

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John P. DeFazio	-	President, Council-At-Large
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Heather S. Heidelbaugh	-	Council-At-Large
Tom Baker	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Ed 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 (via telephone)

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

Tuesday, March 4, 2014 - 5:04 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 of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Walter Szymanski - Budget Director

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The meeting will come to order. Will you all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and remain standing for silent prayer or reflection. After me, ---

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll have a roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

(No response.)

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.

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: Thirteen (13) members currently present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Let's all go down to Proclamations and Certificates. 8105-14.

MR. CATANESE: Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. Jack Goodrich, upon his selection as the Grand Marshal of the 2014 Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Are you going to bring him up?

MR. FINNERTY: I've got to wait for him to recognize me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We're going to recognize you. Go ahead, Mike.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President. Jack, would you like to come up here with me?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Wait. That was sponsored by Mike Finnerty. A couple people also want to be added to this.

MR. ROBINSON: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to just --- whoever wants to be added --- or everyone, probably, wants to be added; so who doesn't want to be added? Let them ---. Okay, Mike.

MR. FINNERTY: This gentleman here is very bashful, so you know, we want to try to calm him down a little before we go through this. But Jack has always done a tremendous job for a lot of the Irish organizations; but not only the Irish organizations, for all the people of Allegheny County. He's out there all the time parading and saying what's on his mind. And most of the time --- in fact, all the time, it's for the good of everyone. So with that in mind, I'd just like to read the proclamation, then we'll let Jack talk. I don't want to spend a lot of time speaking, because Jack will take care of that.

This Certificate of Recognition is awarded to Jack Goodrich. This Certificate of Recognition is awarded to Mr. Jack Goodrich upon his selection as Grand Marshal of the 2014 Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade. Mr. Goodrich, as the principal of the law firm, Goodrich and Associates, has been named a Top 100 American Irish Lawyer by the Irish Voice Magazine since 2008, is president of the Brehon Law Association of Western Pennsylvania and was named Irishman of the Year in 2005, amongst numerous other accolades and awards. He has served as chairman of the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade committee --- fundraising committee since 1992, introducing the highly sought after commemorative parade sponsor button and the annual button party, which is this week, Friday, March the 7th. Arguably, his most lasting legacy and contribution to the event is that button party.

Allegheny County commends Mr. Goodrich for his passion and dedication to both Pittsburgh's Irish

community and to the St. Patrick's Day Parade. We congratulate Mr. Goodrich upon receiving his honor and thank him for his numerous and immeasurable contributions. Sponsored by myself and many others. Jack, congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. GOODRICH: It's a great honor. Mr. Finnerty, are you available at my wake?

MR. FINNERTY: We can do that.

MR. GOODRICH: Okay. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: As long as it's a long way off.

MR. GOODRICH: God willing. It's funny that I'm the one accepting this award, because there are so many that have made this happen; Mary Madigan Kennedy, who, along with Maggie Cloonan, are the ones that helped start the button, Marty Madigan, who helped start the button party, along with Jimmy Mitchell, and Colleen Bowers, Timmy Finnerty, Michael Lamb, Michael Coyne. I could go on and on. It's not just one person that did it. It's --- this award is for the Irish, all my friends in the community. I can't do it without my daughter, my wife, my family. It's a collaborative effort, because God knows, I can't buy 500 buttons myself.

So with that, I would just like to say thank you for the outpouring of support that we've received over the 20-some years. As Grand Marshal, I will do my best to make sure the weather is appropriate, and I'm looking forward for a great day on Friday, the button party, and on the 14th, when everybody is Irish in the City of Pittsburgh and the county. So thank you all very much.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Hey, Jack, I have a green pen. Do I get some points?

MR. GOODRICH: (Indicates yes.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8106-14. Mike Finnerty, again.

MR. CATANESE: I just want to ask, Councilman Ellenbogen, are you on the line?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yes, Mr. Catanese, I'm here.

MR. CATANESE: Thank you. Please let the record show that Mr. Ellenbogen is present by phone.

Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. John Tarpey, for being named the Ancient Order of the

Hibernians 2014 Allegheny County Hibernian of the Year.
Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. John, would you like to come up, please? Would your wife like to come up with you? Probably not.

MR. TARPEY: Probably not.

MR. FINNERTY: No, it looks like she won't do it. The Ancient Order of Hibernians has been in existence for quite a while. Hibernians started in Ireland, and the Hibernian --- the Ancient Order of Hibernians was founded to protect the Catholic priests. That's what it was founded for. It has come about in America, now that we don't have to do that anymore, as a very charitable organization. We raise money and we give money to charity. And it's a very important function that we do as Hibernians.

John here has spent many, many hours toiling for the Ancient Order of Hibernians. He's done about everything you could do and done it very well. And it's really an honor just to stand here with him and present this award --- this proclamation. So let me read the proclamation.

This Certificate of Recognition is awarded to Mr. John Tarpey, upon his selection as Pittsburgh's Ancient Order of Hibernians 2014 Hibernian of the Year. Mr. Tarpey currently serves as the AOH treasurer for Allegheny County, and as chairman for missions and charity, in both his division and the county board. In the past, Mr. Tarpey has held key positions such as division president and historian. He has also been honored as Division 1 Hibernian of the Year in 2009. His tireless efforts to better others and his unmatched dedication to the Irish community and to Allegheny County as a whole, exemplifies the characteristics sought after in Allegheny County Hibernian of the Year.

Allegheny County congratulates Mr. Tarpey for the monumental honor bestowed upon him and thanks him for all of his contributions to better our community. It's sponsored by myself and others. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. TARPEY: Thank you, Council. I appreciate it, and I don't want to follow Jack Goodrich in speaking, so I would just thank everybody and encourage everyone, when you get a chance to volunteer, volunteer. You'll

learn something. You'll meet new people. And you'll meet a great group of friends, so thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8107-14.

MR. CATANESE: Certificate of Recognition awarded to the Irish Society for Education and Charity, Incorporated, for its dedication to the members of the Pittsburgh Irish community and to Pittsburgh's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Yes?

MR. KRESS: Can I be added to that?

MR. FINNERTY: You certainly can.

MR. KRESS: Anybody else?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

ALL INDICATE AYE

MR. CATANESE: Who doesn't want to --- okay, everybody.

MR. FINNERTY: Marty, do you want to come up? Marty Madigan is coming up.

(Applause.)

MR. FINNERTY: All right, Marty. I think the Irish Society of Education and Charity says it all, but what we try to do, we try to educate people and be charitable and help people out when they need it. So let me read the proclamation.

This Certificate of Recognition is awarded to the Pittsburgh Irish Society for Education and Charity, for its dedication to the members of the Pittsburgh Irish community and to Pittsburgh's St. Patrick's Day Parade. Since 1992, the ISEC has provided sponsorship, leadership, guidance, to the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade committee in its effort to organize and execute what has been referred to as the nation's second largest St. Patrick's Day Parade. The organization also supports the Pittsburgh Irish community by awarding scholarships to local Irish students and by making donations to area groups and causes.

Allegheny County Council commends the Irish Society for Education and Charity for their passionate and tireless efforts to support Pittsburgh's Irish community and thanks them for all their numerous contributions. Sponsored by myself and others, also. Marty?

(Applause.)

MR. MADIGAN: Thanking Councilman Finnerty, and thank you, Council --- everyone from the County Council, for this prestigious proclamation this evening. On behalf of the Irish Society for Education and Charity, Inc. and our --- all of our Board member, I would just like to say thank you once again. And ever since I was six years old, I participated in the St. Patrick's Day Parade in one way or the other. So without giving away my age, needless to say, this is my 55th parade. So my parents instilled in me that we --- everyone should be proud of their heritage, their nationality, their race, their gender and --- but always to remember this, that everyone is Irish on St. Patrick's Day. God bless.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next we have 8108-14; Mike Finnerty, again.

MR. CATANESE: Certificate of Recognition awarded to the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, for its dedication to organizing the annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty.

MR. BAKER: Joe, can we all be added to this?

MR. CATANESE: You all want to be added to 8106, also? Okay. That's fine.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Put them all on, just ---.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. I've gone through a lot of things here, but we need to get somebody up here for the St. Patrick's Day Parade committee. Dan, you might as well come up. Nobody else is moving. I think, Jack, you should be up here, too. There we go. Now we got people moving. Come on up. It's a great honor to be presenting this proclamation to the Parade Committee, who has a great deal of support and has worked at it very well for a long time. Even when it snows, they're there. So I'd like to read the Certificate of Recognition.

