

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 Naccarate-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

August 23, 2022, 5:04 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services

PRESIDENT CATENA: Good evening, everyone. I'd like to call the 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.

(Moment of Silence.)

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?
MR. MACEY:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Pamosina?
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 15 members

present.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Proclamations and Certificates. 12380-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Robert Fragasso for 50 years of service in the investing

business, sponsored by Councilmember Macey, all other members of Council and Treasurer Weinstein.

MR. MACEY: Good afternoon. It's my pleasure to recognize the gentleman who has helped - and I'm going to take a stab at this, but thousands of people, not only through the financial world where he shares his thoughts and tries to help others have a good financial basis as they grow and into retirement.

But Mr. Fragasso not only takes care of his clients, he's very philanthropic. He donates, he shares and he gets involved in the communities. That's just part of the reason - well, to me, it's a major reason I'd like to recognize him. But on the other hand, he reached a milestone, 50 years in business. Imagine that. Some of us can't hold a job for 50 years and this guy has - well, it doesn't happen anymore. I remember when I worked in the steel mills that people used to work 40 years, but not anymore.

But to make a long story short, I will move into the proclamation. Whereas, this year Robert Fragasso will be helping others with their financial planning needs for 50 years. He began financial planning as a sole practitioner in 1972. It kind of adds up. Before forming the Fragasso group in 1979 and whereas then in 1996 the firm moved to an independent broker dealer and became a registered investment advisor. Since this time, the firm has grown to employ nearly 50 professionals and has nearly \$2 billion under management and advisement, whereas Mr. Fragasso and the firm has been recognized constantly by Barron as a top independent advisor dating back to 2007 and by Forbes as a top wealth advisor.

Mr. Fragasso has named - was named most admired CEO and top executive by the Pittsburgh Business Times in 2016, and named 2015 veteran of the year by the Veterans Leadership Program of western Pennsylvania. And whereas Mr. Fragasso has shared his entrepreneurial wisdom in his book, Starting Your Own Practice, The Independent's Guide for Professional Service. John Wiley & Sons 2020 and is a frequent commenter before local and national media, whereas Mr. Fragasso grew up in the inner city of Pittsburgh. Hometown boy. Earned his Bachelor's degree from Duquesne University and served in the U.S. Marine Corps. Thank you for your service.

He is a tireless advocate for animals, which led him to his service as treasurer of Animal Friends. Now,

therefore be it resolved, that I Allegheny County Councilmember, Bob Macey, and all members of Council do hereby honor and congratulate Mr. Robert Fragasso on his 50 years of helping manage the wealth of many clients who wish him well and his team as the Fragasso Group many - and wish them many more years of successful investing. Thank you very much.

Would you like to say something, Sam?

MR. DEMARCO: Sure. Bob's throwing stuff everywhere up here.

MR. MACEY: I get a little excited when I do this.

MR. DEMARCO: Folks, this is a special opportunity for me as well, because I've had the opportunity to meet Bob - I don't know how many years ago it has been. My wife is a volunteer - has volunteered at Animal Friends for over 25 years, which is a no kill shelter and where Bob serves on board. You know, and so when we talk about the tremendous work he's done in serving our region's residents helping teach them financial literacy, helping them plan for their retirement and take care of their families he has also saved, I would say not just tens of thousands but hundreds of thousands of animals through his work, not just at Animal Friends but with all the other shelters here, not just here but across the nation.

So it's special for me to be able to sit here and be able to applaud and participate and thanking Bob for all the tremendous work that he's done, and we couldn't do enough. This proclamation should be two-sided, because here's a guy that has served his country, he's a Marine, he served his community, you know, through Animal Friends and he served the business community and many of the region's citizens by helping them, again, with their financial literacy and planning their nest egg. So Bob, congratulations, thank you so much for everything you've done.

MR. FRAGASSO: Councilmember Macey, thank you for instigating this and Councilmember DeMarco, thank you.

I want to thank - I don't want to take much of your time, but we'll skip the jokes about 50 years. But I do want to mention that we talked about Animal Friends, and we talked about financial literacy. Animal Friends is about people as much as it is about animals. But we're also working now through the Financial Planning

Association locally to work with a new superintendent to - and his assistant to put financial literacy in the Pittsburgh schools. So watch for that and join in if you can. Thank you. Thank you for this honor.

