TURNER: --- they would suffer the consequences. Some of the people have been written up for talking about the union at work. This is not the way a non-profit should act, especially when we're giving them huge tax breaks. They should respect their workers and pay us a living wage. If they did, there would be more money going back into our communities, and we'd have the kind of jobs --- good jobs that we once had. Please hold this hearing so that we can have a serious discussion about UPMC's relationship with our community. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Leslie Poston? Same routine, name and address.

MS. POSTON: Good evening. My name is Leslie Poston. I live at 2024 Kendon Drive West, Wilkinsburg, PA, 15221. Again, I'm Leslie Poston. I've worked at UPMC for nine years at the --- on the heart and lung transplant floor. I'm proud of the work I do at UPMC, but I want to be proud of how UPMC gives back to our community. Right now I can't say that I am. We're closing schools and cutting buses because we don't have enough money to keep things going. It doesn't have to be that way.

It's true, I would like to make enough money to support my family, but I'm not --- but I'm here today about something bigger. I think the people running UPMC have forgotten that we're supposed to be doing more than just making a lot of money. We're supposed to be making Pittsburgh stronger, middle class jobs, good schools and neighborhoods we can be --- that we can be proud of. I urge all of you to hold a hearing to look into UPMC tax free properties. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Molly Nichols. Molly?

MS. NICHOLS: Hi, Molly Nichols. I live at 414 Pearl Street, Apartment 2, Pittsburgh, PA, 15224. And I'm supporting Bill Number 7244-12, the motion to have a public hearing regarding tax exempt status of property owned by UPMC. I'm a Bloomfield resident and a member of Pittsburghers for Public Transit. We're a volunteer group of riders and residents who work to defend and expand public transit in our region. UPMC is the largest private landowner in the county and who makes hundreds of millions in profit each year and is also dependent on public services like transit.

Rider surveys have actually indicated that nearly five percent of all Port Authority rides are to medical appointments. However, it's not contributing to the county's tax base. Each year, as we all know, our transit system faces a deficit crisis, resulting in service cuts, layoffs and fare hikes. When the anticipated cuts of 35 percent were supposed to happen this year, UPMC had told its workers to take a bike or a cab to work. This is obviously not acceptable.

Our bus lines are our lifelines. Without them, people can't get to their jobs, schools, grocery stores, cultural events and hospitals. Since UPMC closed the Braddock Hospital, residents are more relying on the bus than ever to get medical care. One bus driver has told stories of times in Braddock that he actually --- the bus had to double as an ambulance to get someone to the nearest hospital, once the Braddock Hospital had closed. So we need UPMC to start contributing more to the community. We need more resources to maintain and improve our transit system, and we need some life-changing medicine for our county's infrastructure.

I urge you to have this hearing, to have a conversation about how UPMC needs to start paying its fair share in this community. Thanks.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Barney Oursler?

MR. OURSLER: Thank you, President Martoni. My name is Barney Oursler. I'm Executive Director of Pittsburgh UNITED, a coalition of many organizations in the southwestern Pennsylvania region, concerned about the future growth of our region, and particularly, about the public investment in that region. We view UPMC as a charity institution being responsible to the community for its growth and for its sustenance.

We really appreciate Council's consideration tonight, offering an opportunity for public comment on the role of UPMC in our community. It's something we've all been talking about informally for a long time. You may have seen the comments that were quoted in the Post-Gazette on Sunday. In April, my organization published a report on UPMC's tax breaks. In our estimation, they should have paid \$204,000,000 in taxes, had they been viewed as a for-profit company.

We give UPMC these tax breaks because they're supposed to be a public charity that donates a substantial part of their services, and this is driven fundamentally by profit. I'm not sure anyone can look at UPMC objectively and say it does these things. And we're not talking about an average non-profit that really acts like a charity and makes decisions based on what's good for the community. We're talking about a non-profit that shirks its responsibilities to Allegheny County.

They call themselves --- they started calling themselves the \$10,000,000,000 global health enterprise.

