

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 (via telephone)
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Edward Kress	-	District 3 (via telephone)
Patrick J. Catena	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5 (via telephone)
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
James Ellenbogen	-	District 12 (via telephone)
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, October 10, 2017 - 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
Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff
Richard Fitzgerald - County Executive

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Meeting will come to order.
Will you all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag
and remain standing for silent prayer or reflection.

After me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

10333-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation recognizing the
American Cancer Society and the 2017 Real Men Wear Pink of
Pittsburgh candidates for helping create a world free from
the pain and suffering of breast cancer. Sponsored by
Council Member Baker.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thank you, Mr.
President.

I hope everyone is having a good day. Really honored to be here with the 2017 class of the Real Men Wear Pink for American Cancer Society.

As some of you directors and folks --- folks that work for the county know, I was part of the 2017 inaugural class and I will say we raised about \$100,000 and this current class has blown us out of the water. They're doing absolutely fantastic.

So if I can ask all the real men from 2017 to come on up and join me here, I think they are all wearing pink. I remember this time last year, literally wearing pink every day.

And we --- they did come with gifts, which is nice. So for all my council colleagues, we do have --- we have bracelets for everyone. We've got pins for everyone to wear which was nice of --- of the real men 2017 class to --- to bring those with them, and we definitely thank them for all of their --- their efforts.

So they --- we --- a lot of them were part of a fashion show on Friday night. Some of my council colleagues will remember David Alan was here at our last meeting, who had a fantastic evening with wrestlers, with NFL players, with lots of interesting and fun local celebrities on Friday night. Many of these men modeled in that show as well.

It's all getting the word out about American Cancer Society. It's all making a big difference through funds, through awareness for all the good that is being done by ACS.

So with that, I want to read a quick proclamation. We do have individual awards for all the men that are here tonight, which is great, so they'll get those as well.

I do have to give a --- a mention to Bob Macey, Councilman Macey, who proactively wore his pink American Cancer Society pin without even being asked, so that's very, very impressive. So good job --- good job, Bob Macey.

So really proud of this group and we'll just read the proclamation for you guys.

WHEREAS, every year, too many Americans are touched by the pain and hardship caused by breast cancer, a disease that among women is not only one of the most common cancers, but also one of the leading causes of cancer-related death; and

WHEREAS, hundreds of thousands of Americans will be diagnosed with breast cancer this year and tens of thousands will lose their battle with the disease, although both women and men can have breast cancer, women are at a higher risk; and

WHEREAS, the American Cancer Society is dedicated to helping people who face cancer and determine to save lives from breast cancer by promoting early detection and prevention, funding groundbreaking research and providing comprehensive support; and

WHEREAS, Real Men Wear Pink of Pittsburgh is a distinguished group of community leaders that are committed to raising awareness and funds to support the American Cancer Society's mission and participate in the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer of Greater Pittsburgh 5K walk on Saturday, October 21st, 2017 at Highmark Stadium.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize the American Cancer Society and the 2017 Real Men Wear Pink of Pittsburgh men for helping create a world free from the pain and suffering of breast cancer.

Sponsored by myself and presented this 10th day of October, 2017.

If we could give a big round of applause for the 2017 Real Men Wear Pink.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: So that's the overall proclamation and we do have awards for all of the men that are here tonight.

Richard Allison? Congratulations, looking very nice in you pink bowtie.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: We've got Justin LaBar --- is not here yet ---.

We've got Mark Thomas. All right.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: We've got Matt Brennan.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: Rocco Panucci? Yeah.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: Rocco held one of the original mixers that I was at for the --- for the group too.

Nick Stupakis? Nick's not here yet. Okay.

Sean Gilliberti?

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: Shawn, congratulations.
Steven Evans?

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: All right. Dr. Golla --- Dr.
Denikar Golla?

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: And John Kohler.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER. All right. So we do have --- we do
have pins for everyone. We've got bracelets. We've got
to make sure that we'll get a pin and a bracelet to the
County Executive and the County Manager as well.

Dawn, is there anything that you'd like to say
about the event, or ---?

This is Dawn Keefer (indicating). She's the one
that kind of started here in Pittsburgh, so Dawn?