This Certificate of Recognition is awarded to the members of the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for their work in organizing and carrying out Pittsburgh's annual St. Patrick's Day Parade. Since its inception, the St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee has been the driving force behind the annual parade, coordinating and managing all efforts in bringing the community together to ensure the success of this venerated event. Allegheny County Council commends Pittsburgh's St.

Patrick's Day Parade committee for showcasing Pittsburgh's distinguished Irish community and thanks them for their diligent efforts and dedication to making the annual parade an unmatched celebration of Irish heritage. Sponsored by myself and other members. Do you want to say a few words? No?

MR. GOODRICH: This will be the 144th St. Patrick's Day Parade in Pittsburgh. Neither sleet, snow or anything else they can throw at us have stopped us before nor would stop us again. Again, we're proud of what we do. It's a cultural event that brings everybody into Pittsburgh, which just shows what a great melting pot southwestern Pennsylvania is. And again, we look forward to seeing everybody on the 15th. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8109-14; Mike Finnerty, again.

MR. CATANESE: Certificate of Recognition honoring the 2014 Miss Smiling Irish Eyes of Pittsburgh and her Court. Sponsored by Councilman Finnerty and all members of Council.

MR. FINNERTY: I got it. And all members of Council.

MR. CATANESE: And all members of Council.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. I thank you, Mr. President. Finally we get some beautiful people up here. Ciara? Is the rest of your Court here? Oh, okay. Well, it's an honor to have Miss Smiling Irish Eyes in our presence. We appreciate you being able to come here today. Let me read the proclamation. This Certificate of Recognition is awarded to Miss Ciara Scanlon Crossey in honor of being named the 2014 Miss Smiling Irish Eyes of Pittsburgh. Ms. Scanlon Crossey is currently enrolled at John Carroll University, where she is deeply involved working as a staff writer for the campus newspaper, the John Carroll News, and as a marketing communications coordinator for John Carroll Respect Life.

Further, she is the founder of the John Carroll University chapter of Students with Diabetic --- Diabetes. She is a graduate of Bishop Canevin High School, graduating in the top ten of her class, as well as a recipient of the Leadership Scholarship at John Carroll University. An active volunteer at her church, the St. Philip's Parish, since 2005, Miss Scanlon Crossey exhibits

distinguished Irish qualities and displays her pride for Irish heritage by participating in Pittsburgh's vibrant Irish community.

By being crowned Miss Smiling Irish Eyes, Miss Scanlon Crossey is to reign over Pittsburgh's 2014 St. Patrick's Day Parade. We congratulate her for her fine honor and wish her the best of luck in all of her future endeavors. Sponsored by myself and all of Council. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

MISS SCANLON CROSSEY: Thank you, Councilman Finnerty, and the rest of Council. I just wanted to say that I'm so honored to have received this title, and I'm truly gracious to the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day committee for crowning me with this title; and thank you so much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8110-14.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation recognizing and thanking the POISE Foundation for its rich history of philanthropy within the Greater Pittsburgh region's black community. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Councilman Robinson. Where's Mike at?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. Joining me is Mr. Mark Lewis, the President and Executive Director of the POISE Foundation. We hope that Mr. Greg Spencer, our new chairman at POISE, will be here before our program ends. Let me make a comment on the great work that Mr. Finnerty has done relative to recognizing the Irish community and inviting all of us to join him in celebrating a history that perhaps we don't all share. In the first and second and third centuries, A.D., the Roman Empire had grown to quite an extent, all the way from Turkey to Spain.

But there were some people that the Romans had difficulty with, and they lived North. They lived in a place that the Romans called Germania. I heard the word, German, mentioned. In those days, there were no Germans. There were tribes of people who lived in Germania, who the Romans called barbarians, because they felt they were uncivilized, uncouth, et cetera. And the Romans decided to beat them into submission. Much to their surprise, these Germanic people were skilled warriors, as well as

diplomats, as well as farmers, et cetera. And their women fought along with them. The people from Germania actually brought their families to the battlefield, so many women fought on behalf of these tribes, also to the surprise of the Roman soldiers.

I bring this up not only to inform all of us, as I have been informed, but to indicate that blunt force trauma sometimes doesn't work. In this community, we have a lot of different ethnic groups. And while they might not all share the same experiences, we have found a way to live together, not always peacefully, but we have found a way to live together. So unlike the Romans, we've learned to live with the barbarians. And so I thank Mr. Finnerty for giving us barbarians an opportunity to experience Irish culture and Irish pride. Thank you very much, Mr. Finnerty, and those of you who have come forth. Check out those Germanic people. Man, they're a rough bunch, like to drink their beer warm. We're going to honor today the POISE Foundation. As I said, Mr. Lewis, standing to my left, is the president and executive director and a product of the POISE Foundation. POISE is not a social service agency. POISE doesn't run any daycare centers. POISE doesn't run any job training programs. POISE is not involved in trying to stop violence in Allegheny County.

POISE is a foundation, just like the Pittsburgh Foundation or the Buhl Foundation or any other foundation with which you are familiar. There is no other organization like the POISE Foundation anywhere in the United States of America. There's only one POISE Foundation. POISE came into its own in 1980 under the leadership and through the vision of Mr. Bernard H. Jones, who has gone home to his final reward. POISE started by selling hot dogs, fish dinners, chicken dinners in garbage bags. POISE has under its immediate supervision about \$5,000,000, small by most accounts. It's a piggy bank compared to the Pittsburgh Foundation. But POISE is poised to be of assistance to us here in Allegheny County and throughout the United States as a credible, reliable foundation.

I encourage everyone, if you're interested in looking at organizations and groups that try to improve this community and wrestle with some of our challenges, you have to give consideration to the POISE Foundation. There are many people who are unaware of the POISE Foundation, never heard of it, have never used it,

probably think that they are out there somewhere operating a soup kitchen or giving away dresses for prom night or buying young men tuxedos, so they can escort someone to the prom. POISE doesn't do any of that. Mr. Lewis, to my left, is a skilled accountant, fully trained, who gave up a lucrative career to run the POISE Foundation.

Mr. Lewis meets with all the top funders in this region and oversees a program here in our region, but also a national effort. There is no other organization in the United States of America, guaranteed, like the POISE Foundation. The name speaks to what it was all about when Bernard H. Jones founded this organization, and when it came onto the scene in 1980.

One personal note, if I might. From time to time, I like to exercise my ego, and I was in a meeting one time with the POISE Foundation, and I wanted to pound my chest, so I said, well, you know, I've raised about \$800,000 for the POISE Foundation. And Mr. Lewis said, no, no. You've raised a million dollars for the POISE Foundation, which is kind of humbling, because I didn't do it for any personal recognition. I did it because I knew it was the right thing, and I knew POISE would be doing things and planting trees under whose branches I would never sit.

POISE will be here when we're long gone doing hard work. I want to give to you Mr. Mark Lewis, the executive director and president of the POISE Foundation. And I'll let him tell you more about it.

(Applause.)

MR. LEWIS: Thank you. First, before I do that, I actually wish today was March 15, so that I, too, could be Irish, because you've inspired me so much with all the stories and remarks about St. Patrick's Day. I won't give too much history. I think Mr. Robinson has done a great job of doing that, but on behalf of the Board and staff of the POISE Foundation, I want to thank Council and, particularly, Councilman Robinson for recognizing us today. As he mentioned, we are, to our knowledge, the only African-American community foundation in the country, and our focus is really to help Pittsburgh's African-American community become more self-sufficient and develop more self-sustaining practices.

And as he said, we don't do programs. We are a foundation. We do give money away. We've probably given away, over the years in different specs, probably over

\$10,000,000 or so. Our endowments are about \$7,000,000 right now, definitely looking to grow that and become a bigger impact in the community. But our focus right now, which for us it's around African-Americans, but it's important for our whole community, is around strengthening families. When I grew up, family and community were probably the two most important factors that led to the success of anybody. And we see those two things and, in so many respects, beginning to decrease or diminish. And so it's our effort to bring focus that families, whatever that structure may look like, and creating strong communities, are necessary for us as a Community, as a whole, to succeed and excel. So again, thank you, Council and everyone for this acknowledgement.

(Applause.)

MR. MACEY: May I co-sponsor?

MR. ROBINSON: Yes, sir, please; and anyone else who would like to, please.

