

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

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BEFORE:

James R. Burn, Jr.	-	President District 3
Charles J. Martoni	-	Vice President District 8
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Heather S. Heidelbaugh	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5 (via telephone)
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, December 6, 2011 - 5:00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

PRESIDENT BURN: Good evening, everyone. At this time, we would like to call the regular meeting of the Allegheny County Council to order, scheduled for Tuesday, December 6th, 2011. My name is Jim Burn. I'm the President of County Council. I'd like to thank my colleagues who are with us here tonight and those who are in attendance by phone. At this time, I would ask that you join us for the Pledge of Allegiance, followed by a moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer and/or reflection.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. President, do you want to go over the certifications of elections and oaths first?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Because of the elections this past November and because of some of the special elections based on vacancies early in the year and based on how our Home Rule Charter is written, we have Certificates of Election, oaths of office. 6644-11, please.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certification of Election certifying that at the election held on the 8th day of November, 2011, Barbara Daly Danko was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 11, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT BURN: And Councilwoman Danko, welcome aboard for that special term, which starts at the end of the year, and then you resume your full term in January. Pleasure. 6645-11.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 8th day of November, 2011, Heather Heidelbaugh was duly elected to the office of At-Large Member of Council in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman, welcome aboard. It will be a pleasure to work with you.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good. 6646-11.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 8th day of November, 2011, John Palmiere was duly elected to

the office of Member of Council, District 6, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT BURN: And Council Member Palmiere, you were on the ballot for a full four-year term, but due to the anomalies in our Charter, which someday we may need to revisit, you had to do an election for the special term, which is for this period of time 'til the end of this year. Councilman, it's a pleasure to work with you the remainder of this year and beyond.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: It's good to see you, sir, and thanks for being with us tonight. Roll call, please.

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 (via telephone).

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. 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: Fifteen (15) members present.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Proclamations and Certificates. 6631-11.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation recognizing and congratulating the Civil Air Patrol upon its 70th anniversary. Sponsored by Council Members Futules, Burn, Danko, DeFazio, Drozd, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Gastgeb, Green Hawkins, Macey, Martoni, Palmiere, Rea and Robinson.

MR. FUTULES: Good evening. Tonight we have the Civil Air Patrol here. I'd like to ask you all to come up so you can stand behind us when we give you our presentation today. I've also asked Bob Macey to help me because he's been a commander with the Civil Air Patrol himself, and he's going to read the proclamation.

Today's proclamation recognizes and congratulates the Civil Air Patrol upon its 70th anniversary. Lieutenant Colonel Sandra Brandon, Major Annette Carlson, Jim Knight, media representative. A few words about the Civil Air Patrol lieutenant. She became a new wing commander for Pennsylvania on November 12th, 2011, assuming command of nearly 2,300 volunteer members. She is the 17th commander and the first woman to hold this position with the Civil Air Patrol, Pennsylvania Wing. She is a recipient of the Gill Robb Wilson Award, the highest award for adult CAP membership, and has trained and qualified in all the three CAP missions, emergency services, aerospace education and cadet programs, and that would be the kids here today.

Now a little bit about what they do. The CAP is an official auxiliary of the United States Air Force, a non-profit organization with more than 61,000 members nationwide. The CAP performs 90 percent of the continental U.S. island searches and rescue missions that are credited by the Air Force Rescue Coordination Center with saving 113 lives in the fiscal year of 2010. Volunteers perform homeland security, disaster relief and drug interdiction missions at the request of the federal, state and local agencies. Volunteers serve as the mentors to the 26,000 young people in the CAP Cadet Program. Our CAP commander is a major partner of Wreaths Across America, a way to remember, honor and teach about the sacrifices of U.S. military veterans.

Now at this time, I'd like to ask Bob to come up and say a few words and read the proclamation, and then we'll have an opportunity for the people to say a few words.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Councilman Futules. It's certainly an honor and a privilege, but more importantly,

to honor the 70th anniversary of the Pennsylvania Wing Civil Air Patrol. And before I read the proclamation, I would like to have Lieutenant Colonel Robin Steiner to introduce her cadets from West Mifflin, Pennsylvania.

LT. COL. STEINER: I have with me, actually, my Deputy Commander for Cadets, Captain Tim Steiner, my Cadet Commander, Major Abby Hawkins, Tech Sergeant Frank Rhonda, First Class Airman Chuck Warrens and Cadet First Lieutenant Josh Kelly.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Lieutenant Colonel. I'd have to say that besides the Civil Air Patrol and the work that they do as an auxiliary to the Air Force, they also do many other goodwill things in the community and they certainly add to the quality of life to our communities wherever they serve.

Whereas, the Civil Air Patrol, CAP, was established on December 1st, 1941 to supplement the U.S. military during World War II.

And whereas, in 1948, CAP was designated as the U.S. Air Force's auxiliary with three missions: emergency services, cadet programs and aerospace education.

And whereas, since CAP's beginning, the organization has set itself apart during the country's most tumultuous times, locating and sinking enemy submarines during World War II, also assisting rescuers and state agencies immediately following the 9/11 terrorist attacks, heavily supporting hurricane relief efforts in response to Hurricane Katrina and Ike, as well as aiding communities during their natural disasters.

And whereas, CAP further provides vital homeland security missions that help ensure the protection of our nation's capital and the nation as a whole by assisting Air Force pilots with target interception training.

And whereas, CAP provides exceptional education and growth opportunities for youth through its 26,500-member strong cadet program and its aerospace education program, which annually touches more than 900 educators, more than 20,000 cadets and thousands of other youths in classrooms across America by teaching children multidisciplinary aviation concepts that emphasize aviation's connection to history, math, science, government and economics.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Allegheny County Council hereby recognizes and congratulates the Civil Air Patrol upon its 70th

anniversary. Furthermore, we commend the CAP for its missions in America and its outstanding cadet and aerospace programs, which heavily touch the lives and ensure the safety of thousands of American citizens. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

LT. COL. STEINER: Yes. Thank you very much for this honor and for the opportunity to address you this evening. We started 70 years ago with people just like you see in front of us, just like you, who came to their nation's need to provide homeland security at a time when all of our young people were overseas fighting two wars. These volunteers, with their own money and their own airplanes, delivered mail, medical supplies and searched for German U-boats off the coast. This organization started in Pennsylvania and New Jersey.

And they were right. We did sink two U-boats during World War II. We're not combative, but when U-boats start shooting back at you, the Civil Air Patrol members had some bombs on their aircraft, and they did a very fine job. We find ourselves after 9/11 back to our nation and homeland security. We fly the skies daily to protect you and our infrastructure in Pennsylvania. Last year alone, our volunteer services were estimated at \$5,700,000 to equate that to a paid job. And each one of those members work in their own time and with their own dollars.

Our cadet programs, as you can see, are thriving. Our cadets who succeed in this program name their ticket. They become engineers. They go to military academies. They become scientists, teachers. And this organization provides them the leadership opportunities to succeed and fail, to be able to serve you whenever they become adults. We're very proud to serve you, and we're very proud to be here today. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. FUTULES: Councilman Matt Drozd would like to make a comment. He is a military man, and I'm sure he has an interesting thing to say.

MR. DROZD: Just a real quick point. I'm a liaison for the military academies, and we look for --- when we interview young people that are interested in coming to our academies, and one of the areas that we look for and we look at are those that do what you young people are doing in the Civil Air Patrol, Boy Scouts, where they

serve in some sort of uniform, some sort of leadership position. But not only that, but you can follow as well as you can lead. And the last thing is you work as a team to accomplish the mission for the good of the cause.

Thank you.

(Pictures taken.)

(Applause.)

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

MR. CATANESE: 6632-11. Certificates of Achievement honoring the Hampton High School boys' soccer team for winning the 2011 WPIAL Class AA Championship. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea.

6633-11. Certificates of Achievement honoring the North Allegheny High School --- Senior High School boys' cross country team for winning the 2011 WPIAL Class AAA Championship. Sponsored by Councilwoman Rea and Councilwoman Danko.

6634-11. Certificates of Achievement honoring the Sewickley Academy girls' tennis team for winning the 2011 WPIAL and PIAA Class AA Championships. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

6635-11. Certificates of Achievement honoring the Quaker Valley High School girls' cross country team for winning the 2011 WPIAL Class AA Championship. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

6636-11. Certificates of Achievement honoring the Quaker Valley High School boys' cross country team for winning the 2011 WPIAL and PIAA Class AA Championships. Sponsored by Councilman Drozd.

6637-11. Certificates of Achievement honoring the Springdale Junior-Senior High School girls' soccer team for capturing second place in the 2011 WPIAL and PIAA Class A Championships. Sponsored by Councilman Futules.

6638-11. Proclamation congratulating the Master Builders' Association of Western Pennsylvania upon its 125th anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6639-11. Proclamation recognizing Ms. Dorothy Howell for her 30 years of service with the Elizabeth Forward Meals on Wheels program. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6640-11. Certificate of Recognition honoring the 100th birthday of Ms. Helen Gelb. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6641-11. Certificate of Recognition congratulating Mr. and Mrs. Jack Santone on the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

6642-11. Certificate of Achievement honoring Caleb Jeffrey Dillinger of Boy Scout Troop 210 for earning his Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Councilman Palmiere.

6643-11. Certificate of Achievement honoring David Anthony Trombetta of Boy Scout Troop 4 for earning his Eagle Scout ranking. Sponsored by Councilman Gastgeb.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on agenda items.

MR. CATANESE: Yes. We have several.

PRESIDENT BURN: We have several speakers, I see, from the list. I just wanted, Mr. Catanese, before we invite our speakers up, to just go over a few things for some of whom --- some of you who have not been here before. You'll be invited up. We'll read your name. When you come up, please, again, then say your name and your address for the record. You'll have three minutes. What you'll see after two and a half minutes, for those of you who have not been here before, is the yellow light will go on, signaling that you have 30 seconds left. Then when the red light goes off, your three minutes will have been up at that point.

Because there are so many of you on a variety of topics that are very passionate about your position on a variety of those topics, we would like for all of you to please respectfully work with us on the time limitation and those procedures. We want everybody to have their fair chance to say what's on their mind and share your thoughts with us, and we're here to listen to what you have to say. But having said that, please try to stay at that three minutes and respect those who have followed before you who have done that and those who are following after you, who we will expect to do the same thing.

There's also a few words that I wanted to mention with you, because there are so many of you. It came to my attention that there is a possibility that some of the folks who may be stepping up tonight for public comment to speak are individuals who are not yet 18 years old. Some comments may relate to the health and human services or other programs which are offered by the County and which are the subject of the budget. We absolutely do not want to disturb anyone from offering comment. As I

said in my remarks, this is one of the most direct ways for the residents of this County to share their views with all of us and for those who are watching online and live.

In that regard, I want to remind everyone that the meeting is being broadcast over the Internet in real time this evening. The video recording of the meeting will be available for the public on the County's website as part of our record of tonight's meeting. And tonight's meeting will also be available for viewing with cable television providers that serve the County for a period of weeks. There may also be radio, television or print media reporters in the room at any given moment. And if they feel there's something they choose to use, those remarks could end up in print. They could end up on a radio station.

We would therefore ask that all individuals who speak remember that the remarks will be heard well beyond these walls. Accordingly, we would strongly encourage everyone to refrain from discussing specific details of their interactions with entities like the courts, like CYF. Instead, focus on the general impact that these programs may have had.

Thank you all so much for your indulgence in allowing me to go over some of those specifics. We very much look forward to some exciting and healthy debate tonight, and we very much look forward to hearing what you, the residents of Allegheny County, have to say about the decisions we're going to be making collectively later this evening. Our first speaker is Barry Clapperton, followed by David Coplan. Barry, are you with us?

MR. CLAPPERTON: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Come on up, please. Is it David Coplan or Coplan (changes pronunciation)?

MR. COPLAN: Coplan (changes pronunciation).

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. There's no E. I apologize. David Coplan.

MR. CLAPPERTON: Hi. I'm Barry Clapperton. I reside at 111 Oxbridge Drive in the Township of Ross. I'm here tonight about the tax increases that are looking like they're going to go in and just to say I'm for them because right now the Human Service Departments, if these increases aren't put through, will really suffer greatly. The food assistance, the out-of-school feeding programs, the summer food service programs, lunches for seniors,

home delivery meals would all be affected if these taxes aren't enacted for our county.

We need to take care of those that are less fortunate with our county, to make sure that they have all that they need. Even for the elderly, to check up on them, adult care services. I'm right in the middle of dealing with my father, who just came out of a nursing home. And if it wasn't for Allegheny Department of Aging and having caregivers to be able to come in, I would be struggling with a lot of issues there. And for all the infrastructure that's needed within this county, there's stuff being worked on. I would just ask this Council to consider making sure that this tax increase does go through so that we continue the quality of life we expect in Allegheny County. With that, I thank you for your time.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. David Coplan, please. Good evening, sir. Sir, you have to pass those to the clerk, and the clerk will distribute them to the Council. Thank you. Is it Coplan or Coplan (changes pronunciation)?

MR. COPLAN: Coplan (changes pronunciation), Dave Coplan. Dave Coplan, 320 Sunset Drive, 15102. I'm also the executive director of the Human Services Center at 519 Penn Avenue in Turtle Creek. I want to speak out in follow-up to my testimony at your hearings about the support of the human services, but specifically today about the proposed tax increase. I personally want to thank all of you for your leadership to try to find the dollars to replace necessary human service funds. It shows real leadership to look for those dollars and to find a way to do that.

I know from the testimony and from the words from Councilman Robinson at the last hearing that many of you had said that the budget by County Executive Onorato is not your budget and not our budget, either. It certainly doesn't speak to the priorities. Now, I want to make sure it's really clear that since you've said as much, that, you know, we didn't frame the issue about human services. County Executive Onorato's budget did. But since you have your own budget, we're here to actually support the tax increase.

And I want to say that, you know, some non-profits may not be as vocal to come out in support of the tax increase, because it could put the face of taxes -

-- but the face of increasing taxes is really the face of the poor and the needy. But that's not really the case because you need funding for all essential services. It would be just as easy to say that the roads need funding. Wherever the county's shortfall is. It could be on the courts, the parks, the roads, those things that everybody need.

So with that framework and understanding, what you face in terms of putting dollars together, we understand that an increase in property taxes is the best solution to fill the void in the funding that the County needs, not just for human services, but for all essential services for those in Allegheny County.

I'm very fortunate. I worked in the Mon Valley with Councilman Macey and Councilman Martoni. I know they support the needs of the people in the community. I know they're committed to make sure that those dollars are put in place. And so I'm here to ask all the rest of you to ensure that those dollars are here. And to the Human Services Center, our board and staff are in support of your tax increase to make that happen. Thank you for your time and consideration.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Members of Council, John Denny was scheduled at number three on the budget from the Campaign for What Works. He could not attend. If there is no objection, Yvonne Harris would speak from that entity on that issue. If there's no objection, I would invite Yvonne Harris up to the podium at this time, if Yvonne Harris is with us. Yvonne Harris is here?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: I believe she's running late in traffic.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Oh, I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT BURN: Sir, was she sitting right next to you? Good evening, ma'am. Thank you for joining us.