MS. KEEFER: I just want to thank Councilman
Baker and the rest of the council for having us here today
and acknowledging our men doing Real Men Wear Pink. We
have 18 businessmen and community leaders, leading the way
here in Pittsburgh. Currently, Pittsburgh is the number
one fundraising campaign in the country out of over about
250 campaigns.

So we're very proud of these gentlemen for what
they're doing here in Pittsburgh and the funds that
they're raising for research and our programs and
services, so thank you very much.

We have the rest of October to continue
fundraising and get the awareness out for this group, so
we appreciate your support. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: And just one quick question before
we take the group picture. Is it too early to start
thinking about some of these esteemed men being part of
the 2018 class?

MS. KEEFER: No.

MR. BAKER: Not too early?

MS. KEEFER: Not too early.

MR. BAKER: Okay. All right. Great. Sounds
good.

Well, congratulations, once again. Thank you
all for being here. Thank you for all of the work that
you're doing to raise funds, to get the word out and to
really make a positive difference here in our community.

We're really proud of you and we're really proud to have you as friends on county council.

So thank you very much.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10334-17, and the rest of the proclamations and certificates will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: Before proceeding any further, I believe Ms. Means is now on the phone --- or is she not? Apparently not.

Okay. I apologize. We'll move on.

10334-17. Proclamation recognizing Joseph Harold Negri, a local musician and television entertainer, who has placed his unique stamp of character and displayed his hard work throughout the community. Sponsored by Council Member Catena.

10335-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Chelsea Carver upon the momentous occasion of winning the President's Volunteer Service Award for her work at the Latodami Environmental Education Center in North Park. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

And 10336-17. Proclamation congratulating St. Mary's Church in Sharpsburg upon the momentous occasion of its 100th Anniversary. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: At this time, we'll have the 2018 comprehensive fiscal plan and budget address by the Chief Executive.

(Applause.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thank you, Mr. President and Members of Council.

Let me first give to you --- we have the legislation that we placed on the agenda --- we'll ask to place on the agenda along with the CD of the legislation. I'm going to give that to the County Manager and he can distribute that.

MR. KLEIN: If --- if I might, Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion to amend the agenda to allow for --- for this to be included.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed?

The ayes have it.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thank you.

It is for the sixth time as County Executive coming this --- this evening, and 12 years of sitting there as --- as we went through the budget process.

I'm pleased to say that I'm going to be presenting a budget to you that's on the agenda, that for the 16th time in the last 17 years, proposes no millage increase for the folks --- for the property owners of Allegheny County.

We are going to be proposing a budget that has a total operating cost of \$905,700,000 which is about 2.8 percent increase over last year.

And how we're able to do that without adjusting the millage is because of some of the robust new construction numbers that have happened in the county, some efficiencies through refinancing and other means that the County Manager and the department heads and directors and their employees have --- have instituted. We've also seen increases in our sales tax numbers and our drink tax numbers over the last year, again, reflecting a robust economy here in Allegheny County.

And it's really because of the work we've all been doing together, partnering with the business community, folks at the state level, federal level and --- and local level, to be able to make that happen.

We're coming again --- since I've been county executive, we have not instituted any onetime revenue sources to balance the operating budget. And again, I think that's responsible budgeting that I ask the manager and the --- and the budget department to do every year. And it's certainly in contrast to what we see in --- in other levels of government.

But I think for us, the fact that we've had four upgrades in the bond rating over that past six years with Standard and Poor's and Moody's, reflects the fact that we're --- we're being fiscally responsible and fiscally conservative in how we're making sure that we're protecting the taxpayer dollars, but still providing the services and the investments in our infrastructure, in our parks and in our roads that the folks in --- in this county want to see have happen.

The fund balance at the end of last year was \$44.5 million and we're hoping as we close the books towards the end of this year, that we get, hopefully, around \$46 million. So we do see it ticking up a little

bit. And again, the rating agencies want to see us at around five percent, our rainy day fund --- our fund balance. And that would be in line with the budget that we're moving forward.

I'll also --- that --- that as the state budget has had challenges, to say the least, over the last few years, the fact that we have had a rainy day fund, that we've been able to have cash reserves that allow us to continue to keep programs like our human service programs, senior centers, the services that folks are really needing, some of the neediest folks in our county need to have, we've been able to provide that and not every county can say that.

