

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
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
Edward Kress	-	District 3
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
Barbara Daly Danko	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 13 (Via Telephone)

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

Tuesday, January 20, 2015 - 5:00 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

William McKain - County Manager
Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Walter Szymanski - Budget Director
Andrew F. Szefi - County Solicitor

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The meeting will come to order. We'll all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and remain standing for silent prayer or reflection. After me.

(Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

(Moment of silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Have the roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Danko?

MS. DANKO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green Hawkins?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

DR. 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?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?

MR. DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Thirteen (13) members currently present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We'll have Proclamations and Certificates, 8711-15.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation congratulating the 5th Annual Celebrate Coalitions Awardees and Big Brothers

Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh, upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. Sponsored by Council member Kress.

MR. BAKER: Do you want to do it now or ---?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to go second?

MR. KRESS: Yeah, let's go second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Well, let's try
8712-15.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation recognizing Bethel Park High School seniors, Ms. Julianne Rosa and Mr. Harrison Zelt, for creating the Verbalize for Victory program. Sponsored by Council member Means.

MS. MEANS: Well, I'm so excited today to give this proclamation to Harrison Zelt and Julianne Rosa and their teacher, who is also a part of their senior project, is here also. And they call him Mr. K; right, but I'm going to ---.

MR. KSZASTOWSKI: Kszastowski.

MS. MEANS: Kszastowski. Well, there are teachers here, too, to share, but ---. Sorry. So I'm just really excited about this project. I just think it's wonderful to have two students who are both in student government come forth and they came up with an idea, and then they put it all together and oversaw its production until the end. And it's just wonderful, too, because both of these young people want to go into the health profession. And Harrison is going to go to Grove City and study pre-med. And Julianne hasn't picked what school yet, she's got a couple offers, but she wants to be a physician's assistant. So as a nurse, of course, when someone says they want to help people in the medical profession, I'm all for that. I'm going to give the students an opportunity to share a little bit about their project, and then I'll read the proclamation. Go ahead. This is Harrison Zelt.

MR. ZELT: Hello. Thank you. Okay. So the whole idea of Verbalize for Victory was to help kids who are often in the hospital who --- some who live there full time and others who are there on a weekly or daily basis.

It all started back last year in our humanities class when we were given an assignment to come up with an idea, to not necessarily go through with it, but an idea of a community service project in which we could benefit our city and members of our community. And so Julianne and I came up with this idea to record audio and video of students reading children's books. And these children's

books would all be compiled onto DVDs and other digital forms of data saving. And with that, we came up with the idea for Verbalize for Victory.

So over the summer, I went to a special camp that was through the Pennsylvania Association of Student Council, and there I was able to figure out, alongside with Julianne, the logistics of and the way to implement how we can put the Verbalize to Victory into our student government. And so one day I went down and saw Mr. K and asked him if we could have his Black Hawk TV kids who are the super geniuses of computers and all his computer whiz kids help us out with the project. So one in particular, Raul Toledo, helped us especially, a lot. He set up the whole program.

So what it does is he --- there's two types of recording that we do per book. First we record just the audio of the student reading it, and then also we record the student reading it behind --- in front of a green screen. And then the students in Mr. K's class are able to take that and put pictures of the books that --- they take pictures of each page of the book and they put it on the green screen and then they can switch to just pictures of the book. So you can pan around with some Ken Burns' effect and stuff like that, and also cut to scenes where a student is in front of the picture reading the book. and it's just incredible what they're able to do with all that. And so we spent some time on that and we had --- the first time we actually presented it to our big Student Council of the entire school, which is almost a hundred members, it --- after the meeting almost everyone came up to me and was trying to sign up and --- a big wait list to try to do it. And so we had a long wait list, and we completed a good amount of the books and made a couple CDS, DVDs to take down to Children's Hospital. And then one day last month we went down and we connected with --- Julianne connected with the librarian down there, and she was able to help us get those into the system. And so they're running on a loop with the other disks in the hospital, playing on the TVs, and also we went down and we made some crafts with the kids and read some books with them down there.

MS. MEANS: Would Julianne like to say a few words?

MS. ROSA: I don't think so. I don't want to take too much time.

MR. ZELT: She has a sore throat.

MS. MEANS: Okay. Would Mr. K like to say a few words? I mean, this is really partly your accomplishment, too, so ---.

MR. KSZASTOWSKI: It is, but this really comes out of the students. Harrison and Julianne came to me with the idea, and I just gave them the resources. They're the ones that went through and made sure that it all happened, and they're the ones that supplied all of the students to read the books, so ---.

MS. MEANS: How many books did they put together?

MS. ROSA: Thirty (30).

MS. MEANS: Thirty (30)?

MR. KSZASTOWSKI: We did about --- we did about 30. We have about ---.

MR. ZELT: About two and half hours.

MR. KSZASTOWSKI: There's about two-and-a-half hours on a DVD. So the whole idea is some of the students can't read them themselves --- or some of the children can't read them themselves, so it's nice to have a DVD to read to them. So they were able to give it to them.

MS. MEANS: Okay. Thank you. Hey, The Cat in the Hat and Goodnight Moon, they're --- they're on the list. They're some of my favorite books. I'm going to read this.

