

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
Jack Betkowski		District 1
Suzanne Filiaggi	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Tom Duerr	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Nicholas Futules	-	District 7
Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis	-	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

November 22, 2022 5:05 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, Legislative Services

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 prayer or reflection.

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

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

MR. BARKER:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	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:	President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	We have 14 members

present currently.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The first proclamation will be read into the record.

12509-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing and celebrating the 100th birthday of Mattie Patton, sponsored by Council Member Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: And the following proclamations will all be presented.

12484-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation congratulating Bradley Yeager on achieving the rank of Eagle Scout, sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

MS. PRIZIO: I'm so glad that Bradley can come here. And let me read the certificate of recognition to Bradley Yeager, achieving the rank of Eagle Scout.

This certificate is presented to Bradley Yeager for his dedication and effort in achieving the rank of Eagle Scout. Bradley is a member of the Boy Scout 622. Bradley's project entailed him weeding, mulching and planting flowers at all seven flower beds at Glenshaw Valley Presbyterian Church.

He also planted a pollinator-friendly - pollinator-friendly plants to liven up the garden. Bradley did all this with the help of others of his troop, and neighboring troops. Bradley's hard work and commitment are to be commended, as we celebrate his ascension to the rank of Eagle Scout in Boys Scout Troop 622.

And this is sponsored by Council Member Anita Prizio and presented this 25th day of October 2022.

MR. YEAGER: I've never met any of you, but hi. You just met me. I mean, this is something that wasn't even in my head when I started scouting. It was more or less, like, I've come so far why turn away now. And I couldn't have finished it without the support of my parents. It was a lot of paperwork and having someone help me guide - be guided through it and supported and pushed along, was the only way I was able to complete it.

And I'm just glad that I managed to make it across the finish line, because there's still so many that didn't. And I'll carry it with me for the rest of my life. Thank you.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12510-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Marshall Cohen on an illustrious career and a dedication and passion for reading that led him to start the Greater Pittsburgh Festival of Books, which celebrates

Pittsburgh's rich literary tradition, sponsored by Council Member Klein.

MR. KLEIN: Well, this evening we honor Marshall Cohen. And he's not exactly a household name yet, but he will be. But we recognize him for something that he, you know, helped pull off in no small way, and as he would tell us with a great deal of help. But I think he really inspired the launch of the Greater Pittsburgh Literary Festival this past May.

So just a couple of things that I would share to you - just share to you. Share with you with respect to Pittsburgh's, you know, literary past - past history, past and present as well. So poet Michael Wurster wrote everyone should write a poem about a steel mill.

So this was something that was shared by a writer named Christopher Collins, writing in a publication - an online publication called Literary Hub. And he said this, he said I long to be a writer from Pittsburgh, not a writer in Pittsburgh. But in fact, Pittsburgh has been identified as one of the most literate cities in the country. And I would say that the literary soil in this region is pretty rich, and there is a website that's been launched over the past few years called Littsburgh.

So when we think about, you know, writers from this region, just name a few of them, and I'm just scratching the surface, but for example, have you heard of August Wilson? Yeah, a preeminent American playwright. August Wilson, John Edgar Wideman, Terrance Hayes, the playwright George S. Kaufman. Gertrude Stein was born in Allegheny City now known as the Northside. Willick-Heather, Damon Young, Yona Harvey, David McCullough, Annie Dillard, all hail from Pittsburgh. And you can probably go on and on with that list, because it's really quite expansive.

So about three years ago, in 2019 I had the opportunity to meet Marshall Cohen, and we started talking, and he had moved back to Pittsburgh after having been away from Pittsburgh many, many years. And while we were talking he suggested that, you know, Pittsburgh should probably have a book festival, a literary festival. And I - you know, I heard him, and I thought - I said, you know, why not. And he actually made it happen.

So we're here to honor him for that achievement tonight, and as I'm standing here, I would also share this with you. So this is the program from this past for this

one, the inaugural festival in May. And if you're - you know, if you have your calendars out, the festival this year will be on - or next year rather will be May 12th and May 13th of 2023. All members of council have this program, so all of you will have a chance to join us and to celebrate writers from this area and beyond during this festival.