(Photographs were taken)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All of the remaining proclamations will be read into the record.

12381-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring the 31st class of women in the State Police, sponsored by Councilmember Filiaggi and all other members of Council.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12382-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring the 50th class reunion of Taylor Allderice High School, sponsored by Councilmember Klein.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12383-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Robert Hirsch on 50 years serving the West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Department Number 3, sponsored by Councilmember Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12384-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Henry Sokolowski on 50 years serving at the West Mifflin Volunteer Fire Department Number 3, sponsored by Councilmember Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12385-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring John Vento on the occasion of his 99th birthday, sponsored by Councilmembers Catena, Palmosina and Treasurer Weinstein.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12386-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring and recognizing the City of Clairton on the occasion of its 100th Anniversary, sponsored by Councilmember Palmiere.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12387-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Karen Hoteck for her role in saving a gentleman's life who was having an emergency situation in North Park, sponsored by Councilmembers Filiaggi and Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12388-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Dan Ramsden for his role in saving a gentleman's life who was having an emergency situation in North Park, sponsored by Councilmembers Filiaggi and Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12389-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Amy Manuel for his role in saving a gentleman's life who was having

an emergency situation in North Park, sponsored by Councilmembers Filiaggi and Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12390-22.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Bryan Kircher on his retirement from the Ross/West View EMSA, sponsored by Councilmember Betkowski.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there any public comment on any of the agenda items?

MR. BARKER: We have three. The first individual who's signed up is the Honorable Michael Wojcik.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MR. WOJCIK: Good evening. I'd like to say it's good to be back in County Council chambers. I get a little bit of PTSD because I see my good friend Mike Sulley here. I keep thinking about reassessments, so -. We won't talk about that, because I may have to recuse him.

But before I start, I just want to recognize we have some folks here from the county law department, Lisa Michelle, John Packrack (phonetic), Dennis Biondo, Alex Hypnic (phonetic) and a former member of the department Caroline Liebenguth. Who am I missing? Two speakers after me.

But I was privileged to serve this county for 12 years, 4 as solicitor and 8 as county solicitor, thus as one who has actually done that job, I am qualified to speak on this appointment. Moreover, having sat as a judge on Commonwealth Court since 2016, regular and county lawyers representing all levels of government in the Commonwealth, I am very uniquely qualified to speak on the appointment. What I am speaking of is the appointment of George Janocsko as county solicitor. And while I cannot unequivocally state that George is the best solicitor of the Commonwealth, in my years at the bar and on the bench, I have seen none better.

I think I first met George before I joined the County, but I really have no specific recollection of actually meeting him. It was as if he was always just kind of there like a guardian angel. Throughout my tenure as county solicitor who was a constant source of knowledge, experience, wisdom and support. He is, as we see in the profession, learned in the law, a lawyer's lawyer. In fact, he is known affectionately around the

office and around the county as the walking second class county code.

His loyalty is unquestionable. During my time as solicitor, I knew I could always count on George when things got tough, which Mr. Sulley can attest, they frequently did. He is always cool under pressure, has been able to talk colleagues and clients out of what was otherwise could have been a rash or unwise decision. Privilege forbids me from speaking further about that. He is also a font of sage and well-reasoned advice, whatever deciders decide, George does his level best to ensure the plan is implemented properly, efficiently and well.

Make no mistake, the job of county solicitor is one of the most challenging and important positions in Allegheny County government. It's one of only two that require your approval, thus Council has a very important decision to make when considering this appointment. You must do so carefully. It just so happens that it's one of the easiest votes that each of you will ever take as a council member. There is no one more qualified or more suited to this position to serve as Allegheny County solicitor. I proudly give full-throated endorsement for Council's passage of Bill Number 12391-22 approving George's appointment as county solicitor. That was pretty good.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.

MR. BARKER: Next up is the Honorable Szefi.

MR. SZEFI: Thank you. Good evening, everybody. I miss all of you. I didn't even miss one meeting. I am back here - it's after summer break.

I echo much of what my friend Mike just said. I worked with George, alongside George in the county law department for ten years, a full decade. He's been with the county for 40 years in the law department. There is not a single person in this county that could do the job better than George, no one. I can say that unequivocally.