Whereas, Ms. Julianne Rosa and Mr. Harrison Zelt, Bethel Park High School seniors and Student Government Association members, created Verbalize for Victory as a part of the SGA Community Service Project in hopes of putting smiles on the faces of patients at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh at UPMC. And whereas, through the Verbalize for Victory project the Bethel Park High School students are recorded reading popular children's books, then television production students bring them to life in the school's TV studio. And whereas, with the support of the Black Hawk TV and technology teacher, Brad ---

MR. KSZASTOWSKI: Kszastowski (pronouncing).

MS. MEANS: --- who had the students from his video production, too, and media production classes assist, 34 students recorded 18 stories including The Cat in the Hat by Dr. Seuss, Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown, Olivia by Ian Falconer, and If You Give a Mouse a Cookie by Laura Numeroff, just to name a few. I think I'm

going to read that one, If You Give a Mouse a Cookie. Whereas, during the school fieldtrip in December of 2014, Ms. Rosa and Mr. Zelt delivered the DVDs as gifts so that students recuperating at Children's Hospital can listen to them, watch them, when the students are able to read to them --- or are unable to --- the patients can't read and the students aren't there to read to them as well.

Whereas, the Rotary Club of Bethel Park recognized Ms. Rosa and Mr. Zelt for their outstanding commitment to Bethel Park High and to the community, named Ms. Rosa and Mr. Zelt as the December 2014 Rotary Students of the Month.

Now, therefore, let it be resolved that Allegheny County does now hereby thank Ms. Julianne Rosa and Mr. Harrison Zelt for creating Verbalize for Victory and bringing joy to the patients at Children's Hospital of Pittsburgh at UPMC.

Furthermore, this Council commends your dedication to your school and your community, which serves as an inspiration to all the residents of Allegheny County. And this proclamation was sponsored by myself, Council member Sue Means, on the 20th day of January 2015. Congratulations.

MS. DANKO: Mr. President, could I please be added as a co-sponsor? I think this is just wonderful. I'm really thrilled.

MS. MEANS: So come on over here and we're going to take all your pictures. And mom and --- and Mr. Zelt, and Julianne, your mom, too. Come on up. You're part of this, too.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Can we put everybody on?

MR. CATANESE: Can we put everyone on?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes. I agree.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I agree.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Just say who don't ---.

MR. FUTULES: I agree.

MR. DEFAZIO: I agree.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We're going back to 8711-15.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation congratulating the 5th Annual Celebrate Coalitions Awardees and Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh upon the occasion of its 50th Anniversary. Sponsored by Council member Kress.

MR. KRESS: Thank you very much. Today I'd like to honor a great organization, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh. Big Brothers and Big Sisters have been around for over a hundred years; however, it's the 50th Anniversary for the local chapter here. The chapter was founded by Ken Ross. It's done a lot of good. And the reason for it, Big Brothers and Big Sisters, is to try to give young people today guidance, and they've been doing it for over a hundred years. And I think this is just a great organization, because today our children need guidance more than ever. And I really do appreciate the volunteer work that this organization has provided to many people, because we have so many single families out there, maybe even though it's a two-parent household, maybe the father and mother can't be there all the time because they have to work. So again, they're doing a lot of good for the people, and that's the reason why they're here tonight.

So whereas, since 1965, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh has matched more than 19,000 children --- that's great --- with responsible, caring adult mentors.

And whereas, these strong and enduring one-to-one relationships, a child's basic development needs are met and supported with role modeling, guidance and friendship. And whereas, studies have shown that children enrolled as little brothers and sisters are more confident in their learning abilities, develop a more positive attitude towards school and are better able to avoid conflicts and make positive choices.

And whereas, on Thursday, January 22nd, 2015, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh will be celebrating its 50th Anniversary and recognizing its Celebrate Coalitions winners at the 5th Annual Celebrate Coalitions award event at Alpha Lab Gear in East Liberty. And I expect everybody to be there. So thank you.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thanks, Councilman Kress. So I have 100,000 bosses in District 1, but I also have my favorite boss from my day job here, Jan Glick. This is Jan, our CEO for Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh. Jan has done an amazing job these last eight years growing the funds that are raised by our agency, but also, more importantly, growing the number of children that are served by our agency. When she took over, we were serving about a thousand children a year.

And last year we broke our record as an agency and served 1,311 children through Big Brothers Big Sisters of Greater Pittsburgh. So Jan's done an amazing job these last eight years as our CEO.

With us tonight is Alyssa DiLoreto, who's a big sister, and also president of our Young Professional Board. They'll be winning the Coalition of the Year Award. And Alyssa does a great job with that. Matt from TechShop is here. Matt represents TechShop. They're our Community Partner of the Year. And TechShop has been just an incredible partner for Big Brothers Big Sisters. They're in East Liberty, literally across the street from where I went to middle school at Rising Sun, which is no longer there, but right across the street. Amazing things going on in East Liberty. So thanks to Alyssa and to Matt for all their work.

Councilman Kress mentioned the event on Thursday. He will be there giving out some proclamations as well. That's his favorite part of this position; right?

MR. KRESS: Sure.

MR. BAKER: Okay. And it should be a nice event. It's at Claddagh in SouthSide Works. We just had a last name change, so if anybody in the crowd --- all friends want to join us, it is open to everyone. Robbie, you can come if you'd like to come. If you'd like to come --- and Willie McKain, you're invited as well. If everybody wants to come at Claddagh at Thursday, at 6:00, this is a great group of volunteers, a great organization, and led by a great person, Jan Glick, so ---.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Can we all co-sponsor it?