But just a couple more things I would say about Mr. Cohen as well. And so this proclamation is partly biographical, I would say. So Marshall Cohen attended and graduated from Pittsburgh public schools, grew up here, Liberty Elementary School and Peabody High School. He then graduated from the University of California, UCLA with a Bachelor's degree in political science and a minor in journalism. And following his graduation from UCLA, Mr. Cohen embarked on a 50-year career in strategic government relations, public policy advocacy and communications. Most recently retiring from the Babcock and Wilcox Company where he served as vice president in government affairs and communications.

Prior to that role he served as a senior director for state and local government affairs for the Nuclear Energy Institute on Washington D.C. And during Mr. Cohen's career he served on a number of Boards, including the main state board of education appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Maine senate. The foundation for state legislature is the National Conference of State Legislatures and the Economic Development Corporation of Lea County, New Mexico.

He served as the first chairman of Virginia Nuclear and Energy and Consortium authority, to which he was appointed by the Governor of Virginia, and a member of the North Carolina Energy Policy Panel Council appointed by the president of the North Carolina Senate.

So now be it resolved that I, Paul Klein as a member of Allegheny County Council do hereby recognize and honor the illustrious career of Mr. Marshall Cohen, and his dedication and commitment to the Greater Pittsburgh Books Festival and his initiative to inspire more individuals to read and support entities that encourage reading. This Council wishes the greater festival of books continued and greater success as it prepares for its 2023 program that will take place on May 12th and 13th, 2023.

As witness whereof, I here unto cause the seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 22nd day of November, 2022.

MR. COHEN: Thank you, Mr. Chairman, Council Member Klein, members. Thank you so very much. That's way more information than I think you wanted - I'm very honored. As Paul said, I'm a native Pittsburgher. My mother worked at Kauffman's for many, many years. It's very humbling to receive some kind of recognition from you. But more importantly we were very excited about what the community was able to do with this first book festival. It was free, and that's a founding principle. As far as I'm concerned it will always be free to all - to everyone in all communities. And it's still very hard to make it diverse.

And we have, you know, programs ranging for all kinds of things for children and families and a wide variety of interest and genres and offers. Many from Pittsburgh, some Pittsburgh related and award-winning authors from outside, Pulitzer Prize winner, National Book Award winner, things like that. So a lot of people made this happen, not just me, but the vision caught on and we're very excited about it.

I hate to say it, but if Pittsburgh can have a pickle festival, it certainly should have a book festival. That's what we aim for. We are working now on our - the next one, the second annual Greater Pittsburgh Festival of books is scheduled, as Paul said. We are - if I may be shameless, we are in the process of developing our resources for that. We're working on grants and sponsors and donors. I want to give a shout out to the Allegheny County Department of Economic Development, because they gave us a grant for this first festival. And without that grant we would not have been able to do it. It was very, very helpful. We were very hopeful that perhaps the Council can look and see if there's some small amount of resource that it can contribute to the planning and the development of our next festival.

We have wonderful support at the University of Pittsburgh Library System. I've met with the new director of the Carnegie Library system, very supportive. Duolingo, companies like that, KDKA will be a sponsor at the next festival and so forth. So we're very excited. We're going to work again, for another two, and we hope to have some involvement from the County if we can. And

we've overloaded you with paper, but if you have a chance, take a look, and my information, contact information is there.

Again, thank you so very, very much. I am deeply honored.

(Photos were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. We'll now have 12511-22.

MR. BARKER: That's a proclamation honoring and congratulating the 2022 Get Involved 13th Annual Service Summit honorees sponsored by Council Member Duerr.

MR. DUERR: It's that time of year again. Hello. I was - I was really privileged and honored when former Council Member Baker reached out to me present tonight's proclamation to honor the Get Involved Service Summit honorees this year. Councilman Baker was gracious enough to honor me as one of the PA rising stars during last year's service summit, and I am incredibly appreciative of that. And Councilman Baker, one of the things you - you know, as I've heard you talk so often about, you know, during your time on Council and during your time with Get Involved is to, you know, join boards, get involved in the community.