MS. HARRIS: Hello. My name is Yvonne Harris from 3504 Beechwood Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA, and I am representing my after-school program. I didn't prepare a speech, but the children of our community desperately need this program. What's working right now is encouraging our kids to grow academically and socially. So our biggest concern is please don't cut our program. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Lauren Prince, followed by Kimberly Lewis. Lauren Prince, are you with

us? No? If Ms. Prince shows up, we'll move her into the remarks at some point. Kimberly Lewis? Kim Lewis? No? I called Lauren Prince and Kim Lewis. Not here?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Sir, they're not present. Their sister is here, though, Paris. She may also be on your list.

PRESIDENT BURN: What's the name, ma'am?

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Paris, H-O-R-N-E-Z-E-S. She came in lieu of her sisters who couldn't make it. I don't know Paris herself --- if she's permitted to take their spot.

PRESIDENT BURN: I didn't see her on the list. Does anybody see her on the list? We just set a little precedent because of Mr. Denny's absence. If there's no objection, we can do the same thing right now. Ma'am, do you want to come up? And please remember my remarks, my statements --- opening statement regarding the procedure and the network of observers that are here today. Good evening.

MS. HORNEZES: My name is Paris Hornezes, and I am ten years old. My family is a member of the Homewood-Brushton Family Support Center. I am here today with my grandmother, Louvenia Hornezes. I love my family support center because when I need someone to talk to, I always have someone to work my problems out with. Also, when I have school assignments, the family support center helps me better understand what I am supposed to do. And one more thing is that they help me learn a lot of new things. I hope that my family support center stays open so they can keep helping other kids and families. Thank you for listening to me and to all the other kids who love their family support centers, too.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, ma'am, and thank you for your community spirit.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: It takes great courage to come up to speak at any age, especially at the age of ten. You should be commended for your efforts. And thanks for coming in. Nasir Butler, followed by Lindsey Grinage. Nasir Butler? Lindsey Grinage?

MS. GRINAGE: Good evening. I'm Lindsey Grinage. I'm 15 years old, and I work at the Kingsley Association Center. I'm here today to talk to you guys about the budget cuts that are trying to cut the budget for family support. I currently attend Pittsburgh Science

and Technology at Oakland, and I am a sophomore. And I work with kids ages zero to ten at the family support center. I didn't really prepare a speech either, but I just wanted to talk to you guys about how --- like, what we do there and how we help young teens.

My friend, Dawnasia, she's 13 years old, and she just had a newborn baby son yesterday, and his name is Jaden. And she is not fit to be a mother at all. She just started high school, and there's no way that she can be a mother at this age of 13. And what we do is --- like yesterday, we just went to the hospital. We gave her a free crib for her son, and we also gave her a stroller and stuff, like, because she has no family support at all. Her dad is blind, and her mother died when she was five years old. So there's no way that I think that she can be a parent, because you're only 13. You haven't even experienced life yet, so there's no way that you can even get that mental support.

And I just wanted to say that if you're going to cut family support, there's --- we help so many families. Even 23-year-olds aren't ready to be parents yet because they still --- their brains aren't fully developed yet. And whenever you are working there, like, you can't --- there's nothing that you can do. But I just wanted to say, thank you for hearing me out and not to cut the family support budget. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. I see we have three members of the Davis Family, Jazmyn Davis, Joshua Davis and Jeremiah Davis. Do you wish to speak separately or collectively? Are you here? Mary Paull?

MS. PAULL: Here.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, ma'am. Come on up.

MS. PAULL: Hi. My name is Mary Paull. I live at 906 Mifflinridge Road, Pittsburgh, PA, 15207. I'm also the site director of the Steel Valley Family Center in Homestead. I am here today to thank the Budget Committee of County Council for recommending that the budget be revised to restore the \$5,000,000 necessary to fulfill the county's financial obligation and draw down an additional \$17,000,000 in state funding. I am also here to thank County Council representative Barbara Daly Danko for taking the time to visit the Steel Valley Family Center on Wednesday, November 16th for our Thanksgiving luncheon. Ms. Daly Danko was able to see and hear from the families

we serve in the Steel Valley area as well as tour the center.

Thank you from the families who have young children and come to our center to receive help and support to be better parents, families who bring their children to our parent and child activity groups and learn ways to play with their children and help them learn Kindergarten readiness skills, such as following routines, listening to stories, paying attention to the teacher and getting along with peers, skills that they need when they go to school so that they will be able to learn and succeed.

Thank you from parents who receive parents and teachers' home visits, which help them to understand how their child is learning about their world, parents who learn ways to provide their child the structure and limits and alternatives, to discipline that are more positive than yelling or hitting.

Thank you from women who are expecting a baby and receive information and support so that their babies start life as healthy as possible. They appreciate knowing what to expect and the center's van transportation to their prenatal appointments and to the WIC offices.

Thank you from the families who are trying to improve their life. They appreciate it when our staff help them work with other programs in the community, programs that help them to earn their GED, develop their résumé, apply for jobs, clear up their credit, learn budgeting skills, get their driver's license, buy a car and sometimes buy their own home.

Thank you from the families who need help with the basic necessities of life, families who we take to the Rainbow Kitchen Food Bank each month and to Salvation Army for help, families who come to the Steel Valley Family Center every Wednesday and take home bread and baked goods donated to our center by Giant Eagle, families who receive help from programs who work with the Steel Valley Family Center and provide toys and clothing for our families during the holidays and throughout the year.

Thank you on behalf of all the families who testified at the last budget meeting for hearing their voices so that these services may continue to be offered throughout Allegheny County.

Finally, thank you for your time and attention this evening, and please follow through and approve the

recommendation of the Budget and Finance Committee to restore the \$5,000,000 to the county budget. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Jennifer Cloonan, followed by Laura Townsend. Good evening, Ms. Cloonan.

MS. CLOONAN: Jennifer Cloonan, 1427 West Liberty Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15226. As government affairs director for the Realtors Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh, RAMP, I'm here to share the concerns of our 2,200 realtor members in Allegheny County who proudly represent and serve local homeowners and taxpayers. More so than any other profession, realtors are in the trenches daily with the current prospective homeowners, renters and business owners of Allegheny County.

RAMP enthusiastically supports re-authorization of the Act 202 New Home Construction Abatement. Realtors know firsthand this property tax abatement on new residential construction has been a true incentive in keeping or even drawing buyers of new homes within Allegheny County. This tax abatement has a demonstrated record of serving as an important factor in the decision to purchase a home within our borders. It further provides an incentive for buyers to consider upgrades and purchases for their homes that benefit local businesses, vendors and employees. It is also with much praise that RAMP takes note of Council's choice to not tinker with or in any way alter the Homestead Exemption, which affects 318,803 property owners in Allegheny County. Thank you.

For many years now, RAMP has appeared annually before County Council during the budget process, gone to numerous committee meetings and implored you to not raise the county's millage. We have been proud to publicly praise you for your continued fiscal leadership and stewardship. RAMP is mindful this year has presented more budget challenges than usual to Allegheny County. Our realtors report local residents' deep concern and uncertainty has now turned to fear for the property tax increase you're going to vote this evening, coupled with the court-ordered reassessment and new valuations looming large in their minds. The uncertainties of what they will owe, whether they are able to afford their tax bill, whether they can keep their home is generally frightening constituents.

Once again, on behalf of its neighbors, its friends and family, its communities, we respectfully ask

Council members to be mindful of the pending assessment and the uncertainties that lay ahead. If there is a budget shortfall, why not increase the millage to just that amount? Consider responding to your constituents by sending the message that you, along with them, will wait until the new valuations are handed down, then take a look at how the County's coffers will sum before moving to increase their tax burden. In two weeks, residents of Pittsburgh and Mount Oliver will be receiving their new valuations in the mail. Now is not the time for Allegheny County Council to make their holidays even less merry. We thank you for your consideration of these remarks, and we look forward to continuing to work with you for many years to come. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Laura Townsend, followed by Scott Hollander.

MS. TOWNSEND: Good evening. My name is Laura Townsend, 5814 Phillips Avenue, Pittsburgh. I'm also the director of the Family Support Policy Board of Allegheny County. For 20 years, family support centers have helped our county's most vulnerable children achieve positive outcomes. Last year alone, centers provided almost 6,000 at-risk children and their families with developmental screens, parenting programs, school readiness support, job training and much more.

When I was last here, I had grave concerns regarding the 2012 budget proposed by the County Executive. If that budget is adopted as written, all 26 of our county family support centers and a vast array of other proven programs would have risked closing. This would have been a tragedy for thousands of families, a retreat from our history of human services for the district and the nation, and a major financial mistake.

Regardless of what happens with the votes that will follow today's period of public comment, I am here today to say thank you. Thank you for the difficult and courageous work that you have done to find a way to restore to the DHS budget the \$5,000,000 needed to fulfill our match obligation and draw down an additional \$17,000,000 in state funding. And thank you for listening to the voices of Allegheny County's most vulnerable children and families.

Those families came out by the hundreds on November 9th and 10th. They navigated public transit,

arranged for childcare, juggled work commitments and essentially risked dropping all the many balls that they juggle on a daily basis. They did so because this issue matters to them. It matters to their children and it matters to their communities. They rallied in the courtyard downstairs and gave heartfelt and often very personal testimony in this very room. They spoke of the transforming impact that family support has had on their lives. They also spoke of a desire to give back, to volunteer at a local family support center and to continue the work of strengthening our communities. Thank you for listening to these voices.

In the weeks since the public hearings, many of you have taken the extra step of learning more about family support and perhaps even visiting the center in your district. Barbara Daly Danko was mentioned earlier. I want to thank also Amanda Green Hawkins for her recent visit Friday. And I'm sure there's other people that I'm leaving out. Thank you for that effort to learn more and hear more about our community.

It is my hope that this dialogue is just the beginning of a renewed effort to support Allegheny County's most vulnerable children and strengthen our families and communities. We in the family support community understand all too well that we live in a time of expanded need and shrinking resources. Our centers are constantly working to do more with less, and so we understand the difficult choice the Council faces. We believe, however, that failing to preserve and nurture our county's network of proven prevention programs would be a profound mistake. Having heard from so many of our families and perhaps even visiting a program in your area, I hope that you share my view that family support centers are an extraordinarily powerful engine of positive change that is deserving of continued support. Thank you, again, for listening to the voices of Allegheny County's children and families. As you consider the 2012 budget, I urge you to make your voices heard on their behalf. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Scott Hollander, followed by William Thompkins. Good evening, sir.

MR. HOLLANDER: Scott Hollander, 2405 Wrights Way, Pittsburgh. Our agency, Kidsvoice, represents 3,000 abused and neglected children in Allegheny County each

year. I stood here four weeks ago with the rallying cry, it just takes five. We're asking you to spend the \$5,000,000 needed, not to throw away \$22,000,000 in services, 1,000 jobs and \$17,000,000 in matching state funds. Tonight I'm here to thank you for listening to us and for reaching a remarkable point where everyone on Council wants to spend the \$5,000,000 needed to save that \$22,000,000. You all agreed about the right thing to do.

The only question now is how to get there. While there have been different solutions proposed, only one option remains on the table that you can vote for or against tonight. Yes, it involves a millage increase. It's certainly not my preference to pay more property tax, but if that's what's needed to pass a budget that maintains crucial services to abuse and neglect victims, then I'm willing to pay my share.

True leadership means doing the right thing even when it's not the easy or popular thing. Raising taxes isn't popular. On Sunday The Post-Gazette threatened not to endorse any of you who vote for either a bond or tax increase. That's bullying, not journalism. Those of you who thought that raising the \$5,000,000 was the right thing to do before that editorial know that it is still the right thing to do. We teach our children not to stop doing the right thing just because someone is bullying them. That's true whether the bully is the kid down the street or The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette.

Your vote tonight is not for The Post-Gazette. It is about thousands of abused and neglected children relying on you for the help and services that will be cut if you don't pass a budget that includes \$5,000,000 to leverage those \$22,000,000 in services. My op-ed piece last week mentioned a two-year-old who became my client after her mother prostituted her two-year-old daughter online and had men come and sexually abuse that child. Not surprisingly, that little girl had trouble bonding with any maternal figures in her life. Her first foster mother gave up on her because of that. She had the same sexual acting-out and maternal bonding problems in her next foster home. That family nearly gave up on her, too.

But with strong advocacy and support and treatment from a highly specialized therapist, that placement worked out. The therapist has said that while the child is more stable now, she'll likely experience significant problems again when she hits puberty and has

her first dating and sexual experiences. And when she has a baby, she'll be able to protect that child in the same way that her mother wasn't able to protect her. These are the kinds of services and lives that are at stake in your vote tonight.

My op-ed asks how we can criticize those at Penn State for not doing the right thing if we don't do the right thing in our budget for abuse and neglect victims in our county. The Penn State people didn't do the right thing to protect children because they were too concerned about their own jobs and team and what others might think or say. It's easy for people to say that they do the right thing for children, even in the face of pressure from their peers, jobs, media and even political allies and parties. You have the opportunity tonight, in the face of all that, to do the right thing and vote for the only solution that is before you that can protect abused and neglected children. When you cast your votes, we'll all know who's for kids and who's just kidding. Please do the right thing and not the easy thing. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: William Thompkins, followed by Steve Plevel. Mr. Thompkins, are you here? Steve Plevel?

MR. PLEVEL: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: You're up next, sir. Coming up? Mr. President.

MR. PLEVEL: Thank you very much for your time. My name is Steve Plevel. My address is 203 Clever Avenue, McKees Rocks, 15136. Good evening to you all once again. I was here prior, last month, speaking on behalf of CCAC as far as the proposed budget cuts in the county budget for their funding. And basically, the reason I'm here is the community college, CCAC, is the largest community college in Pennsylvania. There's a lot of opportunities there for people. A lot of people from our community members are there. That's their fast track to the workplace. These programs help to create good, educated citizens and give many people a fair chance at a formal education.

Now, I was here before talking on behalf of thousands of students that I represent, but I will actually tell you a little bit about my story. I was laid off in November, and it's been a struggle for me to get through school by provide proper funding for myself and rent that I have to pay. And basically, not only does it

affect me; it affects southwestern Pennsylvania. And as you know, a lot of what CCAC does, you know, it goes back into the community. And I mean, it's been rough for myself as well. In the semester that just passed, I've had a Pell grant that's helped me out. And with this increase in tuition due to the cuts, it would actually have me pay money as opposed to getting money back that I would generally use for book expenses.

Now, I've had to pay a little bit for my books in the past, but now it's a lot more than it has been. And being on Unemployment, I'm sure you all know that you don't make as much as you do when you're working. And that's the nature of it. If this budget cut is not stopped, if we all support this county budget, I would have less money in it. I'll have to reach back into my thinning wallet, as is, in order to pay for my textbooks. And this new unparalleled idea of raising CCAC tuition mid-semester or at all forced me to reach into my savings, which the State cannot cover. That's why I have to pay for it myself.