WHEREAS, since its founding in December of 1980, by Mr. Bernard H. Jones, the POISE Foundation has served as the first public foundation in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania organized and managed by African-Americans; and

WHEREAS, created as a community foundation, POISE is focused on developing and enhancing the participation of African-American philanthropists in the economy and social development of the black community in the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County; and

WHEREAS, over the past 34 years, the POISE Foundation has grown from an initial capitalization of \$164,000 to a present value of \$4.5 million. During this same period, deserving organizations have focused on improving conditions in six areas; aging, arts and culture, children, youth education, health and human services and urban affairs, economic development; and

WHEREAS, the POISE Foundation's current grant-making strategy aims to strengthen black families by funding projects that improve family communication, increase family time, encourage family civic engagement and strengthen family resilience. Through the POISE Foundation's various scholarship programs, families receive assistance with tuition fees and other related costs, in order to provide opportunities to seek an education best suited for their children. The foundation has also served as fiscal sponsor for more than 20

organizations and programs, enabling more than \$1 million in direct programming to the community; and

WHEREAS, in addition to the grants, scholarship and fiscal sponsorship services that POISE provides, the foundation sometimes initiates or co-creates programs such as the Sustainable Black Community, Giving Circles, Greater Pittsburgh After School Consortium, African-American Funders Group and the Greater Pittsburgh Chapter of the Tuskegee Airmen Institute.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize and thank the POISE Foundation and all of its members, for assisting African-Americans of the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County; for its dedication to improving the overall quality of life in our community. And I thank each one of my colleagues for being kind enough to co-sponsor this with me. I think if you really are interested in making sure that the barbarians and the Romans find a way to get along without blunt force trauma, you're going to need an organization such as the POISE Foundation, that is poised to be helpful. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8111-14.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Reverend Thomas E. Smith, upon the occasion of his retirement after serving 29 years as senior pastor of Monumental Baptist Church. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. This is a distinct honor and pleasure for me today. Reverend Smith is leaving our community after 29 years as pastor of the Monumental Baptist Church, which sits right in the middle of the 10th County Council District. I remember when Reverend Smith first came to Pittsburgh to replace the Reverend Harold Twiggs (phonetic). Someone said to me the other day, they said, Reverend Smith rides a motorcycle. I said, no, you've got him confused with Reverend Twiggs. And they insisted. I said, no, no, no, no, no; Reverend Smith has a couple cars. I know that. We live in the same neighborhood.

I said, what you're talking about is his predecessor, Reverend Harold Twiggs. I remember Reverend Smith's first sermon, Sunday, February 11th, 1985, at the Monumental Baptist Church. I hope to be there on March 31st, 2014, when he delivers his last sermon at the

Monumental Baptist Church. Reverend Smith is an extraordinary pastor, an activist who came to us from Virginia --- from Richmond, Virginia. He came here with high hopes to help us. Someone jokingly said the other day that when Reverend Smith showed up, we had lots of problems. And now that he's leaving, we have a lot more problems.

He said, we're in good hands. He has confidence. He can leave us to sort things --- sort things out. I want to give Reverend Smith some scripture that might inspire him. And I think, in many ways, it points to what he's going to be doing later on. He's not leaving the battlefield. He's simply going on to do other important things in his life. And he feels that after 29 years, it's time to move on. And I thank him for being with us. I'm going to give him Revelations, 22nd Chapter, Verses 4 through 14.

One other note, and then I'm going to read this proclamation. Reverend Smith and I were in an organizational meeting the other day, and we were talking about different kinds of people. And as you know, those of you who are Christians, when you read in the Christian Bible, there are all kind of people in there, good people and not-so-good people. But you have to pay attention or you will think everybody in there is good, and there's a lot of bad people in that book, too. And as we were talking, I blurted out, they're Ephesians. And Reverend just looked at me. I said, those people we're talking about are Ephesians. And someone said, oh, there's someone else who reads the Bible; and then Reverend said, we need more Philippians.

So for those of you who want to learn something, find out the difference between the Ephesians and the Philippians. One key is, the Ephesians were very selfish, very materialistic and very exclusive. Check out the difference between the Ephesians and the Philippians. And Reverend and I had a little laugh about that, because there were people who may have probably thought that I knew nothing about this difference, but Reverend immediately picked up on what I was saying, the difference between the Ephesians and the Philippians.

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is blessed with individuals dedicated to enhancing the quality of life in our neighborhood and the community as a whole, individuals such as Reverend Thomas Emery Smith, who has placed his

stamp of character and hard work throughout the community, as both a public servant and strong leader; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith arrived in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, from his native Virginia in 1985, and he has served as the senior pastor of the Monumental Baptist Church, located in Pittsburgh's Hill District, for 29 years;

WHEREAS, under Reverend Smith's leadership, numerous programs and services were established at Monumental to meet the needs of the church and the community; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith was instrumental in creating organizations dedicated to improving the social, economic and political lives of African-Americans in Pittsburgh, including the Metropolitan Crusade for Voters and the Coalition for Equal Opportunity; and

WHEREAS, as a subscribing life member of the NAACP, Reverend Smith has worked tirelessly as an advocate for African-Americans, seeking better housing, job opportunities and neighborhood revitalization; and

WHEREAS, Reverend Smith has served as the chairman of the Inter-religious Foundation for community organizations and is chairman of the Center for Family Excellence; as chairman of the Thomas Merton Center, as founder and chairman of the Hill District Ministry, Incorporated, as a board member of the Pittsburgh Theological Seminary, Metro-Urban Institute, and the Allegheny County Volunteer Board for emergency food and shelter, just to name a few.

Reverend Smith also remains active in the Baptist Ministers Conference of Pittsburgh and vicinity.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby thank Reverend Thomas E. Smith for his spiritual leadership and selfless service, and we wish him all the best upon the occasion of his retirement as senior pastor of Monumental Baptist Church. On March 28th, Monumental Baptist Church and some of Reverend Smith's friends will bid him a fond adieu with a banquet, a well-deserved banquet. He thought he was going to slip out of town, but we caught him. One thing I can say about Reverend Smith, and it gives me a great pleasure to know him, is when it was time to go, they didn't have to push him out of the pulpit or out of the door or take his keys off of him, as happens to many pastors, unfortunately.

When it was time to go, Reverend Smith informed his flock, it's time to go. He didn't need a gold watch. He didn't need a dinner. He didn't need any pats on the back. It was time to go, and I thank him for being man enough to recognize it's time to go, but to go on and do something else; Reverend Thomas Emery Smith.

(Applause.)

REVEREND SMITH: Thank you, Councilman Robinson, and thanks to the Council for this proclamation. I'm very grateful to have had the opportunity to serve Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh and the State of Pennsylvania. I'm very grateful for many people that I've had the opportunity to work with and to meet in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County in the area of social services, crime prevention and working with a number of the County departments to try to address some of the human need in Allegheny County. It's been a very fruitful and profitable experience for me, in terms of having the chance to serve here. I'm grateful for the love and the growth and development that my children experienced in Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. All of my children graduated from public schools in Pittsburgh and have gone on to do very well in other parts of the world, to make their contribution. So I'm just glad to have had this opportunity. I was told a long time ago, when you take a journey, make sure you know where the exit is. And so when I saw my exit coming up, it was time to get off. My exit has come, I'm departing, and I'm glad it's not in Allegheny Cemetery.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8112-14.

MR. CATANESE: The remainder will be read into the record.

Certificate of Achievement awarded to Dominic Richard Costantini of Boy Scout Troop 23 upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Councilman Ellenbogen.

8113-14. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Darren Dalton Frederick of Boy Scout Troop 23 upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Councilman Ellenbogen.

8114-14. Proclamation honoring the National Association of Women in Construction and designating the week of March --- designating the week of March 2nd through the 8th, 2014, as Women in Construction Week in

Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilwoman Green Hawkins.

8115-14. Proclamation celebrating women of character, courage and commitment and declaring March 2014 as Women's History Month in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council members Heidelbaugh and Danko.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you, Mr. President. I wanted to read into the record the proclamation that the women of Council, I think, are co-sponsoring with me, as well as any other of my colleagues. The United States designates March as National Women's History Month to ensure that the history of American women will be recognized and celebrated in schools, workplaces and communities throughout the country; and

WHEREAS, American women of every race, class and ethnic background have made historic contributions to the growth and strength of our country, our commonwealth and our nation in countless ways; and

WHEREAS, the 2014 theme for National Women's History Month is Celebrating Women of Character, Courage and Commitment; and

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is proud to recognize the history, accomplishments and promising future of women in our community, and to set aside the month of March for this important time of appreciation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby proclaim March 2014 as Women's History Month.

I just wanted to offer that Pennsylvania has made strides in the last decade to increase participation of women in government. As you can see here, we have five women here, despite the fact that we still remain at 50 percent plus of the population. I wanted to share with you just a couple of stories. When I was a young lawyer, I was asked by a U.S. senator to serve on his finance committee. And as I approached my first meeting, I was asked why I was at the establishment. And I said I was here to participate in the senator's finance committee meeting. The owner of the building asked me to walk into the back and go through the kitchen, because I was not allowed to come in through the front door.

