

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John P. DeFazio	-	President, Council-At-Large
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-At-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cynthia R. Kirk	-	District 2
Edward Kress	-	District 3
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul M. Klein	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

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

Monday, January 4, 2016 - 5:02 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	-	Allegheny County Manager
Joseph Catanese	-	Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker	-	Director of Legislative Services
Walter Szymanski	-	Budget Director
Jack Cambest	-	Council Solicitor

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag and remain standing for silent prayer or reflection. After me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

(Moment of Silent Prayer or Reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. Before we get started, we have some officials and dignitaries here. I'm going to mention real quick the ones that we noticed. We have --- Speaker of the House, Mike Turzai is here. Representatives from Senator Toomey's office, Kathleen Kane and Matt Blackburn. Do you want to give them a hand? We'll give them a hand.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Judges Judy Olson and Mike Marmo and Kathryn Hens-Greco.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: District Justices Oscar Petite and Luke Ravenstahl.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: And also we have our County Executive, Rich Fitzgerald.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 9334-16. That's for my swearing in. I've already done that so we'll go to the next one.

MR. CATANESE: Do you want me to read it into the record?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, John P. DeFazio was duly elected to the office of At Large Member of Council in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Real quick. We already did that, but I called Robert Ravenstahl Luke Ravenstahl. I'm so used to saying the name Luke, so I made a mistake there. All right. So we'll go on to --- the next one would be 9336-16.

MR. CATANESE: 9335-16?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: They have six on mine, but go ahead.

MR. CATANESE: 9335-16. Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, Samuel DeMarco, III was duly elected to the office of At Large Member of Council in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Will you please come up?

JUDGE OLSON: All right. Are you ready, Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: I'm ready.

JUDGE OLSON: Please repeat after me. I, Samuel DeMarco, III ---

MR. DEMARCO: I, Samuel DeMarco, III, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- do solemnly swear ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- do solemnly swear ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- that I will faithfully execute ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- that I will faithfully execute ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- the Office of Member of Council of the County of Allegheny, ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- the Office of Member of Council of the County of Allegheny, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- and will to the best of my ability ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- and will to the best of my ability ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- preserve, ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- preserve, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- protect, ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- protect, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- defend, ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- defend, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- and obey the Constitution of the United States ---

MR. DEMARCO: --- and obey the Constitution of the United States ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- and the Constitution and laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MR. DEMARCO: --- and the Constitution and law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE OLSON: Congratulations, Council Member. (Applause.)

JUDGE OLSON: You have to sign all of them.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: It's like buying a house, Sammy. You got a lot to sign.

JUDGE OLSON: Good thing his signature doesn't take very long. All right. I think its official. Thank you. Congratulations.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Do you want to say a few words? Go ahead.

MR. DEMARCO: Folks, I'd just like to take this opportunity to thank Judge Olson for graciously agreeing to swear me in tonight. It means so much to have me ---. I've grown to know and respect here for all the work that she has done at the Superior Court. I think she's an excellent Judge, and I'm so pleased and proud that she was able to take and help me in this today.

I'd also like to take the opportunity to thank all of my supporters in the room, all the folks who from the very beginning asked me to consider running for this office. For the folks that took and carried the petitions, that got my signatures, the folks that helped me at the polls. And you folks out there, I can't tell you how much I appreciate it and how honored I am and humbled by your support.

I'd like to thank my family, my wife, my sister and my niece, my brother and all those folks. And I'd also like to thank somebody --- a little story here very quickly and I'll conclude. I was the oldest of six kids that was raised. And my maternal grandmother, her name was Dorothy Mae Quinlan, and Dorothy is --- you know, she spoiled her oldest grandchild. And that was me. And as all grandchildren do we like to spend a lot of time with our grandmother. Our grandmother, my mother would bring me into town to meet my grandmother because she lived in Bellevue on California Avenue. And my grandmother would take me to work with her, and she worked the night shift, and then she would take me home. My grandmother was a cleaning woman for the County. And I know that she'd be very proud that today I stand here today in a position to vote on billion dollar budgets. And I want to honor her by doing the best I can on behalf of the people of Allegheny County. Thank you very much. Appreciate it.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 9337-16.

