

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John P. Defazio	-	President
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-At-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Patrick Catena	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
Dewitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Robert Palmosina	-	District 12
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, December 18, 2018 - 5:04 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services  
Samuel J. Dalfonso - Allegheny County Council  
Solicitor  
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff  
Sarah Roka - Budget Assistant

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

After me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Can we have 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. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: We have 14 members present.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Proclamations and certificates, 10894-18.

MR. BARKER: A Proclamation recognizing and thanking State Senator Randy Vulakovich for the years of dedicated --- for the years dedicated to the constituents he represented in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania. Sponsored by Council Members Baker and Kirk.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thanks, Mr. President, and I think we're going to be joined as well by Councilman DeMarco and Councilwoman Prizio. If we could ask the Honorable Randy Vulakovich to please join us up here, and we're very proud to honor the Senator here tonight. Let's give a big round --- yeah.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: So you got your first standing ovation of the night which is very nice. Come on over then, yeah. All right. Nick Futules, come --- you already got a standing ovation from Darla Crovatta, so that's very good. So I --- I will say, just really over time I've been really proud to have the Senator as a mentor, as a friend. I am of the same age as his son, Randy, and we became friends 10 years ago through leadership Pittsburgh, and these --- these last, you know, decades, plus that he's been in the State house and the State senate has really been able to work together.

I can't tell you how many events I've been at with the County Executive where he says this wouldn't be possible if it wasn't for collaboration between both parties working together. Senator Vulakovich, when I looked at actually one of his going-away parties, and this is something I think that's nice in government. The person sitting --- he's got governors, he's got US attorneys, you got all kinds of people that are supporters of Randy certainly, and friends. But the person sitting next to him is actually Dom Costa, who is of a different political party, and I think it really showcases the fact that the Senator was able to work with both parties.

To work with the County Executive, to work with his peers and his --- his colleagues up in Harrisburg to do a good job. One thing, as well about the Senator, I know some people just go to events and events and events and events. This was a man who literally would go back to his hotel room, go back to his room and just read. He has literally a Ph.D. in State government from reading those bills, reading those laws readings and just figuring out ways to --- to work together.

This is a true story and --- and Randy knows this. After I got elected to County Council in 2013, it was probably one of the proudest nights of my life. That was before becoming a dad, but this was a picture taken at my election night party that's still up in my office, and that's me and the Senator. And again, didn't have a child

yet, but that was the background on my phone for the first two years I was on County Council. So this man's face was literally the first face I would see a lot of mornings. You've experienced that, Randy --- so at points --- so you've --- and it was --- it was true. And the thought was like, you worked so hard to get to be here, like to do a good job, actually really, really try hard like this guy --- like this gentleman has tried through all of his years of public service.

So it's been a great honor to get to be friends with this family. The speech that brought us all to tears and it got a standing ovation a little bit earlier this year, obviously was not the best, best year, but the speech that I thought really brought us all together that night and I think about it all the time. I've probably shared this story 25 times and people do cry when I tell this story.

What --- what the Senator said was, you know, it was great to be Representative Vulakovich, it was great to be Senator Vulakovich, but the three best names I've had in this life were dad to you, pap to your grandkids and Officer V, and I thought that was just incredible because all of the great things that he's done in State government, the three biggest titles he's had in his life were dad, pap and Officer V. He's well-known and well-loved in Shaler for all of his years of service.

So Randy, thank you for all of your years of service. I'm going to turn it over to my colleagues, but some of you know this. My --- my dad passed away when he was exactly my age. He was 39 and it's because of gentleman like this, the tall gentleman behind me that have --- and Rich as well. Just having good role models, good mentors to --- to look up to and this man is at the top of my list. So Senator, thank you for all your service, thanks for being a friend and thanks for being a mentor.

MR. VULAKOVICH: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. DEMARCO: Before we read the Proclamation, I would like to echo what --- what Councilman Baker said. And I didn't have the opportunity to meet Senator Vulakovich until just before I got into politics, but one of the things that I learned about him is he epitomizes the reasons folks should be in public service and that's to take and solve problems. And in my entire experience

working with Senator Vulakovich, if there is one complaint anybody could have is that he couldn't walk by a problem without stopping, rolling up his sleeves and sitting down to try to solve it. And there's not enough of that going on today, whether it be in Harrisburg or Washington, D.C. And for that, you have left an enduring legacy and something that I have learned and something that I am going to carry through. And I know that you've given it to Councilman Baker as well as so many other folks who have looked up to you. I'd like to read the Proclamation.

It says, WHEREAS, after 11 years dedicated to the constituents he represented in the General Assembly of Pennsylvania, State Senator Randy Vulakovich's 10 year has officially come to an end. As a Pennsylvania State Senator for the 38th District, Senator Vulakovich proudly served the residents of Wards 11 and 12 in the City of Pittsburgh. The boroughs of Aspenwall, Blawnox, Brackenridge, Bradford Woods, Cheswick, Etna, Fox Chapel, Millvale, Springdale Tarentum and Westview. And the townships of East Deer, Fawn, Frazier, Hampton, Harmar, Harrison, Indiana, Marshall, McCandless, O'Hara, Pine --- Pine, Richland, Ross, Shaler, Springdale and West Deer and;

WHEREAS, Senator Vulakovich of Shaler Township began his long and impressive career as sergeant with the Shaler Township Police Department for 27 years where he was known as Officer V. During that time, he also served as a public school instructor in the anti-drug and life skills DARE program and;

WHEREAS, on January 2nd, 2007, Senator Vulakovich was elected to the Pennsylvania House of Representatives where he served until August 29th, 2012 and;

WHEREAS, due to a special election, Senator Vulakovich was elected to the Pennsylvania Senate in 2012 and served as Senator for six years for the 255,000 residents of the 38th Senatorial District and;

WHEREAS, during his tenure, Senator Vulakovich served as Chairman of the Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness Committee. He was a member of six other senate committee; Aging, Youth, Appropriations, Communications and Technology, Judiciary, Majority Policy and Transportation. Senator Vulakovich also served on the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, the Advisory Board of the Southwestern Pennsylvania Veterans

Center, the Board of Pittsburgh Commission, the Three Rivers Weather Board of Directors and the Pittsburgh Ballet Theatre Board of Trustees and;

WHEREAS, while committed to fighting for family values and physical conservatism, Senator Vulakovich dedicated his time to the following; cutting government waste, providing true school property tax and business tax reform, standing up for family values, enacting meaningful state reform, ensuring support for police, firefighters and EMS, supporting initiatives encouraging economic growth, protecting the services and benefits of veterans, seniors and individuals with disabilities and reforming Pennsylvania's healthcare system through strong transparent legislation and;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that we, Council Members, Tom Baker, Cindy Kirk to hereby recognize and thank State Senator Randy Vulakovich for his 11 years of service to the people of Allegheny County and all of Pennsylvania. We thank him for his hard work and dedication to serving these residents. His long and distinguished service deserves all the accolades of our citizenry and this Council wishes him all the best in his future endeavors.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, the seal of County of Allegheny to be affixed the 18th day of December, 2018.