MR. BAKER: Yeah. That'd be great.

MS. GLICK: I just want to thank you for the recognition, all of you who represent the county. We serve Allegheny, Washington and Greene County, predominantly Allegheny County. And if you look at the statistics, 35 to 50 percent of our kids, depending on race and gender, are dropping out of high school. And so the difference that just one caring adult can make with educated supervision is really remarkable. And so 1,300 children may not seem like a lot in a year, but when you talk about one-to-one mentoring and each of those mentors and the Bigs and the Littles being supported throughout the year with what we call match support specialists it's pretty remarkable. So when you're thinking about all the

decisions that you make, it's really important to remember that there are a lot of kids out there in our community that have a lot of --- a lot of needs. And we feel --- I feel honored to be able to work for an organization that helps keep kids in our county in graduating high school and going on to either college or trade school. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MS. DILORETO: Hi. I'll just tell you a little bit about my experience as a Big. I'll keep it brief. So getting involved with Big Brothers Big Sisters was the first thing that I did after having graduated college. And this person right here talked me into it. And my Little and I will be celebrating our sixth-year anniversary in May. We met when she was nine and she turned 14 in October. And I've watched her grow physically and I've watched her grow emotionally. And she's really opened up in the last few years. She's a very shy young lady who's now really coming into her own. And we do her homework together, we improve on her grades together, and now I'm actually watching her, you know, talk about, you know, high school, what she wants to achieve and what she wants to do when she goes to college. So it's very exciting to hear her have these goals and hopefully, you know, being a part of it. So being a Big is the best decision that I've made in my volunteer life. And we appreciate any support and recognition that you give on behalf of this organization.

(Applause.)

MR. STANTON: I'd like to thank Council for the recognition and Big Brothers Big Sisters for being such an awesome partner. When we first opened up in March of 2013, Stephanie actually dropped by to welcome us to the neighborhood with a Prantl's cake, and we've been good friends ever since. So yeah. So we're happy to work for you guys and anybody else in the local community.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 8713-15. And the rest will be read into the record.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation declaring Sunday, January 18th, 2015, as AUTISM Frostbite 5K Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council member Baker.

8714-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Deer Lakes High School Student Council for

hosting the annual Senior Citizen Holiday Luncheon.
Sponsored by Council members Futules and Kress.

8715-15. Proclamation honoring Ms. Michele P. Matuch for her 40 years of dedicated service to UPMC McKeesport and the community. Sponsored by Council member Macey.

8716-15. Certification of Recognition awarded to Sue (sic) Graf upon the occasion of her 90th birthday. Sponsored by Council member Palmiere.

8717-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Quaker Valley High School Girls' Cross-Country Team for winning the 2014 WPIAL Class AA girls' Cross-Country Championship. Sponsored by Council member Baker and Council member Rea.

8718-15. Certificates of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 South Fayette High School Football Team for winning the 2014 PIAA and WPIAL Class AA Football Championship. Sponsored by Council member Finnerty.

8719-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Pine Richland High School Football Team for winning the 2014 WPIAL Class Quad A Football Championship. Sponsored by Council member Rea.

8720-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Sewickley Academy Girls' Golf Team for winning the 2014 WPIAL Class AA girls' Golf Championship. Sponsored by Council member Rea.

8721-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Sewickley Academy Boys' Golf Team for winning the 2014 WPIAL Class AA Boys' Golf Championship. Sponsored by Council member Rea.

8722-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Sewickley Academy Girls' Tennis Team for winning the 2014 WPIAL Class AA Girls' Team Tennis Championship. Sponsored by Council member Rea.

8723-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to the 2014-2015 Sewickley Academy Boys' Cross-Country Team for winning the 2014 WPIAL Class A Boys' Cross Country --- Cross-Country Championship. Sponsored by Council member Rea.

8724-15. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Ms. Dolores Ardelia Redwood upon the momentous occasion of her 100th birthday. Sponsored by --- there's no sponsor on that. I'm sorry.

8725-15. Proclamation congratulating the Bon-Ami Temple No. 49 of the Daughters of the Elks 2015 award winners. Sponsored by Council member Robinson.

8726-15. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Ms. Betty S. Nobbs upon the occasion of her 91st birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Palmiere.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Public Comment on Agenda Items, we have none. Approval of Minutes. 8727-15.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Allegheny County Council held on December 16th, 2014.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: So moved.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Presentation of appointments. 8700-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Jennifer Liptak to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire December 31st, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8701-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Lynn Heckman to serve as a member of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 8702-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Melvin Pollard to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8703-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Stanley Gorski to serve as a member of the Authority for the Improvements in Municipalities for a term to expire on December 31st, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8704-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Stephan Broadus to serve as a member of the Allegheny

County Human Relations Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8705-15.

MR. CATANESE: Put that one in Committee?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, yeah, put that in the Appointment Review Committee.

MR. CATANESE: 8705-15. Approving the appointment of Nicola Henry-Taylor to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8706-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of William Price to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8707-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Dennis Floyd Jones to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31st, 2015. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8708-15.

MR. CATANESE: Put that one in the Committee, too?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, put it in the Appointment Review Committee. Go ahead.