And the reason why I was unable to attend the service summit last week was I was actually attending an AI meeting as a board member. So I took your advice quite literally, so - in having joined that board. So you know, I just personally want to thank Tom and everyone at Get Involved for working to highlight individuals across southwestern Pennsylvania to get involved in their communities. So;

WHEREAS, Get Involved Pittsburgh was founded in 1999 with a passion to revitalize communities. Get Involved is just one of five independent centers across the United States with the first being accounted in San Francisco in 1942. Other Get Involved Centers opened in Los Angeles, St. Louis and New York. And;

WHEREAS, each one of these centers for partnerships with philanthropic foundations, high schools, college campuses, governments, businesses and civic networking associations in order to recruit various leaders who are passionate about revitalizing communities. And;

WHEREAS, Get Involved brings these leaders together into cohorts to learn and to accomplish shared

goals in a collaborative way to sustain leadership community after the Get Involved program. These leaders all hold true to Get Involved's mission throughout the program. And;

WHEREAS, Get Involved has a mission to advance ethical leaders in order to create a connected and inclusive community that is more livable for everyone. In doing so, Get Involved holds core values in the leaders such as whole system thinking, team work, experimental learning, and nurturing leadership. And;

WHEREAS, these core values have been extensively shown in a handful of leaders throughout this year's course. Therefore recognizing Juanita Lomax and Chief Greg Porter for being awarded People of the Year. Aubrey Marquis and Dylan Beam for emerging leader for the Emerging Leader Award. Stephanie Samolovitch and Shanon Baron for the community leader award. And Dr. Amanda Lichack for the child advocacy award. And;

WHEREAS, with excellent leadership and strong values 13 individuals are being recognized as western PA rising stars. They are Megan Cully, Amber Deemer, Abbey Kelly, Julie Keemer, Jake Litzau, Katelyn Maione, Elizabeth Matenkoski, Julia McDonald, Alexandra McDonald, Dominic Panucci, Nathan - Nathaniel Sofranko, Monica Snyder and Alaina Webber.

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that I, County Council Member Tom Duerr, a former western PA rising star do hereby recognize all the hard work and passion that Get Involved Pittsburgh puts into developing the passion to revitalize communities. In addition I recognize and congratulate all of this year's awards, honorees and recipients.

As witness hereof, I here unto cause the seal of Allegheny to be affixed this 17th day of November of 2022.

Congrats to all this year's nominees and I will turn it over to my illustrious former colleague, Councilman Tom Baker.

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Tom Duerr. All right. Thanks, everybody. It's an honor to be back. People ask if I do miss you all the time, and the answer is yes, I do miss you. I miss being in this room. So it's nice to be here. Thanks to Council Member Duerr for the kind words, and congratulations on being a winner last year of the award. So we got a good group of our honorees, we had a

wonderful event last Thursday night at the Coro Center, which Tom referenced a couple of times in his remarks.

It's the perfect spot to have the service summit for our 13th year. And it's been all over the region, over its history, but we were glad to have it at Coro. Yesterday, the City of Pittsburgh, your colleagues from the building over, declaring Get Involved Day and the City of Pittsburgh, which was very nice of them. Several of honorees got to be at that ceremony as well.

I'm very thankful for these kind of folks. Many of you that I used to serve with always would say who are those incredibly nice people you bring once a year. That's the Get Involved award winners. I'm inspired by them. When Mr. Rogers talked about the helpers in the world, these are the helpers. These are the people that are on the frontlines, making sure that the world is a better place.

So I'm just going to mention, one thing that they love being involved with, I promise - and if you're involved with the same thing, Council Members, you can give a little shout if you want to.

We'll start with our person of the year Juanita Lomax, who just is rocking it. She's incredible. She's on many boards. Tom, the phrase don't be bored, be on a board. Juanita's a good example of that.

MS. LOMAX: I appreciate that. Don't feel bad, I had to leave our ceremony for a board meeting, as well, so -.

First, I want to thank everybody for the recognition today. One thing that I do love - an organization I love to work with, they're very hard to pick one. They do great, great work, but I would have to say PWN, Professional Women's Network. It is an organization in the city who brings together a lot of women from various backgrounds and professions to really inspire and motivate and move each other along in our career. So I would have to go with that organization.

MR. BAKER: Okay. Awesome. Congratulations.

MS. LOMAX: Thank you.

MR. BAKER: We'll just keeping down the line. The former intern to the County Council, if I remember.