(Applause.)

MR. VULAKOVICH: Thank you. You know, I --- I mentioned to some friends that I've been very fortunate. I've had a lot of people make a lot of kind --- say a lot of kind words about me, and --- after the election, and it really warms the heart and --- but I have to say I start questioning whether some of them know my doctor and my doctor has told them something he hasn't told me yet, because --- because usually, you get this kind of stuff later on.

So --- but no, I --- I want to thank everyone here. I thoroughly enjoyed my time in the General Assembly. I didn't know whether I was going to be a good representative legislator at the time. I knew I would try, and you know I have a prayer that I say every Saturday or Sunday depending on when I go to mass. The beginning of my opening prayer is, in at the oratory. May God grant me the serenity to accept the things I cannot change, the courage to change the things I can, and the wisdom to know the difference.

It's a perfect prayer for elected officials, a perfect prayer. And it kind of keeps you grounded, but I will say one of the reasons why I enjoyed it so much is that when you're successful, there's always a reason for it. You don't do it on your own. I had a great staff and I built great relationships with a whole lot of people in local governments, city government and also County government and a special thanks out to County Executive Rich Fitzgerald.

I remember right after I got in the senate, I had a meeting with him and I said, you know, the reps and senators they all go and they want to take care of their own District, but they forget about the bigger picture, the region. And I said, we need to start refocusing and thinking about things that'll help Allegheny County and help the city. Now, I'm a big believer, as far as the City of Pittsburgh goes, that so goes the City of Pittsburgh which is the central part of Allegheny County so it goes the whole surrounding area.

And I did represent the 11th and 12th Wards. I did not know this. I didn't get this information from my fellow Republicans. I did get it from the --- my fellow Democrats, who would laugh about it but supposedly I'm the first State elected official to represent part of the City of Pittsburgh since Delano Roosevelt. And they wanted to know how I pulled that off and I said, I have no idea whatsoever and --- and I did.

But I --- I truly appreciate this honor. What I hope is I --- I worked real hard with a number of people, other representatives and senators to try to bring everybody together to solve problems. And that's what it's all about and --- and be respectful of each other. And sometimes, I hope elections --- I pray all the time that elections won't be as nasty as they are. They'll be about the issues, and I'm still going to pray for that. And --- but I will tell you, my election came down to two votes I put up. One was a procedural vote to get the budget done, and the other was the Act 89 which they refer to as the gasoline tax, which I refer to as the transportation bill and I knew they were tough votes.

And I'm going to tell you all here today, knowing what I know now and knowing clearly that I would've lost the election, I'd still put those two votes up because they're important.

(Applause.)

MR. VULAKOVICH: And if you study the issues and you know the issues, you'll know how important those votes were, that we did get the budget done. We were at a stalemate and too many people were going to suffer and the state was going to be classified with some of the worst states in the Country as far as bond ratings. And I couldn't let that happen. So we had a procedural vote that we did to try to pull that off. So that's it. I have to say that I helped to bring people together to solve problems and I pray that I served honorably and brought no disrespect. And if there is anybody sitting here, up here or down there that I ever said something that offended you, I ask for your forgiveness. Thank you. God bless.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10895-18 and the rest will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: 10895-18. A Proclamation declaring Friday, January 11th, 2019 to be Frzy Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

10896-18. A Certificate of Recognition presented to John "Jack" Murtha of West Mifflin Fire Department Number 3 in recognition of observing his 50 years of membership. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

10897-18. A Certificate of Recognition presented to Joshua "Bud" Smith of West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Department Number 3 in recognition of observing his 50 years of membership. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

10898-18. A Certificate of Recognition presented to Ronald Biagiarelli of West Mifflin Fire Department Number 3 in recognition of observing his 50 years of membership. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

10899-18. A Certificate of Recognition presented to Robert Pavlik of West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Department in recognition of observing his 50 years of membership. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

10900-18. A Proclamation honoring Bethel Park Council President Timothy Moury for his 22 years of dedication to the residents of Bethel Park. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10901-18. Recognizing the efforts of Bob Smith who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were



devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10902-18. Recognizing the efforts of Chris Van Dyke who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10903-18. Recognizing the efforts of Lynn Sivetz who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10904-18. Recognizing the efforts of Morgan Moran who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10905-18. Recognizing the efforts of Tom Gavett who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10906-18. Recognizing the efforts of Theresa Zeiler who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10882-18. Recognizing the efforts of Becky Luzier who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10883-18. Recognizing the efforts of Lauren Bradley who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

10884-18. Recognizing the efforts of Courtney Smith who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

And 10885-18. Recognizing the efforts of Sydney Hadsell Litzenburger who assisted the residents of Bethel Park that were devastated by the flooding of June 20th, 2018. Sponsored by Council Member Means.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 10882-18. Did you read that in?

MR. BARKER: I believe I did. Yes, I did. That was one of the four that were held from the last meeting. We got all those.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10883, you read that in?

MR. BARKER: Correct.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 10884-18 was also read in?

MR. BARKER: Got it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10885-18.

MR. BARKER: And that's the last one we just did.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Public comment on agenda items?

MR. BARKER: We had one individual sign up, Robert Maddock.

MR. MADDOCK: Just me? Well, good evening County Council. My name is Bob Maddock and I live at 3826 East Street which is observatory hill in Pittsburgh, and I am a member of the Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network, the Public Safety taskforce, and I have come to make a few comments on a bill which is going to have its first reading today, the bill which --- or the ordinance to establish a County Police Review Board.

And really, it --- it --- I'm going to just make a few comments. This kind of started for me back in 1995. Jonny Gammage was a young African-American who was driving his --- actually his cousin's car just outside of the City of Pittsburgh. There was a traffic stop which eventually ended up with four police departments from four municipalities. By the time this stop was over, Jonny Gammage was dead.

