

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Patrick Catena	-	President, District 4
Robert J. Macey	-	Vice-President, District 9
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-at-Large
Bethany Hallam	-	Council-at-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Tom Duerr	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Nicholas Futules	-	District 7
Paul Zavarella	-	District 8
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Robert Palmosina	-	District 12
Olivia "Liv" Bennett	-	District 13

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

August 24, 2021 - 5:01 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  
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff

PRESIDENT CATENA: Good evening, everyone. I'd like to call this meeting of Allegheny County Council to order. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Please remain standing for a moment of silent reflection.

(Moment of Silence.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Please be seated. Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER:	Mr. Baker?
MR. BAKER:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTURLES:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	MS. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Kirk.
MS. KIRK:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Here.

MR. BARKER: We have 14 members present.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll begin with proclamations and certificates. 11959-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the Mayor of Bridgeville Borough, Betty Copeland, for receiving the 2021 Pennsylvania Mayor of the Year award, sponsored by Council Members Duerr and Catena.

MR. DUERR: Okay. So this is my first in-person proclamation, so bear with me, Mayor Copeland and the rest of members of Council. Very quickly before I read this off, I quickly want to congratulate Mayor Copeland on being named the 2021 Pennsylvania Mayor of the Year. And for my first in-person proclamation, I can't think of anyone better who - and more well-deserving than Mayor Copeland to receive it. I've known Mayor Copeland for a couple of years now, both via my role as a county councilmember, but also via my jobs working on campaigns across the region.

I've gotten to see what a tremendous public servant and leader she is in the Bridgeville community, her and her entire family, and it's just been a tremendous learning experience watching how she - how she leads Bridgeville and how she has shaped that community that past couple of years since taking over as Mayor. So I'm going to read this off here, and then Mayor Copeland, I'll pass things off to you if you'd like to say any words.

So whereas knowledge comes but wisdom lingers, it may not be difficult to store up in the mind a vast quantity of facts within a comparably short time, but the ability to form judgments requires the severe discipline and hard work and tempering heat of maturity, that quote by Calvin Coolidge depicts the true essence of Betty Copeland's character and her years devoted to Bridgeville Borough. And whereas each year the Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association comprised of city, borough and municipal Mayors across the state selects a mayor who has had a significant impact upon the community, is a leader and has had extraordinary accomplishments, whereas the 2021 Pennsylvania Mayor of the Year was awarded to the Mayor of Bridgeville Borough, Betty Copeland.

And whereas elected on November 7th, 2017, Ms. Copeland is the first female and African American to lead Bridgeville Borough. She consistently displays unwavering commitment towards the Borough, and with its continuous determination, she has been able to make an impact on the quality of life, for the 5,968 residents, and whereas Ms. Copeland, through her dedication, helped make a difference in the community through her countless hours volunteering at the Bridgeville Library, St. Clair Hospital and Bridgeville Historical Society, and whereas Mayor Ms. Copeland understands, the importance of establishing a strong community base, and she is committed to attending

community functions and advancing her mayoral and administrative duties.

Now, therefore be it resolved, that we, Allegheny County Council Members, Tom Duerr, President Catena, Council Member DeMarco do hereby recognize the Mayor of Bridgeville Borough Betty Copeland for being awarded the 2021 Pennsylvania Mayor of the Year award. And we thank her for her unwavering dedication towards Bridgeville Borough and witness whereof I have here unto caused the seal of County of Allegheny to be affixed this 24th day, August 2021.

So congratulations, Mayor Copeland.

MAYOR COPELAND: I appreciate this acknowledgement by the Allegheny County Council of my being awarded the Mayor of the Year by the Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association. It was a great honor to be singled out among all the many mayors through the state who are doing so many great things for their respective communities.

This year, 2021, Bridgeville Borough government won a highly selective banner community award from the Allegheny League of Municipalities for providing good and efficient government for the residents of Bridgeville. I am personally proud to be a member of the Bridgeville Borough government that achieved that goal, and equally as proud to be considered a valued member of that team. They make me stand out.

I would like to thank the Bridgeville Borough Council, the borough manager, the administrative staff, the police department, public works and all of the other authorities and commissions for helping us to win that award and make it impossible for me to be mayor of the year. I'd also like to thank Deb Colassimo, without whom I never would have been elected Mayor.

I'm proud of my record of distinguished volunteer service to the many service --- civic organizations that I've been a part of and consider being Mayor just another way to serve. Lastly, at this point in American history, I'd also like to acknowledge that I am the first African American, as well as the fourth woman to receive the distinction of being Mayor of the year, as chosen by Pennsylvania State Mayor's Association. It's a high honor to be chosen for this award, but equally important to get the regional recognition from Allegheny County Council, winning it for me and for Bridgeville.

This day I will remember forever. Thank you.  
(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: The remaining proclamations and certificates will be read into the record. 11960-21, and just continue, Jared.

MR. BARKER: Fair enough. A proclamation recognizing the efforts of many to get the new Brentwood Borough buildings opened after 18 months of construction, sponsored by Council Member Palmiere.

11961-21, a proclamation recognizing Dan Gimiliano for his service to our county and upon the momentous occasion of his 98th birthday, sponsored by Council Member DeMarco.

11962-21, a proclamation recognizing Ed and Janet Henke upon the momentous occasion of their 50th wedding anniversary, sponsored by Council Member Palmiere.