And we have to ask, how is that a charitable organization? When you close down a needed community hospital in Braddock, while they forge partnerships and down in Singapore, we have to ask if they're really living up to their responsibility to those of us back home in Pennsylvania. When they take \$250,000,000 in operating profit, that don't pay their workers a living wage, we have to ask if they're interested in making us a stronger community or really putting profits into their --- above all else.

UPMC has a choice to make. Do they want to be a for-profit and put their bottom line above all else, but at the same time pay taxes for the public services, for the education or the things that this community provides to them; or do they really want to start acting like a non-profit, which we believe means they put the communities first and they pay their workers a fair wage, so that those workers can also contribute to our community. It's a conversation that's long overdue.

It's time we have a say over UPMC's role in our community and re-negotiate our relationship that we feel isn't meeting our needs. And again, I hope that you support a public hearing on this, that Councilman DeFazio will be taking tonight. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Next is Approval of Minutes. We're going to do four at one time; okay?

MR. CATANESE: If I may, let the record show that Councilwoman Rea and Councilman Gastgeb are present.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. 7246-12, 7247-12, 7248-12, 7249-12.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Allegheny County Council, held on August 28th, 2012, September 4th, 2012, September 18th, 2012 and October 2nd, 2012.

MR. DROZD: I make that motion.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered. Okay. Presentation of Appointments.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Unfinished Business. Committee on Public Works, Second Reading. 7214-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire the right-of-way required to construct the Carrie Furnace Flyover Bridge and Carrie Furnace Boulevard approaches and to maintain same as a County bridge and road. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: This is the second reading. Is that your committee?

MR. MACEY: No, it's mine.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That's Public Works? Okay. Bob.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. The Public Works Committee met on the 25th of October, and this bill was sent to the full Council with affirmative recommendation. I therefore make a motion that we approve 7214-12.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved in second. Question?

MR. DROZD: A point.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Go ahead.

MR. DROZD: Yeah. You know, this is a good project. I met with Councilman Macey when we heard this. One of the concerns which is from me in the essence that we got to be careful was, it's a big project. It's a worthy project in many ways, because I think the national --- is it the state parks that's going to take some of this facility or ---?

MR. MACEY: The national.

MR. DROZD: National. The problem we got, though, is, we got to be careful; is if you take these facilities, we got to look into the long term of --- for Allegheny County residents and taxpayers of how we're going to maintain it. You know, it's almost like the tunnel; you know, this tunnel when it started, no one was asking the questions, well, what's the cost? Who's going to maintain it? We asked that at the meeting one time, and they didn't know at the time. But the projections now is, the Port Authority has to maintain the tunnel at about \$10,000,000 to \$20,000,000 a year. That comes out of --- you know, it's going to come indirectly from some of those tax dollars somewhere, and that's these. So we got to be careful, and it's a worthy project. You know, my Council members are on it for looking at this. It's just, I don't know where we're going in the long run. We've got to be careful what we take under our wings, because the taxpayers are ultimately going to fade and they'll take it

from other areas. We just have to be careful of that.
Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, Mr. Drozd. Any other question? Roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni, President?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 12, noes, 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Liaison Reports. Nobody has any liaison reports? No liaison reports. Do you have something?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: No, I never heard ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That's a record.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I know.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yeah, let me do this right away. New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions. 7236-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an agreement with the Over The Bar Bicycle Café (OTB), for the operation and management of a full service restaurant at the Boathouse, located in North Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: It goes to the Parks Committee. 7237-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing acceptance of a donation of approximately one-half acre of land located in the Township of Indiana, contiguous to the county's Hartwood Acres Park in the County of Allegheny. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Parks Committee. 7238-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of approximately 2,530.53 square feet of land located in the county's North Park, from the Montgomery Family PA Trust. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Parks Committee. 7239-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing a permanent easement and right-of-way to Equitable Gas Company, LLC, for the upgrading of an existing facility located in the county's South Park on Corrigan Drive. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Parks Committee. 7242-12.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, changing the name of the 16th Street Bridge within the City of Pittsburgh, to the David McCullough Bridge. Sponsored by Council members Danko, Martoni, Macey, Heidelbaugh and Palmiere.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Public Works. 7240-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, approving certain interdepartmental transfers in the Operating Budget, for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2012 and ending December 31st, 2012. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Budget and Finance Committee. 7241-12.

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

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Budget and Finance.
7243-12.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting an Operating Budget pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, and Article VII, Section 4, of the Home Rule Charter, by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses of conducting the public's business of Allegheny County, and for meeting debt charges for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2013 and ending December 31st, 2013. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Budget and Finance Committee. New Business, Motions. 7244-12.

MR. CATANESE: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County, authorizing the Council of Allegheny County to conduct a public hearing pursuant to Article II.G. of the Rules of Allegheny County Council, on December 5th, 2012, beginning at five p.m. in the Gold Room of the Allegheny County Courthouse. Council member DeFazio shall be the presiding officer for such public hearing. Sponsored by Councilman DeFazio.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Do you have a motion?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. I'd like to make a motion that we have this public hearing on December 5th at five o'clock. And there's been a lot of newspaper articles on this subject. People have been asking a lot of questions, wanting to know all about their tax-free properties and different things. So I think it would be a good idea for us to have this public hearing and air this thing out properly in front of everybody.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Moved in second. Question? I think we can do a voice vote on it. All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Notifications and Communications.

MR. DROZD: I have a ---.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, I'm sorry, you did have ---. I forgot. Go ahead. I apologize.

MR. DROZD: As Mr. Barker is passing this out, what this involves is that --- you've heard it from our veterans many, many, many times, the veterans have come down and presented to us, and we made proclamations on

their behalf, commemorating Veterans Day. Many a time, we all recognized the importance of it and recognizing what many of our veterans have contributed to our country and our freedom. And some of them aren't even here today because of the fact that a lot of them paid the ultimate price in various conflicts, like World War II, in the defense of not only our freedom but freedoms of other people in all parts of the world. So one of the gentlemen the other day mentioned this, and I've heard this from other veterans, well, why can't we have with the public schools ---. The public schools have a day off on Veterans Day.

I'd like this to go in a committee, because I don't think necessarily there should be a day off, it should be a recognition of a legal holiday for the public schools to recognize in some sort ---. And to give you an idea what we do, when I was in the university, with Martin Luther King Day, instead of every --- the university shutting down, what we would do is, we'd have some programs commemorating Martin Luther King, and people got to know what it was all about. And I think that's what we need to do for the veterans, you know, where the schools would be mandated to do some type of program on that day. It wouldn't cost them a day to students. They'd learn something about history, and I think it's just a good thing to do.

I've noticed in some of the schools that I've been in, mostly our public schools in the city, probably about 98 percent of them, some of them you'll get into and you'll get into a classroom, when they come to the Pledge of Allegiance, some of the kids won't even stand; maybe, one in one class. But today, I was in a school --- it depends on where the school is, whatever it may be --- but every kid just stood in that class and gave the Pledge of Allegiance. It wasn't mandatory for them to do that, and I don't know --- you know, we can't make a child or young person stand. Hopefully, you'd want to do that.

But the way we can encourage them is to give them a reason and why. And a lot of them had questions today. They had questions on the election they asked of me. They are inquisitive. I saw a sixth grader once. She saw the debate --- honest to God, she saw the debate --- and she's a little African-American girl. And she was really objective in the debate and she analyzed that debate right down to the line, objectively; had pros

and cons of both candidates. So that's --- I really like to see the encouragement, and this is what he can do. We can educate, be part of the education process. So I'd like this to go into committee, how we can make it work. And hopefully, you know, we'll have some people talk about it, come in and talk about it from the public school, and we can find out how we can make this work from an educational aspect, as well as commemorating what the veterans --- the ultimate price some of them paid. Thank you. Thank you for your help.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Is that a motion?

MR. DROZD: That's a motion to put it into committee. We don't have to make a motion on that; do we?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yeah.

MR. DROZD: Well, I could make a motion to put this on the agenda, I would say; right?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: That's right.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Second.

MR. DROZD: Okay.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: We have a motion and a second.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Question? All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Opposed? So ordered. It's on the agenda. Go ahead.

MR. CATANESE: If I may, Mr. President, I can read the caption in the record.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Yeah, please do.

