

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John P. DeFazio	-	President, Council-At-Large
Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-At-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Edward Kress	-	District 3
Dimitrios Pantzoulas	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Dr. Charles J. Martoni	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, December 19, 2017 - 5:01 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Will you all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to the flag and remain standing for silent prayer or reflection.

After me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Ellenbogen?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pantzoulas?

MR. PANTZOULAS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Present.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Here.

Before proceeding with the roll call, I would like to recognize that the Return Board of Allegheny County has at this time certified that Dimitrios Pantzoulas has been elected to our District 4 seat in the beginning of this year, and that he was sworn in by the magisterial district justice Anthony Saveikis on December 6th, 2017. Please join me in welcoming Mr. Pantzoulas as

he --- as a seated member of county council this evening.
So please stand and ---.

(Applause.)

MR. PANTZOULAS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Would anyone want to
make a motion to make a roll call acceptance? It's
already accepted.

MR. WALTON: So moved.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
Quarterly address by our Chief Executive.

(Applause.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Well, thank you,
Mr. President and members of council. And first of all, I
wish everybody a happy holiday season.

And I want to congratulate you and thank you on
what I think has been a very productive year. Thanks for
the --- passing the budget last --- at your last meeting
in the 16th year of --- 16th time in the last 17 years
without a millage increase. I think the property owners
of Allegheny County are very appreciative of that, and
we've seen, you know, a lot of good things that have
happened along those lines with investment that continues
to happen.

You know, and since we were last together since
I was here in October with the budget address, you know,
we've some --- also some good news that continues to occur
and continues to happen. You may have seen that last
week, one of those leading tech organizations, GeekWire,
has decided to call Allegheny County and Pittsburgh HQ
two. I hope that's a precursor to another HQ two that may
happen at some time later in the future.

But I think they're recognizing the technology
and a lot of the great things that are happening in this
region that are occurring, along with what Brookings did,
the Brookings Institute again identifying Pittsburgh and
some of the great things that are happening here. And
again, by Pittsburgh I mean the entire, you know,
Allegheny County and really, Southwestern Pennsylvania
region.

We've had some good words, good announcements over the last couple of weeks as well. The Criminal Justice Advisory Board, which is really a collaborative of all of law enforcement working with our courts, working with the District Attorney, our local police departments, won the CCAP Award for best practices of 2017. That's the County Commissioners to 67 counties in Pennsylvania and we're very proud of the work. And I think it's indicative of what we do very well here is that we work together. We're a collaborative body, a collaborative community that works together to do a lot of good things.

The Health Board also was given an accreditation, along with our Human Service Department and the ME's Office also got national accreditations which we're very proud of, of the work that they have done.

You may have seen that the Health Department put together a lead task force. The report was released last week around --- I know it's been an issue that's been in the news. And obviously, this body passed the testing, the mandatory testing for children under the age of two.

And you know, the good news is that the report came about, and it was put together by a lot of experts in medicine, pediatricians. Dr. Hacker really put a good team together that we're continuing to improve. And we've improved the numbers over the last number of years in the lead levels that are in --- particularly in young children, but we still have some work to do. And again, I think it's a solution that we can work together with housing stock, with all the factors that come into play. We can work on that and work on that together.

We also were delighted that the Housing and Urban Development at the federal level came to town about a month ago to give us kudos on veterans' homelessness, on how we have attacked veterans' homelessness. And this was something that was done under the prior administration, and now this current administration has continued. And the district manager came in from Philadelphia to really talk about the fact that human services, in working with Marc Cherna and Mary Esther Van Shura from my office, the mayor's office, Mayor Peduto's Office ---.

When this began a couple of years ago, we had 587 homeless veterans. We literally got that number down to zero where all those folks were placed. And I think again, for what our veterans do, it's something that we should definitely consider and take very seriously.

(Applause.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Yeah. I also want to give some kudos, and again, thanks to the collaboration with this body. A couple years ago, we put in place a fee that allowed us to do some more paving and do us more road reconstruction. For a number of years --- for the new councilman, just to put this in perspective, we own 400 miles of county roads and we're supposed to be doing about 10 percent a year, about 40 miles a year. We were never hitting that number. We were doing 15, 18, sometimes 20 miles. But over the last couple of years --- in 2016, we did 58 miles which was tremendous, really a record that we had done.

And just this year, we just got the numbers last week, but we did 61.3 miles, our Public Works Department did. And I know I hear from a lot of you and your constituents, that you talk about the --- you know, the county roads and how they've done. But Director Shanley and his team have really worked, you know.

We've invested in some new equipment, milling and paving machines, training. Put some folks on that are really excited about the work that they do. I know the County Manager has been out with a number of us to see the sites and the work that they're doing. And again, that's something that I think our constituents can be very, very proud, the fact that, you know, we're getting these roads paved, and we're catching up on where we were on, you know, kind of behind on some of those things.

I think we also had a very good year when it came to the parks. I think that's something also we can be proud of. A number of you were at some of the ribbon cuttings that we had over the years. The pickle ball courts, a number of us were up in North Park. Last --- about a month or so ago, we did the wedding pavilion in White Oak Park, the things that have happened in Hartwood with that wedding site.

And again, the park ranger program continues to be very positive and productive for school children who are learning more about our parks and excited about the things that we're doing.

Our attendance was up, you know, pretty well in our concert series this summer. We just opened the ski slopes at Boyce Park last weekend. It finally got cold enough to make some snow, and we had really good attendance the first weekend, way ahead of where we were

last year. So you know, we're continuing to make improvements along those lines.

We named, as you know, a new Port Authority Director who will be starting. I think maybe some of you might have got a chance to meet her last week at the Allegheny Conference and Chamber party. She was in town looking --- doing a little house hunting. She'll be starting, actually, in mid-January when she actually officially begins, Katharine Kelleman. I think she's very --- going to be very innovative.

And you know, transit becomes such an important part for all of our constituents and who we serve and we're really excited to really get going next year on some of the things that she's going to be doing. So she's going to be coming around, meeting with you, talking to you and hearing, you know, some of the concerns you have of the folks that you represent.

The airport, you know, continues. We got another award with Regional Airport of the Year. Christina Cassotis and her team continue to do tremendous work. They announced three new flights, three new cities last week, Kansas City, West Palm Beach and --- I'm missing on the third one.

Jennifer, help me out.

MS. LIPTAK: Memphis.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Memphis, Memphis. I know, so many of them, I can't keep track.

In addition to a new airline, Elite Airlines is going to be serving Sarasota Bradenton for some of our Pirate fans that go down there.

So you know, just a couple of years ago, we were 37 cities that we could get to directly. We're now up to 72. She's almost doubled it in just three years.

(Applause.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: That's a tremendous, tremendous success.

(Applause.)

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: We added Montreal and then the big one that we announced where Alaska Airlines is going to go to Seattle. That's going to be a huge thing. And we know what that's all about and why that was important to us as we continue to rank extremely high on the handicapping that's done around the country on where the Amazon will land.

And obviously, 238 cities who have put in for that. It's a --- there's a lot of folks in that group and --- but I think we're pretty competitive. And again, I like our chances on where we're going to go.

Those are just some of the areas that we hit that --- you know, with the Kane Hospital, I know Councilman DeMarco and I were there a few weeks ago cutting the ribbon on the center that --- a memory care center that's opening at Glen Hazel, as we continue to work on innovative ways with the County Manager and the initiatives that we continue to work on, and we're going to continue to work on that.

On other good news that we had, and it talks about our growing economy, is in the last quarter 46 new restaurants opened in Allegheny County. Again, we're known as a foodie place and you know, to continue to see all these innovative restaurants and the things that they're doing is exciting on so many levels.

So that was just --- you know, I just wanted to do a light one tonight. Obviously, open it up to any questions that you guys may have, that the body may have on, you know, what we've done this year and where we go next year. But I'm bullish on where we're going to be.

I want to thank Councilman Kress. I know this is his last meeting. And you know, working with Ed on so many projects over the years, you know, we're going to be sad to see him go, but I know he's still going to be around. He's still going to be working with us. But I want to wish him well. And as we head into the new year and the new session, I want to wish everybody well.

So Mr. President, any questions that we have on policy that --- we're here and ---

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Macey?

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: --- we want to do that.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President, members of council.

Chief Executive Fitzgerald, I'd just like to say thank you for you and your administration. When I have problems, when there were issues, questions, your administration always came forth post haste and they also came professionally. I can't say enough for the things that's been done in my district, although we could use some more help down in the Mon Valley.

I also want to thank the County Manager for all his help and assistance in getting issues resolved.

And most importantly, I want to thank you for your support of the Mon-Fayette Expressway. That's going to mean a lot to the Mon Valley and the Turtle Creek Valley and to those businesses and people trying to get from point A to point B.

So thank you, again. And Merry Christmas, everybody.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilman. And yeah, your work on the SPC and our ten counties continue to work together. It's a good process, so ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Down there --- no, no, no, no, Representative Kress?

MR. KRESS: Now I just want to say thank you Mr. Chief Executive for everything you've done for the county. And I think we had a great partnership.

When I first came on council, I mean, a lot of the roads --- I'd get complaints about the roads. Now the roads are looking great, no more complaints. And also when I was elected, up in West Deer, people thought they were neglected. And now, the park is looking fabulous.