In that office as county solicitor you don't often always - rarely do you measure your victories and court victories and legislative initiatives passed, you measure it in little everyday things. Personnel problems, voided contracts, well negotiated - little things that add up through attentiveness and diligence and there is not a single person that does that better than George Janocsko. His contributions to this county, it's not an exaggeration to say have been immeasurable. Millions and millions of

dollars saved to the taxpayers of this county through his efforts, through his diligence, through his attention to detail.

Every single one of your constituents would be wonderfully served, wonderfully served by George Janocsko, and I'm here tonight to urge the passage, confirmation of George as county solicitor at the earliest possible opportunity that you guys have. Like Mike said, you know, none of your votes you take are easy, they're all important. I think this one is a yes vote that you and the citizens of this county would be grateful for. So thank you all.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Next?

MR. BARKER: Last up is Robert McTiernan.

MR. MCTIERNAN: Good afternoon, my name is Robert McTiernan. I'm a resident of Whitehall Borough and a lawyer with the Law Firm of Tucker Arensberg and PPG 1. Although I no longer work for Allegheny County, I did serve for more than 30 years as an assistant solicitor with George Janocsko, and I would like to take a couple of moments today to just recommend his confirmation by you.

In my work with George, I think I had a unique opportunity to appreciate his depth of intellect and breath of legal knowledge and strength of character. Shortly after I arrived at the county we tried our first jury trial together, and it resulted in the successful verdict for the county. And in that case and subsequent cases we tried together, I came to appreciate George's careful preparation, his knowledge of the law and the uncanny ability to communicate the county's case, not only to Judges, but to ordinary citizens in the jury box, which I think is a great gift for a solicitor to be able to explain complex issues and important positions to the public.

Probably the most important case I ever worked with George on was a religious liberty case that went to the U.S. Supreme Court ACLU vs Allegheny County and I had the privilege of being in Philadelphia to witness his masterful constitutional argument before the Judges of the Third Circuit Court of Appeals.

George is not only a fine lawyer, he's a great colleague. He's always willing to help a friend and a colleague. He's always willing to help out with a case. He has worked in every conceivable area of county government from child services to election law to economic

development. And in addition to the qualities and ethics that all lawyers are supposed to follow, George has an unwavering dedication to the public interest and a great deep sense of fairness, which again for someone who's in a public position is very important.

If I could just mention briefly, too, one final contribution George has made to the profession. He has served many years as a member of the Pennsylvania State Board of Bar Examiners, which is a thankless job. He prepares questions, has written, read countless essays by young lawyers to help assure that the residents of the Commonwealth have competent legal counsel and that is a great contribution to the profession over and above what he's done for government. So I think I can speak, not only for myself, but for my wonderful friends and colleagues of George who are here this evening to say I don't know a finer lawyer and I don't know a finer person and would really be appreciative if you would consider these remarks and confirm his appointment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll now have approval of minutes. 12394-22.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the April 12, 2022 regular meeting of Council.

MR. FUTULES: So moved.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 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? Motion carries.

12395-22.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the June 7, 2022 regular meeting of Council.

MR. MACEY: I'll make that motion.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 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? Motion carries.

12936-22.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the June 21st, 2022 regular meeting of Council.

MR. PALMIERE: So moved.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: 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? Motion carries.

Presentation of Appointments. 12391-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of George Janocsko, Esquire to serve as county solicitor immediately upon confirmation by County Council, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to appointment review.

12392-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of the Reverend Mary Ann Trifaro to the Human Relations Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will also go to appointment review.

12393-22.

MR. BARKER: That Bill was withdrawn earlier today.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Unfinished business. Committee on Appointment Review for the second reading.

12361-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Jason Markovich to the Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, the Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority, the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority, and the Allegheny County Residential Finance Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes. The Appointment Review Committee met on August the 17th, 2022 and affirmatively recommended these appointments.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, does anyone feel that a roll call is necessary? Seeing that a

roll call is not necessary, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

12362-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Jason Markovich to the Authority for Improvements in Municipalities for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: The Appointment Review Committee met on August the 17th, 2022 and has affirmatively recommended Jason Markovich to this position. I make a motion.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: A motion has been made and seconded. Anyone have an issue with not doing a voice vote?

MR. WALTON: Roll call this time.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Roll call? Okay. Go ahead, Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve Bill 12362-22, 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: Yep.

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

appointment passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12363-22.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Jason Markovich to the Redevelopment Authority of Allegheny County for a term to expire on May 23rd, 2027, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: The Committee on Appointment Review met on August the 17th 2022 and has affirmatively recommended this appointment. I make a motion.

MR. DUERR: I'll second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made a second. Councilman Walton, do you want a roll call on this one as well? Okay.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye.
(Chorus of Ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

Are there any liaison reports this evening? Seeing no liaison reports, new business ordinances, resolutions. 12397-22.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance approving the sale of the County's interest in a parcel of property identified as Potomac Street, Oakmont, Pennsylvania, 15139, block and lot 0362-F-00087 for the sale price of \$1,000 to Ms. Donna Deturck and the sharing of the sale price with Oakmont and the Riverview School District, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to Committee on Economic Development Housing.
12398-22.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing South

Park Boxing, Inc. to continue to use a structure on Hundred Acres Drive in the County's South Park, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to the Committee on Parks. 12399-22.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League to continue to use a structure on Monroeville Trestle Road, in the County's Boyce Park, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to the Committee on Parks, 12400-22.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny ratifying amendments to Section 2102.03, Permits Generally, Section 2102.04, Installation Permits, Section 2103.11, Operating Permits Applications, and other sections of the Allegheny County Health Department Rules and Regulations, Article XXI, Air Pollution Control related to permit hearing advertising notice and permit petition requirements, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to health and human services.

12401-22.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny ratifying amendments that revise Section 2104.08, National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants, and Section 2101.20, Definitions, of the Allegheny County Health Department Rules and Regulations, Article XXI, Air Pollution Control, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to health and human services as well.

12402-22.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for the creation of a separate county department within Allegheny County Government effective as of January 1st, 2023 to be known as the Department of Sustainability, setting forth the duties, functions and responsibilities of the Department of Sustainability within Allegheny County Government, and amending Chapter OC of the County Code of Ordinances entitled Organizational Chart to reflect the creation of the Department of Sustainability, sponsored by

the Chief Executive, and Councilmembers Prizio, Palmiere, Walton, Futules, Macey, Duerr, Filiaggi and DeMarco.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to the committee on sustainability.

MS. BENNETT: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MS. BENNETT: Over here. Wrong way. May I be added to that, please?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MS. HALLAM: Me too, please.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: I would as well, please.

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes, please.

MR. BETKOWSKI: Jared, also.

MR. BARKER: One second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Does anyone not want on?

MR. BARKER: Everyone? That makes it lot easier. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: It makes it easier. New business motions. 123403-22 (sic).

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 Tuesday, October 18th, at 5:00 p.m. and Thursday, October 20 at 5:00 p.m. in the Gold Room of the Allegheny County Courthouse, sponsored by Councilmember Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilmember Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. This is a motion that we do every year to authorize our two budget public hearings, as required by the Home Rule Charter and administrative code. This year will be on October 18th and the 20th at 5:00 p.m. I move for approval.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: A motion has been made and seconded. Do we need a roll call on this or are we good with a voice vote? Voice vote? Okay.

All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

Notification of Contract. 12404-22.

MR. BARKER: A communication summarizing approved executive actions for the month of July 2022.

MR. MACEY: Receive and file, please.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a second?

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

We'll now have public comment on general items.

MR. BARKER: We have a number of individuals who signed up. Some of them appear to have signed up or intending to sign up for the special meeting on the 19th, so they may not all be here.

First up is Christina Cirucci.

MS. CIRUCCI: Good evening. My name is Christina Cirucci. I'm a Board Certified OB/GYN physician. I practice obstetrics and gynecology for 20 years in Allegheny County and have taken care of - I have delivered thousands of babies and have taken care of many more thousands of pregnant women.

I am a member of the American College of OB/GYN, a diplomat of the American Board of OB/GYN. I am vice chair of the American Association of pro-life OB/GYNs and an associate scholar with the Charlotte Lozier Institute. I've published peer-reviewed articles on medication abortion. Thank you for the opportunity.

I'm here tonight to urge you not to pass the abortion trigger law. I offer several medical facts. Number one, abortion has significant risks. Most abortions are chemical abortions, in which women take two medications and then go home to bleed, cramp and go into labor and deliver and dispose of their baby on their own. Sixteen (16) percent of women undergoing medication abortions suffer hemorrhage, and 20 percent have some complication.

Number two, abortion is not safer than childbirth. One study showed that women experiencing a loss are over twice as likely to die in the year following pregnancy than women given birth. Another study showed that the risk of death from abortion was almost four times the risk of death from childbirth.

Number three, abortion is never needed to save the mother's life. There can be significant complications where we need to deliver the baby early, but killing the baby is never needed. I have managed many, many high risk

pregnancies and I have never been - had a situation where an abortion was needed to save the mother's life.

Number four, abortion is not justified in the case of rape and incest. Rape is a tragic, terrible event, but abortion is not a solution. Rape is an awful trauma and abortion can compound that trauma. Abortion is not treatment. Let's punish the rapist not the victims.

There are mental health consequences - sorry, point number five. There are mental health consequences associated with abortion. Two-thirds of studies show that an increased risk of mental health problems after abortion.

And my last point, number six, basic embryology shows us that human life begins at conception. This is a scientific fact. We call it - we call it murder if a mother kills her baby after it's born - he or she is born. It's unclear why it is okay to kill a baby before it is born. A person inside the womb should have the same rights as a person outside of the womb.

Our city has some superb neonatal intensive care units working day and night to preserve the life of these little ones, some as young as 22 weeks. It's not okay to be killing them down the street. The health of our residents must be prioritized over abortion access. As a Board Certified OB/GYN physician, I am responsible for caring for both of my patients, mother and baby. I would ask you to make our county a place where both lives are provided dignity, respect and healthcare. Abortion is not healthcare, women deserve better.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MS. CIRUCCI: Thank you very much.

MR. BARKER: Next up is Ellie Rotz. Not here.

Followed by Renee Dolney.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Margaret Mahoney?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Keturah Wasler?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: John Dunmire?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Vincent Kolb?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Selma Weiss?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Karey Kluesner?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Alexander Gray?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Dennis Potts?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here.

MR. BARKER: Tim Sandstrom?

PRESIDENT CATENA: He's here.

MR. SANDSTROM: Good evening. Thank you for the opportunity to speak tonight. I'm here to speak to you about the Boyce Park Dog Park. I'm inviting all of you who have never been here, please come tour the facility. Before anybody asks park managers already told me maintenance is a separate division out of his control.

The dog park is well used. We have our own Facebook group. There's a large number of people. In May we got together and decided that we required three wading pools largely from roadside recycle from landfill and used all of May, all of June, all of July. On August 1st somebody from the county maintenance department took them. I was notified. My name and phone number were on all of those pools. I went back on August 2nd and got the pools. On August 3rd, a county worker appeared by the name of Tony, and I feel sorry, because now I got to mention his name tonight, came down to the dog park, asked if I owned the pools and I said yes, I do. He said well, dog park - those pools cannot stay in this dog park. He said it would be a liability for the county. He told me I could take the pools to the park and bring them back every day.

Now, quickly, I'm going to speak of the liability of that, because if you don't know, Boyce Park closes sunset, unlike North Park or South Park. So under the scenario he told me, a small child could drown in those pools. Now, every morning, I cleaned and sanitized the pools, and the last person out at night emptied them.

So now a small child is going to walk a half mile on the busiest road on Plum, New Texas Road, in the dark, go around the locked gate, go down a dark park road, go through two gates into a dog park, pick up a plastic pool, walk over to a water fountain and fill it up and drown. That's if they pass - don't get pulled off by the coyotes who live in the park.

But yet, the county is busy advertising hi, for \$20 my dog can swim in Boyce Park's wave pool on Labor Day. There's no liability there. I got two Labrador Retrievers. Give them a couple hundred yards running head

start. You know, the very next day after Tony told me this, I showed up to two county workers placing large metal signs that say no swimming pools in the dog park, but the day before I was told to bring them and take them home.

That morning three county workers had nothing better to do than watch my dogs swim. I wish they would have been closer, because I would have had the truck numbers for you. The first two came and apparently were lifeguards. Third guy came down, rolled down his window and yelled, we're going to let the police take care of you, I'm still waiting. You know, this is beyond an over reach by county employees. I thought we elected all of you -

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. SANDSTROM: - to make legislative decisions. I didn't realize that county maintenance -

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. SANDSTROM: - people are now making decisions.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Next.

MR. BARKER: Next up is Mike Suley.

MR. SULEY: Well, I guess you already know my name. Mike Suley, I used to work for Allegheny County. I ran the assessment office. I oversaw two court-ordered reassessments. That was fun. The most fun I ever had was with Judge Wojcik, who just mentioned my name briefly.

In 2005 Dan Onorato hired me as a consultant, an assessment consultant to work for Allegheny County and I reported to Mike Wojcik. I learned so much from that man. I did learn one term, attempt of court. I always heard - you hear that on TV. We were in court one time and the county executive said he wasn't going to go through with the reassessment. And I'm sitting in court, there's Judge Wojcik said well, if we don't go through with the reassessment and Mr. Suley doesn't do it, I'm going to go in to find him, find him in contempt of court.

So I whispered to then Solicitor Wojcik and said what does that mean? And he said how do you think you'll look in orange? So the Judge was serious. I had to go through with the reassessment, no matter what my boss told me. And I'm looking at a similar situation now and I need your help. I'm just asking a favor. Last Friday, Judge Hertzberg asked the county, the Office of Property Assessment to submit information that they had was - that

was completed and we still haven't received it. Now that you've hired a new county solicitor - I know the phone number over there. I'm going to give George a call tomorrow, but I need your help. Just ask the questions. Here's why. There are tens of thousands of people who were overcharged in taxes because of a screw up by the assessment office.

I know all these people, they're good people. If you ever make a mistake. They did. They have to correct the mistake. I know a consultant in the lawsuit against Allegheny County, the lead plaintiffs are Mack and Shabby (phonetic) in Wilkinsburg. They are over assessed by \$4,000. Who's Wilkinsburg? Who represents Wilkinsburg? If you're Wilkinsburg, okay, if you're over assessed by \$10,000, you pay \$500 more a year. That's obscene.

So I'm asking you to let's get the new common level ratio, let it kick in within the next few days in the appeals process, and once that happens and the county can admit we made a mistake, open up an appeals window for this year. I'll be talking more publicly, I'll talk to anyone of you one on one. Some of you I know, and I've done that. That's what I do.

I have a passion for this. I just want everyone to pay their fair share. And I know right now in Common Pleas Court that the Board of Viewers people are paying taxes on 81 percent, someone takes the day off work, goes in Court of Appeal, -

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. SULEY: - and they're paying it on the 81 percent, which we know is wrong. Fix it. Thank you very much.

One of the Judges told me when I came in don't be angry and mean, so I hope that came across as a nice guy. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Next?

MR. BARKER: Last up is Kathy Laslow.

MS. LASLOW: Good afternoon. My name is Kathy Laslow. I'm a lifetime Allegheny resident. I live in Ross Township with my husband Jeff. My comment is I'm opposed to Councilman Duerr's trigger law safeguarding abortion access.

Abortion is a violent procedure resulting in a gruesome death of an unborn child and often causing long term emotional distress for the woman. According to an

article from WESA, there were 6,400 abortions performed in Allegheny County in 2020. Does the county take pride in these deaths? I don't think so.

It baffles me to hear the euphemisms used to promote abortions, such as abortion care or abortion is healthcare. It certainly is not catering care to the unborn child. There are two lives to be considered here. Why doesn't the County promote life affirming alternatives such as pregnancy resources or adoption care? With the overturning of Roe in June, the so-called right to abortion is no longer recognized as a constitutional right according to the Supreme Court.

Allegheny County has a duty to accept and follow the law to save lives, not to undermine and serve selfish desires. Now is the time to promote life, not to destroy it.

I have access to many pregnancy resources and would be happy to send them and share them with you. Please let me know and please oppose any abortion promotion legislation. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there a motion to adjourn?

MS. HALLAM: So moved.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion is made and seconded. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Thank you everyone.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:44 A.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 26 day of October, 2022

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

Amber Garbinski,

Court Reporter