MR. CATANESE: 9336-16. Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate

of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, Nicholas Futules, Sr., was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 7, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. I was sworn in by Judge Sosovicka in Springdale a few weeks ago. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 9337-16.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, Cynthia R. Kirk, was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 2, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Would you please come up?

JUDGE OLSON: Are you ready?

MS. KIRK: I believe so.

JUDGE OLSON: Would you please place your hand, raise your right hand and repeat after me. I, Cindy Kirk, ---

MS. KIRK: I, Cindy Kirk, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- do solemnly swear ---

MS. KIRK: --- do solemnly swear ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- that I will faithfully ---

MS. KIRK: --- that I will faithfully ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- execute the office ---

MS. KIRK: --- execute the office ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- of Member of Council of the County of Allegheny ---

MS. KIRK: --- of Member of Council of the County of Allegheny ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- and will to the best of my ability ---

MS. KIRK: --- and will to the best of my ability ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- preserve, ---

MS. KIRK: --- preserve, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- protect, ---

MS. KIRK: --- protect, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- defend, ---

MS. KIRK: --- defend, ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- and obey the Constitution ---

MS. KIRK: --- and obey the Constitution ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- of the United States ---

MS. KIRK: --- of the United States ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- and the Constitution and laws

MS. KIRK: --- and the Constitution and laws ---

JUDGE OLSON: --- of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MS. KIRK: --- of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE OLSON: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

JUDGE OLSON: I think you have some signing to do, too. Okay. I think it's official.

MS. KIRK: Thank you.

JUDGE OLSON: You're welcome.

(Applause.)

MS. KIRK: Hi. I just want to take a minute to thank a few people. Judge Judy Olson, the Judge with the best name for being a judge, as we all know. Thank my husband, Bill, who's been the strong support of my life for decades now. Unfortunately, my kids couldn't be here. My son is an Air Force pilot and he's overseas. And my daughter had returned back to York after the holidays, so ---. But I have supporters from the District 2. I'm very grateful that you made the trip down. I'm very thankful, and I'd like especially mention Mike Turzai, Speaker of the House, who is my constituent now. So and --- as is Judge Judy Olson. She's also from District 2. So I'd to also thank all of the people who supported me in District 2 and promise you I will work hard and do it to the best of my ability. And thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 9338-16.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at an election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, Paul M. Klein was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 11, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: Begging the indulgence of Council, I had a moment to think this afternoon and I had a few things I wanted to say to Paul. Colleagues from the Bench, Judge Olson and Judge Marmo, and colleagues from the Magisterial District Justices, President of County Council DeFazio and Members of the Council, County Executive Fitzgerald and family, Holly Maurer-Klein, who's

present, Laura and Gavin Mullen and Jack and Paul Klein and Emily who's here as well.

Paul Klein, my friend and soon to be County Councilman for County District 11, 10 years ago I had the wonderful honor of being sworn in as a judge. And over the past decade I've witnessed many wise and hardworking people, ethical people who serve our government at both the federal, state and county and city level. And they start every day thinking about how they could make our government work better. They don't care if anyone notices. They just fix it and they move on to the next problem. Paul, when I think about your new position, I feel proud knowing that you will be one of those people.

The voters of District 11 have entrusted you with great responsibilities and special shoes to fill. Paul, you've taught complex, ethical situations to students for years. In business and government, there's seldom one right answer. But to get to a worthy decision, you understand the need for civility. You have cultivated the art of civility. You know that in conflict you must listen, talk less if necessary, talk more when needed. Humans are imperfect and the governments we create are an imperfect endeavor. The voters of your district trust that you will make it possible for Council to study the issues in depth, ask the tough questions, make a decision in the best interest of your constituents and then share some of your priceless humor to laugh about how ornery we can all be. You have much work ahead of you, and I wish you only the best.

Are you ready to be sworn in?

MR. KLEIN: Thank you.