And so that was just in 1984. When I graduated from law school, I was told I was --- could not be a trial lawyer because women really were not encouraged to be

trial lawyers. So we've made great strides in progress for women in this country, but we still are not where we need to be. And what I hope to do in the coming month, in March and thereafter, is to introduce to the county some great women who have made history here in Allegheny County, who have been first in their own field and who will come forward and tell their stories. So thank you all for this proclamation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you, Heather.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Do you want to read? We're down to ---.

MR. CATANESE: Yeah. 8116-14 and 8117-14 and 8118-14 will be held.

8119-14. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. and Mrs. John and Glenda Roberts upon the occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary. Sponsored by Councilman Macey.

8120-14. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Nathan Alexander Swiech of Boy Scout Troop 4 upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Council member Means.

8121-14. Proclamation honoring the Greater Pittsburgh Area Mad Dads for its dedication and commitment to the community. Sponsored by Council member Robinson.

8122-14. Proclamation honoring in memoriam Ms. Marsha Hinton, an inaugural member of the Pittsburgh Citizens Police Review Board and a former Allegheny County Common Pleas Court employee. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

8123-14. Proclamation congratulating and welcoming Dr. Patrick D. Gallagher to Allegheny County, upon his appointment as the 18th Chancellor of the University of Pittsburgh. Sponsored by Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Public Comment on Agenda Items.

MR. CATANESE: We have none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 8104-14.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of Allegheny County Council held on February 4th, 2014.

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.
8102-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Bob Fragasso, to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization (South Park), for a term to expire on March 4th, 2016. Sponsored by Council member Means.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Does anyone want to make a motion?

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. PALIMIERE: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under comments, did you want to say something?

MS. MEANS: Bob Fragasso is very qualified and he's very engaged in helping with the parks. And I'm really happy to --- we appoint him to the Friends of South Park.

MR. CATANESE: South Park; okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We'll take a vote. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Unfinished Business. Committee on Appointment Review, Second Reading. 7991-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Michael Enright to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. The Appointment Review Committee met and interviewed Mr. Enright, and I'd like a motion to reappoint him to the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board.

(Chorus of motions.)

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8051-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Timothy M. Hazel, to serve as a member of the Property Assessment Appeals and Review Board, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Thank you. Mr. Hazel was interviewed by the Appointment Review Committee, and I would like to make a motion to have him reappointed to the Property Assessment Appeals and Review Board.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8052-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Dr. Rhonda Harrison to serve as a member of the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Yes. The Appointment Review Committee met and interviewed for the appointment of Dr. Rhonda Harrison to serve on the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to appoint her, please.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8053-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Dorothy Antonelli to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Thank you. The committee met and interviewed Dorothy Antonelli for a reappointment to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to reappoint her, please.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8057-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Jeanne Clark to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Thank you. The committee met and interviewed Jeanne Clark, and I would like to make a motion to reappoint her to the Air Pollution Control and Advisory Committee.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8059-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Steven Hvozdoovich to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Yes. The committee met and interviewed Mr. Steven Hvozdoovich for reappointment to the Air Pollution Control and Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to reappoint him.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8060-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Mark Jeffrey to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Thank you. The committee met and interviewed Mr. Jeffrey for reappointment to the Air Pollution Control and Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to reappoint him, please.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Let's see, is it 8062? Yeah, 8062-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Robert Orchowski to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Yes. The committee met and interviewed Mr. Orchowski for reappointment to the Air Pollution Control and Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to have him reappointed.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 8063-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Joe Osborne, Esquire to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Thank you. The committee met and interviewed Mr. Osborne for a reappointment to the Air Pollution Control and Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to have him reappointed.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 8064-14.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Councilman John Palmiere to serve as a member of the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for term to expire on December 31st, 2014. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jan?

MS. REA: Yes. The committee met and --- for the reappointment of our esteemed colleague, Mr. Palmiere, to the Air Pollution Control and Advisory Committee, and I'd like to make a motion to reappoint him.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Yes?

MS. DANKO: John, don't get nervous. My question --- and it's something that I think our staff,

perhaps, can address at some point. I noticed when I was looking at the agenda before the Appointment Review Committee, that all these people --- they only serve one- year terms, and they all expire every year. So we have to keep going back and reviewing them and reappointing them every year. And I would ask our staff to look into the rationale behind that and what we could do to make them run terms that aren't consecutive or ---. I don't know if it's State law and we can't do anything or ---. It's a lot to do every single year for these people, too, that are volunteers coming in, so ---. But Mr. Palmiere, I'm all with you.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is there any other --- yeah, Jan?

MS. REA: Mr. President, we did discuss that issue at the Appointment Review Committee and felt that it was up to the Board of Health to set the term. So we will look into that. We'll make sure that's looked into. Thank you.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Okay. Next we have Committee on Budget and Finance, Second Reading. 8090-14.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2014 (Submission 3-14). Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Mike?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. We met and released this to the full council with an affirmative recommendation, and I make a motion that we approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Seeing none, all those in favor, signify ---.

MR. CATANESE: We need to do a roll call.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'm sorry. Roll call; you're right.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 14, noes, 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Committee on Parks, Second Reading. 8086-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending Chapter 215 of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances entitled Boards, Commissions and Committees, Article III, entitled Council of Friends, Section 215-12, entitled Election of Officers, in order to expand the terms of the Chair and Co-Chair served on the Council of Friends organizations for each of the nine county parks. Sponsored by Council members Means and Palmiere.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Does anyone --- Means or Palmiere?

MS. MEANS: Yes. At the present time, the Chair and Co-Chair of the Council of Friends serve a one-year term. And we, Councilman Palmiere and I --- just felt that you're just getting your feet wet after one year. So we thought it made sense to have the terms for the Chair and Co-Chair be a two-year term of office. And they also --- under the ordinance, they can be elected for a second

time consecutively. That's what that I was thinking. So it brings some continuity to the Friends Council.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do we have a second, first?

MR. MACEY: No.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO:

MR. MACEY: You didn't give the chairman a chance.

MR. CATANESE: You didn't give it to the chairman.

MS. MEANS: Sorry.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Who's the chairman? I'm sorry, Nick.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. I was going to ask her if she wanted to move for approval. Actually, we met on February 26, and the committee affirmatively recommended that we extend the term to two years. And I move for approval.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any remarks? Seeing none, we will have a roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 14, noes, 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Committee on Public Works,
Second Reading. 8088-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance authorizing the
County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation a certain
0.195 acres of required right of way area, 0.098 area ---
acre of required aerial easement and 0.035 acre of
required drainage easement of A.W. and Ester F. Levine,
Allan M. and Deanna (sic) L. Hirshberg, Deanna L.
Hirshberg as Custodian for Lawrence M. Hirshberg, Deanna
L. Hirshberg as Custodian for Sally R. Hirshberg, Deanna
L. Hirshberg as Custodian for Ellen I. Hirshberg, Lawrence
Levine, Lawrence Levine as Custodian for Richard Benjamin
Levine, Lawrence Levine as Custodian for Harry Edward
Levine, Lawrence Levine as Custodian for Barbara Ruth
Levine, Stanley Levine, Stanley Levine as Custodian for
David Robert Levine, Stanley Levine as Custodian for
Howard Edward Levine, Stanley Levine as Custodian for
Betsy Ruth Levine, Stanley Levine as Custodian for Susan
Harriet Levine, required by reconstructing Thompson Run
Bridge Number 5, also known as Homeville Viaduct
(TS05-0510), carrying Homeville Road (5149-02) over
Thompson Run, Grant Avenue Extension and tracks of the
Union Railroad Company in West Mifflin Borough, and to
take such further action as may be necessary under
applicable law, including the Eminent Domain Code.
Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Bob, do you want to ---?

MR. MACEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. President, and
members of Council. I want to thank Joe Catanese for
reading that. I think he's said it all. However, the
Public Works Committee did meet on February the 26th, and
we sent this to the full council with an affirmative
recommendation, so therefore, I make a motion to approve
8088-14.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Other remarks? Yeah, go
ahead, Sue.

MS. MEANS: Yeah. I would like to make a
few ---. I have a question first. I don't know, Mr.
President, if anyone can answer. I understand that there

was an attempt to get in touch with all the owners of this property, and they were only able to get in touch with two. And these two individuals represent others, but do you know how long this attempt was and how long they attempted to get in touch with the ---?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You could ask Mr. Macey.

MR. MACEY: I have no idea, and I can tell you this, that the Levines owned a hardware store in the village shopping center. And I haven't heard from the family for about 20 years.