And I understand that not everyone has a savings that I do. Not everyone is as well prepared as myself. Hopefully, I won't have an emergency come up where I need to dip into that again where I don't have as much. But basically, a lot of people are not prepared. They struggle to better their lives, as likewise myself. They try to make do with their financial margins.

Now for this reason, CCAC is properly --- it needs to be properly funded, to continue educating people of the Pittsburgh region. This county budget will make up the loss that originally would have been suffered. Students at CCAC contribute about 50 percent of the operating expenses. The State only contributes a little under 25 percent. If we don't support these taxes that will support the funding for CCAC, many individuals will have to pull away from academic careers in order to provide for their families or their selves. This burden should not go to students when the goal of the college and the State is to make education affordable. With all this being said, you can see how your votes are very important to us. And voting for the county budget will keep CCAC and the surrounding southwestern Pennsylvania region and area functioning properly. Thank you all for your time.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Angela Elliston, followed by James Guffey.

MS. ELLISTON: Angela Elliston, 3910 Mintwood Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15224. I am here today as a CCAC student and vice president of Allegheny Campus Student Government and an Honor Society student. Most importantly, above all, I'm here as a working-class mother of two children. My little boys have ideas of what the American Dream should be. I do want to make it very clear, first of all, I'm wholeheartedly thankful for Council's efforts to protect my educational opportunities. And I'm very relieved that you found a way from drastically cutting not just CCAC, but the Department of Health and Human Services. As mother, I realize how imperative all those programs are for a lot of families in this region.

You know, my undergraduate degree is really --- it's my generation's high school diploma. If I expect to earn a living wage, you know, I have to support my family independent of public assistance. As CCAC's budget stands, our student tuition payments right now make up more than the state --- what the state funding would have. Really, as students, we're doing our part and doing everything we can to support our school and to keep it operating, yet we still face a mid-school year tuition increase. For me, personally, that means \$500 to \$1,000 less in my spring semester operating budget. For me, that's my utilities. That's groceries for my children. I'm willing to make those sacrifices and find that in my budget to continue working towards my future. It's unfortunate, though, that one group of working-class people's problem should be shifted to another group of working-class people.

My youngest son has asthma. As a resident of Lawrenceville, we are frequent visitors to the Children's Hospital. It's a fantastic facility that overlooks my back yard. Sometimes, even overlooking my back yard, though, I'm faced with, really, a constant reminder of just how wealthy and profitable corporations like UPMC have become, while so many working class families are really fighting for survival, fighting for the crumbs in the budgetary pie. As I said, you know, I'm willing as an individual to make a sacrifice, if necessary, to protect my children's future, to protect, you know, a stable --- and promise of opportunity for them. I just expect in

this world that the corporations be held to that same accountability. There's millions of dollars that have been passed up in potential revenue that is lining corporate pockets, while the rest of us are stuck here speaking in front of Council, begging for a tiny slice of the pie. Thank you for your time today.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. James Guffey, followed by Diana Bucco.

MR. GUFFEY: Good evening. My name is James Guffey, and I live at 4135 Steiger Street, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15234. I'm also the executive director of South Hills Interfaith Ministries, located in Bethel Park. You've heard the human side of some of the stories. What I wanted to do today was talk to you about some numbers. And I'll be glad to leave this little chart here. In reality, these aren't my numbers. They're your numbers that I pulled off of the Internet from all of the budgets from 2004 going forward. And basically, it's the year --- the total budget, the federal revenue, the state revenue, the net property tax revenue and then the human service appropriation and the jail, Shuman and juvenile court placement appropriations. And I'll leave this, again, with your clerk.

The reality of what strikes me about all these numbers, is that with the budget that was presented --- and while you are looking at adopting one, a newer budget, your budget --- that if we went with the budget that was presented to you, we would be returning human services funding to pre-2004 levels. I don't think that's possible.

The other thing that struck me about these numbers were the fact that juvenile, Shuman and court placement services have continued to rise. And I would guarantee they will rise at a much more alarming rate should you approve the budget that was presented to you with the \$5,000,000 cut to DHS.

Finally, the other thing that struck me was the percentages all pretty much stay the same. DHS is made up between 20 and 24 percent of the budgets going back to 2004 and every year since. So it lends me to start wondering how the budget is put together with our departments being clearly asked to define why they need the monies.

I'm a registered Republican. Moderate, but a registered Republican. I don't like the alternatives being discussed tonight. Doing away with vital services and certainly leaving \$17,000,000 on the table is unconscionable to me. Raising the debt to borrow money and place this on the requirements of those we're trying to save today and have them pay for it in the future doesn't make sense. Finding it in other departments, when this room is just filled with other people.

Finally, what's before you tonight is to raise taxes. It's been suggested that taxes haven't been raised in over the last ten years, and we applaud that and thank you for doing that. But the reality that any reasonable person will understand, in 2001 the price of gas cost about \$1.70 a gallon. Today it costs \$3.33. Health insurance has skyrocketed. Doing business with the government has increased.

Finally, a month ago the headlines were about a university and its football coach. And the discussion --- or part of the discussion was about what he should do and what he was morally obligated to do. That's the same discussion today, the idea of what should be done, which is pass the budget and be done with it, versus should we be remembered as the generation that made the changes. This is a headline I shared with the Finance Committee when I closed before. How will the future judge us? Will we be a generation that cares for the least of these and provides vital services?

Finally, I've been asked to introduce this group of young people who would like to present a petition to you to restore the Children, Youth and Family Services funding. They are from the Weil After-School Program in the Schenley Heights Community Development Corporation, and it's Natalie, Dimitria, Cameron and Amaradia. And they have a little petition that they'd like to present to Council for your benefit, so if they could do that for you. But again, thank you for the tough decisions that you're making. It has a valuable impact. I hope we can be part of the generation that takes care of the least of these here in Allegheny County. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Our clerk has received and filed, and we look forward to taking a look at them in a more direct fashion. Thank you for being here and

presenting those to us. Diana Bucco, followed by Michael Sundo.

MS. BUCCO: Thank you. Hi. My name is Diana Bucco. I am a resident of Ross Township, 124 Radcliffe. And I am also a child of the South Hills, Beechview. So I see myself as representing both communities today and disappointed that my colleagues are not here. But I hope they are here by the end of my remarks. So I am also the president of the Forbes Funds, and I'm representing Greater Pittsburgh Nonprofit Partnership as well as the Campaign for What Works.

And I know that the last few weeks have not been easy. It's not been easy to know that so many around you are in need and turning to you for support. It's not easy to know that there are resources available at the state level that might not actually be accessed. It's not easy to find solutions when there is no single solution that will appease everyone, no single solution.

The United States Army General Douglas MacArthur once said, a true leader has the confidence to stand alone, the courage to make the tough decisions and the compassion to listen to the needs of others. One does not set out to be a leader, but becomes one by the quality of their actions and the integrity of their intent. You have heard from my colleagues a month ago and today about how important this is. I don't need to reiterate it, but I do need to thank you for the confidence to take a stand for so many without a voice. I need to thank you for the courage to make a tough decision regarding the needs of so many. I need to thank you for listening and for understanding the severity of the times and the issue. You are clearly demonstrating by your vote today the true actions of a leader by staying focused on restoring the funding for critical services, for making sure that we can draw down on state funds. We support your solution. We support your solution. And we thank you for the quality of your actions and for the integrity of your intent. Thank you for your time.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Michael Sundo? No? Mr. Guffey, you appear here twice. Are you coming up again?

MR. GUFFEY: Just to give you this back. I'm sure the clerk would like to pass that around.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Nicky Monroe Heinz? Nicky Monroe Heinz? Not with us? Okay. That's all I have until we get to non-agenda topics. Is that right, Mr. Catanese?

MR. CATANESE: That's correct.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good. Public comment on agenda items is concluded. Approval of minutes. 6647-11.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the October 18, 2011 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: I make a motion to approve.

MR. DEFAZIO: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed? The minutes are approved. 6648-11.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the November 1st, 2011 regular meeting of Council.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is there a motion?

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

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

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT BURN: Unfinished business.

MR. DROZD: I have an amendment to offer.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is that a point of privilege, Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: Granted. Yes, sir. Proceed.

MR. BARKER: Excuse me. I believe Mr. Drozd's amendment refers to one of the budget --- that relates to one of the budget bills, which we have not yet reached. The appropriate process would be to make a motion to approve that bill when you get to it, second, and then during discussion, make the amendment.

PRESIDENT BURN: Does that sound satisfactory to you, Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: That's fine with me, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Very good.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Mr. President, I have a point of personal privilege and then I have a motion this morning. May I present it?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, ma'am, please.

MR. BARKER: Is it typed?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes. It's a motion to be distributed at this time. And Councilwoman, you may wish to allow Jared to get it to all of your 14 colleagues and then discuss its merits. Thank you. Seeing that all members have received a copy, Ms. Heidelbaugh, would you like to discuss this motion?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes, Mr. President. I prepared this motion. I want to go through a few of the whereases, please. The proposed property tax rate would come to an increase of approximately 21 percent of assessed values. And according to numerous published reports and on-the-record remarks by Judge Wettick in his administration of the Clifton v. Allegheny County litigation, 2012 will be the year in which the countywide reassessment becomes effective. Assuming this is the case, the 21-percent increase in property taxes exceeds the 5-percent cap established by applicable state law, and can only be accomplished with the approval of the Court of Common Pleas upon good cause shown pursuant to the terms of 16 P.S. 4980.2(d).

And whereas the required approval has been neither sought by this Council nor granted by the Court, my motion seeks a delay of two weeks to consider for our Council to go through the budget and to specifically review where we might be able to make some cuts to restore the health and human services. And I'd like to make a small statement, if I may, in support of my motion.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, ma'am. And then at that point, I think you may want to ask for the motion or make the motion at that point. Yes.

MR. HEIDELBAUGH: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Sure. Please.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you. In recent editorials by both The Tribune Review and The Pittsburgh Post-Gazette, these newspapers asked our Council to come through, department by department, and figure out where they can --- where we could shave expenses if we want to provide more dollars for human services and the community college. Prior to my being seated here on Council, I attended many of these hearings. And I was very moved by

the needs of the community to keep human services funded at the levels that we can get the state match. And I'm very --- however, I'm very concerned about the additional tax burden that we're about to perhaps vote on.

So I view this as not one agenda where we can --- we have to cut human services now and cut the community college, or one choice where we have to increase taxes by \$50,000,000. What I'd like is to have some time to really go through this budget and really examine ---. And in preparation of that, what I did was I spent about ten hours meeting with each of the department chairs. And I came away with these department chairs being very honest and indicating to me that there is creating solutions instead of just cutting human services or increasing taxes by \$50,000,000.

Now, I understand that the Charter indicates that we have very limited time in which to propose this budget, but also, the Charter doesn't indicate that there's any sanctions if we fail to vote on this today.

One of the major things that I came away with was in talking to the interim warden at the jail. And what he told me in that half-hour conversation was that it was his opinion there was almost 300 to 400 prisoners there that probably don't need to be there. And if you do the math, if it's 300, that's about \$7,000,000. And if you do the math on 400, that's about \$9,000,000.

I went through, and I'm happy to talk about it at length, but I'm new, so I don't want to burden and do anything wrong here. But there's a host of things that, if we were creative as a group and as a people, we could have our hearts and do the right thing and continue to fund human services and also not burden the people with \$50,000,000.

And lastly, I just want to say that I'm very concerned that this budget might be unlawful because it exceeds the five-percent windfall provision. And if it's unlawful we're going to be, you know, stuck with no budget at all because the Court won't approve it. So those are my comments, and I'd like to move this motion.

MR. DROZD: I'll second that.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved and second. Is there any other discussion on the motion? Any other discussion?
Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: I have heard Council --- my good Council members numerous times say they want to do what's

within --- keeping within the law with the assessments and follow the Court's direction. And there are some implications here that we have to look at. We're all in support of me being --- as well as my Council members, maintaining Children and Youth Services, those areas, community college, because that's an investment in our future. There's no doubt about that. And as far as --- one good point that the Council-lady makes is that jail. Really, actually, if you take the numbers, it's from \$40,000 to \$58,000 to house per prisoner. So that equates out to maybe \$15,000,000 to \$20,000,000 of savings if we be a little creative in getting those prisoners out on ankle bracelets and out of that prison. And that doesn't include --- I don't believe --- it may not include the healthcare costs.

So there are some creative areas that we can look at. And I think this is a very commendable and --- this is a very serious move we're going to make if Council's going to vote on this thing tonight. And I think another two weeks of due diligence --- I think that's good due diligence. I think it's a good investment in our county and in our future and for our taxpayers. Thank you, Mr. President. Thank you, Council members.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other discussion? Any other discussion?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Am I allowed to say some additional things?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yeah. Short, in response to what Matt said. But if it's repetitive, Councilwoman, I suggest you just move to a voice vote.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Well, one of the things I wanted to say was that if you look at the facts of what we're spending in Allegheny County, one of the things --- the Kanes are very expensive. We have a reduced census there of 104 less patients. We have 40 percent less juveniles at Shuman. We have a program that we fund every year in Allegheny County that costs \$2,500,000, wherein we provide three lawyers to parents who are about to lose their children for abuse. And I think that there is an enormous amount of things that we could look at. Some of the items in the Sheriff's shouldn't probably be paid for by the County. They should be privatized. There's a reduction in the civil case load that is very remarkable. Criminal cases haven't gone up in six years. So I just think that we, as a Council, are abrogating our duty by

not really looking through line item by line item to try to preserve the money that we know what we need for human services and not reduce (sic) these taxes on all the people.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other discussion on the motion? Any other discussion?

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you. I see kind of a fundamental difference where certain members are regarding the budget. Some of us are looking for \$5,000,000, and I think every proposal that I've seen or been part of, that probably would have been first step. I think where we're starting to lose it is between \$5,000,000 and \$50,000,000. And I think Councilwoman Heather Heidelbaugh offers --- is offering something that allows for a selection menu, visiting specific cuts. She mentioned some, and this is just discussion topics. The legislation is in front of you. But even the Festival of Lights, we have our County working, taking operating budget money through salary and free concerts.

If you're looking for the \$5,000,000 maybe a little bit more, you probably could find some of those funds. If you're looking for the \$50,000,000, it's going to be hard to get from where we're at to \$50,000,000. I think that's the fundamental difference. But I think the two-week period allows us to find common ground. And quite frankly, that's what the capital budget, cross- departmental operating budget was supposed to do. As I said, it's not one of my favorite things to do, and I guess I kind of got beat out by this borrowing. But if you look at the debt service, because that gets amortized, there is no debt service for at least three years. So you know, we're trying to find some options. The legal issue is a good issue, and that's been in the paper. So there's just a menu of different washouts.

