

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

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

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

Tuesday, September 28, 2020 - 5:01 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
225 Ross Street Suite 202
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Jack Cambest - Allegheny County Council Solicitor
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: I want to call this meeting to order. Would people rise and say the pledge of allegiance to the flag, and after that we will have a brief silent prayer or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance)

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you.
Roll call.

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. FUTULES: 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. MACEY: Here.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere? Mr. Palmiere? 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.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you.
Ken, would you remind Mr. Palmiere that he can unmute his phone to give us an answer one way or another?

Proclamations and certificates.

MR. BARKER: 120-28-21. A proclamation recognizing Rachel Filippini for her

dedication to GASP and improving the air quality throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

MS. PRIZIO: I'm honored today to present this proclamation to Rachel. She has been so instrumental the information out to us about the clean construction act which passed unanimously on county council and she has been so patient with me going over the air regs to really improve my understanding on a lot of those issues so I'd like to - if you don't mind to read the proclamation if that's okay.

So Allegheny County Council Office hereby the proclamation recognizing Rachel Filippini whereas after 20 years dedicated to the Group Against Smog and Pollution, GASP, Rachel Filippini will depart from GASP to pursue the next chapter in her personal and professional life and whereas GASP was founded in 1969 by volunteers concerned about air quality in Southwestern Pennsylvania. Today the organization continues to work to improve air quality in the region through education, advocacy, policy and legal work and whereas in 2001 Rachel joined GASP she served in the organization in various capacities such as executive assistant, education coordinator and executive director. And whereas Rachel has utilized knowledge obtained from her degree in environmental science from the University of Pennsylvania to spearhead Allegheny County's air quality regulation, increase GASP educational work in local communities and school and continue to help air pollution issues in the public eye and over the years Rachel received many accolades.

In 2009 she was named one of Pittsburgh's 40 under 40 and in 2011 one of Women and Girls Foundation's women's greening the Pittsburgh region. In 2017 Rachel was appointed to Allegheny County Air Pollution Advisory Committee and so now therefore be it resolved that I Allegheny County Council Member Anita Prizio do hereby honor and recognize Rachel Filippini for her dedication to GASP and improving the air quality throughout Southwestern Pennsylvania. Thank you for all you've done.

MS. FILIPPINI: First, thank you so much to Councilwoman Prizio for tonight's proclamation. It feels really good to be recognized really for the work of the Group Against Smog and Pollution and to be recognized as well. We have been working to improve air quality in Allegheny County and beyond for over 50 years.

I would just like to say that it has been an absolute honor serving the Group Against Smog and Pollution for 20 years and working on these issues for that time. As I'm sure you can all appreciate, air quality over the past few decades has been improving in our county as well as across the United States but we have a lot further to go until everyone can truly be breathing clean and healthy air in our region. Especially those who are most vulnerable and those communities that are most impacted by air pollution so there's more work to be done and having said that I just want to take the time to thank you all for your recent approval of not only the clean construction regulation last year but also recently of the episodic weather pollution regulation and of increasing the permit fees in Allegheny County. Thank you very much for your support and leadership on those issues, and I would just say going forward I hope that you will continue to support and lead on air quality issues. You have a very unique role to play in that you are approving air quality regulations in Allegheny County and so I hope that you will take that role very seriously as we need you to support the Allegheny County Health Department as the chief enforcer of air quality in this county to make sure they have the funding and support they need to do the job they have, to praise and champion them when they're doing a good job but also to hold them accountable when they're not doing enough to move air quality issues forward.

So thank you again for this proclamation, I very much appreciate it.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay. The remaining proclamation will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 112029-21. A proclamation recognizing the Mifflin Social Club upon their 80th anniversary sponsored by Council Member Macey.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: And just to keep the record straight, Councilman Palmiere is on the phone?

MR. BARKER: Yes. Correct.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Is present.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: You're welcome. Public comment on agenda items?

MR. VARHOLA: None.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: None?
Approval of minutes?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Presentation
of appointments? The following appointments will all be
referred to the committee on appointment review

MR. BARKER: Bill number 12015-21
approving the appointment of Dave Brooke to the Friends of
the Park for Harrison Hills for a term to expire on
September 28, 2024 sponsored by Council Member Futules.