MS. MEANS: The other comment I would like to make, I basically am opposed to eminent domain, but I want to read for the record this summary, just so people in the audience can understand. Based on the titles research obtained for the parcel, there are 14 known separate ownership interests. Pre-negotiation contracts with the claimant have revealed that several of these parties are deceased and the estate information is not readily available, because the individuals were not all Allegheny County residents. Additionally, contact information has not been provided for all the parties as ownership interests in the parcel. We regrettably need to resort to the county's power of eminent domain to acquire the .195 acre required right of way, .098 acre of required aerial easement and .035 acre of required drainage assessment (sic) for the public use. So I just --- I just wanted people to know it's the last resort. Is that --- would you say that's true, Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: I would think that's true. On the other hand, I'm from the area, and I know what property we speak of, and that particular parcel of ground would not be buildable. It's just necessary to take care of the reconstruction of that bridge, which handles about 35,000 to 40,000 cars a day. Thank you.

MR. MARTONI: I would like to say something.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. One second. First, Mr. Macey, are you finished?

MR. MACEY: Yes, sir.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We have Mr. Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. I share Ms. Means' anxiety about the use of eminent domain, but not so much in this particular instance, but the use of it in general. It is something that we probably need to take a long look at, to see if the current eminent domain laws that we use in this county

are still applicable and serve the interests of this county. The situation that the gentle lady has discussed and Mr. Macey has attempted to explain, is not unusual. Oftentimes, the parties who have a legal right to property cannot be found. There are laws that address this issue, and I have every confidence that Mr. Szefi and his staff did everything that the law requires to try to reach these parties, notwithstanding the fact that some parties were not reached.

I do not believe that if a party were to come forward tomorrow or the next day that they would be barred from filing a claim and indicating they had not been properly informed. But if the law has been addressed, and this county has done everything in its power to find the proper owners, it seems to me that this situation in Homeville, which I'm familiar with, like Mr. Macey is, needs to be addressed by us in good faith. But at the same time, we should not take lightly Ms. Means' concerns about the use of eminent domain in Allegheny County. I would encourage my colleagues, in this instance, to trust the work of Mr. Szefi and his staff and to feel confident that we can move forward. Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Mr. Martoni.

MR. MARTONI: I just want to say that if it wasn't for eminent domain, we probably wouldn't have a highway in America. We probably wouldn't have a railroad in America. I think eminent domain is absolutely essential to government in the United States of America.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is there any other comments? Is there a second --- you made a motion?

MR. MACEY: I made the motion.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: There's a second?

(Chorus of seconds.)

MR. FINNERTY: I'll second it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We'll have a roll call vote.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?
MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 14, noes, 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Liaison Reports. Anybody have a --- go ahead, Mr. Palmiere.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. Yesterday I attended the Board of Health meeting, and I wanted to report the fact that they voted to further the action on their --- the new restaurant ratings. They're not ready to --- I think it's going to be in --- September is their target date, but they're in the process of going through quite a few debates and issues over that particular endeavor. Also, I wanted --- I talked to Dr. Hacker and Dr. Harrison concerning that heroin scare that we had here. It was reaching epidemic proportions. And I'm happy to report that they seem to have had opportunity to get that under control, as far as they know, and things have abated quite a bit concerning that drug in recent days. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Anybody else? Mike?

MR. FINNERTY: I think ---.

MR. FUTULES: Just a second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. FUTULES: Are we going to have any kind of an informational meeting of the Health Board to our Health

and Human Services, giving us information as to how they're moving forward?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes, yes.

MR. FUTULES: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Mike, you were next.

MR. FINNERTY: I think Bob was, actually.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, you were; you were next.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. As you all know, I'm a volunteer firefighter, and I always try to speak well of my fellow firefighters. And I just wanted to let everybody know --- and this is in spite of all the other fish fries out there --- that Skyview Number 4 Volunteer Fire Company, in West Mifflin, as well as Dravosburg Number 1 Volunteer Fire Company, will be having fish fries every Friday, including this Ash Wednesday, up until Easter; yeah, Easter, exactly. The other thing I'd like to mention is, you may have read or heard on the news that McKeesport declared a state of emergency with regards to the snow, with the cold and ice on the roads.

I just want to thank Allegheny County Public Works, PennDOT and also the local communities such as Port Vue, who helped --- stepped up to the plate and helped a community that was in dire straits. I believe that the public works departments in these various communities do work together and they do cooperate in a fashion that's in the best interest of all the residents in the community. And I'm going to steal something from Mr. Finnerty. There is an Irish Day Parade, March 15th, in downtown Pittsburgh. Hope you all can come. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you; yes. I'd like to mention that John --- Joseph A. Dugan, Jr. Hall of Valor, is at Soldiers and Sailors; and at 2:00 p.m., March 23rd, that's a Sunday, there's going to be an induction ceremony. They will be inducting --- and if you would, Mr. President, I'd like to read the names of these people who are going to be inducted into the ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. FINNERTY: These people received the Medal of Honor, Distinguished Flying Cross and Silver Star Medals; U.S. CT Army James H. Bronson, from Indiana, Allegheny County --- actually, Indiana, Carnegie area. He received the Medal of Honor, Civil War; U.S. Army William J. Carson, Washington County, of Fallowfield Township, Medal of Honor, Civil War; U.S. Air Force Robert J. Cervi,

Beaver County, Aliquippa, Distinguished Flying Cross, Vietnam; U.S. Army Thomas J. Cullison, Allegheny County, Brookline, Silver Star Medal, World War II; U.S. Army Michael J. Hluhan --- Hluhan (changes pronunciation), Allegheny County, Cloverdale (sic), Silver Star Medal, World War II; U.S. Army Stanley P. Klapkowski, Allegheny County, McKees Rocks, Silver Star Medal, World War II; U.S. Army Arthur Nagy, Allegheny County, McKeesport, Soldiers Medal, World War II; U.S. Army William Gus Pagonis, Washington, Centre County, of Charleroi area, a Silver Star Medal, Vietnam; U.S. Army Lucian --- I hope I don't mess his name up too much --- Piotrowski, of Beaver County, Aliquippa, Silver Star Medal, World War II; U.S. Marine Corps Michael Popichak, Allegheny County, Carnegie, Silver Star Medal, World War II; U.S. Army Guerrino J. Prola, Indiana County, Blairsville, Silver Star, World War II; U.S. Army Michael J. Roth, Allegheny --- Washington County --- he's from Pittsburgh and Denbo --- is a Silver Star Medal, World War II; U.S. Army James E. Stadelmaier, Allegheny --- Armstrong County, the Tarentum area, Silver Star Medal, Korea; U.S. Army William J. Sweeney, Allegheny County and Cumberland County, Pittsburgh and New Cumberland, Silver Star Medal, World War II; and U.S. Army Richard R. Waldron, Allegheny County, North Side and Emsworth. That's a Silver Star, World War II.

These 15 people are going to be inducted into the Hall of Valor at 2:00, March 23rd, on Sunday. So if you do get a chance, stop out there. The Hall of Valor is really a breathtaking thing to go around and just read the plaques of these different soldiers, both women and men, that have served our country. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Nick.

MR. FUTULES: My turn?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Thank you. I'd like to take a moment to recognize a Pittsburgh legend that had passed away over the weekend; and of course, we all know who that was. His name is Porky Chedwick. For years, we all listened to him on our radio. And quite frankly, he was our Daddio on the Raddio, our Platter Pushin' Papa, a great man. I met him, known him ---. Had a benefit for him about ten years ago, and hundreds of people came to help him financially. And he was an asset to this community, and I just want to recognize him this evening. Secondly --- I have three things. Surely, for those of us

who are old enough --- I should have done this last month, but on February the 8th, 1964 --- old enough to remember, all of us, where we were that evening at 8:00.

I was about ten years old and I was sitting in front of my TV set watching the Ed Sullivan Show, watching the Beatles for the very first time. It was a great part of growing up for myself. It was a great band and it was their 50th anniversary just passed. They changed --- they say they changed the course of history for rock and roll, and they certainly did. Still sitting in front of that television set --- it was a black and white Motorola, by the way, a round one with a beautiful cabinet, I watched this particular movie. I'm sure I'm not able to remember when I first started watching it. It's the Wizard of Oz, just celebrating their 75th anniversary of that program.

And every year I watched it growing up, and it wasn't until around 1970 I realized that half of the movie was in color, because I still had that same black and white TV. My father never bought one. It was an old Motorola. He just kept fixing that TV. I gave him \$400 myself to go buy one and I was a teenager. So I ended up with a color TV and realized that the Wizard of Oz was half in color. So I just wanted to recognize what a great movie ---. I call it the greatest movie of all time, and I think a lot of people may agree with that; maybe not, but that's my opinion. And thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is there any other liaison reports? Okay. Go ahead, Barbara.