As I see it, these two weeks may give some members, if there is any uneasiness, an opportunity to look forward. I don't think if the budget gets passed now or two weeks from now, there is a problem with regard to our Home Rule Charter. So I would just say that I think it's a greater solution to continue the work as a team. And I will say, Chairman Robinson and my friends on the Democratic side, I'm so very comfortable that you have

given all members a great committee process, many hours. And I think this will just add to that. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Gastgeb. Any other discussion? Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you, Mr. President. I do agree with Ms. Heidelbaugh concerning areas such as the jail and also the courts. But I also want to give credit to Council members that every year or every year since I've sat through the budget process, we wrestle with the Courts. And they're a separate part of government. And they come back to us. And we never seem to be able to get anywhere to try to rein their costs in. And their costs do keep escalating, and that's a real problem. And certainly, I think any member of this Council would say Children and Youth Services and other issues that are much more important to us than the escalating costs of the courts and the escalating costs of the jail.

So I don't want anyone out there to think that we do not look at those issues, because I think we truly do. And we look at them legally. We look at them any way we can change them. But I also think that every member of Council does want to make sure that Children and Youth Services are taken care of and that --- no one's in an easy position here. I don't think two weeks is going to make, you know, a big difference in what we find. But certainly it isn't the wrong thing to do, either. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Any other discussion? Any other discussion? Any other discussion? My only remarks as president before I ask for the voice vote is you speak in terms of possibilities, and those possibilities, in my opinion, were explored by the Chairman of Budget and Finance. Are these solutions possible? Maybe. We know what's certain, and that's that some of the most needy residents will suffer. We've gone through this, but we'll get to that later. All those in favor of the motion, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Opposed?

(Chorus of nays.)

PRESIDENT BURN: The motion fails. 6590-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2011, Submission 12-11. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson?

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

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 1. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: 6611-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, enacted pursuant to Article IV, Section 2(k) of the County Home Rule Charter, Section 7147 of the Municipal Claims and Tax Lien Act, Pa. Statute 53, Section 7147, and other applicable law, authorizing, one, the County to sell, transfer

absolutely and assign to a third party purchaser a selected portfolio of County tax receivables consisting of the County's right to receive the face amount, interest and penalty, which is due and owing to the County as a result of a property owner's failure to timely and fully pay the county's ad valorem real estate tax during the tax year 2008 to 2011, following the execution of a final agreement of such sale, absolute transfer and assignment between the appropriate officers of the County and one or more successful third-party purchasers; two, the County, acting through its Treasurer or any other person or persons contracted for now or in the future by the County, at the request of the Treasurer, to service in the capacity of the special tax server (sic), to retain all rights to collect and to bring legal action to enforce the collection of county delinquent taxes, including tax receivables; three, to grant to one or more third-party purchasers of the tax receivables of years 2008 to 2011 the right to purchase certain tax receivables for tax year 2012, 2013 and 2014; and four, the County Manager to take any and all action deemed necessary to carry out and effectuate the purposes of this ordinance. Sponsored by the County --- the Chief Executive and the Treasurer.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson.

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

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion?

MR. DROZD: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: I want to elaborate on this a little bit because it shows some creativity on the part of the administration. In essence, two things. It accelerates the amount of monies that will come into our coffers which, hopefully, will reduce the burden on the taxpayers. Secondly, it also --- we just flow. What I mean by that is those monies that we have to garner further down the road and how long it may take us to gain those revenues, this will get it up front and reduce flow. And that's commendable. You know, this is a good win for the taxpayers, I think, and for the county. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
 MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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: 6615-11.

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. Sponsored by Council Members Robinson, DeFazio, Danko, Martoni, Finnerty, Green Hawkins, Macey, Futules, Palmiere.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson.

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

MR. MARTONI: Second.

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

MR. DROZD: Yes. I want to point out, this is with our tax --- we're talking about a tax establishing ---?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir, this is it.

MR. DROZD: I want to point out something, that first and foremost, I am for Children, Youth and also for all our youth. And I've said that and I've spoken very vocally here on Council. I take a little bit at heart one young --- one gentleman saying that if you vote a certain way, that you're either for youth or not. And I take that very seriously when they say that. I would say to reverse that. You come along and walk in my shoes. You know, I called 200 to 300 constituents, you can guarantee that, within the last, three, five days. And all them --- the majority of those said, you know what? Please don't raise my taxes.

I ran on that basis. I gave my word to my constituents and won my seat --- not win my seat --- was granted my seat by my constituents. It was bestowed upon me based on that one factor, that they said we're overburdened now. I would say, how about that little lady that's 80-some years old living in a house that told me the other day --- and you can multiply those all the way across Allegheny County, that says to me, you know what? I lost my husband. I can't afford another \$100, because you know what? That's going to mean the difference of whether I live in my home or not, that I've owned --- I've lived in with my husband for 50 years. And you can multiply that. And I know that firsthand because my aunt lived on \$500 to \$600 a month. That's what she lived on in her home and fought every year and every whatever to keep that home.

So secondly, walk in my shoes. I would invite that gentleman, when I go into the inner-city schools and while I'm there, come with me and spend a day with me, and let me see when you talk to those teachers, when teachers will say to you --- some of them will say, you know what? This is one day in ten years that I've felt concerned, because I've had five or six young men, older young men, seniors, walk into my class and try to take over my class. Walk in my shoes, and then you tell me that and make that statement. Don't ever --- anyone ever say that anyone here on this Council is not supportive of our youth. We all are. And by the way, come with me on a Saturday or Sunday on my time, on my time, when I present a

proclamation to an Eagle Scout because I really so much enjoy that, because I want to support those young people or whatever it may be in those youth that I support across this. So I really do take that to heart, and I take this very seriously.

At the same time, I keep my word, and I'll keep my word to my constituents. And again, I respect my fellow Council members. I know they feel in their heart the way I do in the same way. Whatever does and what comes out of this, I know they're good people. And I don't want anybody to ever accuse anyone on this Council anything less than what they are and what they believe in and what we believe in and what we support. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Mr. Ellenbogen, followed by Ms. Heidelbaugh.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. I kind of have a lot to say. If you look at the Democrats that have sponsored this bill, you notice that Councilman Ellenbogen is not on it as a sponsor. I had the unique perspective of being the only Council-person that's sitting up here who ever supervised a county department. I was a former chief of operations for what was Allegheny County Special Services and Maintenance. I was a former operations manager for the Public Works Department. I was a director of the Treasurer's Office. And I even spent seven years in the Allegheny County Controller's Office. So I think I know a little bit about these departments. A lot of the folks that I came up with who are now directors would tell you that, you know, I take this very serious.

That being said, I wanted to spend some time looking at this thing from a supervisor that supervised a county department. So you know, they always say that people who don't --- who don't heed history are doomed to repeat it. So I'm going to take you on a little journey to the last time we had three County Commissioners. And during that time, I was the chief of operations for the Special Services and Maintenance. I see Director Olczak. He was in charge of the other end of that department. These commissioners were faced with this same situation. They chose to take the road of, you know, we're going to lay people off. We're going to not raise the taxes. We're going to do what you, the public, wants. But you know, sometimes when people don't understand the truth and

they don't understand what's at stake here, it gets worse. So let me tell you what happened there.

The roads, I can remember --- in fact, the president --- the director of the Parks Chairmanship, Mr. Futules, had just announced a \$15,000,000 completion of North Park. During the '90s, my heavy-equipment supervisor came to me and said, if they would just give us the thousands of dollars that we need to fix the dredge boats so that we could dredge that lake, we can save it. But it fell on deaf ears because you, the public, said no. So what cost a few thousand dollars --- and I hear people always talking mortgaging our children's future. As we said back in the '90s, \$15,000,000 to fix what they wouldn't give us.

I can remember when they cut the type of salt and the type of blades that we had. In the first ice storm we had, all the trucks were stuck on the side of the road because the cheap salt that they bought us wouldn't go through the augers. And I can remember the phone calls that night. Let me tell you something. If you love somebody and they're not home and you're in an ice storm, you'd pay anything.

I could just sit here and tell you the numerous things ---. The grass was three feet high at the wave pools because they fired all the guys in the parks that did the work. I had iron workers who were cutting grass. The bridges --- I had people under the bridges trying to patch them where if you leaned over a railing on some of them, you would have fell in the river. That's what happened. And then it got worse.

You, the public, became so angry at what happened that not only did you throw the three of those commissioners out of office, you never allowed the three of them, after numerous attempts to run for office again, the chance to ever be elected. That's how angry you were, because of what happened, because for every action, there's a reaction. And that wasn't enough. We're here because of that. You changed the form of government. That's how bad you were. You didn't want to pay a couple dollars to do the right thing, which now costs millions of dollars. But today, you got rid of the former governor, so here we are again.

So let me tell you something, and I'm telling you this from my experience. And I don't have a --- and anybody would tell you, you know, I've always been a

renegade Democrat. And the only one who's never given up on me is Councilman Finnerty and Councilman DeFazio, thinking that maybe I'll come around. But you know, I speak my mind. You know, I'm not looking to run for anything else. And when I ran for this, I did this because I was just one of the regular guys sitting there saying, you know what? If I ever get an opportunity to sit here, I'm going to do what the right thing is.

You know, you talk about --- I knew someday I'd get the chance to use my economics degree. For every action, there's a reaction. If you don't want to take care of these children and give them something to do, well, guess what? When you're paying twice as much for the police officers and twice as much for the prisoners down there, that's what happens to those kids. You know, I didn't grow up in a nice, ritzy neighborhood. My dad was a cop, and I grew up in a half a double, and I grew up a street kid in Lawrenceville. So I can tell you what happens to those kids that don't have nothing to do. They end up incarcerated. They end up in morgues. They end up a threat to society.

It's unthinkable to me to not have these children who are going to be the successors to us. I mean, we'd like to think we're going to be here forever, with the exception of Mike and Nick, but a lot of us will probably move on. How can you say that? The people of this county are very understanding.

And you talk about --- let me give you a public works issue. When Franklin Roosevelt was president, they built a lot of ---. If you look at a lot of these county roads and you look next to the creeks that are running along there, you'll see that those walls of those roads are held up by sandstone. Well, if any of you folks ever walked in the Cathedral of Learning in the University of Pittsburgh, and see how the steps go like this, that's what walking on them has done to sandstone. Well, guess what? Since Roosevelt was president, Director Olczak is now saddled with all these walls falling and compromising these roads, you know. So the reality is, you know, do you want to close them and drive 30 miles around to go to work?

Let me tell you something. You know, I voted against the drink tax. I voted against a lot of things that my colleagues had voted for. And I know everybody up here has the right heart about this thing. Some of us

have different approaches. My experience has been a lot different than a lot of you because I lived it. I saw what could happen. And I'm telling you, it's going to happen again. If this money does not pass, I can tell you that you, the public, are mad right now, but what's going to happen after, you're not going to like it, because I can tell you from personal experience these departments are cut to the bone.

Director Olczak had a couple hundred more men years ago. I don't even know how he gets done what he gets done. And like I said, this is real time, folks. This isn't just about I don't want to pay another \$100 or \$150. And like I told you, when you love somebody and he can't get those roads plowed because he don't have the equipment, because he doesn't have it in his budget to fix those trucks, or those roads need to be closed, trust me, you'll pay whatever you need to pay just to wish that somebody got home safe.

So I say to you --- and I've never voted for a tax increase. I will not sit here and watch this county go in the tank again, as I saw those three Commissioners did to this county. And like I said, you never heard them winning another thing again, not because of anything we all did, but because you, the public, rose up and said, this is unacceptable. And I can tell you right now with this budget, it's unacceptable as it is. And the right thing to do is to make sure that the public is safe, particularly with winter coming, that these children have an opportunity to grow up and be somebody.

You know, I'm a working guy. You know, Councilman Martoni and Councilman Robinson are huge cheerleaders of the community college. I took advantage of that. I couldn't afford to send my kids --- you know, I worked two jobs. You know, believe it or not, I don't just sit up here and wear a suit every day. But the point of the matter is I was able to send --- my one daughter just graduated from Chatham College because she had an opportunity that I could afford for her to go to community college. And because of the fine education that those folks give over there, she transferred to Chatham College and graduated in the top of her class, which could have never happened if not for that. There are so many services that you folks don't realize and take advantage of.

How many of you out there have parents and aunts and uncles? Did you know that this is the second oldest county in the entire United States? And you want to say to them that we don't have services for you? I'm not going to be part of that, and I'm not going to be part of this thing with the children. And more importantly, which I'm more familiar with than anything, is public safety. I will not compromise the safety of the people of this county. And you know what? If it means me not being re-elected, then so be it, because I can sleep at night because I know I did what was right. Thank you, ladies and gentlemen.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Councilwoman Heidelbaugh, followed by Council Member Futules and then Council Member DeFazio.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I appreciate Councilman Ellenbogen's comments because I know they're from the heart and I know because he's a good man. And I disagree with very little that he said. I come at this, obviously, as a new Council-person. But I come at this with great concern about this law that exists that prohibits a windfall. We're going into a reassessment here. Every single house in this county is going to be reassessed, and there's going to be a huge increase in taxes as a result of that. To talk of that now, we're increasing taxes by 21 percent, and we're not increasing taxes on the rich. We're not increasing taxes on the middle class. We're not increasing taxes on the poor. We're increasing taxes on everyone. Your reassessment is going to apply to everyone. Hopefully, some of the taxes will go down on properties that have their reassessment go down.

I think we're setting ourselves up here for a referral to the Court of Common Pleas. And the Court of Common Pleas is going to say that this budget increase of 21 percent, which is almost --- it's clearly four times, almost five times what the statute allows, that we have not shown extraordinary or good --- it would be good cause. You know, what would be the good cause for increasing taxes four to five times what the law allows in a reassessment here? And then what are we going to do? How are we going to explain this to the people of Allegheny County?

I also have a question about the process, and I admit that I'm new. But I did watch the hearings

conducted by my new colleague, Councilman Robinson, and I have no complaint with the manner in which he conducted the hearings. I have a question about the process. And the question I have is what opportunity do we have to really, sort of, probe the department heads and to give them, maybe, questions in advance and really sort of probe them on things that could be done differently?

I know Councilman Ellenbogen just said the departments are cut to the bone, and I respect his opinion. But in the conversations that I had, I think there's deficiencies in government that we're not looking at. I talked to the medical examiner, who --- we have a state-of-the-art facility here in Allegheny County. And he would like to enter into discussions regarding basically allowing other counties and other parts of the country to use the services of our fine medical examination unit to do toxicology tests and actually raise revenue that would be contributed to the bottom line. We've had a drop in population here in Allegheny County. We're not gaining people or losing people, yet our cost keeps going up and up and up.

So I think that we need to --- for the next time --- at least for me, anyway, the next time that we engage in budget hearings, I'd like to re-look at the process. I'd like to be able to question the folks who are responsible for these budgets, because the materials that I was provided really didn't go down to the level that I think that we need to go down to, which is, you know, we're the body of government, the equal body of government that has the right to appropriate the dollars. And if we don't know specifically down to the very line item what the costs are for these programs, then we can't make good judgments. And nobody wants to increase taxes. We're in a terrible recession right now and we're burdening all of our constituents. So there's going to have to be hard decisions made. I don't want to burden human services. I think that those programs are necessary for long-term savings, just like Councilman Ellenbogen suggested.