MR. CATANESE: 8708-15. Approving the appointment of Marla (sic) Silva for --- to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31st, 2015. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. That'll go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8709-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of John C. Brown to serve as a member of the following Authorities: the Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, the Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority, the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority and the Residential Finance Authority, administered collectively through the Finance and Development Commission, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Appointment Review. 8710-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Mark Aloe to serve as a member of the following Authorities: Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, the Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority, the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority and the Residential Finance Authority, administered collectively through the Finance and Development Commission, for a term to expire on December 31st, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will also go to the Committee on Appointment Review.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Mr. President, this is Councilwoman Amanda Green Hawkins. I'm on the phone.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Yeah. Okay. All right. Unfinished Business, Committee on Appointment Review, Second Reading. 8685-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Caroline Mitchell to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Board of Health for a term to expire on January 13th, 2016. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll --- Council member Jan Rea, would you ---?

MS. REA: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Appointment Review met and interviewed Ms. Mitchell to serve on the Allegheny County Health Board and was recommended, and I make a motion to approve.

DR. MARTONI: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed?

MS. MEANS: No, I don't.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, okay. You don't?

MS. MEANS: Yes. I'm a no.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. MEANS: Thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right.

MR. FUTULES: One no.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right. 8686-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Georgia Hernandez to serve as a member of the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31st, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Council member Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you. The Committee met and interviewed Georgia Hernandez to be reappointed to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Committee, and she was recommended, and I make a motion to reappoint.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

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

(Chores of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8688-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Clifford B. Levine to serve as a member of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Council member Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you. The Committee met and interviewed Mr. Levine for a reappointment to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and he was recommended. I'd make a motion to reappoint.

MS. FINNERTY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
Committee on Budget and Finance, Second Reading. 8696-15.

MR. CATANESE: We skipped one, Mr. President.
8689-15.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, okay. We got one more.
I'm sorry. 8689-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Dr. David Y. Miller to serve as a member of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2018. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Council member Rea?

MS. REA: Thank you. The Committee met and interviewed Dr. Miller for his reappointment to the Southwestern Pennsylvania Commission, and he was recommended. And I make a motion to reappointment.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
Committee on Budget and Finance, Second Reading. 8696-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2015 (Submission #1-15), sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go --- well, we have a --- first of all, Mike?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes. This was before the Budget and Finance Committee and was approved and sent to the full Council with affirmative recommendation. I'd like to move it.

DR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call. Oh, I'm sorry. Go ahead, Barb.

MS. DANKO: Do you need to note that it was amended in Committee?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You don't have to, but ---.

MS. DANKO: All right. Well, I just wanted to make clear that it was amended in Committee and it did come out with an affirmative recommendation, as Mr. Finnerty said.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. All right. 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. Green Hawkins?
MS. GREEN HAWKINS:	Aye.
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?
DR. 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?
(No response.)
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?
MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes, 14; noes, zero. Bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Liaison Reports.
Anyone have a liaison --- John?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President. We have some members here from the Junior Achievement Job Shadow Day. We have a student here from North Allegheny. We also have --- do we have five students from Baldwin? Two. We have two from Baldwin, okay. And Mr. President and members of Council, during the JA Job Shadow, students get a firsthand perspective of the real world, where they go to different employers and learn what goes on during a typical workday. And somehow they wound up down here today. I don't know what they did wrong to deserve that, but I'm so glad they're here, and I'd like them to please stand up and introduce themselves, please.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MS. OCH: My name is Daria Och, and I'm from Baldwin High School.

MR. FRIEDMAN: I'm Scott Friedman, and I'm also from Baldwin High School.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Welcome.

MR. ZAREMBERG: I'm Robbie Zaremborg with Junior Achievement, and we'd like to thank you for having us this evening. And we'd like to thank Council member Kress for helping us set this up, as well with Joe and with Stephanie. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Mike?

MR. FINNERTY: Sure, unless somebody else has ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Someone did. All right. Council member Rea --- I mean, I'm sorry, Council member Kress and then Council member Finnerty.

MR. KRESS: (Indicating.)

MR. FINNERTY: That's all right. Whatever.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, he defers to Mike.
Okay.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: He's letting him go last.
Otherwise, you'll forget what you want to say.

MR. FINNERTY: I just wanted to mention that ALCOSAN is sponsoring --- it's called You and Working Together for Clean Water. And it's Wednesday, January the 28th, and it's at 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. on Wednesday, and also from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. The location is the IBEW, which is 5 Hot Metal Street, South Side. Also, on Thursday, January 29th, they also are sponsoring this Work Together for Clean Water, and it's from 1:30 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., and it's at the ALCOSAN building, which is 3300 Preble Avenue, North Side. So if you want to go over there and see what's going on and participate in this, they would appreciate it.

Also, Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum is sponsoring a play. It's called Tell it to the Marines, and it's a play for the time at hand and it's February 6th, 7th and 8th, and February 13th, 14th and 15th, and show time is 7:00 p.m. at Soldiers and Sailors Auditorium. So if you would like to go to that, I think it would be well worth your efforts. And I will mention that again next meeting. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Ed, did you have your hand ---?