Bill number 12016-21 approving the appointment
of Carly Deskins to the Friends of the Park for Harrison
Hills for a term to expire on September 28, 2024 sponsored
by Council Member Futules.

Bill number 12017-21 approving the appointment
of Randy Vulakovich to the Allegheny County Airport
Authority board for a term to expire on December 31, 2023
sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12018-21 approving the re-
appointment of Chester R. Babst, III to the Air Pollution
Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on
December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12019-21 approving the re-
appointment of Sara Marie Baldi to the Air Pollution
Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on
December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12020-21 approving the re-
appointment of Daniel K. Bricmont to the Air Pollution
Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on
December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12021-21 approving the re-
appointment of Jeanne K. Clark to the Air Pollution
Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on
December 31, 2023 sponsored by the Chief Executive.

Bill number 12022-21 approving the re-
appointment of Michael Corcoran to the Air Pollution
Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on
December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill 12023-21 approving the re-appointment of
Steve Hvozdoch to the Air Pollution Control Advisory
Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023
sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12024-21 approving the re-
appointment of Mark Jeffrey to the Air Pollution Control

Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12025-21 approving the re-appointment of Robert W. Orchowski to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12026-21 approving the re-appointment of John F. Palmiere to the Air Pollution Control Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2023 sponsored by the chief executive.

Bill number 12027-21 approving the appointment of Heather Murphy to the Friends of the Park for South Park for a term to expire on September 28, 2024 sponsored by Council Member Duerr.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: All these appointments will be -

MS. HALLAM: Councilman Macey?

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: One second please. All these appointments will be referred to the committee on appointment review. Unfinished business?

MS. HALLAM: Councilman Macey, before we move on to unfinished business, may I be recognized about an appointment please?

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Yes, ma'am.

MS. HALLAM: I just for the record I'd just like to have the appointment 12027-21 added to the agenda for tomorrow's appointment review committee meeting.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: I understand you want to move it ahead of any other scheduled meetings, is that correct?

MS. HALLAM: Yeah. I just want to amend the appointment review committee meeting agenda for tomorrow and add that last appointment to tomorrow's agenda.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: You're welcome. Unfinished business. Committee on Appointment Review Second Reading. If there are no objections, I'd like to have Ms. Hallam to make a single motion to approve all the appointments appearing under unfinished business, have the clerk summarize all of them and then have a single vote to approve them. Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Thank you, Councilman Macey. So all of these appointments that are about to be read by the clerk were approved and sent to the full council with an affirmative recommendation at the September 22 appointment review committee meeting so I would like to motion for all of these appointments to pass with affirmative approval. Thank you.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion's been made by Ms. Hallam. Second?

MR. DUERR: Second. This is Duerr.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Second by Mr. Duerr. Summaries of the appointments as follows.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 11945-21 appointing Amy Giammattei to the Hartwood Acres Friends for a term to expire on August 24, 2024.

Bill number 11946-21 appointing of Pam Knopasek also to the Friends of Hartwood Acres also for a term to expire on August 24, 2024 sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

11947-21 appointing Carrie Classen to Hartwood Acres Friends of the Park for a term to expire on August 24, 2024.

11948-21 appointing Allison Burgan to the Hartwood Acres Friends of the Park for a term expiring on August 24, 2024.

11949-21 appointing Betsie Mozurak to the Hartwood Acres Friends of the Park for a term to expire on August 24, 2024.

11975-21 appointing Laura Perkosky to the Hartwood Acres Friends of the Park for a term to expire on August 31, 2024.

All of those are sponsored by Ms. Prizio, and we have a number of non-friends appointments as well.

11956-21 appointing Michael Mallon to the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council for a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

11957-21 appointing Charles N. Davis, Jr. to the Drug and Alcohol Planning Council for a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

11992-21 appointing Michael R. Dunleavy to the Sports and Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

11993-21 appointing Cynthia D. Shapira to the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire on December 31, 2025.

And 11994-21 appointing Melissa Wade to the Minority Business Enterprise Advisory Committee for a term to expire on December 31, 2024.

All of those are sponsored by the Chief Executive.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay. We will now have a voice vote. All those in favor say aye. (Chorus of ayes.)