But just in the jail, I mean --- and this is the last thing I'll say. But the public defender who I didn't meet with had been the subject of a lot of critique in regard to that office and whether the public defenders are meeting with the folks who are sitting in jail and whether the folks sitting in jail really need to be there. And I

know my fellow Councilwoman, Green Hawkins, was asking a lot of questions about that. I wanted to ask a lot of questions about that on the last hearings. So I mean, I think that there's ways that people of good heart and good intentions can look at the way government is operating, whether there's efficiencies that could be enacted and whether we could increase taxes, not by a full mill, but something less than a mill. That's all I have to say.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Councilwoman Heidelbaugh. Mr. Futules, followed by Mr. DeFazio and Mr. Finnerty.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Mr. President. Heather, I agree with some of the things you said about the legalities. But quite frankly, there is no legality until we vote on it. And I believe that once we do, then we discuss it with a judge. We're allowed to ask for the millage increase that we need. If it's permissible --- and also, the fact that your thoughts on the jail and things to save money, that's true. Just because we vote tonight doesn't mean we stop looking. This budget is \$37,000,000 short from last year. To raise the millage, we're only getting back to the starting line. We're not really getting that far ahead. And we need to get our fund balance up because we've been told by the County Controller, the Treasurer, that by the end of 2012, we will be at a zero fund balance. That's even if we get back to the starting line.

So we have to look at that and the fact that in the last ten years, I can't imagine anybody in this room are paying the same utility bills as we did ten years ago. The price of fuel. Dave Coplan, you know, he stated this isn't just about family services. This is about the entire budget. Every department has been cut except the Kane Hospital. That's it. Every department was cut to the bone. The community college was left out. We cannot imagine the costs that we've had now in the last ten years. Our healthcare has doubled. Everything has doubled. In your homes, your increase in utilities. Our contracts are coming up with our own employees here. We have to just catch up. The \$37,000,000 that was left out from the federal and state government really hurt us. And they told us quite frankly, we're not going to take it out of your paychecks anymore, but we're going to ask you to save yourselves. And that's exactly what we're doing.

We're saving ourselves by placing this millage increase on ourselves to support our own livelihood in our own county.

Yes, of course, I'm going to have a heavy heart over this. I've had sleepless nights over it. But I'm going to do what's right. You've got to have courage. You need courage to do what you have to do for the people less fortunate and to keep the people of Allegheny County working, and that's what I'm going to do. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Mr. DeFazio, followed by Mr. Finnerty.

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. You know, like some of the speakers have already said, this is probably one of the toughest votes we'll have to take in all the 11 years we've been here. We have to look at the whole picture. When you look at Allegheny County, you look at every surrounding county for the last 11 years, all raised their millage two times, three times. Everyone has raised but us. We've been at zero. As a matter of fact, it even dropped a little bit. Nobody wants to see any tax increases. Believe me. But we have to make tough decisions. Like Jimmy Ellenbogen stated, look, sometimes you have to spend a few dollars now rather than wait until later and spend millions. He's been through it. He's been a director doing these different things. He knows. So it's only common sense.

We have to do some of these roadwork things. We have to support this. We have to support some of the things the courts are doing. There's a lot of things we have ---. I'm not even getting into the big problems you hear everyone talking about, the abuse centers that have to stay open and all that. We know all that. I think, look, we just have to make a tough decision. And like I said, no one wants to --- no one wants to see one penny raised. Look, your friends, your relatives, your neighbors, everybody, everybody is in the same position. But if you look at this thing and you add everything up, the \$100 or \$150 or whatever you might pay for the year is going to be well worth it at the end of the day when you see what's going on here, because it's going to get a lot worse if things don't get done now.

And all I want to say is I just --- look, we've looked at this thing over and over. I know that Heather Heidelbaugh said something about illegal. We're not doing anything that we think is illegal. Everybody has their opinion. And we'll find out later who's right or wrong.

We're doing what we think is right, and I think we have to vote on that. And I feel that everybody should vote the same way. Thank you.

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

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. One of the reasons that the tax increase is such a percentage higher is because Allegheny County's millage is 4.69, which is the lowest around. And that's one of the reasons it's 21 percent. I want you to keep that in mind as we look at what's happened here in the last --- it's been over ten years since taxes have been raised. Property tax, that is. During that time, we actually decreased property tax, because what we did was we increased the Homestead Exemption \$5,000, which lowered everybody's property tax. In relation to that, there was a casino that opened up in Allegheny County, which also has lowered property tax, saving anywhere from \$50 to \$200 a year. Now, that's just making some statements to start with.

Let's take a look at the county. We've spent a tremendous amount of time on this budget, even though some people don't think we did. We brought in the directors. We've talked to the directors. We didn't have private audiences with them, but we talked to them. And they submitted what they thought was what they needed for the year. Now, this is the way the budget process is done every year. In the last ten years, there's been a 28-percent workforce reduction in Allegheny County, 28 percent. That's a tremendous lot of people. Healthcare in Allegheny County has gone from \$35,000,000 to \$70,000,000. And as my other colleagues have said, everything has gone up: the price of gas, the price of milk, the price of bread, et cetera.

Over that ten-year period --- and this is not in a way making an excuse for us doing it. It's just giving you some facts. Armstrong County raised their taxes 34.8 percent. Beaver County raised their taxes 41 percent. These are property taxes. Butler 28.6 percent, Washington 42.3 percent, Westmoreland 23.5. And to give you some millages on this, and we're talking about Armstrong County, Armstrong County went from 11.5 mills to 15.5 mills. Beaver went from 15.7 mills to 20.2 mills. Washington went from 17.5 to 24.9. And Westmoreland went from 16.99 to 20.99 mills. These are the counties that are around Allegheny.

We've done a tremendous job, and I salute all my councilmen and I also salute the Chief Executive and the budget department, of keeping taxes in line. We juggle our books continually. This year alone, in 2011, we were cut \$15,000,000 in the middle of the year by the state and federal government. We had to go do all kinds of --- call them shenanigans or whatever. But we had to go around to different pots and get money. ACC had to take a cut --- I mean, CCAC had to take a cut. CYF had to take a cut at that time. This was three months ago. And I can't remember the other places that took their cut. But these were things that had to be done to get us through 2011. Right now we're doing the same thing again. We're borrowing some money to get through this year that has to be paid back from different pots that we have.

This is the way it is. Nobody out there, at least I don't think anybody out there, really wants to raise taxes. I spent a lot of time with this. I've gone through it again and again and again. And it's just not better. This year alone, we're probably going to --- I say probably because we don't know for sure, but at least \$32,000,000 is going to be removed because the state and federal government did not give that money to us.

Health and Human Services' budget was cut. CCAC was cut in the budget to be looked at from the County Executive. The courts was cut. Electronic monitoring, the special courts, things that really count in the courts. Domestic Relations, child support. These are things that really count in the courts. These are down where we have young people involved. These are down where we have unwed mothers involved. We have people that are divorced and trying to get child support. These are basics.

And our courts and our CYF are award-winning programs. They're copied throughout the United States. These are programs that would have had to be eliminated or cut way back. But in the end run, they would have cost us a tremendous amount more because if you take the ankle monitoring braces away, there's only one other place for that person to be, and that's in our county jail. And that drives up the cost immediately. And the special courts, the same way. They go out to juveniles, people that are having behavior problems. They're going to have to be cut. A lot of times these people are able to function since they have some kind of probation or some

kind of parole officer to get them out there and get them in the community, keep them going. But we're going to have to cut it.

Now, these are just some of the things that we're talking about when we talk about this budget. And it's important --- and it's extremely important that you realize that for the people of Allegheny County, to me, it's the best we can do. It's important that you realize also, no matter what else has been said, that there's been a tremendous amount of time put into looking through this budget, talking to different people about the budget and where we should go. Because I've gotten a lot of e-mails, a lot. No matter what anybody says up here, I've gotten just as many to pass this budget as I've gotten not to pass this budget. Some people that were in favor of not passing the budget were pretty nasty. But that goes with the territory, and I can handle it because I got Jimmy to back me up.

But the thing of it is I think it's important that you know this. CCAC, what cuts are going to be done through the first budget, the Chief Executive budget was actually a \$14,000,000 cut to the courts, a \$10,000,000 cut to CCAC, \$2,300,000 from Public Works, a half a million for Shuman. Emergency Services were going to be cut \$3,000,000. The jail was going to be cut \$2,400,000. And then the healthcare at the jail was going to be cut \$150,000. Healthcare always goes over in the jail. The Health Department was cut \$1,600,000. CYF, and everybody knows that case, was going to get a \$22,000,000 cut, which only amounted actually to \$5,000,000 from the County. So we're looking at as we look at these --- and this isn't talking about every department, believe me, because every department they're cutting except like five or six. That's close to \$53,000,000 right there that was cut in the Chief Executive's budget. And again, I'm saying that's not talking in relation to the departments because I only took the ones that were a half a million dollars or more. That's what we're looking at.

And to say that there hasn't been a lot of blood, sweat and tears involved in this budget is something that I totally disagree with, because there was. And as Councilman Futules said, he spent a lot of sleepless nights. Well, I didn't spend a lot of sleepless nights. I just tossed and turned and quivered thinking about it. But we're in a situation where we have to

provide services to the people of Allegheny County. That's one of the big things government is about, service to the people. And I think when it comes down to it, this budget provides the service necessary.

And hopefully, we won't be cut too much more by the federal and state government because what's being done here, ladies and gentlemen, is the federal and state government is cutting and they're cutting. And every time they cut, they push it down. And they push it down to the county and to the local governments. And you're going to see that a lot of municipalities are going to raise their millage because it's pushed down to them because the state has taken away some funding. Our community development grants have been cut every year. It's an important thing for our communities, our municipalities, but we get cut every year. So that's where I stand. And it's something I don't want to do, but it has to be done. We have to stand up for what has to be done. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Dr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: I just want to mention there's some rhetoric about the reassessment, that things may change in this coming year. Thank you. I want everybody to understand the fact that if there is a reassessment, that we have the ability --- if the numbers are certified, we have the ability and the obligation to comply with the law, whatever the law says. And at that point in time, we'll have to make the necessary changes. Let's keep that in mind. Okay. But there is no reassessment at this point in time. And the way the courts work, God knows when there will be. Okay. I don't know.

I also want to mention that most of the money we're talking about restoring, nearly all of it, in fact, is a small amount we're restoring that's going to bring in a larger amount. Okay. We're restoring \$5,000,000, which we will take in \$22,000,000 more because we're restoring the \$5,000,000. It's a simple example; okay?

Secondly, I heard something tonight I think we ought to explore. I heard that we may have 300 prisoners, according to the warden, in the county jail that shouldn't be there. Well, my God, if we have 300 prisoners that shouldn't be there, I want us to call the warden and have a meeting about that. On the other side of the coin, how expensive would it be if they're not there and have to wear bracelets and so forth? We should explore that. We shouldn't just hear it. We should explore it. And I also

heard about the medical examiner. Okay. Where in the hell is the medical examiner? If he has a way of making more money for the county, they should come in and tell us. Okay. You hear all these things, but we're stuck making a budget, and we have to do the best we could making it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: I want to start by saying, you know, nobody runs for an elected office saying I want to raise taxes. It just doesn't happen. But I want to hearken back to a couple of pieces of my background.

As most of you know, I teach American Government at Pitt and CCAC. And one of the things that we talk about in my class is the role of the elected representatives. And there's really two kind of competing views on what an elected representative should do. There's the delegate role and the trustee role. And the delegate role is doing basically what Council Member Drozd did, where you go out and poll your people and say, you know, do you want me to raise taxes? And you say yes or no, and then you vote the way that your constituents generally think you should.

The other role is the trustee role where you really --- they trust you to get all the facts that you need to make the best decision. And I think that in this particular case, we're looking to be those trustees where we're trying to make the beset decisions for the long run of Allegheny County. We're talking about cuts. You know, I majored in economics, too. Cuts can also be viewed as investments. If we cut the CYF numbers now, what are we going to be looking at 15, 20 years down the road? It's smart to put that money into those programs now.

I also want --- another piece of my background. I spent 15 years in federal, state and local government budgeting. You know, at the federal government level, billions are decimal points. At the state government level, millions are decimal points. We're down here at the local level. We're looking at people. We're looking at real people, real bridges, real roads, and we need to take care of that. The buck is stopping here, and we need to take care of it. The people in this county are counting on us.

Finally, I want to say I actually agree with our new Council member on a couple of issues. Have we uncovered every efficiency that's out there? Probably

not. We need to study these things more. I welcome her interest in the other departments, as did Council Member Martoni. You know, given my budget background, I think we may want to look at some changes in the process going forward of how we do budget hearings, talking in budget hearings to directors. But that's for next year. Right now we have a structural deficit. We need to do this now. We're not going to solve those problems in the next two weeks. And I think you have to take this tough, tough vote.

You know, I made one pledge to my constituents when I was running. It wasn't about taxes. It wasn't about getting anybody a job. It was I would try to make every decision in the long-run, best interest of Allegheny County. And I think that a yes-vote on this tax vote tonight is that vote. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Just a quick point. Thank you, Councilman Martoni, about asking to come in. And we need to get them in here to talk about that. And I wanted to point out to the Councilwoman Heidelbaugh, which I know she pointed out, approximately --- I don't know what your healthcare --- or what you pay for it or how much you have. You may not have any. But a prisoner, \$65 a day. That is \$1,800 a month. You multiply that and guess what? You come in without healthcare into the prison, you've got it now. If you need a liver transplant, you get it. And guess what 85 percent of them are in there for? Drug and alcohol. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Any other discussion? Any other discussion?

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. GASTGEB: May I speak?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Mr. Gastgeb.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you. First of all, there's no doubt in my mind that all 15 of us sat through many hours hearing the budget, whether you're on the Budget and Finance Committee or not. It just comes down to what options would best be applied. That's where the difference is. But for me it was always what do you do when there's no more money? I think if I had to read the executive's mind, what he did was give a comprehensive fiscal plan that had \$37,000,000 in cuts. That's what he

decided to do, what his option base was when he felt there was no more money.

We're looking at Bill 6615-11 that raises the millage to 5.69 because that's another option that takes a different approach, what you do when there's no more money. And it hasn't been that this Council has not been creative. We have been creative. We all voted for the prisoner release bill, which we hope would take prisoners out of the jail, saving the money there, and working on deferred maintenance throughout, maybe, our park system, therefore saving money on that end. We have been creative. Same with the Kanes. We've decertified beds. We had a special committee that was set up a few years ago. But we still continue to lose money on the Kanes. But we have been creative.

I guess for me, the economic climate is at an all-time worst. And I'm also mindful that if you want to talk about history repeating itself, there was a tax on drink. There was a tax on rental. And we are having history repeat itself by making a tax on property, which wasn't supposed to happen when the drink and rental car tax was voted on. I agree there needs to be courage both ways on this issue, but it seems like the courage is only going to the tax side of it. There's also courage to have cuts and live within those cuts. So to me, it's not like we haven't worked together and we haven't worked hard. It's just the options differ so drastically regarding our budget. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Gastgeb. Any other discussion? Any other discussion? Any other discussion? Mr. Catanese, would you please add my name as a cosponsor of this? And before I call the roll, I would like to thank all of you tonight for a spirited and very helpful debates on this very important and significant issue. Mr. Ellenbogen? Please enter Mr. Ellenbogen as a cosponsor as well. It has been a very healthy and spirited debate. And I do believe that all of us up here, Democrat and Republican alike, I've noticed one common denominator. And that is the need to find a way to restore these cuts for the most needy and deserving of our residents here in Allegheny County. We just had some differences of opinion on what we think is the best way to get there.