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: I, Paul Klein, ---

MR. KLEIN: I, Paul Klein, ---

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- do solemnly swear ---

MR. KLEIN: --- do solemnly swear ---

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- that I will faithfully
execute ---

MR. KLEIN: --- that I will faithfully
execute ---

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- the Office of Member of
Council ---

MR. KLEIN: --- the Office of Member of
Council ---

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- of the County of
Allegheny

MR. KLEIN: --- of the County of Allegheny ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- and will to the best of
my ability ---
MR. KLEIN: --- and will to the best of my
ability ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- preserve, ---
MR. KLEIN: --- preserve, ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- protect, ---
MR. KLEIN: --- protect, ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- defend, ---
MR. KLEIN: --- defend, ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- and obey the Constitution
of the United States ---
MR. KLEIN: --- and obey the Constitution of the
United States ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- and the Constitution and
the laws ---
MR. KLEIN: --- and the Constitution and the
laws ---
JUDGE HENS-GRECO: --- of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania.
MR. KLEIN: --- of the Commonwealth of
Pennsylvania.

(Applause.)

JUDGE HENS-GRECO: Congratulations.

MR. KLEIN: Well, thank you very much. I do
have a few things to say, and I will --- it will probably
be a little shorter than the Gettysburg Address. But I'd
just like to say a couple of words and offer some
acknowledgements in appreciation for all of you for coming
out here today.

Mr. County Executive, President DeFazio, Vice
President Futules, Members and now colleagues of the
County Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, I stand
here today --- and also I should say my fellow citizens
and members of my family and friends.

I stand here today feeling very fortunate to
live in this place and time and grateful for the
opportunity to contribute to a future bright with promise,
but not without its challenges. Two months ago I was
elected to represent the citizens of the many communities
that make up the 11th Council District in this County.

During that period of time, I was the Councilman
elect, and as such, I enjoyed something of a respite from
the rough and tumble of political life. I learned during

that time that you can't be sworn at until you are sworn in. So now I am official. And I might say let the swearing begin.

I'd like to introduce my family, but only if you promise to not to swear at them. First, I'd like to introduce my wife of 34 years, Holly.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEIN: And I would say that all good things in my life come from her. And if I could sign on right now for another 34 years, it still wouldn't be enough. Together we have raised three daughters. Two of my daughters are here today, my daughter Laura and her son, our first grandson, Jack, four months old, who's a little under the weather, but he said he wouldn't miss this for anything. My son-in-law, Gavin who is Laura's husband. My daughter Emily. And also my sister, Ellen. All gathered here today.

I'd like to thank the Honorable Kathryn Hens-Greco, Judge of the Court of Common Pleas who has given legitimately to --- at least legally, to a few of our family aspirations over the past few years. Four years ago, she married our daughter Laura and her husband Gavin. Four weeks ago our daughter Laura was sworn as a member of the Bar by Judge Hens-Greco. And today I have the privilege of being sworn in by a true friend for whom I have the greatest respect and admiration.

I'd like to thank and acknowledge others as well. Sam Hens-Greco, the chairman of the 14th Ward Democratic Committee, a close friend and the husband of Judge Hens-Greco, as well as their daughters who are not here who are also great friends, Caitlin and Eliza.

I'd also like to thank the members of the Democratic Committee in District 11, all of whom I will proudly represent. And most notably I should mention the Chairs of the various committees in the 11th District; Bernie Shields of Munhall, Thelma Young of Homestead, His Honor, the Mayor of West Homestead, John Dindak, Jeanne Clark, the Chair of the 7th Ward in the City, Bill Tenney, 15th Ward, Jeff Koch, 16th Ward and Mike McGeever of the 31st Ward.

I'd also like to acknowledge my immediate predecessor, Terri Klein. With the death of Barbara Daly Danko, Terri, no doubt inspired by Barbara's example of service and commitment, stepped in to replace her, and

during the past six months has represented our District with engagement and purpose.

I should also say this as I'm often asked this, am I related to Terri Klein, and the answer is no, but I wish that I were.