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Those opposed? Okay. Unanimous. Thank you. Budget and finance unfinished business items to be next up.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 11989-21 a resolution of the county of Allegheny amending the grants and special accounts budget for 2021 submission number 07-21 sponsored by the chief executive.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Councilman Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Councilman Macey. Budget and Finance met on September 21st and affirmatively recommended both bills to full council. I'd like to read them if that would be okay.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Sure.

MR. PALMOSINA: \$32,594,000 to provide an emergency rental assistance program to offer rental and utility assistance to eligible low-income households impacted by the Coronavirus pandemic who need financial assistance to avoid eviction or loss of utility services. \$99,750,000 to provide government response to the economic and public health impacts of COVID-19. I move for approval.

MR. WALTON: Second.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion was made by Councilman Palmosina. Seconded by DeWitt Walton. All those in favor - excuse me. We have to do a roll call.

MR. WALTON: Yeah. I'd like to have some discussion on that if I may.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: As a matter of order - me being chair, I'll move the regular agenda to a discussion with you.

MR. WALTON: Thank you, sir. I think it's important that we note what is taking place. With this significant amount of American Rescue Plan dollars being moved for rental assistance beyond what our rental assistance was brought for with the CARES package that the dollars that are going into mental health support. Those are real challenges as I said at the budget hearing meeting. It is important that we note that these dollars really begin to address many of the challenges that we're confronted with in our society and that in many instances our law enforcement officers are forced to deal with on the streets every day because many people that encounter law enforcement suffer from mental health issues.

There's also dollars that are being dedicated to the Children's Fund. I can't speak to that - those issues highly enough because again if we don't deal with early childhood education, pre-K and after school and quality program then we'll deal with that down the road with additional confrontations and encounters with law enforcement. We either pay now or we pay later, and I think that these - of the decision that we're voting on tonight is important and critical that we begin to continue to move an agenda - a positive agenda forward in the neighborhood in which I live and serve every day. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: You're more than welcome. I take it you're for this? I would just like to move this forward. Roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve. 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. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: I would like to abstain for the reason that I have still yet receive a line item breakdown of the funding that we're availing. Thank you.
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: A robust yes.
 MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
 MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
 MR. BARKER: President Catena?
 PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
 MR. BARKER: Ayes 14. No's 0 with

one abstention. The bill passes.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you.

And I might add, Ms. Hallam, if you ask the budget office, they'll give you a better breakdown than what you may have learned in the past. Thank you.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you, Councilman Macey. I made that request at the committee meeting and still haven't received it but thank you for that information.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay. Motion to approve second reading. Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2021 submission number 08-21 from the chief executive. Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Councilman Macey. There are four grants here separate grants. I should read them all so the first off - three grants are from the PA Department of Human Services \$11,448,000 for emergency rental assistance program to include rent, rent arrearages, utility and home energy costs and utility and home energy cost arrearages.

\$25 million to reimburse the community, care and behavioral health organization and Allegheny County Health Choices service providers to manage the program. \$48,350,000 to support the early learning resource center. And also the last fourth grant is one grant for substance abuse and mental health service administration which is \$5

million to assess high-risk youth and families, resilience of equity and communities and evidence-based violence prevention and community engagement programs. I move for approval.

MR. DEMARCO: Second.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion was made by Councilman Palmosina, second by Sam DeMarco. All those in favor - I mean roll call vote please.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve. 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. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: I would like to abstain

for the same reason I outlined for the last vote.

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 14. No's 0 with one abstention. The bill passes.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay.
Liaison reports. Tom Baker?