MR. CATANESE: It's a motion of the Council of Allegheny County, respectfully urging the General Assembly of Pennsylvania to amend the School Code of 1949, to include Veterans Day as a mandatory holiday for all public schools in Pennsylvania, or in the alternative, require all public school students not given the holiday, to participate in educational activities or services recognizing the services in honor of our service men and women.

MR. DROZD: And again, I'd like that to go in a committee, where we can strengthen it and see how it works in a positive manner, both education and honor.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Do you want to send this to committee?

MR. DROZD: I'd like to send it to committee; yes, sir.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: This goes to Government Reform?

MR. DROZD: Yeah.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay; Government Reform it is. Okay. We'll send this to Government Reform. Thank you. I think it's a good idea. Yes, Vince.

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Drozd's --- while we're working on this together, maybe for the committee meeting, we can have the Department of Veteran Affairs from the county also be part of that and see what they can do. And there's 43 public high schools in the county, and you know, if you can find 43 people to go out if they don't get a day off --- regardless of the school that has to do that. You know, I like your idea about having education or assembly or something like that, to recognize the day. Thank you.

MR. DROZD: Yeah, that's good, excellent. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Thank you. Okay. That's going to committee. Notifications and Communications. 7245-12.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from County Manager William McKain, forwarding the recommendation of the 16th Street Bridge Renaming Committee.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: I think that would go to committee. And we'll receive the file; right?

MR. CATANESE: Yes.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay.

MS. DANKO: President Martoni, can I say something about this?

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Oh, sure you could.

MS. DANKO: Okay. I just wanted to let Council know that I attended this committee meeting that the County Management set up. I wish we had taped it and put it --- you know, had it up on YouTube. The people that were on the committee --- it was chaired by Tom Donatelli, engineer, and they did their homework. They, you know, approached this task very thoughtfully. They came back with an affirmative recommendation, and I believe you all have received the report. I also wanted to mention, since we're putting the bill back in committee tonight, about the renaming of the 16th Street Bridge. And hopefully, we'll get this done by the end of the year. But Mr. McCullough, for those of you who watched the Steeler game and kept the TV on, he was on 60 Minutes last Sunday.

There was a segment with Mr. McCullough. And he will also be on again next Sunday. I'm not sure how many times they get the same person on two weeks in a row on 60 Minutes. But for my colleagues and the public at large who may not know who Mr. McCullough is I would urge you to tune in to 60 Minutes. And I want to commend the County Manager and his group for doing a great job with the report. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Jim, you have the floor.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I wasn't going to say anything, but since Councilwoman Danko had mentioned that the gentleman that chaired that committee, the county employee, being that I have requested in front of that committee, I would request that --- I'd like to know who the people on that committee are, because I don't know if any of us know who it is.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: On what committee?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: No, on this Public Works Committee. If they're not county employees, I want to know who's making --- who's giving these recommendations.

MS. DANKO: Would you like me to answer? This was a committee --- according to the ordinance that Council passed, a couple years ago they --- it gives authorization to the County Manager to name people, not county employees. None of them are county employees.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I understand that. But I want to know who the people on this committee are.

MS. DANKO: Okay. They --- you have a copy of the report.

MR. FINNERTY: Right over there.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: The names are all in?

MR. FINNERTY: Yeah, they're all in there.

Yeah.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Okay; good.

MR. FINNERTY: Communications and specifications to your case are right there.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: All right. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. John?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah, real quick. I thought I said something --- maybe I didn't and I'm mistaken --- but on 7242, I'd like to be added as a sponsor. That's all I had.

MR. BARKER: Okay. Thank you. Anyone else?

MR. DROZD: Put me. I'll go on.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. Public Comment on General Items. We have two. Rusty Loudermilk? Rusty, do you want to come up?

MR. LOUDERMILK: Hello. My name is Rusty Loudermilk, 600 Pillow Avenue, Cheswick, PA, 15024. Over the next few months, you'll see me coming back and appearing more often with different things. And I can't get into everything that we dealt with earlier today, but I met with some of you earlier today about ACCESS Transportation Systems, a division of the Port Authority, even though they don't want to admit it, charging me and many others double fare for most trips. I said to some of you that met with me the some people are not charged double fare. I'll get into that at a later date, you all, the ones who know me, have my comments.

