

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
Amanda Green Hawkins	-	District 7
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
Brenda Frazier	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, March 10, 2015 - 5:03 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: Will you all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and remain standing for a silent prayer reflection. After me, I ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of Silent Prayer.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 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?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Present.

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?

DR. MARTONI: Right 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?

MR. DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Fifteen (15) members present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Proclamations and Certificates. 8813-15.

MR. CATANESE: Certificates of Recognition honoring the 2015 Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee, the Irish Society for Education & Charity, Mr. Marty Madigan, 2015 Grand Marshal, Mr. J. J. Gallagher, 2015 AOH Hibernian of the Year, Ms. Hannah O'Donoghue, 2015 Miss Smiling Irish Eyes of Pittsburgh and Ms. Hannah

O'Toole and Ms. Kelsey Reiser, 2015 Miss Smiling Irish Eyes of Pittsburgh Court Maidens. Sponsored by Council members Finnerty, Baker, Danko, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Futules, Green Hawkins, Heidelbaugh, Kress, Macey, Martoni, Means, Palmiere, Rea and Robinson.

MR. DEFAZIO: Okay, Mike.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. Thank you, Mr. President. If you would please come on up if your name was called. I think we have a proclamation for you. What? St. Patrick will be coming up. Do you want to pass these out? There's the names on it. We have to get organized here. It's an Irish thing, you know. Education, that goes with Marty. There you go. Here, I'll take that one. Okay. All right. Thank you very much. I appreciate that. It made my life a little easier. As we're getting for our Grand Day of the year, the parade and also March 17th, which is actually St. Patrick's Day, we like to recognize our Irish brethren who are here and the members of the AOH and Knights of Equity, and our belief that Christian charity and unity are extremely important, and fellowship, They're three things that we base our groups on. And without further ado, I'm going to let people come up and say a few words. We have --- oh, he's not here. I lucked out. Caldwell is not here. Okay. But we'll let --- St. Patrick, do you want to say a few words first?

MR. (St. Patrick): I want to welcome everybody. I can do without it. I'm looking forward to seeing everybody this Saturday. We got the wonder (phonetic) taken care of. Marty was in charge of that. Everything is going to be good. Come down and enjoy the day.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, St. Patrick. J.J., do you want to say a few words? No? I know Marty does. He's --- Marty. Here's our Grand Marshal this year, Marty Madigan. J. J. Gallagher was the Hibernian of the year, and he won't say anything, though.

MR. MADIGAN: Thank you, Councilman. J.J. is a man of few words, so if I could just say a few words about him. He's receiving this proclamation for being the Hibernian of the Year. And where he does most of his work is feeding the hungry. And J.J. just does an outstanding job and --- not only as an Irishman, but as a person in general. So J.J., my hat is off to you, so ---.

(Applause.)

MR. MADIGAN: My name is Marty Madigan, as you heard earlier from Councilman Finnerty. I'm a former

employee of Allegheny County for 35 years, and I know many of the Board members. This is my second year in a row coming down to receive a proclamation, and I want to thank Councilman Finnerty as well as all the other co-sponsors of the proclamation. It is really appreciated by not only myself, but for the Irish Society in Education and Charity. One of my responsibilities as the Grand Marshall is to ensure that we have good weather. It's going to be in the mid-50s on Friday. Now, if I could just get this rain the hell out of the air we'll be in good shape. We had our kick-off this past Sunday where we crowned our three winners for the Ms. Smiling Irish Eyes. And truly, every year it gets harder and harder for that to happen, but we got three accomplished young women that are representative of the Irish community. And they're just outstanding students as well as people. So thank you. And if you're not busy, please come down and join us. There's only going to be 23,000 other people marching in the parade, so take a number. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Congratulations, sir.

MR. MADIGAN: Thank you. Appreciate that.

MR. FINNERTY: I would just like to mention that Marty Madigan is also the Chairman of the Irish Society for Education and Charity. And I'd like to read that Proclamation, if I might.

The Certificate of Recognition is awarded to Mr. Marty Madigan upon his selection as Grand Marshal of the 2015 Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade. Marty is the youngest of six children born to Martin Madigan, Senior, and Sarah Monroe Madigan, who hails from County Galway, Ireland. His parents spent most of their lives in the service of the Pittsburgh Irish-American community.

Marty is a founding member the Irish Society for Education and Charities where he presently serves as Board Chairman. He developed a scholarship program that awards educational assistance to the winner of the Ms. Smiling Irish Eyes Program. He is the former Pennsylvania State President of the Ancient Order of Hibernians, AOH, or as we say, America's only hope, and also the former president of its Division Nine.

Allegheny County Council commends Mr. Madigan for his passion and dedication to both the Pittsburgh Irish Community and to its St. Patrick's Day parade. We congratulate Mr. Madigan upon receiving this honor and thank him for his numerous and immeasurable contributions.

This is sponsored by myself and all of the Council. Thank you, Marty.

(Applause.)

MR. FINNERTY: I think I have another one for you, too. I would also like to recognize --- and he's not here --- Patrick O'Brien, who is the ---.

MR. MADIGAN: He's here. That's him right there.

MR. FINNERTY: Oh, come up here. Why wasn't --- was his name read? Your name wasn't read. Uh-oh. Sorry about that.

MR. O'BRIEN: That's okay.

MR. MADIGAN: He's bigger than me.

MR. FINNIGAN: He is bigger, a lot bigger. This is a proclamation honoring Pittsburgh's St. Patrick's Day Parade committee. 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 venerable event.

Allegheny County Council commends the Pittsburgh St. Patrick's Day Parade Committee for showcasing Pittsburgh's distinguished Irish community and thanks them for the diligent effort and dedication to making the annual parade an unmatched celebration of Irish heritage. And it's sponsored by myself and all of the Council. Thank you, Patrick. Do you want to say a few words?

MR. O'BRIEN: No. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: It must be my day, that Irish people don't want a microphone.

MR. O'BRIEN: Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Certainly. And now we come to the good looking Irish people here. Peggy Cooney, is she here?

MR. O'BRIEN: She's not here.

MR. FINNERTY: She's not here. Okay. We have Hannah O'Donoghue. Come on up, Hannah. You are Ms. Smiling Irish Eyes; right?

MS. O'DONOGHUE: Yes.

MR. FINNERTY: And her court. We have Hannah O'Donnell.

MS. O'TOOLE: O'Toole.

MR. FINNERTY: O'Toole, whoops. And Kelsey Reiser. Okay. Congratulations on being chosen.

MS. O'DONOGHUE: Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: That's a great honor. And we're proud to have you as our Ms. Smiling Irish Rose and Irish Eyes. All right?

MS. O'DONOGHUE: Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Do you want to say a few words?

MS. O'DONOGHUE: Sure.

MR. FINNERTY: There we go.

MS. O'DONOGHUE: All right. Hello, everyone. My name is Hannah O'Donoghue. I am a sophomore at Slippery Rock University where I study marketing. This is such a wonderful opportunity to get. I would like to thank the Miss Smiling Irish Eyes committee and a special thanks to my family and friends for supporting me through this. I'm very excited for the parade on Saturday, and I'm very proud to be Irish. So this is just wonderful. I'm so excited to represent Pittsburgh and Ireland for the Man of the Moor (phonetic) Festival in August, this coming summer. So this is going to be a wonderful, fun experience for me. And I'm excited for the rest of the week to start. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Do you want to see if the others want to say something?

MS. O'DONOGHUE: Hannah O'Toole, would you like to say something?

MS. O'TOOLE: Hello. I'm Hannah O'Toole a senior at Bishop Canevin High School. And I plan to go to Fordham University, I hope, for communications. But I've been an Irish dancer ever since I was five-years old. And I have a big Irish family, and I'm very proud to represent Pittsburgh in the parade. I've marched in every single parade, and I just love being Irish so I'm very thankful and I'm very proud of this honor. So thank you very much. Kelsey, would you like to say a few words?

MS. REISER: Hello, everyone. My name is Kelsey Reiser. I am a senior at Seton-LaSalle Catholic High School. I plan to attend Dayton University in the fall. I hope to study public relations --- or communications focusing on public relations. Well, ever since I was six-years old I've been part of the Ladies Ancient Order of Hibernians. So this means a lot to me, that I get to stand here and wear this sash. I am very grateful and

thank you so much for everybody who helped to make this happen. Thank you.

MR. FINNERTY: Do you want to come over and we'll get our picture taken?

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 8814-15.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation celebrating women of character, courage and commitment and declaring March 2015 to be Women's History Month in Allegheny County.

Sponsored by Council members Heidelbaugh, Danko, Green Hawkins, Means, Rea, Baker, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Futules, Kress, Macey, Martoni, Palmiere and Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you. So we gather here again together in March to proclaim March as National Women's History Month. We've been doing this at least every March since I've been a member of Council. And this is a worthy thing for us to do. Women's History has obviously been as important and as integral to the development of the nation as any other history. The problem is it has not always been recognized or transcribed. My paternal great-grandmother ran a dairy farm and my other grandmother ran a business, both of whom, the businesses, were in my grandfathers' names because they couldn't own businesses. They were some of the first women in our country to change history for us so that we all could be doing what we're doing today.

In honor of Women's History Month, we asked Maurine Greenwald, professor at the University of Pittsburgh, History Department to come join us today and to give us some remarks. She is a professor of Women's History along with many other areas. She's going to speak to all of us about the importance of women's history and then I'll read the proclamation. Professor?

PROFESSOR GREENWALD: Hi. Thank you for having me. In the past 40 to 50 years, Women's History has transformed the content of our national and international narratives of the past, as a result of Women's History and other histories of society from below, below the elites. We appreciate the specific contributions of ordinary people of all classes, races and ethnic groups to our nation's economic, political, social and cultural life. We're wiser for all the discoveries unearthed in answering the questions where were women and what did they do as

individuals and as members of groups, and how did they survive personal and/or national tragedies?

Studying the past discloses both the ugly and the beautiful. Because of Women's History we understand how consciously created invidious stereotypes distort public awareness and have strained people's options and opportunities. We know now how institutional discrimination in the labor force, electoral politics, military, media and educational institutions lingers long after public policies and court decisions outlaw biases.

On the positive side are language innervations shield females from publicly defining their marital status if they choose not to do so. Our laws now punish domestic violence, sexual harassment and marital rape. The inclusion of women expands our record of important thinkers, writers, artists, inventors and musicians. And gay marriage laws seek to validate choices available to people. These changes have enriched our knowledge and our humanity. In time, I expect a month will be designated to commemorate not only our increasing knowledge of women, but of gender and sexuality as well. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Let me read the proclamation. And Professor, would you be willing to accept this on behalf of all women of Allegheny County?

PROFESSOR GREENWALD: Yes.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Whereas, each year 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, work places 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 2015 theme for National Women's History Month is weaving the stories of women's lives.