There have been counties, if you remember a couple years ago, that had to close senior centers when the state budget was enacted later. We fortunately have not had to do that, and it's because of the budgets that you've been passing over the last few years.

And then again, as we go through the budget process this fall and you go through your hearings and you have meetings with the manager, we anticipate we'll be able to work together and come to again, a good budget that helps the folks here in Allegheny County.

Some of the highlights I want to talk about that, again, you've been very helpful with --- let's talk about Public Works. As you recall, a couple years ago we asked you to purchase a milling machine that we had been renting every year. And you appropriated over \$460,000 which allowed us to do that. Well, I can tell you over the last three years, we've saved over \$1.2 million in the rental and the other costs associated with the machine.

But more than that, we've been able to pave --- last year we paved 58 miles of road in 2016. We're hoping to get over 59 miles of road this year, and that's in contrast to years past when we would do between 15 and 20 miles of roads.

Now putting in context the fact that we own 400 miles of roads in the county, most engineering initiatives will tell you and --- and manuals will tell you, you want to do about ten percent a year, which would be 40 miles of road. So as you can see, for a number of years, we were falling behind.

But over the last two years, because of the investment that we've made in the milling and paving machine and some other materials that we've had plus the

great work that our public works workers have really had, we've noticed that. And I know Councilman Macey is chairman of the Public Works Committee. I know that's something that --- that you've been --- you've been helpful with and supportive of.

Again, I know you hear that from some of your constituents who are out there talking about the fact that we are paving a lot more roads this year. This year, we want to continue that and make sure that we continue on that process to invest in our infrastructure.

We also have made some improvements in our county parks. And I know a number of you've been to some of the ribbon cuttings that we've had on some of the investments we've made in a number of the parks, including some of the programs that we've had, concert series, different programs for folks of all ages in our parks. It's been very, very positive.

One of the things you're going to see in this year's budget is an enhancement of our forestry division. As you may know, we have --- own 12,000 acres of county park land. And some of the diseases that we've seen over the last few years to some of our trees have begun to spread.

That's put some of our forestry and our trees at risk. So we've enhanced the forestry department to be able to take down some of the diseased trees and grind up the stumps so that we don't have, you know, an epidemic if you will, or a spread of those diseases. So that's something --- we'll be working with you as we move forward.

The Kanes, we, a couple years ago instituted an enhancement of our Scott Kane around memory care and we're going to expand that a little bit this year. We're going to be doing at the McKeesport Glen Hazel, a 45 bed secure memory care unit which we feel is really needed in the community. There's kind of a demand there that we don't feel is being met in other areas. And then at Glen Hazel, we're going to be asking to add a behavioral health care unit for folks in that community.

Again, I think as the market changes, as the needs of the community change, the folks at the Kanes have been very adaptable. And it's something the County Manager has come to me with and said, we think we should propose that. So that's something you're going to see.

We talked about, and you have appropriated some funding, to fix up the courthouse. And you've seen that, as you walk around and see some of the work that's going on, beginning with our roof that we're going to be doing in phases over the next couple years. We got to start and protect that. And many of you have taken the tour and gone up and seen some of the condition that the roof was in, having not been done since 1888. It's really never been fixed or repaired, and there's certainly major, major needs to have that one.

I also want to thank the cooperation that I have had and this administration has had with our row officers. They've come forward and presented what they would like to see and we feel like we've been able to come to good agreements with some of the needs that they have both at the operating side, personnel side and even on the capital side. So that's another thing that I appreciate, working with our row officers.

And finally, before I open it up for questions, I really want to thank the Budget Department led by Director Mary Soroka and her team, and they're all sitting there. I want to acknowledge them and I'd like them to stand.

I want to thank Tim and Mike and Adam, Adiza, Antoinette, Phil, Elliot and Jada.

Please stand up for all the great work you guys have done.

(Applause.)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: It's a good team we have here, not just in that department, but in many of the departments who Director Soroka works with to try to make sure that we provide enough funding to provide the services that we need for what our constituents want to see, but also making sure that we hold the line on taxes to protect the taxpayers and try to be efficient with their money.

So with that, Mr. President, I'll open up for any questions anybody might have.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Raise your hand if you want to ---.

Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: That's more or less a comment.