MR. KRESS: Yeah. I just wanted to say something. As the Chairperson of the Insurance Committee, we had a meeting last Wednesday. And first of all, I'd like to thank all the Council members who were present. That's Council members Finnerty, Palmiere, Rea and Means. It's an important issue. We had brought in an independent physical therapist to discuss their ongoing relationships with UPMC and the insurance system. And I guess some of the testimony would be somewhat troubling. What we're finding out is that these independent physical therapists are kind of being shut out of the market. Basically, U-P --- well, again, this --- all these are allegations, but the testimony showed that UPMC preferentially steers its patients to Centers for Rehabilitation Services, an entity which is owned by and whose income feeds into the UPMC healthcare systems. The UPMC physicians are basically --- I don't know, I don't want to say required, but maybe encouraged to refer their patients to UPMC Rehabilitation

Services. Basically UPMC is not allowing any independent physical therapists into their network, according to the testimony that we heard. Again, UPMC Rehabilitation is systematically encouraging its physical therapists to bill patients for the most units of service as possible. Because of the creation --- because of this whole divorce between UPMC and Highmark, it's created a lot of confusion within the system. And we had people, senior citizens, who switched from Highmark to UPMC. We had other individuals who switched from Highmark to UPMC, and they're a little confused by the whole process. But now the problem is who people switched from Highmark to UPMC, the elderly, they want to be able to use their old physical therapist. But under UPMC insurance, as they testified, they cannot. Under the Consent Decrees, if they would have stayed with Highmark, I think they would have been covered. And the problem we had with the Consent Decrees is that if you're a UPMC insured, it never discussed about your ability --- and this also applies to everybody --- the senior citizens, because we kept saying senior citizens were covered. But in the testimony from November it basically said if you're a senior citizen who has UPMC insurance, you couldn't go into the Allegheny Health Network and be covered. So if you had a physician in the Allegheny Health Network, you would not be covered in network, as far as I can tell, with the Consent Decrees. So again, this is something we need to review.

Also, there's potential allegations of a violation of federal law in regards to seniors being steered into the UPMC healthcare system. Again, these are all allegations. Okay? This is testimony. We didn't have UPMC in here to rebut these allegations, but there's a concern I have. And I think these allegations need to be reviewed, whether it's by the State of Pennsylvania, the Federal Government, I don't know, but I'll have a transcript available, and I'll be sending it to the Insurance Commissioner, the Attorney General, and any other party I think is appropriate. So thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Council member Danko?

MS. DANKO: I guess this would fall under the Liaison Reports. I've had several phone calls about the procedure that Council will follow related to the Citizens' Ordinance. And I know that the Bill was referred to the Government Reform Committee, and it's

since --- it's my understanding that this is the first time we've had a Citizens' Ordinance to act on. I think that perhaps we, as Council, you know, need to flesh out how we handle this kind of thing because this is precedent setting as we go forward, so ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Anyone else? Seeing no more, we will go to New Business, Ordinances and Resolutions. 8728-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an Agreement to extend a lease with the Amateur Astronomers Association of Pittsburgh (AAAP), for the continued operation and maintenance of Wagman Observatory in Deer Lakes Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATANESE: That will go to the Committee on Parks. 8729-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, permitting the use of Allegheny County Budo-Kai for the operation and management of Martial Arts Center. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Parks. 8730-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an Agreement between the County of Allegheny and Family Links, Incorporated, for leasing of a house and surrounding property located in Boyce Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Parks Committee. 8731-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an extension of an agreement with the Gateway Radio Control Society for the operation and management of the Model Aircraft Field located in Boyce Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Parks. 8732-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing an extension of an agreement with the North Hills Eagle Squadron for the operation and management of the Model Aircraft Field located in North Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Parks Committee. Let's go to 8733-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation certain temporary construction easement areas from three parcels required to construct lateral support facilities for Homestead-Duquesne Road at Franklin Street in Munhall Borough (5147-0207), 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: That will go to the Committee on Public Works. 8734-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation a certain drainage easement area from a parcel of land of Ernest M. Pido and Catherine Beauchamp required to conduct (sic) a replacement storm sewer along West Run-Homestead & Duquesne Connecting Road, also known as East 22nd Avenue Extension, in Munhall Borough (5331-0002), and to take such further actions as may be necessary under applicable law, including the Eminent Domain Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Committee on Public Works. 8735-15.

MR. CATANESE: An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation temporary construction easement areas from parcels of land of Walter J. Davic required to construct lateral support facilities for Painters Run Road east of McMillan Road, Site 1, and of William Raymond Siedle (1/2 interest) and Daniel F. Vanzin and Catherine Vanzin (1/2 interest) required to construct lateral support facilities for Painters Run Road at Essen Hill Road, Site 2, both sites being in Upper St. Clair Township (6242-0206), 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: That will go to the Public Works Committee. 8736-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the Council of the County of Allegheny enforcing the business use of electronic communication by all county employees and officials as established by the County Administrative Code. Sponsored by the County Controller.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Mr. President, I have an amendment to that. There was a typographical error, and I have it in writing. I wanted a new resolution to be submitted to the Committee. I was told I'd have to do it here. I was told I can do it here, I can do it here. And I believe I have a second as a matter of courtesy.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, the thing is who was telling you to do it here like that?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Our Chief Clerk.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. You want to put an amendment to this?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: It's just --- it includes a whereas clause that wasn't included in the resolution that was sent to all members.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: I'm having trouble hearing. Is everyone's mic on?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: My mic is on. Can you hear me now, Amanda?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Yes. Thank you.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. You just want to read that, and then this will go into Committee?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yeah, I just want to --- and I have it in writing. It's to add, whereas, the proper, ethical and lawful use of Allegheny County resources by its employees should specifically prohibit the sending of defamatory, obscene, profane, sexually-oriented or threatening messages and material, or abusive or racially, ethnically, religiously or otherwise discriminatory or offensive messages and material. Just an added whereas clause in the resolution.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right. We'll get copies of that, but we'll send this into the Public Safety Committee.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 8737-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution by the County of Allegheny amending the 2014 Capital Budget for Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go into the Budget and Finance Committee. 8738-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2013 Capital Budget for Allegheny County. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go into the Budget and Finance Committee. 8739-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, made pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Act ("LERTA"), Pa. Statute Title 72, Section 4722 et seq. (1995), as amended, providing for: a program of temporary exemption from increases in Allegheny County Real Property Taxes, for specified time periods, resulting from improvements made by an owner of property located within a specific geographical area within the City of Pittsburgh, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, previously determined to be a deteriorated area; establishing a schedule for exempting increases in Allegheny County property taxes resulting from such improvements; and prescribing the requirements and procedures by which an owner of property located within the deteriorated area can secure the temporary exemption resulting from such improvements. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to Economic Development and Housing. 8740-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the County --- Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, made pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act ("LERTA"), Pa. Statute Title 72, Section 4722 et seq. (1995), as amended, providing for: a program of temporary exemption from increases in Allegheny County Real Property Taxes, for specified time periods, resulting from improvements made by an owner of property located within a specific geographical area within Findlay Township, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, previously determined to be a deteriorated area; establishing a schedule for exempting increases in Allegheny County property taxes resulting from such improvements; and prescribing the requirements and procedures by which an owner of the property located within the deteriorated area can secure the temporary exemption resulting from such improvements. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go into Economic Development and Housing. Notification of Contracts. 8741-15.

MR. CATANESE: Summary of approved Executive actions for all Departments from 12-1-14 through 12-31-14 to be received and filed.

MR. FINNERTY: I'll make that motion.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.

MR. FINNERTY: We have a question down here.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President, I have a point of order.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. Go ahead.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Can I go back a second to --- where is it, Bill Number 8736-15?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8736-15, yeah.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yeah. As Chairman of Public Safety, this was placed in my Committee. The question I have --- and it's probably for the Solicitor. It says on here that this bill has been submitted by the County Controller, yet it was read by another councilman. The question I have is for further notice --- I mean, does any row officer have the ability to submit a bill to this Council for us to read on or is it not in the County Charter that the bills are submitted from the County Executive and we either submit our own --- because I don't --- I'm getting mixed feelings. And the reason that I raised the question is because I am the Chair of Public Safety, it's in my Committee, and I just want some clarification as to, you know, can anybody just submit a bill that we're supposed to ---? You see what I'm saying? The Controller's job is specified in the Charter. I didn't know that it was, you know, part of legislation --- that it would be the Sheriff, the Treasurer. Now, I've seen bills that were co-sponsored by other elected officials with various Council members, so I'm not --- I'm just raising some clarification here as to what is legal and what's not, so ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. SZEFI: What I have seen done in the past is that the row officer has, by letter, you know, requested that Council consider it. Now, the question becomes, you know, obviously then it's a Council matter, if that's such a word, Council matter.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: But I mean, do they have an actual right to submit this legislation or does it have to be accepted by us?

MR. SZEFI: I mean, you still have the right to weigh in on it like you do a budget or anything else. So from that standpoint ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: But I mean, to make it an actual piece of legislation. This is a piece of legislation here. Now, I've never seen any piece of --- and I've only been here for seven years. I've never seen a piece of legislation that was only acted on by us that was only submitted individually by any other person other than a councilman or councilperson other than the Chief Executive's Office. So you know, just as a matter of clarification, ---.

MR. SZEFI: I'm not sure that --- I mean, I think that I have seen this before in such a fashion, but safe to say it's up to Council as to whether they're going to act on it or even consider it. I mean, I could send you --- Joe Citizen, I could send to you and say, hey, Jim, I want you to consider this, ---

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Right.

MR. SZEFI: --- you know, ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: So the fact that the President had put this in my Committee is an acceptance? Would that be --- or is that the councilperson who read ---?

MR. SZEFI: Well, I mean, I think it's now --- it's now been voted on ---

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I mean, is there a co-sponsor?

MR. SZEFI: --- to be put into Committee.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I missed the last sentence. Show the ---.

MR. FINNERTY: Show him that.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: It's just a matter of clarification ---

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, you can ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: --- because these issues come up and I just --- because it's in my Committee I just want to know the legality of it.

MR. SZEFI: Right. So there is --- there actually is for Council agendas a agenda item --- and this is as I've suspected, that --- Resolutions and Ordinances requested in writing by any row officers. Now, that's my point. They can request it in writing ---

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Uh-huh (yes).

MR. SZEFI: --- and then it can be produced either internally here or, you know, from some, either, --- I guess, from the row office.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Okay. Well, this piece of legislation was read. Now, is the fact that --- the President placing it in my Committee, does that act as acceptance or does Council ---

MR. SZEFI: Yes.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: --- as a whole ---?

MR. SZEFI: No. I mean, that acts as ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: That's what I don't understand. Do we all vote on whether we should accept it or just is it ---?

MR. SZEFI: Well, now it's in the Committee, and then the Committee can determine whether it's going to move forward with it or not.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yeah, I understand that. But what I'm saying is, because this is relatively new, did the President have to ask us as a Council whether we accept it or is his ---?

MR. SZEFI: Yes. According --- according to the rules of Council, this --- you know, it should be considered. Now, whether it's approved is a whole other matter.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: But my point is by the entire Council or does the President have discretion to decide ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Let me say one thing to help clear it up a little bit. I have a right to put it anywhere I want, number one, and I can make any decision.

MR. SZEFI: Correct.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: But if you disagree, he can appeal the decision to the Chair, and you can all vote.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Yeah. What I'm saying is, you know, I don't object to you placing it in my Committee at all. I'm just wondering the fact --- do you get discretion because you want to take the bill or do you get discretion after this Council votes on whether we should accept it or not. That's where I'm a little bit sketchy.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. I just put it in committee, but if you don't like my decision ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: No, no, I'm not saying that.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, no, I understand.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: It's just ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You want to know ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: It's just a matter of just procedure.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Right.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: And I don't understand, because when these things come up, you know, they turn into just ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, I know.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just want to be professional about the whole thing and ---.

MR. SZEFI: Well, typically, the President has that discretion, but then you, you know, as the Chair of that committee and the Committee has the opportunity to weigh in and say, you know, we're not going to consider this or ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Okay. So we don't have to vote on whether --- if someone ---?

MR. SZEFI: Well, it needs to be a part of the minutes, and --- so there's a record of it. So I mean, it needs to be on the agenda.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: What I'm saying is suppose Joe --- and I don't mean to use you, Joe, but suppose Joe had a piece of legislation and he said I want to submit it, and the President said, okay, I'm going to submit it, I'm going to place it in such and such a committee. So it's his discretion ---

MR. SZEFI: Correct.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: --- as President to ---?
That's what I'm asking.

MR. SZEFI: Yes, it is --- it is his discretion.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Okay. That's all I wanted to know. Thank you. I appreciate it.

MR. SZEFI: Yeah. No problem at all.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Councilman Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yeah. Thank you. I think there's two things here. First of all, I mean, these things do come up, as Treasurer Weinstein has brought things before us, but as you say in what you read, consideration, he has always gone to somebody on Council and asked them to co-sponsor it with him. He never brought something here just from him is what I'm saying. So that's the consideration first.

And the second thing is we have a piece of legislation that was introduced by the Controller, and she's not here, and that --- if we're going to have one of the Council people be a co-sponsor is one thing. But if you have legislation and you're introducing it, you should be here. And that's another thing. So that's where we're at, you know. And if we talk about representatives, it's

completely different from a row office and the Chief Executive, because Mr. McKain --- Willie is here and Willie, in our Charter and in our notes, is the representative and acts for the Chief Executive. There is a completely different situation there. All right? So what I'm saying is that I have no problem with considering it, but there should be one of the Council members on that piece of legislation. That's my opinion.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Now, we're not the --- you're (indicating) next. We're not the ---.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: I'm sorry. I can't hear someone who is speaking. Are the microphones ---?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. Heather Heidelbaugh is next, but we're not going to discuss the issue that's in Committee, but if you have something else like Mike or he had, whatever you want to say, go ahead.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you. Thank you, Mr. President. So I did want to notice that the Chief of Staff of the Controller's Office, Ms. Griffin, is here. And we do --- I do note that the Governor is being inaugurated today, and I think that our Chief Executive is at the inauguration, as well as our Controller.

I'm happy to co-sponsor this resolution because it's a common sense, you know, resolution that we should be professional in our e-mails. I also believe, and maybe our Chief Clerk can address this, but I believe other row officers since the inception of the Home Rule Charter have introduced legislation. I think that's correct; is that right? Yes. And so I think this was completely appropriate. And you know, I just --- I just don't really understand what the big deal is.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right. Now, that's in Committee. Now, let's go on --- let's move on to public comment, unless there's somebody else I missed. Oh, Sue, go ahead.

MS. MEANS: I just thought the Solicitor made it very clear that a row office can introduce legislation and I just wanted to confirm that. I was given that definite impression that it's not like the same as a citizen off the street. It's a row office introducing the legislation. So could you just confirm that that's ---?

MR. SZEFI: Yes. Yes, that is the case.

MS. MEANS: Okay. Thank you.

MR. SZEFI: Yeah.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President, you know, I have to take exception to something here. You know, we are elected to make the laws of this county. The Chief Executive is elected to submit them. As far as I know, the County Controller's job is to audit and check and balance the budgetary issues of this county. Nowhere does it say that the controller has any right to submit legislation. To me, it's the same as if I wanted to go and audit the Airport Authority as a Councilman or audit another department as a Councilman. I don't have a problem with this being in my committee at all, but I am a stickler when it comes to the rules of checks and balances. And that's why I even raised the issue in the first place. And I just wanted to be clear about that. That's all. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Let's move on to the speakers. We have --- the first speaker is Lester Ludwig.

MR. MACEY: Not here.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Not here. Joni Rabinowitz next.

MS. RABINOWITZ: Before I begin, I just want to point out that I'm handing out the editorial that was written about the fracking in the parks, but I'm sure you guys have probably seen, but it's coming all the way up here.

My name is Joni Rabinowitz, and I live at 7721 Edgerton Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15221. This morning I was researching recent studies about the relationship of fracking to earthquakes. Recently, I learned there were 11 earthquakes in Irving, Texas in two days, one registering a 3.6. Irving is very close to Dallas, where there's lots of fracking.

Ohio. Last week, a study in the Bulletin of the Seismological Society of America reported that 77 minor earthquakes last March around Poland, Ohio, were linked to fracking.

Kansas. Today a new story popped up. For the first time geologists in Kansas say that a mysterious string of earthquakes may have been caused by fracking.

Oklahoma. The Wichita Eagle reported that three new quakes occurred in the southern part of the state and through neighboring Oklahoma early that morning. A study published by Science last summer and authored by researchers from Cornell and University of Colorado determined that about one-fifth of all recent earthquakes

in central and eastern U.S. were caused by activity at just four fracking wells situated near the town of Jones, Oklahoma.

Now, there are, --- by now, there are a myriad of studies and reports on this subject. They're not all conclusive, but they all agree that there's probably a connection between fracking and earthquakes. Although many of these quakes are from disposal wells, evidence now suggests that fracking of the shale itself could have also opened up faults which were unknown until now. These quakes don't only occur near the site itself either, but may occur many miles away.

Now, I don't want to suggest that every industrial fracking site will result in earthquakes or that they will result in contamination either, but I'm most concerned about the proliferation of this industry all over the country. We seldom look at the cumulative harms we're creating. With 8,982 active wells in Pennsylvania and growing exponentially, we need to look broader than one or two wells. We need to go beyond our circumscribed area where we live. This is why I'm so worried about each well that's drilled and how the cumulative effects of all the wells are affecting our long-term future.

Many of our Parks --- Protect our Parks members who are not here tonight have traveled to Harrisburg to Governor Wolf's inauguration to demand a ban in the entire state. Hopefully, right here, we can start with Allegheny County. Hopefully, we will wait and see about results of Deer Lakes before considering any other parks. Meantime, I hope we're looking at the long-term effects of what we're doing and the harm humankind is doing to the earth. Who would have ever thought that we could affect earthquakes or climate, and now we're affecting both? I don't want to be part of that, and I don't think you do either. As you consider the ordinance to wait and see, and we expect your vote at your next meeting, I hope you will look at these long-term considerations and begin by voting to wait and see. You owe it to your children and your grandchildren. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Thank you. Next we have Aaron Booz.

MR. BOOZ: My name is Aaron Booz, 3181 Bel Air Drive, Whitehall. And I agreed with the County Executive and certain members of Council on one particular thing

around the time of the Deer Lakes Park fracking lease vote. That one item was the idea of waiting and seeing what happens with the park fracking experiment before looking into leasing other county parks. I'm also one of the petitioners who gathered signatures for a Citizens Ordinance in order to give you the chance to put that idea into writing.

Now, as I read the code on the petition process in Article XII of the Home Rule Charter, it looks like you're going to miss your deadline for voting on this issue. I guess it's possible that I'm mistaken, and I've heard the number of 90 days as well, but it seemed to me like the language is pretty clear. Our signatures were presented to you on December 2nd, which would have started the 60-day clock, which, by my count, would have given you until the end of January. Obviously, it's not on your agenda for today.

Now, Mr. Fitzgerald, as I've said before --- to you before, has said more than once that he's interested in looking at, quote, any county land for shale gas extraction. And I suspect that some of you agree with him on that. But wherever you stand on this leasing hold issue, whether you think public park land should be fracked or not, and if so, whether you think it should be leased sooner or later, the fact remains that this is a Citizens Ordinance, and in fact, it's the first time that this provision of our Home Rule Charter has ever been exercised by members of the public. And so it seems to me --- and like I say, I may be mistaken, but I do feel the need to come here and say it seems to me that you're out of compliance with the founding document. If that's the case, and I'm not certain, but if that's the case, I think it does send a bad signal about the intentions of some members with respect to this issue. So I do ask you to bring the issue up, discuss it fully according to your rules, and to take the vote you're required to take, and I hope you vote yes. Thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. All right. Next, we have an issue here. I'm going to go over it. We have a Jean Chardone (phonetic), who was supposed to --- she was not on the list but came in late here and now wants to speak on a non-agenda item. So let me ask you a question. If it's pertaining to the Controller's issue, that's already put in Committee. If that's the case, you're going to speak on that, I'm not going to allow it.

If it's another issue or something, I'll allow it. So I just want to go by the rules completely because we get questions about everything, and that's ---. She'll have plenty of opportunity when she speaks, but if she was here, she would only be allowed to say a little bit anyway because we put it in Committee. Being that she's the sponsor, she could have only have said like a sentence or two anyway. Do you understand?

MS. CHARDONE: Right.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is that okay? Do you understand?

MS. CHARDONE: It's fine. If that's the point, fine.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thanks a lot. All right. Does someone want to make a motion to adjourn?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I do.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Second?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those favor --- under remarks? None. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:06 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Diana L. Squatone". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Court Reporter