And also, sometimes when we make our votes, they're not easy. And sometimes people may --- they may vote against something and want to take credit for something. And that's the thing. Sometimes you have to take the tough vote, but you also want to take credit for it. You just don't want to --- want to --- excuse me, run away from problems. And that's the thing, I think what we've done here is we've done a lot of good things and we didn't run away from problems. We try to --- to fix those problems.

I mean, since I've been here, we haven't raised property taxes. That's a great thing. We've raised fees. But again, the reason why we're raising fees is that we want people to pay for the government they use, and it shouldn't go on to innocent taxpayers to pay more.

And also, I want to commend you also for looking to file suit against the opioid manufacturers. And I just gave you a copy of the book, Dreamland. That's your Christmas present. Everybody on council got ---

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thank you.

MR. KRESS: --- a copy of this book here.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilman.

MR. KRESS: But it's very important that we go after them because again, the opioid manufacturers, they created this problem, and it shouldn't be up for innocent taxpayers, innocent consumers, to try to solve it. So other counties in the area have --- are filing suit, and I think Allegheny County has to follow suit. So --- but thank you very much.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Okay. Thank you.

MR. WALTON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative DeWitt
Walton?

MR. WALTON: Thank you, sir. I won't take very long, Mr. Chief Executive. I want to thank you for the leadership that you've provided and the leadership of your entire administration in working to solve and meeting the challenges that my district has faced. We --- district ten is one district that has tons of challenges, but out of challenges have some a host of opportunities.

All of your administration, whether it's from your Public Works operation in paving all of the additional miles of roads, the employment opportunities that have arisen, the commitment by this county to solve some of the challenges that Wilkesburg faces, I want to say thank you for your leadership, for your support, the integrity of not only you, but your entire administration.

Thank you, and I'm looking forward to next year and meeting more challenges that our communities face.

CHIEF EXECUTIVE FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilman. I really want to, you know, give kudos to Manager McKain. I know he spends a lot of time at the meetings with you more --- you know, certainly more than I do with Solicitor Szefi and my Chief of Staff, Jennifer Liptak and Willy. You know, Willy McKain has really put together a really great group of directors that really help run each department that --- and some of them we talked about here.

And it's important, you know, for all of us to continue to work together. And I think that's the key to, I think, some of the things we've been able to accomplish. And you know, moving into the next year, that's --- I think we want to continue that operation. And I know the manager feels that way, and we all do in the administration.

And we really do treasure the relationship we have with you, the work we've had with you over the year,

and want to continue that. So thank you, and have a happy holiday.

All right. Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Happy holiday.

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10426-17 will not be here this evening. That's going to be taken up at a later date, so we'll move down to 10427 ---.

MR. KRESS: Can we just take a couple minutes break? Everyone's leaving here.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah. One second until everyone leaves, but the next one will be 10427-17 --- 30 seconds.

(Short break taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10427-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation thanking Jimmy Cvetic for his hard work and dedication to serving others through his work as a police officer, poet and boxing instructor. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

MR. KRESS: Well, we have a crowd, but nobody more deserves it than the person I'm going to introduce to you. I don't know if you've ever seen --- this is the Christmas season --- if you've ever seen the movie It's a Wonderful Life. But in this movie, Jimmy Stewart plays George Bailey who's lived a great life in helping out so many people in his community. However, because of some issues, George encounters an angel who has to show him what the world would be like without Mr. Bailey. And in seeing what the world was like, George has a change of heart and he can see the difference his life has made in others.

And I want to tell you at the end of the movie, all his friends come together to help out George. And I want to tell you --- I want to introduce you today to Allegheny County's George Bailey. This is Jimmy Cvetic, he's right here. And I'm going to read you the ---.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: And you can see he brought a lot of friends with him, and I'm going to read you this proclamation.

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is blessed with individuals dedicated to enhancing our community and neighborhoods, individuals such as Jimmy Cvetic, who has placed his unique stamp of character and hard work through

the community as a police officer, poet and boxing instructor; and

WHEREAS, for over 28 years, Jimmy worked as an Allegheny County Police Officer in Pittsburgh. He started his police career as a uniformed officer, and by the time of his retirement, he was a homicide detective. During his career as a police officer, Jimmy acquired a nickname, Dog, a nickname he still sticks with for the ex-police detectives; and

WHEREAS, in 1970, Jimmy began training boxers before he officially founded the Western Pennsylvania Athletic League in the early 2000s. Now with ten WPAL (sic) gyms in the region, Jimmy has sent hundreds of fighters --- seen --- excuse me, seen hundreds of fighters pass through his gym doors, most of which are teenage kids that he helps mentor into adulthood; and

WHEREAS, what adds even more to Jimmy's unique character is that he's a prolific author with published collections and pieces, Dog Unleashed: Poetry, Secret Society of Dog and police --- and Dog is a Love from Hell are just a few of Jimmy's publications. His books contain mostly narrative poems, but are rather engaging; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize Jimmy Cvetic for his contributions to Allegheny County in enhancing the wellbeing of the county's citizens. This council thanks him for his hard work and dedication to serving others through his work as a police officer, poet and boxing instructor. His long and distinguished service deserves the accolades of our citizenry and this council wishes him all the best in his future endeavors.

And this has been sponsored by Council Member Ed Kress and the rest of council, presented on this 19th day of December 2017. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: You, go ahead.

MR. CVETIC: First of all, I see some of you and I've known you for years. Mr. Martoni, we've been friends for almost 50 years. And Mr. Martoni was the reason that I went to college and helped me get scholarships and things like that. Mr. Martoni, I will always be indebted to you. That was wonderful. Let me hear it for you.

(Applause.)

MR. CVETIC: And Mr. Kress, this is very nice.

(Brief interruption.)

MR. CVETIC: I think this is wonderful. However, there is something that I should tell you. It is not me, honestly. I would not have came here --- how you doing up there, Mr. DeFazio, Jumping Johnny?

(Applause.)

MR. CVETIC: You were the best, my man. But Mr. Kress, it is not me. It is we. It is all of my friends. Together, we have made magic. A man will not be judged and measured by what he has done, but he will be measured by what he has not done. That should be the barometer. There should always be one more horizon, one more horizon. When you quit having horizons, you have quit dreaming. And I will dream until the day I die. And what is wonderful, there will be --- many have been with me. They will also dream. Now, if it would be okay with you, I would want to do this.

All my friends, come here. My coaches, Jimmy Reardon was up here twice. Come up here. Doctor, get up here --- Mike (indicating). Come over here, Judge --- John (indicating), get up here. All you guys, Christopher, Joey, you know who you are. Come up and come forward ---

(Applause.)

MR. CVETIC: --- all of you. Come.

This is Mary McGinley. One day she is going to be a judge with black robes.

Come up here, all of you. Why are you sitting over there like a dunce? Get over here. Come over here. You, too, come here. Come here.

Now, I will tell you something. This is my honor guard. I just do not go anywhere. I bring an honor guard. And my honor guest is Al Wrigley, Bronze Star Medal winner, Amante Eberhardt, my professional fighter. He is going to be fighting in Monroeville nine and zero, Golden Glove fighter.

This is Ricky Manning. Seventeen (17) years ago, he went down --- what are you sitting there --- get up here. She is very humble. Get over here. I chained her --- I locked her up in my store and made her wrap Christmas presents for two weeks, then I let her go home. We got 10,000 Christmas presents plus almost 70 bicycles and a Christmas tree, and she was there wrapping Christmas presents. You deserve this award. This is the we (indicating).

This doctor here, come over here, Michael. Come over here. Stand up here. This is Michael at Pitt University. He runs the program for the athletes. Together, we --- and is Melanie in here? She must have ran away. There is about eight doctors. We are working on the ethics for children, and together we are working on the kids program, which is the --- and these are the characters.

We are going to teach honor, respect, fidelity and he right here, we are teaching --- for the older ones, it is called the Socrates stone. They will hold this stone which says honor, and the rock will become heavy because honor is a heavy thing to carry. And then we will teach the little ones from four to eight, they will learn about --- the program will be called the Stars and Stripes Program. We are bringing it to the city. Mr. Martoni, I will sit with you next week. I met with the mayor last week.

As of the 30th of September, there were 480 deaths in opioids. There were 4,000 children left behind here because of neglect, abuse, incarceration or deaths. It is a sad moment. We will win. We will not lose.

Now if I have forgotten anybody, let me look.

I think --- there's Johnny boy, and Lisa, Judge, come up here. Where is Coleman McDonough? Come up here. We know you're hiding somewhere. Coleman, come over here. You come up here. Where's Coleman? He's hiding somewhere. He ran --- he ran out of here because I told him to stay.

But these people right here --- Judge, get up here. This is Judge --- come up here. You're too short, they can't see you. This is Judge Lisa. She comes up, wraps Christmas presents. And guess what? She's on the Ethic Board, a federal judge.

Well, I think I said a lot out here, but this is something that you must hear, too. These people from Vietnam, we went over to the Vietnam Memorial and Santa was with me. And I will tell you a Santa secret. Santa's secret is he was over in a little place called Khe Sanh in 1968. And he came back, and he knelt in front of the Vietnam Memorial in the courtyard that you helped me get, Mr. Martoni. And guess what we did? We prayed. Santa, thank you.

All right. I think I said it all, gentlemen. If I forgot you, I apologize from my heart. And that is the --- if I forgot any of you, again, a second apology.