I should also say this. During this past summer in seeking the endorsement, there were others who sought the endorsement in the process along with me; Carolyn Mitchell, Audrey Glickman and Kimberly Kaplan. I hope that I will have many opportunities to work with all of them over the next four years.

As I begin my term today our County Executive, Rich Fitzgerald, begins his second term. Rich and Kathy and their children --- now watch this, Jocelyn, Erin, Caroline, Tanner, Louisa, Maddie, Mara, Jackson in birth order, have been friends and neighbors of ours for many years. I look forward to working with the County Executive and with his fine leadership team in the best interests of the citizens of our County. I'm hoping that in naming all eight of them that will get me an office with a window, but we'll see how that goes.

As a member of ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Talk to Council.

MR. KLEIN: Say what?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You got to talk to Council. Name my kids.

MR. KLEIN: Whoops. No window for me. I'm getting close. As members of this Council, the work that we are called to do represents the greatest and perhaps rarest of privileges in this world in which we live. It's the opportunity to listen and give voice to the aspirations of our fellow citizens. I say rare because on a good day only 15 percent of the world's population will have their yearnings supported in a place committed to democratic principles. Democracy, like the people who strive to practice it and fulfill its promise, is imperfect. Some voices are still heard more loudly than others. Some interests exert disproportionate influence. But at the end of the day, in a democracy at its best, it is the voices of the people that matter most.

During my brief campaign for this office, it became clear to me that the best education that a candidate for public office can receive is from the people that he hopes to represent. As a newly elected official,

I sincerely thank you for your support and I humbly ask for your help. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 9339-16.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, Sue A. Means, was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 5 in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MS. MEANS: I was sworn in yesterday by Commonwealth Judge Patricia McCullough. And I'd love to take this opportunity premises now to thank my friends and family, my husband especially for all the support he's given me, my five children, Jim, Amy, Laura, Linda and Michael, and my two grandchildren, Jake and Haley, for sharing me with County Council and everyone's support. And I also want to take this opportunity to thank the people of District 5 which is Mt. Lebanon, Upper St. Clair, Bridgeville and Bethel Park, for their support and their confidence in me to send me back to this office. And I plan to work just as hard the next coming four years as I have in the past. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 9340-16.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, John F. Palmiere was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 6, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE MARMO: Thank you, Mr. President, elected officials. Joe Catanese called me about two weeks ago and said would you help us out and swear in John Palmiere? And I said, well, yeah, I did --- I think I've sworn him in every time so I'll be glad to. And I know John does a fantastic job because I know what he does for a living. He cuts hair, so he's a good listener. So that means that he does a good job because keeping in mind with this job you need to be a good listener.

And I got to say one thing about Joe Catanese. Joe Catanese and I've been friends since 1980. He played on my softball team. He was my left fielder and we were, in the first year, listen to this, 1 and 19. But we had

more fun at the department of development that you could ever imagine. Right, Joe?

MR. CATANESE: Yes, sir.

JUDGE MARMO: Okay. Yeah, 1 win and 19 losses. Hey, it's how you play the game. It's not if you win; right?

All right. John, are you ready? Okay. Raise your right hand, please, and repeat after me.

JUDGE MARMO: I, John Palmiere, ---

MR. PALMIERE: I, John Palmiere, ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- do solemnly swear ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- do solemnly swear ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- that I will faithfully ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- that I will faithfully ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- execute the office ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- execute the office ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- of Member of Council ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- of Member of Council ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- of the County of

Allegheny ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- of the County of

Allegheny ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- and will to the best of my ability ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- and will to the best of my ability ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- preserve, ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- preserve, ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- protect, ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- protect, ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- defend ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- defend ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- and obey ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- and obey ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- the Constitution of the United States ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- the Constitution of the United States ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- and the Constitution and laws ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- and the Constitution and laws ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ---

MR. PALMIERE: --- of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ---

JUDGE MARMO: --- so help me God.

MR. PALMIERE: --- so help me God.

JUDGE MARMO: Congratulations, Mr. Palmiere.
(Applause.)

MR. PALMIERE: Judge, thank you so much.

JUDGE MARMO: No problem, John. Happy New Year to everyone.

MR. PALMIERE: Like buying a house. You were right. I'm honored to be here this evening, and I wanted to thank a few people. My wife, Kay. My son, John is here. My friends sitting over to the --- wherever he went. He was here. They're over there. Okay. They moved. And I want to especially thank, too, the people of District 6. I'm not going to go through --- I got a whole lot of them. I represent ten of them. And Rich, I can't remember four of your kids, let alone eight. Bless you. I just want to welcome the new people, and I hope together the new elected officers today and Council people, we want to welcome you. And it's my sincerest wish that we can work together to continue moving Allegheny County forward.

I'd like to think in the past we've been really making a serious attempt to do that. And I'd like to be part of it, moving forward again in the future.

And also, just to close, I want to say this, too. Ladies and gentlemen, I'm here to serve and not be self-serving. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. PALMIERE: I wanted to thank Judge Marmo, too, for coming tonight to swear me in. I'm sorry. That's the other thing I meant to do. I'm sorry.

JUDGE MARMO: Do you play softball?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Before I mention the next one, I noticed I didn't get to mention --- Representative Randy Vulakovich is in the back, Senator. Yeah. Okay. We're going to go on to 9341-16.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, Denise Ranalli-Russell, was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 13, in the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: I just like to acknowledge that it's an honor to be here, and on behalf of the voters

in the 13th Council District, I want to congratulate Denise. I'd ask you to repeat after me, please.

I, Denise Ranalli-Russell, ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: I, Denise
Ranalli-Russell ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- do solemnly swear ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- do solemnly swear ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- that I will faithfully
execute ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- that I will faithfully
execute ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- the office of Member of
Council ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- the office of Member
of Council ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- of the County of
Allegheny ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- of the County of
Allegheny ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- and will to the best of
my ability ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- and will to the best
of my ability ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- preserve, ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- preserve, ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- protect, ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- protect, ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- defend ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- defend ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- and obey ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- and obey ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- the Constitution of the
United States ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- the Constitution of the
United States ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: --- and the Constitution and
the laws of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania ---

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- and the Constitution
in the State of ---

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: And the laws.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: --- and the laws of
Pennsylvania.

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: Congratulations.

(Applause.)

JUDGE RAVENSTAHL: You have to sign these.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: And I do have a long name. I just wanted to take a moment to thank the Honorable Judge Ravenstahl. I know he said it was an honor for him, but the honor is really all mine. He's been a lifelong friend of the Russell family for a long time.

And I also wanted to thank my husband and my family and my son who was supposed to be here, but he's late. And my brother-in-law who is here. And we were a four-man team. Kevin Quigley, Liz White and my husband and myself and we went door-to-door, and my husband even got bit by a dog, but it was well worth it. And I thank everybody in District 13 who voted for me and gave me the opportunity to be able to serve in this most important position. Thank you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Before we go to the next one, we also have --- County Controller Chelsa Wagner is here.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Congratulations.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Next, this will be the last one, 9342-16.

MR. CATANESE: Communication from the Return Board of Allegheny County submitting a Certificate of Election certifying that at the election held on the 3rd day of November, 2015, DeWitt Walton was duly elected to the office of Member of Council, District 10, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

(Applause.)

JUDGE PETITE: Good evening. I bring you greetings from District Court 05-2-28 where I've been the District Judge for the last 20 years. But more importantly, I've been a friend and neighbor of this man standing next to me right now. And I am extremely humbled and proud to be administering his Oath of Office here today because I am sure that he's going to represent the members of District 10 as well as the members of Allegheny County faithfully.

So DeWitt, will you please raise your right hand and repeat after me?

I, DeWitt Walton ---

MR. WALTON: I DeWitt Walton, ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- do solemnly swear ---

MR. WALTON: --- do solemnly swear ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- that I will faithfully
execute ---

MR. WALTON: --- that I will faithfully
execute ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- the office of member of
Council ---

MR. WALTON: --- the office of member of
Council ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- of the County of
Allegheny ---

MR. WALTON: --- of the County of Allegheny ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- and will to the best of my
ability ---

MR. WALTON: --- and will to the best of my
ability ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- preserve, protect and
defend ---

MR. WALTON: --- preserve, protect and
defend ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- and obey the Constitution of
the United States ---

MR. WALTON: --- and obey the Constitution of
the United States ---

JUDGE PETITE: --- and the Constitution and laws
of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

MR. WALTON: --- and the Constitution and the
law of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

JUDGE PETITE: Congratulations.
(Applause.)

JUDGE PETITE: Mike, come up here and pin him,
please. All right.

MR. WALTON: It is very humbling to stand before
you tonight. It is a culmination of a lifetime of work.
I want to first thank the County Executive, the County
Controller, Magistrate Petite, my church members who are
here, my fraternity brothers, my friends, constituents for
supporting me in this effort.

The kind of service that I intend to provide is
very much guided by my history. I moved to Pittsburgh 21
years ago. And I was fairly affluent when I came here,
but I chose to live in the Hill District because that's
where I wanted to be part of the community, part of the
effort to grow and improve the quality of life. When I
built my home, Brother Petite here, Judge Petite and I
sat, and a host of our members in Crawford Square, used to

sit in front of my house night after night talking about dreams and ideas and goals for the community. And it is with the greatest amount of pleasure that I was able to ask him to be here with me and to swear me in tonight.

I am the grandson of a man who missed being a slave by three years, and it really humbles me to achieve the kind of success that I've achieved here in my lifetime. And it also guides me and grounds me in what I'm about, what I need to work on, and what I'm committed to. Economic and social justice is what it's all about. Making a America the place that we all dream for that our parents yearned for. It is with the greatest amount of commitment and privilege that I stand here before you tonight and say I am about service. It is about making a difference and I thank you for letting me serve. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll have a roll call.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: 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. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Fifteen (15) members present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: At this time we will have the election for Council President. I will now open up nominations.

MR. FUTULES: Mr. President, I'd like to nominate John DeFazio for Council President.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Any other nominations?

MR. BAKER: Mr. President, I'd like to nominate Councilwoman Sue Means.

MR. DEMARCO: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is there any more nominations? Once? Twice? Three times. Okay. We will now proceed ---.

MS. MEANS: Point of personal privilege.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What's your point?

MS. MEANS: Mr. President, in the past I've looked over the minutes from all the organizational meetings, and except for 2014, the candidates were allowed to make a speech. I'd like to make a brief speech that I've prepared before we take a vote.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Technically, I don't know if we did ---. I can't remember if we did that before.

MR. FINNERTY: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Go ahead.

MR. FINNERTY: Sure.

MS. MEANS: Thank you very much.

Congratulations to the new Council Members, those who won their re-election and also the present Council Members. I'm looking forward to working with all of you in the next session of 2016 and '17. It's a new day for County Council. We have five new members. As Council President, if I'm elected, I will be an advocate for strong Council. The Council, County Council is a counterbalance to the Executive Branch. I have established myself as a hard worker, and the PG has described me as the Council person who asked the hard questions. Sixteen (16) years ago the people of Allegheny County voted for a change. They voted for the Home Rule Charter to have a stronger voice in their County government, a more efficient and transparent government. We live in a representative government. Lex Rex, the law is king.

People all over the world yearn to be free, and at every level of government we are the keepers of a representative government. And that's why I will pledge to the people of Allegheny County that I will work hard and be a defender of the United States Constitution and the Pennsylvania Constitution and guarantee that Allegheny Council has a more efficient, more transparent government.

Thank you for allowing me to speak.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I would just like to quickly say that I stand behind my reputation of being fair, honest and doing ---. I go by the rules. If someone can show me where I'm wrong, I go with it. With that said, I just appreciate your support. Thank you. Go ahead.