Thank you. Thank you, Administration. Thank you, all the people in the audience. It's people that sit up here that we have to make that tough vote to raise

taxes. And thanks to you, over the years, you've been able to hold the line on that. And I appreciate it as a constituent, as a member of Council and just a citizen of this county.

And I believe I've been here 11 years now, and we've had to do it once, and that's not a bad record. And hopefully, we can continue that for many more years.

And thank you so much for your service, and thank you for doing such a great job.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thanks.

And one thing I will say, you know, the state and the federal government, based on income tax, they get raised every year based on inflation. People make more in their wages, that means they collect more in --- in taxes for those bodies.

We don't have that system in place. Our millage stays the same. There's not a reassessment, so it's flatlined as normal cost of living on other areas goes up. So it's a challenge that the County Manager and the department heads have to kind of figure out every year.

At some point, we'll have to make an adjustment. We know that will occur. But the fact is for 16 out of the last 17 years, we've been able to hold the line. I think it gives folks the confidence that there's stability in our real estate taxing system, that they feel that if they can invest in a house or a business or a property in Allegheny County, that their taxes are going to be stable and competitive. And that they can, you know, they can have that confidence.

But it doesn't happen just with me, believe me. I sat in those seats for 12 years. We worked with the two administrations and working with this council, I know we feel the same way.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other remarks, questions?

Seeing none, I guess everybody's pretty happy. No questions ---.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: All right. Thank you.

We look forward to working with you over the next couple months to get a good budget passed. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. MEANS: Hello?

This is Councilwoman Means calling in.

This is Councilwoman Means calling in.

MR. BARKER: I believe Ms. Means is with us now.

MS. MEANS: Thank you.

MR. BARKER: I think.

MR. KRESS: Yeah, it's County Councilman Kress, too, just reporting in.

Can you hear me?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: I hear you guys.

MR. KRESS: All right. Thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Jared, would you call out the agenda speakers?

MR. BARKER: First up is James Scheuermann.

MR. SCHEUERMANN: Good evening. I'm here to talk about the gerrymandering and redistricting proposal that's on the agenda that you will soon be voting on, and I'd like to ask the council to support that proposal that's on the agenda.

If I were to ask these members of the council which of you were in favor of voter fraud, none of you would raise your hands of course. And if I were to ask you which of you are opposed to voter fraud, all of you would raise your hands of course.

Well, gerrymandering is a form of voter fraud. It had --- it is the same as stuffing a ballot box. It's the same as somebody walking into a voting booth who doesn't have the right to vote. The purpose and effect of gerrymandering is to deny the meaningfulness of voters' votes. It is to make some votes count for a lot and other votes to count for nothing, and it is the most pernicious and most dangerous form of voter fraud because it's enshrined in our laws.

It is sanctioned by our state government in its constitution and in the current maps that we have, both as to state legislative districts and the US congressional districts, that went through and --- and got approved by our state legislature and our prior governor.

So I'm here today to ask you to vote in favor of this proposal that requests that the general assembly have hearings and vote on Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722. Those are proposals --- excuse me. Those are pieces of legislation that set up independent commissions --- an independent commission to draw the state legislative maps and the US congressional maps in Pennsylvania.

Here's what Ronald Reagan said about gerrymandering. He said it is the greatest single blot on

the integrity of our nation's electoral system. He said gerrymandered districts are grotesque, misshapen symbols of political chicanery. I believe states should set up bipartisan commissions to draw district lines. That's president --- former President Reagan.

Well, that's what the proposals Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722 do. They set up independent commissions to vote on and draw those state lines.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kramer will not be speaking tonight, so the next speaker is Arlene Levy.

MS. LEVY: The League of Women voters, in conjunction with Fair Districts PA, urge Allegheny County Council to pass the resolution in support of fair and impartial redistricting of congressional and state legislative districts.

Our country is in crisis. Redistricting reform is essential to regain the citizens' influence on our representatives and trust in our electoral system. Gerrymandering has made our national and state legislatures dysfunctional. A law necessary to insure an adequate health care system for all US citizens has not passed in Washington, nor has there been funding to repair this country's crumbling infrastructure.

In Harrisburg, the general assembly has passed the budget, but this body has not determined how to fund it. Because there has been a reliance on onetime financial fixes over the past decade, recently, Standard and Poor's lowered Pennsylvania's bond rating. It will cost the state more to borrow money. According to the Post-Gazette, it could cost more than \$50 million extra dollars per year.