Merry Christmas to all you, and remember ---

MR. CVETIC: (Applause.)

--- it was all of us, not me. It was all of us. (Applause.)

MR. CVETIC: Oh, this is Gloria. I forgot her. Oh, I got magic for you. I want to give you some magic. Hold on. Hold on.

MR. KRESS: Wait, wait. Nobody leave. We're going to take everyone's picture.

MR. CVETIC: Everybody get a picture up here (indicating). There's some magic for you. What happened was ---.

MR. KRESS: He really should be up at the microphone here. Nobody can hear him. Let me see if I can get --- there's another mic out here ---.

MR. CVETIC: I wrote something called the Zen of Elves. And I wrote --- these are whimsical books. I wrote them for children. But in truth, I wrote them for adults because you have forgotten the magic.

The magic is simple. You must find the elf in yourself. I wrote a song called, there's an elf in myself that'll always love you. There's an elf in myself that really cares. As long as you believe that there's a Santa, you look inside your heart, you'll find he's there. There you go.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: Tonight's book night, by the way.

MR. CVETIC: The hardest thing to pick up in life is a piece of a broken heart. Don't forget that.

Mr. DeFazio, what an honor.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay, buddy.

MR. KRESS: Okay. We have a special word from Santa real quick.

MR. CVETIC: Hey, people. Get in front of the council. Get a picture --- the American flag, come on. Santa, you want to say something?

SANTA CLAUS: Yeah, I want to say one thing. I think everybody here knows it. Jimmy is on top of my good list.

(Applause.)

SANTA CLAUS: And other than that, there's only one other thing Santa Claus ever says, and that's ho, ho, ho, merry Christmas.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10428-17.

MR. BARKER: Bill 10428-17. Certificates of Recognition awarded to ACHIEVA's Annual Awards of Excellence honorees. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

MR. BAKER: All right. Thank you, Mr. President.

I will say that is the first time I've ever shook Santa Claus' hand before giving a proclamation. That was pretty neat.

So Councilman Kress, who's probably on his way out, that was phenomenal. Thank you for bringing Jimmy there. That was --- that was really fantastic. I will say in four years of council, that is one of the most unique and incredible proclamation ceremonies we've ever had.

Councilman Pantzoulas, it is not always like this. But that was --- I'm glad you got to be here for that for sure.

So with that, I want to congratulate and welcome up all of our ACHIEVA Pittsburgh honorees, if they could please join me up here, all of our honorees. We'll introduce you one by one after you come up, including Representative Costa, all of our fantastic winners from the ACHIEVA Awards of Excellence. Representative Costa, this is your second time here already tonight up here.

Thanks so much to our ACHIEVA honorees for all that you do for the community. For those that might now know ACHIEVA quite as well, ACHIEVA has been around for over 60 years here in our community. It is an absolutely vital, important and wonderful organization that does so much good in the field of disabilities and helping families, helping young people, helping people of all ages with disabilities.

I know that their awards event was just a few weeks ago and that they honored some unbelievable people here in our community. I have it on good word and I know that Chaz Kellem was one of your fellow honorees, who's one of my favorite human beings in life. I love Chaz

Kellem. Even rivals you, Representative Costa. He's --- Chaz Kellem is a good, good man.

So I'm very proud to have all of you here, and --- and I am so thankful for all that you do for ACHIEVA and to help folks with disabilities here in our community.

So I'll just recognize all of our honorees. We have Representative Dom Costa, if we could give Representative Costa a big round of applause.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: We have Beth Fulena. Did I get that right, Beth?

MS. FULENA: Yes, thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: We have the Italian Sons and Daughters of America, congratulations.

(Applause.)

Mr. BAKER: They were the --- the recipients of the Excellence in Volunteerism Award.

I should say Representative Costa was the --- the award for Legislator of the Year.

We have Dr. Rory Cooper who was the recipient of the Excellence in Professional Services Award. Dr. Cooper, congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: And we have --- and I know they're here tonight because we're live streaming it on Facebook, the Pennsylvania Health Access Network, PHAN. They're the recipients of the Excellence in Advocacy Award. So Erin, congratulations.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: Great. All right. So congratulations to all of you.

Maybe in just --- I know we have a busy agenda tonight. If you can just mention to us what ACHIEVA and this organization means to you, if you could just share with my council colleagues what ACHIEVA means to you and what you do with the organization, just maybe in a sentence or two. We'll keep it --- we'll keep it short tonight.

So Representative Costa (indicating), congratulations again.

REPRESENTATIVE COSTA: Thank you, Councilman.

MR. BAKER: Thank you for all you do.

REPRESENTATIVE COSTA: I appreciate it very much.

Thank you. This went from three minutes to three seconds. So --- and my executive director said to me, make it short.

So basically, ACHIEVA had some problems back when they were changing the funding ratio across the state. They came to me, and we were able to move the funding. So unfortunately, all the funding was going to the east side of the state. And we were able to move it back and make sure that these very important programs and these things that they do to help people, stay in place and they're able to afford to do it.

So again, I want to thank Mr. President, council members and Councilman Baker for this honor. I do truly appreciate and I will treasure it, and merry Christmas to everyone. Thank you.

MR. BAKER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: Thank you to my State Representative Dom Costa.

The Italian Sons and Daughters.

MS. MOCELLO: Yes, my name is Patricia Mocello. I'm the Western Pennsylvania District Vice President for the Italian Sons and Daughters of America. And with me is Danny Cerrone who is a board member for the ISDA Fraternal Association.

Our charitable giving project is we raise funds every year to take 500 students from different centers and institutions to Italian Day at Kennywood. We give them an all-day ride ticket. We give them lunch. We give them transportation to and from the --- from Kennywood, and we also give them spending money. And ACHIEVA is one of those centers and we have about 100 volunteers that day who work to help us.

Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: Thank you. Dr. Cooper, do you want to --- congratulations --- with Dr. Cooper.

DR. COOPER: I'm Rory Cooper. I'm with the University of Pittsburgh and the US Department of Veteran's Affairs. And what we do is we create technologies for our wounded veterans and for people with disabilities so they can fully participate in society. And what you --- ACHIEVA means to us is it represents reintegration that everyone has value.

MR. BAKER: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: All right. Thank you, Dr. Cooper. Beth, I think you're up next. Congratulations, again.

MS. FULENA: Thank you so much. Thank you again to council for this wonderful honor.

Actually, as one of the directors at Western Psychiatric Institute and Clinic, I became involved with ACHIEVA because we actually share patients and consumers. So working with ACHIEVA Family Trust, which I sit on the board and with the larger ACHIEVA board, we're able to make sure that folks who have disabilities are able to keep their entitlement.

It's very difficult with funding and services. So we're able to ensure that we can keep all of their benefits intact while they may be inheriting different monies from different folks. So it's an honor to be able to serve on those boards and make sure that folks are keeping the funding that they need to make sure that they're able to be active in the community.

So thank you, again.

MR. BAKER: Thanks --- thanks, Beth.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: All right. And last but not least, Erin from the PA Health Access Network.

MS. NINEHOUSER: Thank you very much. Thank you, Councilman Baker. Thank you to the council and President DeFazio.

This is a wonderful honor. But the real honor for us at the Pennsylvania Health Access Network is getting to work with an amazing organization like ACHIEVA. We work specifically with their health care team to protect funding for Medicaid that allows many people with disabilities to live independently at home on their own terms, rather than have to go into an institution.

So we worked very closely to expand Medicaid under the Affordable Care Act, and now 700,000 more Pennsylvanians have health insurance today than they did a few years ago. So it's just a joy for us to work in partnership with ACHIEVA and we're very grateful for this honor. Thank you.

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Erin.

(Applause.)

MR. BAKER: All right. Thank you, again. We'll take a group photo now with all of the honorees from the Awards of Excellence for ACHIEVA.

MR. WALTON: Mr. President?

MR. BAKER: Come on up.

MR. WALTON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes?

MR. WALTON: If I may --- on behalf of --- I received a phone call this afternoon from the Office of Governmental Relations at the University of Pittsburgh, and they shared with me their support, their ongoing support for ACHIEVA and the work that you do. And they wanted to make certain that the community at large was aware of their continuing support for the work of ACHIEVA. And I want to congratulate you and say let's continue the work that you do and the success of the organization.

MR. BAKER: That's awesome. Thanks, Councilman Walton. That's very nice. Thank you.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

(Applause.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10429-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation applauding the efforts of Warden DeMore and Dr. Brophy in the creation of The Opiate Reform Initiative. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

MR. KRESS: Okay. I want to honor two individuals who are making a tremendous impact in trying to help those suffering from the opioid epidemic. They're doing this through education and treatment. That is Dr. Tom Brophy and Warden Joe DeMore.

Dr. Tom Brophy is an emergency room doctor and also runs Trinity Wellness Service. He caters and he basically treats those suffering from addiction, while Joe is currently the warden of the Butler County Jail. And they came together to form a nonprofit known as the Opiate Reform Initiative, a nonprofit organization.

And I just have to say a couple things. As an elected official, I did not know the severity of the opioid problem until they actually had a seminar. I think it was sometime this year, like what was it, March, April?

MR. DEMORE: April.

MR. KRESS: Yeah. And it's something that as an elected official, not to be aware of this, I was kind of blindsided by it. But last year, we had 650 opioid overdose --- drug overdoses last year. And I think the year before, it was 425. And in my community of Shaler, we've been really hard hit by this. And I think these two

fellows are just making a tremendous impact in our community.

