

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John P. DeFazio	-	President
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Heather S. Heidelbaugh	-	Council-At-Large
Tom Baker	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Edward Kress	-	District 3
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
William Russell Robinson	-	District 10
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, January 14, 2014 - 4:57 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:

William McKain - County Manager
Joseph Catanese - Director, Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services
Walter Szymanski - Budget Director
Jack Cambest - County Solicitor

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The meeting will come to order. We'll lead off with a Pledge of Allegiance to the flag; then we'll remain standing for a silent prayer or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Thank you. Before the roll call, Mike Finnerty --- I want to --- has an announcement.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I'd just like to take a moment to remember and recognize a fallen hero. Air Force Captain Sean Ruane died while serving his country January 7th during a training exercise off the coast of England. Sean was a native of Kennedy Township, a 2000 graduate of Montour High School. I'd just like to take a moment to wish his family our deepest sympathy and to honor him for all the work that he's done for the United States of America. God bless him. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. We'll now have a roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Here (via telephone).

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: 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. DeFazio, President?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Fourteen (14) members present.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Proclamations and

Certificates. 7917-14.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Mr. Mel Weinstein for his 40 years of public service benefiting Kennedy Township. Sponsored by Council members Finnerty, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Futules, Green Hawkins, Kress, Macey, Martoni, Palmiere and Rea.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. It's quite an honor to stand here and recognize Mel Weinstein, who's taken Kennedy Township from a sort of an agrarian type of society into the 21st century, from a --- about a half a million dollar budget to close to --- I guess it's about \$17,000,000 now --- \$13,000,000. I'm exaggerating again. But you can't find a man that has more integrity, that cares more for the people and will do what it takes to get things done in Kennedy Township. It's my pleasure to read this proclamation for Mel Weinstein. And you can tell he's done a very good job with his son, John, here.

WHEREAS, Mr. Melvin (Mel) Weinstein has been a leader in both the business and civic life of Kennedy Township and Allegheny County for 40 years;

WHEREAS, prior to his public service, Mr. Weinstein served for over 35 years in progressive management positions with J and L Steel and its successor, LTV Steel;

WHEREAS, Mr. Weinstein had the distinction of being the only person in the history of Kennedy Township to be elected to 11 consecutive 4-year terms, spanning over four decades of public service. Mr. Weinstein won his first election as Township commissioner in 1973. After 20 years serving as a commissioner, in 1994 he assumed his current elected position as tax collector and treasurer; and

WHEREAS, as commissioner, Mr. Weinstein held various positions, including chair, vice chair, police commissioner, road commissioner, Budget and Finance chairman. As tax collector and treasurer, Mr. Weinstein is responsible for managing over \$13,000,000 combined

annual budget. He is credited with producing balanced budgets over four decades, with implementing the Give Back tax program, making Kennedy Township one of the lowest tax millage rates in Allegheny County;

WHEREAS, Mr. Weinstein has also given generously of his time and energy to a number of local civic organizations. He has served as chairman of the Kennedy Township Democratic Committee for more than 25 years. He coaches --- he coached for many years in both Kennedy Township's boys' Little League and girls' softball, and he has taken leadership roles in the Boy Scouts of America. For 50 years, Mr. Weinstein has been an active member of St. Malachy's Church, where he currently serves as a Eucharist Minister; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Weinstein has been honored with Citizen of the Year Award, Allegheny County Boy Scout Man of the Year Award, Kennedy Township Man of the Year Award, Montour Outstanding Elected Official Award, just to name a few.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize Mr. Mel Weinstein for his 40 years of dedicated service. And we thank him for his commitment of working for the improvement of the quality of life in Kennedy Township and Allegheny County. It's sponsored by myself, Michael J. Finnerty, 14th day of January, 2014.

(Applause.)

MR. FINNERTY: John wants to say something. He always is backward.

TREASURER WEINSTEIN: As unaccustomed as I am to public speaking, I would just like to say a couple words. Mr. President and members of Council, thank you for being here. It's certainly an honor to stand here and join with you in recognizing my father and his decades of devoted service to Kennedy. On Monday, the 6th of January, I witnessed my father take the Oath of Office for the 11th consecutive time, five times as a commissioner and six times as treasurer. As the councilman said, that means he's completed over 40 years of continual service to the same municipality.

Not only is that unprecedented and an historic accomplishment that very few have achieved, it's truly an inspiration to any public servant. You see, four decades ago my father made a commitment and gave his word to do the very best job he could for the taxpayers of Kennedy.

And to this day, 40 years later, he has never wavered and he's kept his word. Because of this remarkable service, he has now become known as Mr. Kennedy Township. To put this into perspective for you, when he first ran for office, I was nine years old. Of course, I've been carrying him ever since, over all those years. But they say in politics, anyone can win once, but it takes a certain quality of an individual to be re-elected over and over again. They also say the longer you're in local government, the more enemies you make. Well, my friends, if that is the case, then you're about to meet an enigma in local government, because not only was he re-elected and elected 11 times, but each time he ran, whether it was for commissioner or for treasurer, he has led the ticket with the highest amount of votes cast. And despite that fact, you'll never meet a more humble person.

Of course, as the councilman mentioned, during the time my dad had a full-time job. He was a loving husband and father and continued to serve the people of Kennedy. He was and still is an innovator in local government, so far ahead of his time, bringing such things as free ambulance service to all the residents in an emergency. He applied business principles to local government years ago when no one even thought about that concept. He instituted policies and procedures that ensured efficiency and transparency in government. He proved you could do more with less by consistently reducing the tax millages --- the tax millage rate and improving the services that taxpayers needed and, more importantly, they deserved.

He inspires people to dig deep within themselves and tap that spirit of volunteerism, to help their community by volunteering to serve on boards and commissions. He has proven beyond a shadow of a doubt what good government is truly about. I often recall him saying, anyone can run a municipality, but not anyone can manage one. Kennedy Township is not a large industrial or commercial community. It's only five square miles with about 3,000 homes. Even without a large commercial base, the taxes are one of the lowest in this great county. The roads are paved. The park is a fantastic facility. It is truly a well-managed community.

As you know, I've had the distinct honor of serving as the treasurer of this great county since 1999. I've been elected countywide four times. I certainly

would not be standing here today if it was not for the foundation and the strength of the base in the western suburbs of Allegheny County where I call my home. I believe we are the only father and son team of elected treasurers in Pennsylvania, maybe even in the United States of America. After all, I did train him on how to be a treasurer as well. But the foundation I mentioned and the unique base of support was only there for me because of the integrity, the reputation and the professionalism of Kennedy Township, and that was all there because of my father. All over this county, people ask me about Kennedy Township, how and why it has been so successful. Even during economic --- difficult economic times, the community has grown and prospered. And truthfully, it's all because of one reason, one man, and it's my dad, and the good people in the community that served along with him and believed in him 40 years ago.

If someone ever tells you that one person can't make a difference in government, they've never met him. He's truly made a difference in our community and our region. My friends, I could talk a long time about the endless list of accomplishments that have all benefited the taxpayers and the great community of Kennedy. Over the years, many people have said to me, it's so nice to meet your brother Mel. So I either look old or he looks young. But next Monday, my friends, as we celebrate the inspirational leader, Dr. Martin Luther King, my family and I will be celebrating the birth of our own inspirational leader. It's my dad's birthday.

Believe it or not, he'll be 75, and he only looks that good because he's had good kids. That's really the only reason. But I'm proud to stand here this evening and join Council in recognizing the four decades of a true public servant. I congratulate him, I wish him a Happy Birthday and I love him. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. WEINSTEIN: Mr. President and Council members, I do humble myself to these two, and especially to this one. He carried me all these years, and he's going to carry me a few more, as long as God allows me to live. But I do, I thank each and every one of you for allowing me to be here, for recognizing the fact that there is someone in Allegheny County in the small suburb of Kennedy Township, that cares about their people. Mike read --- I gave him seven pages, by the way. I want you

to know that, and he only put it all on one. You did a great job, Michael. Thank you. Servicing our community is --- he is great at it. He does a great job for everything that we need, and we make contact and we keep in touch with him. I can't say enough about my son. I think he said enough about himself, as well as myself. He is never lost for words. Once again, I thank you. I wish everyone a very healthy and happy and blessed new year. Thank you for allowing me to receive this, and I am humbled to have it. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jim Ellenbogen wants to say a few words.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: A lot of people --- and it's probably your humility --- but the reason that I'm sitting up here and have been successful, many, many years ago when I was on my back, you were the one that picked me up and dusted me off and taught me what I needed to know to be here. And I just want the public to realize that there are a lot of people like myself that owe their successes to you taking the time with young people and teaching them and, more than anything, teaching humility and teaching us the difference between politics and good government. And I personally wanted to thank you for everything you've done for me, personally. Thank you.

MR. WEINSTEIN: I appreciate it.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: And your son --- well, what can I say?

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 7918-14.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Pittsburgh's legendary jazz musician, Roger L. Humphries, and recognizing the premiere of a documentary made in his honor entitled Pass It On. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President and members of Council, I have the distinct honor today to present to you someone who some of you may know, some of you may not know. But I'm glad that so many young people are here today, because this gentleman has been an inspiration to young folks for a long, long time. If you want to talk to somebody, just an ordinary person, to talk to them about any subject and get a sincere conversation/discussion, talk to Roger Humphries.

Some may know Roger as something of a musician, but students and friends and family know him as the Son of Pittsburgh, a man who has traveled internationally playing the drums but spreading the message of friendship and decency around this world. Ladies and gentlemen, we are looking at perhaps one of the greatest drummers to ever live. This gentleman is very humble. He probably is embarrassed by what I just said about him being one of the greatest drummers that ever lived, but you have to hear him. I've never seen a person play with such ease. I've never heard Roger Humphries play at full tilt. He's always holding something back. The one thing I like about him is he encourages young musicians. He's not afraid to allow young musicians to come to the bandstand when he's playing and join in. He's not afraid to try to teach them and mentor them. He's not afraid to mingle with the crowd. He doesn't have a complex that causes him to have to separate himself out from others to be important.

Mr. Humphries has been honored many places, in our city, in our county, in our region, and honored by many organizations. I thank him for bringing his family and his friends here today, to allow this council to honor him. I thank him for his service to our Pittsburgh public schools. He recently retired as a teacher at our creative arts and performing school, Pittsburgh Public Schools; quiet, unassuming, living on the North Side of Pittsburgh with his family. I jokingly said there were only three families on the North Side. One of those families is the Humphries family. I'm not far from wrong. It's a big family, a big, big family.

Also, Mr. Humphries is going to be honored next month with a presentation called Pass It On. And I don't think there's anything that would have been more fitting to name this documentary than Pass It On. Roger Humphries is passing on his goodness, his greatness, his musical talent and just being a great human being. Mr. Billy Jackson is here who directed that. At the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild on February 22nd --- and I'll let Mr. Humphries say a little bit more about that --- he will be honored, and his documentary will be shown. It's something that you have to see if you like music, if you like Roger Humphries, if you like good people from Pittsburgh who never forget from whence they came. That's Roger Humphries.

And I found it very refreshing that when I indicated to him that I wanted to pay him tribute, he simply said okay. He simply said okay. I had to remind him that I'm pretty sure he forgot that I said it. And he might have thought that I was just joking. So I told him a second time and told him someone would call him. The next time I saw him, he was looking at me kind of strange, like, are you going to say that to me a third time? But I didn't. I knew he finally got it, that this was a rare opportunity for him to say thank you to all of us who have said thank you to him as a person and as a person that lives in our community who is still here. His family is still here. And I'd like to read this proclamation on behalf of myself and the members of this council.

WHEREAS, born on January 30th, 1944, in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, Roger Humphries began playing drums at age 3 1/2 and began performing professionally at age 14; and

WHEREAS, lauded as a Pittsburgh jazz legend, Mr. Humphries has provided percussion assistance to countless legendary musical artists, including Stanley Turrentine, Ray Charles, Horace Silver, Richard (Groove) Holmes and James Moody, just to name a few; and

WHEREAS, his performances have taken him to Europe and across our great nation, including appearances at Carnegie Music Hall, the Village Gate and the Apollo Theatre in New York City, the Bohemian Caverns in Los Angeles, Pep's Lounge in Philadelphia and Ronny Scott's in London, England;

WHEREAS, after playing with various groups around the country, in 1972 Roger organized his own band, RH Factor, and in 1996 he assembled Roger Humphries' Big Band. An outstanding musical artist, his work can be heard on numerous albums, such as Songs For My Father, Love, I Know Your Name and Don't Give Up; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Humphries is well known throughout his community for his work as a musical instructor at the Pittsburgh High School for the Creative and Performing Arts (CAPA) and at the University of Pittsburgh, as well as his contributions as a teacher at the Slippery Rock University Summer Jazz Workshops and the Mellon Jazz Masters Class and Concerts; and

WHEREAS, on February 22nd, 2014, at the Manchester Craftsmen's Guild on Pittsburgh's North Side, a documentary entitled Pass It On honoring the life of Roger

Humphries, will premiere, directed and produced by Billy Jackson of Nommo Productions. The documentary highlights Roger's humble personality and his commitment to ensuring that a musical tradition is passed on to young artists.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County does hereby honor Mr. Roger Humphries for his world renowned talent and his steadfast and uncompromising commitment to jazz education. We are blessed to be able to honor Mr. Humphries, an authentic jazz hero, and we thank him for enriching our lives through music. Ladies and gentlemen, I give you Mr. Roger Humphries.

(Applause.)

MR. HUMPHRIES: Well, once again, I would like to say thank you to Pittsburgh and the president of the city council, Allegheny County Council, for this proclamation. And I was told as a young man a long time ago by some of the greats, Art Blakey and Max Roach and also Lionel Hampton --- and they said, whatever you do, son, pass it on. And that's my job, to pass it on, because if I pass it on, the next one will pass it on, and we will keep this thing going over and over and over. And once again, Mr. Bill Robinson --- I have been knowing him for a very long time, from the Crawford Grill and the Hurricane Lounge. And I wish it was there again, but it's not there right now, but to see the young people in Pittsburgh, they're going to make something even --- just as great, or greater, because music is our love here in Pittsburgh. And I'd like to say, thank you all so very much for this honor, you know, that you've given to me today. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We have 7919-14.

MR. CATANESE: Certificate of Achievement honoring the University Prep football team, for winning the 2013 Pittsburgh City League football championship. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. As I mentioned when we were honoring Roger Humphries, I'm glad so many young people were here to see a role model, somebody who you can actually model your life after, in terms of the way he presents himself. Before these young men entered this room today, I saw some of them on the elevator, and I knew I needed to say something to them. But I wanted to say something that was

serious. And so for that split second that that door opened, that I saw them, I said, be men; be men.

As you grow, young folks, you football players, be men. Find out what a man is. You just saw one in Roger Humphries. Model yourself after him, you'll be all right. Don't let your youth, your enthusiasm and your foolishness keep you from being men. We need men, people who will take responsibility for their community, for their family and for themselves. Be men. You are already champions. No one can take that from you. We don't want to read about you on the front page above the crease because you did something you had no business doing. We want to read about you above the crease for doing something that was right and helpful to somebody else. Be men. Don't be bullied; don't be intimidated; don't be manipulated and don't be dominated. Be men. Accept responsibility for your actions. Do not think too highly of yourself, because you're probably not near as good as you think you are.

You're champions. You will always be champions. And everybody who touched this team is a champion. Remember that. Respect yourself; respect your school; respect your family; respect your neighborhood. And don't forget, your primary purpose in going to University Prep was to learn something, not to play football. That's why some of you think you went there, to play football. No, you didn't go there to play football, you went there to learn something. And if you learned how to play football, that's good. That's a bonus; that's a bonus. Be men, but you have to learn how to be a man.

Some of that you learned on the field. Some of that you learned in the classroom. Some you learned in the community. Some you will learn at home and from friends. But always remember, your primary obligation is to be a man. If you're not a man yet, grow into being a man. Take a man's responsibility, be held accountable and do those things that men do; not boys, men. Thank you for being champions. I stand on my steps at my house every morning and look across two streets, and I see University Prep.

When I went to school there, it was Herron Hill Junior High School, many, many, many years ago. We didn't have a football team, we had a soccer team. We were never champions. We didn't even come close. Relish this opportunity; whether you get a jacket, a ring, a dinner, a

certificate or a slap on the back, you are a champion. Don't ever forget that. When you're in your rocking chair, remember, Bill Robinson said you are a champion. Act like a champion. Play like a champion. Treat other people like you're a champion. Don't be a chump; don't be a chump. Stand for what you believe in, but believe in something other than yourself. You are good young men. You can be great young men. You're good young men; you can be great young men. This is your time, high school. This is your time to grow, to develop. Do not allow football to define you. You define football. You won because you played as a team. You won because you practiced. You won because people supported you. Don't let them down. Don't let them down by doing something dumb and stupid. Don't let me see you on the front page of the paper doing something dumb and stupid. You're a champion. I can almost guarantee, if you're on the front page of the paper, that business about being a champion probably won't be mentioned, only what you did; only what you did.

All you have to do, young men, is watch some of those professional athletes that sometime lose it from --- you know, they get excited. They get all enthralled in the game. The next thing you know, they're out of the game, off the field, out of play because they didn't stay focused on being men and doing what a man does. Meet your responsibility, play hard, work hard, be successful. Everything will be all right. Let me, if I might --- I just want to announce some of the people who are here with these young men. We have Lisa Symons (phonetic), who's the athletic director. This is the time where women are holding their own.

There are at least three women in this country who are athletic directors at major colleges, men's and women's sports. And so I thank Lisa Symons, and I wish her well. And hopefully, one day I'll see her on the front page of the paper being sworn in as an athletic director at a major university --- Louis Berry, Jr., the head coach, the man that had to make sure you were up early, young men, and on the practice field. But for him to do that, he had to be a man and be there himself. I thank him for his dedication. I thank his family for supporting him. I thank him for being there all the time, in the good times and the bad times. He, too, is a

champion; and of course, all the student athletes who are here, you are first students.

I'm not going to burden you by asking you what your grades are --- that ain't none of my business --- but graduate from high school. Go out into the world and be men. If I could have the people who I have mentioned, Ms. Symons, Mr. Berry and the student athletes to join me here, I'm going to read this Certificate of Achievement for these youngsters who won the 2013 City League. Let's give them a hand.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBINSON: This Certificate of Achievement is awarded to the 2013 University Preparatory School football team in recognition of winning the 2013 City League football championship, City of Pittsburgh. We commend and recognize each player and coach whose determination and resolve led to this achievement. The team has set a positive example of excellence for all of Allegheny County, continuing evidence that this is the County of Champions. This achievement has conferred honor on this county and is an accomplishment in which the entire county can be proud. Offered by myself on this 14th day of January, 2014. I'm very proud to represent the community in which this school resides. And every morning, as I said, when I go out on my steps and I look across the street, I see University Prep, the old Herron Hill Junior High School.

And I feel a sense of pride in what you gentlemen accomplished. I know it wasn't easy; a lot of good teams out there, a lot of good players. But as a team, you won a championship. For those of you who will be around next year, my expectation is that you will win again every year, win every single year, until they stop awarding championships. Wear them out, just wear them out each and every year. I thank you. If Ms. Symons is here, I'd like her to come forward. Coach Berry, I'd like to have a few words.

MR. LOGAN: I'll speak on behalf of Coach Berry, who's our head coach. My name is Mike Logan. I'm one of the assistant coaches at University Prep. All I got to say is, God is good. When you look at this group of young men, they're --- what we teach them is not to be defined as football players. The reason I decided to coach at University Prep is because of these young men. I didn't even want to be a football coach. Some of you may know me

or may not know me. I played in the National Football League for over ten years. Six of those years were with our beloved Pittsburgh Steelers and was able to win a Super Bowl with our beloved Pittsburgh Steelers.

All of that fails in comparison to looking at these young men going through this program, which lacks resources. We don't have all of the equipment to prepare our schools, are lacking funds. Many a days we had to practice in puddles of water. We shared uniforms. Coaches fed kids, took them home; took time out of their schedules, not because we wanted to win a championship, because we wanted these young men to have success in their lives. We don't get paid much, like the WPIAL schools. We're City League schools, like you said, who come from the Hill District. I'm a resident in the Hill District, a Super Bowl champion who lives in the Hill District; a legend of music who lives in the Hill District, who lives on the North Side.

We coach because we care about these kids. And look at us. Look at us. Sometimes we're not always organized, we're not always together. We have five or six different communities represented at University Prep, Obama Academy, SciTech and Career Connections. That's kids that come from all different inner-city neighborhoods in the City of Pittsburgh. And they said, whoa, you're all going to have some problems when you got kids coming from Lincoln Lemington, Wilkinsburg and the Hill District. Well, guess what? We put it together, and we became a team that not only won a City League championship, but a lot of these young men will be going to further their education.

(Applause.)

MR. LOGAN: So thank you. Thank you, Mr. Councilman, for having us down here. We truly appreciate it. To be in this room sitting among some prestigious people and organizations --- Mr. Humphries, this was an added bonus for me to --- on a personal note, to just to be recognized on the same day that you were recognized. Speaking on behalf of Coach Berry and Ms. Lisa Symons, we greatly appreciate it and we thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBINSON: We have a certificate for each of these young men, and we're going to get certificates for anyone who touched this program at University Prep, the

people that did the schedules, the people that carried the water, the people that washed the uniforms.

MR. LOGAN: I did that.

MR. ROBINSON: You did that. Coach, can these young men come --- like, just want to introduce themselves and go back and we'll take a picture? Would they be kind enough to do that?

MR. LOGAN: Stand up here.

MS. SYMONS: Say your name.

MR. LOGAN: Introduce yourself, just your name. We don't need to hear everything else about you.

MR. JOHNSON: I'm not a player. You can tell by the size. My name is LaRoi Johnson, and I am the offensive coordinator of University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. WILLIAMS: My name is Curtis Williams and I'm a 12th grade football player.

(Applause.)

MR. SHIELDS: My name is Darian (phonetic) Shields, freshman, University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. WILLIAMS: My name is Kevin Williams, Jr., junior at SciTech.

(Applause.)

MR. FRAZIER: My name is Miles Frazier (phonetic), senior at Obama Academy.

(Applause.)

MR. STALLWORTH: My name is Nick Stallworth. I'm a senior at Obama Academy.

(Applause.)

MR. BROWN: My name is Ronald Brown, and I'm a senior at Career Connections.

(Applause.)

MR. CARROLL: My name is Deandre Carroll, and I'm a senior at University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. TURNER: My name is Reginald Turner, and I'm a senior at Science and Technology.

(Applause.)

MR. STANLEY: My name is Ron Stanley. I'm a sophomore at Obama.

(Applause.)

MR. JOHNSON: My name is Hezekiah Johnson. I'm a freshman at Obama Academy.

(Applause.)

MR. SMITH: Coach E. (phonetic) Smith, offensive line coach at Obama.

(Applause.)

MR. CAMPBELL: My name is Jasinn (phonetic) Campbell. I go to SciTech.

(Applause.)

MR. TURNER: My name is Uronteck (phonetic) Turner. I'm a senior at University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. HEES: My name is Richard Hees (phonetic). I'm a freshman at University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBERTS: My name is Abner Roberts. I'm a senior at Obama Academy.

(Applause.)

MR. CHAMBERS: My name is Jezza (phonetic) Chambers, and I'm a senior at Obama Academy.

(Applause.)

MR. WASHINGTON: My name is Terrell Washington. I'm a senior at University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. ROGERS: My name is Michael Rogers. I'm a sophomore at SciTech.

(Applause.)

MR. BENU: My name is Deshawn Benute (phonetic). I'm a junior at Obama.

(Applause.)

MR. HUTCHESON: My name is Jawawn Hutcheson (phonetic). I'm a sophomore at SciTech.

(Applause.)

MR. ADAMS: My name is Ky'lee Adams. I am a junior at University Prep.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBERTS: I am Mike Roberts. I handle all the small stuff for the team.

(Applause.)

MR. ROBINSON: I want to thank everybody who came down from University Prep. We're going to take a picture over here, and I'll let our photographer, Margaret, line everybody up here, because there's a lot of fellows, and I don't think your camera probably can get everybody, but I'll let you handle that.

(Pictures taken.)

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Next we have 7920-14.

MR. CATANESE: This one will be read into the record. Certificate of Achievement honoring the Central Catholic High School football team for winning the 2013 WPIAL Quad A football championship. Sponsored by Council member Danko.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 7921-14.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation thanking LifeFlight of West Penn Allegheny Health System for its 35 years of dedicated service. Sponsored by Council members Macey, Baker, Danko, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Green Hawkins, Heidelbaugh, Kress, Martoni, Means, Palmiere, Rea and Robinson.

MR. MACEY: Mr. President and members of Council, we are here to honor LifeFlight. And trust me, LifeFlight is exactly what it says. It's the difference between life and possibly dying with extensive injuries. We have attendees here from LifeFlight --- Captain Fackovec, she's a Vice President of Operations, and also Jim Palafoutas. He's the Director of Pre-hospital Operations including LifeFlight. LifeFlight began with Mildred Fincke, a long-time nurse at AGH and eventually its Vice President of Nursing --- helped launch the idea of air medical transport as a result of a 1975 conference in Denver.

After much work, LifeFlight took off in Pittsburgh (no pun intended) in 1978 with one helicopter. Today --- today they use five helicopters, providing critically injured patients rapid access to advanced life support care and critical care. Now I'd like to have my esteemed colleague, Sue Means, finish.

MS. MEANS: The LifeFlight team is made up of dedicated individuals, including flight nurses, pilots, mechanics, communications specialists, administrative support personnel. Thirty (30) to 40 percent of LifeFlight's approximately 2,400 flights a year, are from the scenes of a traumatic injury. The rest are hospital-to-hospital transfers taking patients to get specialized services or procedures that aren't available at their local facility. With more than 70,000 flights in 35 years, thousands of people have been saved by the LifeFlight.

MR. MACEY: And this is the proclamation, Allegheny County Council.

WHEREAS, for 35 years Allegheny General Hospital's LifeFlight program, the oldest hospital-based

service in northeast and among the first cadre of such services in the United States, has provided emergency helicopter transportation for critically ill and injured patients; and

WHEREAS, since its inception in 1978, LifeFlight has made more than 70,000 flights, 30 to 40 percent of them in response due to traumatic injuries; and

WHEREAS, LifeFlight operates five helicopters out of five bases, positioned strategically across western Pennsylvania to reduce flight times to accident scenes or outlying hospitals; and

WHEREAS, the LifeFlight team, composed of 20 pilots, 43 nurses and 1 chief flight nurse, 7 dispatchers and 8 mechanics, transport patients within a 130-mile radius that includes a population of 4,000,000 people in Pennsylvania, West Virginia, Ohio and Maryland; and

WHEREAS, LifeFlight is unique, in that it puts two registered nurses on each helicopter, whereas, a nurse-paramedic --- excuse me, pairing is more common, and in order to become a flight nurse, a minimum of five years of critical care and pre-hospital experience is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize and thank LifeFlight, of the Allegheny County Health Network, for its 35 years of dedicated service. Your diligence and professionalism has saved countless lives, and we owe you a debt of gratitude for your services. Sponsored by all members of Council this 14th day of January, 2014. Thank you.

(Applause.)

CAPTAIN FACKOVEC: I would just like to say thank you on behalf of the Allegheny Health Network, Allegheny General Hospital and the LifeFlight program; and personally from Jim and I, because between the two of us, we have dedicated over 40 years to this program in various positions. I started as a flight nurse with the program and Jim has worked in various positions and he's a paramedic also by background. So thank you very much for the honor of being here and receiving this proclamation.

(Applause.)

MR. MACEY: Incidentally, Sue Means is a nurse, and I want to thank you for all your work that you've done at Children's.

MS. MEANS: I just want to say a few words to thank you and I just --- I know it's service above and beyond the duty. I know it's dangerous work. I know it's

well coordinated work. And it just demonstrates that every life is just precious; every life is precious. And when minutes count, you're there. And I just want to thank you specifically because I have a neighbor who was LifeFlighted, and I thank you for Sammy, and two other friends, Kim and Audrey, who were both saved by LifeFlight. So I want to thank you again. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We have 7922-14. This next set will be read into the record.

MR. CATANESE: Certificate of Achievement honoring the West Allegheny High School football team for winning the 2013 WPIAL Class AAA football championship. Sponsored by Council members Baker and Finnerty.

7923-14. Certificate of Achievement honoring the South Fayette High School football team for winning the 2013 WPIAL and PIAA Class AA football championship. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

7924-14. Proclamation congratulating Mr. William Cherpak, Athletic Director and Head Football Coach at Thomas Jefferson High School, for winning his 200th high school football game. Sponsored by Councilman Palmiere.

7925-14. Proclamation congratulating Ms. Pat Jennette, Publisher and Editor of Allegheny West Magazine, upon the occasion of her retirement. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

7926-14. Proclamation honoring August Wilson and The Reverend Dr. LeRoy Patrick, for their lifelong contributions to our region and for posthumously receiving 2014 Spirit of King awards. Sponsored by Council members Green Hawkins and Robinson.

7927-14. Proclamation honoring in memoriam, Ms. Bernadette C. Turner, for her significant contributions benefiting African-Americans in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council member Hawkins --- Green Hawkins and Robinson.

7928-14. Certificate of Achievement awarded to George Smith, Head Coach of the McKeesport Area Senior High School football team, for being named the 2013 Daily News Coach of the Year. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7929-14. Certificate of Recognition honoring Mr. Joseph Walters of West Mifflin for his service in

World War II and congratulating him upon the occasion of his 100th birthday. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7930-14. Proclamation thanking Ms. Jo Ellen Kenney for her 35 years of dedicated service as the Director of the Carnegie Library of McKeesport. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7931-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. and Mrs. John and Barbara Hart, upon the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7932-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. and Mrs. Haven (Barry) and Pat --- Patricia Stanley, upon the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7933-14. Proclamation congratulating The Honorable Lavina Kerklo --- Kerklo (changes pronunciation), upon the occasion of her retirement after 32 years of service as a council member of Liberty Borough. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7934-14. Proclamation congratulating The Honorable Edward R. Slater upon the occasion of his retirement after 50 years of service as a council member and Mayor of Liberty Borough. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

7935-14. Proclamation honoring the 16th Annual Summit Against Racism hosted by the Black and White Reunion. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7936-14. Proclamation honoring the 2014 Martin Luther King, Jr. Leadership Award (sic), presented by Coro Pittsburgh. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7937-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to singer, Ms. Michele Bensen, for her contributions to Pittsburgh's legendary community of jazz artists. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7938-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to The Honorable Mark Brentley, Sr., for his service as a member of the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7939-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to The Honorable Thomas Sumpter for his service as Vice President and President of the Pittsburgh Board of Public Education. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7940-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to The Honorable Sharene Shealey, former President of the

Pittsburgh Board of Public Education. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7941-14. Proclamation thanking Reverend Dr. William H. Curtis, Senior Pastor of Mt. Ararat Baptist Church, for his spiritual leadership and service. Sponsored by Council members Robinson and Green Hawkins.

7942-14. Proclamation honoring Reverend Dr. Honorable James E. Simms, of St. Paul Baptist Church, upon the occasion of his retirement. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

7943-14. Proclamation thanking The Honorable James (Jim) Ferlo, former member and President of Pittsburgh City Council and member of the Pennsylvania State Senate, for his commitment and dedication to public service. Sponsored by Council members Robinson and Green Hawkins.

7944-14. Proclamation welcoming the new president of The Ellis School, Ms. Robin O. Newham. Sponsored by Council member Robinson.

7945-14. Proclamation welcoming the tenth president of Carlow University, Ms. Suzanne K. Mellon. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Public Comment on Agenda Items.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Approval of Minutes. 7946-14.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Allegheny County Council, held on December 3rd, 2013.

MR. MACEY: So moved. Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Presentation of Appointments. 7947-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Kristen Normile to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization (South Park), for a term to expire on January 14th, 2016. Sponsored by Council member Means.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is someone making a motion?

DR. MARTONI: I'll make a motion to approve.

MR. FINNERTY: I'll second it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 7948-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Heather Sims to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization (South Park), for a term to expire on January 14, 2016. Sponsored by Council member Means.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. BAKER: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Second. Any remarks? Seeing none, all in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Okay. 7949-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Victor Diaz to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority and the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority and the Residential Finance Authority, administered collectively through the Finance and Development Commission, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7950-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of State Senator Wayne Fontana to serve as a member of the Sports and Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7951-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Dr. Ellen Stewart to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Board of Health, for a term to expire on January 12th, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7952-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Mr. Anthony Ferraro to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Board of Health, for a term to expire on January 12th, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7953-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Dr. Edith Shapira to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Board of Health, for a term to expire on January 12th, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7954-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Dr. Lee Harrison to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Board of Health, for a term to expire on January 12th, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7955-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Dr. Elayne Arrington to serve as a member of the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7956-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Jack Shea to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Sanitary Authority, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 7957-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of David Minnotte to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Airport Authority, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Unfinished Business.

DR. MARTONI: I have a question.

MR. CATANESE: Excuse me, Mr. President. Could you put that last bill in committee?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. The last one goes to the Appointment Review Committee.

DR. MARTONI: We're sending all these to the Appointment Review Committee, yet the way it reads, we're approving them. We're not really approving them until they come out of committee.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

DR. MARTONI: This is --- yeah, this is the first reading that I know of. It seems like it's not clear. It's just something to think about in the future. Okay? We should clean that up.

DR. MARTONI: Do you see what I mean?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

DR. MARTONI: Yeah, some other word, probably, would be more fitting. I think we ought to think about that in the future. Okay?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Is that recommending?

DR. MARTONI: Whatever. I don't have an answer now.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Recommending is probably the right word.

DR. MARTONI: That seems to be the wrong word. That's all I'm trying to say.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Recommending.

DR. MARTONI: Recommending; okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We could do that. Does anybody have a problem with recommending?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Well, are we recommending or are we actually approving?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No. No, we're recommending, because it has to go to committee. The committee will make that decision.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Jan.

MS. REA: I guess we have to have to --- the chairman of that committee will have to think about how we word it, because we're nominating and we are re-nominating people who are already on the board. So I think we just need to get the correct language --- and then if that's what the Council wishes to do.

DR. MARTONI: Do you see my point, then?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

DR. MARTONI: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, we can --- I mean, what it is, is you're either --- you're nominating or re-nominating someone.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: It's just a matter of words. That's all

MS. REA: Okay.

DR. MARTONI: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. All right.

Unfinished Business. We have none. Liaison Reports. Anybody have --- ?

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes, sir.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. Each of us received a communication concerning human trafficking in our county and elsewhere.

There is a coalition of interested parties who have been working on this issue for a number of years. On several occasions, I've brought this issue to the attention of members of this council, and we actually honored some of the people who have been working to make sure that human beings are not bought and sold, not only in our county but elsewhere. It doesn't come as a surprise to anyone that the people in this county, some unfortunate souls, are bought and sold; mainly young people, mainly women. The Human Trafficking Coalition is attempting to stop that wherever it occurs. There is a national effort to stop it wherever it occurs. There are many people, unfortunately, in our county who are working, who appear to be healthy, happy citizens, who are literally enslaved by individuals who are unscrupulous and who are set out to sexually violate these individuals and/or attempt to make money for their services.

I simply would like members to pay attention to the communication that you received and do what you can to support this coalition and to be mindful that, unfortunately, in our county, there are people who are bought and sold, people who are living in slavery. They're being bought and sold in our county, and they come from everywhere, anywhere. Please support the Human Trafficking Coalition in their attempt to stop heinous crimes. Our district attorney, in particular, has been involved in this effort. I've spoken with him on several occasions about it, and I commend him for working with this task force. The F.B.I., the U.S. Attorney's Office and other law enforcement agencies are working hard to stop human trafficking, but it will also take social service agencies, elected officials, friends and neighbors, to highlight this tragedy that many people experience and bring it to a halt. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Do you have something?

MR. MACEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. Throughout your communities in the weeks to come, you will be hearing about the installation of officers for various volunteer fire companies. I encourage you to attend. I encourage you to support your volunteer firemen --- firefighters, that is, because these people are out there risking their lives. These people are out there as first responders to help preserve and

protect your homes and businesses, and we're running low of volunteers. I'd also recommend, if you have any family members who have run into situations in the community and they have to repay their debt to society, so to speak, that they can do community service.

And it's amazing what people learn when they're with the fire service or emergency medical services. So again, I appeal to everybody that our volunteer fire companies need help. They need your support, both financially and physically. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Mike?

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. Thank you, John. I'd just like to mention that there is a place called Jeremy's (sic) Place, which is out in East Liberty. And they're having an event, an informational event, coming up this week. I believe it's Friday. And Jeremy's Place has to do with taking care of abused children. So if you see that in the paper and you have an opportunity, I think you should take a look at that. It's one of our big problems there, is abused children. And also, I'd like to mention that if people have some problem in the human area, that we have a --- excuse me, Health and Human Services Department, which they can contact through the website, or they can just get the phone number.

I'd also like to mention, that one thing in Allegheny County that isn't something that we brag about, is we have a high infant mortality rate. And this comes about because people don't know what help is out there for them, and there's a lot of help out there for somebody who gets pregnant, a young mother. I mean, the WIC Program is out there. Jeremy's Place would be a program. So it's important that if you know somebody like that that's having a problem, that you contact our Health and Human Services Office, and they can tell them exactly what they can do to get that help, so that their infant can be born healthy. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Sue.

MS. MEANS: Yes. I don't know if people realize it or not, but over the weekend the Light of Life's storage building on Ridge Avenue had a flood, they had a burst pipe, and they lost, like, 500 bags and boxes of unusable supplies. So if anyone would be so kind to give a donation to the Light of Life city mission, their website is lightoflife.org; or you can call 412-258-6100. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no one else, I have something real quick to say. I'd like to congratulate Bill Robinson on a ---. He talked to the kids. I think he did a good job. As a matter of fact, I thought he was Knute Rockne there for a while, he was talking so seriously. And everybody --- I mean, I think the kids were intense listening to that. I think things like that are good to do, so thank you. New Business. Resolutions and Ordinances.

MR. CATANESE: 7958-14. A resolution amending the New Home Construction/Improvement Program Resolution enacted May 23rd, 1996, by the Board of Commissioners of Allegheny County, at Agenda Number 700-96, subsequently amending Resolution Numbers 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 Council members Martoni, Kress and Macey.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes. At this point, because there's a lot of different things said, I would like our county solicitor to come up and speak on this for a minute before we ---.

ATTORNEY WOJCIK: Good evening. As I understand it now, this was presented to us tonight, but the concern is that put this in committee tonight and not passing it will have the effect of not putting this abatement into effect when the tax rolls are certified. And that starts essentially tomorrow. But what I think Council needs to know, if it went into committee, those abatements can still go into effect for the county tax bills because the county tax bills aren't prepared until mid-February and they go out toward the end of February.

So these abatements affect county taxes. They are a county tax real estate abatement. Other municipalities' school districts may or may not institute their own abatements. And they then subtract those amounts from their own bills. For the purpose of the county bills, that's what these abatements would affect. So you have your certified assessed value which would go out tomorrow. Subsequently, any abatements, exemptions, are then reduced from that number. So it's a very long-winded way of saying that by producing --- or submitting this bill into committee, it will have no impact on the eventual tax bill, county tax bill that goes out.

MR. MACEY: Then I suggest to put it in Budget and Finance.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll put it in Budget and Finance.

MR. BAKER: I just have one question. In order for this to be in effect, we have to pass it at the next meeting then; correct?

ATTORNEY WOJCIK: Correct. It has to be passed before --- I believe the next meeting will be the first Tuesday in February so February 3rd, 4th, somewhere in there. I think prudence will dictate that it's going to be passed if you pass it at that first meeting. At the second meeting, it's going to be dangerously close to the time those bills are submitted and prepared.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. That will go to Budget and Finance. We'll go to 7959-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution amending the New Home Construction/Improvement Program Resolution enacted May 23rd, 1996 by the Board of Commissioners of Allegheny County at Agenda Number 700-96, subsequently amended by Resolution Numbers 22-00, 6-01, 61-02, 04-04-RE, 49-05-RE, 07-08-RE, 25-09-RE and 30-11-RE. Sponsored by Councilmembers Kress and Macey.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Budget and Finance Committee. 7960-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending 2014 Capital Budget for Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into Budget and Finance Committee. 7961-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2014, Submission 1-14. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Budget and Finance Committee. 7962-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the Transportation Element of the Allegheny Places, Allegheny County's Comprehensive Plan. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Economic Development Committee. 7963-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County Council of Allegheny County creating the Westport Tax

Increment Financing District and authorizing related actions. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Economic Development Committee. 7964-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County Council of Allegheny County amending the Potato Garden Run Tax Increment Financing Plan and authorizing related actions. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Economic Development Committee. 7965-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 311, entitled Official Actions of County Council, Section 5-311.04, entitled Consideration, in order to clarify the applicability of the law of Allegheny County as it relates to the consideration of ordinances and resolutions by County Council. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Government Reform Committee. 7966-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County Article 303, entitled Organization of Council, through the creation of a new Section 5-303.04 entitled Council Caucuses and providing for the creation and function of caucuses. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Government Reform Committee. 7967-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Article 912 of the Administrative Code of Allegheny County entitled, E-Verification to ensure that labor performed pursuant to any contracts to which the county is a party or involves county property is not undertaken by individuals who lack employment authorization under federal law as defined by 8 U.S.C., Section 1324(a)(h)(3). Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 7968-14.

MR. CATANESE: Are you going to put that in committee?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Government Reform?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Government reform, yes.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 801 entitled, Comprehensive Fiscal Plan, Section 5-801.09 entitled, Restrictions on Expenditures, in order to establish a process for authorizing expenditures from the county's general fund. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into Budget and Finance Committee. 7969-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Part 7, Properties, Article 701 entitled, Grounds, Properties and Buildings, in order to establish a procedure for entering and enacting county contracts relating to land use. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. I'd like to put that in Government Reform Committee. 7970-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing Division One of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances entitled Administrative Code, Article 801.09 entitled Restrictions on Expenditures in order to enforce limitations on bonuses funded by County appropriations. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into Government Reform Committee. 7971-14

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 705, entitled Naming Rights, Section 5-705.03 entitled Sponsorship Policy in order to establish a codified distribution of any revenues derived from the sale of sponsorship naming rights. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Government Reform Committee. 7972-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 905 entitled, Nonformal Procurement, Section 5-905.03, entitled Procurement of Professional Services in order to clarify the role of the Allegheny County Professional Services Review Committee and process by which its members are appointed. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that in the Government Reform Committee. 7973-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 905 entitled Nonformal Procurement, Section 5-905.03 entitled Procurement of Professional Services and establishing a process to allow for the identification of contracts subject to review by the Professional Service Review Committee pursuant to Section 5-903.03 of the Administrative Code of Allegheny County in order to render the review process for such professional services contracts more efficient. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that in the Government Reform Committee. 7974-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance establishing an Allegheny County Rainy Day Fund and providing for the administration of revenues placed into such funds. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that into the Budget and Finance Committee. 7975-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 207, entitled New Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review, Section 5-207.07, entitled Powers and Duties in order to require the review of appraisals submitted during the course of residential assessments appeals prior to issuing a verdict in such appeal. Sponsored by Councilmembers Kress and Macey.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that in the Government Reform Committee. 7976-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County Article 207 entitled, New Board of Property Assessment and Review, Section 5-207.06 entitled Rules and Regulations for Appeals in order to establish a mechanism for electronic and/or regular mail filing of appeals and submission of appraisal evidence. Sponsored by Councilmembers Kress and Macey.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that in the Government Reform Committee. 7977-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending Ordinance Number 41-09-OR enacted November 17, 2009, approving the sale of certain real property owned by the County of

Allegheny, Pennsylvania, known as 3333 Forbes Avenue and identified as Block and Lot 28-J-97 to an ownership/development group for the sale price of \$4,900,000 for the purpose of restating the composition of the ownership group and the scope of the proposed development on the property. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to put that in the Public Works Committee.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes, sir.

MR. ROBINSON: I have an item I'd like to have considered if you'll allow the clerk to pass that out and give me an opportunity to explain what it is. It's probably appropriate to have this on the agenda and also sent to committee if it's your pleasure.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Real quickly, do you want to explain it without, you know, ---

MR. ROBINSON: I believe it's only appropriate, Mr. President, if you and members would like to have this put on the agenda first and then I'll do a quick explanation, if that's okay.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

(Chorus of seconds).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Go ahead.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, members of Council. This particular resolution would be to reopen our operating budget for 2014. It's the first time that I can remember that this type of proposal has been offered. It seems to me that the guards who secure our facility, not only here at the courthouse, but throughout the county, are unprotected. And while I am not a strong advocate of arming our guards, I do think they deserve a little more protection than they presently have. They are unarmed and unprotected. What I'm proposing is that we reopen the capital budget and identify \$50,000 that can be used by our Superintendent of Police to provide bullet-proof vests for all of our building guards.

MR. FUTULES: I think you're talking about reopening the operating budget?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir.

MR. FUTULES: I thought you said capital budget.

MR. ROBINSON: I'm sorry, I meant operating.
I'm sorry, operating budget.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, it says operating on
here.

MR. ROBINSON: Operating, yes, sir.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I guess we put this in the
Budget and Finance Committee.

MR. CATANESE: Can I just read the caption so we
have it in the record?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. CATANESE: It's a resolution of the County
of Allegheny amending the 2014 Operating Budget for
Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

MR. FINNERTY: I have a couple motions, if we're
that far yet.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MR. FINNERTY: The first one has to do with the
Westport Woods TIF, Tax Increment Financing, Plan. And it
has to do with having a hearing. This is mandatory that
there is a hearing for a TIF district. So I think you
have that in front of you. And I need some people to
volunteer for the public hearing.

MR. KRESS: I'll volunteer.

MR. FINNERTY: Ed Kress, Bill Robinson, Sue
Means, Nick Futules, Bob Macey. It's economic. I should
have mentioned that I am actually substituting for Amanda
Green Hawkins, Councilwoman Amanda Green Hawkins, who
couldn't be here. I'm Chairman of the Budget and Finance
Committee not the Economic Development and Housing
Committee. This is going to --- this is going to be a
public hearing. The public hearing will be in the Gold
Room. I also have a second motion, Mr. President.

MR. CATANESE: Are we going to approve that one?

MR. FINNERTY: Oh, I'm sorry.

MR. CATANESE: We'll approve that one and then
let me read this.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none,
all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.

MR. CATANESE: I'll read the caption. It's a
motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing

Allegheny County Council to conduct a public hearing pursuant to the Tax Increment Financing Act of July 11, 1990, P.L. 465, No. 113 to afford interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the proposed Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Westport Woods project in Findlay Township, Allegheny County pursuant to the Council's rules of --- pursuant to Council's rules, the Council President shall appoint a Presiding Officer for the hearing.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We have a motion and a second. Any remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.

MR. FINNERTY: This is the second motion I have, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. FINNERTY: This has to do with Tax Increment Financing again. This plan is for the Potato Garden Run Project that's in Findlay Township. And I'll let Joe read the rest of it later. I don't want to take his job away. I make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks?

MR. FINNERTY: If I could again, for a second. We need volunteers for this one also. It's going to be the same night. Bill Robinson, Sue Means, Ed Kress, Bob Macey.

MR. BAKER: It's February 25th?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes, it's February 25th.

MR. BAKER: Yes, okay. February 25th is great. I'm good.

MR. FINNERTY: He has to read it.

MR. CATANESE: A Motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing the Allegheny County Council to conduct a public hearing pursuant to the Tax Increment Financing Act of July 11th, 1990, P.L. 465, No. 113, to afford interested parties an opportunity to express their views on the proposed Tax Increment Financing Plan for the Potato Garden Run Project in Findlay Township, Allegheny County. Pursuant to Council's rules, the Council President shall appoint a Presiding Officer for the hearing.

MR. FINNERTY: John, if I might? I should have stated this and I didn't. The hearing will be February

25th, 2014. It's at 3:00 p.m. And it's in this room, Fourth Floor, Gold Room.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Did you make a motion for this one?

MR. FINNERTY: We did a motion. We need a vote.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. New Business, Motions? I guess we don't have ---

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Executive Actions. We have 7978-14.

MR. CATANESE: Executive Actions for all departments from 12-11-13 through 12-31-13 to be received and filed.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Someone want to make a motion?

MR. FINNERTY: I'll make that motion.

(Chorus of seconds).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Remarks? Seeing none, all those I favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. We now have public comment. The first speaker here would be Tim Ludwig.

MR. LUDWIG: I am Tim Ludwig, 18 Greismere Street, Etna, Mr. Kress' district. I come before you today to ask Council not to add to pollution in this County through leasing of Deer Lakes Park. When I mentioned air pollution to Pittsburghers, I usually get a number of different reactions. One of the most popular reactions is, well, when I was a kid, they had the streetlights on at noon because it was so bad. We have come a long way since then, but I'd liken it to a smoker who used to smoke three packs a day. Now they're down to one pack. That's a great job, but you're still mostly likely to die early unless you stop completely.

Our County's cancer rates are well above average compared to other counties. Allegheny County ranks in the top two percent of counties in the U.S. for cancer from hazardous air pollutants. Another common response I get when I talk about it is, oh, well, based on one of the sensors downwind from the Clarion Coke Works. That's why it's so high. Well, what's downwind, that should be the

next question that's asked. That sensor that's always quoted, that sensor is located at the South Allegheny Middle and Senior High School. 800 kids are exposed to that area where the sensor is. They are downwind. If you live in parts of Mr. Palmiere's and Mr. Macey's district, your cancer risk is 20 times higher because of air pollution.

Now, why does that matter when we talk about the lease of Deer Lakes Park? Because air pollutants are released in all phases of gas drilling operations. At the well site, you have venting. Venting is when gas is released straight into the atmosphere. It occurs during the well pipeline and tank maintenance, and when the well is cleaned up after fracking operations are completed. Flaring happens. Flaring is when gas is burned that is a safety hazard or uneconomical to collect and sell. Flaring emits a lot of air pollutants which vary depending on the chemical composition of gas and fracking fluids.

When a well is flared, huge flames jump into the sky and they're accompanied by noise compared to a jet engine. Diesel exhaust from the high quantity of vehicles traveling to and from drilling sites contains carbon monoxide, nitrous oxide and sulfur dioxide. Truck and heavy vehicle traffic also stirs up dust which increases smog. Heavy construction activity occurs on the site and that goes along with setting up and maintaining well sites. It generates particulate matter which stirs up dust, reacts with volatile organic compounds, and increases ground level concentrations of ozone and creates dense smog.

Which pollution center in the county has constantly produced the highest ozone concentrations in the modern network? That I don't expect you to know the answer to. That's because it's the sensor located in Natrona, PA, which is one of the closest to Deer Lakes Park. It's located at the Highland School District. New studies come out every day talking about the dangers of air pollution. What about infant the mortality rates? Just recently it's going to be released. Let's do something about it. Please, don't pat ourselves on the back that we reduced our three-pack-a-day addiction down to one pack. Let's continue on and not add unnecessary air pollution to our community. Thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Barbara Grover?

MS. GROVER: My name is Barbara Grover and I live at 5526 Wilkins Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15217. I'm speaking this evening on behalf of the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club with our 5,000 members in Southwestern PA and nearly 3,000 in Allegheny County. The Pennsylvania Supreme Court has given you the power to establish zoning laws related to shale gas drilling that cannot be overridden by state laws. You can prevent drilling in, under, near Deer Lakes Park. You can stop fracking anywhere in Allegheny County.

You've read the shale gas stories and know the suffering of people living near the toxic drilling sites in our region. The January 2014 issue of The Guardian offers a story of similar suffering from Ponder, Texas residents. An energy company drilled five wells behind Virginia Kronvall's home. Once the drilling started, she suffered nosebleeds, nausea and headaches. Her home lost nearly a quarter of its value and some of her neighbors went into foreclosure. I am sure that you do not want stories such as these being told by residents of Allegheny County.

I urge you to use the actions of Seven New Jersey Pinelands Commission members as a model for upholding Article One, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution. On January 10th of this year, the Commission defeated a proposal to build a 22-mile natural gas pipeline across the fragile Pinelands National Reserve. Withstanding pressure from Governor Christie and labor unions, seven Commission members voted no; seven voted yes. Fortunately, the rules require eight votes to approve a proposal so this one was defeated. These seven Commission members stood up for the people, for the environment and for all of those who enjoy the green spaces of New Jersey. You can do the same for the residents of Allegheny County.

The projected revenue to the county is enticing, I know, from fracking. The cost that the county taxpayers may be asked to bear must also be considered. Some examples: Colorado cleanup of underground gas seepage costs hundreds of thousands of dollars over an eight-year period. Arkansas Fayetteville Shale Region estimated public health costs at more than \$10 million in 2008. Pennsylvania estimated \$265 million for road repairs in 2010 for the Marcellus Shale region. The long-term costs outweigh the immediate estimated revenue anticipated.

On behalf of the Allegheny Group of the Sierra Club, I urge you to uphold your sworn commitment to Article One, Section 27 of the Pennsylvania Constitution in considering any kind of fracking in any park. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Kelli Rodriguez?

MS. RODRIGUEZ: Hi. My name is Kelli Rodriguez. I work for Allegheny County 911 Emergency Services. When I started working for 911 I thought this was my dream job. I had very high hopes when I found this job, it would secure my future the rest of my life. The reason why I'm here is because when I was employed there I was called very offensive --- very offensive ethnic names such as spic and I was threatened sexually and physically in a demanding way by my first trainer, Mr. Jay Leggin (phonetic). I was threatened --- I'm sorry. I reported this to several people and no one would listen to me. Some news articles from several years ago suggested this type of inappropriate conduct has happened before with my trainer, Mr. Leggin. I requested a new trainer and was given a new trainer named Andrea Carroll (phonetic). I did include all the paperwork and all of her evaluations, as well as Mr. Leggin. As we reviewed these on a daily basis --- that's what we're supposed to do, but I didn't and I reported that that hasn't been done. My trainer, Carroll Jansen, had just called me a liar.

On my last day of work I was in a meeting with the supervisor to go over all my performances and my training. And in that meeting my trainer, Andrea, was supposed to be with me and they asked her to leave. I was questioned about Mr. Leggin and handed an envelope that said you're no longer with us, you can please leave, and they escorted me off the premises. They never spoke to me about any of my performance and anything about the meeting. The only thing they worried about were Mr. Leggin. I firmly believe that Allegheny County Council needs to be aware of this hostile work environment and investigate it because I believe I was wrongly terminated. And I think you should look into it. I have all the paperwork to prove and you can look at this and hopefully, maybe ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: As the Public Safety Chairman of this committee, young lady, would you turn your paperwork over to Councilman --- Mr. Catanese and then I'd like my committee --- you know, I want an answer first

from across the hall and I want an investigation of the 911. We can't have our emergency people under this kind of duress. You know, where there's smoke, there's fire. This young lady came here to face all us. There must be something to it and I want to know what the answers are. And I don't want any shoe footing it. If we don't get there, then we'll just have a hearing on it. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Kathleen Konechny.

MS. KONECHNY: My name is Kathleen Konechny. I live in Cecil Township and work in Allegheny County. I've been a teacher for 24 years and I've devoted my life --- I'm sorry, I'm upset by her experience. I've devoted my life to shaping and teaching the future. And you all are doing the same, just in a different way. We share those responsibilities. I come here tonight with a cautionary tale. I live with drilling and fracking is in full swing, and it's destroyed my life. There are wells all around our township and I don't know why I'm so emotional I apologize. I can see one well from my property, but mostly I see the effects of all of the wells. Drilling may be happening two, three, more valleys away, but we see the sky lit orange like it's on fire. We hear the drilling from that far away, especially at night. And the amount of traffic, truck traffic, is unbelievable. Some of our residents in our neighborhood have stood at the intersection and counted trucks every three minutes, 24 hours a day. These are mostly water trucks hauling in fresh water and hauling out the hazardous waste.

There are so many trucks that they have to find a place to pull over alongside the road to wait in line to get into and out of the drill sites. There's always a line 24 hours a day. I have a beautiful home on three acres that's also a wildlife sanctuary. I have a beautiful patio --- and I'm going to keep going --- where in nice weather we have a glass top dining table. Every day, every single day that table needs wiped down and the wipes are black. Not normal dust but black, deep dark, black-as-coal soot. And I know it's coming from the trucks, also some from the wells, but mostly these diesel trucks. And we cannot keep windows clean. We cannot keep it out of our homes. And worse, we cannot keep it out of our lungs.

As I said, my property is also a wildlife habitat. Over the years I've seen an enormous increase in the amount of species, the birds, dragonflies, butterflies, anything. But something has happened. This past summer the numbers decreased for the first time since I've been doing this over a decade. And I began to find dead birds in my yard. How often do you find a dead bird in your yard just lying there, not from prey, just dead like it fell from a tree, dropped right out, morning doves, goldfinches, field sparrows, even a juvenile eastern male bluebird.

Now, you need to understand we created a habitat for them.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You're going to have to summarize.

MS. KONECHNY: I am. I'm on the last section. Pittsburgh and our region have become known for getting green and striving to be even greener. Fracking is not greener. Our parks are our jewels to be protected. They've been entrusted to us and to you. They're been entrusted to you to protect them. Fracking would violate this sacred trust. I just want to ask you to ask yourself one question. What do you stand for, and I'll leave with asking you, what legacy will you leave behind? Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I skipped over Jeanene Zappa? Not here? Okay. Joni Rabinowitz?

MS. RABINOWITZ: I'm Joni Rabinowitz and I live at 7721 Edgerton Avenue, 15221. Today I want to talk about me. I love Pittsburgh and I'm sure you all do, too. My husband John and I moved here from New York City in 1976 --- in 1969 and it has grown on me as the years passed. A few friends over the years, several from New York, have moved here at my suggestion. Some of the things which have been most appealing to me are the beauty of the area and the region and the accessibility and beauty of the parks; city, county and state.

Pennsylvania is one of the most beautiful states in the union. But I can't encourage potential newcomers any more. Everybody knows Pennsylvania is a guinea pig for the oil and gas industry which is relentlessly pursuing destruction of life as we know it. And this last speaker was very, very clear about it. And everybody is watching southwest Pennsylvania, including people thinking about moving here. Thousands of acres of our beautiful

Pennsylvania historic forests are already being fragmented and drilled and crucial wildlife being destroyed.

Now, Rich Fitzgerald will tell you, in fact, he's already told you, that the Range Resources proposed lease for Deer Lake Park is not for pads and drilling on top of the land in the land in the park, it's only for drilling horizontally under the park, on average, a mile down and a mile horizontal. That those vertical wells will be drilled on private property and the county had nothing to say about that. That's technically true, I guess, but it begs a point. It doesn't alter the dangers of the process one iota. The same dangers still exist, leaking casings, extraction of large amount of naturally occurring dangerous substances, contamination of potable water and return of excessive chemicals and brine to the surface to then pollute the air to be held in large evaporation ponds or trucked to other places to be dumped or illegally dumped on the roads or water treatment plants.

Tip of the iceberg. Anybody who wasn't born yesterday and anyone who knows Rich Fitzgerald knows that if this proposal to frack horizontally under Deer Lakes Park goes through, the other eight county parks will soon follow. And some of them will be on the park's surface. And your power to protect us will be dead in the water, just saying. Deer Lakes will be only the first of many.

As for money, the county's 2012 annual financial report, I don't know if any of you have read it, but this report shows that there is more than adequate funds in the budget to fund the parks. In fact, some observers think parks is one of the strongest budget items in the administration. My dream is to have Pennsylvania be the first state, along with Germany, France, Ireland and hundreds of states and regions around the world, to say no to high volume, horizontal hydraulic fracturing. Allegheny County can be the first county in southwestern Pennsylvania to say no.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: John Detwiler?

MR. DETWILER: Thank you, President DeFazio, members of Council. I'm John Detwiler, 5723 Solway Street, Pittsburgh. I'd like to reflect back on the meeting last month when Councilman Robinson referring to this public comment period was concerned that certain allegations had been made without presenting any evidence.

My point tonight isn't to revisit those allegations or to present the evidence. But I do want to thank the Councilman for his challenge because it says something about this Council. Unlike some official bodies, this Council takes public comment seriously. You expect us to know what we're talking about and to back it up. We're not treated like a parade of crackpots just filing by every three minutes to blow off steam. You're not just tolerating us, you're expecting to learn from us and to use what you learn and make your decisions as wisely as possible.

And that's what's so important about the Supreme Court's decision in the Robinson Township case. Fracking companies needed uniformity for their economies of scale, to roll across the Marcellus from end to the other regardless of who or what already lives here. But the Supreme Court said no, fracking companies can't just grab politically influencing Washington or Harrisburg and sweep communities out of the way. We have the right to determine the character of our community. And you have the job of making these decisions one by one to the best of your ability.

All over the country and all around the world, local communities, having seen its effect on Pennsylvania and its effect on Texas, are turning the tide against fracking. The scientific and economic evidence is here. And local governments are learning. Fracking is a dirty, dangerous and destructive process. It works in a technical sense, that is, it brings gas to the surface, but only if we allow the real cost to be pushed off onto people who aren't at the table, onto our neighbors and onto your children. So long as industry experts control the discussions and talk about doing it right, that is, doing it faster and cheaper and we don't get to the real question should we do it at all.

But when the community comes to the table, the conversation changes. So keep doing what you're doing, look long and hard at whether to frack our public parks. Some of you went to the symposium at Duquesne University. For those of you who weren't there, the presentations are now online. We can help point you to the best ones. Then when the drilling lease comes before you, whenever that is, hold real hearings, invite real experts on public health, community impact and mortality, the effect on property values, quality of life. Don't sit still for a

dog and pony show by the fracking industry sales course. Have some give and take, ask follow-up questions. And here's an idea. How about having some informed citizens on the panel with you to join in the questioning? We could offer more than three minute sound bites. Set up an honest process for informed decision making with evidence. This issue is too important for a rubber stamp. And if you don't have the time or aren't given the opportunity for that level of deliberation, you can always vote no until you do. Thank you again.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Terri Supowitz?

MR. SUPOWITZ: Hi, I'm Terri Supowitz. I live at 310 Hay Street, Wilkinsburg. I'm sure you've been reading about the spill in West Virginia where residents of nine counties have been told not to use or drink their water. And I know that you know this is a result of coal, but it was because trucks were --- with this chemical were being driven back and forth and there are going to be trucks, thousands of trucks, as was mentioned by someone previous, that will be coming with water and with chemicals and with frack fluid taking it out. There's constant truck traffic. So this is not --- what happened in West Virginia could easily happen in Allegheny County. So there was this chemical, MCHM. A state of emergency was declared for the 300,000 people in these nine counties. They were told not to make baby formula, don't brush your teeth, don't shower. The only thing you could use this water for was to flush your toilet. Can you imagine?

Symptoms of this chemical exposure include severe burning in the throat, severe eye irritation, non-stop vomiting, trouble breathing or severe skin irritation such as blistering. And those are the same symptoms that a lot of people experience when they're near a frack site.

West Virginia American Water has emphasized that once contaminated by MCHM, the water cannot be treated. That's pretty scary.

So I looked at these nine counties. These nine counties covered 4,000 square miles with 300,000 residents. And I put that 4,000 square miles over Allegheny County with Allegheny County in the middle, Beaver, Butler, Westmoreland and Washington Counties, 4,000 square miles. We have two million people in that

4,000 square miles, not 300,000. Can you imagine two million people without drinking water? I think that would be horrific. And I truly believe that there could be a spill or an accident of this magnitude not tomorrow, not next week, but at some point in Allegheny County. If you want to start fracking, that's what happens. Fracking includes trucking, moving the chemicals from one place to another. For one well there are over 1,000 truck trips. Common sense and statistics say that there are going to be accidents. To make matters worse, these trucks are not labeled. There are no hazardous warnings, no list of contents. This means that first responders do not know what to do or how to treat the chemical spill.

Here's something you might want to think about. Common sense says that when this kind of spill occurs, Allegheny County would be open to all kinds of lawsuits from the surrounding counties. Not a good thing. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Is Mel Packer here? Not here.

MR. YOUNG: Good morning, Council President DeFazio. My name is Kieren Young. I live at 5047 Summerhill Street in the City of Pittsburgh. I am here to speak out against fracking that is planned for our parks, I think that's a horrible thing. I think that our parks are for our young people and should be preserved for the next generation, my children and the children of my children. And destroying the water supply in this area is a horrible idea. As you can see from what has happened in West Virginia, we have about 500,000 people who are still without water six days later. I mean, could you imagine if everyone in this county didn't have water? I mean, that would be a pretty messed up site, nobody would be able to take a shower. It would be awful hard for you gentlemen to put your suits on without taking a shower. So have a great day.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Briget Shields?

MS. SHIELDS: Hi. My name is Briget Shields, 2229 Tilbury Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA. First I would like to welcome the new Council members, Mr. Baker, Mr. Kress and Ms. Means. I have a package of information for you all. It includes a lot of the information that I've given to the other Councilmembers and a copy of our

shale-filled stories. This is a book that a bunch of us volunteered to put together that is first-hand testimonies from people living in the shale fields across America, not just Pennsylvania. And the thing that concerns me most is this accident that happened in West Virginia last week. The main reason why 300,000 people are without water is because the chemical that was involved had no documentation. They don't know anything about it because there hasn't been any data since the '70s. Range Resources, the company that Mr. Fitzgerald is talking about doing business with, has admitted on numerous occasions, especially during the Hallowich case, that they aren't completely clear on all the chemicals that they use in the fracking process because many of them are proprietary chemicals.

This means that we haven't done any of our due diligence for allowing this industry into our state. And do we want to wait for an accident of that magnitude before we say, oh, we did the wrong thing by allowing them in. You were talking about firefighters and EMS workers. Every firefighter and EMS worker that I have spoken to personally has told me they have not been trained on any aspect of a well fire, well blowout or chemical spills. So who's going to train them and where is that money going to come from? And in today's paper I was just doing some research and I found that, I think it was \$2,600, was just --- GPX Drilling Company fined \$280,000 for using undocumented Mexican workers in northeast Pennsylvania. January 8th, Texas company fined \$2.6 million for illegal housing and employment of undocumented Mexican workers.

We talk about jobs and money, and they say that there's risk in everything we do. The risk involved with this industry is way more than we could even try to anticipate. It's documented. It's proven. You have firsthand testimony here. You have testimony here. This book, the sale of this book today, we finally plugged in three families that live right at the entrance of Cross Creek Park in Washington with their first water buffalo. They have hot water for the first time in eight years because of volunteers like us because the government has abandoned them and the industry. Thank you for your time.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: While I'm thinking about it now, we have people --- you have to notify the clerks here. You just can't come in and say, well, I'm speaking

for Mel Packer. I left it go tonight. And with Lester, you wasn't on the list, we'll let you speak tonight. Doug Shields, there was a mix-up with you, we're going to let you speak tonight. What I'm trying to tell you is warning everybody in advance. You've got to do it the right way. You got to go by the rules. I just don't want --- at the last minute. So Joe, they called you, you might as just come up front. Okay? Let's go with the next speaker. Claire Westbrook? All right. Larry Wolfson?

MR. WOLFSON: My name is Larry Wolfson. I live at 2408 East Springwood Drive in Shaler. And drilling under the parks is really just exploitation of the parks. It has nothing to do with the conservancy and well-managed use of the parks. We think it's risk free or we're told it's supposed to be risk free and even prudent with all that risk-free money. But there's always the next idea if we start down this path. If drilling at Deer Lakes goes well, then the next park --- all the parks are going to be next. And then there's going to be the next idea and the next and the next. And each one is going to be evaluated like this one in Council meetings and town meetings. And well-intentioned, dedicated citizens do their best to come to the right decisions. But what are the chances that even these well-intentioned decisions will be right? And what are the chances that all the truly critical factors will be known at the time of the decision? And what are the chances that from time to time politics more than good intentions shape that decision? The problem is no matter how well-intentioned and focused we intend to be, we will always not ever come close to being infallible.

I want to talk about Fukushima, which is very different from fracking. But the Carnegie Endowment published a paper in March 2012 entitled Why Fukushima was Preventable. It was not prevented according to this paper because of a belief that there is no risk of a severe accident, failure to appreciate involving technologies and governance by politics and bureaucracy overriding science. What a surprise. And a little closer to home, who would have guessed that the injection of fracking wastewater would cause earthquakes. But guess what? The injection did induce earthquakes in Ohio, probably was the cause in Oklahoma and might have been the cause in Texas. Messing with these powerful forces like fracking does has consequences.

So we're fallible. We're dealing with powerful forces that we do not well understand. And now we're going to throw these behaviors at our parks. Unfortunately, parks are not projects to be constructed, torn down, reconstructed anew, and shaped just so. They're simply land set aside and husbanded. That these areas are controlled more by nature than man is what makes them special. That is why mistakes made by man that affect parks may be irretrievable.

Drilling in the parks combines this fallibility, powerful not understood forces and consequences of irretrievable error. Not risk free, not even prudent. You don't have to want bad results to get bad results. The only way to avoid this is to take it off the table so it doesn't even come up. No risk assessment, no cost benefit analysis, just never consider it for the parks. The Council should reject drilling under the parks, instead resolve that any development in, under, over or through the parks is directly for conservancy of the parks and their well-managed use.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. George Jucha? I don't know if I pronounced that right.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, may we have a minute so she can change her paper?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes, give her a minute.

BRIEF INTERRUPTION

MR. JUCHA: My name is George Jucha, 203 Essex Knoll Drive, Moon Township, Pennsylvania, 15108. I'm a 49-year lifelong resident of Allegheny County and I love it here. I do. I appreciate the opportunity to chat with you this evening. Happy New Year. I spoke with you back in December. I'd like to welcome and congratulate our newest Councilmembers.

That said, I'd like to start by saying that I think drilling in the parks is ridiculous because of my own person experience. And I want to share that with you this evening in person. I provided you a report, sourcesofmarcellusgas.org. How many of you guys have seen an active drilling site? How many of you have been to an area that has been developed, a region? Anybody? Excellent. I personally counted 76 water buffalos in the Bradford County area. I wasn't there to count water buffalos. I have a recycling business. I was out visiting my customers. Forty (40) more in the Montrose

area, more in Washington, Fayette, Greene, Butler, too. None of these people bought water buffalos for decorations for the front or side of their homes. I can guarantee you. That's a problem by itself.

Now, that said, the reason I'm here to talk to you and take my evening to do that, is because once you drill, once you prepare a pad, you can never, ever remove that. Due diligence was mentioned several times last time I was here. It's an important two words. Do you know how many abandoned or orphaned gas and oil wells we have in the State of Pennsylvania right now? Anybody want to hazard a guess? Try 200,000 is the estimate, with four percent, 8,257, listed on the DEP site as having been plugged. At a cost of \$8,000 to \$10,000, \$12,000 each that's a major problem. That said, if the county approves drilling, then who's responsible for the emergency services drilling? Can you mandate the municipalities really to do that, with their budgets? I'm betting against it.

There are no laws or regulations regarding the drilling in areas that have all these orphaned, abandoned wells. That's a major problem for migration. The report I gave you shows Range Resource has a number of violations. Per dollar volume, \$508,000 they've been fined for their violations. Twenty-five (25) percent of the active wells in the state have violations. That's a major problem. The average enforcement event is \$21,000. Drilling in the parks is ridiculous. Please, I implore you to vote no on that. I asked you to define the word park in your minds before. Once you drill, it's no longer a park, it's an industrial park. I thank you for your time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Loretta Weir?

MS. WEIR: Hi. I'm Loretta Weir, 4544 Homeridge Drive, 31st Ward in the City of Pittsburgh. I've been here before but I haven't had the pleasure of seeing the new Councilmembers. I'm happy to see you and I hope that what we say makes sense to you tonight. We have a lot of intelligent people in the audience that come here on a regular basis.

This was prepared, what I have, by the Westmoreland Marcellus Citizens Group. We all kind of associate with one another, Communities United for Rights and Environment ---. We're associated with Marcellus protesting and we also interact with these other groups.

This is some of the information that they proposed to the Environmental Quality Board so this is all beared-out information. You're welcome to check it all out. Over 1,600 residents of Pennsylvania thus far have entered their names on the list of the harmed following after drilling operations began in their area and they became ill. Research from the Colorado School of Public Health indicates that persons that live within a half mile of fracking operations have an increased risk of disease, cancers and noncancers due to exposure to toxic chemicals.

Dr. John Adgate, Colorado School of Public Health, found that chronic health risk near drilled areas were graded in order of prevalence for neurological disease, hematological disease, respiratory effects and developmental effects. Researchers Baumgartner and Oswald list many instances of animals having neurological, reproductive and acute gastrointestinal problems after being exposed to fracking chemicals. I personally know a farmer whose animals were affected, okay?

In northern central Pennsylvania, 140 cattle were exposed to fracking wastewater when an impoundment was breached. Seventy (70) cows died. The remainder produced 11 calves of which only 3 survived. The Texas Commission Environmental Quality analyzed fracking fluids. Associated health problems included 65 percent of the chemicals are associated with serious health effects, 94 percent with skin, eye and respiratory harm, 93 percent with gastrointestinal, 87 percent with respiratory damage, 83 percent with brain and neurological effects. Many of these chemicals used to frack are known carcinogens, neurotoxins, endocrine disruptors. Many are in the BTEX group and have long known to be linked to disease. Forty (40) percent of frack chemicals have been found to be endocrine disruptors.

I'm going to sum this up because --- and I will make sure that this gets to all of your emails. Frack pits should not ever be permitted. These are nothing but the water, the wastewater filled with chemicals. The water can never be returned to its state after we destroy 8,000 gallons at a time of fresh water. I don't know where we've come in our life where we just --- we are just disrespectful of our environment and what it takes for us to live and survive. We can't survive without water. I mean, are we insane? Have we all gone mad? I'm really, really confused about this. We really shouldn't be

fracking anywhere. But Sue Means, I would like to say that I appreciated when she stated every life is precious, what you do matters. Please look to people and stop money. The best things in life aren't things and they're not money. Okay? Thanks.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Ken Weir?

MR. WEIR: Good evening. Let me preface by saying I'm a proud father of three children and a grandfather of five, okay, and I'd do anything I could to protect them. And I want you all to know that. Because that comes from my heart and I mean that. Okay. That being said, the last time I was here it was on August 20 of 2013. There was a large crowd here and Mr. Martoni, you were the president at the time. And remember there was such a large crowd? Well, the Post Gazette had an article written the next day. It characterized the people as --- the headlines read, Protestors Object to Drilling at the County Parks. And those people look at headlines and they go, oh, look at that article, headlines, protestors. You know, those people, they're always up. But we needed to look further into who the protestors were at that meeting that night. Okay. Within that group there were five teachers. There were three engineers. There were two PhDs and there were two medical doctors that also testified that night. But it was not in the paper. So we have to be careful of how the media characterizes people because it does color how you think about a group of people. And we are educated on this subject.

And I'd like also to say that the reason they call this unconventional drilling is because it's not conventional. It goes beyond the norm of drilling. The low hanging fruit of energy development is gone. The easy drilling is gone. They're going six miles out in the ocean. Everybody's been in an ocean. You're going to go out how far on that ocean? They're going out six miles drilling 18,000 feet deep to look for oil. That's unconventional. The logistics, the engineering, the money it takes to do that, that's because fossil fuels are being depleted. According to the Post Carbon Institute peak oil production was in the year 2006. We're declining since then and it's obvious by the means we're going to find this new energy source.

China, two weeks ago, was in the Business Times. \$187 million, they bought acreage in Greene County, Pennsylvania. Greene County. Right. Okay? Where do you think that oil and gas is going? Do you think it's staying here? Do you think that's for our energy independence? I read a very good book. I recommend reading it, for everybody to read it. It was Howard Zinn and he wrote The People's History of the United States. It's a very good book. And the reason I say that is if anybody's ever saw --- everybody here saw the Wizard of Oz. Well, I read the book The Wicked and it's the same story, but it's told from the viewpoint of the wicked witch. A totally different story. It's a totally different story when you read it that way.

And all I would say in closing is don't let them socialize the costs and privatize the profits which is what they're doing. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Dana Dolney? Jenna Date?

MS. DATE: My name is Jenna Date. I am a professor at a local university here and I live on 43rd Street in Lawrenceville. I'm a mother of two and an entrepreneur. And I've spent a lot of time trying to bring people into the city through my students and through entrepreneurship. I'm choosing not to do that any more, to keep my mouth shut until this fracking stuff is over. It's really difficult actually to follow all of these talks because I'm not here to state facts. I'm here to talk about my experience. I use the parks a lot, rain, shine, winter, summer. I'm in the park maybe three, four times a week. And we mountain bike and hike and cross-country ski and we even pick berries in the park in the summer. So these are friends of mine, my children, my partner. And to me and to all of us the parks are an asset just as they are, unchanged and unaltered, a natural place to be away from the noise, the business, away from civilization, just for a little bit before our lives drag us back to the city.

I don't need a million dollar bathroom. And I don't need a restaurant. All I need is a little bit of peace and a beautiful place to picnic with my children. I need a park with clean air and clean water and just a little bit of quiet. So this is why I'm here to ask you for a very simple thing. Slow down this process. Slow it down so we can find out the facts. And I'm asking you to

get educated about what truly is happening. There are an awful lot of really brilliant people in the room tonight and I would love for you to listen to them and also listen to your conscience. I'd like to ask you to discover the deed information on the parks. I know a few of the Councilmembers have asked for the attorney to find out if we even can frack under our parks. We don't even know.

I also ask you to stop the private meetings between the County Executive and the fracking companies. If they're public lands, shouldn't you and I be involved in those conversations? Don't we call have a right to be there?

And lastly, I demand an environmental review. What environmental impact will this have on our parks? Do you know, for example, that no one knows what fracking does to lands that have been heavily mined? Deer Lakes Park specifically is riddled with shafts and paths underneath the surface. What happens to those shafts and paths when we frack through them? What do they get filled with? How do you handle those cement barriers? How do you keep people safe? Frankly, I don't think any of us has the answers right now. What we need to do is pause and really think about what we're doing. Your forefathers worked very hard to protect the parks from industry and private gain. And now the parks have been placed into your hands for protection. Please allow these parks to go 100 more years or more without industry. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thomas Nehrer?

MR. NEHRER: Tom Nehrer is my name. Do you mind if I hold this (indicating) so I don't have to bend over? I live at 952 Union Avenue in Brackenridge. And I travel quite a bit and give talks across the country on books that I've had published. So I'm a kind of ambassador to Pittsburgh and I grew up around here watching TV, living as part of the community. And specifically to this particular topic, I have spent hundreds of hours from --- in fact, the last time I was here, I was patted on the shoulder for being part of the original Friends of Harrison Hills Park. We spent literally hundreds of hours redoing all the trails and refurbishing the old farmhouse into an environmental learning center. And personally I'm rather offended that even the thought of fracking somewhere in Deer Park --- that I certainly concur with all the comments made here but for me it's rather personal

to have put an awful lot of effort into restoring a park to a very useful state for a lot of people to come and enjoy it. And to think that they would put a fracking unit just outside of it, anywhere near it that would affect it, is to me just idiotic. I won't go into any of the detail of what the people have iterated earlier, but I think it's really, really a bad idea. So that's my input.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thaddeus Popovich.

MR. POPOVICH: Good evening and Happy New Year. I'm sorry I missed the last event. My name is Thaddeus Popovich and I live at 6606 Virginia Avenue in the Borough of Ben Avon. I apologize for not being present at the last council meeting. I am forced to blame the weather for keeping me off the streets. I cherished my life that day.

However, if I had been here, I would have welcomed the new Councilmembers, especially Tom Baker, and also Mr. Kress and Ms. Means. Tom Baker represents me in District One, so welcome, Tom.

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Ted.

MR. POPOVICH: And I look forward to your leadership on Allegheny County Council.

Recently, Tom was good enough to meet with me and another district resident from Moon Township, George Jucha. During the meeting, we presented him with a petition of almost 50 signatures taken during the six-hour Ben Avon Fall Festival held on September 20th, 2013. Not a big number, but it was significant. I think we have 800 families that live in Ben Avon --- or 800 residents, I should say. I really inflated that. Sorry. I'll suffer from egomania on that one. Okay. Signing the petition registered a no for fracking in, under or near our county parks.

Now, I'm going to take off my citizen of Ben Avon hat and put on my Clean Water Action hat. I am a member of the Clean Water Action Steering Committee and as such, represent a membership in Allegheny County of 14,692 residents. I have a breakdown of the membership by district. Tom Baker's District One of 2,168 residents is only topped by Jan Rea's District Two of 2,494 residents. I won't bore you with the rest of the numbers, but suffice it to say that the membership is roughly in the same proportion to the number of citizens in each district.

Clean Water Action did an email blast to its county list regarding fracking and got more response to that email than we have had in a long, long time on any other issue. People were willing to respond to a second email and become engaged. That never happens. When our canvassers were up around Deer Lakes, we got a really good response at the doors to letter writing. Even people who supported fracking were willing to write letters to keep fracking out of the parks. In just three or four days we were able to get almost 50 handwritten letters to Councilman Futules.

We plan on continuing similar actions to prove to you that your constituents overwhelmingly do not want our county parks to be industrialized. If fracking happens in one park, it undoubtedly will happen to them all. We don't want that and you don't want that. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Edward Chute?

MR. CHUTE: My name is Edward Chute. I am a property owner in Allegheny and Westmoreland Counties who prides himself on always having been a nonpartisan, no affiliation registered voter. In October of 2013, my wife and I moved to 904 Valley View Road in the Municipality of Mt. Lebanon, 15243 after residing for the last 22 years in Mt. Pleasant Township of Westmoreland County where we frequented our county parks. One of our primary reasons for relocating where we did in Allegheny County is our proximity to our public parks and our quality of life. On December 15th I read a headline in the Post Gazette that said, park gas offer includes \$3.5 million bonus. The news article detailed some of the issues surrounding what County Executive Rich Fitzgerald is quoted as describing as private negotiations. Private negotiations concerning the future use of public land. Perhaps I am a misguided resident, but I perceive that public park land is land held in trust and set aside for the public to use and enjoy in perpetuity.

And such public land is not to be used for some private corporations or heaven forbid, some local politician's immediate private gain or personal gain profit. I gather from that news piece that the County Executive may indeed be representing and cooperating with the gas and oil industry, particularly Range Resources, the corporation that is presumably offering the signing

bonus in order to induce a proprietary advantage and exclusivity of rights to use, that is, to drill in or under our public land. Who's representing me and the other residents of Allegheny County in these private negotiations about public entrusted parkland? Apparently, Cross Creek Park in Washington County has now become an industrial site. Do we want our public parks in Allegheny County to become industrial sites? Certainly I don't.

In summary, I urge you to remember that your role is to represent the people of Allegheny County with any decisions involving our public parklands that might be a short-term solution for private and personal gain with long-term consequences for the public. Surely, you should have public hearings about such an important use of public land to seek and weigh expert testimony, not just to listen and acquiesce to the desires of some other politician or private corporation. Just what will be the environmental, social and cultural impacts for the future use of our public parks in Allegheny County? Indeed, ask yourselves, who owns the public parks, Range Resources and their political representative or we the residents? Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We have two more speakers, Lester Ludwig and then Doug Shields.

MR. LUDWIG: Happy New Year and you can wish me a happy birthday. I turned 81 on December 30th. I've been listening to this argument since I came here about what? I came here to go ahead and talk about a joint effort of the county and the City of Pittsburgh to develop the MBRO program, a program that could produce millions of dollars. And Doctor Martoni, thank you for your support. And by the way, Doctor, if my mathematics --- and I'm a little old at that game. If my mathematics are correct, let me take you on a trip of what Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania represents for the entire United States. I've extrapolated it from ratios and proportions. And if I'm correct, let's go, six zeros is million, seven zeros is what? Come on, speak to me. Okay, eight zeros is what? Okay. Fine. What happens when you get out to nine or ten? And the numbers start at a hundred and then go down. It's so darn big and long that I looked at it and I said, I better get Doctor Martoni to get a mathematician on me to make sure that I didn't make a mistake in calculation. What are we doing?

When the Post Gazette, a pernicious ruling on gas, a man who says that it doesn't do anything dangerous and it was this week's, I think, Sunday paper. We have interesting personalities, Governor Christie being one. All of a sudden there was a way to go ahead and mess up the bridges. Okay. So when we have Allegheny County. Who does Rich Fitzgerald think he is? We've heard how many statements here? People are shaking their heads and saying, holy mackerel, what's this guy doing? And we actually elected him. I'm sorry. I don't want to bend. I refuse to. There's only --- remember what I said, one water and when you start poisoning it, when is it going to start killing all of us? One water.

In Greene County, a guy hauling water out pulled the truck into his garage where there was a drain in the floor and emptied his water buffalo or whatever the hell you want to call it. And what did he do with it? It all ran --- all the fracking water was allowed to go into the creek down below. What are we doing? Margaret Mead in '72 said we have a biosphere and we're ruining it. Whether it's oil leaks from a ship or it's fracking, and then I sign up the first of the month and even get told that I'm not on the list of speakers. Thank you for your attention. Oh, by the way, this is a really good one. Wait a minute. Wait a minute, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Lester, you know what? You're lucky you're speaking. You weren't even on the list.

MR. LUDWIG: The Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection website says that 63 percent of the wells that are being drilled have violations, and you want to go out and vote for fracking under the parks? What are you doing? Wake up, America. You're going to poison us.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Doug Shields?

MR. SHIELDS: My name is Douglas Shields and I want to thank President DeFazio for letting me speak. I apologize for missing the listing but I actually took five minutes last night and the County website keeps track and it won't happen again. I live at 2329 Tilbury Avenue, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, 15217. I am going to ask you a series of questions. Of course, you don't have to respond but in your head if the answer is no to any of these, then we have a lot of work to do. The Pennsylvania Supreme

Court ruled on December 9th and made a landmark decision. A constitutional lawyer said the most important decision in the last ten years coming from any court in the United States. It has changed the rules. It has changed everything for what you and County Executive Rich Fitzgerald have to consider. Again, question one, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has now promulgated new regulations that were promulgated before the decision. And as such, they are faulty to the point where they got to go start all over again in light of the Supreme Court's decision. Does Allegheny County Council or Allegheny County intend to testify as to the efficacy or the lack thereof of these regulations being put forward by the state. If the answer is no, then I have --- we need to have some further discussion.

With regard to the Supreme Court Decision, Chief Justice Castille who was the prime author of the opinion stated this. By any responsible account, the exploitation of the Marcellus Shale Formation will produce a detrimental effect on the environment, on the people, their children and future generations and potentially, on the public purse, perhaps rivaling the environmental effects of coal extraction. That is not an idle musing by a blogger, an environmentalist or protester. That is from the Court's Opinion, which you have to abide by. Municipalities, from the headnotes, have a substantial interest in protecting the environment. Do you know what those interests are? Can you iterate them? Environmental rights are in the Pennsylvania Constitution. Do you know what those rights are? If you're answering no, then you have to stop and we'll be more than happy to help you better understand this.

Municipalities have a substantial interest in protecting the environment. That's what the Court said. Act 13 absolved you of that responsibility? The Court said, no, no, this flows right down to the dog catcher. Whoever takes that oath is responsible for protecting the Constitution. You do not have a free pass any more. The State Constitution guarantees environmental rights. In fact, they were elevated to the level of political rights. Do you comprehend what that means for you as a decision maker? Constitution puts limits on the state's ability to act as a public trustee of resources. These are not things that you can do things willy-nilly with. And also, the Constitution guarantees environmental rights. These

are our rights and these are your responsibilities in the oath of office you took.

And finally, being the last speaker, I'd ask all of you to get an opinion from the State Ethics Commission so that you know whether or not you're qualified to even vote on the matter. Some members have disclosed. Other members that I know have not disclosed may have pecuniary interests related to this by way of leases and other matters. And it would behoove all of you to go to the State Ethics Commission and get that Opinion and then you'll be able to know what to do. Thank you.

(Applause)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Motion to adjourn.

(Chorus of motions)

(Chorus of seconds)

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:45 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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



Court Reporter