MS. DANKO: I just --- on February 23rd, I went to something that's sort of out of my element. I went to the Pittsburgh Codefest. I don't know if any of you know what Codefest is, but they are people who are coders. They're very high tech. They're into all the technical gadgets that we all have, and they have a contest. And this was at SouthSide Works, sponsored by American Eagle. Most of the people were under 30 and very good at what they do. And they had teams and they competed. And they would develop apps for phones or, you know, things that the city might use. And the winning team actually developed an app for like trash day in the City of Pittsburgh. And my favorite part of the app is that you can put little reminders on your son's phone, so that you don't always have to nag them to take out the trash on trash day. So it was a great time and a really speaks

well of the future of the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County.

MR. FINNERTY: It's called electronic nagging.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is that it?

MS. DANKO: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you ---

MR. BAKER: Yeah, just real quick. Thanks, Mr. DeFazio. I shared this with Council already and I got some RSVPs, but on April 2nd, we having our Second Annual Big Community Leaders breakfast, I know a few of my colleagues on Council are coming, for Big Brothers and Sisters. I just wanted to invite the general public, as well, and some of the leaders here in the room. We've had the County Executive, the County Controller at some of our events in the past. My predecessor actually has been to some of them in the past, so everyone is welcome to come out to our Second Annual Community Leaders Breakfast for Big Brothers and Big Sisters on April 2nd. It's at our office. And one other thing. We're working a lot in Hazelwood, so March 15th, we're having --- in Council member Danko's breakfast for Big Brothers/Big Sisters on April 2nd. It's at our office. And one other thing, we're working a lot in Hazelwood --- in Councilmember Danko's District --- we're having a game-on event at two o'clock in Hazelwood at the YMCA there if anybody wants to come out. And just in general I'll say --- I'm looking at you, Steph, I'm looking at you, Aaron, I'm looking at everyone in the room. We're looking for volunteers for Big Brothers/Big Sisters, all ages, all backgrounds. Not to call my friends out in the room, but we would love for some of my colleagues to get involved as well as volunteers. I've been doing it for 12 years as a volunteer as a Big Brother. And it's a lot of fun. Joe, I'm looking at you as well, too, so ---. Right. If anyone is interested in getting involved, just let me know.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Tom, where is this?

MR. BAKER: The breakfast is at our office which is 5989 Penn Circle South right in East Liberty across from the new Pet Smart. It's not new any more. It used to be new. But thank you. I'd love to see you there. Oh, and the guest speaker will be the new City Council President Bruce Krause and Pastor Tim Smith from Hazelwood.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Under New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions, we have 8124-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance on behalf of the County of Allegheny used desks, conference tables, file cabinets, work stations, movable file storage systems, other office furniture and related personal property for the use in the Office of the Public Defender, the County Solicitor's Office and the Department of Court Records that has been offered by various law firms to the County pursuant to a donation program sponsored by the Allegheny County Bar Association. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Bob?

MR. CATANESE: Chief executive. You've just got to put that in committee.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, I'm sorry, yeah, it goes into Public Works. I see Public Works, I look at him. Okay. We'll put that into the Public Works Committee. 8125-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 301, encompassing County Council generally through the creation of a new Section 5-301.04 describing the oath of office taken by any person holding the office of member of Allegheny County Council with additional language to support the adherence to County law. Sponsored by Councilwoman Heidelbaugh.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll put that in Government Reform. 8126-14.

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance amending and supplementing the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances through the creation of a new Chapter 285 entitled Electronic Mail Retention for establishing a county-wide policy for the schedule and retention of email records by County employees and officials. Sponsored by Councilmembers Danko and Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. We'll put that into Government Reform. 8127-14.

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

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Put that into Budget and Finance Committee. Do you have something?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you, Mr. President. We had asked Mr. Szefi last time if he could request an executive session regarding the issue of our county lawyers being sanctioned by the Federal Court. And I did not hear back from you.

MR. SZEFI: I was under the impression that I was -- someone was going to set it up. I can't set up an executive session within Council.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Would you be willing to meet with us now?

MR. SZEFI: I don't ---

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: The reason we have to go into executive session, as Mr. Szefi indicated, it was a personnel matter and he couldn't speak openly.

MR. SZEFI: No. What I would say to that is --- I don't think it's an appropriate matter for an executive session. I think it's something that I as the Director of the Department have worked very, very hard and continue to work very hard in the past, personally and ---. It's a matter that affects my department. It does not affect our budget. And it is something that I've taken personal responsibility for. I don't think it is a matter --- respectfully, I respect Council and all its members and their roles. I don't think that executive sessions to discuss a specific personnel matter in a specific department is something that falls in that role. That is my opinion in the matter.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Mr. Szefi, instead of talking about individual lawyers in your department, could you just tell us how much the county was sanctioned by the federal court?

MR. SZEFI: It ends up being there was --- we discussed with Plaintiffs' Counsel. In lieu of the sanctions that were entered, the attorney in question, they agreed to have a \$250 donation made to the Wounded Warriors Project.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: So we got them --- sanction the money?

MR. SZEFI: That is the one that I know of. The other one I don't know the amount yet. It had to do with a travel fee. And I don't know what that amount is. But it's a matter of a travel from, I believe, Philadelphia to Pittsburgh.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Okay. Well, I would just --- maybe we can talk later, but I would disagree with you that this isn't a matter for Council. These are lawsuits brought against the County in which there's allegations of negligence in regard to the jail.

MR. SZEFI: A Constitutional violation.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Let me finish. And there was, in my view, an unprecedented string of sanctions by four separate federal judges against our lawyers. And that's my opinion after 30 years of practicing law. You may disagree with that. But I do want to make sure that we are handling these cases --- and while I appreciate that you are involved, I do think it's a matter of public concern.

MR. SZEFI: I don't disagree that it's a matter of public concern, and I've addressed it publicly in the media. It's something obviously I take very seriously and something that I am very seriously addressing.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: So do you think --- last question. Do you think you've got this now under control that the Federal Court is not going to be sanctioning our lawyers?

MR. SZEFI: Yes. And it's something I continue to work on every single day.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: We're just entitled to know this information, not just the press.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. All right. He gave his opinion. You said that was the last question, so let's move on. Okay. Let's go with the Public Comment on General Items. Number one here is Joni Rabinowitz. I'm sorry. Wait a minute. Do we have --- hold on a minute. Okay. Go ahead.

MS. RABINOWITZ: Before I begin, off the clock I just want to bring to Mr. Futules' attention that the Wizard of Oz text and the music for the Wizard of Oz, and the lyrics was written by Yip Harburg, a Socialist. Just letting you know. I think it's a great film, too. Check it out.

I am Joni Rabinowitz. I live at 7721 Edgerton Avenue in Pittsburgh. I want to address three brief points today about drilling in or under our County parks.

First, inadequate scientific knowledge. This refers to a recent article from the Philadelphia Inquirer which I'm passing out, about a conference at the University of Pennsylvania. This conference was billed as

a first, a summary of the current science on the potential environmental and health impact of unconventional natural gas development. At this conference, speaker after speaker spoke of gaps and uncertainties. Even when they had results to share, they cautioned that the conclusions were preliminary, the limitations many, and the monitoring not keeping up with the pace of development. And Governor Corbett cut \$2 million from the 2012 budget for investigating health problems from natural gas development. With 52,000 unconventional wells in the nation, how can we have so little data on an enterprise of this magnitude?

My second point is to remind you about the situation in February of 2013 when you signed the drilling deal for the airport. According to Executive Fitzgerald, a draft of the contract had been available to Council since September. Did you even look at the draft? I know some of you did. At that time your legislative director, Jared Barker, listed in a ten-page memo 27 major questions he had about the deal. There was back and forth blaming about who told who what and when, but this was all after the fact. The bottom line is this. Your staffer, Mr. Barker, had serious questions about the deal and you never discussed them. They were never considered by you. Most of you never even looked at the draft. This is completely irresponsible and it shouldn't happen again.

Third, I don't know if you've been informed yet, but Mr. Martoni has arranged a meeting for Councilmembers with Attorney John Smith, the lead Counsel on the winning Supreme Court case about Act 13 to talk about your legal liabilities --- your potential legal liabilities. I believe it's on Tuesday, March 25th. You could check, Joe. It's so wonderful that this affluent attorney is willing to come speak free of charge to help you learn about your legal implications if you sign this lease. A key part of your due diligence is to learn about what you and the County can be liable for if you go ahead with this. And by the way, Mr. Smith has no skin in the game. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Next we have John Detwiler.

MR. DETWILER: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. This is not just the wearing of the green. You're going to be seeing this again. I'll be brief just for the record. As you know, there have been

scores of people who have come before you to talk about fracking and protecting our parks. And thousands of people who have signed petitions even before this matter comes before you. So there's no lack of interest, no lack of concern. But as some of you may remember, we, those of us who are affiliated with Protect Our Parks, in view of the amount of time that this issue is taking of your time before it's on your agenda, that we would yield some of our time so that we could speak. And so with your permission, Mr. President, we'd like to point out who those people are who will be relinquishing their time so that they're not simply recorded as no shows. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Next we have Timothy Ludwig.

MR. DETWILLER: He left right before the meeting started so ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Number four, Pia Colucci?

MS. COLUCCI: Before I start, I just wanted to let you know that I donate blood regularly. And today I got free Pirates' tickets, two of them, for donating up to, I think, two gallons now. So it's something everybody should consider doing when there's a drive.

MR. FUTULES: What about Steeler tickets?

MS. COLUCCI: They don't do that. No. No, you get like a towel or something, because they said --- I said to them, this is packed today. And I said, it's much better than the Steeler drives. And they said, yeah, the Steeler drives there's nothing. I said give away tickets and the line will be down to, you know, Millvale, so ---. All right.

Pia Colucci, 4725 Wallingford Street in Shadyside. And I want to put in the record that I'm reminding County Council that as county residents, we want to have the public comment hearing in an appropriate building near Deer Lakes Park with plenty of advertisement for the hearing, hopefully from Mr. Futules, who is the area councilman there, as well as Councilmembers at large before any vote is taken on the fracking under our county parks. And I thank you.

This weekend my television was also on to one of the QED stations, and our resident storyteller, Rick Sebak, was on with his feature about North Park vs. South Park. It was filmed a few years ago and I've seen it already. But this time as I watched, I saw hundreds and

hundreds of folks enjoying the great outdoors in their parks. Their parks. The ones our tax dollars maintain. There was a playful contest between which park was better than the other, but the strong message throughout the show with what a treasure, what an asset, what a valuable attraction we have in Allegheny County. A place where folks use the services all the time, even in the winter.

In light of what just happened 50 miles away from here a couple weeks ago, I have a very active imagination, and I was a stewardess for many years, so I immediately in my mind start flying over the topography. And in my mind's eye, I started gliding over Gulick's farm, which is immediately next door to Deer Lakes. I could see the lakes. I could see the people enjoying picnic shelters and the water. And all of a sudden in my imagination the well pad explodes on Gulick's farm. Workers are killed and injured, fire rages out of control for days. Our fresh water, our most precious resource, the giver of life, is used by the thousands of gallons to try and take out that fire. The neighbors next to Gulicks are evacuated. The park is closed. The loss of life and property when it's all over is significant. The harm on the environment is significant. The use of our water is significant. The neighbors are at wit's end. They want to know who --- what will Range do to correct this disaster? And nothing, of course. It's the industry's MO to privatize the assets and have taxpayers pay for clean up.

So they look to government. Rich Fitzgerald, will he pay, is he liable? What about County Council? If you vote yes to allow this ecoterrorism to happen in our parks, are you responsible? Somewhere the buck's got to stop and I think the buck stops here. You possess the power to protect your constituents and do what they elected you to do. They don't want an industrial site that will fail, that will leak, that will ruin their water, that will engulf their lungs with toxins, that will kill their pets, make them ill and the list goes on and on. It isn't easy to be under the pressure of the Executive, and we understand that, but please remember this. He is beholding to Range. He received the campaign funds and is on record saying to them I am your guy. He painted himself into this corner. It's not your fight. I repeat, it is not your fight. If you have leases or you are involved with Range in any other concern, we ask that

you recuse your vote, but if not, please vote against drilling under our parks when the time comes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Mel Packer?

MR. DETWILER: Mel registered to speak against drilling in parks and he's relinquished his time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Aaron Booz?

MR. DETWILER: Mr. Booz also registered to speak against fracking in parks and he relinquishes his time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Thaddeus Popovich?

MR. DETWILER: He also registered and relinquishes his time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Peter Wray?

MR. WRAY: Good evening. My name is Peter Wray. I live in Churchill Borough. To respect the need for Council to make the most efficient use of its time my statement will be brief. In a few weeks Council will be considering the leasing of the mineral rights beneath Twin Lakes regional county parks. The Allegheny group of the Sierra Club wishes to emphasize the need for a public hearing on this matter, along with the appropriate committee hearings with adequate time allotted for comprehensive input from a broad range of experts. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: George Hall?

MR. HALL: Good evening. My name is George Hall. I don't belong to any organizations that are speaking out against fracking, but I have attended several meetings with Protect Our Parks. I was born in Allegheny County in 1949 and raised in the north boroughs. In 1975 my wife and I moved to West Deer where we've lived ever since, 39 years. Other than four years of my life that I set aside for Southeast Asia, we've lived our entire lives in Allegheny County. We've seen great strides to improve the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. Since I was a young man I always raved about how great it was to live here. We have a beautiful city, amazing parks, great places to ride your bikes, take a hike, just enjoy nature. I cherish my freedom of speech and my right to vote. I've never spoken out on an issue in my life. And I hope with all my heart you're the first to hear me.

I've listened at these meetings for several months now. We've talked to other bikers, hikers and dog walkers in our parks. And from what we see, 80 to 85 percent of the people don't want fracking in or around our parks. Please don't sacrifice our parks when you know in

your heart that there's a chance they can be damaged or scarred beyond repair. If you're not willing to accept the responsibility and the ownership of what happens as a result of fracking in our parks, I suggest you vote against it. I haven't seen one person on this side of the podium advocate fracking in our parks. I find it hard to believe that the voice of one woman can take prayer out of our schools, but the voices of all these people may not be able to save our parks. If you choose to let this happen for the dozen leases around our parks vs. the hundreds of voices of constituents that say no, you will prove to me beyond a shadow of a doubt that this is not about the voice of the majority, we the people, but the voice of private interest. If we lose our parks, we also lose our voice. You can be remembered as the Council that gave up our parks or the Council that saved our parks. Please take the time to ask your constituents what they want. Don't just tell us what we get. Thank you for your time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Chelsa Wagner?

MS. WAGNER: Good evening. I'm County Controller Chelsa Wagner, and I do choose the times that I come before you carefully. And as you know, with the issues that I've brought to your attention in the past under the jurisdiction of my rule as fiscal watchdog elected --- independent fiscal watchdog for the county, I thought it was important for this to be on your radar, legislation that I sent over last night. I believe you are all aware of it if you were not aware of the issue before. So what I would like to speak to you on, and I see the time, I would ask also for the courtesy that I am able to make full remarks as an elected official. What I'd like to speak to you on is the issue that I hope you are aware of, where there have been discrepancies in terms of the life insurance benefit going to retirees who had been promised \$10,000 in benefits. I am a member as Controller, as elected Controller of the Retirement Board, as you're all aware. You have a member who is on that board. The Chief Executive is a member, appoints a member and so forth.

So back on the 23rd of January, a letter went out from the Retirement Board, and it's on the Retirement Board letterhead. telling retirees that, congratulations, you're no longer getting a \$10,000 life insurance benefit, it's now going to be \$4,000. I, along with other members of the Retirement Board, took great issue with this

because my name, as a member of the Retirement Board, is on this letterhead. I did not agree to this policy and I do not agree to this communication. And I think all of you would feel the same as elected members of Council in your responsibility in that role.

So that was the 23rd of January. Our following meeting as a retirement board was on the 20th of February so we did discuss that issue in executive session. And at that meeting we also had one retiree who came and at this podium made remarks. And it was really heart-wrenching. And it wasn't the first person that I had heard from, but the first person in this public format that came and talked about his fear and in fact, he said, in two weeks I am going to have very, very serious cancer surgery and what's going to happen to me if, God forbid, something goes wrong? Is my family no longer going to have the money to bury me? Other stories have come forth. I've received countless letters. You all may have received letters, phone calls as well.

So there are a number of different ways to look at this issue. It's certainly an issue of importance, a matter of policy. You, of course, as members of Council hold the purse strings as the legislative body of this government. I, the fiscal watchdog, see this as a very important issue for me to make sure is carried out. But I think beyond that we can all recognize that this is clearly a moral obligation to retirees who not only were promised this benefit, but they earned it. They worked for it.

So that is why I raise the issue publicly. I was dismayed a bit and disappointed back on the 20th during our last meeting when the administration had basically said they weren't sure if that was really their responsibility in terms of the County coming true on this. So I gave it a little bit of time. And as I said, I come before you when I think things are particularly urgent and need to be solved. This is an issue that the Retirement Board had been discussing and aware of for about a year. I look back in my file and I'm very meticulous about keeping my own notes, keeping my own records. And I think that that's particular important in government. The last --- or the first letter I had on this was almost two years ago, about a year and a half ago. And I wanted to make sure plainly that this issue is addressed.