Having said all of that, I've been dealing with this issue off and on for many years. And what I'm here to speak about tonight is, I thought the election process was about people like myself coming down and speaking about issues related to this. And I'm not here to be ugly. Dr. Martoni, I'm going to keep it clean. I have respect for you. You know, I love you to death, man. Having said --- even though I haven't said it recently; having said that, though, several people past and present, as far as staff members, and even one councilman, who I will deal with at a later date --- he even said to me in an e-mail, which I plan to bring down from December, Rusty, you think of ACCESS as your personal taxi service.

Well, you know what? Maybe, you're right, councilman who said that; but you know, all of you should be grateful that you have two good eyes, two good legs and a car to drive yourself, because I guarantee you one thing, if any of you went through what I did for about a month and what I've gone through with the hell I've been through over the last --- let's see, I've been here five years --- over the last five years with ACCESS, you would have much more appreciation. And ACCESS is not going to change this double fare for me unless somebody forces them to do so.

Having said that, walk a day in my shoes before you call ACCESS my personal taxi, because the bottom line is, it's more mine than it is yours, buddy. I'll be back. Have a good day. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you.

MR. LOUDERMILK: I've got the e-mail, too. And believe me, I'll be bringing it back. Thank you.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you, Rusty. Ken Miller? Kenneth, I see you back there.

MR. MILLER: Good evening. My name is Kenneth Miller. I live at 1306 Sheffield Street, here in the City of Pittsburgh. I've worked with the Black Political Empowerment Project and the Black and White Reunion, to do our non-partisan election protection program. Yesterday in the voter registration period, working up to the October 9th voter registration deadline, the Black and White Reunion and B-PEP coordinated at Community Colleges of Allegheny County. We have 600 voter registration cards from the four main campuses. It could have been a lot more. There's thousands of people on those community college campuses that need to be convinced to register to vote.

It's not enough to just passively offer them the opportunity. If any of us, you know, believe in the political process, then we should probably spend a couple more minutes and ask them to vote, because we want to make decisions together, and we care about their representation. We care about city government. We want them to vote as a block, to stand up for their education. So Black and White Reunion and the Black Political Empowerment Project are very eager to move forward with our ongoing civic and engagement work at the Community College of Allegheny County, with an emphasis on encouraging people to vote in each and every election; and that, you know, voting patterns of a lifetime are established while these students are in school.

And if we go there to voter registration once every four years, we miss a cohort of students every two years. So it's especially important at the colleges and universities that we're focused on the voter registration in each and every election. Our non-partisan voter registration was connected to the 866-OUR-VOTE number. That's a non-partisan number. Many non-partisan groups across the state participated with that hotline number. I'm submitting in the testimony tonight, one of our flyers have described that. And also, another one --- this is a Trick or Treat flyer. It says, Trick or Treat. It also apparently is non-partisan, advertising 866-OUR-VOTE. The Elections Commission here in Allegheny County will have a lot --- a log of the complaints about the elections that

were, you know, submitted via this program, some time soon to review. I've got 20 more seconds. We're going to do the Summit Against Racism again this year, on the Saturday after Martin Luther King Day. That's the 26th this year. It's a very important time to talk about interracial labor union organizing and the connection between labor union organizing and civil rights and human rights. That's what we do at the Summit Against Racism. We really appreciate the ongoing support of Allegheny County Council. I have registration forms for this year's Summit Against Racism for you. We also did an updated report on our anti-sweatshop ordinance, which is listed in the current issue of the new People. We're still working really hard with the Procurement Department and with Mr. Fitzgerald, to do some real, you know, basic administration --- administrative policy. We have a thoughtful policy. Thank you so much.

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Thank you. Now, we're ready for an important motion, a motion to adjourn.

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: All in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT MARTONI: Okay. Thank you.

METTING ADJOURNED AT 5:35 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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



A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Oluf H. Collins", is written over a horizontal line.

Court Reporter