And 11963-21, certificates of achievement presented to the 2021 Circle of Courage Awardees, sponsored by Council Member Baker.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll now have public comment on agenda items.

MR. BARKER: I don't believe we had anybody sign up for agenda items.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Approval of minutes, 11965-21.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the May 25th, 2021 regular meeting of Council.

MS. BENNETT: So moved.

MR. KLEIN: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: A motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion carries. 11966-21.

MR. BARKER: A motion approving the minutes of the June 22n, 2021 regular meeting of Council.

MS. BENNETT: So moved.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: A motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? The motion carries.

Presentation of appointments. Obviously, if there are no objections, I'd like to have the clerk read all of the appointments, grouped by sponsor, and then all are obviously are going to be referred to the committee on appointment and review.

Go ahead.

MR. BARKER: From Council Member Prizio, we have 11943-21, Colleen Lizzie, the Friends of North Park. 11944-21, Liz Spence to the Friends of North Park.

11945-21, Amy Giammattei to the Friends of Hartwood Acres. 11946-21, Pam Konopasek to the Friends of Hartwood Acres. 11947-21 Carrie Classen to the Friends of Hartwood Acres. 11948-21, Allison Burgan to the Friends of Hartwood Acres. 11949-21, Betsie Mozurak to the friends of Hartwood Acres. 11958-21, Jake Milofsky to the Friends of North Park. 11964-21, Richard O. Kernick to the Friends of North Park.

All of those will expire on August 24th, 2024.

For Ms. Hallam, we have 11950-21, Sanford Leuba to the Friends of Harrison Hills. That one will expire on August 24th, 2024.

For Mr. Futules, we have 11951-21, Susan Goughler to the Friends of Harrison Hills. 11952-21, Dan Smith to the Friends of Harrison Hills. 11953-21, Donna Smith to the Friends of Harrison Hills. 11954-21, Nicholas Svitek to the Friends of Harrison Hills. And 11955-21, Sharon Svitek to the Friends of Harrison Hills. All of those will also expire on August 24th, 2024.

From the Chief Executive, we have 11956-21, Michael Malloon to the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council to expire on December 31st, 2024. And 11957-21, Charles N. Davis, Jr. to the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council, also to expire on December 31st, 2024.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll now go on to unfinished business. Committee on Economic Development and Housing for the second reading, 11940-21.

MR. BARKER: A resolution providing for a program of temporary exemption from county real property taxes for improvements, including repairs, construction or reconstruction, made on industrial, commercial or business property in a deteriorated area in the Borough of Etna, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Economic Development and Housing met on August 19th and affirmatively recommended this to the full council. I urge its passage and make a motion.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: A motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, Jared, please take a roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTURLES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: MS. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk.

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, noes zero. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. At this point in time, we'll have liaison reports. And I'd just like to take a moment to remind everyone that liaison reports are specifically for reports - are designed if you're a

liaison to a specific committee or specific forum, that you'd report at this point in time.

So does anyone have a liaison report? Hearing none, new business, ordinances and resolution, 11967-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 903, entitled Formal Procurement Process, Section 5-901.03.02 entitled Purchases over \$30,000 in order to establish a more transparent process for providing public notice of requests for proposals, sponsored by Council Members Hallam, Prizio, Bennett, Palmosina and Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform. 11968-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County through the creation of a new Article 1300, entitled Election Practices, and a new Section 5-1300.01 entitled Audit Watchers, in order to establish a uniform policy governing public observation of Commonwealth-Mandated election audits, sponsored by Council Members DeMarco, Catena and Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform. 11969-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County through the creation of a new Article 1300, entitled Election Practices, and a new Section 5-1300.03, entitled Voting Machine Testing, in order to establish a uniform policy allowing for public observation of voting machine testing procedures, sponsored by Council Members DeMarco, Catena and Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform as well. 11970-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County through the creation of a new Article 1300, entitled Election Practices, and a new Section 5-1300.02, entitled Election Facility Video Recording, in order to establish a uniform policy allowing for public review of all video taken within facilities used to store, maintain or evaluate election equipment or conduct counts, audits,



processing or other activities relating to ballots cast in any election, sponsored by Council Member DeMarco, Catena and Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform as well.

New business, motions. 11971-21.

MR. BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County, authorizing the President of council to conduct public hearings, pursuant to Section 801.05 of the Administrative code on Thursday, October 14th at 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 15th at 5:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 21st at 5:00 p.m. in the Gold Room of the Allegheny County Courthouse, sponsored by Council Member Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Council Member Palmosina, I assume you want to make that motion?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes, I move for approval.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, is everyone fine with just basically doing a simple roll call? All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion carries. 11972-21.

MR. BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County amending and supplementing the Rules of Council, Article IV, Rule B, in order to establish a uniform mechanism for the consideration of written motions, sponsored by Council Members, Futules, Prizio, DeMarco and Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform.

Notification of contracts, 11973-21.

MR. BARKER: A communication summarizing approved executive actions for July 2021.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a motion to receive?

MR. DUERR: So moved, Duerr.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion carries. Any public comment on general items?

MR. BARKER: I believe we did have one on general items, but they're not here.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. At this point in time, I'm not going to adjourn the meeting. We're actually going to continue downstairs into an executive session to discuss some litigation matters. So thank you, everyone. Have a nice evening.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:18 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 11 day of November, 2021

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Amber Garbinski", is written above a horizontal line.

Amber Garbinski,

Court Reporter