MS. SNYDER: Hello. Yes, I would like to thank you all for this recognition. Tom as well. This is incredible and love it. So many organizations that I love working with, NHCOC, the Brazilian community. But one

organization near and dear to my heart is the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society. They've put on a great light the night walk every year. Record breaking numbers in the Pittsburgh area this year, so I recommend in getting involved with them. Thank you.

MR. BAKER: Megan?

MS. CULLY: Hi, I'm Megan Cully, I am - my favorite charity, pretty much, is pretty close to home, personal and for my family as well, is the Walk to End Alzheimer's. And for seven years I've been a walker, but for two years I've been on the committee. And so as Nathaniel is going to come up, he's part of the Alzheimer's Association, but to be able to do it in memory of someone that was very close to me, my wonderful grandmother, who passed away from this terrible disease, April 2007.

And Mr. Baker actually walked with me this year, which I had the privilege to, and so it was just very nice and everything. And thank you guys again for this award and recognition and everything. So thank you.

MR. BARKER: I feel like we should - are we allowed to clap?

MS. MCDONALD: Hi, so I'm Zandra McDonald. As everyone else has already said, thank you so much. I'm a little biased, but my favorite organization is Big Brothers/Big Sisters. Our youth are our future and everyone needs someone in their corner to empower them and the potential they have. So that's why I do what I do.

MS. BARKER: Okay.

MS. DEEMER: Hi, everyone. I'm Amber Deemer, and I'm so honored to be here. This award is not about me, but about we. That's my friends, family, colleagues, mentors, Mr. Baker here that really empower and challenge and believe in the work that I do. And I'm really passionate about community engagement and the city. And one way I give back is through the mentoring partnership of southwestern PA.

As we all know, relationships and mentorship matters, especially with just the things that are impacting our community today. So I really, really love working with that organization and I would inspire you or encourage you to learn more. So thank you.

MR. SOFRANKO: Hello, my name is Nathaniel Sofranko. Thank you for this recognition. I am a development manager for the Alzheimer's Association as

Megan had mentioned, and I get to work with amazing volunteers such as Megan and Tom, who was a coach for our rival's flag football games. So there's many ways to get involved through fundraising, community education and we are the largest non-profit funder of research that is happening close to home right over in the University of Pittsburgh.

So if you're looking to get involved, I recommend reaching out to me with the Alzheimer's Association. Thank you so much.

MR. PANUCCI: Good evening. My name is Dom Panucci, the group that I'm extremely biased with is Boys and Girls Clubs of western PA. I've been with the organization since I was six years old. I grew up at our Carnegie Clubhouse, which I believe, Mr. President, your son Jack also attended. Tell him I said hello and we miss him there.

You know, Boys and Girls Club is dear to my heart. We do so much for the kids, after school, summer camp programs. We've been launching more stem and literacy art programs as well, so we're in so many different communities in Shadyside, Millville, Carnegie, Lawrenceville. We actually just opened up a clubhouse in Somerset County now as well, as we're trying to expand. But if you're in any of these areas, please stop in. Our doors are always wide open, and you can see the amazing things we're doing with the kids, especially during the summertime. It's always cool to see. So thank you guys for having us this evening, and you know, Boys and Girls Club.

MR. BAKER: Former Dapper Dan winner. He won alongside of Mario Lemieux when he was student of the year, which is pretty cool, so Dylan.

MR. BEAM: Hi, everyone. First, I do want to thank everyone for the recognition. Just like everyone else here, I don't do the recognition, but it always does feel good to be recognized when it does happen. You know, as many organizations I'm involved with, I have to talk about the accessible prosthetics initiative. It's a non-profit I started about four years ago, and our mission is in the name.

Essentially we'll see increased access to prosthetics technology and care, a really impactful moment that just happened this last weekend. In fact, I'm helping a little six year old girl just outside Cleveland,

her name is Mary Smith get help with prosthetics. So her family friend reached out to us a little bit ago saying, hey, can you --- you know, she was born without an arm, can you help her out. Last Christmas she was opening her presents and she started crying when she was done, and grandma asked why, and then Mary said because I didn't get the arm that I asked for.

So we're doing everything we can to get her an arm before Christmas, doing fundraising. But that's an organization that I've been working with to develop. Now we have over 200 volunteers across the country in ten different states and nine different collegiate chapters. So thank you so much for the recognition.