So I can tell you I was happy. It was a little bit serendipitous when I heard after releasing that last night, that the Executive assured everybody there's nothing to see here, folks, move along, we happened to fix this yesterday. And if that's the case, I'm happy. But that doesn't mean that this is not something that Council should address which is what the Executive suggested. This is a budgetary issue and it's an issue dealing with the well-being of our employees, of our retirees. And therefore, under my elected power as Controller, I wanted to make sure that I brought it here before Council in public format.

In my Office of Controller I ask our employees to focus on four principles: Innovation, transparency, efficiency and accountability. This deals very specifically with two of those, both in terms of accountability and on transparency. I find it curious that all of a sudden this was addressed on Monday, the Retirement Board members didn't know anything about it. But all I want is this to be addressed. I want the retirees to be made whole. I'm not going to rely upon a promise that was in the newspaper last night or online because now the Executive said look the other way, we've solved this issue. Because frankly, these retirees have been promised this once when they were told oh, no, wait a second, you're not getting the same benefits.

So I as Controller, I'm going to stay on this issue until I have clear, written assurance and the retirees do, that this has been resolved. In the legislation that I submitted to you, I suggested a way that we could pay for it and suggested that we could just proportionately decrease all of the budgets in the Operating Budget of the County. I stand by that as a solution because I haven't heard any. This costs approximately \$200,000 each fiscal year to make these retirees whole because there had apparently been mistakes in the past, but we're not elected to point fingers, we're elected to solve problems. So I suggested that we could all shave our budgets what would be the equivalent of 200th of a percent. And just to put that in perspective in my communication to you all last night, I said that that would be the equivalent --- for a family of median income in this County which is roughly \$50,000. That would be like skipping one drive through McDonald's. It's something that this County can do.

So I urge you to take up the resolution, at the very least to take up a resolution that ensures that this is fixed with no further delay. And I thank you for your time and allowing me the extra time to address you. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. What I did is give you the extra time as you requested, as we've done in the past. At this time though I would like someone if they want from the administration, be it our Solicitor, County Manager or Jen, you're on the Board, so if any one of you want to come up, I'll give you the time now.

MS. LIPTAK: The issue has been addressed. I was just making notes of the statements made by the Controller and some of them are accurate, some of them I'll disagree with, but we can discuss that between ourselves. On the 20th, yeah, we did meet in the retirement office and we discussed it amongst the Board. We of the administration have taken this on as we contract with the vendor. It is our responsibility. The Retirement Board does not contract with the vendor for either retiree life insurance --- and of course, we also have active employee life insurance. So we have the contract. We worked with the retirement office for the past year with regard to the process because they have the file for the retirees. We negotiated the contract. We reviewed labor agreements. We did all kinds of things to make sure what was being put in place was fair and equitable within the context of the contracts we are aware of existing in the County.

Prior to, not very far prior to, when we had a little briefing with the Retirement Board --- understand, this is not the Retirement Board's issue, it is an issue of the County because the Retirement Board is not an action or an agency issue with them. We had a very open discussion, and I had indicated that we had some more information that was brought forth since the letters to the retirees went out and we needed time to review it. Because it's not just about making a quick knee-jerk decision, it's about doing things the right way. This involves taking the information, analyzing it, sometimes making difficult choices. Ultimately though we want everything to be fair and equitable. I think that's been the record of this administration and we stand by that.

So for the past few weeks, amongst various other issues that I have to work on on a daily basis, this was

something I'd been working on with some staff from retirement, our HR staff manager, myself and you know, we've come to --- after reviewing and looking at all the information, we've come to what we think is a very equitable and fair resolution. I am going to ask, though, that although we've indicated in the papers very generally, that we are able to communicate that to the retirees first. They are deserving of that. And out of respect to them, we would like for them not to read about X,Y and Z in the newspaper. We'd like to communicate that directly to them. So the issue is resolved. It had been worked on. It had actually been resolved prior to the communication from the Controller which she had sent out. But it's been resolved.

So I don't really see it as much of an issue now, but you know, when we send out the additional information, of course we'll communicate if you'd like us to communicate it. We'll communicate directly what we plan on speaking directly to the Board members, of course, out of respect to the Board as we have in the past. But I just wanted to --- really to us it's not an issue, per se, because we have been working very diligently on it. But we don't go out and say, oh, I'm working on this, I'm working on that. We do our work and then we report back when appropriate, so --- okay. Thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right. Thank you.
Number 11 is Lucas Lyons.

MR. LYONS: How am I supposed to follow all that? Do you want to hear more on fracking?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We tried to change the tempo a little bit.

MR. LYONS: Lucas Lyons, 1902 Meadville Street, Pittsburgh. So Governor Corbett, he has an approval rating, I believe, in the low 30s now. It did dip down into the low 20s. Even in Western Pennsylvania amongst conservatives and Republicans, he's not polling too well. And why is that? People say the same thing over and over again. They don't like that he wanted to sell the lottery to a British company. They didn't like that he wanted to privatize the Turnpike. And they don't like the fact that he slashed education funding. He slashed education funding on me while I was at the University of Pittsburgh. He does this all the while refusing to tax fracking. Okay? We're the only state that does not have a tax on the gas coming out of the ground. We have an impact fee,

but it's not much. Texas, for example, has a 15 percent tax on the gas coming out of the ground. We're suckers. Our state is suckers.

And that's why companies like Range Resources are picking up speed in Texas. They're actually being pushed out by a lot of Texas residents and they're coming to Western Pennsylvania because we're dummies. We're not taxing. But guess what? Governor Corbett's days are numbered. Okay? Governor Corbett only has a little bit longer in office. He's trailing the two potential candidates from the Democratic Party. And they want to tax fracking. So when we get a Democratic governor, it looks like, what's going to happen with these deals we're cutting with Range Resources and Huntley and Huntley? What's going to happen with these deals, how much money we're going to get out of the airport, how much money you think you're going to get out of Deer Lakes Parks and all the other parks? How much money are we going to get when we now have a 15-percent tax on the gas coming out of the ground. It's part of Tom Wolf's campaign. It's part of his platform. And what's her name, Allyson Schwartz, is the other leading ---. Man, I need more time. Could I have as much time as them?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You can have a little bit.

MR. LYONS: I'm kidding. I'm kidding. So anyway, there are many unknowns; okay? Cutting a deal now and fracking, we're going to get sold short. Of course, 100 percent, absolutely, like the gentleman talked about earlier, 85 percent. There was a poll in November of 500 Allegheny County residents. Sixty-eight (68) percent of Allegheny County residents do not want fracking in state parks or game preserves. They didn't ask directly about county parks, but I guarantee you, it's right along the same thing. And then the last final comment I'm going to make is to our union proud members of the Council, how many union permanent jobs does fracking under County parks bring us? You cannot answer that question. This is a private corporation from Texas that's going to come, frack and leave. Mr. Ellenbogen, like where --- you know, we don't have a County --- I'm speaking to his chair obviously --- we don't have a response team. We can't handle an explosion that happened in the county below us. We can't handle that. There are so many unknowns ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. Okay. Thanks. Lester Ludwig? He's not here. Joy Strang?

MS. STRANG: Hi. I'm Joy Strang. I live exactly 1.1 mile from the border of Deer Lakes Park and the Wagman Observatory that my children and I love to go to. We're not allowed to turn our lights on when we pull into the Wagman Conservatory because of the light pollution. And I'm imagining the light pollution that a burn off of a drilling pad would give us, one of our star parties. I'm registered with an organization of motherhood. I'm here as a mom. I not only teach in the Deer Lakes School District, I live there, I work there. I went to Boyce Community College, Mr. Martoni. I'm here because my eight-year-old daughter shouldn't have to toss and turn at night because she doesn't know what's going to happen to her Deer Lakes Park. And she does. She's spoken to you before. My seven-year-old daughter is on the bandwagon, too. They should be worried about Barbies. They should be worried about their homework. They shouldn't have to be told to make a diorama and I shouldn't hear, well, I'm not going to make it like Deer Lakes Park because we don't know what's going to happen to it. And this is how they feel. If you could tell me --- even lie to me. If you could tell me that nothing is going to happen, I may be okay with that. But not one of you can. And as I drive through the park every single day, sometimes four times, sometimes only twice, I think about what I can do just like they do. My Catherine told me, mommy, what can I do, what can I do? She's eight. What can I do to help our park? And I don't know. And so we're here again and we're begging you to let my kids be kids, please. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Thank you. Does somebody want to make a motion to adjourn?

(Chorus of motions)

(Chorus of seconds)

PERSIDENT DEFAZIO: We're adjourned.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:04 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