But also, it's relevant for tonight, too, because we have a motion on the floor about suing the opioid manufacturers. And again, everybody has the book Dreamland I handed them, and that basically explains how the whole problem occurred.

But I'm going to read this proclamation.

WHEREAS, each year, more Americans die from drug overdoses than traffic accidents and more than three out of five of these deaths involve an opioid; and

WHEREAS, the Pittsburgh-based nonprofit, The Opiate Reform Initiative, was established in 2015 by two longtime friends, Warden Joseph DeMore and Dr. C. Thomas Brophy, after Warden Joseph's brother David tragically overdosed from heroin in 2015; and

WHEREAS, Warden DeMore, the warden of the Butler County Jail, and Dr. Tom Brophy, an emergency medical physician, are both steadfast in their commitment to reducing overdose deaths and getting people the help they need through their organization, the Opiate Reform Initiative; and

WHEREAS, opioid use disorder or addiction to prescription opioids or heroin is a disease that touches too many communities. The Opiate Reform Initiative is rooted in key features that Warden DeMore and Dr. Brophy have skillfully designed in their professional experiences to help combat the current opioid epidemic. The organization is dedicated to educating community residents and leaders on addiction, train and educate healthcare providers and subsidize treatment for high risk populations; and

WHEREAS, Warden DeMore and Dr. Brophy have recruited many professionals in the field of medicine and law enforcement to help support their cause, and since its inception, the opiate reform movement has helped thousands of people across Allegheny County.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby applaud the efforts of Warden DeMore and Dr. Brophy in the creation of the Opiate Reform Initiative. This council thanks them for ensuring that everyone with an opioid addiction can embark on the road to recovery and together, we can turn the tide of this epidemic.

Sponsored by Councilman Ed Kress and presented on this 19th day of December 2017.

Thank you very much for all that you've done.
(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: Come on up.

WARDEN DEMORE: I just wanted to thank all the council members and Mr. Kress.

Tom and I grew up in Shaler, really good friends in high school. And back then, we didn't realize that we were going to have a thing that would keep us close. Both of our brothers were battling opiate addiction. And unfortunately, like Mr. Kress said, my brother passed away June of 2015.

So at his viewing, Tom and I made a promise to each other that we'd use our positions to do whatever we could to help other people dealing with this. And from my family perspective, 13 years dealing with that is very difficult. So to know we could at least help one person, it was worthwhile, and we're going to try to push forward and help as many people as we can.

So I'm going to turn it over to Dr. Brophy to talk to you guys for a second.

(Applause.)

DR. BROPHY: I'd like to thank everybody, especially you, Ed Kress, for honoring us (adjusts microphone) with this.

Joe and I have a --- we've had a lot of things in common through the years. And unfortunately, like he mentioned, having a heroin addict grow up in your household has always been a testament to the fact that it's not the parents you have. It's not the house you grew up in. It's not the people you hang out with. It's a combination of genetics and some bad decisions.

And we wear very unique hats from a professional standpoint, as well. Warden DeMore, you know, we've gone over the numbers. Seventy-five (75) percent of the inmates in his jail and the majority of the other jails in this area, those people are in on drug related charges.

And as an ER physician, you know, 12 years ago when I graduated medical school, we would see one heroin overdose a week. We now see one every couple of hours, and that's not an exaggeration. Every shift I'm dealing with multiple heroin addicts. So having, you know, that experience at home and then also having that experience

professionally, you know, both of us, it just made sense to, you know, come together.

And as an ER doc, I have a unique perspective on this as well because we're literally in the trenches, whether it's reviving an overdose victim or treating someone in withdrawal, or even dealing with the social aspects when an inmate that's on their way to jail needs a clearance, medical clearance for jail. We --- we're dealing with this opioid epidemic in literally every aspect. You know, we're in the trenches with it.

And you know, it also comes with the realization that the healthcare community as physicians, as healthcare providers, we have to accept that we played a role in forming this epidemic, you know. Whether it was overprescribing or it was just ignorance and pain control, you know, the health care community played a role. And we also need to play a role in helping communities heal and helping us, you know, climb out of this epidemic.

And as Councilman Kress mentioned, you know, there are other players that were responsible as well, including the pharmaceutical industry. You know, much like the tobacco industry, they made billions of dollars at the expense of communities, at the expense of families.

And I strongly encourage you to read the book that he passed out. Sam Quinones and I have actually met and become friends. And the book is an excellent representation of how all these things came together, the healthcare problems, chronic pain, the pharmaceutical companies. And I fully support his decision to hold those people accountable.

But what Joe and I have decided to do with this nonprofit organization is educate people on those aspects of who's accountable, because it's not just the healthcare community and the providers. It's not just the pharmaceutical companies, but it's all of us as a public as well.

You know, when we feel like we --- we are --- we deserve a pain free experience, we forget that pain is there for a reason. And pain is a part of healing, and pain is a part to, you know, to remind us not to jump off of that four foot wall again and remind us not to move that shoulder because we just had surgery and it needs time to heal. And certainly, you know, pain can sometimes just arise and it's not fair. But it's there for a reason, and that played a role as well.

And so just like the healthcare community and just like the pharmaceutical company, we as a public all need to have accountability as well, and we all need to come together to be a part of the healing. And so that's what Joe and I are hoping to do with this nonprofit organization.

We've done about a dozen town hall meetings across the city. Brentwood, Shaler, we're doing Hampton in a couple of weeks. We're doing North Hills High School a couple of months after that.

So I encourage everybody to be a part of it because we will always accept any help that we can get. You can find all of that information on our website, opiatereform.com. And again, I just want to thank you guys for recognizing our efforts. And I'm glad that we have people like Councilman Kress on the board who are willing to bring all of this to light, and I'm very appreciative of you.

MR. KRESS: No, thank you for all you're doing.

DR. BROPHY: Thank you.

(Applause.)

DR. BROPHY: Let's go get some pictures.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What are we on? 10430 ---?

MR. KLEIN: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10430-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation recognizing Chef Richard DeShantz for his hard work and entrepreneurial skills that helped grow the culinary business in the Pittsburgh region. Sponsored by Council Member Pantzoulas.

MR. PANTZOULAS: Hello, everybody. I'm a little nervous here. It's my first one, but I got four more --- no, I just ---.

MR. MACEY: You'll be a pro by then, don't worry.

MR. PANTZOULAS: So it's important for me to recognize Chef DeShantz not only as a friend, for what he does for our city. Chef DeShantz has brought many restaurants to our city and he's actually put the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County on the map for his restaurants and his good work that he does.

It's important for me to recognize that Chef DeShantz owns multiple restaurants in the city. He owns tākō, Meat and Potatoes, Butcher and the Rye. He has four

more restaurants that he's getting ready to open this year.

He's a taxpayer. He's grown up in this city. He loves this city. He employs over 300 employees. So that's why it was important for me as a small business owner also, to recognize small business owners, and also people throughout our cultural and our trust for what we do. So this is why I brought in Chef DeShantz here today, because I feel it's important for what he does, and I'm very appreciative of what he does.

So this proclamation I'll read, it says ---

WHEREAS, across America, small business support economies, employ local residents and contribute to the vibrancy of their communities. America's progress has been driven by pioneers like Chef Richard DeShantz who think big --- think big, take risks and work very hard. That's important. That's how I grew up. Thinking big, taking risks, and that's how Chef DeShantz is here; and

WHEREAS, proud Pittsburgh native Chef DeShantz attended the Pennsylvania Institute of Culinary Arts and upon graduation, soon found himself traveling around the country studying under top chefs in the early 2000s. After Chef DeShantz honored (sic) his techniques, he knew it was time to return to his hometown and expand the palates of the people in Pittsburgh; and

WHEREAS, shortly after returning to Pittsburgh, Chef DeShantz was eager to express his culinary imagination in the kitchen and opened a small artesian bakery and dining establishment in the Pittsburgh region; and

WHEREAS, as chef --- and whereas, the culinary landscape of Pittsburgh was thriving, Chef DeShantz seized the opportunity to develop three distinctive and creative restaurants across the region including Meat and Potatoes, Butcher and the Rye and tākō. Chef DeShantz's creativity, innovation are uniquely portrayed in each of his restaurants which ultimately has extended to surround the community. His persistence to have farm fresh ingredients in all his restaurants has given him the utmost culinary credibility.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize Chef Richard DeShantz for his hard work and entrepreneurial skills that helped grow the culinary business in the region. We commend you for your efforts, recognize you in your critical role of

business to play in our economy and the effort poured into by the ordinary citizens across our county.

Sponsored by Dimitrios Pantzoulas and the county council.

So I appreciate everything you did, and I must also note ---

(Applause.)

MR. PANTZOULAS: --- I've traveled places with Chef DeShantz and he builds and designs his own restaurants by himself. He has a tablet and he hand draws everything. So if you've been to his restaurants, everything that's in that restaurant is done by Chef DeShantz. So I appreciate you. I thank you as a friend.

(Applause.)

MR. DESHANTZ: Thank you. Being a chef is a hard job, a lot of hours, long hours, bad pay, a lot of sacrifices. Working every holiday, 100 hour weeks, but I'm one of the lucky ones, you know, and to be recognized for something I'm so passionate about is very humbling.

And the truth of the matter is, like you said, I have 350 employees. It's the Richard DeShantz Restaurant Group. It's not Richard DeShantz. I have my partner, Tolga Sevdik. That is the big key factor to our success.

And I'm honored, and with this, I'm going to keep pushing forward. And I have four new restaurants opening this year. Poulet Bleu in Lawrenceville, Coop de Ville in the Strip District. We're doing --- there's so many --- Gi-jin in downtown. And last one was the old Salt of the Earth space, we're doing --- it's called Fish Nor Fowl, and that opens up in March.

So thank you very much. I appreciate it.

(Applause.)

MR. PANTZOULAS: I'm trying to get as many pictures as I can because this is my only --- one and only meeting, so let's call a spade a spade.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10431-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation recognizing and thanking Stage 62 for enhancing the cultural life in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Pantzoulas.

MR. PANTZOULAS: So it's also an honor for me --- I'm very involved in the trusts and the cultures. I grew up Greek ethnic, and theater and things is very into my life. I love the theater.

So when I really researched Stage 62, I found out their mission. I'm actually going to read you their mission statement from their website.

Stage 62's mission is to unite the community in the joy of producing quality theater for all ages. We strive to enhance the cultural life in our area by offering affordable live theatre and by providing enriched experiences to both young and old, all aspects of theater and the production throughout volunteer participation, so ---.

WHEREAS, a local nonprofit theater company such as State 62 help bring the excitement of the live theater to local communities with the goal of entertaining the seasoned theatergoers as well as inspiring the whole new generation of the audience; and

WHEREAS, State 62, founded in 1962, is a nonprofit theater at the Andrew Carnegie Library and Music Hall in the Borough of Carnegie; and

WHEREAS, rooted in the mission of uniting the community in the joy of producing quality live theater for all ages, they present four shows a season, each of which is performed six to eight times. Thirty (30) performances a year at Stage 62 draw more than 4,000 people in attendance from over 300 different ZIP Codes to the Carnegie community every year; and

WHEREAS, giving back to the community is imperative to Stage 62, they provide over 250,000 hours of volunteer opportunities every year and train the volunteers in every aspect of the theatrical craft. Also, each winter they raise thousands of dollars for the Greater Pittsburgh Food Bank through donations collected through the final shows of the season.

AND NOW, THEREFORE, IT BE RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby recognize and thank Stage 62 for enchanting (sic) the cultural life in Allegheny County. This council commends you for all your efforts and we look forward to your continuation of theatrical productions in the community.

Sponsored by Dimitrios Pantzoulas and council.
(Applause.)

MR. HUNT: My name is Carl Hunt. I'm the president elect and the current business manager of Stage 62.

For 55 years, we've been putting on performances, and as all arts and cultural groups know,

it's not always easy. But we've done so for 55 years, done over 200 shows. And as the councilman said, we bring thousands and thousands of people into the Carnegie area, and that has an extreme economic impact on that area. Hundreds of thousands of dollars are spent there in restaurants and businesses and shops and things like that.

But not only do we have a cultural impact, and not only do we have a financial impact, but we have a social impact as well. We have kids from all ages. We just did Annie, so we have small kids to people who are in their 70s and 80s who come out and volunteer for shows.

And it's not just the cultural or the artistic side, it's all parts of production. It's construction and building sets. It's learning how to do business skills in the box office. So just as a note, all of the cultural nonprofit artistic groups, they provide so much more than just culture. They provide just so much economic social impact to the communities.

I want to thank Councilman Pantzoulas and the county council. Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukkah, Happy New Year. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. PANTZOULAS: Take a picture up there.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10432-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation recognizing Just Ducky Tours and Molly's Trolley for giving local residents and tourists a truly unique experience for viewing historic buildings and landmarks. Sponsored by Council Member Pantzoulas.

MR. PANTZOULAS: So it's funny because Chris is from Boston. We won't hold it against you. But he likes the Steelers. He's been a good friend of mine for over 17 years, and he's a small business owner. He owns Just Ducky Tours and Molly's Trolleys.

You know, when I --- their concept --- and they're amazing. I don't know if you've ever been on a Just Ducky tour and quacked at everybody. But you know when you're walking down the street and everyone's quacking at you. If you haven't, you need to go on a tour. Not that I'm trying to sell, but they educate you so much about the city and about our skyline and everything that goes on. It's amazing.

So when I asked Chris today, how many people do you think you bring through the city? 200,000 people in a

season. 200,000 people, folks, so it's very impressive of what they do. And I'm very thankful that you're in our city and the things you do for us.

So with that, I'd like to read ---.

WHEREAS, Pittsburgh and the surround region has been named one of the world's most livable cities because of its preservation in historic buildings and landmarks, locally owned companies such as Just Ducky Tours and Molly's Trolleys help give local residents and visitors a unique experience when touring the city; and

WHEREAS, Just Ducky's Tours consists of the authentic ducks built in 1944 and 1945. The duck is a six wheeled amphibious truck that was utilized during World War II to transport goods and troops all over the land and water; and

WHEREAS, today, ducks are used in a long --- excuse me, in an hour long exploration of the city and its history, approximately 35 minutes on land and 25 minutes on water. The fully narrated tour incorporates the history of Pittsburgh, the importance of the region and the future of the area in a fun and fresh way; and

WHEREAS, in 2011, the owners of Just Ducky Tours bought Molly's Trolleys, helping continue the Pittsburgh tradition in giving residents and visitors a truly unique experience; and

WHEREAS, Molly's Trolleys, a locally owned company, has been specializing in transportation service in the City of Pittsburgh since 1995, over the years, Molly's Trolleys has provided transportation service for thousands of weddings, proms, corporate and university events, birthday parties, family reunions and sightseeing tours.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Allegheny County does hereby recognize and thank Just Ducky Tours and Molly's Trolleys for helping give local residents and visitors a unique experience when touring our city.

Sponsored by Dimitrios Pantzoulas and the county council.

(Applause.)

MR. D'ADDARIO: Thanks, Councilman Pantzoulas, and thank you to all of you council members. Really appreciate this.

I moved here in 1997 and I moved here with my business partner for one reason, and that was to start a

business. And I think things have changed. Rick might be able to speak to this better because he's a little bit newer to this city with his business concepts. But for quite a long time, the region was talked about not with disdain, but with a little bit of a feeling that it was a difficult place to do business. I found quite the opposite.

I found county and the city government very, very helpful to us. And we're still here, and we're still growing, and we really appreciate that.

So thank you, and I won't belabor the point. I'll just say, quack, quack, quack. Thanks.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10433-17.

MR. BARKER: Proclamation recognizing Attorney David Shrager for his years practicing law in Pennsylvania since 1999. Sponsored by Council Members Pantzoulas and DeMarco.

MR. PANTZOULAS: So David is a good friend also. We've grown up together, and I'm very proud of his accomplishments and what he's done.

I know you've seen his face all around the city. But he also came up with the slogan, don't be scared, be prepared. So it was important for me to recognize David for his --- for what he has achieved and what his family has achieved.

His family law has been in business since 1967 in the Frick Building --- Frick Building.

Right?

ATTORNEY SHRAGER: Uh-huh (yes).

MR. PANTZOULAS: Right across the street.

So I wanted to make sure that I recognize David for everything he's done. He's also a judge of judges. He was nominated or ---.

ATTORNEY SHRAGER: I'm a judge in the Court of Judicial Discipline.

MR. PANTZOULAS: Okay. Sorry. A judge in the Court of Judicial Discipline. So I would like to read this proclamation.

WHEREAS, you have not lived today until you have done something for someone who can never repay you. The quote from an English writer, John Bunyan, impersifies (sic) the talented attorneys that Allegheny County and the

Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been fortunate to have contribute invaluablely to our communities; and

WHEREAS, Attorney David Shrager, the Pittsburgh native attended the University of Miami School of Law. Upon graduation, he returned home and eventually joined Shrager Law Office Firm which has been serving Western Pennsylvania since 1967; and

WHEREAS, over the past 18 years of practicing law, Attorney Shrager has made an --- impressive strides as a practicing attorney. He's recognized as the top 100 trial lawyers of Pennsylvania, a top ten DUI attorney of Pennsylvania and serves as a judge of the Pennsylvania Court of Judicial Discipline and publishes articles that were featured in the Journal of Forensic Sciences; and

WHEREAS, not only is Attorney Shrager passionate about practicing law, but he devoted to serving his community. He's an active member of the Amen Corner Board of Governors, sponsor of the Fraternal Order of Police and Motorcycle Run, Ireland Institute of Pittsburgh boxing events and --- I'm sorry, as well as in annual events in Autism Center for the Pittsburgh and National MS Society.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County hereby recognize Attorney David Shrager for his unwavering dedication to his clients and chanting (sic) in practice of the law in Pennsylvania.

Sponsored by Dimitrios Pantzoulas and Council-at-large Sam DeMarco, Councilman Tom Baker and the council.

(Applause.)

ATTORNEY SHRAGER: Thank you, Councilman Pantzoulas, DeMarco and Baker (indicating) and thank you to everybody here today. I will be brief.

I bet like a lot of you, I can't open a magazine or a website and not see something wonderful about Pittsburgh these days. We're the best restaurants in the city thanks to Rick over there. We have the greatest art. We have all these fantastic awards.

And the rest of the country is starting to understand something that I think all of us have known for a very long time, and it's called Pittsburgh Pride, you know. And when you try to explain to an outsider what that means, sometimes they don't really get it until they come here. I know we just take an extraordinary amount of pride in this city. And I love this city, and I've loved

this city my whole life. I travel all around the world, but I love this city. I'm a proud Pittsburgher.

And when you think about all these things, it's we have great restaurants. We've got great museums. It's about the people. The people created those restaurants, or the people created those museums, or the people created these opportunities for people. The people created these fantastic places that we can take young people.

And the people in Pittsburgh are what makes this place special. Everything else can come and go, but the people here, the citizens of Pittsburgh, that's something that's special. And you can't substitute that, you can't buy it. And I love the people of this town, and I'm proud to be from here and thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: Excuse me for a second. Can I just add my name to the proclamation? Thank you.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10434-17, and the rest of the proclamations will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: 10434-17. Certificates of Achievement awarded to Meghna Behari for winning first place at the national Broadcom MASTERS science fair competition. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk

10435-17. Certificates of Recognition awarded to the local police officers honored at the 17th annual Amen Corner. Sponsored by all members of council.

10436-17. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Troy Rowlands for being selected to represent Pine-Richland School District and the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania in the National Association for Music Education All-National Honors Band. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

10437-17. Certificate of Achievement awarded to Elizabeth Matthews of Girl Scout Troop 55090 for having met all the requirements to achieve the prestigious Girl Scout Gold Award. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

10438-17. Proclamation congratulating the Christ Lutheran Church upon the occasion of its 125th anniversary. Sponsored by Council Member Macey.

10439-17. Proclamation welcoming Reverend Erwin McIntosh, Junior to the Bethel AME Church in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. Sponsored by Council Member Walton.

10440-17. Proclamation recognizing Gerard J. Aufman, Junior for his contributions to the Town of

McCandless and to the enhancement of the wellbeing of its citizens. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

10441-17. Proclamation recognizing Ralph LeDonne for his contributions to the Town of McCandless and to the enhancement of the wellbeing of its citizens. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

10442-17. Proclamation declaring Friday, January 5th, 2018 to be "Marta Day" in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Baker.

10443-17. Proclamation congratulating Ms. Alexandria Guy upon the occasion of her 16th birthday. Sponsored by Council Member Walton.

10444-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to the Honorable Robert Dzvonic for his 24 years of dedicated services to the residents of Etna, Millvale, Reserve and Shaler as Magisterial District Judge. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10445-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Carl Magnosta, Junior for his over 45 years of dedicated service to the Borough of Tarentum. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10446-17. Proclamation recognizing and thanking Chief Alfred Ewing, Senior for his 47 years of dedicated public service to Fawn Township and Fawn Number Two Volunteer Fire Department, Station 151. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10447-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. Victor Son in honor and celebration of his 21 years of dedicated service to Hampton Township. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10448-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. Peter Russ in honor and celebration of his 15 years of dedicated service to Hampton Township. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

10449-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. Cary Montgomery in honor and celebration of his 16 years of dedicated service to Hampton Township. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

And 10450-17. Certificate of Recognition awarded to Mr. William Stalter in honor and celebration of his dedicated years of service to Reserve Township. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: At this time here, I believe that Mr. Kress has a motion to amend the agenda to add a few more proclamations and certificates to be read into

the record. Mr. Kress moves to amend the agenda to add six proclamations and certificates. For getting a second and approval vote --- voice vote, I'd like to have the chief clerk read the proclamations into the record.

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. KRESS: All right.

Are we ---?

MR. FUTULES: Voice vote.

MR. KRESS: Yeah.

MR. BARKER: You guys would need to vote at this point. The motion has been made and seconded.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

MR. KRESS: All in favor say aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? Ayes have it.

MR. BARKER: The first is actually to be presented. It's a proclamation thanking and recognizing KQV AM 1410 for their years dedicated to broadcasting to the people of Allegheny County. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

MR. KRESS: If you're a fan of KQV and you'd like to come up and honor KQV, we're doing a proclamation for KQV.

If you're not aware, at the end of the year, they're going to be closing. And it's a station I've listened to for a number of years. My family has listened to it. It's not just about news.

I don't know if people listen to the radio at night, but they have the old time radio, when radio was. And especially on Halloween, they have Orson Wells' rendition of War of the Worlds. So you have to listen to that. If you haven't listened to that already, you have to. But they have other great radio shows like Suspense, the Whistler Escape, Witches Tale, Yours Truly, Johnny Dollar, X Minus One.

But I'm --- I really want to honor this great station, though. Because again, unfortunately, things change. And KQV is one of the station's I've always listened to in the morning because I want to know what the news is. It's very important in my daily routine and unfortunately, it's not going to be there.

So I want to read this proclamation. We have Elaine Effort here from KQV, and I'm going to read this proclamation to you.

WHEREAS, born of a belief in local broadcasting and a dream of community service, KQV-AM 1410 is a pioneer in radio broadcasting that always held close to its founding mission and made sure to provide constant news to the people of Allegheny County; and

WHEREAS, almost 100 years ago, KQV, Pittsburgh's oldest and independently owned all-news radio station signed on the air for the first time; and

WHEREAS, when they started in 1919, they were one of the only three radio stations east of the Mississippi. From the first moment KQV signed on the air, the radio station dedicated itself to the slogan, you give us 22 minutes, we'll give you the world; and

WHEREAS, almost after 100 years on the air, KQV will sign off the air for good on December 31st, 2017.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Allegheny County Council does hereby thank and recognize KQV-AM 1410 for years of dedicated service to broadcasting to the people of Allegheny County. This council thanks them in providing positive contributions to radio broadcasting throughout Allegheny County.

Sponsored by Council Member Ed Kress, presented today on December 19th, 2017.

So thank you very much, and thank you for everything.

(Applause.)

MS. EFFORT: Thank you for this recognition to Council President John DeFazio, Councilman Ed Kress, Sue Means, DeWitt Walton, all of you whom spent time talking to us and explaining what's going on, defending sometimes what's going on. Thank you. Thank you for this recognition.

I wasn't around in 1919, but I have been there for 38 years and I was there 42 years ago when we signed on as all-news, when they threw the switch and we started our mission to provide the news, the facts, not gussied up, just what's happening, what's happening now. So that when you turn on the radio in the morning, you hear the weather, you hear the time, you hear the headlines, you hear the stories, what Pittsburghers are doing, what county council is doing and why.

We don't tell you what to think, but we want to give you the facts, nothing but the facts. And we've been doing it for quite some time. It's quite a record to have the same format for 42 years.

I can remember coming in through that door, you know. I was around when we had the Board of Commissioners. Tom Foerster was the chairman, the other Democrat was Stacey and the Republican was Doc Hunt.

We came in that building. The Board of Commissioners sat here. There was a semi-circle of county department directors. There was a media table over there at the --- all the way against the wall by the first window, and we covered the Board of Commissioners. And there are two speakers on the wall and there's a little ledge there, both here and across the room. That's where the media put our microphones so that we could record what was going on. Now you have a mult box, it's much different. The room is different. But your mission like ours, remain the same.

I'm --- I'm going to miss it, we all will. But we leave proud of what we've done. Our consistency, our determination to cover Pittsburgh and Allegheny County --- oh, I'm sorry. Oh, gosh, yes.

And so be --- on behalf of our president, Bob Dickey, Junior, and all the people, especially in the newsroom. Because sometimes we call you early in the morning, we call you late at night, and you've always taken our calls and always answered our questions.

I will say I have a little bit of good news. This 98 year old station, its frequency and its license will not disappear and there are --- there's movement afoot, so that when you turn to 1410, we won't be there, all news won't be there --- we're going, but that there will be something on the air so that this historic station is preserved. Thank you, and for 1410 KQV news, I'm Elaine Effort.

(Applause.)

MS. EFFORT: Thank you.

MR. KRESS: Anybody else want to say anything? Did anybody else want to come up to the microphone?

MR. PALMIERE: I just --- the Ed Kress show continues here for a moment.

MR. KRESS: Last episode, by the way.

MR. PALMIERE: I just wanted to say when I was a young man many years ago, KQV was the station. At that time, it was before the news station. It was --- we had DJs like Barry Kaye in town. We had Jay Michael. We had quite a --- quite a bit of competition among the stations. But KQV at that time, that was the station and we listened

to it. I can remember driving down the streets of Bloomfield with the radio blasting and --- and because they played the --- they played the songs that my generation wanted to hear.

And when they went to all news, I was kind of disappointed because they changed the format, but they did a wonderful job in the ensuing years. And I just wanted you to know we really appreciate it.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: Anybody else (indicating)? Anybody else?

Okay. I just wanted to say one thing. KQV has a sister station, it's WDVE. So I just wanted everyone to know that so, thank you.

MS. EFFORT: They used to be KQV FM.

MR. KRESS: Okay. Yeah, there was a ---.

MS. EFFORT: There's a lot of history.

MR. KRESS: That's --- yeah. All right. Let's get our picture taken, please.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10456-17.

MR. BARKER: Actually, before we get there, we have five other certificates that Mr. Kress had added to the agenda. All are certificates of recognition.

The first is awarded to Vincent F. Cinski for his years of dedicated service to the Borough of Millvale. The next three are awarded to Leonard A. Guerre, Jeffrey D. Fleming and Rick W. Florentine for their years of dedicated service to West Deer Township. And the last is a certificate awarded to Richard C. Panza for his years of dedicated service to the Borough of Sharpsburg.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Make a motion --- make a motion?

MR. BARKER: And next up would be 10456?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Did Ed Kress make the motion?

MR. BARKER: That was made and seconded and approved. Those were the --- that was all of the certificates we added.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Okay. That was all finished. 10457-17.

MR. BARKER: I'm sorry. 10456?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 456.

MR. BARKER: Okay. A motion to approve the minutes of the October 24th, 2017 regular meeting of council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: The ayes have it. 10457-17.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the November 8th, 2017 regular meeting of council.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 10451-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Beverly S. Jordan to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Deer Lakes Park for a term to expire on December 20th, 2019. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress?

MR. KRESS: Yes, I'd like to make a motion for approval.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. 10452-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Arjona Karpuzi to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Deer Lakes Park for a term to expire on December 20th, 2019. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress?

MR. KRESS: I'd like to make a motion to approve.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10453-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Andrew M. Bechtold to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Deer Lakes Park for a term to expire on December 20th, 2019. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress?

MR. KRESS: I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

No remarks. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed?

(Brief interruption.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10454-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Joseph Catanese to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Deer Lakes Park for a term to expire on December 20th, 2019. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

MR. KRESS: I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10459-17.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of Edward J. Kress to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Deer Lakes Park for a term to expire on January 2nd, 2020. Sponsored by Council Member DeMarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, since Councilman Kress' first day in office here, he's been a consistent advocate for Deer Lakes Park. I'm proud to recommend and make a motion here to appoint him to Friends of Deer Lake Park.

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. KRESS: Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. I believe at this time that Mr. Kress has a motion to amend the agenda to add a few more Friends of the Parks appointments. Mr. Kress moves to amend the agenda to add his Friends of the Park appointments, presumably --- a second and approval via voice vote.

MR. MACEY: I'll second that motion.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Second that motion?

MR. KLEIN: Yep.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

MR. KLEIN: No remarks.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? Ayes have it.
Unfinished business ---.

MR. BARKER: Okay. Before proceeding, Mr. Kress has two potential appointments to be added. The first is approving the appointment of Amy D. Stark to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for Deer Lakes Park for a term to expire on December 20th, 2019.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What did you say?

MR. KRESS: I'd like to make a motion to approve.

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

Seeing none, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.

MR. BARKER: The second one is approving the --- approving the appointment of Heidi Fornalczyk to serve as a member of the Council of Friends organization for North Park for a term to expire on December the 20th, 2019.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

I'd like to make a motion to approve.

(Chorus of seconds.)

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
10419-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance approving the sale of a parcel of property identified as 3441 Forbes Avenue 4th Ward, Pittsburgh, PA, Block and Lot --- Block and Lot

Number 28-F-172 known as the Allegheny County Health Department Forbes Medical Building, for the sale price of \$1,900,000 to 3441 F Street, LLC. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: That's going into ---.

MR. WALTON: No, we're ---.

MR. MACEY: We're going to approve ---.

MR. WALTON: Vote on that, Mr. --- Mr.

President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: We're going to vote on it?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay.

MR. WALTON: That was properly moved to Economic Development, and we held a hearing on that on December 12th, 2017. And after discussion, the committee recommended to come to full council with recommendation of approval and I so move.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

MS. MEANS: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes?

MS. MEANS: Thank you for recognizing me. I think this is a really positive move for the county to sell this building. It was appraised at \$1.5 million and we're selling it for \$1.9 million. The building needs a lot of work and of course the county owned it, so it didn't pay any taxes. We're selling it and --- and now they're going to put office space. So they're not quite sure what they're building there, but they're going to build something. And when they build their new facility, it will be taxable and be on our tax rolls. So it's a good move for the county, so I'm in favor of it. Thank you for recognizing me.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks, seeing no more, we'll take the roll call vote.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Aye.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Pantzoulas?
MR. PANTZOULAS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos 0. The bill passes.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10420-17.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution approving a project for the benefit of Presbyterian SeniorCare to be financed by the Authority for Improvements in Municipalities by the issuance of the Authority's tax-exempt revenue notes, in one or more series, to be designated Authority for Improvements in Municipalities, Revenue Notes, Series 2017, Presbyterian SeniorCare Project, or such other designation as may be determined by the Authority and the Borrower, in a maximum aggregate principal amount not to exceed \$12,500,000, provided that the taxing power of the County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania shall not be obligated in any way with respect to the Notes, and declaring the financing of such project as desirable for the health, safety and welfare of the people in the County and in the area served by the project. Sponsored by Chief Executive.

MR. WALTON: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes?

MR. WALTON: That was referred to the Committee on Economic Development. We held a hearing on December 12th, 2017. After discussion, the Committee unanimously recommended that it go to full council for approval, and I so move.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, let's take the roll.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?
MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Aye.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Pantzoulas?
MR. PANTZOULAS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos 0. The bill passes.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10409-17.

MR. BARKER: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County requesting that the Allegheny County Law Department prepare research into the feasibility of filing one or more lawsuits against major drug manufacturers and/or distributors in order to recover current and future damages to the County taxpayers resulting from the detrimental effects of opioid pharmaceuticals. Sponsored by Council Member Kress.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative ---

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: --- Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes. Thank you, Mr. President, members of council.

We had this hearing, I guess about a week or so --- week and a half ago and this --- I'm going to let ---

I'm going to defer to Mr. Kress again on this motion, but this --- we kind of had a mixed reaction to this, but I want him to explain what's going on here.

MR. KRESS: Yes. Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. KRESS: Okay. Thank you very much. What originally happened, I wanted the county to move forward with a law --- a lawsuit against the opioid manufacturers. I mean, I passed out this book today. Hopefully, everybody can read it, but it basically details how the opioid manufacturers in the United States of America are basically liable for what has occurred, and also Purdue Pharmacy itself actually pled guilty in 2007 to misbranding and misrepresentation.

So the county, based on all this information, the surrounding counties are actually suing. The county is going to move forward with looking for an attorney to sue the opioid manufacturers. They put out a request for qualifications, I think it was December 8th. And this new motion is basically going to detail what --- you know, basically affirming what the county is doing. But if we could pass this motion out, because I would like to do a motion to amend.

I made a motion, but can I have a second?

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. KRESS: Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. Under remarks?

MR. KRESS: It's for the --- it's for the amendment.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: For the amendment.

MR. KLEIN: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, take the vote.

MR. DEMARCO: We don't even know what the amendment is.

MR. KLEIN: I think we just do all in favor.

MS. KIRK: Are we voting on the amendment?

MR. KRESS: Just for the amendment.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Just on the amendment now.

MR. WALTON: We're voting on the amendment?

MR. BARKER: Correct. The motion on the floor ---.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: What we could do is say all those in favor signify by saying aye.

MR. KRESS: I mean --- okay. Is there --- is there a problem with the process, because somebody mentioned do we --- okay, we're just making a motion to amend. Somebody said --- okay. We --- are we fine, Mr. Parliamentarian?

MR. MCKAIN: This is just voting on the motion to amend.

MR. KRESS: That's right. That's --- it's a motion to amend. Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. Now, you could vote on it as amended.

MR. KRESS: Okay.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: So you want to ---?

MR. KRESS: As I explained before, again, this is something --- I wholeheartedly approve what the county's doing. I have been trying to get the county to, you know, move forward and I think we do have great partners. I think the Chief Executive, Willy McKain, the solicitor, I applaud them for what they're trying to do. Because again, innocent taxpayers --- innocent parties shouldn't have to pay for somebody else's wrong.

And I have some people say, well, maybe we shouldn't sue. But you know, when you're a --- a county official, you try to look for reimbursement from any way you can. And you've heard Dr. Brophy and Mr. DeMore. They were here tonight talking about the opioid epidemic.

And I was actually talked to Judge Cozza. I happened to see him Friday. He's like --- he's in Juvenile Court. He's a Juvenile Court Judge. He says I'm in Juvenile Court. He said most of our cases are basically related to drug addiction. He said when we put those children in foster care, how much is that costing the taxpayers every day?

So when you look at all the costs that the county may incur through this opioid epidemic, I mean, it's extraordinary. And you're probably never, ever going to figure out all the costs. I can actually relate as an attorney --- you're going to have --- you have people on Medicaid right now in Kane Hospital because their son, daughter, grandchild took all their money or they --- or you have elderly people in care because they were abused by people who are addicted to drugs.

So this epidemic, you're probably never, ever going to figure out how much money you're spending on it. But the thing we have to do is move forward with this because Purdue Pharmacy has already basically stated that they're going to settle this case. And I actually gave you a handout talking about the guilty plea in 2007. So if you know anything about criminal law, when you plead guilty to a criminal case, you're basically pleading to it beyond a reasonable doubt. So if you're suing them in a civil case, it's a preponderance of the evidence.

Okay? Preponderance of the evidence is a lesser standard than the criminal standard. So basically, you're walking in and you basically have got the case. They're basically pleading to liability. So what I'm saying to you as elected officials of this county is that Purdue is basically saying they're negligent. They're willing to settle. If we don't file this lawsuit, we're never going to have a chance to get in the money. And I always tell people, how do you win the lottery? You have to buy a ticket.

Okay? In order to get money for this county, you have to file this lawsuit or we're not going to get compensated for our losses. So thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: You want to --- you want to make the motion as amended.