One of the results of this was --- the City of Pittsburgh, that we pushed to have a Citizens' Review Board in the City of Pittsburgh. We wanted the City Council to do it. City Council didn't do it. We had a referendum, and it was passed by a majority of the people of Pittsburgh. We took this to the people and the people voted for it.

Yeah, nothing's perfect. Things aren't perfect in this city. Because we have the Review Board in this city, things are better. So I'm coming to ask you to seriously consider and to pass this legislation that is going to be read today. All I can say is that the people of Pittsburgh or the people of this County deserve not to have to come together to mourn the death of any more innocents. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any more?

MR. BARKER: That's it.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Is that it? Okay. At this time, we're going to have the Chief Executive's Quarterly Address.

(Applause.)

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thank you, Mr. President and --- and Members of Council. And I know --- I also want to echo some of the words of Senator Vulakovich. You heard from a few Republicans. I guess we got to hear from a Democrat, right, bipartisan? And I can tell you that --- that Senator Vulakovich knew no difference when it came to solve problems he really didn't and I'm going to talk about some of the accomplishments we have tonight.

One of them is a bond rating that's been raised five times in the seven years that I've been County Executive and I can tell you it wouldn't have been raised if it wasn't for the work Senator Vulakovich did on the pension bill. That was just one item in which he came together with Democrats and Republicans in the Senate and in the House and Governor Corbett to sign a pension bill that really helped Allegheny County. It saved us over a billion dollars over a 50-year period of time and that was just one.

The crime lab that is so important to the people of Western Pennsylvania, Senator Vulakovich was the one fighting with Senator Costa to get that done for the folks in Allegheny County. It saves the State of Pennsylvania an awful lot of money but it also provides services for us here. The new 911 center that we're about to open early next year was a lot of the work that Senator Vulakovich did behind the scenes, again working in a bipartisan manner with PEMA to help that happen.

He mentioned the transportation bill. I can tell you that the transit system that is running right now in Allegheny County, the Port Authority would've been --- the cuts would have been absolutely significant and devastated many people in the community. That would've happened. And the airport, he doesn't even represent the airport. It's not in the 38th Legislative District and of the 38th Senatorial District but I can tell you a lot of the things that Christina and her team have been able to do have happened with the support of Senator Vulakovich.

Those are just a few. If I went on all night, I know you put a time limit on me since it's the last meeting of year, so I'll --- I'll move on. But anyway,

first of all, I want to thank all of you and --- and particularly Chairman Klein for the budget that you passed last week. For the 17th time in the last 18 years, the people of Allegheny County have not seen a millage increase on their property tax and it's because of a lot of work that you're able to do.

I mentioned the bond rating. It's at the highest level it has been since 1983, 35 years ago since the collapse of the steel industry. And we are at the --- according to Standard and Poor's and Moody's in quotation marks, the lowest risk level and that's the first time, again, we've been there since 1983. And a lot of good things that are happening you see among jobs and among growth. And I'm going to talk about Amazon because that happened since the last time I was before you.

But also, a study that was just released this week by the University of Pittsburgh talking about 68 percent of the people in the region, talking about Allegheny County being a good place to live and raise a family. It's the highest level that's been in a number of years. And that's one of the things we make sure that we do is we continue to invest in quality of life issues like our parks, our trails, systems that we do. Again, we thank our friends at the state for some of the resources they bring to help build those trails. I want to thank Councilman Palmiere. His Chairmanship on the Parks Committee is really --- we've had a tremendous year when it comes to improving our park system.

We installed the natural meadows which is in Boyce Park this year, was really tremendously successful and so many people that --- it was a magnet for folks going in and we're going to expand that next year with North, South, Round Hill and Boyce to have those same sites in 2019 that have been so popular.

Environmentally, it removed 760 pounds of CO2 from being released and we don't have to mow it, saved some money there and it also captures over two million gallons of rainwater not going into our combined sewer system to help with the runoff and the EPA consent decree that we have there.

Some green infrastructure at Deer Lakes with a new green parking lot taking 95 percent of the runoff in Councilman Futules and Councilwoman Prizio's District, taking 600,000 gallons of rain water out of there annually. Putting some solar in South Park with some of

our lighting and some of the systems that we have there. And then, we've also planted over 200,000 trees this year with some of our school students at Elizabeth Forward and Gateway School Districts in South Park and Boyce Park in doing that. So with getting the young people involved in the environment and improving our park system.

Also, the ski slopes at Boyce Park opened up last week, as the weather gets us there and we're --- 25 percent more passes have already been sold than last year. So that becomes a very, very popular program. We're finishing up this week the 51st year of the holiday program of our school kids coming in. We had 32 different districts come in who sing throughout the week during lunch hour starting in early December, and that'll go through Thursday. And I want to thank all of the Council Members who support --- and I know Councilwoman Prizio has been to a number of those coming in and thanking the school districts that she represents throughout the week. And I --- also I'd like to thank Sarah's Candies and Turner Dairy for providing the refreshments for the kids who come in there and --- and do that.

I also wanted to talk about the courthouse roof. We're about finished on the outside. In February it's planned to be done with the outside and then we begin the inside part of it and where we're going. We talked about the tiles. I know Councilwoman Kirk, it was one of her initiatives. We've raised over \$16,000 to date going into our Parks Foundation that'll go right into our parks to try to do some of the things. So it's been a very, a very positive thing. And Christmas is coming; right? So if you need some gift ideas we still have --- still have time; right, Willie? There are 450,000 of those things. So I know we have --- I know we're not running out. I can't say order them now or we'll be out because we're going to have a few which will be good.

So let me --- let me also --- I want to thank --- and it was just announced this week that one of our CCAC, the Director of Admissions, Dr. Elizabeth DeChurch Strenkowski was named the Pennsylvania School Counselor Advocate of the Year by the school's counselor's association. She was recognized for her role in developing college and career-ready approach at CCAC with a number of our high schools. And it's really one of the --- the challenges that we have, is to get our young people ready to go to career and --- and get the skills

they need to move right into the workplace. And that's really the work of not just CCAC but the counselors and giving them good advice and that's the kind of work that --- that I think we can all be proud of as we continue to support what the community college does.

And then the last thing, and I'll open it up, because I know, again it's the last time of the year. I do want to talk about the Amazon because that announcement was made about a month ago now when they picked New York City breaking up HQ1, or excuse me, HQ2, into two areas where they --- they decided to go to New York city and Northern Virginia, Washington D.C. I think all of us can be pretty proud of the fact that Pittsburgh made it as far as we did. Out of 238 cities, we made the top 20, and my understanding is we made it even a lot higher than that.

And then in light of that, there was an announcement that Amazon has invested in a Pittsburgh company in the strip district. So I think Amazon is going to continue to grow here and continue to do some things here. And I also am proud that last week Apple announced that they are --- picked about five cities around the country that they're going to invest and provide a lot of jobs, Pittsburgh being one of them, along with Austin and Seattle and New York and other cities that made the Amazon list. So I think in many ways our best days are ahead of us for the future, for the young people that are going to be coming out of school with opportunities they're going to provide, and that's the work all of us working together are going to continue to do.

So with that, let me open it up for questions and then wish everybody a Happy Holiday and onto your business. Mr. President?

MR. FUTULES: I got a question.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Just a personal thing about the Amazon, the people that put in the bids. You may not even know this answer. The fact that they split it up, would that change their first proposal ---

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Well ---.

MR. FUTULES: --- for their bid to get them? You know, would it be half of what they would've proposed?

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Well, first of all, the proposal that was just kind of an initial

offering. Everything in that proposal would've come, first of all, on the County side back to this body ---

MR. FUTULES: Yeah.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: --- to have hearings on and debate on how many jobs, what type of jobs. All those type of things would've been --- would've been put out there in addition to the school district, the state, the municipalities of which it could've resided. Some in the City of Pittsburgh, some outside the City of Pittsburgh.

So it was very early in the proposal. As you know, what our local proposal was was a tiff, in essence of \$2.1 billion that was to go to public infrastructure. It was not to go to the company, it was to go to the company, it was to go to build out roads, to build out transit lines, to do workforce development, to make those type of improvements. So it was really public goods that were going to be provided on any increment that was going --- is going to happen. One of the questions people say is, well, if you were going to do those plans and all that money that was going to go build this stuff, can we do that anyway? Well, the money was coming from the incremental taxes that were going to be provided by all those jobs, so we still have to figure out, you know, some of the needs that we have and how we're going to pay for it.

MR. FUTULES: Well, yeah. I'm not even referring to us. I'm talking about the people that actually got the bid in New York and --- and Washington. I mean, we probably don't want to know that answer, but ---.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: I think they're going through the process now where they've got to go to their City Council, their legislative body, the State. You know, yeah, they're --- they're talking about 20 --- 55,000 jobs.

MR. FUTULES: 25,000 jobs yeah, and then all of a sudden it's 25 now so I imagine that's all changed for those --- those cities and their proposals.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: I would think that it would, yeah, but I don't know the answer to that.

MR. FUTULES: Yeah, sure, thanks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Baker?

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Mr. President. We were together on December 6th for, I think, one of the bigger

announcements. I've been representing the airport area for five years and that --- that announcement on December 6th was really huge, the innovation campus. And you've obviously been a big leader in that. I would just appreciate if you could share with my colleagues and the administration a little bit about what that event meant to us and what that --- all the things that it's going to bring to the region through the innovation campus there at the airport.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Well, I think we all view the, you know, the amount of land we have at the airport and what's happening with the Shell Petrochemical plant and all the manufacturing that we --- we envision coming on into the future.

We got some state help, again, Senator Vulakovich, who didn't represent that area but supported the RCAP that provided to that innovation campus, the work that's going to be done there, so it opens that up. And our partnership with the University of Pittsburgh, Carnegie Mellon University, who are part of that partnership in working along and collaboratively with that. So that's going to really be --- I've said this before when I've come before this body. You know, the two biggest job placement areas in the region are downtown Pittsburgh and Oakland. The third one is going to be the airport corridor, if it isn't already, and we're going to continue to see growth in there and we got to continue to figure out the transportation.

The southern beltway is certainly going to be helpful along those lines, and I know the new Port Authority Director, Katharine Kelleman, is, you know kind of figuring out how do we improve transit out into that corridor. Not just for the people that are flying out of Pittsburgh International Airport, but for all the folks that are going to be working out there as well.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thanks. And that was a great announcement. Councilman DeMarco and I were lucky enough to be part of that. It was just a --- it was a wonderful, wonderful morning.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: One more thing. I just wanted to say that I've been on Council now 11 years, and just this last year, constituents come up to me and say to me, you know, Nick, Allegheny County seems to be doing very well these days. And I think it's because of all you people in



this room. You should pat yourselves on the back because everybody in this County realizes how good a job this administration is doing because we're doing the top of everything.

You talk about the bond rating, economic development. You know, the city is --- is winning awards and people recognize that and they realize that this administration is doing a great job, and I just want to thank all of you in this room for that.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Well, let me --- let me --- well, I get to take the accolades, but really, you know, it starts with the County manager and the deputy managers, assistant manager and all the department heads and the folks that work. And I think you're right, they don't get the credit but the accolades, the parks are looking better, the amount of road paving, you know, we've done 100 --- almost 170 miles of roads over the last couple years. You know when the snow hits, our guys are out there. Our men and women are out there taking care of, you know, keeping people safe, you know, the Kane Hospital the --- again, we could go on and on but it's --- there's a lot of good folks that do a lot of work day in and day out. And I think there's a pride in what we've been able to do over the last few years, and I think, again I --- I go back to it's about the future and optimism where people know --- young people, particularly that there's opportunities here. And I think that's our job to make sure that we provide that on into the future. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Well, you're certainly doing a great job. Thank you.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Well, thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Cantena

(sic)?

MR. CATENA: Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Catena. I'm sorry.

MR. CATENA: I'm just curious. The Amazon document or the bid, will that be like something that's living and breathing that you'll go back to possibly for future companies or is that pretty much?

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Look, the great part of it was is a lot of people came together, over 400 different organizations, our universities, our corporate community, our labor unions, foundation community, government at all levels. I don't know that there's going

to be another company that says, in that manner, we got 50,000 jobs we're bringing. I've never seen anything like that, and if you've kind of followed the political climate that occurred from the very beginning when they instituted that back in September of '17, and quite frankly, a number of protests on both sides, from the right and the left around, you know, corporate give-a-ways, if you will or corporate partnerships.

And I think you're going to see all of those other companies that we already have here, Oracle, Facebook, Google, Apple --- I mean, I could go on and on, you know SGI. They seem to be growing 400 jobs here, 500 jobs here, 1,000 jobs here and doing it in a kind of more under the radar screen or in a less --- quiet manner.

I think the fact that this thing was so publicized and then, in many ways, I think went a direction that I don't know that they anticipated. That any of us could anticipate when it came about. Certainly we want the jobs. I mean, that's an important thing. We always --- that's one of the things, I think all of us having grown up here, and you know, when things happened, when all those jobs went away, it left this region in a very difficult position. So we're always fighting for jobs but we want to fight for jobs in a fair and equitable manner that can help everybody in the region so.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeMarco down there?

MR. KLEIN: Well --- well, I guess there is a silver lining here. And so several months ago, a writer by the name of Sherman Alexie spoke here in Pittsburgh and he is from --- he lives in Seattle. And so he opened his remarks that night by asking everyone if --- this was in January of this year. If they were excited --- if we were excited about the prospects of Amazon coming to Pittsburgh and a number of people applauded and he said, be careful what you wish for. It could happen.

And then all the most interesting, artistic, innovative and visionary people will have to leave because they won't be able to afford to live here. So maybe that is the silver in all of this. It does change communities in good ways and in ways that are not so good.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Yeah. I don't think there's any question that it wouldn't of all been positive. I mean, there would've been --- there would've been challenges. There would've been a downside --- a

downside to everything. I think the good news for us, as a region is the publicity and the notoriety that Pittsburgh got in many national publications from the Wall Street Journal to the New York Times to Fortune magazine to et cetera, et cetera, GeekWire coming here and embedding for a month. It puts Pittsburgh on the map in a big, big way that maybe we weren't before. And I think it had other companies, and we've seen that already taking a look at the quality of life, the affordability, the tech talent that we have here.

All the things that are going on here that --- that this is a great place. I mean, one of the things about Pittsburgh is --- and this Pittsburgh region has been, it's always kind of --- we all know about it because we live here but it's been a secret maybe to other people. I think it's opened the eyes of other folks to see what a great place we have to do business and live, so anyway ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Representative DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: I was just going to say --- and you just covered this, okay. The silver lining for me, out of this entire process was all the stakeholders that came together to take and market the great things about Pittsburgh, the Allegheny County, the entire region and be able to take and propose this, you know, to Amazon. Obviously, there would've been challenges, but what region is going to turn away 50,000 jobs; okay?

But whether we got it, we didn't get the changes, all of that's material. The great thing about the free market is in board rooms across this Country and conversations that we're not aware of, Pittsburgh's name is being raised; okay? So this was a tremendous positive for us, I believe. I applaud your leadership on this. I know that you guys faced a tremendous amount of pressure from the media who consistently wanted to take and draw all this information out, and I understand their desire to get it, but being in sales, I also understand us wanting to keep our cards close to the vest and I support that decision.

So I just want to thank you for the leadership. I think the process was handled very professionally and we are where we are, but I'm looking forward to great things ahead.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thank you.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, and Members of Council. Rich, I just wanted to mention about the Park Ranger program. You know, those parks are very near and dear to me and especially South Park. I get criticized for that all the time. There's eight other parks, John, you know, but the point is, the rangers, I've seen the work that they've been doing that and the feedback that we've been getting down there is just great. And I hope we can not only keep this program intact but to expand it in the future.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thanks, and I --- the Ranger program that we instituted and you authorized it a couple years ago, has been extremely positive. They've been great ambassadors going into our schools, talking about really the details of the parks, what types of plants are there, what kind of trees, what type of vegetation, what type of wildlife, et cetera, all the things that are involved. And the parks are very complex systems and I think they're able to bring it down to a level that gets kids excited and gets our young people and students excited.

They were part of that tree planting that I talked about, 2,000 trees. To see middle school kids from Elizabeth Forward and Gateway School Districts out there working in our parks. They'll be able to look at those trees, you know 20, 30 years from now and say, you know, I planted those trees to help make that park a better place.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no more, we appreciate you coming.

COUNTY EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: I wish everybody Happy Holidays. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Same to you.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 10907-18.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the October 23rd, 2018 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

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

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh. Unfinished Business,  
Committee on Economic Development and Housing, Second  
Reading, 10888-18.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance approving the sale of  
a parcel of property identified as 4991 Library Road,  
Bethel Park, Pennsylvania, comprised of Block and Lots  
392-F-225, 392-F-215, 392-F-175, 392-F-165, 392-G-110 and  
392-F-200 to 25R624 Realty, LLC, a Pennsylvania Limited  
Liability Company, for the sale price of \$400,000.  
Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Chairman DeWitt Walton?

MR. WALTON: Thank you, Mr. President. This  
issue has been before Council at another point in time,  
and what we've done is gone back and reviewed it and  
revised it to ensure that it comports with all of the  
language that we need to have in place in order to convey  
the sale. It had been moved to the Economic Development  
Committee on December 12th, and we discussed it in Council  
and it was affirmatively moved to refer it to Council with  
full approval and I so make that recommendation.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We'll have to go with a roll  
call vote.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?  
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?  
MS. PRIZIO: 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: 10889-18.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance approving sale of approximately 8.2031 gross acres, 7.9993 net acres of County property located on McIntyre Road in Ross Township, Pennsylvania, 15237 identified as a portion of Lot and Block Number 612-S-64 known as the John J. Kane Regional Center of Ross Township to Regional Development Partners-McKnight Road LP for the sale price of \$1.25 million. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Walton?

MR. WALTON: Thank you, Mr. President. A similar set of occurrences and issues in this Ordinance as well. And we took it upon --- in the Committee on Economic Development on December 12th and the recommendation from the committee was to move it to full Council with a recommendation for approval and I so move.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?  
MR. BAKER: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?  
MR. CATENA: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?  
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?  
MR. FUTULES: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?  
MS. KIRK: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?  
MR. KLEIN: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?  
MS. MEANS: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?  
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?  
MS. PRIZIO: 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: Okay. 10890-18.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution of the Council of the County of Allegheny ratifying asbestos abatement permit application fee increases approved by the Allegheny County Health Department pursuant to the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances, Section 505-49 C(8). Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, and Members of Council. This bill would authorize alterations to the asbestos abatement permit fee structure within Allegheny County. These permits are necessary in order to undertake certain abatement activities, and the proposed fee changes are intended to ease the permit cost burden for municipalities conducting demolition activities while increasing the fee slightly for the largest, almost always commercial abatements. And we met on the 12th of December and this was sent up here with an affirmative recommendation, and move for approval.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

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

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?  
MR. BAKER: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?  
MR. CATENA: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?  
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?  
 MS. KIRK: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?  
 MR. KLEIN: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?  
 MR. MACEY: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?  
 MS. MEANS: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?  
 MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?  
 MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?  
 MS. PRIZIO: 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: 10887-18.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of approximately one and one-half acres of land located adjacent to the County's White Oak Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, and Members of Council. This bill would authorize the County's acceptance of about 1.5 acres of privately owned, undeveloped property for incorporation into the County's White Oak Park. And we met again on the 12th of December, Mr. President, and move for approval.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

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

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?  
 MR. BAKER: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?  
 MR. CATENA: Yes.  
 MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?  
 MR. DEMARCO: Yes.



MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?  
MR. FUTULES: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?  
MS. KIRK: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?  
MR. KLEIN: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?  
MR. MACEY: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?  
MS. MEANS: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?  
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Pالموسينا?  
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.  
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?  
MS. PRIZIO: 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: 10909-18.

MR. BARKER: I apologize, liaison reports?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Pardon me?

MR. BARKER: The Liaison reports?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No, we didn't do it.

Liaison reports first, yeah. Representative Baker and then we'll come down the line, go ahead.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thanks, Mr. President. As I mentioned during the County Executive's update, that innovation campus kickoff and groundbreaking really was incredible so that's something really amazing going on in District 1.

We did have District 1 Ross Westview trivia night and it was a fun event. A guy named Greg Yost was actually the winner. He got 19 out of 20. We actually had another team get 19 out of 20, but that was with five people on it. But a really fun event. We're going to keep doing it. That was the second annual and it was --- it was definitely a --- a good time; right, Cindy Kirk? Yeah. So we'll keep doing that event. It's Ross Westview trivia, just to build pride, build knowledge of what's

going on in District 1. So we'll continue doing that with John Schalcosky who literally wrote the book in Ross Township.

So that was great. It was nice to spend last Friday with the folks at Ben Avon Heights. They had a great holiday event. We had Westview light-up night which was also terrific. Public officials reception last week I learned don't bring a baby to it. That was a --- that was a good learning moment for me, honestly. It was still nice to see elected officials from throughout the region and even though other elected officials might be in higher office than me, my baby only wanted to hang out with me and not any members of Congress or Senators, but it was --- it was just great to see everyone there.

The final thing I'll say, Councilman Walton and I spent some time together last week at a nice event that the operating engineers put together and two thoughts on it. One is, how can we get more young leaders out of our District's to apply for the apprenticeship with the operating engineers? I think it's --- hopefully as we're working through the marketing committee which I'd like to get together again soon. Just you know, thinking about ways that we can use the microphone that the 15 of us do have in these roles as County Council Members. Just to keep promoting the great things that programs like --- and apprenticeship programs like the operating engineers do --- do provide to young people here in the region.

And people of all ages but especially those coming out of high school that could be a really, really good fit for them so it was nice to spend time with Councilman Walton at that event. I thought it was really --- I left inspired to do something positive and productive after that meeting so that's all I have, Mr. President. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

We'll come right up the line. Representative DeMarco, I think.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. I had the distinct honor and pleasure and privilege of going to the White House last Wednesday to represent Allegheny County for an Executive Order signed by President Trump. The Executive Order he signed creates something called the White House Opportunity and Revitalization Council.

This Council will be led by Secretary of the Housing and Urban Development, Secretary Carson. And the

whole purpose of this is to streamline the working across 14 different federal agencies to take and allow us to be able to move forward with something that was passed in the tax cuts and job act last year which is called opportunity zones.

Opportunity zones are something which are identified. There's about 8,700 across the Country but we have 68 of them in Allegheny County. These are distressed municipalities in parts where the poverty rate is 32 percent, where the median income is 37 percent below the other surrounding areas. And what this does is it's not the injection of public money, but it's incentive through tax relief for a private sector investment in these areas which they believe will lead to long-term investment jobs and opportunities.

The amount of money that they project to be invested in these areas is \$100 billion, that's with a b, billion dollars. So I look forward to working with the Allegheny County's Economic Development Department and folks here as we look to see what can we do in the distressed communities here in Allegheny County to provide these folks with opportunity and with hope? Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Coming up. Go ahead, Nick. Representative Futules?

MR. FUTULES: On a happy note, Penn Hills football team had won the State Championship and the entire community is so excited. They've been celebrating by parades and awards and --- and they're actually coming to the Harmar House on February 23rd for their awards banquet and I will be presenting them with a Proclamation from Allegheny County at that time. And a great time for those kids, you know. I can't wait to give the speech to tell them how high school is the best time of their lives, and they'll be able to talk about winning the State Championship when they're 65 years old like myself and --- and it's been 23 years.

Some teams have never won it, but they certainly deserved it. And I asked a coach one time, two weeks ago about those kids, and I said, they weren't all that big. He said, well, the problem is you couldn't catch them. And that's --- speed was everything for them.

Now, I heard great news. People like Bill Fralic had gave money for the entire football team to stay at Hershey Park at the hotel because they didn't have the

money. And then there was many other people in the community that gave money so they'd have money for food. The school district was distressed enough that they just couldn't send them without outside help, and it was wonderful that the community came forward.

People like Bill Fralic, a graduate of Penn Hills, you know, has been a big supporter of them for years. And just last week, I thought I was hearing things but --- and they said Bill Fralic had passed away. He was 56 years old and he died from cancer. And Bill Fralic, I knew him. He was a friend of mine, and I knew his father. Actually, I worked with his father at Edgewater Steel when I was in my 20s and his father was tougher and rougher than him if you ever met Bill Fralic, Sr. But I just wanted to mention these people tonight because of the somber and of course, the joyous occasion.

I believe Aliquippa, who represents them and they also won the State Championship this year, one of their football teams.

MR. DEMARCO: They're Beaver County.

MR. FUTULES: Beaver County? Well, they live around this region anyhow. I wasn't sure where they were from, okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Means?

MS. MEANS: Thank you, Mr. President. First, I wanted to wish everybody a very merry Christmas, and I wanted to thank all the County employees and the members of our administration and their families because not only does everyone work really hard to make us have a wonderful County, but there are families that might sacrifice because they're at work or they might have long hours and I wanted to tell everyone Merry Christmas.

I also wanted to share that I had the honor to attend the Bethel Park Council meeting on December 10th, and there I honored the Black Hawk Family Relief Fund and the citizens of Bethel Park Facebook and Council Member Tim Moury because Bethel Park suffered, on June 20th, a devastating flood. And people, we had to declare a state of emergency and it was a terrible and hard time but something very beautiful happened and that was neighbors started helping neighbors.

So people --- so the Black Hawk family relief fund and the citizens of Bethel Park Facebook, they helped make sure that the people that wanted to help got connected with the people who needed help. So there was

actually 133 families that were helped. There were work crews that went in. They cleaned peoples house, they helped get rid of the mold, they helped get rid of all the debris. They helped with laundry and they helped with meals. And they raised \$55,000 so they were able to give monetary donations to families that were hit so hard. And they have continued even through the holidays. They're raising money for the families that were hit hard by the flood.

So I just wanted to thank them one more time for going above and beyond and to recognize that government can't do everything, but volunteers and people helping people really can help and I just wanted to thank them one more time. Thank you for recognizing me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Walton?

MR. WALTON: Thank you, Mr. President. In this spirit of Christmas and the holidays, I really want to salute the Allegheny County Labor Council. On an annual basis, in engages in an activity called stuff the bus, and donates thousands upon thousands of toys to individuals across Allegheny County who have suffered misfortune and distress. And this year, they provided so many gifts to so many kids and this is the commitment of working people to the residents of Allegheny County in transforming the lives in a host of communities.

Through their partnership, the Labor County's partnership with the Pittsburgh A. Philip Randolph Institute, we were able to help organizations in Clairton, in --- throughout Lawrenceville, through Beltzhoover, a host of communities throughout the city and the region. And we're really proud to be a union member and to understand and appreciate the work that unions do and union members do every day to make people's lives better. We salute them.

And to Tom, it was good to see him there at the operating engineers. And to that end, this coming March 29th at the David Lawrence Convention Center, the Builders Guild, in partnership with the Pittsburgh Regional Building Trades Council, is having every high school across the --- inviting every high school to come to the Lawrence Convention Center to see what the trades do and the career opportunities that will take place. And our workforce development entity that's run through the A. Philip Institute will be there and continues to identify

and place people in the construction and building trades every day.

There is more work than there are people that are aware of the opportunities that are presented out there, and our task is to make more folks become aware of those things as well. So union yes, every day. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing no more, we'll move on. 10890-18.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances through the establishment of a new Division 9, entitled Conduct and a new Chapter 905, entitled Independent Police Review Board, in order to establish a mechanism for citizen review of allegations of misconduct undertaken by police officers within Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Members Walton and Klein.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Walton and Klein, someone want to speak? Walton, Klein?

MR. WALTON: Yeah. I want to start --- I want to start by saying, this is a momentous occasion for a host of reasons. While many individuals believe that this was the genesis as a result of the Antwon Rose tragedy, it's not. The legislation is named in honor of my predecessor, William Russell Robinson, because a number of years ago, Bill Robinson attempted to introduce a similar legislation to bring about a review of actions that go on across Allegheny County. He was unsuccessful.

And again, as we've said on multiple occasions, that it's appropriate, that this legislation is designed not only to protect the rights of residents of Allegheny County, but it also protects the rights of law enforcement officers across the County as well.

So I think that it is only appropriate and timely that we introduce, debate and pass legislation that ensures transparency, legitimacy and the protections of all residents as well as ensuring that the rights of officers are protected as well. Thank you, sir.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You want to say something?

MR. KLEIN: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President. This ordinance, in many respects, represents the combination of efforts that began this past summer when Councilman Walton and I conducted a series of public meetings across the County. And we did this for the

purpose of gathering public input, getting the measure of how concerned citizens felt about the advisability of creating this kind of a Board.

We were joined at those hearings by a number of our colleague --- a number of our Council colleagues as well. And after having spent a considerable amount of time considering the transcripts and weighing the input that we received from so many people who were concerned with this process, we decided that it made sense to move forward. So just a couple of things.

In introducing this Ordinance today, I think we're really seeking to do something that --- that I think is both forward-looking and proactive. Policing is changing in this Country. It is evolving in many ways. Our communities in this region, many of them are facing serious challenges which were really brought to light in a very big way by the experience in East Pittsburgh.

Many of the challenges that they face are challenges that are driven by declining populations and decreasing financial resources. We cannot look to a future where it will realistically be possible to maintain 109 municipal police forces in various shapes and sizes. Movement, of course, is afoot to address these challenges in this region and of course, we see this process of consolidation of police forces taking place across the County, and no doubt it will continue.

Here in Allegheny County, we have been well served by our police. We have been able to provide them with the training and resources that they need in order to serve the public. But going forward, there may be needs and expectations that our County police force will have to meet that call for different kinds of police responsibilities and accountabilities as well.

We know well that the creation of such a Board will not cure all that ails us. Our racial challenge in this country has deep roots and is sadly a part of our identity as a nation. It is our hope that in the weeks to come, Councilman Walton and I, along with our Council colleagues, will have the chance, will have the opportunity to consider both challenges and opportunities in creating a Board that will be responsive to the changing profile and changing needs of this region. As always, we hope to hear from and welcome the thoughtful input of the residents of the County as we move ahead and consider this measure. So thank you.

MR. CATENA: Mr. President, a point of personal privilege?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah?

MR. CATENA: The transcripts, will we get --- will the transcripts be provided to us and will they be putting them out on our website for everyone to see for what happened at the --- because I know we had a court reporter at all of the public hearings. And in the sake of transparency I would recommend that obviously, we put them out on our website and obviously we all get copies of them or we get to see them as well.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Does anybody have an answer?

MR. WALTON: They're on the website, and they've been there. They've been there --- they've been there for a significant period of time.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative ---.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah?

MR. DEMARCO: If I may ask my colleague, Councilman Walton, I responded to an e-mail on Friday when you --- from an e-mail from Councilman Klein and Councilman Walton announcing the introduction of this legislation and said, do we have any questions? And I said yes, where are the minutes or the transcripts? And I have not received an answer. So if these are somehow I'd appreciate just sending me the link so that we can access them. And then to my colleague Councilman Catena's point, put them out there so that the public has the ability to access them. Thank you.

MR. KLEIN: Maybe Jared knows that.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Jared?

MR. WALTON: Would you recognize our clerk, please, sir?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.

MR. BARKER: Just by way of clarification, the minutes from all of the public hearings from this summer, all four of them are posted in the Council's records repository. Those are accessible from your iPads actually right now. If you'd go into the document library, you'll be able to find them right now. I can post them to --- have DCS post them to the Council website if that's the Council's desire. That's low overhead and it usually is accomplished within a matter of 24 hours. They have to run through a posting and update cycle but that's about the extent of it.



PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: DeWitt, do you have anything --- go ahead.

MR. WALTON: I --- I don't --- and I just encourage us to know. The key to all of this is transparency across the spectrum.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Do you want to have --- was there a motion?

MR. WALTON: No.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No?

MR. WALTON: You have to --- you have to assign it. You --- you have to assign it to a committee.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, I was going to assign it to your committee and make you Chairman of the committee so that's your committee.

MS. KIRK: Economic development? Economic development?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, he's been dealing with ---.

MR. FUTULES: John, I thought we have to do --- form a special committee?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, it's a special committee which I'm allowed to do.

MS. KIRK: Who's going to be on the committee?

MR. DEMARCO: So much for transparency.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Everybody will be --- be able to go to the meeting. Everybody will be able to go to the meeting. DeWitt will just be the Chairman. If he's the Chairman, everybody can ---.

MS. KIRK: Will we be all voting members in this committee, if we're all members of the committee?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You're all members but what did we decide on ---?

MR. WALTON: President DeFazio has indicated that he's creating a special committee that he's allowed to do under rules of Council. He's also decided that I will Chair said committee, and we will be sharing with all Members of Council the process, procedures for us to move the discussion regarding the legislation forward in a timely manner.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, Representative Means.

MS. MEANS: I just wanted to --- well, I wanted to say this is highly irregular, one. Number two, will all members of Council be members of this special committee? What I want to know is usually, you know,

there is deliberation in a committee, there is members of the committee and the committee votes to move the ordinance forward or not forward to the whole Council for a vote. And it seems highly irregular that, you know, the whole Council is now a member of this committee? I just need some clarification as who will be the members of this committee? It's --- it's not the usual process.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: It's a committee of the whole. Go ahead?

MR. WALTON: Madam, Ms. --- Ms. Means, this is not irregular. This is permissible under rules of Council, to do --- to do just what is being --- what is taking place. The rules of Council allow that, and he's --- and he's utilizing or implementing said rules. And there is an entire protocol that will follow as a result. And again, transparency will rule. We are going to use those procedures to ensure that all Members of Council have voice and that's what we're going to do.

MR. KLEIN: Mr. President? I --- it's my understanding that the Council President does have this authority, and apparently this has happened before. And I don't --- I don't recall. Maybe Mr. Barker can refresh my recollection at some point, but I think that this is something Jared --- this is something that's happened before where a special committee has been appointed a couple of different occasions and given the fact that I think we were talking in utterances about an issue that didn't neatly fit into one of the committees. So I don't know could you --- do you recall that?

MR. BARKER: May I?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. BARKER: That's correct. There have been several special committees created over the years. There was a special committee on assessments back during the 2002 reassessment timeframe. The Committee on Government Reform, believe it or not, actually was a special committee for many years by itself. So there is significant precedent for it.

MR. KLEIN: Okay.

MR. DEMARCO: What committee was this in? Excuse me, Mr. President. What committee was this in when Councilman Robinson proposed this back in 2012? Because this just seems like this is a natural for a Public Safety Committee.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, he wasn't ---.

MR. DEMARCO: So if there wasn't a special committee formed then, why do we need a special committee now?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, he wasn't public safety anyway. He was budget and finance.

MR. DEMARCO: No, I understand, but he proposed the legislation. He proposed a Civilian Police Review Board.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, but this is like a new committee, so you know --- nothing wrong with it.

MR. DEMARCO: We're not saying --- we're just talking about transparency. People were talking about transparency and --- for three days. My question has gone unanswered as to where the minutes of the transcripts were until the clerk just said, oh, they're in the repository that you can reach via your iPad. But I sent an e-mail to the Chief of Staff as well as everyone that was on that e-mail because we didn't have an answer. And here tonight, we're hearing about this special committee that's going to be formed here, but yet we're talking about we're transparent. I think it's anything but.

MR. WALTON: If --- if I may, Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, wait a minute.

MR. FUTULES: No, I'd like a turn.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, wait a minute. Okay. Let's get Nick and then I'll get you.

MR. FUTULES: My thought was it was going to go to either government reform or public safety and the reason it didn't because they're not the committee of the whole. A new committee was formed so they could make it the committee of the whole body so that everybody was in the discussion. That was the reason for forming the new committee. That's what was explained to me because I am the Chairman of the government reform and I want to know why I didn't get it so --- and Bob, of course as well so that's why. And that's his decision as the President and nobody else's. So under the Home Rule Charter, he is perfectly allowed to do it and I will not argue with him.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Thanks, Nick.

MR. WALTON: Thank you --- thank you, Mr. Futules. You just responded with the comments that I was about to share.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Anybody else? Okay. Where we at here now?

MR. BARKER: New business motions, actually. That comes after new business motions, there are --- actually there are no new business motions. So the next substantive item would be notification of contracts Bill 10908.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: So we're moving to 10908?

MR. BARKER: Correct. Communication summarizing approved executive actions from November 1st through November 30th, 2018.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

Now, we're moving --- and we'll create a special committee on Independent Police Review to discuss this --- this bill. This will be a committee of the whole and the Chair will be --- the Chair will be Council Member Walton. Refer this to the Special Committee of Independent Police Review, Mr. Walton or Mr. Klein to do --- do you have any brief remarks at this time? Wait a minute.

MR. CATENA: Mr. President, you --- I believe you sent this to committee so I think we're ---.

MR. WALTON: Yes, sir. Yes, sir. I think were --- I think were at new business and notification of contracts.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Notification of contracts?

MR. BARKER: Correct. 10908-18. A Communication summarizing approved executive actions from November 1st through November 30th, 2018.

MR. CATENA: I'll make a motion to accept those.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

MR. CATENA: Motion to adjourn.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You can --- you can do that. A motion to adjourn is in order at any time. So if you want to make a motion to adjourn, you can do it.

MR. DEMARCO: It's the end of the meeting?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, no, there was a couple of other things on there. But you made a motion to adjourn; right?

MR. FUTULES: Notification of contracts?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Well, that's --- Nick, it don't matter. It don't matter what's next. He made a motion to adjourn, that's an order. Someone want to second it?

MR. PALMIERE: I did.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Oh, you seconded it. Okay. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

Opposed?

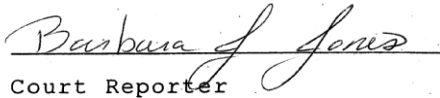
The ayes have it. Meeting adjourned.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6:28 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.

Dated the 25th day of January, 2019

  
Court Reporter

Barbara J. Jones