MR. CATANESE: This is for the election of President of Council.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: I'll vote for Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Baker, Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeMarco, Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen, Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty, Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules, Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Kirk, Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Klein, Councilman DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Councilwoman Means.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Kress, Councilwoman
Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: President DeFazio.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey, Councilman
DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Dr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Mr. DeFazio.
MR. CATANESE: Dr. Martoni, Councilman
DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Councilwoman Means.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Means, Councilwoman
Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Councilman DeFazio.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Palmiere, Councilman
DeFazio.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Councilwoman Means.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Ranalli-Russell,
Councilwoman Means.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Councilman DeFazio.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Walton, Councilman
DeFazio. Mr. DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Councilman DeFazio.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio, Councilman
DeFazio.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Councilman DeFazio, nine
votes, Councilwoman Means, six votes. Councilman DeFazio,
congratulations.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you.
(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: I'd like to thank everyone
for their support. Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

MS. MEANS: I'd just like to say
congratulations.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you. We'll go down to
Proclamations/Certificates. We have none; correct?

MR. CATANESE: That's correct.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Public Comment on Agenda
Items, we have none?

MR. CATANESE: Correct.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Approval of Minutes,
9343-16.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of
the November 17, 2015 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Go ahead.

MS. MEANS: Mr. President, I would just like to
encourage the new members of Council to abstain from the
vote as they were not seated. We have plenty of people to
approve the minutes. But I think it would be improper for
them to vote on minutes when they weren't seated on
Council. Thank you very much for recognizing me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is there any other comments?
Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Ayes Respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
9344-16.

MR. CATANESE: Motion to approve the minutes of
the December 1st, 2015 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

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.
Presentation of Appointments, we have none. Unfinished
Business? Seeing no hands, we'll go to Liaison Reports.
Does anybody have a Liaison Report? Seeing none, New
Business, Ordinance and Resolutions, anybody? Seeing none
--- we have four motions. We usually don't get into all
of this when we have the swearing in. One is time
sensitive and that's the one we're going to go with. The
other ones, I've talked to Sue Means. She put them in.
We'll bring that up and talk about putting it on the next
meeting. So with that we'll go with 9345-16.

MR. CATANESE: Motion of the Council of
Allegheny County signing on to the Call to Action to
reduce the number of people with mental illness in our
county jail, through efforts including, but not limited
to, sharing lessons learned with other counties in
Pennsylvania, and encouraging all county officials,
employees and residents to participate in the Stepping Up
initiative. Sponsored by Council Member DeFazio.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes. I'd like to say this is a real benefit for the County. I'd like someone to make a motion.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. FINNERTY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Second. Under remarks? Sue?

MS. MEANS: I was just wondering why we didn't make this be a resolution rather than a motion because if it's a resolution it has more teeth and the County Executive also signs on it, where if it's just a sense of Council, it doesn't have the strength. I mean, I think definitely this is a good thing that we want to be a part of this task force to make sure we have --- that we deal with the people that have mental illness in the jail and see if we can have --- get them more treatment rather than have them be incarcerated. But I was just wondering why we weren't going with the resolution rather than a motion?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, for now, because it's so time sensitive for --- to get it in by January 15th. We'll just go with the motion, I guess, for now, you know.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. Go ahead.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: I can remember, I don't know, about six months ago we --- you and I sat down with mental health professionals, and we talked about a lot of the mental health illness that was in the jail. And one of the statistics that really startled us was the fact that 87 percent, I think it was, of the people who had mental illness that were in jail were actually the victims, so --- but because you know, a lot of people dealing with mental illness, you know, they appear, you know, to --- I don't know what word to use, but people who are normal for lack of a better word, you know, may be walking in front of their store in a strange way and this and that. So I think this is very valuable and very important and for us as a Council to understand some of the people that are incarcerated and they really don't belong there, they belong in a hospital. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no more, let's take a vote on the motion. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Ayes Respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. The other --- I mentioned the other issues, which brings

us down to Notification of Contracts, we have none.
Public Comment on General Items, we have none. Does
someone want to make a motion to adjourn?

MR. FUTULES: Make a motion to adjourn.

MR. MACEY: Second it.

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

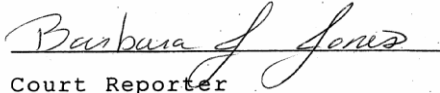
(Ayes Respond.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
Thank you very much.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:58 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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


Court Reporter

Barbara J. Jones