MR. KRESS: Oh, okay. I'd like to make this motion as amended.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing ---?

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, thank you for recognizing me.

I appreciate the --- where Councilman Kress is coming from in regards to this. You know, my concern is one of the people who you gave a proclamation to tonight, Dr. Brophy, said that part of this is also related to poor choices. There's a lot of complicated factors here. Are the drug companies innocent? Absolutely not. What about the physicians that prescribe these opiates? What about the people who were then taking them or taking them without a prescription?

When I look at the handout that he provided here from the New York Times of the \$600 million settlement, \$470 million of that is going to fines to federal and state agencies. The remaining \$130,000,000 represents

payments to civil litigation brought by patients and other private players.

Not a dime of that \$600 million is going to go to bring a single person that's passed away back. Nowhere does it show me where any of that \$600 million is going to go to treatment programs to take and try to help --- excuse me, rehabilitate some of the people that are there. I think that from a helpfulness perspective, it would be much better if we were taking and negotiating payments from the drug companies to actually commit to treatment, or providing us the funds to do that, as opposed to suing them, which goes into the pockets of the trial lawyers and the federal agencies.

We've seen with the massive tobacco settlement how those dollars just went into states' general funds and have been squandered over the years. So I don't know personally that suing the drug companies because they happen to have some money ---.

I watched what happened back, years ago, with the breast implants where they brought up that they thought that they were causing lupus and other disorders, and they drove companies out of business. So then they got nothing or --- or no more from that.

So you know, again, I appreciate where the councilman is coming from. I know his heart is in the right place and he's trying to do the right thing. For me, I just don't know that this is the right thing for me and --- and I can't support it.

Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. KRESS: Oh, can I reply to that? If you go back to the tobacco settlement in 1998, none of that money ever filtered down to the local municipalities or the county. The reason why is they weren't part of the lawsuit. If we don't sue, we're not going to be at the table, and I don't think they're going to negotiate with us. Purdue is talking about negotiating with the attorney generals. I don't see them talking about negotiating with Allegheny County. So unless you're going to be on that playing field with the lawyer, I don't think we're going to get any money.

And considering that Allegheny County lost 650 people last year, 425 the year before, and I think another 300 before that, and the costs associated with it, I think it's a --- basically, it's a win-win proposition. You

file, I think you're at least going to get some money. And that's the reason why I advocate doing this because again, if you look at the tobacco settlement, Councilman DeMarco is correct. Allegheny County didn't get any money directly from that, but Allegheny County didn't sue.

So based on past, you know, performance, I guess, or past, you know, experience, we see what can happen if we're not part of this. That's the reason why the counties and the municipalities are suing, because they want to be at that table as part of the negotiations because I think we need to be compensated. There are so many costs involved here --- jail costs. I talked to the District Attorney's Office, how much crime is committed from people who are addicted to drugs. Medical Examiner's Office, you have to do all those toxicology tests.

I mean, it just goes on and on and on. And when you look at --- talking about money, it doesn't even have to even be money sometimes. It could be just help with rehabilitation. If somebody came in there and says, hey, we'll give you X amount of shots and maybe Vivitrol, and Vivitrol is a drug that's shown great promise in curing heroin addiction. If they would just come in and let us say, here's some free Vivitrol, that would be a positive. Because we don't know where this whole thing is going to go.

It's just that I want a place at the table for our county. Because the counties in this region have sued Washington, Westmoreland, they're moving forward with these lawsuits. And I just think we need a place at the table so we get some justice for the people of this county.

Thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President, call the motion, please.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Let's --- let's --- do you want to do a roll call vote?

MR. DEMARCO: Yeah.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah, okay. Let's take the roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. --- I'm sorry ---
Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Pantzoulas?
MR. PANTZOULAS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes ten, nos four. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10386-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing South Park Boxing, Incorporated to use a structure on Hundred Acres Drive in the County's South Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes, go ahead.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of council.

We had a meeting about a week, week and a half ago and --- pertaining to this particular item. These people have been in our park and been good people. And as --- as you know, good partners with us for years and years, I move --- and met with an affirmative recommendation from the --- from our committee, I move for approval.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Seeing none, let's take the vote.

MS. MEANS: Roll call.
MR. BARKER: I'm sorry, roll call vote?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yeah.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?
MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Pantzoulas?
MR. PANTZOULAS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos 0. The bill passes.
PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10387-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the Western Pennsylvania Police Athletic League to use a structure on Center Road, also known as Monroeville Trestle Road, in the County's Boyce Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President, ---

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes, go ahead.

MR. PALMIERE: --- members of council, again, that's that same evening we met. And this --- this also met with an affirmative recommendation from our committee. I move for approval.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks?

MR. KRESS: Just like to say something.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead.

MR. KRESS: This is Jimmy Cvetic, he was here earlier today, so we're helping him out with his boxing association.

Again, I can't say how much he's helped people throughout his years and --- and also we were talking about the opioid epidemic, how many people he's kept out of trouble with his boxing association. So I'd just like to say this is a great thing that the county's doing.

Thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other remarks? Seeing none, let's take the roll.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Kress?

MR. KRESS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Martoni?

DR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pantzoulas?

MR. PANTZOULAS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 10404-17.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing South Park Theatre, Incorporated to use a structure on Brownsville Road in the County's South Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, members of council.

This group also has been wonderful partners with us down at South Park for years and years. And if you ever have an opportunity to come down and see one of their productions, you'll really find it very enjoyable and worthwhile your time. And this also met with an affirmative recommendation from our committee, Mr. President. I move for approval.

DR. MARTONI: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any remarks? Seeing none, let's take the roll.

MR. BARKER:	Mr. Baker?
MR. BAKER:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Kress?
MR. KRESS:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Martoni?
DR. MARTONI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Means?
MS. MEANS:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Pantzoulas?
MR. PANTZOULAS:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Ranalli-Russell?
MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	President DeFazio?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Liaison reports?

Representative Cindy Kirk.

MS. KIRK: I just wanted to further the acknowledgement of Ed Kress by presenting him something from the council. This was a tile from the roof, and it now has Ed Kress' name as a councilman. This is, what, about 100 year old or so? So it's 100 years old, and it's for Ed to always remember us by.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: Thank you.

(Applause.)

MS. KIRK: Go ahead. Do you want to say anything?

MR. KRESS: No, I guess the roof's in pretty bad shape then?

MS. KIRK: And we also have one for Jimmy Ellenbogen who's not here tonight, which I will give to the Chief of Staff to hold until we see him next.

MR. MACEY: Very good.

MS. KIRK: That's Jimmy's.

(Applause.)

MR. KRESS: No, but thank you very much for this honor. So thank you.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Any other liaison reports? Seeing none ---.

MR. KRESS: Well, I just wanted to say one other thing.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Go ahead, you said one other thing.

MR. KRESS: Yeah --- one other --- my last --- no, but I --- I'd like to say it's --- it's been a pleasure, though, again, serving with everybody here, even the one hit wonder over there, Councilman Pantzoulas. Pronounce your name right, I don't ---.

But unfortunately the Ed Kress show has not been renewed. You never know, there might be future spinoffs and maybe a renewal sometime in the future. I don't know. But ---.

MS. KIRK: Deer Lakes will never be the same.

MR. KRESS: Deer Lakes will never --- yeah, it will never be the same.

But no, I really did enjoy my time here on council, as I stated before. Yeah, it's just been a

pleasure, and all I can say is that, you know, I enjoyed working with everybody and I enjoyed the staff. There's Walt Szymanski back there again. And Willy McKain did a great job. And I'd like to thank Ken, Sarah, Jared and our solicitor over there, Jack Cambest for everything. So yeah, but thank you very much.

MS. KIRK: Can --- can I just say one more thing?

MR. KRESS: Yeah.

MS. KIRK: Only Ed Kress can get Santa Claus to come to our meetings.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Okay. 10455-17.

MR. BARKER: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County repealing the findings and provisions of Bill No. 9398-16, a motion through which the Council had previously censured Council Member Susan Means. Sponsored by Council Members DeMarco, Futules, Baker, Kirk and Kress.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Yes?

MR. DEMARCO: When this motion we're talking about, Bill Number 9398-16, was originally voted on here, we were under an understanding that minutes were handled in a particular way. Due to a subsequent ruling from the Office of Open Records, that has changed. And therefore, that's why I wanted to take and make this motion for administrative cleanup and repeal that motion ---

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. DEMARCO: --- from 2016.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Under remarks? Second it?

MR. KLEIN: Yeah, we had second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Seeing nothing, all those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it. All right. Take this down to --- bury the hatchet.

Notification of contracts, 1045 --- what is this --- 58?

MR. BARKER: Fifty-eight (58).

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: 58-17.

MR. BARKER: A communication summarizing approved executive actions from November 1st through November 30th, 2017.

MR. MACEY: Receive and file.

MR. FUTULES: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify
by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Opposed? The ayes have it.
Public comment?

MR. BARKER: We actually did have one individual
sign up, Ron Bandes.

AUDIENCE MEMBER: Not here.

MR. FUTULES: Don't necessarily see one.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: No one here for ---?

MR. BARKER: I don't see him.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: Representative Kress, go
ahead.

MR. KRESS: Yeah. I'd like to make the motion
to adjourn.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT DEFAZIO: All those in favor signify
by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:58 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.

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

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter