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, let it be resolved that Allegheny County Council does hereby claim March as

Women's History Month in Allegheny County, and thank you personally for teaching Women's History in our community.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8815-15.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation congratulating Upper St. Clair High School students, Gaurav Bhushan, Michael Nastac, Yein Park, Akshay Prasad, Nymisha Rameswarapu, Vidhi Shah and team advisor, Ms. Pat Palazzolo for winning the Verizon Innovative App Challenge and for being named 2015 Best in the Nation. Sponsored by Council member Means.

MS. MEANS: I heard there was dancing in the street on February --- what was the date --- February 3rd in Upper St. Clair. There were teachers and parents and you guys were celebrating your big win. So congratulations. This is just such a great accomplishment. And I know why people were dancing, because you can now put this on your résumé. You can put this on your college application. And this is just wonderful. But I have a little of advice to you and that is you got here because you're a team. Your parents supported you. Your teacher supported you. And you worked together. So always remember you're a team. Always, always remember that it doesn't matter who gets the credit. That you worked together to accomplish good and so that I really isn't important.

The other thing, my husband is a college professor, and I've learned a little piece of information. The college professors that insist that you call them Doctor, well, they might not be the smartest tools in the shed. The ones that keep it a secret --- I actually have two friends with Ph.D.s, I didn't know for 20 years that they had a Ph.D. Because if you're really bright, you're humble, and you know that there's somebody brighter than you. But I'm not talking about taking away your shining day. This is exciting. I'm so proud of you. But I want you to take a minute and explain your project to everybody before I read your proclamation.

MR. BHUSHAN: Thank you so much, Councilwoman and everyone who is gathered here. We, as a team, of Upper St. Clair High School, under the gracious guidance of our teacher, Mrs. Palazzolo, proposed an app which we submitted to the Verizon Innovative App Challenge 2014. And what that app tried to do was it attempted to educate children of all age groups about how commonplace

technologies like a pen, this microfilm, this timer and how the inner workings of them actually work, layer by layer, through 3D models and informative blogs. And now, thankfully, we have won \$20,000 and the chance to work with the national team on this. We are going to be working with professionals from MIT and Verizon. In fact, our training starts tomorrow, so we are very excited for this honor and the honor that you have bestowed upon us today right here.

(Applause.)

MS. MEANS: I don't know if you are prepared or not, but since your team --- do each of you want to say what little part you played on the team or it doesn't work like that? Pardon? You all did everything. That's cool. That's cool. And your teacher, would you like to speak?

MS. PALAZZOLO: No quiz on this. Pat Palazzolo from Upper St. Clair. And I have the joy and the honor of working with students like these. I've known them since seventh grade. But many years --- and I've been doing this a long time, and some of you were old enough to remember the Challenger mission and the Teachers in Space Mission. And I was one of the finalists for that, in Christa's McAuliffe's training group. And again, many years ago, I was here with a group of students from Upper St. Clair, eighth graders at the time, who received a proclamation for an experiment of theirs that they designed that NASA flew into space. We're talking so long ago that that was the Hubble Space Telescope launch.

Just to update you, because I love kids who keep in touch --- and they give back and give me new ideas for our current students. One of those young people that Sue for proclamation is now senior policy advisor for NASA's chief scientist. Another has a Ph.D. in quantum mechanics and is underground at CERN looking for that God particle. Another one is senior editor of the science journal Nature. And yet another one has a Ph.D. in nanophase materials that works at the National Laboratory in Oakridge. So they've done some really good things since they were here as eight graders.

Christa McAuliffe said I touch the future, I teach. So I'm very excited now to let you know that you're seeing the future, and like the proverbial pebble in the pond that ripples out, I just know that I'm hoping to live long enough to hear from these students as they go on, to let me know what they're going to be doing in the

future. So I want to thank you for honoring them this way today.

MS. MEANS: Now, you are going to go on to a competition; is that correct? Oh, you won. When do you go to Dallas?

MR. BHUSHAN: On the 20th of June.

MS. MEANS: Oh, that's just to present Okay. But then you're going to start the project tomorrow; right?

MS. PALAZZOLO: Yes.

MS. MEANS: Here I was going to give money to help send you to Dallas. I figured there was some big fundraiser.

Whereas, on February 3rd, 2015, a team of six 11th graders from Upper St. Clair High School learned that they were among eight national winners of the Verizon Innovative App Challenge which asks students to use their stem science technology and engineering and math knowledge, their ingenuity and their creativity to develop concepts for mobile application that address needs or problems in their communities or schools.

Whereas, the team from Upper St. Clair created an app, a look inside, which allows students to explore the inner workings of different inventions and machines through virtual take-apart system.

Whereas, the students will work with App development instructors from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, MIT, on programming the app and making it available to download. The team has been invited to present their app at the 2015 Technology Student Association National Conference in Dallas, Texas this summer, courtesy of Verizon.

Whereas, as a result of winning the regional and national Mobile App Design Competition, the team earned a \$20,000 cash grant for their school from Verizon Foundation. And each student on the team received a Samsung Galaxy tablet courtesy of the Samsung Telecommunications America.

Now, therefore, let it be resolved that Allegheny County does now congratulate the following Upper St. Clair students. Okay. Here we go. I've been practicing. Gaurav Bhushan. Maybe raise your hand when I say your name, Michael Nastac, Yein Park, Akshay Parsadan. Is that close? Parsadan. Nymisha Rameswarapu. That's a pretty name even though I butchered it. Vidhi Shah.

And not to be forgotten, their team advisor, Ms. Pat Palazzolo. And I had to practice that one, too, for winning the Verizon Innovative App Challenge for this being the 2015 Best in the Nation today sponsored by Councilwoman Sue Means. So congratulations and let's go get our picture taken.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8816-15.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring Sergeant Michael Hayes and the North Fayette Township Police Department for earning nationwide honors as Top Law Enforcement Instructor of 2014 and Top Law Enforcement Agency of 2014 by the Refuse To Be A Victim Program. Sponsored by Council member Baker.

MR. BAKER: Thanks for coming up.

Congratulations to Chief O'Donnell and Sergeant Hayes. A lot of great things going on in North Fayette. Very happy to have Sergeant Hayes and the Chief, Chief O'Donnell here as well, with Bob Doddato, a Township supervisor in North Fayette. I have some longtime friends with North Fayette as well, Roxanne Buckels and Kevin DeMarco.

So a lot of things going on in North Fayette. A big congratulations go out --- goes out to Sergeant Hayes for being rated number one, the Top Law Enforcement Instructor in 2014. And I was really proud to hear about that, really happy to hear about that. And we're just happy and proud of you, and just wanted to give you some recognition tonight for all of your amazing work and for all the great things that are going on throughout North Fayette through the leadership of the all three of you that are here with us tonight. And with that, we'll get to the proclamation and we'll hear some words from you, if that sounds good. Congratulations.

Whereas, in 2014, over 5,000 individuals attended an award winning four hour seminar called Refuse To Be A Victim, a personal safety and crime prevention program developed in 1993 by the National Rifle Association.

And Whereas, hundreds of federal, state and local law enforcement officials across the country have implemented I Refuse To Be A Victim into their crime prevention and community policing initiatives.

And Whereas, the seminar has covered home security, personal safety, mental preparedness, cyber

security and provided attendees with good tips and strategies to avoid becoming victims of crime.

And Whereas, Sergeant Michael Hayes of the North Fayette Township Police Department is a certified Refuse To Be A Victim instructor and a certified NRA regional counselor. In addition to teaching seminars, Sergeant Hayes has led numerous instructed developmental workshops.

And Whereas, in 2014 Sergeant Hayes and the North Fayette Township Police Department held the most Refuse To Be A Victim seminars on behalf of a law enforcement agency and were recognized by the NRA as going above and beyond instruction and dedication.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that Allegheny Council offer congratulations to you, Sergeant Hayes and to the North Fayette Township Police Department, led by Chief O'Donnell and Bob and his colleagues, of course, the supervisors, for earning nationwide honors as top law enforcement instructor of 2014 by Sergeant Hayes and top law enforcement agency of 2014 by the Refuse To Be A Victim Program, an amazing accomplishment and sponsored by myself and presented this 10th day of March, so congratulations.

SERGEANT HAYES: I'll just say a few words. Just to tell everybody, this is an NRA program. It's a really nice program started, like Mr. Baker said, in 1993. It was originally started as a women's program from the NRA. It was kind of a cry from women in NRA for a crime prevention type of thing. They came to them and said, you know, you guys are a huge agency. How about putting something on? So they did. They put this program together. It went co-ed in '97. It became a co-ed program that really --- goes from teenage years all the way up, it applies to. We have been putting them on now --- six years, I'm pretty sure now, we've been putting these seminars on in our community. And I had a chance to put a lot of these programs on. It goes through a --- it's a few hours and it just gives everybody little tips and pointers --- locks, doors, windows, being aware when you're out in the public. Just a lot of different things to think about and do. And so it's really nice. I had a chance to become --- the NRA invited me a few years ago down to Houston, Texas and made me a regional counselor of the program, so I actually instruct instructors. I have instructed quite a few instructors right here in Allegheny County at a couple of universities right here in

Pittsburgh, and a few other departments who are now putting the program on so ---. It's really a nice thing. So I appreciate this. Thank you.

MR. BAKER: Thank you very much. Chief O'Donnell.

CHIEF O'DONNELL: First off, thank you --- I want to thank you all for having us here and taking the time to give us this. Tom, thank you so much. We're very proud of this honor. I know you can see by the agenda that this is a nationwide honor. I'm very proud of Sergeant Hayes. He does a heck of a job with this. I know some of you probably don't know a lot about this program, but it's a great program for our citizens, and we hope that it catches on here in Allegheny County. We really do.

And I just have two comments. One, I want to let you know I feel --- I feel right at home with a last name of like O'Donnell being here today, so ---. Secondly, I don't remember being that smart when I was in 11th grade. So this is tough act to follow, but thank you all so much for everything and giving us the time, Tom, for everything.

And finally, Bob and my board of supervisors, for allowing me and my police department to do this because it does take a lot of time and a lot of money, but it's well worth it. Thank you all for everything.

MR. DODDATO: I just want to take a minute to thank Sergeant Hayes for all the work that he's done for the Refuse To Be A Victim Program. It's just an honor and I just want to let you know that myself and the other two supervisors, J.R. and Jim, are very proud of the work you've done. It doesn't --- a week doesn't go by where I don't check my box at the Township and I see complimentary notes for our police officers. And this is just one example of the great work that is being done by our police department under the direction of Chief O'Donnell. We have a world class police department and, you know, it's just really great to see the involvement in the community. Thank you. And thank you, Tom.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8817-15. And the rest of the proclamations will be read into the record.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation congratulating Mr. Gary J. Klingman upon the occasion of his retirement after

26 years of dedicated service as Manager to the Township of Findlay. Sponsored by Council members Baker and Finnerty.

8818-15. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Ms. Becky Coger for her more than four decades of service tending to community gardens in Pittsburgh's North Side. Sponsored by Council members Green Hawkins and Means.

8819-15. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. Peter Catanese upon the occasion of his 90th birthday. Sponsored by Council members Kress and Macey.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Put mine on that.

MR. BAKER: Is that your father, Joe?

MR. FINNERTY: Put me on that one.

MR. BAKER: (Indicating).

MR. KRESS: It's Joe's father. Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Everybody?

MR. KRESS: Joe's father. Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Who don't want ---? Okay.

MR. CATANESE: Thank you so much. He appreciates that. Thank you.

8820-15. Certificate of Recognition congratulating the White Oak Borough Recreation Board upon the occasion of its 50th anniversary. Sponsored by Council member Macey.

8821-15. Proclamation honoring in memorandum Mr. Darrell Hess, former chairman of the board for the Pennsylvania Sports Hall of Fame and well-known figure in the Steel Valley sports community. Sponsored by Council member Macey.

8822-15. Proclamation congratulating Ms. Swin Cash for earning the Chuck Cooper Foundation Career, Leadership, Diversity and Community Service Award. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

8823-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Ms. Mya Morgan, a 7-year-old from Liberty Borough, for earning Green Status on the U. S. Kids Golf Tour. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

8824-15. There's a correction on 8824-15. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Mr. Nicholas Ruffing, of Boy Scout Troop 1640 upon earning the rank of Eagle Scout. Sponsored by Council member Macey.

8825-15. Certificate of Recognition awarded to the Rotary Club of Bethel Park-St. Clair upon the occasion of its 56th Annual Pancake Festival. Sponsored by Council member Means.

8826-15. Proclamation honoring Office Thomas Rigatti of the Bethel Park Police Department for his 27 years of community service, including his outstanding work for the late Joey Fabus and the Fabus family in 2014. Sponsored by Council member Means.

8827-15. Proclamation honoring in memoriam Ms. Judith Shelton Brown, a champion of freedom and liberty and affectionately known as the "hat lady". Sponsored by Council member Means.

8828-15. Proclamation honoring in memoriam Ms. Evelyn D. Richardson for her lifetime of service and achievement in politics and civil rights. Sponsored by Council member Robinson.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Please add me as a co-sponsor.

MS. DANKO: Add me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Joe, ---.

MR. CANTANESE: Everybody?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: I got everyone.

8829-15. Proclamation honoring in memoriam The Honorable Marty B. O'Malley, beloved Forest Hills Borough Mayor. Sponsored by Council members Robinson, Martoni, Danko, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Green Hawkins, Kress, Macey, Means, Palmiere and Rea.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Public comment? We have one?

MR. CATANESE: We have one.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Gary English.

MR. ENGLISH: Gary J. English, 119 Ashley Drive, Verona, PA. The County Charter preamble was to transfer substantial authority to the people with the powers of a referendum to respond to the concerns of the citizens, but the 2000 Administrative Code that Council passed usurped those powers. Had you honored my request to place the fate of the Civic Arena ballot, you wouldn't be contemplating more Pittsburgh Penguin welfare. I sent Council the substantiated documentation that admitted \$37 million in RAD funds for the Civic Arena, a regional, disposable asset. Additionally, \$30.7 million in grants will be the centerpiece of redevelopment for U.S. Steel's new headquarters. This brings the total to over \$617 million in direct and indirect monies that have benefited the Pittsburgh Penguins. Governor Rendell's 2007 term sheet was dishonest as it included language to demolish

the Civic Arena three years before the SEA conducted a bogus historic review.

The City controlled the Civic Arena site for over a half century and abused Act 90 by giving the site the designation of blight to create this LERTA district which you'll be voting on. Meanwhile, the Penguins are taking in daily parking revenues from this site that has totaled over \$40 million.

Has Council opened the financial books of the Pittsburgh Penguins to demonstrate the need of the LERTA District? More so, why has Council ignored the term sheet that transferred redevelopment rights to the team? It is no longer the financial responsibility of the taxpayers of the City, the County or this Commonwealth.

Finally, I would point out that Pittsburgh is a financially distressed city and receives state financial assistance from the taxpayers. The City cannot afford to divert future tax revenues for redevelopment. This would violate the premise of the City's financial plight claiming that they are financially distressed under Act 47.

I urge Council to reject the proposal and vote no on the LERTA District. I'd be more than happy to answer any of your questions since I was the original petitioner for the Civic Arena's historic preservation that everyone seemed to ignore.

Thank you, Councilman DeFazio, for not responding to my calls and the e-mails extending more time to testify on this issue. And I see how it's going to be rubber stamped.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Before you go any further, back up --- back up to the microphone. I want to talk to you. I had our guy from the office call you. Here's what we have to do.

MR. ENGLISH: No. I called the guy from the office. The office didn't call me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I called him, too. You're not listening. If the body here wants to give you a few more minutes and we vote on it, then you can have a few more minutes, because normally it's only three. So if someone wants to do that, I'll be happy to go along with whatever the body wishes.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I'll give him more time.

MS. MEANS: I'll second it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? So all those in favor say aye?

(Chorus of ayes)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? Okay. Go ahead.

MR. ENGLISH. Is it going to be timed? Like I said, I have been following this issue since 1999.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We're giving you more time. Go ahead.

MR. ENGLISH: I know. How do you prepare for a presentation? I could sit there and go down the list and enter it into the record. Each one of you have a copy of this. When I sent the original --- when I sent the original out, I didn't provide links. I spent an entire Saturday digging up all the information on the internet to substantiate each one of them. 1999, \$18 million in naming rights revenue went from the Civic Arena to the Mellon Arena that benefited the Penguins. That same year the taxpayers had to foot the bill to change the highway signs to say Mellon Arena instead of Civic Arena. 2007, the term sheet gave all the parking revenue from the Civic Arena lot to the Pittsburgh Penguins. I had to fight tooth and nail to get that information --- over \$40 million. 2007, that term sheet paved the way with \$321 million in tax revenue to build the Consol Energy Center. The Pittsburgh Penguins got the naming rights revenue to the Consol, \$104 million, and the signs had to be changed from Mellon Arena to say Consol Energy Center. We, the taxpayer foot the bill again. They received \$45 million in additional funding from the Pennsylvania Gaming and Economic Development and Tourism Fund. They received \$2 million, the Penguins, to promote the new arena. I thought the media did a quite admirable job without having to use taxpayer money.

I've also cited \$37 million in RAD grants for this regional asset that you turned its (sic) back on and it was torn down. We can keep on going on about more tax revenue. \$15 million in RCAP money was used from the SEA to jump start the redevelopment of the Civic Arena. It's no longer the responsibility of the taxpayers. I wanted to testify at --- Councilwoman Green Hawkins on the economic development. They had members of Economic Development there, but no member of the public was allowed to speak. Has the books been opened of the Pittsburgh Penguins to see how much money they've raked in from the parking and other resources that the taxpayers have footed

the bill? And the answer is no. What about the City of Pittsburgh? It's a distressed municipality. How can they afford to give away millions of dollars in future tax revenue for a LERTA District when it's not their responsibility? It's not demonstrating to me as a taxpayer to support the City if they can afford to give away million of dollars when it's unnecessary. It violates the term sheet agreement by Governor Rendell, and it also violates Act 90 as a distressed municipality.

None of these considerations have ever been made. Why? Why did not one member of Council contact me when I provide this information? All I was told is, well, we'd like to have substantiation. Well, you have it. And no one has discussed it. No one discussed it at the Economic Development, a meeting chaired by Councilwoman Amanda Green Hawkins. And no one brought it up before. I had mentioned a lot of this back in December. I was the last person to speak on, I think it was the December 2nd meeting that went almost five hours. And because this was a non-agenda item back then, I waited five hours for my three minute dog and pony show because I knew this was going to happen. It was just a matter of time to see it come up on the agenda for tonight.

When is enough enough? And this has not been honest in debate. It has not been transparent. And I'm going to call the Pittsburgh Penguins' Travis Williams, a liar and back it up. He was quoted in the paper by Mark Belko, who's been covering this issue since, I'd say, early --- late 1990s. And he covered the term sheet agreement that was penned by Governor Ed Rendell. And he knew the terms of that agreement that gave the redevelopment rights to the Pittsburgh Penguins and knew that that agreement had language to demolish the Civic Arena once the new arena was complete. And Travis Williams, during the heat of historic preservation, was quoted by Mark Belko in his story that it was not a foregone conclusion that the Civic Arena was going to demolished. That was an outright lie by the Pittsburgh Penguins. They knew it because of the 2007 term sheet. And Mark Belko put it in his article, and he knew it was a lie. It hasn't been transparent, and yet the Sports and Exhibition Authority Director, Mary Conturo, has said she's going to be applying for more federal grants.

If anyone reviewed the historic review of the Civic Arena, all the information that they put on their

website was called the redevelopment of the lower hill, not historic preservation. When they conducted this historic review, they were to attract members of the public that had a historical and financial interest in the Civic Arena. As the Petitioner for historic preservation to the state, which was approved, they used my documentation, but I wasn't invited to the table. I wasn't invited to the table at City Council. I'm not invited to the table here at County Council. I asked the County Executive to table this proposal. We cannot afford it. The county taxpayers can't afford it and neither can the City of Pittsburgh.

Is the City of Pittsburgh crying wolf, that they are a distressed municipality? Then how can they give away all this revenue when they don't have to? They do not have to. This so-called regional asset, regional disposal asset, if you'd had kept what's going on in the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, the amount of RAD revenue that we have shelled out for stadiums exceeds their entire budget for 2011 of all regional assets. That's how much money has been wasted. And yet I see grant application after grant application.

Are you all going to be bumps on the log and not say a word? Are you going to rubber stamp this? Do we really need to do this? How does it benefit me in Penn Hills? How does it benefit the people in Marshall Township? How does it benefit the people in North Fayette or Cheswick or Tarentum or Blawnox or Sewickley? It doesn't. Oh, the creation of jobs. Temporary jobs? Oh, wait a minute. Those poor people in the Lower Hill that were displaced. I've seen the race card played. The poor, black people. It wasn't African-Americans. It was African-Americans, Jews, Germans, Poles, a lot of people were displaced. And I would read the headlines in the Pittsburgh Post Gazette, July 1st, 1957, I was still in my diapers. And the headlines read Slums of the Lower Hills Disappearing. Those are not my words. I wasn't old enough to know. Maybe it was a redevelopment project.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Gary, you got wrap it up because we gave you ---.

MR. ENGLISH: Well, you've given me a lot of time, but it seems like this has been a done deal from the day one.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Gary, let me say one thing to you. You know, people talk about rubbing stamps and

this. Everybody has an opinion. Maybe they agree with you, maybe they don't. But you got to respect their opinions. Okay?

MR. ENGLISH: How can you respect ---. Council President, ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I don't want to argue with you back and forth.

MR. ENGLISH: Council President ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: They have a right to vote.

MR. ENGLISH: Everyone has a right to vote, except I don't have the right in the primary. That's on an independent, but I have to pay for the Democrats and Republicans' party functions so they can nominate their candidate.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All right. Wrap it up in a few ---.

MR. ENGLISH: But the point that I'm raising here is there has been no discussion about Act 47, Act 90 and about this distressed municipality. And about the term sheet and about opening up the books of the Pittsburgh Penguins. Do they really need this financial assistance? We've given them a lot of money.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Gary, I gave you three times more than anybody else. Okay? And we have other information so ---.

MS. ENGLISH: And is anyone going to ask me any questions?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That's up to them. I don't, you know, ---.

MR. FUTULES: We don't normally address people.

MR. ENGLISH: That's right, because its public comment and I can say the proverbial your mother wears Army boots, which is fighting words and you'll say thank you very much. Motion to adjourn and you do as you please. That's what's so wrong with our government.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We have rules. That's about it. Thanks. Appreciate it.

MR. ENGLISH: I'm sure you do.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We're down to Approval of Minutes. We have none. Presentation of Appointments. 8806-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Jim Block to serve as a member of the Council of Friends Organization, North Park, for a term to expire on March 10, 2017. Sponsored by Council member Rea.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Jan?

MS. REA: No.

MR. ROBINSON: He said we didn't have any.

MR. CATANESE: No, not on Friends of the Park.
We'd vote on it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. They'd vote on it here, Jim.

MR. FINNERTY: This is the first reading; right?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No. Council of Friends is voted on right here.

MR. CATANESE: Yes.

MS. REA: Oh, okay. I'm sorry. It is my appointment. I make a motion to put Mr. Block back on the Council of Friends for North Park.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

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

(Ayes respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8809-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Kathy Matta to serve as a member of the Council of Friends Organization, White Oak Park, for a term to expire on March 10, 2017. Sponsored by Council member Macey.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President. I move that Kathy Matta be reappointed to the Council of Friends for White Oak.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

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

(Ayes respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
8830-15.

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

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll go to the Appointment Review Committee. 8831-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Paul Barkowitz to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll go to the Appointment Review Committee. 8832-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Jaimie Kopicko to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Mental Health/Intellectual Disability Advisory Board for a term to expire on December 31, 2017. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go the Appointment Review Committee. 8833-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the reappointment of Alice Paylor-Dais to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31, 2015. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. 8834-15.

MR. CATANESE: Approving the appointment of Reverend Dr. Darryl Canady to serve as a member of the Allegheny County Juvenile Detention Board of Advisors for a term to expire on December 31, 2015. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go to the Appointment Review Committee. Okay. Committee on Government Reform, Second Reading. 7976-14.

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

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Mr. Kress and/or Mr. Macey. Ed, do you want to ---?

MR. KRESS: Yeah. I'd like to speak to this. I introduced this legislation back in January of last year. So patience, I guess, is a virtue. But the intent was --- is to get --- improve the assessment system. Currently, if you wanted to file your Notice of Appeal, you either had to mail it in or file it in person. What this does now by filing it online is you get automatic confirmation you filed the appeal. Before you could just mail it in and there was no confirmation. You would have to send it by certified mail. And why should our taxpayers or homeowners be forced to go the post office do certified

mail? We wanted to make it as convenient as possible to appeal your assessment because if the government made a mistake on it, why should you have to jump through hoops to appeal your assessment? I've had people who have mailed their assessment forms in and they claimed that the assessment board claimed that they didn't receive it. So now, when you file it online, you'll get automatic confirmation that you filed your appeal.

And I think this is the first step to improving the assessment system, making it more efficient, more effective. And I really have to give a lot of credit to the administration to come up with a program and working with me to get this done. So I have to thank them. So thank you very much.

MR. MACEY: Well, just to echo what Councilman Kress said, it gives a lot of people in the outskirts that live far away from downtown the opportunity to do this with --- expeditiously as well at little or no cost to them. Thank you.

MR. KRESS: I'd like to make the motion to approve this ordinance.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Second. Under remarks?
Jan?

MS. REA: I guess I would like to thank Council member --- the Council members for this, and especially Mr. Kress and the administration for your working out all the glitches because I think as long as I've been here, this is the most forward thinking thing you've done for people who are trying to get their appeals in. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. We will have a roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

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: Here.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALIMERE: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?
MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 15, nos, 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 8775-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, made pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act, LERTA, PA Statute, Title 72, Section 4722 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 a 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 the property located within the deteriorated area can secure the temporary exemption resulting from such improvements. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Council Member Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. Move for approval.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Sue?

MS. MEANS: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President, for recognizing me. I did attend both meetings, both committee meetings, both the one on February 22nd and the one February the 5th. At the 5th meeting, I did request to see --- I understand that they haven't worked out all the kinks in the grant application process. And they said that they would provide for us the draft of the grant application process, which I have yet to see. But they did say that they would --- and they answered all our questions. They did. And they were very helpful. The other thing I wanted to know, if someone could address --- well, this it not a tax. So this is in lieu of a tax, and so money is going to be given to a fund, but it's like a --- it's a covenant. So this is new ground. Everyone says this is new ground. But I wanted to know if anyone could speak to if an entity doesn't pay their money to the fund, since it's a covenant instead of the tax, what would be the punishment for not --- for reneging on the money? Is there anyone, Mr. President, here that could answer that question?

MR. FINNERTY: He's right here.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to come --- here comes someone.

MS. MEANS: Mr. Hurley.

MR. HURLEY: Good evening, Mr. President and Council members. I apologize. I did have this and I did not provide it to Mr. Barker. It is not the guidelines that I believe you were asking for. It was the members of the Urban Redevelopment Authority Board and members of the Committee --- and to also augment the guidelines so that the representative of this body would also sit on that overseeing committee. And you will see that has been added to that today.

MS. MEANS: Good.

MR. HURLEY: That is my fault. I'm sorry about that.

With regard to the question you asked if they do not fulfill their obligations, in the document that was presented to you on September 11th, 2014, I can find the exact page for you, but there is a provision in there that takes away their authorization to go forward with the tax abatement if they do not move forward with the development.

MS. MEANS: Okay.

MR. HURLEY: And I apologize for that. It's actually in the resolution. There is a section that discusses defaults. There's also a section on time limitations. And I believe the question that you are asking --- I think they have a three-year time in which they need to get back into play or they lose their right to the tax exemption. So on page eight, item D is the three-year time limitation. And on page nine, G, if they do not comply with turning in the report as requested on a yearly basis --- that was another question of Council --- they also lose the exemption.

MS. MEANS: Thank you. Mr. Hurley, not to disagree with you, but I did remember specifically asking for the guidelines for the parameters for applying for the grant. So I did ask for that. And I did believe that I was promised that information. I'm looking at this one handout you gave me, and I'm not --- again, so you did say that we are going to put Mr. Robinson or a member of ---?

MR. HURLEY: I think it's the number --- fourth item on the bottom of that page where it says the County Council shall also be entitled to appoint a person ---

MS. MEANS: Oh, there it is. Okay.

MR. HURLEY: --- who'll be the representative that represents the Hill District. I think it was also discussed at the meeting not to specifically put Mr. Robinson, ---

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. HURLEY: --- but to keep it as a representative of that District.

MS. MEANS: Yes. Thank you. I thank you for that. I have other comments, but if somebody else wants to take a turn, I can think about what I want to say next. Except, oh, Mr. Hurley, could you give an update on --- I believe, the school district had a meeting. Usually we don't approve of a LERTA until we hear from the school district. And I know they had a sub-committee meeting. Is there anything to report on how the sub-committee meeting went?

MR. HURLEY: I do not have an update on that. But within our own resolution on page one, the third whereas, there's a clause in there that should either the school district and/or the City not go forward with this, County Council will not go forward with it. So we put that in specifically. That is the first time we've added

that, so you do have protection, if either of those bodies do not move forward, this is null and void.

MS. MEANS: Well, I appreciate that. I was just curious to know if you did have an update because it is --- usually the school district goes before us and that's why I asked. But I do appreciate the language in this.

MR. HURLEY: We have a representative from the URA who can mention --- that has been presented. I don't think --- I'm not sure it has been voted on yet. Okay. It will be voted on March 25th.

MS. MEANS: Okay. Thank you. I'm going to rest. I have more.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Mr. Robinson?
Representative Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. As the representative of the Council district in which this project would manifest, I have a couple of comments, but I also have lived in what is now the 10th Council district all my life. And all the years that I've served as an elected official, eight years on Pittsburgh City Council, 14 years in the Pennsylvania General Assembly, and nearly 12 years on this Council, the development of the specific parcel in question has always been contentious. Agreement has not been easy to come by and there have been some failed attempts, notwithstanding LERTA. Before LERTAs and TIFs were created, there were serious discussions in the Hill District community with City, county government, state government and other entities about developing this specific parcel of land.

I had the pleasure of attending the Economic Development and Housing Committee meeting, their last meeting last Thursday. Ms. Means did ask for the information that she has referenced. Since there's no recorded record of that meeting, we'll either have to depend upon her word that she asked for it or verification from someone like myself. She asked for that information. Unfortunately, it is not available, or if it is available, she has not received it. I believe the Chair, Councilwoman Amanda Green Hawkins, requested that the relevant information be sent to her so that she, as Chair, could make sure that members received that information. I'm going to presume that Ms. Green Hawkins never got that information, otherwise, Ms. Means would have it and would not have raised her concern today. But she did ask for

that information at the last Thursday's meeting of the committee.

I don't want to hold anybody very long. I just wanted to say that while this project is being financed in a new, different and innovative way, it probably represents one of the best opportunities to find a legal financing mechanism to allow this property to be developed. The fact that the Pittsburgh Penguins are going to be the beneficiary, hopefully, of the development of this project, should be nothing new to us. We have companies that are beneficiaries all the time, deserving or not. And I said it before and I'll say it again. There's nothing like using other people's money. If we feel there's something else we need to extract from the Pittsburgh Penguins for going taxes, let's put it on the table. Where's the amendment? I don't know what went on in all the negotiations that arrived at this funding mechanism and the cooperative agreement, but I'm willing to give my blessing to it as someone who would like to see this land developed, and also for someone who has lived in this community for many years, and I'm fortunate enough to represent the community as a member of Allegheny County Council.

I would encourage my colleagues to monitor this project diligently and to support what is before us today. Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other comments? Seeing none ---.

MS. MEANS: Sir, I have several.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. MEANS: And maybe Ed would like to go.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MS. MEANS: Okay. As Mr. Robinson shared, this is a new --- this is new. This is new. This is creative and --- but to me this is going to be a no vote on principal, because yes, I want to keep building and industry and things come to the Hill District. Yes, I want to see improvements. Yes, I want see the County investing in the Hill District. Yes, I want U.S. Steel headquarters to stay here. But this is not --- this is a new way. Instead of a tax, it's money given to a fund, and if it was a tax --- and usually a LERTA is someone coming to us saying we can't afford --- we need --- to pay the taxes. We need a little break to help us build this building and --- but this is different. This is money

that's going to be given to a fund to develop the Hill District, which I think is great. But it's going to be passed through an appointed committee that will decide how the money is spent. Then it will go to the URA, --- which again, it will decide --- will have the final say on how the money is spent. And everyone has been so polite and everyone has worked so hard. But I see this as a principal change. Because this is --- should be our money. We have oversight of our money. We have a great Budget and Finance Committee. We are supposed to --- we are the elected officials, and elected officials should decide how the money is spent, not an appointed board, not a group of appointment people. Because if we misspend the money, then the voters can vote us out. We can have --- we can be held accountable. So I am a no vote because it is money given for 25 years which is unusual. We won't have oversight of it. We won't have control over it. We're giving it to someone else. And I do feel that it was tragic what happened to the people of the Hill District. It's terrible. 8,000 people were displaced from their homes. They lost their economic district. But the County can invest in the District without --- it's our money. We should have oversight of our money, and that's why I am a no. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Any other comments?
Yes, Councilman Finnerty.

MR. FINNETY: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: One second.

MR. HURLEY: Can I respond?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. HURLEY: I do believe everybody else would receive this handout for LERTA.

MR. FINNETY: Yes.

MR. HURLEY: I would like to point a couple of things out to you, Councilwoman, because I think maybe there are some misunderstandings. On page eight of this, you'll see three boxes. The first box is the taxes that will still be coming from this development over the projection of 25 years. Now, there's only a ten-year LERTA on each project. Each project does not get 25 years. They're coming in one at a time. Twenty-five (25) years is what we believe it may take to develop the entire project. Again, each specific building and/or site is only allowed to be in that for ten years.

The second box is a \$22 million piece. That is money that will be invested in the Greater Hill. Now, if I can point you to another page in this, because I know we did discuss this at the committee, there is a map. The large shaded tan area is the area where that \$22 million will be invested. That is the portion of abated taxes that will go through the Greater Hill Committee and ultimately through a public process through the URA, so that is still a publicly debated issue. So there will be discussion by the public on how those funds are used. In the CSIP that we provided to you --- and that was the very lengthy document --- the community will make an application process to use those \$22 million. That application process will be considered by the committee, and then if they're in agreement, forwarded to the Urban Redevelopment Authority Board. So there is a secondary process, again, for public acknowledgement of how the money will be spent.

Going back to this same diagram, the very small triangular piece is the 28-acre piece that we're talking about. In there, there is a mauve or maroon piece. That is the piece that we're talking about today with U.S. Steel project that you're reading about in the paper. Within that small 28 acres, not the larger Hill District area, if you go back to the box, the three boxes, we project \$20 million will go there. That money will not go to the Penguins, contrary to what an earlier speaker said. That money will be used for public infrastructure in the site. It'll be used for roads, sewers, design of roads and such. We do have a responsibility because the document that the SEA signed --- we are --- the SEA being a City and County agency, requires us to provide to the public infrastructure. So we do have a stake of public infrastructure. So I just wanted to point that out because there's some misleading information. The Penguins do not get any of this money, contrary to what's out there. I'm sorry. I just wanted to clear that up, Mr. President.

MS. MEANS: Can I speak back, address some of the things you said? I understand that. But the SEA is appointed. The URA is appointed. Elected officials should be held accountable. We are releasing this as a parcel. I understand that each building project will be ten years within the LERTA, but the whole thing is 25 years. I understand that.

MR. HURLEY: Unless built earlier.

MS. MEANS: These are all appointed people. And you --- and I know everyone is working really hard and you never meant to insult us or demean us, but you never thought, until the meeting last week, to put a member of County Council on the advisory board, until we brought that up. And now it's the 11th hour, you're here and you're wanting us to vote on something. We should have been brought into the process way ahead of time. Why is that? Why do you not respect us? Why are we waiting --- why are we being pressured at the 11th hour to approve something? And why did we not have a voice on that commission? I appreciate that you have fixed it, but I do see this as a dramatic change, and I think that elected officials should oversee the money because they can be held accountable and appointed boards cannot.

So I thank you for your time. I thank you for your diligence. I thank you for your heart. I want to see the U.S. Steel stay here. I want to see the Hill District developed, and I understand those people have been given promises in the past and promises weren't kept. And I understand they don't trust us, and I don't blame them for not trusting us. And that's why this community has been brought into the picture. I understand that. So that it's a principal thing. But I thank you for the answers to your questions.

MR. HURLEY: You're welcome. I do respect you, though.

MS. MEANS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll take a vote. Mr. Finnerty and Council Member Ellenbogen.

MR. FINNERTY: It's okay. You can go.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You want him to go?

MR. FINNERTY: If you wanted to speak, go ahead.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Well, thank you. I appreciate that. You know it's St. Patrick's day week. Mr. Hurley, I have a question for you. You know, in the 90s, early 90s, I was the chief inspector for the City of Pittsburgh in Public Works. The question I have is about infrastructure.

MR. HURLEY: Uh-huh (yes).

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Now, I've seen this move pulled before, where there are developments that are done, private contractors build it all, and then with all these fancy membranes and things that don't last a long time,

then it's dedicated to either the City of Pittsburgh or the County to do the maintenance. And then the City and County are stuck with these various nightmares that --- you know, to do the maintenance and that. I can think of a garage right down the street where they did a move like that, and they put a million dollar --- \$3 million membrane on top of the parking garage, which I know at the time didn't have more than a five-year life to it. And now the City of Pittsburgh is saddled with the maintenance of this thing forever.

Are there any plans in terms of how this infrastructure is done, who is going to do it and will this be dedicated to either Allegheny County or the City of Pittsburgh, or how is that going to work?

MR. HURLEY: Well, the public infrastructure will be designed and built --- bid out by the SEA. Publicly bid. Once bid, it's our understanding that it will be accepted by the City of Pittsburgh in the public streets, public right-of-ways. Offsite, it remains in the hands of SEA. They will be responsible for it. I can't speak to poor construction, but it has to be built to City standards that are in place.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Did you say the SEA is ---?

MR. HURLEY: They are responsible for putting the infrastructure in place.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I'm all right with that because I'm on that Board so I can have my two cents there. Thank you. I appreciate it.

MR. HURLEY: Sure.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Council member Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. This area, do they pay taxes now?

MR. HURLEY: They pay, yes, they do pay --- well, we bring taxes in from the parking tax. Right now the SEA owns the property. The upper Hill portion of it is owned by the URA. It's known as the Melody Tent Center. So does the Melody Tent Center. When this development gets underway Allegheny County will, over that 25-year span, have approximately \$12 million come in as the development goes forward, and \$11 million will be abated. So that is the County's portion of that roughly \$100 million I spoke of.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. My question goes to ---.

MR. HURLEY: Currently, I do not believe the SEA is paying any taxes on it. It is a non-taxable ---.

MR. FINNERTY: It is a ---?

MR. HURLEY: It is owned by the SEA and ---.

MR. FINNERTY: Right. Well, once this development starts, they're not going to own this land, then.

MR. HURLEY: No. Each piece that is taken down by the private developer will start to pay taxes.

MR. FINNERTY: So that they're going to have to pay property tax on this land?

MR. HURLEY: Correct. That's the \$55 million I referred to over the life of the potential 25-year development.

MR. FINNERTY: Right. That's total.

MR. HURLEY: At the end of that ---.

MR. FINNERTY: That comes into the County, the school district ---

MR. FINNERTY: Correct.

MR. HURLEY: --- and the City?

MR. FINNERTY: Correct.

MR. HURLEY: That's the land?

MR. HURLEY: The County's portion of that is \$11 million. That will be coming in as the development is taken down into private hands.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay.

MR. HURLEY: At the end of that LERTA period, the full tax weight will come on.

MR. FINNERTY: Right. So the land property tax will be paid?

MR. HURLEY: Right.

MR. FINNERTY: There's two sections of the tax?

MR. HURLEY: Right.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. Thank you.

MR. HURLEY: Sure.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no ---.

MR. KRESS: I just wanted to say --- just a couple of questions. Can you basically talk about how many jobs are going to be created if we vote for this LERTA? I mean, what are the benefits job-wise?

MR. HURLEY: I should know that. Sheila? We have some of that outlined in this packet. Maybe you could speak to this.

MS. MCDONALD: We're currently estimating permanent jobs at 2,948. I can get you that construction job number.

MR. HURLEY: We're anticipating, just citing the U.S. Steel building, the smallest portion of this, roughly two acres, somewhere between 800 and 1,000 jobs removed to this site. That was a national search on their part, to potentially move out of the region. So those jobs will be retained, plus the new jobs that will go into the site.

MR. KRESS: I just want to make sure I understand this. So you're saying that if we don't vote for this, there's a chance that U.S. Steel could move out of this region?

MR. HURLEY: We have a deadline of April 1 providing to U.S. Steel an agreement with them and the Penguins that we have a project, I mean, a signed agreement with them for their development to move forward.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

MR. HURLEY: But we're not going voting on U.S. Steel.

MR. KRESS: No, I know. But I'm saying there's a potential that it could happen. I'm not saying it's going to happen, but there's a potential for that?

MR. HURLEY: And I think that's a misnomer. This isn't really about U.S. Steel.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

MR. HURLEY: This is about the LERTA that moves this entire development forward.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing --- oh, two more. Representative Heidelbaugh, go ahead. No, no. You, then her. It's ---.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Can I ask you a question about the last answer? It said this LERTA will provide 2,098 permanent jobs.

MR. HURLEY: Well, we're looking at 4,200 construction jobs over the period of it.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I thought these were non-construction you said.

MR. HURLEY. No, construction, and then the 2,000 new jobs we anticipate, plus the retained of U. S. Steel.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Can you tell me where the 2,098 new permanent jobs are coming from?

MR. HURLEY: Generally, it's done over a square footage basis of how many floors you may get in there, the type of retail and/or commercial that may go in there and what you would generally have in a building of that

nature. It's projections. We can't say what company may or may not be there ten years down the road, but it's a projection on what you would normally see in a development of that size.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Well, there's a difference between people moving from point A to point B in the County; right?

MR. HURLEY: I'm not sure what your question is.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Moving from Greentree to this location, that's creating --- not creating any jobs; right?

MR. HURLEY: Well, it could be. If a company moves here and has to move from one location because they can't expand at a facility, they are creating jobs and they move somewhere else. We see that regularly.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Well, I'm unclear as to --- other than a projection, what information do you have available to you now that we're going to get 2,098 new jobs?

MR. HURLEY: I have a projection. I do not have something that says company A, B and C will move here, each one creating 50, 60 or 200 jobs.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Do you have any information at all of any company ---?

MR. HURLEY: There were economic development studies that were done, yes.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: What company?

MR. HURLEY: I do not know that specifically.

MS. MCDONALD: I don't remember the consulting firm.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: So the question I have for you is in regard to general philosophical use of these LERTAs. This is premised on the fact that this area of the Lower Hill is blighted; right?

MR. HURLEY: Uh-huh (yes).

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: And so that study, that conclusion, is that conclusion in light of the fact that there's been enormous amount of growth in the region and that is literally just on the outside of the downtown corridor? You're saying that no one would come in and occupy those spaces were it not for us abating taxes?

MR. HURLEY: No, I'm not saying that. I'm saying we can't build the infrastructure there without some support. And the money that would go from this abatement will go to the infrastructure on that site and

also go to the Upper Hill to do other economic development projects. It's not going to a private developer. Yeah. The private developer's increment that will be generated from new development will go into this infrastructure.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Besides U.S. Steel, what's the other development you're anticipating?

MR. HURLEY: I don't have any other companies I can tell you right now.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Nothing else?

MR. HURLEY: No.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: And this isn't about U.S. Steel, either?

MR. HURLEY: It is not about U.S. Steel. This is about moving a LERTA forward that allows us to complete the infrastructure on 28 acres and provide another \$22 million to the Upper Hill for projects they would like to see done.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no other comment ---. Oh, I'm sorry, Amanda.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I think that Mr. Hurley had summed up there basically what I was going to say. If we take out who the discussions has been centered on a lot right now, being U. S. Steel and the Penguins, and focus on what we're really looking at, and that's the development of property, it's new, it's innovative. However, I think it is consistent with --- as I said in the committee meeting, it's consistent with the policies behind property law, which encourages use, development, productive use of property, which is why we have concepts like, covenants, restrictive covenants for things you can and cannot do with a property because you don't want to decrease property values. We have equitable services. We have adverse possessions. There are lots of kinds different property law that reward you for productive use of the property. And if we don't do this project, what's an alternative that is currently available to us? And I think we can all agree --- and maybe with a lot of examples, we could maybe not agree --- but to have just parking there right now as compared to development with buildings and housing and infrastructure there to support that, I think we'd rather have the latter than the former because it enhances the property values of the whole area, and the use of the property of the whole area. So that's why I am supporting this project because it's consistent with the goals and the policies behind property

law. Regardless of whether the Penguins are there or U.S. Steel is there or whoever is there, it helps us all as a region, in my opinion. So that's why I'm supporting this project. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Under remarks, is there any more? Do you have a remark?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Just a quick comment and I do apologize. Thank you. You know, usually when private industry would develop a parcel, they would incur the costs of the development, of the development of the land. And it is only when the parcel --- in my opinion, is when the parcel is so problematic should government then step in and use resources that should be everybody's to benefit particular entities. And so that's really my --- is my question. You know, if it's blighted and nobody would come in absence government intervention, that's one thing. If this is a very valuable piece of property which is on the outskirts of a town that is now burgeoning, should we forego that tax and commit resources and favor one corporate entity over another? That, to me, is --- that's the question.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Amanda?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: I hate to sound like a law school, back and forth, but I'm one of those weird people who really loved property law and contracts law as a first year. But I don't see it as us foregoing the taxes. Right? The money that may not come to us directly, I just see it as a diversion of the money so that it can be used for productive purposes in the communities that we serve. So right, it's not coming directly to us. We're letting someone else take responsibility for what we would do, but it's still going to benefit the community. As long as it's benefiting the community, I am all for it. So that's enough of the law school thing.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Let's take a roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

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: No.
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: No.
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?
MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 13; nos 2. Bill passes.
Mr. HURLEY: Thank you.
MR. FUTULES: Liaison Reports?
MS. REA: I want to say something.
MR. FUTULES: Anybody have liaison reports?
MR. FINNERTY: I do.
MR. FUTULES: I was waiting for you to say something.

MR. FINNERTY: I think Jan had her hand up first, though.

MS. REA: I did have my hand up. I wanted to just --- I guess, start with expressing my deepest sympathy to the family in this county who lost a daughter and baby. But I also wanted to say something about our county police who I saw often in the paper and on TV, and just really say how much I respected how compassionate they were towards the family and the neighborhood where this tragedy happened. And I just wanted to deeply thank them for their professionalism. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. I second that. Thank you for saying that. I'd just like to mention three things. First of all, the auditor general is going to be here holding a public meeting to discuss the

constitutional amendment on tax-exempt properties and public charities. He's going to be here on Thursday, March the 12th, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. in the Gold Room, this room right here. So I just want to make sure that people know that he's going to be here if they want to come and express some thoughts on this tax exempt properties and public charities. He'll be here waiting for you.

Next, at Soldiers and Sailors Hall and Museum, they have the last days in Vietnam. It's on Thursday, March the 26th, and it's at 7:00 p.m. The doors will open at 6:00, so if you're interested in that and --- this is a very good documentary in regard to --- and it also won an Academy award nomination.

And lastly, again, from Soldiers and Sailors, on March the 29th, that's a Sunday at 2:00 p.m., it's when they're going to be --- have the induction ceremony and induct new members into the John (sic) A. Dugan, Junior Hall of Valor. So if you can make that, that would be a great thing. These people have --- the representatives that have done distinguished service, acts of heroism and gallantry on the duties as our fighting men and women. So I'll go through their names the next meeting. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Anyone else? Sue?

MS. MEANS: Yeah. I just wanted to mention on Saturday from 7:00 to 11:00, the Friends of South Park are going to have an Oldies Dance. And I just wanted to congratulate them. As of a week ago, they had 125 people signed up and they're doing a great job raising money and raising awareness for things that need fixed in the park. And I just wanted to give them a congratulations. Thank you.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Nick, do you ever look down this way?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Council representative Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you, Mr. President. I have two comments. One, if you all remember, we had done a proclamation for the brutal murder of the canine officer, Rocco. I'd like to commend Judge Rangos for giving the stiff sentence of 17 and a half years to 44 years for that police officer's murder. It's a message, too, out there that, you know, those animals give their lives for the City and County and should be honored as such.

Also, I'd like to give a raspberry to the leadership of Mount Lebanon who have created a County wide, I don't know what you would even call it, but they've divided a community over this terrible deer culling incident, something that probably should have been dealt with years ago. And now it's quite a mess. You know, I don't live in Mount Lebanon, but I live a street over from it. And it has divided the community. And my suggestion to their leadership would be, as Chuck Noll would say, to get on with their life's work. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Anybody else have their hand up? Representative Palmiere.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. I don't have anything that profound to comment on, but I just wanted to mention this has been an exceptional winter, especially the month of February and late January. And I've been --- you know, call me crazy, but I've been running in this weather. And the only place I can run is down at South Park on Corrigan Drive. It's the only place that's halfway decent with the footing. And I just wanted to comment about the wonderful work that our maintenance people are doing down there to keep the park open and especially Corrigan Drive. And I was down there yesterday. It was the first nice day we've had in God knows how long, and it was like a festival down there. It was unbelievable with so many people. So I just wanted to comment and thank the people down there, our maintenance people. You know, they get criticized for this and that and the next thing, but you know what, they deserve a real pat on the back for this past winter keeping that place open. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Anybody else down here? Okay. We'll move on then. New Business. I have a motion. Joe, do you want to pass that out?

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President, I also have a motion.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. I'll get yours next. What this is --- Joe, do you want to read that heading of that?

MR. CATANESE: It's a motion of the County of Allegheny expressing the sense of Council of Allegheny County commending the County Administration and the City of Pittsburgh for supporting the hiring of people with disabilities, along with the many corporate partners who have also committed to advocating for increased

representation of people with disabilities in their workforce and urging other corporate business and nonprofit organizations, as well as local government in our region, to adopt policies and set an example by becoming a similar leader in the local disability community.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: And that's basically what it is. Anybody have any ---? Well, I'll make a motion on it.

MS. REA: I'll second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Somebody want to comment on it or ---?

MS. DANKO: I'm just wondering if we have any statistics on how many people with disabilities we have hired. I mean, I'm just ---. I have no idea.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I don't know. I mean, we're not committed to anything.

MS. DANKO: I mean, supported hiring.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MS. DANKO: I mean, we're commending the County administration and the City of Pittsburgh supporting the hiring of people with disabilities. And I agree that that's probably happened, but I have no idea of how successful we are.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. This doesn't commit you to really anything except try to advocate increasing representation from people with disabilities. You know, but you're not committed to a number or anything, and I don't know any numbers.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I agree with Councilwoman Danko. This is definitely something we want to encourage and do, but I see our county manger back there, and I'm wondering if he had any numbers on the question.

MR. MCKAIN: I don't have those numbers, but ---

MR. FINNERTY: We can get them.

MR. MCKAIN: --- I can ask HR and personnel.

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Great.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: okay. Go ahead,
Representative Heidelbaugh.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you. Instead of commending the County Administration and the City of Pittsburgh, why don't we just commend the disabled?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, this is the way it's written up, I mean, you know. I mean, the City Council ---.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I don't think we need to pat the county administration on the back for hiring ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The City and the County.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Yeah. The City and the County for hiring, doing the right thing. Why don't we just, you know, like pat people on the back who are disabled and who face a hard life and have to come to work every day? Why don't we do that?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, this is what I have here. You know, if you have something different, but ---.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just wanted to say those are the --- I don't want to date myself here, but those of us that have been around the courthouse for many, many years --- Bill's turning his head --- been around this long, Allegheny County has always had, back to Tom Forrester, a rich heritage of people who were handi-capable and working. I used to shake my head many years ago when they would write these media reports about patronage and the County and whatnot. Had they have --- I see you shaking your head. Well, if you would part the waves and really see what was going on, a lot of those folks could very easily have been on SSI or been disabled, but chose to come to work. And since then, the County has always maintained that heritage. I'd be interested to see the numbers because, like I said, I've been around this courthouse for 40 years and I can tell you that it has always been the norm. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no more remarks, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Ayes respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Abstain.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Abstain; okay. It passes. Then we have another one.

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President and members of Council, I have a motion. If it's your pleasure, Mr. Barker will pass that out.

MS. DANKO: I'll second that motion.

MR. ROBINSON: I'd like move for approval once the members have an opportunity to review this. It's very straightforward.

MR. FINNERTY: Are we going to have this read?

MR. FUTULES: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. He said he'll wait until you look over it. Yeah, we're ready, I guess. Yeah.

MR. CATANESE: It's a motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing the Council of Allegheny County to conduct a public hearing pursuant to Article 2G of the Rules of Allegheny County Council on March 31st, 2015 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Allegheny County Courthouse Gold Room located on 436 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, PA. The primary purpose of this hearing to allow the opportunity for public comment regarding violence in Allegheny County, how the County is currently responding to community violence, as well as a discussion of possible additional remedies which could be realized through the funding of new County programs.

MR. ROBINSON: Move for approval.

MS. REA: Second.

MS. DANKO: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

MR. FINNERTY: I have ---

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. FINNERTY: --- some comments here. Number one, I'm not against this. In fact, I'm for it, but I think we do have a procedure in regard to public hearings. And I know we've violated them a number of times. If I'm not mistaken, when you --- a public hearing, I think you have to have three people that volunteer to come.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: They're in here.

MR. FINNERTY: Okay. I'm just asking to make sure that everything is right. All right? As long as we have that, I mean, we're good. And the President ---. Okay. Good enough.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other remarks?
Representative Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: There's probably nothing more important that this Council will ever accomplish than to discuss this issue that has been brought up again by Mr. Robinson. I did not know this would be before us today, but it is something I've been greatly concerned about. This Council, during the budget hearings, was confronted by District Attorney Zappala in 2013. And his budget had been cut. And his budget had been cut by the Executive. And he came here, and he asked not only that his budget be ---

MR. FINNERTY: Not that I ---.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: --- if I could just please speak without interruption? He asked not only that his budget be brought back to where it had been, but he also asked for approximately \$475,000 to hire five detectives. I have been talking for quite a long time in this chamber as well as publicly about our most vulnerable citizens in the East Hills who are not only victims of violence, but who have to raise their children in areas in which the violence is overtaking the mothers and the children.

I fought hard so that District Attorney Zappala's initiative would succeed. That was passed by the Budget Committee, a rare thing that the County Executive's dictates were overturned. And then there was a compromise in closed doors that occurred. Now, what we're seeing is we are seeing the exact consequence of the failure to act. When we allocate money, we make policy decisions. When we fail to allocate money, we make policy decisions. What has happened is the crime in the East Hills has increased because of the heroin and the gang violence. And it has moved into the Monroeville Mall. And you talk about 2,000 permanent jobs in the Lower Hill, we're going to lose a mall because of what's going on. This was predicted by the District Attorney. He came to us. He asked us for funding. We accepted it, and then it was taken away by the County Executive. Exactly what he predicted has happened. So we can't sit here and we can't say this is not our fault. I voted for this funding. I voted for the funding at the Budget Committee. I voted against the budget when we refused to fund the County Executive. There are parts of our community that are being overrun by violence. Nobody should have to live in fear. Living in fear is probably the worst thing that should ever happen to a human being. Mothers should not have to not be able to send their kids out to the streets because they're afraid that a bullet hole is going to go through their kids' head or come through a front window.

We need, as a Council, to actually do something instead of spending hours upon hours doing resolutions. We need to actually do something to discuss things and put action behind our dollars. There's nothing more important that could be done in this Council in the three and a half years that I have been here than to actually do something, have a hearing, discuss it and then follow up with the District Attorney and to have those efforts funded. And

to fund it for the people who can't come here and ask for our help.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Mr. Ellenbogen.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I have a comment and I have a question for Councilman Robinson. I think this is a great idea.

Councilman, are you going to like just let people speak or are you going like have a panel of maybe or just various ---? I'm just curious. Or you haven't you thought it out yet or ---?

MR. ROBINSON: Mr. President, it would be my anticipation and hopefully the anticipation of those who have joined me in the motion saying that they would participate, that we would invite the Chief Executive, that we would invite the U.S. Attorney, we'd invite our own District Attorney to come and share with us their perspective of what's going on in our county, as well as perhaps someone like Mark Turner who oversees hundreds of programs in this County designed to improve people's lives and hopefully stop some of the violence.

Also, I would anticipate that the general public would be able to come in and share with us their perspective. Throughout our County, there are lots of groups, lots of meetings, lots of marches, lots of protesting and unfortunately, sometimes an attempt to lay blame. I don't think that our District Attorney should be singled out. He's a law enforcement officer. He's not a judge. He's not a community leader. And he has limited resources to address the concerns. While I generally agree with Ms. Heidelbaugh and supported her effort, I think this would give us an opportunity to hear from all the affected parties.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you. I still have a comment. I listened very carefully what the Councilwoman had to say. And you know, personally I don't think it's fair to disparage the Chief Executive for not caring about the community. We currently have, with his foresight and County Manager McKain, a chance to create a park ranger position where we can place an entire division of county police officers into these communities to be able to try to curb some of this violence. So I'm a little bit confused as to --- well, maybe, you know, the Councilwoman had changed her mind, but I would expect that she would support this motion so that we can free up those 40-plus officers to be able to work in those communities and to

deal with some of this violence.

So anyways, I think the Chief Executive should be commended for coming up that idea without clubbing the taxpayers to hire 40-some more police officers when we can redeploy them. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other --- Representative Futules.

MR. FUTULES: I just want to clarify that this is Bill's motion, but in here it says upon passage, that it's asking the President to preside over the hearings. Mr. Ellenbogen might be misunderstood. He thinks Bill Robinson will be presiding over them.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, he could.

MR. FUTULES: Can he appointed to do --- maybe he could preside over and oversee, seeing how this was his motion?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MR. FUTULES: I mean, I'm just saying, that he's made his motion. He should preside over this. And my next comment would be I agree with, you know, everything that was said. But I do disagree. I don't like to single out East Hills. I believe the violence is in this entire county in certain areas. So I wouldn't want to single out one specific region to give them a bad report without mentioning the fact that there are several places in this county that have to be addressed, not just East Hills. That's all. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you. I'd just like to say one thing. I agree with most things said here, but in 2013 we didn't cut the DA's budget at all. It hasn't been cut, and it never was even mentioned to be cut. Also, that District Attorney Zappala, one of the things that he favors is the park rangers, by the way. We talked about that two years ago. And I think it's important that you realize that also. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. I just wanted to make sure that it doesn't get lost in this discussion that we're not just talking about law enforcement addressing the needs of our communities and violence in the communities. It's a holistic approach that Bill is talking about that would involve not just law enforcement, but also other people who serve the community to see what we can do to work together to help end

violence and to help heal our community. So it's not just about police officers, boots on the ground and in the streets. It's about a holistic approach of all community members and what can be done together. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: It was stated by a representative here that Bill Robinson should run the meeting. Is that the feeling of ---?

MR. FINNERTY: It's up to you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, I know that. But I'm asking you people.

MR. FINNERTY: You're the President.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: It depends if you want to assign it to a committee or let Mr. Robinson handle it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, but what I'm asking Council is it okay for Bill Robinson ---?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: It would be fine.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: A couple of people have already stated they wanted ---.

MR. FINNERTY: It's your choice.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I mean, it is a public safety issue, but I would defer to Councilman Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I'd like to be added as a co-sponsor.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. All right. Well, then, it's stated that they'd like to have Bill Robinson run the meeting. We didn't vote on this; did we?

MR. CATANESE: No, we didn't.

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I would to make a motion to waive the second reading. Can we do ---?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, it's just a motion. Okay. There's a motion. Was it properly seconded? I think it was properly seconded.

MS. DANKO: Yeah, I seconded it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. And there are no more remarks. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Ayes respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Those opposed? The ayes have it. Okay.

MS. DANKO: We skipped a whole section, the new business ordinances ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 8835-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget

for 2015, Submission 03-15. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll go to the Committee on Budget and Finance. 8836-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the 2015 Capital Budget previously adopted pursuant to Article IV, Section 2 and Article VII, Section 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses for capital expenditures during the fiscal year beginning January 1, 2015 and ending December 31, 2015. Sponsored by Council member Robinson.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll go to the Committee of Budget and Finance. 8837-15.

MR. CATANESE: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny approving a project for the benefit of Point Park University to be financed by the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority by the issuance of Authority tax-exempt and/or taxable revenue obligations to be issued in an aggregate principal amount not in excess of \$12,000,000, providing that the taxing power of the County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania, shall not be obligated in any way with respect to the obligations, and determining that the purpose of the financing will be to benefit the health and welfare of the citizens of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That'll go to Committee on Economic Development and Housing. New Business, Motions, none? Any new business motions?

MR. FINNERTY: We did them already.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, that's not --- it says New Business, then you have --- you can do it either way.

MR. CATANESE: Whatever you say.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You can do it either way. Notification of Contracts is done. We're down to Public Comment on Non-Agenda Items. Lester Ludwig? Lester Ludwig?

MR. PALMIERE: He's not here.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Bret Grote.

MR. GROTE: Good evening, members of Council. My name is Bret Grote. I was here last month. I'm the Legal Director of the Abolitionist Law Center and a member of the Allegheny County Jail Health Justice Project. I'm here again to talk about what is going on at the Allegheny

County Jail and what has not changed in the last month since the last time we were here. And the systemic deficiencies which were talked about last month and which you heard certain examples of are still ongoing at the County Jail, and we're still getting system --- we're getting reports that the contractor, Corizon, who was retained by the County to provide healthcare services at the jail for \$11 million annually, is still not having adequate staff. In fact, last week you might have seen an article in the Post Gazette that their psychiatrist, the one psychiatrist at an institution where approximately 60 percent of the 2,700 people in there have serious mental health needs, their psychiatrist was fired and was not retained. I continue to get phone calls daily. On my way down here, I got a phone call from a young man who had to be hospitalized due to his body temperature falling too low while he was staying in the infirmary. He's very much in need of surgery. He had to be sent out to the hospital because of the inadequate treatment he was receiving. And we continue to get reports that people are not getting their medication.

It's one of the most consistent problems. It's related to inadequate staffing. It is related to the inadequate electronic records system. You're going to hear from others with the Allegheny County Jail Health Justice Project about the need to get rid of Corizon who's been exposed as a bad actor around the country. I think we heard Councilmember Means discuss the importance of having elected officials have oversight of how the County spends its money. And we're going to be following up with the members of this Council in asking that you use your positions and your authority and to influence the County Executive and others who have some control over what's going on at the County Jail, to have public hearings, to not renew Corizon's contract and to address the very real violence that is being perpetrated on the most vulnerable members of society by placing them in institutions that are depriving them of basic human needs, such as Frank Smart, who we heard about last month. His mother Tomi was here. When Frank Smart was processed into the Allegheny County Jail, he was supposed to have anti-seizure medication twice a day. If not, he would have a very severe seizure that would require him to be hospitalized. He did not get his anti-seizure medication. He went into a serious seizure. He was forcibly restrained by staff

while in seizure. He was handcuffed. He had two sets of handcuffs placed on him. He was shackled. He had a spit mask placed over his mouth and he died before he left the jail that month --- that night.

And we are seeking for this to not happen any more and asking for intervention from the County. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next is Mel Packer.

MR. PACKER: This is to be handed out to the Council members. Mel Packer, 623 Kirtland Street, 15208. Also with the Allegheny County Jail Health Justice Project. What's been distributed to you is a fact sheet on Corizon. It's a result of a 10 to 15 minute internet search. It's an outstanding fact sheet. It's fully substantiated. It's well documented. I could have put footnoted it, but you can find the same thing. And I'm telling you, it's the tip of the iceberg. You could probably spend 15 hours on the internet and not stop reading articles about how bad Corizon is, how many people have died under their care and the awful care they're providing in jails all across this nation.

Let's look at just a couple of those. Number One, Corizon has been sued for malpractice at least 660 times since 2008. Number Three, Corizon did cut costs in Florida by increasing the rate of inmate deaths to a ten year high and reducing outside hospital visits by 47 percent.

Number Four, under Corizon's care, Arizona had a threefold increase of inmate deaths in just the first eight months of 2013.

Finally, going down to Number Eight, in 2013, at the urging of the Allegheny County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, with the promise of saving tax dollars, the County Manager signed a contract with Corizon to provide healthcare at the jail despite warnings from the American Civil Liberties Union that Corizon, quote, has a bad reputation.

Since Corizon has gone in there, Rich Fitzgerald privatized the Allegheny County Jail in 2012 to save money. It has been a disastrous failing and dangerous healthcare provider whose failures have pushed ACJ mortality rate to currently the twice the national average. That's what it is here in Allegheny County, twice the national average. It is perpetually short staffed. It can't hire staff. Professional staff, most

of the medical providers don't want to work there. They'll tell you that if you can get them privately. There are multiple lawsuits currently in the pipeline being prepared that will more than wipe out any savings from hiring Corizon and that will bring more shame to Allegheny County.

What is Council's role here? I think Bret was absolutely right and I think Sue was absolutely right. It's a job of Council to police these contracts. Apparently, it didn't have to happen, you didn't have to sign off on it, but I think you should get involved in this now. I don't need to tell you that you represent the residents of Allegheny County, including those in the Allegheny County Jail. Corizon has repeatedly failed. If you had home contractors that performed the way Corizon does, you would fire them. If you had a medical provider, even a veterinarian that had a list half this long, you wouldn't go to them again.

Contracts can be broken. Corizon has already broken on their end by failure to perform and failing audits that have been done and have been massively publicized in the media.

For the sake of these inmates and residents of Allegheny County, Council needs to step up and end this contract. It's the right thing to do. It's the moral and ethical thing to do. And frankly, it's the only thing to do that will stop the shame that's being brought to Allegheny County by this alleged healthcare provider. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next is Julia Johnson.

MS. JOHNSON: Good evening, Council. My name is Julia Johnson. I'm also with Allegheny County Jail Health Justice Project. What galvanized a lot of us to get together and start this campaign, this project, was not only the death of Frank Smart, mentioned earlier, who died after not receiving healthcare by Allegheny County Jail staff, but we have noticed the systemic issues at Allegheny County Jail. We have learned about the inability to have staff there provide basic healthcare because of lack of access to medical records, because of inability to recognize the very basic need to give full access to people's human rights, and to acknowledge that the folks that they are treating at the Allegheny County Jail are part of our community, that they are human beings. And instead, the corrections officers there have

treated them with hostility, very --- just very oppressive measures have been used on folks who are simply seeking access to the basic human rights, to get the medicine and the care that they deserve.

So after seeing these systemic issues time and time again at the Allegheny County Jail over a number of years, but most recently with the egregious contract signing with Corizon which is known, as Mel Packer mentioned, across this country for being completely inadequate and inefficient and violating human rights. The County still has this contract with Corizon. That must be terminated if we are to address the very basic issues going on at the jail that have to be addressed immediately. This is a human rights crisis and it's just --- it's an absolute travesty.

So as Corizon is not fulfilling their contract, not providing the services and medication that is required --- and the same human compassionate thing to do. We have seen that whenever seeking answers from officials, the response that we have gotten has been woefully inadequate. Saying that they are going to supplement Corizon's healthcare or lack thereof of healthcare with UPMC seems extremely redundant and just goes counter to what our County should stand for, which is that we are not here to just give out money to for-profit corporations to then come behind and really just shove that in our face and do whatever they want. So I think that we do need accountability. We need to have oversight. And I would hope that everyone here on the Board, folks at the Jail Oversight Board, would also see that this is an immediate need, that this is a human rights crisis that has to be addressed.

So we hope that you will work with our campaign, that you will work with the officials at the jail to make sure that there's accountability, and that we have immediate transparent --- you know, a whole paradigm shift that needs to happen at the jail. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Khalid Raheem.

MR. RAHEEM: Good afternoon or good evening, Council and President. My name is Khalid Raheem. I'm here to represent the Allegheny County Jail Health Project as well, and too, I represent the New African Independence Party. I'm here to speak on behalf of those who are locked up and locked down throughout the Allegheny County Jail Healthcare System. The questions that I have for you

all as Council representatives for this particular county have to do with due diligence in terms of awarding the contract to Corizon. What was the process for awarding the contract? Did you exercise the necessary due diligence and investigation in terms of making sure that this was a healthcare provider that met the standards that we all would like to live up to, even for those who happen to be incarcerated?

My other question is one that's really focused on the contract itself. Is there some type of clause within the contract that they currently hold that provides for some type of emergency audit based on circumstances that we now have heard about? And if there is some type of clause that would require some type of audit, a program audit, a service audit, a financial audit, then who would have the power here within the County Council to initiate such a move? And is that something that is realistic? So that's the question. Is there someone that could answer that particular question?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: I'd like to see a copy of that contract.

MR. RAHEEM: So you haven't yet seen a copy of the contract?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: We don't --- we're not provided that.

MR. RAHEEM: Is there any particular reason why the members who represent the people and the citizens of Allegheny County, the County representatives, do not have access to a County contract? I mean, I think that's a fundamental question that needs to be answered by someone. Mr. President, can you answer that question?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We don't negotiate --- that's not our job to negotiate, but ---

MR. RAHEEM: Right.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: --- on the Jail Advisory Board, I sit and I speak up and I agree with a lot of things that are being said. And I'm the one that spoke up about you better get a psychiatrist. And the people from the Corizon, I know they play a lot of games, they said they're looking all over the country. Judge Williams is on our corner on this issue also. Even the Administration is. And every one of us spoke up to say you'd better get moving. And they laid this out that, oh, they're going all over the country, they're doing this. Judge Williams

wants an answer. So I have to deal with him to see did anything come in yet.

MR. RAHEEM: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I mean, I agree. I know we have a problem.

MR. RAHEEM: We have a serious problem here where we have folks dying within the County prison system double the average rate, double the national rate. That's a disgrace. And that should be like an embarrassment for all of us here who live within the County. So once again, I just want to implore the Council people here to look into the possibility, even though you may not have yet seen the actual contract, take it upon yourself, exercise some due diligence and get a copy of the contract and review the contract. And if indeed, there is a clause within the contract that would permit you all to call for an emergency audit, do so. And if that audit means that you would have to temporarily suspend Corizon as a service provider, we would implore that you do so right away so we can save more lives and save the honesty and integrity of those who represent the County.

MR. FINNERTY: John?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: I would just say that I think we can request a copy of that contract and we should, and everybody should have a copy of it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: She was next. Ms. Green Hawkins?

MS. GREEN HAWKINS: Thank you, Mr. President. We know that this isn't the first time we've had people come to Council to speak about concerns at the jail. And I'm not going to speak about Corizon in the jail specifically, but I do want to share with colleagues, those who have not heard of the AFL/CIO recent education on mass incarceration. And what they've ruled out is information on privatization of prisons and the impact that privatization of prisons has on our economy and on our communities, because it becomes a body for dollars exchange in prisons where you have people being imprisoned for the smallest little things. But because it's a body for a dollar, they're being thrown into prison. And then what's also happening is that it's a new kind of slave labor where they're making things for manufacturers, working for manufacturers or corporations for pennies or maybe even free. So my point in sharing all of this is to

say that when it comes to privatization of anything that's a government function, particularly in the area of our prisons where we're seeing the impact of mass incarceration particularly in poor communities of all races, poor communities of all races, we need to pay attention to some details and perhaps look a little more closely at things other than them coming to us under the guise of saving a dollar.

MR. RAHEEM: I agree with you 100 percent. And what you said is so valid and so true. Oftentimes in many municipalities around the country the first step towards privatization of prisons is the privatization of healthcare systems for prisoners. And so we can clearly see that if we allow this to continue, this type of pattern, the next conversation that you guys will perhaps be, you know, having or entertaining is, well, we need to privatize Allegheny County Prison. And what would that look like from any of us who live here in Allegheny County? Not too good. So you know, the last group that provided the healthcare for the prison was a non-profit. This particular group is a for-profit entity. Their motive is to make money, not necessarily to provide quality healthcare for inmates. Their motive is to make money, so we should never forget that.

So once again, I don't want to take up a lot of time. There might be other people scheduled to speak after me, but I just want --- implore you as County representatives to exercise some due diligence, look into the contract, go over the --- it with a fine-toothed comb. And if indeed there is a clause that can trigger some type of audit, let it happen and replace Corizon with somebody else who is much more responsible not just fiscally responsible, but humanly responsible, and then we won't have to continue to come back to you guys every month with these type of conversations and protests.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Heidelbaugh?

MS. HEIDELBAUGH: Thank you. I do want to see the contract because I have legal training so I would like to read it. I would find it interesting. But beyond that, whether we have a contract or not, we have a higher obligation and that's the Constitution. And the Constitution provides that there cannot be cruel and unusual punishment. And violation of basic precepts of human dignity violate the Eight Amendment. And that turns into dollars. First, you can treat people correctly

because you're a moral society, or you can treat them correctly because you're going to pay. Either way, either way, you have to follow the Constitution. And so it has been my concern of late, in the last couple of years, based on --- first, it was the employees who were coming to us, coming to us privately and telling us you have to get this to the papers because they're not giving us the means by which to give the people medications, okay, and there's a lot of errors going on. And now we're seeing the results of this. You know, there's a higher calling here, and that is fealty to the Constitution and treating people morally correct. So you know, we're all going to pay here if we don't get this under control. And whether we have a contract or not, we have to do the right thing.

MR. RAHEEM: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I just wanted to say that --- take some light in the fact that, you know, Judge Joseph Williams is an inner-city kid who is also a trained mental health behavior person. And I feel very good of the fact that he's chairing this committee. And believe me, if I know Judge Williams like I do, he will get to the bottom of all of this, so ---.

MR. RAHEEM: I agree with you. I know Judge Williams personally.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Well, then you know what I'm talking about.

MR. RAHEEM: He's an inner-city guy. He's tough-minded. He's fair. He's very articulate and he's very well qualified and very well trained as an attorney and as a Judge. But you all have to push. We have to push you and you have to push him, to make sure that the right things are really done. No matter how well we speak, no matter how right we are, no matter how well educated or trained any of us are, we still got to push one another to make sure that justice is done. And this is a grave injustice, and it definitely needs to be corrected. So I want to thank you again, and I hope we don't have to come back to your chambers next month with a larger crew to push this point. I hope that the next time we show you will tell us that you've all read the contract and that Corizon is on the way out.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Are there any other comments? Seeing none, does someone want to make a motion to adjourn?

MR. FINNERTY: (Indicating.)

MR. KRESS: Second.

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

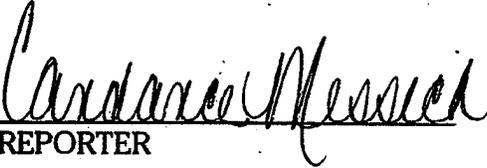
(Chorus of ayes).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
Meeting adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 7:26 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.


REPORTER