Many of our elected officials are unwilling to compromise. Often, they are from districts that they have created to have seats that are safe from competition. This is dangerous for our democracy.

Pennsylvania Senate Bill 22 and Pennsylvania House --- House Bill 722 proposes a Pennsylvania constitutional amendment to create an independent redistricting commission of 11 members who don't hold elective office and are not paid lobbyists. This independent commission would be responsible for redrawing congressional and state legislative districts, thus ensuring that voters would be choosing their

representatives --- so you can tell there's a crisis --- rather than representatives choosing their voters, as is often done today.

It is important to act quickly on this matter. An amendment to the Pennsylvania Constitution must pass two consecutive sessions of the Pennsylvania General Assembly, with the exact same wording, and then must be approved by the voters in a referendum. The amendment would have to pass in the 2017/2018 session and again in the 2019/2020 session, early enough to be placed on the ballot in 2020. The next redistricting will be done in 2021/2022.

Gerrymandering is gutting our representative government. Let's say goodbye to gerrymandering. County Council, please join with the League of Women Voters and pass the resolution to encourage the Pennsylvania General Assembly to pass Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722. Put an end to gerrymandering and help our government grow with good programs for the public and grow in the public's trust.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BARKER: Next up is Anna Fisher.

MS. FISHER: Hello and thank you for the opportunity to speak to you today.

I am an immigrant. I am a naturalized citizen of the United States of America. I love this country and I love my home state of Pennsylvania, but I am dismayed by the negative effects of gerrymandering on Pennsylvania and Allegheny County.

Partisan gerrymandering makes a mockery of the democratic process. Gerrymandering robs us of our right to choose our representatives. The promise of one person, one vote, no longer holds true when politicians choose us instead of us choosing them.

The outcomes of many elections in Pennsylvania are all but predetermined when politicians, aided by modern technology, create safe districts for themselves. No matter what our political beliefs are, gerrymandering erodes democracy and hurts all of us.

When politicians create safe districts --- safe for either party --- they remove any incentive for our representatives to respond to our concerns. Why? Well, to win a competitive race, politicians have to go and learn about their voters. They have to connect with the

people in their districts. They have to learn about their problems and come up with solutions to their problems, and then run a good race to win our trust.

But when politicians know that they owe their seat not to connecting with voters and running a good race, when they know that they owe their seats to the party leadership that drew --- drew the lines just so they have no incentive to listen to us.

The fight over which party gets to draw district boundaries shifts the focus to winning elections from good governing. Ever increasing polarization and government gridlock is the price that party leaders are often willing to pay in order to win elections.

No matter what our political beliefs are, all of us in Allegheny County are dealing with the negative effects of this gridlock. Our representatives in Pennsylvania General Assembly, again, are fighting over budget and are unable to pass it and to work together across party lines. And this gridlock threatens funding for public schools, universities, health and human services in Allegheny County that it provides to its residents. This gridlock stemming from partisan gerrymandering is --- threatens the ability of Allegheny Council to do its job well.

Politicians have an inherent conflict of interest when it comes to redistricting. Therefore, Pennsylvania urgently needs redistricting reform to take the power to draw boundaries of districts from the hands of politicians, and give it to the people. House Bill 722 and Senate Bill 22 propose to reform both legislative and congressional redistricting to do just that. Both of those bills have brought bipartisan support in Pennsylvania legislature, and I'm urging Allegheny Council to pass the resolution in support of those pieces of legislation.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BARKER: And last up is William Manifesto.

MR. MANIFESTO: I certainly would endorse everything that the prior speakers have said, because I think they've been accurate and right on in describing the situation that we have now, as a result of the hyper-partisan gerrymandering.

However, as a retired lawyer, I'd like to at least suggest to --- to this group that in endorsing the

resolution to support Senate Bill 22 and House Bill 722, that you would be endorsing the Article XIV --- or Amendment XIV to the United States Constitution and Article I § 1 of the Pennsylvania Constitution which provides for equal protection of the law for all citizens.

And in fact, in addition, it's supportive of the first amendment of the US Constitution, which is the freedom of speech and freedom of association. And so I do think that it is important that we bear in mind that there is a legal basis for challenging this gerrymandering situation.

The Supreme Court has said to us that money is --- is protected speech. But then I asked the question, why is my vote not protected? Because it isn't protected as a result of gerrymandering. In particular, in the 12th congressional district where I happen to live, in which it is so gerrymandered that you cannot get anyone to oppose the incumbent Republican.

As has been said here, funds --- denied or delayed really do hurt the people. You know, I looked at your website and I just saw a myriad of programs and assistance that the county offers to the needy, to the aged, to the disadvantaged. And it --- it is remarkable that you are able to do that, but it takes money. And we know we have issues with the money coming from the state and apparently, from the federal government in the next ensuing three or four years.

And so I would just suggest that we know how this hyper-partisan is done. We now know about the algorithms and the mathematical methods in which it is done.

And as pointed out, 52 percent of the voters in Pennsylvania voted for a Democratic congressman, and yet, of the 18 seats, only 5 were Democratic and that was because of the packing and the stripping of the voters in drawing those districts.

So I would suggest and hope that you will endorse the resolution that was to have been voted on today. But unfortunately, I understand it's been postponed.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10337-17.

MR. BARKER: Motion to approve the minutes of the August 29, 2017 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. CATENA: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed?

The ayes have it.

Let's go down to 10302-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office to accept a donation of a 2017 bi-fuel Chevrolet Tahoe, vehicle identification number 1GNSKFEC6HR287917, Model K15706, by Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC, subsequent to their purchase of the vehicle in accordance with, and in support of, the PNG Clean and Green Project promoting the reduction of carbon emissions. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. President.

At its meeting on October the 4th, the Committee on Budget and Finance affirmatively recommended approval of this ordinance and I move the whole of the council to approve it at this time.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, we'll have a roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. DEMARCO: Oh, I was --- were you talking to me?

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Hold on a second. You forgot to call me.

MR. BARKER: Ellenbogen --- would you like me to start over?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go with Ellenbogen, I guess.

MR. BARKER: I believe that was Mr. Ellenbogen --- restarting the vote.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Can you hear me at all?

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

(No response.)

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Aye.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos zero. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10330-17.

MR. BARKER: Ordinance of the County of Allegheny authorizing the transfer of custody of miscellaneous items of County personal property to the Historical Society of Western Pennsylvania to allow for its maintenance and preservation, at no cost to the County under preservation guidelines established by the Society of American Archivists, and for public access to the

miscellaneous items of County personal property at the Senator John Heinz History Center. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: The committee met last week and they had brought us some documents. It was pretty interesting for us to review. And it dated back to Abraham Lincoln, the time when he was president. It was pretty interesting to see it.

And what they're doing is, we're loaning the History Center these documents so they can preserve them properly, make sure that they're there for quite some time. And they don't own it, we do. They're --- they're on loan to them. And they're going to take pictures and file it, so anybody that can come to the Heinz Center can review these documents.

So with that, I make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

MR. BAKER: Quick one, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Baker.

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Mr. President.

I would just say, with some of the boards and organizations I've been involved with, a lot of times, organizations actually have to pay for this. So the fact that the county's getting this opportunity at no cost is really incredible.

I mentioned in committee, and I mentioned it last year when we talked about it as well, it really is a good opportunity for the county to get this great and valuable service provided for free, completely for free to us as a county. It's a really good opportunity and I'm proud to support it.

MR. MACEY: Amen.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Any other remarks? Seeing none, we'll take the roll.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
(No response.)
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos zero. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Liaison reports?
MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, Representative

Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President and
Members of Council.

I'd just --- on Thursday, I attended a regular meeting over at CCAC and I'm happy to tell you and report to you that we reached an agreement with the collective bargaining unit over there for the next three years. We're going to have peace and prosperity over there. And I was really, really happy with the results of the contracts. It was --- it worked out. It's very fair on both sides.

So I just wanted to let you know that that's all done. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Thank you.
Representative Baker?

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Mr. President.

Since we met, the day after our last meeting, the County Executive and I had a joint town hall gathering

meeting at the --- the Northland Library out in McCandless, actually, out in Councilwoman Kirk's district. But it's the library closest to where I live in Ross and I'm a member of it.

It was great. We had a really big crowd. It was almost a sold out crowd. I think there were 64 seats and 61 of them were reserved for the event, and so it was really good. It went well.

I appreciated the collaboration. We had a lot of folks that brought up issues that we were able to address, and to work with other staff members and colleagues within the county to make some improvements on.

Since our last meeting as well, we had Ben Avon Fall Festival and also the community festival in Aleppo, on Saturday, where we had a great dedication for the Veterans' Memorial Garden and paid --- and just paid a tribute to the officer that passed away in Canonsburg. He got a placard there and his whole family was there. It was just really a --- it was really a touching, inspiring, sad event.

But lot of good --- generally, a lot of good things going on in District 1 and I appreciate the administration for the collaboration on that event.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes. I'd like to recognize the fact that today the Pittsburgh Penguins went to Washington, D.C. to receive their award for winning the Stanley Cup. And for those of you who don't know, several of our council members here went. That's why they're not here this evening. Some of them are on the phone or may be en route home.

But I'm sure that was an exciting event for the Penguins and --- and officials that had gone. I wished I could've. That would've been nice. But congratulations once again, to the Pittsburgh Penguins for their award today.

And I also have one more person I would like to recognize this evening. He was here maybe a year or two ago. We recognized him. His name was Charles Wagner. He was a coach for Riverview, Springdale, Fox Chapel. He coached for 50 years.

He passed away September 25th, last Friday night. And fitting that, Riverview and Springdale played a Friday night game. They had a very nice tribute to him, that he coached both teams. They emphasized the fact on

how many thousands of children he had encouraged and mentored over the years, with 50 years of coaching, not to mention, a history teacher at the school districts. And I just want to recognize Mr. Charles Wagner this evening.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other ---?

Seeing no other liaison reports, we'll move on.
10338-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing OTB Bikeworks to use a structure on Pearce Mill Road in the County's North Park known as the North Park Boathouse. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. That ---.

MR. CATENA: Parks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We're going to put that in Parks. North Park --- known as North Park --- okay.

That will go into Palmiere's district.
10339-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to acquire by condemnation certain right-of-way and temporary construction easement areas from a parcel required to reconstruct Little Deer Creek Bridge number five in Indiana Township and Harmar Township, and to take such further action as may be necessary under applicable law, including the Eminent Domain Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will also go into the Committee on Parks --- Representative Palmiere.

MR. KLEIN: That's Public Works.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Yeah, that's Public Works. Yeah. Put that in Public Works.

Okay. 10340-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the Council of the County of Allegheny urging the General Assembly to undertake public hearings on SB22 and HB722, bills which would initiate the process of amending the Commonwealth's Constitution in an attempt to establish a fair, fully transparent, impartial and depoliticized process of the decennial drawing of state legislature and congressional districts, with all deliberate speed. Sponsored by Council Members Klein and Palmiere.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go --- yeah?

MR. MACEY: I'd like to be a co-sponsor as well.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. All right. That will go into Government Reform.

Representative Klein, do you have anything on that?

MR. KLEIN: No.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MR. KLEIN: This --- this will go to the Government Reform Committee and from the committee, it should be brought back to council, so ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 10341-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2017, submission 09-17. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That will go --- refer that to Budget and Finance Committee --- the committee?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. New business motions, none.

Notification of contracts, 10342-17.

MR. BARKER: Actually, before moving on, would you like me to read the titles for the four bills that the Executive introduced this evening regarding the budget?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MR. BARKER: Okay. The first is an Ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania establishing the tax levy upon all real properties subject to taxation within the limits of Allegheny County.

The next is a Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting an operating budget pursuant to Article IV § 2 and Article VII § 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of Allegheny County and for meeting debt charges for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2018 and ending December 31st, 2018.

The next is a Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting a capital budget pursuant to Article IV § 2 and Article VII § 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses for capital expenditures during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2018 and ending December 31st, 2018.

And the fourth is a Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting the grants budget --- special accounts budget and agency fund budget by setting forth appropriations to pay said

expenses during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2018 and ending December 31st, 2018.

All four bills sponsored, of course, by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Does someone want to make a motion to receive and file?

MR. MACEY: Receive and file, please.

MR. CATENA: I second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

The ayes have it.

No public comment on general items.

MR. MACEY: Make motion to adjourn.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

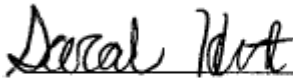
Opposed?

The ayes have it.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 5:49 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

Sarah Hunt