MS. WEBBER: Hi, everyone. Thank you for having us. It's hard for me to choose which organization I'm most passionate about. I'm very blessed in my professional life to work with so many. In the year and a half that I've been with the program, Ten Step to Enterprise, I've worked with upwards of 35 non-profit organizations across our region in a capacity building initiative. So I'm very grateful to be able to work with so many diverse organizations.

I'd say the one that I was surprised to be able to work with this year, and who connected me with Get Involved, a board member, Ashley Priore, she had an organization --- along with Queen's Gambit, she runs the Y22 Yukon's Board Initiative, which I became very passionate about in working with her. There is a growing --- growing generational divide in the non-profit sector that's making it very hard for any progress and a lot of equity issues in the sector. So she's doing great work, and it's great to see an initiative lead by a young person. I was involved with the initiative in Scotland that was not led by youth. So it's really great seeing people doing that work, and I'm grateful to be able to be involved in the capacity with all of that.

So thank you again. It's wonderful meeting you.

MR. BAKER: Thank you. And I will say before we take the group photo, I mentioned at the event last Thursday for Dylan, seven years ago the award that he won for emerging leader was young - given to a person that just became the lieutenant governor of the Commonwealth. So Dylan, the pressure is on for seven years from now. Austin Davis won the award seven years ago, literally, so now he's the VLG.

So congratulations to all of our winners. Councilman Duerr, thanks for having us. Good to see you colleagues and friends. And a pretty inspiring group; right? I hope you learned some new organizations that maybe you didn't hear of.

Councilman DeMarco, you did play chess against Ashley Priore, and she did defeat you back in the day. That was a good memory.

MR. DEMARCO: She said I was better than the other caucus.

MR. BAKER: That is true. She did say that.

All right. Thanks, everyone. One more big round of applause for our 2022 service winners. Congratulations.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Do we have any public comment on any agenda items?

MR. BARKER: We have one individual who signed up for agenda topics, that's Laura Perkins.

MS. PERKINS: (States public comment in Spanish.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Approval of minutes. 12512-22.

MR. BARKER: That's a motion to approve the minutes of the September 13th, 2022 regular meeting of Council.

MR. PALMIERE: So moved.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing none, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

Presentation of appointments?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Unfinished business. Committee on Review for the second reading. 12477-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of William Ondek to the Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025 sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: President Catena, the Committee on Appointment Review met on November the 15th, 2022 and affirmatively recommends the appointment of William Ondek to the Board of Property Assessment and Appeals and Review.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a second?

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Anyone opposed? The motion carries.

12478-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Wayde Fargotstein to the Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: President Catena, the Committee on Appointment Review met on November the 15th, 2022, affirmatively recommends the appointment of Wayde Fargotstein to the Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You're making that motion. Who would like to second?

MR. KLEIN: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? The motion carries.

The Committee on Parks for the second reading.
12483-22.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of three parcels of land located contiguous to the County's North Park, Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Vice President Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, and members of Council. We met a week ago, and this was affirmatively recommended by our committee and moved for approval.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, Jared, would you please take role?

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve, Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Pالموسينا?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, noes 0, the

bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Committee on Public Works for the second reading.

12505-22.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny, through the Department of Public Works and the Law Department, to acquire by condemnation a permanent right-of-way, a slope easement and a temporary construction easement from one parcel of land located at

3222 Mount Troy Road, Reserve Township, Allegheny County, required for the stabilization of Mount Troy Road and to take such further action as may be necessary under applicable law, including but not limited to the Eminent Domain Code, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: The Committee on Public Works met on November 15th and affirmatively recommended this to Council, and I make that motion.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: A motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve, Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	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:	President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, noes 0, the bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: New business - or I'm sorry, liaison reports. Anyone have a liaison report this evening?

Councilman Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes. I would just like to commend the employees of the Allegheny County election department who I thought did a phenomenal job on Election Day. All the mail-in ballots that were received on Election Day were all opened, scanned in, and the results were posted on election night. So I really think Allegheny County is the standard by which many of the counties in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania should look towards learning how to best operate under this new system with the mail-in voting and things like that.

So yeah, I just want to commend director David Voye, Solicitor Allan Opsitnick, Chet Harhut and Jessica Garofolo for a great job in handling everything on Election Day.

MR. DUERR: Yeah. President Catena, I will also say that, you know, even more impressive was Allegheny County out voted Philadelphia County, so it wasn't just in terms of the --- you know, Philly's largest county in terms of population. We had more mail-in ballot applications and we counted them faster than the largest county in the state --- in the Commonwealth did. So I think everyone, from top to bottom, can be very proud of us being able to get those results out so quickly.

And the work that was done to make Election Day go on as smooth as it did, so ---.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Anyone else this evening? Hearing no one else, new business, ordinances and resolutions.

12513-22.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County, Article 301, entitled County Council, Section 5-301.06, entitled Prohibitions, to repeal Section 5-301.06.A. in order to eliminate reference to the resigned run requirement that formerly existed in the Home Rule Charter of Allegheny County, sponsored by Council Members Macey and Duerr.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to Government Reform.

12514-22.

MR. BARKER: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, adopting an Operating Budget pursuant to Article 4, Section 2 and Article 7, Section 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses of conducting the public business of Allegheny County and for meeting debt charges for the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2023 and ending December 31st, 2023, sponsored by Council Member Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to budget and finance.

12515-22.

MR. BARKER: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania adopting a Capital Budget pursuant to Article 4, Section 2 and Article 7, Section 4 of the Home Rule Charter by setting forth appropriations to pay the expenses for capital expenditures during the fiscal year beginning January 1st, 2023 and ending December 31st, 2023, sponsored by Council Member Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: And that will go to budget finance.

And then new business, motions.

12516-22.

MR. BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing retention of the legal services of John Cambest, Esquire and the law firm of Dodaro, Matta & Cambest, P.C. as special co-counsel to the council, sponsored by Council Member Palmiere.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of Council. This has been overdue for awhile, and we're glad to get this settled this evening, and I move for approval, please.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, do we need a voice vote or roll call vote?

I'm sorry, was there a second?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Roll call vote, please, Jared.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve, Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Pالموسينا?
MR. PALMOSINA:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ayes 15, noes 0, the

bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12517-22.

MR. BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing continuation of the services of Dreamscape Video Productions to provide Council meeting video streaming and recording and other videography services to County Council through January 31st, 2024, sponsored by Council Member Palmiere.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Vice President Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, Members of Council. And this is our video obviously, but video productions, and video streaming, and this is valuable for County Council all year long, and it just moved for approval. Thank you.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded, any discussion? Does anyone object to just doing a voice vote?

All those in favor, signify by saying aye?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

Notification of contracts, anything?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. We have public comment on the general items. We had an individual sign up after the fact today. Does anyone object to letting her speak tonight?

Yvonne, do you want to come up?

MR. BARKER: Excuse me, before we start, we did have one individual who did sign up in a timely fashion.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. We'll have her go next.

MR. BARKER: As long as you know there are two.

MR. BROWN: My name is Yvonne F. Brown. I'm an advocate for children, youth, families, the elderly and hospital workers. I have come today to say thank you to Mr. Walton for --- we had a dinner yesterday, that his fraternity brothers, they had served us --- the food was delicious, and I wanted to say thank you very much. But I still have a problem with --- I live in the high rise, K. Leroy Irvis's High Rise up at the top of the Hill District.

In order for us, the seniors, to get to the hospital we must take two buses. We must go to town, take the bus to come out. I've come down here before, I came down 2017 with petitions. When I spoke with Mr. Walton, he said to me, well, Mrs. Brown, my good friend, Sauldine's sister lived in the building that we do, and he says he'll set up the meeting with her. And when he said that, I said, but sir --- he said I ain't got nothing to do with that. So we have not had a meeting that the seniors wanted for yinz to come up and tell us why we can't have a bus to go down to the bottom of the hospital. Mercy Hospital, do you understand that, when there's --- I speak at city council and when the President Crouse was able to get buses to take the drunks from the bar down to Second Avenue, from Second Avenue to the bar, because the people were complaining about them peeing and doing different things in their yard.

If you could get buses to take and drive people to get drunk, and for them to get drunk and come out in your neighborhood and kill you, why can't you get buses for us seniors? K. Leroy Irvis would turn over in his grave if he knew that this is what yinz is doing. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: And the other individual who signed up was Amy Comperatore.

MS. COMPERATORE: Hello, Council. My name is Amy Comperatore. And may it please the Council, on Stockton - I have three items to present on housing, homelessness and Port Authority Transit. On Stockton Avenue between Sandusky Street and Cedar Avenue sits an encampment of 24 tents, people are homeless, just as I used to be once upon a time in our great city of Pittsburgh and County of Allegheny.

I know the journey, because I have lived it. Roughly two nights ago, a woman was in the encampment vomiting non-stop. Police and EMS arrived first and the young lady told the officer, I can't do this anymore, over and over again. Remember her as we go on, vomiting in 21 degree weather.

HACP has no responsibility but unto itself. Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh. According to the City Controller's annual comprehensive financial report of 2021, on page 22, the Housing Authority of the City of Pittsburgh, or HACP is self governing. Skip city and County and Commonwealth accountability.

HACP vote gets City County Commonwealth and federal funding and ought to be held accountable for all the people it serves and all the places it takes funding from, which on the subject of accountability, let's talk about Port Authority in transit.

Over 27,975,600 people as of the 2021 ridership annual report, and PRT, or Port Authority of Allegheny County, prior to COVID we had in my estimate one of the best transit agency performances that I have ever seen. Then there was rebellion with the drivers getting vaccinated. Drivers who took their rebellion on the general public by showing up and not doing their routes intentionally.

Buses don't come at all with people waiting an extra 30 minutes to a full hour, depending upon the route. Now, doing that in freezing cold weather, or what's been

happening lately, 21 to 30 degree weather, yet another authority gone rogue because of the privilege and luxury of its autonomy.

We need to start holding rogue authorities accountable to the good people of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County. So I am asking if you would be able to help assist people. We have 215 units right now that are available under Mr. Binion's direct orders this morning at City Council. And this would be a nice thing, thank you, to give to people.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

Before we adjourn this evening, does anyone object to us sending a letter on behalf of County Council to the Port Authority asking what they could do to possibly address the situation for Yvonne? Anyone object?

MR. WALTON: I do.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You object to sending a letter to Port Authority?

MR. WALTON: Yes. Look, let's be real candid, funding is being decreased from mass transit and has been decreasing from mass transit. It is clear what is taking place. There's a bus that stops less than - less than 30 yards from the front door there.

To run a bus to Mercy Hospital adds to the operating costs of the Port Authority. You can get there --- you can get there in a reasonable amount of time with minimal discomfort. I object.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. So you don't want to send a letter then?

MR. WALTON: No.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Because you don't feel Yvonne - her concerns merit any investigation?

This isn't open for discussion, this is Council. The point - I mean, I hear what you're saying Councilman Walton, so we'll take that under advisement. I mean, we won't send a letter, but obviously, I mean, if someone does come before us, I mean, I think we have an obligation to at least try to look into it and see what we can do to make things better.

MR. FUTULES: I think you can always send a letter and ask. There's nothing wrong with that.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Are you okay with that?

MR. WALTON: No.

MR. FUTULES: That's okay. We got 15 people. Is everyone else okay with that, investigate this and see

what they can do to investigate the situation and make it better?

MR. DUERR: President Catena, is this Councilman Walton's District, I assume?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. DUERR: I'm not going to go over DeWitt, respectfully. I'm going to defer to Councilman Walton. It's his district. I would hope he would give me the same courtesy.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Councilman Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: I concur with Councilman Duerr, that we should give some weight to the person that's closest to the issue. But the second issue that came up that I'd like to just add my two cents again is that the limited authority that County Council has over all these various authorities that really affect the quality of life in Allegheny County, and we have really so little influence over them at all even though they're using taxpayer dollars.

MR. WALTON: As an aside - as an aside, President Catena, there are greater issues that are at play K. Leroy Irvis. Across the street from my home, that's 300 feet from my home. There are greater issues relative to public safety, relative to a host of issues that I'm working on as we speak. And there's a matter of priority. I much rather have the residents being safe. I'd much rather have the facility be operated in a legitimate and have a straightforward manner and know the priorities that I'm working on for the residents who come to me on a routine basis and talk about what's going on in their facility.

PRESIDENT CATENA: No, you're out of order. I'm not downplaying anything you're doing, Councilman Walton. All I'm saying is if came before us and - I'm just trying to -.

MR. WALTON: It's not as if I haven't given it consideration.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I understand that. I'm not downplaying anything you're doing.

MR. WALTON: Well, then give me the consideration to do things in my district as I deem appropriate.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Well, we're just trying to offer support to you in doing whatever you want with your district.

MR. WALTON: If I have a question with the Port Authority, I'll reach out to the Port Authority. It's not as if I have not.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Councilman Walton, again, you don't need to get derogatory. We're trying to help people here tonight. I mean, that's all it's about.

MR. WALTON: Well, let me do my job.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Again, please - this isn't anything against you, Councilman Walton, so please don't take it that way. No, it's not. He's trying his best, and I mean - we're all trying our best up here, so we'll try to - we'll try to work - I mean, he'll try to work with you and we'll all try to work with you to make this better.

Councilman DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yeah. President Catena, I mean, I would agree with Councilman Duerr and Councilman Betkowski here that our colleague, Councilman Walton, probably knows best what his constituents need and what priority they need them.

I know from having the Port Authority come before us, because I have been on here over seven years, and we had people coming, asking for routes, like in Baldwin John. Do you remember all that? It cost like a million dollars a year for the Port Authority to put on another route, okay. And then, you have to have the ridership to be able to justify it. So it can't just be about the convenience of a few, okay.

So I would just - whatever you choose to do, you know, I'm going to defer to Councilman Walton here and keep my name off of it. But I would just ask that if you do send anything that it doesn't come to the Port Authority as if we're trying to tell them that they need to take and provide something.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Oh, no. I was just investigating the - I'd like to raise the question. I mean, that's all it is. It's a question.

MR. DEMARCO: Okay.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Someone came before us to ask us this, and that's what we're trying to --- I mean, it's our responsibility to go back to people and I mean, ask the questions that were being asked. I mean, I understand everything that Councilman Walton's doing, and he's trying his best, but I mean, if someone comes before us and asks us a general question -.

MR. DEMARCO: No, I understand. I just think that sometimes if we're sending --- if we're sending an official letter that's coming from all the members of Council, it looks a little bit -.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We can't dictate to them obviously, I mean, that we want this fixed or what have you. I mean, just someone came before us and basically --- I mean, someone said this, this and this, and we'd like you to investigate it or what have you.

MR. DEMARCO: Maybe just have Ken submit the testimony and forward that over to the Port Authority.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yeah, exactly.

MR. DEMARCO: It doesn't have to be -.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yeah, it could be something simple. So, Councilman Futules, did you have anything?

MR. FUTULES: I just see no harm in the request for a letter that states can you put this on, and they'll re-evaluate, because they do it every year when they do their routes for their budget. Whether they do it whether or not, it's beyond our control, but on her behalf, why not, what's it going to hurt? I mean, the worst they can say is no. But at least we ask, that's all.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MR. FUTULES: I think it's just a courtesy to ask.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MR. FUTULES: That's all.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Anyone else this evening?

MR. KLEIN: Yes, Mr. President. I would just say that I think that --- I mean, sending a letter seems to be kind of a hollow gesture. I think it's something that requires some advocacy. I think Mr. Walton better knows the particulars of what his playing out in his district. And if anyone is going to be persuasive in terms of perhaps moving the Port Authority to address this is the same way, it would be someone who's representing that district where constituents --- where his or her constituents are being, you know, impacted in some way.

So in that regard I think we've captured this here in the conversation, and I don't know that any formal action by Council is necessary. I think we ought to defer to Mr. Walton.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Filiaggi?

MS. FILIAGGI: Thank you. And yes, I would concur with Councilman Klein, in that it is a gesture, but

a gesture that can be misconstrued as something more official. So I would definitely be hesitant and not be in favor of doing that, because clearly Councilman Walton is very capable of dealing with that issue in his own district. So thank you you for the opportunity.

MR. WALTON: I think this is a personal assault on my legislative responsibility for my district, and I don't want - and lastly, I don't want to suggest that there are other motives that are intended with this gesture.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Again, I'm not even going to go there this evening, so we're - at this point in time we're going to adjourn. We're going to go into an Executive Session downstairs to deal with litigation. So thank you everyone. Have a good evening.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6:03 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 6 day of January, 2023

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

Amber Garbinski,

Court Reporter