Mr. Robinson, as always, this is the first time for me to sit here as President to say this, but your work

and the work of the Budget and Finance Committee again deserves commendation. You exercised, as have the colleagues who attend and are participants and members of your committee, as are the colleagues who sat in and asked questions, as always, exercised the due diligence that we do under this Council and under this legislative body to effectuate a good discussion and answer the very pointed questions and expect very direct answers as we move forward. Before I finish my remarks, point of privilege, Mr. Robinson? Did you want to say something?

MR. ROBINSON: Once you've finished, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. I'm about to call the roll, actually, when I get done.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay. I'll exercise my option now if you'll allow it.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please.

MR. ROBINSON: I just want to thank all of my colleagues who were involved in the process of putting this budget together. And I also want to thank staff. Many people don't realize that we have a very small staff that services the 15 of us. As usual, they've got a Herculean task under adverse circumstances. We have brought the budget process a long way in the seven years I've been chairman. I won't burden anybody with all the particulars, but I do want to thank our staff, our support staff and the staff in the Administration for their cooperation and the staff is those who are independently elected. On a light note, I want to thank the men and women who spent a lot of time typing, recording and moving data around so that we could make the best decisions. The little people who oftentimes are here working late at night while the 15 of us have gone on to other things. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. And again, just in summation, my point is this. We've talked about the need to restore the cuts. Our colleagues on the other side of the aisle had come up with a proposal of their own. The Chairman of the Republican Party in Allegheny County wrote a very nicely worded op-ed piece, which I thought was very even-handed, and indicates the need to get something done here as fast as we possibly can. And we're about to do that.

But I think what you've seen in the debate tonight with all of our colleagues, you can really

summarize it as follows. We have uncertainties and possibilities on one side of the equation and certainties on the other side. The possibilities, sure, we can take another look for two more weeks, perhaps. Maybe we would find something. Maybe we would not. We can't be sure. Uncertainties, the arguments and discussions about the windfall statutes in the Pennsylvania Code that may or may not indicate whether we can or cannot do this. I mean, it's not that definitive on either side of that debate. If this vote is passed tonight and this bill is passed into law, there's a possibility there could be a challenge. There will be solid arguments on both sides of that. And we do not know where that will take us. Again, another uncertainty and another possibility.

Let's talk for a second about the other side of that balance sheet. And that's the side that we all agree on up here. And that is that the most needy and deserving residents of this county, if we don't do this, will suffer. No one can debate that, and no one has debated that. The debate has been about how to help them. Let's talk about those folks for a second. We've heard some very passionate pleas from some speakers tonight about those most needy and those abused and those neglected that will suffer further abuse and further neglect if we don't step up if we don't lead tonight.

And we talked about education as well. The president was here a month ago talking about he spent time with the president of Korea. They cannot hire teachers fast enough in Korea. We can't seem to lay them off fast enough in the United States of America. We continue to make cuts to education and fall behind in the international competition. If you watched the Beijing Olympics, what did you see? 3,000 Chinese students marching in sync, not missing a beat on their drums, not missing a step. Anybody who doesn't think this debate starts in Allegheny County and counties across this Commonwealth and stays across this nation on an international economic competition is only fooling themselves.

We have an opportunity right now to reestablish course and reset direction in this county because we didn't get help from the State, which is unfortunate. Because there is a rainy day fund up there with hundreds of millions of dollars in it, intentionally chose not to be passed down to counties that need them. I suggest to

all of you it's raining in Allegheny County right now. A little bit of that funding down here would have taken away the need to have this debate and have this vote. What makes it even worse is that the person could have done that who lives here. He's seen firsthand how these abused and neglected individuals suffer and how the need for education must be allowed to exist. So with that, I support this, and I would ask my colleagues to support it as well, as evidenced by their cosponsorship. Please call the roll.

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Gastgeb, I've called the roll. Please call the roll.

MR. GASTGEB: I think your editorialization just completely ruined the night and the harmony. There's no reason to attack the Governor.

PRESIDENT BURN: I attacked the Administration, parties aside, sir. Please call the roll.

MR. GASTGEB: You attacked the federal government, too.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: No.

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: No.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 11, noes 4. The bill

passes.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT BURN: 6619-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2011 Capital Budget for Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. DROZD: I have an amendment here, Mr. Burn, just to keep in mind.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Mr. Drozd. I'm cognizant of your amendment. Procedurally my understanding is we would need to ask for a motion to approve, followed by a second, then any amendments.

MR. DROZD: I'll make the motion to approve.

MR. BARKER: Not to interrupt, but I believe Mr. Drozd's amendment is to the 2012 Capital Budget, not an amendment to this bill, which amends the 2011 Capital Budget.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd, you're talking about the future. This is talking about the current.

MR. DROZD: That's correct.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. So we'll defer on your amendment proposal until that time.

MR. DROZD: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Will do. 6619-11, Mr. Catanese, can you read it again?

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2011 Capital Budget for Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson?

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

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved and second. Any discussion?

MR. DROZD: Discussion.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: As it involves --- and wherever and whenever I can, in not all cases, and you'll see why the

exception, I always vote against the capital because of that North Shore Connector, and it didn't take care of my road, the Mount Troy Extension, which has --- people have really asked be repaired, so I'm going to vote no in keeping with that theme on this because it did not take care of either one of those two.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good. Any other discussion? Any other discussion? Any other ---?

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, Mr. Gastgeb.

MR. GASTGEB: Just to confirm, this is the 2011 Capital Budget that was discussed in committee, not the 2012?

PRESIDENT BURN: That is correct, sir.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other discussion? Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Just one. I'd just like to reiterate what's in this. This is a courthouse water leak, courthouse HVAC emergency repairs, jail roof leaks, malfunctioning air handlers at Duquesne Regional Hospital to name a few of the things that we're talking about here. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. 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: Nay.

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?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 1. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: 6622-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting an Operating Budget pursuant to Article IV, Section 2, Article VII, 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. Sponsored by Council Members Robinson, DeFazio, Danko, Macey, Futules, Finnerty, Martoni, Palmiere, Green Hawkins.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson?

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

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

MR. DROZD: Yes. I'm going to vote no to this because it involves that millage increase. But let me point out something. When I vote against this, do you realize technically I'm voting against my own salary? My salary's in this operating budget. I'm voting against it.

And let me point out one thing that's very important, too, is that, you know, one of the best buys that the taxpayers of Allegheny County get are those people that serve on school boards. They get no salary. Municipal supervisors, commissioners in those municipalities, they get very little compensation. And those 15 up here. I don't know if you're aware, and I'm sorry to see that those people that wanted so bad those enhanced revenues didn't stay to hear this. But we are paid --- and I'm sure a lot of them aren't aware, but they

look at us and think we're paid like a lot of elected officials. We're paid a whopping \$9,000 a year. We do this and it costs us --- I know it costs me more than it would than if I was putting my time elsewhere. \$9,000 a year with 100,000 constituents that I represent. And a whopping \$3,000 expense money, which has to cover all of my mileage or whatever. Look what time we're here, by the way, too, at seven o'clock. You don't see us here when we're in committee or whatever we may be, talking to our constituents. I one time answered an e-mail at 1:30 --- and this is truth, God as my witness, about 1:00, 1:30 the morning on Sunday morning, I answered a constituent. Available 7/24. So that's what we do.

When you compare it to maybe, let's say, some other elected officials, where they represent a constituent of about 60,000 population, are paid a package of about \$125,000 to \$150,000, think of that. Plus a pension. By the way, we get no benefits. No pension. No medical. Nothing. That's why I answered the question. Because I asked within one of the organizations that is an agency or authority of the County to take a cut. And they said, why don't you? I said, I don't have anything to cut. I don't have any benefits. And that's also what I answered that night at 1:30.

Now, one other thing is what I say is when I leave here at times, I'll leave here, and mine goes as far as the horse can ride and not that fast, from Ross all the way to Moon and in between there, Bellevue, Avalon, Westview, a lot of different municipalities in those areas. And I may stop at three of them. One I even went into and they canceled the meeting because I was there.

So my point being is that, you know, we put --- and I'm going to say, you know, I know I put about 40 to 50 hours sometimes a week into this because I love my constituents. I love what I do. I'm here for service. So when I vote against this, I'm going to vote against my own salary. And that's technically correct. Not only am I voting against the millage increase, but I'm voting against my own salary. So please understand where we're coming from on this and why we're here. And I applaud those Council members that are here for the same reason, that we do serve the people of Allegheny County. Thank you, my fellow Council members, and Mr. President.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, 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: No.
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: No.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Absolutely, yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Yea.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 10 (sic), noes 4. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: 6623-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting a Capital 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 for the capital expenditures during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2012 and ending December 31st, 2012. Sponsored by Council Member Robinson, DeFazio, Danko, Futules, Finnerty, Macey, Green Hawkins, Martoni and Palmiere.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson?

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

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion?

MR. DROZD: I have an amendment.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes. Is it in hard copy, sir?

MR. DROZD: Yes, it is.

PRESIDENT BURN: Would you ask that it be distributed?

MR. DROZD: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Please distribute the proposed amendment to this resolution.

MR. BARKER: I believe Ms. Liptak actually has it, so ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: Oh, okay. Well, we will just wait a second for that. As it's being passed out, I would just ask with respect to parliamentary procedure, before we even begin to discuss the merits, I assume Mr. Drozd will ask to move to amend or would he ask to discuss it and then move to amend?

MR. CAMBEST: He would have to make a motion to amend. That would need to be seconded.

PRESIDENT BURN: And then we would discuss the proposal?

MR. CAMBEST: And then the amendment.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir.

MR. DROZD: I make that motion to amend the Capital Budget.

PRESIDENT BURN: So moved.

MR. GASTGEB: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: It's been duly seconded by Council Member Gastgeb. Discussion on Mr. Drozd's motion to amend? Mr. Drozd, you have the floor, sir.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, sir. I just heard --- when I say this, I'm sure I'm sure I'm going to hear a thump from DeFazio, how he believes and I believe, and whatever his beliefs are. This is that North Shore Connector, you know. And I would ask, you know --- a lot of it was echoed by my fellow Council member, Councilman Ellenbogen, because he was so apt to point out that we really need to take care of our roads and bridges, which I'm very strong supportive of, instead of putting money into the river. And I've been, and my constituents --- I echo the views of my constituents, our constituents. I'm

going to guarantee probably 90 percent of Allegheny County feels the same way about this ridiculous tunnel under the river. And I'll call it that and I'll stand behind it. It's a ridiculous tunnel under the river. It's going to serve a few and cost much. And we'll probably never get --- as is pointed out sometimes, if we don't take this, we'll probably get nothing. You know what? We'll probably get nothing because they'll say, you got yours. It's in that river. And you know what it's going to cost to maintain that tunnel? \$20,000,000 a year. That's what I heard. \$12,000,000 to \$20,000,000, I think, somewhere around there. The first time I asked that question, no one knew what it was and no one knew who was going to maintain it. We're going to maintain it. Somewhere, indirectly or whatever, the taxpayers of Allegheny County. I'll guarantee you that.

So I'm going to put this up to pull the monies --- and by the way, I want to point out that we're a little bit ahead of what they paid in this tunnel because I asked our budget director, and there was an additional million dollars allocated to the capital budget of the Port Authority, so I say we're ahead of it. And I would ask my Council members to join me in taking this money. And by the way, I believe, too, this was a resolution to commit dollars, not an ordinance to commit dollars, so it's not a mandatory. It was a resolution. It was a resolution to commit those dollars to that North Shore Connector as part of our whatever.

I just believe that this is appropriate, especially in lieu of what's happened here tonight. I believe that we've got to look at ways to alleviate the burden on the taxpayers. This is another \$1,600,000 that can go into roads and bridges that we badly need. Boy, we haven't seen near that because we got over 150,000,000, I would venture to say, in unfunded roads and bridges. And billions in infrastructure. We haven't seen that yet coming at us. Think of that. Who's going to pay for it?

You should have attended a meeting in Coraopolis with me, and you'll see what they're fearful of. They have to take care of some water issues or sewer issues or whatever it may be. That's going to cost a tremendous amount of money. And that is lurking all through Allegheny County. Believe me it is. A majority in the City of Pittsburgh and a lot of the old towns and river towns that you represent and I represent.

So I'd ask my Council members to vote for this. Have the courage, as we said tonight. I hope that my fellow Council members --- Councilman Ellenbogen, because he's so strong on roads and bridges, would support me on this, that he'd give me his vote. In any event, I think we'll stop it at that. And what may be said may be said. I feel very strong about it. I feel very good about it. And I echo again the majority of constituents, not only in my district, but of Allegheny County about this tunnel. It's lessons learned. You know, always lessons learned, because we don't want to make the same mistakes again. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Councilwoman Heidelbaugh, followed by --- let's see, who else --- Mr. Ellenbogen and then Mr. Finnerty. Ms. Macey, I didn't see you. Mr. Macey, followed by Councilwoman Heidelbaugh.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Heather, and thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. You know, it's interesting that we've talked about leveraging \$5,000,000 to get \$17,000,000. The North Shore Connector, we leveraged almost \$800,000,000 with our \$11,000,000, which I believe is a good return on your investment. Now, when people say it's a tunnel to nowhere, it's amazing. Nowhere? Five corporate headquarters over there, two stadiums, a community college, other entertainment features, restaurants. I think that's a destination. And with the North Shore Connector, we're going to be able to keep buses off of the main streets. People will be able to travel by parking on the North Shore and coming into town from the North Hills. There's a lot of great opportunities. There's a lot of great opportunities for people in South Hills and West Homestead and Munhall and West Mifflin to come down and get into the First Street Garage and park there and get a ride over to the stadiums or the restrooms or the school. So there's a lot of advantages. And I can say one thing to my colleague, Matt Drozd. When there's a ribbon-cutting for this, please stay home.

MR. DROZD: You can --- excuse me.

PRESIDENT BURN: I hope that's being exchanged in a civil fashion. Let's keep it civil, please. We disagree to disagree on things. Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes. I had a question for the Solicitor, Mr. Cambest. Is there any legal requirement

that we're already bound to these amounts? Are we required?

MR. CAMBEST: I can't answer that to every one of those. I'm sure that there are some ---.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: As per the amendment of Mr. Drozd.

MR. CAMBEST: I couldn't answer that question.

MR. BARKER: I also am not in a position to answer with regard to every existing dollar that's committed.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ms. Heidelbaugh, it's a question of first impression to this Council.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yeah. But my question was, I was wondering, in terms of the amounts that Mr. Drozd is suggesting that be altered, I would be unable to vote on this today without understanding whether we're legally committed to these numbers.

PRESIDENT BURN: I would agree, Ms. Heidelbaugh, we're in uncharted legal waters here. I mean, the debate to do or not to do the connector aside, whether that was a line item for the street or the street up in Geyer Run Extension or Mount Troy Extension, whatever it might be, the bottom line is we're legally in uncharted territory. Mr. Ellenbogen, followed by Mr. Finnerty.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I know that Councilman Drozd's heart is in the right place. I'm glad to see --- I mean, he fought very hard for the money for the Mount Troy Extension, and thanks to Public Works Chairman Mr. Macey, that money is in there for Councilman Drozd. However, I would like to support Councilman Drozd. I know his heart is in the right part. But there's a problem because it's my understanding that this \$1,600,000 is part of the federal match. If we don't pay this money back, we're going to be guests down at the County Jail because the feds don't take kindly to not being paid back. That's number one.

Number two, a lot of people are unaware that once you go so far out in the river, it's no longer county property. It becomes U.S. harbor line property because the federal government regulates it. So let's just say we're not going to use it. The federal government would not allow a structure that size to sit in the middle of the river and not be used. Therefore, we would need another \$800,000,000 to remove it to satisfy the federal

requirement. So as much as I'd like to help you, Councilman, I'm sorry, on this one I can't. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: I think Mr. Ellenbogen expressed the whole thing. We put up, I think it was \$12,100,000, something in that vicinity to leverage over \$450,000,000 from the federal government to do that structure. And I think Councilman Macey has very well expressed what's on the other side of that tunnel. There's a lot of structures on the other side of the tunnel. And that tunnel, by the way, is the first installment of going down into McKees Rocks and Sto, and those people down there are excited about that. So I can't concur with Mr. Drozd. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Before I get back to Mr. Drozd, we're stepping into this North Shore Connector quicksand again. But I see Mr. DeFazio wants to weigh in, then Matt Drozd. Mr. DeFazio.

MR. DEFAZIO: The one thing I want to make clear for the benefit of some people that don't realize what's going on here, we had nothing to do with this project. This was done before our time. We had nothing to do with it. But we are on the hook to do this project. We didn't vote on it or anything. And you know, to just turn around --- I agree with Mr. Ellenbogen. You do certain things. If you want to stop something for a little bit, it's going to cost you maybe ten times more at the end of the day. I agree with him. But we didn't have --- to make it clear to the public, because I hear a lot of people, why are you guys doing that? We didn't vote on this project. There may have been a million other ways we could have used this money, but we weren't allowed. That was for that project. That was voted on to do that, and that was it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Yes, sir. I not only will not be at the ribbon-cutting ceremony, I may carry a sign. Let me explain something on this, too. The people of Allegheny County were duped, including some of the newspapers. You know why? Because there was supposed to be spur which was needed to go to Oakland and to the airport. Instead they got a ridiculous, stupid tunnel under the river that's only going to serve buses. Now, you think of that one. There was a good expenditure of money to get a spur that goes to Oakland, and the other one could have and should

have went from downtown Pittsburgh to the airport like it is in Atlanta.

No, they were duped. The people of Allegheny County were duped because they were told one thing, and the word was taken back. They didn't get the spurs here or here. They got a stupid tunnel instead, one ridiculous tunnel. And they didn't get what they needed and they wanted and they thought they were going to spend their money for, and that was in two spurs. They were duped. They were misled. And it's wrong. Thank you. I call for the vote because if we don't call --- I call for the vote, Mr. President, because if we don't, it'll go into the --- I want to call for the vote.

PRESIDENT BURN: You just called the question? Is that what you said?

MR. DROZD: I want to call to call for question.

MR. DEFAZIO: Point of order. He can't make a motion to cease debate. That takes two-thirds vote. He can't say he's calling the vote.

MR. DROZD: Okay.

MR. FUTULES: Thanks, John.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, John.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is that a motion to cease debate?

MR. DEFAZIO: That's up to you.

MR. DROZD: Yeah, it's a motion to cease debate and call for the vote, because the way I understand it, if we don't vote on it tonight, the Capital Budget will be expended; is that correct? I want to know that. Or, you know, I'd be willing to let it go into committee if it wasn't expended right away and we discuss it and let people come and discuss it, maybe some of our constituents.

MR. FUTULES: Call the question.

MR. DROZD: I just called the question.

PRESIDENT BURN: You called the question and you kept talking, sir. Look, every time we fall into this trap, and let's not do it anymore. You've called to end debate. I'm going to ask for the vote on the ending --- the vote to end debate, then vote on the amendment. Vote to end debate.

MR. DEFAZIO: Point of order.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Did he get a second?

MR. HEIDELBAUGH: Second.

PRESIDENT BURN: It's been seconded.

MR. DEFAZIO: Okay.

PRESIDENT BURN: All right. Vote to end debate.
Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: No.

MR. HEIDELBAUGH: This is to end debate. You
want to ---?

PRESIDENT BURN: He knows.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: No.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: No, based on the legal
question.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Reluctantly, aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes 10, noes 5. It passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Now, on the Matt Drozd,
Councilman Drozd amendment, please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: No.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?
MR. DROZD: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?
MR. ELLENBOGEN: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?
MR. GASTGEB: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Nay.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Abstain.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: No.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Nay.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?
PRESIDENT BURN: No.
MR. CATANESE: Three yea, 11 no and 1

abstention.

PRESIDENT BURN: Now, on 6622-11 in its original form, which had been moved and seconded as released from committee, is there any further discussion on 6622-11 in its original released form?

MR. CATANESE: 6623.

PRESIDENT BURN: I'm sorry. 6623-11. Any further discussion on the bill as it was released in its original form? Any further discussion?

MR. DROZD: Yes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: Yes. I have a question of our Public Works. I want to make sure that the Mount Troy Extension is fully funded, will be completed, no questions whatsoever. And I'd like to ask that of Public Works and our County Manager.

PRESIDENT BURN: Only if it's possible to give the commitment, I assume. But sure, gentlemen, please come up.

MR. FLYNN: What's your question, Councilman?

MR. DROZD: Make sure that it's fully funded, it will be completed and that funds are there to complete that extension.

MR. FLYNN: As you know, there's funding in the 2012 capital budget for that project. I think it remains to be seen whether it's entirely funded, because as you know, many construction jobs, you get into something, you run into different difficulties. So I can't sit here and commit that it's 100-percent funded and it's going to be done. I think the first step was get it appropriated, which hopefully that will happen. And then as Public Works deems it necessary, they will have the funding to repair that road.

MR. DROZD: My question is then, I was told by one of the members of Public Works in the meeting the other night that there was adequate monies to complete the road; is that correct? Allocated in this?

MR. FLYNN: As I said, there's an appropriation in there, and I think I already answered that question.

MR. DROZD: There's adequate funds to complete the road all the way through? I mean, is this ---?

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Drozd, he answered the question in the affirmative twice.

MR. DROZD: Okay. There is? All right. Thank you. I'm going to finish my --- when I vote tonight, I'm voting because this has been very contentious and very concerning of my residents that are served by that Mount Troy Extension, some of them which has serious health conditions. They're very concerned that they could get to a hospital in time because some of their family members have some issues health-wise. So this has been going on for quite some time. I'm going to vote tonight in support of this because it's in that budget. You know, it's in this capital budget.

MR. FLYNN: Appropriated.

MR. DROZD: Appropriated. Appropriated to repair that road. When I do so, and let the record reflect that I'm not voting in support of the North Shore Connector. I am not. But I'm voting in support of my constituents out there that so longingly asked for the repair of this road and so duly deserve the repair of that

road. And I thank those of you that had input, you know, in allocating those dollars to repair of that road. That's long overdue, and I really appreciate that. I want to thank you for that. Thank you.

MR. DEFAZIO: Under point of special privilege ---

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. DEFAZIO: --- real quick. I agree with Matt. I'd like to see the road completed. Being that I represent the whole county, I have a lot of people that would like to see the road completed also. I'm with you on that one. One time.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other questions for our County Manager? Thank you, sir.

MR. FLYNN: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other discussion on 6623-11? 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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: 6624-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Grants Budget, Special Accounts Budget and Agency Fund Budget by sending forth appropriations to pay said expenses during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2012 and ending December 31st, 2012. Sponsored by Council Members Robinson, DeFazio, Danko, Finnerty, Futules, Green Hawkins, Palmiere, Macey, Martoni.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Robinson?

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

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? 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: Clarification. What are we voting on here, please?

MR. CATANESE: Grants Budget, Special Accounts Budget and Agency Fund Budget.

MR. DROZD: Thank you. 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?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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. 6191-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution amending the New Home Construction/Improvement Program resolution enacted May 23rd, 1996 by the Board of County Commissioners of Allegheny County at Agenda No. 700-96, subsequently amended by Resolution Nos. 22-00, 6-01, 61-02, 04-04-RE, 49-05-RE, 07-08-RE and 25-09-RE, by providing for the continuation of the Allegheny County New Home Construction/Improvement Exemption Program. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

PRESIDENT BURN: Chairman Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This was released from committee with a unanimous affirmative recommendation, and I'd like to move it.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. GASTGEB: Please list me as a cosponsor.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please list Council Member Gastgeb as a cosponsor. Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: I want to be listed as a cosponsor also. And I would also just like to inform people that this is the reauthorization of Act 202, which has to do with new residential construction, and also Act 42, which is for remodeling or improvements to deteriorated or blighted property, which about every property in Allegheny County can apply to this. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Please add Councilwoman Rea and Council Member Palmiere. Well, let me do it this way. Does anybody not want to be a cosponsor? Ms. Danko will

not. Please add all members with the exception of Councilwoman Danko as cosponsors, including myself as a cosponsor. 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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: 6620-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution approving a project for the benefit of Robert Morris University, the University, to be financed by the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority by the issuance of the Authority's tax-exempt and/or taxable bonds to be issued in one or more series in the aggregate principal amount not expected to exceed \$15,000,000, provided that the taxing power of the County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania, the

County, shall not be obligated in any way with respect to the bonds hereinafter defined, and declaring the financing of such project as desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people in the county. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This also was moved from committee with a unanimous affirmative recommendation, and I'd like to move it.

MR. DROZD: Second.

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

MR. DROZD: You know, this is one of those types of issues that come before us that is so good to come before this Council. Robert Morris has been such a good neighbor of our communities, as well as many of our universities that are here now, educating our youth, and this is really good. I'm glad to see that they're expanding. And they're going to help that corridor out through there, even down into the valley area that does so much work. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other discussion? Mr. Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: I'd like to affirm exactly what this \$15,000,000 here is doing. One thing it's going to do is apportion the cost of acquiring, renovating, equipping and furnishing the real property located at 8256 University Boulevard, Moon Township that is now a Holiday Inn --- Holiday Inn Airport, actually. The university is acquiring this to use as student housing. They're also going to use some of it for miscellaneous capital expenditures on the university campus, funding of capitalized interest and refinancing of indebtedness incurred to finance any of the foregoing. I must repeat that this does not have anything to do with the county in relation to paying back the bonds. This is strictly on Robert Morris University. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Any other discussion? Any other discussion? Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just wanted to say my youngest daughter attends Robert Morris and actually lived in that Holiday Inn last year, so it's wonderful what they're doing and how they're expanding the university. And I think it's something that's great for the young people in this county. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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: 6621-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, made pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act, LERTA, Pa. Statute Title 72, Section 4722, 1995 as amended, providing for a program of temporary exemption from increases in Allegheny County real property taxes for specified time periods resulting from improvements made by the owner of property located within a specific geographical area within Findlay Township, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, previously determined to be a

deteriorated area, establishing the schedule for exempting increases in the Allegheny County property taxes resulting from such improvements, and prescribing the requirements and procedures by which an owner of property located within the deteriorated area can secure the temporary exemption resulting from such improvements. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. Again, it was released from committee with a unanimous affirmative recommendation. I'd like to move it.

MR. MARTONI: Second.

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

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. GASTGEB: In committee I asked our Economic Development Department about the possible Marcellus Shale drilling on the airport property, and therefore the mineral rights, which I believe --- and I don't think anyone's disputing on Council, at least I haven't heard, that we own the mineral rights. And I was concerned that before we allow an owner to go in and possibly drill mineral rights beneath them, I thought the timing was poor, so I'll be voting against it for that reason.

PRESIDENT BURN: So noted, Mr. Gastgeb. Thank you, sir. Any other discussion? Any other discussion?

MR. FINNERTY: Just one thing.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: This LERTA has absolutely nothing to do with mineral rights at the airport. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir. Any other discussion?

MR. GASTGEB: Mr. Burn?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. GASTGEB: It can have something to do with it if we start drilling, as the Chief Executive has outlined in his plans. So for me, it's a timing issue. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Understood. 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: (No response.)
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?
MR. GASTGEB: No.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: No.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn, President?
PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 11, noes 3. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT BURN: Committee on Government Reform, second reading, 6545-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Division Four of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances entitled Finances, Chapter 485 entitled, False Claims, in order to undertake technical corrections to the ordinance as enacted. Sponsored by former Council Member Ed Kress.

PRESIDENT BURN: This bill came into the Government Reform Committee. We vetted it on two occasions. This was simply an amendment to make some technical corrections to a bill that had already been enacted, so we paraphrased, we cleaned it up and made it consistent and ironed out a few of the idiosyncrasies with it in its original form. At that point, we moved with affirmative recommendation. And I would move that it --- I move for approval at this time.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Aye.
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, 6589-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, permitting the use of White Oak No-Kill Animal Shelter for the operation and management of a no-kill animal shelter. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. The meeting was held last week and it was moved for an affirmative

recommendation. And also, they extended their lease to the year 2014 and they will now begin to pay \$100 a month versus zero. That's part of a new program that we're doing for the county parks. When we renew contracts, we're now charging people for the use of the facilities that were no longer --- that weren't used in the past. I'd like to move for approval.

MR. MARTONI: 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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 Public Works, second reading, 6529-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the use of County property by the Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League, Drum and Bugle Corp, known as the Mon Valley Express Drum and Bugle Corp. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. What I like about this particular bill is that the Drum and Bugle Corp is making improvements to the building in South Park. And I want to make a motion to move this.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. Any discussion? 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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: 6612-11.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, permitting Paramount Pictures Corporation to use certain County-owned real property. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President, members of Council. What's nice about this obviously is that Paramount Pictures is using our properties and bringing a lot of money to our community. All insurances have been secured, so we're pretty well in good shape. So I'd like to move this.

MR. MARTONI: Second.

MR. MACEY: I'd like to make a motion.

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, and second by Dr. Martoni, I believe. Any discussion on the motion?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I have a question.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, ma'am.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Are we charging anything?

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: No, we're not.

PRESIDENT BURN: Any other discussion? Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Why aren't we charging something on this? I don't understand. Is there going to be wear and tear on these ---? Where is it? Can you give us a little?

MR. MACEY: Well, their responsibility is to bring everything back to what it was when they started the production.

MR. DROZD: And where specifically?

MR. MACEY: Various places. I don't have those exact locations. It's on county property, and all insurances have been secured.

MR. DROZD: Wear and tear will be restored to where it was?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. DROZD: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: So if Tom Cruise rappels off the side of the courthouse and breaks a window, we'll be reimbursed; is that right?

MR. MACEY: Correct.

PRESIDENT BURN: Okay. Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I have a question. Are there County employees they're using for this, for instance, for police officers, for traffic control, maybe Public Works employees for garbage or what not? Because that costs us money, so I'm curious. Are there any County employees used for that?

MR. MACEY: I'd refer to Joe Olczak, if you would, please.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I don't want Joe. I want Jim.

PRESIDENT BURN: I would venture to guess that if any Allegheny County employees were cast as extras, they would be compensated and they would do it on their own time and not County time.

MR. FLYNN: Are we talking about extras or providing services?

PRESIDENT BURN: Services.

MR. FLYNN: Anything that we spend, whether it's electricians, building guards, things like that, will be reimbursed.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Okay. Thank you, Mr. Flynn.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I have a question. I understand that we're supposed to be grateful that Hollywood has come here and is filming a movie, and that's good for our community and they spend a lot of money here. But would it really be so much to ask them if they gave us something for the use of these facilities? Do we really think they'd pick up their tent and go home if we charged them something?

MR. FLYNN: Well, typically what we do is, to encourage them to continue to come, we ask for a donation, a contribution. In this case, Paramount is going to contribute \$12,000 to the Ccounty, and we're going to provide it to our parks.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: So we are getting something?

MR. FLYNN: Yes.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Okay. So we're not charging them, but they're donating \$12,000?

MR. FLYNN: That's correct.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: And is that going to be reflected somewhere so we'll all know that? That'll be reflected in the documents that we receive?

MR. FLYNN: Well, it's in the contract that will be executed.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Okay. But on the budget, for instance, where would that be noted so I'll know to look at that?

MR. FLYNN: It's probably in the miscellaneous revenue line item.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Would it be more prudent for Paramount to give that \$12,000 to the Parks Foundation?

MR. FLYNN: Well, that's where it's going, parks foundation. But it's coming through the County.

PRESIDENT BURN: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. Plus there's going to be a lot of money generated. They spend a lot of money; don't they? While they're here?

MR. FLYNN: Yeah. There's a tremendous economic benefit to the county.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good. Any other discussion? Thank you, Mr. Manager.

MR. FLYNN: My pleasure.

PRESIDENT BURN: 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: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: 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. Any liaison reports? Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I meant to say something earlier when we were talking about a budget and passing that. Everyone will notice tonight that we passed the budget which included the Office of the Public Defender, funding for that office. And I want to let the people of Allegheny County know that we as a Council have not forgotten about the questions that we want to ask the director of that department. That is something that's very important and something that we will be doing. It looks like we just have a challenge in scheduling a time to get the director here to answer those questions. The county manager, Jim Flynn, has forwarded some information to us, which we are in the process of reviewing. And we will be dealing with the director of the Office of the Public Defender. That is still on our agenda. It's not forgotten about. It's something that we will be taking up with the director of that department, about funding issues and all the concerns that we have that stem from reports in the media and from reports on the operations of that office itself. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, Ms. Green Hawkins. Mr. Macey, followed by Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. MACEY: Jim, this is a point of personal privilege, if I may.

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. MACEY: Thank you very much. I just want to --- at this time, I want to thank Councilman Robinson for his leadership through this budget procedure. He attended all the meetings and we've had many, many hours of it. I also want to thank the Democrats on County Council for supporting this. And coming from the fourth most economically depressed community, this budget is going to have a strong impact on the Mon Valley and District Nine. I just think that we've made a historic

commitment to those people of modest means as well as to those people who need their roads and infrastructure taken care of. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: May I have a point of personal privilege, too?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes, sir.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: And some of you are going to get mad, but I don't care. I'm going back to that vote we had where you ceased communication. Now, a councilman who --- the councilman from the North Hills who always yelled about continuing communication asked to have the vote stopped. Now, I have a great respect for Councilman DeFazio, and if he's got something to say, I want to hear what he has to say. Myself, I don't like being censored either. We're also elected.

I'd like to thank the Republican delegation, Mr. Gastgeb, Heather, Ms. Rea, for honoring their word that they always have supported continuing debate. We're all elected officials. If someone has something to say, show them that respect. Our own delegation voted us down.

Now, I caution you in the future --- you know, we all make mistakes. But there's going to be votes, and there's going to be votes that people are going to need from me. And if people are going to shut me up, I'm going to think real hard about who I think best represents me in the future. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Mr. Drozd.

MR. DROZD: Yeah. Thank you. You know, I agree with Councilman Ellenbogen. But you know, Mr. DeFazio --- Councilman DeFazio voted to end debate. He voted ---.

MR. DEFAZIO: I didn't.

MR. DROZD: Didn't you?

PRESIDENT BURN: No, he did not.

MR. DROZD: Well, then I'd ask a point of order. Anybody who wants to discuss, I'm more than willing to listen, you know, on this issue. I agree. If you have something to say, you know, please do so. Anyone here that has anything to say, I'm 100 percent behind supporting ---. And I'll sit here as long as it takes to hear you out.

MR. DEFAZIO: Special privilege.

PRESIDENT BURN: Point of special privilege, Mr. DeFazio.

MR. DEFAZIO: Yeah. I'll only take a couple seconds. I hate to kill time like this. Real quick and simple. All I was going to say --- Mr. Drozd says people are being duped. I just want to make it clear this Council wasn't duped because we didn't put in. That's all I wanted to say. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: You got it in, Mr. DeFazio.

MR. DROZD: He got it in.

PRESIDENT BURN: He is a master of Robert's Rules.

MR. DROZD: Now don't accuse me of ever not ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: I knew he would get it in tonight.

MR. DROZD: Mr. President, ---

PRESIDENT BURN: Well done, sir.

MR. DROZD: --- does anyone else have anything to say ---?

PRESIDENT BURN: A master in action.

MR. DROZD: Mr. President, point of order. Does anyone else that didn't get a say on that particular subject because --- have something to say? I'll stay here as long as it takes. Does anyone have anything to say?

PRESIDENT BURN: Sure. I do.

MR. DROZD: Go ahead.

PRESIDENT BURN: I will. All right. Very good. Ms. Heidelbaugh, you can go first.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes. I'd like to thank all of my new colleagues for warmly welcoming me this evening. I'm so pleased and happy to be here. It was a dream of mine my whole life to have an opportunity to serve in this sort of capacity. And I love the fact that we aren't paid, really, and that we do this as a public service. I wanted to thank Mr. Flynn, who graciously allowed me to meet with the department chairs and gave up one of those meetings, monthly meetings. And I was very impressed with all the department chairs. Each and every one of them said to me that they were passionate about their jobs. And none of them knew that the other one was saying that. And it was just very encouraging to hear that.

And I would ask my colleagues here on Council if we could work together to figure out a process by which we can really look at how our county government is working. I think that there are deficiencies that we ought to be looking at. I asked each one of the department heads if they've ever had an outside third party come in and sort

of do a Sigma Six or an efficiency study just to look and see what best practices are in the country. And almost all of them indicated they have not done that. And I know it's a question of funding. But I think it's something that we, looking forward, ought to be doing, recommended that departments see whether they're really engaging in best practices and whether we're really serving the public like I should. So that's all I want to say. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Just on the Connector, Matt, sure, I'll bring it up. Millions of dollars in federal transit money was brought here, and for each one --- for each dollar of federal transit money, you generate \$3 to \$6 of private sector investment. The debate on which way to go was over 20 years ago. That was the way to go. You shouldn't call it the tunnel to nowhere. You should call it phase one of light rail extension into the North Hills, because the next phase is going through the North Hills, then the airport. And look at the billions, billions of private sector investment dollars that have sprung up on the North Shore and beyond. Look at the jobs it's created. Look at the significant contributing factor it has made to allow this region to stay ahead of the recession curve. Any other liaison reports? Sure. Let's go.

MR. DROZD: Where was that written that it was in North Hills? I understood it was going to go to Oakland and to the airport.

PRESIDENT BURN: There's an appendage on the project because I saw the specs when I was on the Port Authority Board. It takes it up along the corridor where 279 goes up into the North Hills.

MR. DROZD: But originally. Originally it was to go to Oakland and to the airport.

PRESIDENT BURN: Well, like I said --- no, I never saw anything going over the other way, but again, if you say no to the federal transit dollars, that would have been the third rejection of a project that was originally asked for. They said pack your bags for 50 years. I heard the conversations. So any other discussion on that topic?

MR. DROZD: One real quick point.

PRESIDENT BURN: Sure.

MR. DROZD: This is one thing that I will say to my fellow Councilmen. I will never vote yes, end of debate, again. I believe you have a right to be heard,

and that's a standing vote on my part. I will never vote yes to end debate. I think you have a right to be heard, and I'll always say that. I don't care what the subject or topic is. And our constituents have a right to listen to what you say. Now, we've had that tonight, and that's the only time I ever voted --- I think I voted to end debate. At least it countered my vote, and everybody had a chance to say something. And more importantly, equally important, maybe more so, is our constituents had an opportunity to hear.

PRESIDENT BURN: Very good.

MR. DROZD: Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you, sir. Any other liaison reports? No. Okay. New business. Ordinances and resolutions, 6649-11.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny authorizing the issuance of tax and revenue anticipation notes in the aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$175,000,000, providing for the date, interest rate, maturity date and place of payment in respect of those notes, accepting a proposal for the purchase of the notes, providing for the security of the notes, authorizing the proper officers to execute and deliver the notes, authorizing and directing the preparation, certification and filing of the proceedings with the Department of Community and Economic Development, appointing a paying agent and registrar, approving a form of note, and repealing inconsistent resolutions. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to the Committee on Economic Development. New business. Any motions? Notification of contracts.

MR. CATANESE: None.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on general items.

MR. CATANESE: We have five people.

PRESIDENT BURN: Tim Stevens is the first name I see, but I do not see Tim.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President, if I might?

PRESIDENT BURN: Yes.

MR. ROBINSON: I think the bill that you just sent to Economic Development should have gone to Budget and Finance.

PRESIDENT BURN: I apologize. Without objection?

MR. FINNERTY: No objection

PRESIDENT BURN: Refer to the Committee on Budget and Finance. Mr. Robinson, my apology, sir.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT BURN: New business? No motions? Notification of contracts, none?

MR. CATANESE: None.

PRESIDENT BURN: Public comment on general items. I see some speakers lined up. On the list here I have Tim Stevens, who I do not see in the room. Lillard Daniel? MR. LILLARD: Dan Lillard.

PRESIDENT BURN: Dan Lillard? yes. Backwards. Well, Dan, your name's on here. Come on up. You've got three minutes. Come on up, sir. Good to see you again.

MR. LILLARD: Thank you. I'll speak ---.

PRESIDENT BURN: No, sir. You've got the podium. You've got the podium.

MR. LILLARD: I got three minutes to explain 20 years of torture. I had a cochlear implant put in my head at the VA Hospital in Los Angeles. Why, I don't know. In any event, I was arrested. I stay at 2 Craig Way in Ingram. And why I was arrested was because I was --- I stay in a two-story house, and the guy that was renting the garage thought it was okay for him to come and disturb me and bother me and not be civil. And I told him that he couldn't do that. So that was the conversation. He went and got the police, and when the police came, I was arrested. At no time did I leave my house. He left his truck and came at me, and I stopped him.

So in any event, the arrest warrant, nothing in it is factual. Nothing in the arrest warrant is factual. There were three officers. Two officers who aren't named, one of them who came a week later out at the Carnegie Library threatening me incognito, and who I later seen in a court appearance. When I told the Court, the judge refers me to psychiatric treatment. For what?

So anyhow, I don't say nothing. I go to the psychiatric treatment. Now, when I come back the second time, I asked him, I said, well, where's my public defender? He said, by the way, she's standing right next to you. I said, well, we need to talk. So he said, well, step in the closet. And I went in the closet and I'm talking to her. And I said, well, I want you to say this to the Judge. She said, I'm not going to say it. I said, I don't need you. I'll go down by myself.

And with that, I went up to the Judge and then I asked him --- I said, well, what options do I have? He said --- then he had me play the Price is Right. You can choose door number one, door number two or door number three on my freedom. And I don't even know what's taking place. Anyhow, I've been illegally arrested. I made him aware of it. He got me talking to a psychiatrist. I was kidnapped by a therapist at Highland Park VA two years ago. Now they got me going back to the VA to see the people that kidnapped me. That's what I brought to the table. And it's very difficult. This is just a pimple on a 20-year sore. I got a cochlear implant in my head and I have a locator in my shoulder and I'm a nuclear combat veteran. Nuclear. I stood in front of nuclear weapons by myself.

PRESIDENT BURN: Ola Jackson?

MS. JACKSON: Ola Jackson, that's 1038 Osage Drive, and that's Pittsburgh, PA, 15235. I'm here to ask that you do something to make the ACCESS contractors more accountable for what I perceive as unacceptable delivery of services. I am here to be a voice and give a voice to persons' disabilities. My autistic son uses PRN transit, and that's a contractor for ACCESS. They get him to work from UPMC Southside and back home in Blackridge. Last month, my son, Armand, spent two hours on the bus. It was only after I kept calling to find his whereabouts that the company had to send another bus driver to remove him off the bus and bring him home. At that time, he was in Highland Park, which indicated to me that it could have taken longer. I could have driven my son to Cleveland, Ohio in two hours.

Another time, another contractor, due to some confusion, accidentally picked my son up from work and proceeded to take him to a home on the Northside. We finally tracked him down right before we started to call the police. Their dispatcher refused to give us the bus driver's name. There was some confusion. ACCESS has one policy stating that we weren't allowed to have his name or couldn't contact him on the bus or whatever. And the dispatcher for this company had some other confusion, which totally eliminated our interaction.

We finally got him home. Again, someone else went to retrieve him. In the past when I had complained to PRN, they usually blamed the bus drivers. And I have seldom had a problem with the bus drivers. I think

they're just a scapegoat. When I have a complaint to ACCESS, they simply tell me what the issue was. They restate the issue, but yet nothing's done. We often get a survey, at least once a year. And I just feel that if nothing is being done or if little is being done, then what's the use of having these surveys?

As a taxpayer and a voter, I just ask that you look more closely at how they conduct their business. I'm sure you get a lot of complaints about them, but I'm not sure what you do. But if nothing is done, it's business as usual --- you were very sympathetic to the young people and their issues and their being disadvantaged. These are people who really don't have a voice and don't come down here and can't come down here, so I hope that someone looks more closely at how the contractors are serving our disabled public. Thank you.

PRESIDENT BURN: Thank you. Ronald Lynn Miller? Not here tonight? Motion to adjourn?

MR. MARTONI: There's another name here, Jim.

PRESIDENT BURN: Is there one on the back? Folks, Marcus Reed? Marcus Reed? Is there a Marcus Reed? I missed that. No? Okay. Motion to adjourn?

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT BURN: Moved, second. All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

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

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:30 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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

Beth A. Quigley