MR. BAKER: You'll only have six more of these after tonight. We had our fifteenth and final district one town hall last week so the final and kind of historic night in district one. It was in Moon Township this year. We celebrated in Ross Township on the 1st and last Tuesday in Moon Township. It's - again, I would just encourage my colleagues to think about something comparable. The idea came to me on my first year on council back in 2014 when a colleague from Moon Township just said that my predecessor did one thing that he really appreciated - not just one thing but one thing he really appreciated and that was how these town hall gatherings over the last seven years - four years ago we implemented the district 1 difference-maker award and Councilman DeMarco was my co-sponsor, co-host on several of those events. I thought it was a nice chance actually in the years that Sam and I collaborated on them too. Sam and I while we happen to be of the same party certainly don't always agree. I thought there were really good dialogues for people in the room. We often agree. We don't always agree, but I thought those were good and I'll just mention the names of the folks again. If you know these people, please send them a text or an email Kathy Banos, Dr. Dave Barkovich, Joanna Miles Bradley, Catherine Depasquale, Maggie Haverlach, Sinder Illis, Dan Johnson, Carolyn Keller, Nate Lachlan, Cara Neeson, Pam Perry, Gianna Reed, Shaun Reed no relation to Pam or Gianna Reed, the Ridgewood Food Pantry, Brian Seal, Casey Sample, Supervisor Jim Vitale, Bradley Wilkins and Wess Williams and I will say we had 60 people at the first one this year. We had over 40 at the second one. All in all for these 15 town halls over, you know, the last seven years we've gathered over 1,000 people together and they've been a good way to bring a community together. There's 14 different communities in District 1. It's been really a good way for people from North Fayette to get to know Rocks, West View, to get to know Findlay. It's really been a nice journey. So again, if anyone wants to talk, I won't be your colleague in January, but I'm happy to help you plan one, help you organize one. Just let me know. All right. Turn it back to you Mr. Vice President Macey.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you, Councilman Baker. Are there any other liaison reports? Are there any other liaison reports? Well, thank you. New business ordinance and resolution.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 12030-21 an ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that would authorize North Hills Eagle Squadron's continued use of certain Allegheny County owned real property in the County's North Park to manage a radio control model aircraft field sponsored by the chief executive.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Referred to the committee on parks. Resolution 12031-21.

MR. BARKER: A ordinance of the county of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania would authorize South Park Radio Kontrol Society continued use of certain Allegheny County owned real property in the County's South Park to manage a radio control model aircraft field sponsored by chief executive.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Refer to committee on parks. 12032-21.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that would authorize Gateway Radio Control Society continued use of certain Allegheny County owned real property in the County's Boyce Park to manage a radio control model aircraft field sponsored by the chief executive.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: That will be referred to committee on parks. New business motions?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you. Notification of contracts. 12033-21.

MR. BARKER: A communication summarizing approved executive actions for the month of August 2021.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion?

MR. WALTON: So moved.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Second?

MS. KIRK: Second.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion has been made Councilman DeWitt Walton, Seconded by Cindy Kirk. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Opposed? Okay. Public comment on general items.

MR. VARHOLA: We have three Mr. President. Kareema White Pittsburgh 15208. Is she here? Robert Fryer Bridgeville 15017.

MR. FRYER: Yes. Right here. My family has lived in Bridgeville since the late 17 -.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: May I have your name and address please.

MR. FRYER: I'm sorry. Bob Fryer, F-R-Y-E-R. I'm living in South Fayette Township right now but I've spent my life up until the last nine months in Bridgeville, Pennsylvania. I used to be chairman of the Planning Commission and I've made an effort to help people in the community through that avenue. I wanted to bring to your attention tonight - I think I've handed out some information to describe some of the unfortunate situation that two generations of Bridgeville families and children have had to deal with primarily because the traffic congestion in the area has collapsed the business district which was the tax revenue producing mechanism and also the flooding of the Baldwin Street area likewise forced people to move back into sewage saturated degrees invested homes.

But what I wanted to bring to your attention because I only have so much time is - excuse me - Bridgeville council has logically sent you a request to replace to Baldwin - I'm sorry - the Bower Hill Road bridge over the McLaughlin Run Road creek and I am here to ask you to ask Bridgeville council and the manager Joe to provide you some hardcore data establishing that being a necessity. I mentioned that for this reason. This lower portion of this drawing is data provided by the University of Pittsburgh School of Engineering and it measured the opening in the bridges under which the creek has to go and, if you notice the Baldwin Street Bridge - I'm sorry - the Bower Hill Road Bridge that is your responsibility, it is a capacity of flowing 3,250 cubic feet of water a second. However, the Commercial Street Culvert under Commercial Street only flows 1,860 cubic feet of water a second, and that's really what the cause is. What I'm asking you to do is - and I won't take much longer. This is the Bower Hill Bridge and rather than you replacing that I think that you should spend the millions that assumingly would coast and instead create a two lane couple between Bower Hill Road and Baldwin Street which has been recommended by a professional engineer. I'd like you to in addition to help build this red line which is a wall between the creek and the residences on Bower Hill Road rather than spending the money on the bridge which is unnecessary. Okay. This is a - I'll send copies of these

- this information. This shows the shopping center that would develop on the Baldwin Street Business district -

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Okay.

MR. FRYER: - which is the original

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VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you very much. You've exceeded your time. Thank you.

MR. FRYER: Thank you very much.

MR. VARHOLA: Dana Dolney has also submitted comments. Written. Would you like me to read them now?

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Go right ahead. Please.

MR. VARHOLA: Dana Dolney Pittsburgh 15219. County ARPA funding proposal. My name's Dana Dolney. I'm speaking as a resident of Allegheny County and on behalf of my employer Just Harvest. Just Harvest and community organizations we work with have serious concerns about the lack of public engagement and input on the county's current ARPA proposal proposed use of \$380 million of COVID relief funding. There has not been transparency around the process particularly around who is driving the county's plan, what needs they are prioritizing, what voices are being heard. There are no line items in the proposal to clarify where the money will be and how it will be used and accounted for.

We are asking you to create space for more public input in the process. This council has the ability to shape the recovery in support of those most affected in the areas hardest hit by the pandemic but only if you choose to do so with careful deliberation and through a lens of equity.

Take your time. Go into your communities and talk to your constituents and hear their stories of struggle. Listen to the feedback from community leaders and local organizations that have been working tirelessly to supplement existing social services.

After 18 months of COVID, we know more can and should be done. Just Harvest fully supports the Pittsburgh Food County Policy Council's call for \$10 million dedicated food justice fund that would make long and urgently needed investments in food systems which are critical infrastructure. This would serve a range of initiatives in our neighborhoods across Allegheny County including addressing inadequate food access, supporting

local farmers and food entrepreneurs and alleviating widespread food insecurity.

Pittsburgh has the highest percentage of people residing in areas where they don't have ready access to supermarkets and live in areas known as food deserts. Many of these communities across Allegheny County lack the basic access and means to healthy affordable food. In addition they need help now with housing and utilities including viable access to these resources. They need real transportation solutions like a low-income fare relief program to get to grocery stores and find work and create greater access to healthcare and other social services. Public health should be prioritized over other infrastructure projects that can wait until we get through the worst of this pandemic.

We hear about people's struggles, their desperate need for support every day in our work. We want to help the county connect these funds to those that need it the most. You only get one chance to do this right. Please don't blow it.

And, Mr. President, we had three people that did not sign up that have asked to speak so it would be up to council.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: I'll let it up to council but in all fairness I'd like to hear what they have to say. Everybody else okay with it? Fine. Please come up one at a time, introduce yourself and please give us your address.

MS. ANDREWS: Kimberly Andrews
McKeesport, PA. I'm just here in regards to ask that, like, if you all can and will investigate ACJ. May 2019 there was an assault in Allegheny County Jail. July 27 of 2021 that - the video of myself and Officer Alyssa Tucker was put public in placed on the news and Post-Gazette and it was signed off in 2019 by the Warden, Warden Harper, and a captain amongst the Allegheny County Jail that no assaults happened and that no investigation was needed. No disciplinary action was taken. Frankly, I just would like - I family. I have - soon to be a mom - where my loved ones have to see that video and I walk to work and go to school every day and people come up to me like oh my gosh you're the one that they did that to in Allegheny County Jail. I don't think any county officials should be exempt from the law and, you know, I take liberty and justice for all very seriously. So with that being said

all I ask is that it's been literally swept under the rug by everyone. Like, everyone. And I don't think just because someone works in the Allegheny County Jail that they're just going - should be allowed to assault inmates or abuse the tools or power that they have and just because I'm a pre-detainee. I'm not convicted and I wasn't convicted so I just would like the same respect as everyone else.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you very much. Next please. For the record your name and address please.

MR. KING: Corey King 210 McKinley Street Carrick 15210. First of all I'm here on a matter that's very serious. There's lives being lost, the county is losing millions of dollars via lawsuit, fines through the ACJ, Warden Harper. Fitzgerald has not shown up at any oversight board hearings. These conditions at the jail is very serious, okay?

I just did 21 months incarcerated in that jail. I caught COVID three times and, while I was sick, I took care of the mental health on the whole level five which the medical department is very shorthanded, very shorthanded.

The mental health department is very shorthanded. We got guys down there I want to say 80 percent of the jail is on psychiatric medication. You know why? Because they're stuck in a cell 22 hours. Okay. You're supposed to be innocent until proven guilty. Let's not forget that. But why be forced - I felt forced to get vaccinated because how many times I contracted the disease down there. How it was running through the water system, how it was running through the air vents down there, like, that jail is seriously hazardous, okay?

I'm pretty sure y'all done did walkthroughs down in the kitchen where you got inmates that's - that's - we're trying to get out a cell work and do something productive contracting this disease from the CO's and the civilians that's coming in the jail. Now, I sat down that jail for 21 months, and you got people coming in and I contracted the disease three times. I worked in the level 5 C block where I watched a guy die. You know how many people I seen die and contract this disease down there? You see the signs. I just want a resolution and I want for the next agenda to be either for us, Fitzgerald, Harper, the oversight board, we do something about this

because this is a serious matter. You got over 70 people dying at this ACJ.

How many millions of dollars is y'all losing? I'm a resident. I pay my taxes. You understand what I'm saying? We're losing lives and millions of dollars on something that can be fixed just like that. Set a new system. Keep the numbers down in the jail. You step to the - this is why I need Fitzgerald to be here. You are county executive. You can talk to the county judges over there, you can talk to the county parole and probation, put a stipulation on the detainment to keep the numbers down at the jail so don't nobody keep contracting this disease. It's a serious disease for real. I caught it three times and I felt I had to be forced to get vaccinated so I can get right.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you very much.

MR. KING: Does everybody understand where I'm coming from. I appreciate you letting me speak. Something really needs to be done. There's over 70 deaths and it's going to cost us millions of dollars because we can't - we have a warden who he don't know what he doing.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Take care and be safe please. Next.

MR. CAVAYERO: Hello. Good evening. My name's Jonas Cavayero. I live at 5859 Saltsburg Road in Verona. I thought that Mr. Fitzgerald was going to be here today. I thought he was mandated to show up quarterly. I'm not surprised considering he doesn't follow the stature that mandates him to show up for the jail oversight board meetings.

I'm a full bright scholar. I'm also formerly incarcerated here at ACJ and also at Rikers, and it's just - it's really a shame. I just wanted to publically state this since I wanted to tell Fitzgerald but he never shows up at the J.O.B. meetings, and my comments never get read either at the Jail Oversight Board meetings but since April of 2020 nine people have died at the Allegheny County Jail.

Richard Lenhardt who was 49, Robert Blake who was 36, Cody Stell who was 29, Daniel Pastorek who was 63, John Brady who was 40 years old, Martin Bucek who was 55, an unknown person at 48 years old, Vinckley Harris who was also 48 and Justin Brady who was 38. Now, that's about one person every two months dying at the Allegheny County

Jail. By comparison at Rikers Island it's about one person every month however Rikers has three times the population of the Allegheny County Jail, and Mr. Fitzgerald says that he stands by the warden no matter what.

And we sit here as people are getting sick and dying and as Warden Harper tries to bring in this mercenary Joseph Garcia to come and train officers at the jail in response to a referendum that was passed overwhelmingly by the voters to ban excessive use of force at the Allegheny County Jail. So I just wanted to be here publically to say I'm outraged at this.

As somebody who has survived incarceration and was doing my best to right the wrongs of the injustice system, I plead for you to just reach out, you know, maybe see if Fitzgerald will come and join us at these meetings and hear us out. With your permission, I'd just hand stats on the excessive use of force at the Allegheny County Jail.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Please give it to our clerk please.

MR. CAVAYERO: Thank you for hearing me and for allowing us to speak.

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Thank you. Be safe and healthy. Any other comments? Motion for adjournment?

MR. WALTON: So moved.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

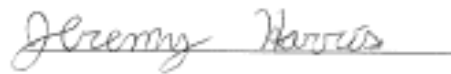
VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Motion made and seconded. All those in favor signify by saying aye. (Chorus of ayes.)

VICE PRESIDENT MACEY: Meeting's adjourned.

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 3 day of January, 2022

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Jeremy Harris", is written over a horizontal line.

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter