

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

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

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

April 7, 2020 5:03 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Here.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Here.
JARED BARKER:: Mr. Klein? Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Here.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Here.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Here.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio? Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Here.
JARED BARKER: Thank you. Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Here.
JARED BARKER: And President Catena --- I'm
sorry, Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Here.
JARED BARKER: And President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Here.
JARED BARKER: There's 14 members present.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Are there any proclamations
or certificates?
JARED BARKER: We have none.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Public comment on
agenda items?
JARED BARKER: We have one individual who signed
up timely and four who signed up late.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Does anyone have a problem
with recognizing the four that signed up late? Hearing
none, we'll ---. Hearing none, we'll let them continue.
MR. PALMIERE: None.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.
JARED BARKER: First up is Anne McGinnis, who is
at 312 Schenley Road in the city of Pittsburgh. The
agenda item she wishes to speak about is Allegheny County
demolition regarding ordinance 11396-20. On behalf of
Women for Healthy Environment, a regional non-profit
education advocacy addresses environmental exposure that
impacts public health, we are writing today to support
passage of Act 152. Nineteen (19) other counties across
the commonwealth have utilized this funding mechanism and
now is the time for our County Council to follow suit for
the health its residents. There is no safe level of lead
exposure. Lead is highly toxic when ingested or inhaled.
It impacts the health of both children and adults. Lead

exposure in children can lead to damage to the brain and nervous system, poor growth and development, learning and behavior problems, hearing and speech problems. And adults exposed to lead can be at an increased risk for kidney disease, hypertension, heart disease, anemia, miscarriage, osteoporosis, stillbirth and infertility. Importantly, lead exposure is a problem that has a solution. However, it takes the whole community working together to protect those most at risk, our children. We need all levels of government working collectively to protect our children.

To that end, we urge that upon passage of Act 162. We'll work closely with the Allegheny County Economic Development Department to ensure that measures are put into place to protect our children while demolitions occur. These steps could include the cost analysis of lead-based demolition practices as part of the required report of the Department of Community and Economic Development. There's a compilation of data from local municipalities currently using containment methods. Prioritizing funding for pilot projects who identify the most effective and affordable methods of lead-based demolition, especially in areas near schools, early learning centers, green spaces and community gardening. Providing educational opportunities, technical support to ensure municipalities have the capacity to implement lead-based demolition practice. Thanks to your passage of universal blood lead level screenings in 2018, we know more about lead exposure impacting our children across the county. In 2018, more than 20,000 children were screened for lead and over 400 children were found to have confirmed elevated lead levels of over five micrograms per decaliter. The threshold that required a home investigation by the Allegheny County Health Department. We share this background and demonstrate that we must continue to focus on preventing lead exposure before it impacts child development of the brain. Several local reports address demolitions and recommend that they be done in a lead-safe manner, including Allegheny County Lead Task Force.

In December 2017, this task force, convened by Allegheny County executive Rich Fitzgerald, was charged with tackling issues of lead exposure hazards in Allegheny County. Section three of the Allegheny County Take Force report focuses on lead in soil. Therefore, the lead task

force recommends the following actions focusing primarily on prevention. Conduct a review of demolition standards across all municipalities and recommend lead safe demolition across all municipalities and the County and improve enforcement of lead-safe demolition standards. The University of Pittsburgh instituted a policy of lead-based demolition working group that lead-based demolition group report on released on August 2019. Recommend community and contractor regulation training, lead-based demolition pilot project, and funding to offset the cost of lead-based demolition. And that's the last sentence.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Thank you.

JARED BAKER: Next up is Alyssa Snyder who lives at 848 Kennedy Street, Apartment 1 in Carnegie. It is of grave concern to think that someone who might hold a position would impact the health and wellbeing of litigant remain alive without showing up to be heard and represented. I'm very concerned that in the face of the COVID-19 pandemic, persons incarcerated with or without convictions about the Allegheny County Jail will be contingent upon a person who has shown up so little for them on behalf, on their behalf in the meetings in the past year. With some knowledge of area including physical health care and human services I cannot imagine the lack of systemic accountability it takes for someone to hold a position without attending relevant meetings. This would result in firing, being listed on the do not use do not reimburse state and federal listings in the health and human services field. Knowing that Allegheny County has a disproportionate rate of incarceration of African-American persons, especially African-American males, in comparison to the actual demographic population of the county, and often without conviction are often held on account of inability to post cash bail should in theory motivate and drive not just regular attendance to the jail oversight committee meetings with Council to aspire and evolve preventative measures such as diverting school to prison pipeline, disciplinary processes, ending cash bail, systemic violence against black citizens by authorities. A blue collar county needs and deserves elected nominated representatives and servants who will bring a blue-collar effort and work ethic to help its citizens. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Next up is Jody Lincoln who lives at 4741 Oregon Street in the city of Pittsburgh. Her agenda item

is the vote to reappoint Gayle Moss to the jail oversight board. Ms. Moss has been a member for over four years and only attended four meetings the entire time. At the last appointment subcommittee meeting chaired by Councilwoman Hallam of the County Council, Ms. Moss was negatively recommended for reappointment to the jail oversight board. The board is titled to assuring all inmates in the jail are treated fairly. With the jail most recently coming under scrutiny for treatment of transgender, black, and female inmates, in addition their response to Coronavirus and ensuring the safety of inmates and staff, it's more important than ever that we have the right people on this board. Our county and the individuals incarcerated at ACJ deserve people on the oversight board committee who are actively involved in fulfilling their duties. Ms. Moss has proved time and time again by not attending meetings that she is not a fully vested member of the board. We have a breadth actively engaged in this board who will be much more committed and active in their position and duties of the oversight board that will be more effective in her place.

Next up is Jill Diskin who lives at 1243 Murdock Road, also in the city of Pittsburgh. My name is Jill Diskin and I live in the Squirrel Hill neighborhood in Pittsburgh. I have submitted this written statement to be read at the April 7, 2020 county council meeting. On Friday, April 3rd, 2020, I wrote to judge Kimberly Clark regarding her decision to chair the jail oversight board and cancel a scheduled a meeting on April 2nd, 2020. I said this petition to cancel the April 2nd meeting flies in the face of public transparency and does not inspire public confidence. In my letter to Judge Clark I asked how many inmates are in the county jail because they can't pay bail. How many inmates are in the county jail because they violated probation? How many pregnant inmates are in the county jail? Do county jail employees and inmates have sufficient personal protection equipment? In a response to me, Judge Clark provided some answers to my questions and said that the main meeting will be held either in person or by telephone. I mentioned to county council members the county jail has the potential to become a humanitarian disaster. I would like you to take action to ensure that the public receives routine, daily updates of the health and safety of county jail employees and inmates between now and the main jail oversight board

meeting while containing COVID-19 virus if an outbreak develops in the jail. For the sake of the health of all county residents, I urge you to hold the jail oversight board to the highest standards of public transparency during this time of international pandemic.

Next up is Bonnie Sands who resides at 7227 Pan Avenue. Her agenda item is 11427-20, the appointment approving the reappointment of M. Gayle Moss to the Allegheny County Jail oversight board. As a community member, I have heard the reappointment of the Gayle Moss oversight meeting and am in favor of the appointment of a board member who closely understands the troubles of those facing incarceration. I also strongly support the release of those in the ACJ and support the motion 11427-20 and strongly support the prevention of dubious economic hardship under COVID-19. I hope to see the council take strong action as soon as possible in addition the county needs better public comment interaction in light of the Sunshine Act. Thank you.

And last up is Celeste Scott. She's an organizer for Pittsburgh United, but did not appear to leave a home address. Greetings all. According to a recent NPR.org poll nearly one in five households have already experienced a layoff or reduction in work due to the pandemic. This widespread loss of income joins widespread default in rent, utility, and mortgage payments. While there happens to be temporary moratoriums on eviction, utility termination in place, we need to think now about help for the thousands of Allegheny County residents from losing their homes after the moratoriums are lifted. The federal CARES Act provides the relief for landlords and homeowners for forbearance of mortgage payments for up to six months, but there is no rent relief for tenants. Tenants tend to be wage workers who were the hardest hit during this emergency. Many were struggling to make ends meet already. That means when the state eviction moratorium ends on April 30th many tenants will owe rent and be vulnerable to eviction. We need to help unemployed tenants with their rent burden and that needs to happen now. Our coalition calls for this legislation to be passed and implemented immediately.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. We'll now have presentation of appointments.

JARED BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Okay. Unfinished business. Councilman Hallam, I believe for committee on planning review.

MS. HALLAM: Yes. Point of personal privilege, President Castena?

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Yes.

MS. HALLAM: I would make the motion that we approve the 14 affirmed recommendations in a block and vote on the one negative recommendation separate to move things along a little bit.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. Is there a second?

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Second by Councilman Macey. All those in favor of that, signify by saying aye.

ALL RESPOND AYE

JARED BARKER: Should I re-read the ---?

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Yes, please read, Jared.

JARED BARKER: 11422-203, appointment of Thomas Headley to the agricultural land preservation board. 11423-203, appointment of Thomas W. Weaver to the agricultural land preservation board. 11424-20 is William F. Sray to the agricultural land preservation board. 11425-20 is the appointment of Council Member Anita Prizio to the Allegheny County Conservation District Board. 11426-20 is the reappointment of M. Gayle Moss to the Minority Business Enterprise Advisory Committee. 11428-20 is the appointment of Brandon Furniss to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11429-20 is the appointment of Mary Stoner to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11430-20 is the appointment of Anna E. Hollis to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11431-20 is the appointment of Patrick M. McKelvey to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11432-20 is the appointment of Marsha C. Hughes Grayson to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11433-20 is the appointment of Dan Robinson to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11434-20 is the appointment of Leslie B. Aizenman to the Children, Youth and Families Advisory Board. 11435-20 is the appointment of Jessica K. Adams to the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council. And 11436-20 is the appointment of Carrie L. Stott to the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Council.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Okay. At this point in time, we're going to take one voice vote just to make sure everyone is in favor of that. So I'll make the motion. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

ALL RESPOND AYE

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Any against? Hearing none against, the motion passes. Councilwoman Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Thank you, President Castena. Is this for 11427-20?

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Yes.

MS. HALLAM: Okay.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I'm going to let --- Councilwoman Hallam, I'm going to just let Jared read this and then we'll go back to you.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you.

JARED BARKER: 11427-20, approving the re-appointment of M. Gayle Moss to the Allegheny County Jail Oversight Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2021.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Councilwoman Hallam.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you. So the Committee on Appointment Review met on March 25th of 2020 and Gayle Moss was negatively referred to the whole council with a negative recommendation.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Okay. At this point, technically there's no such thing as a motion to disprove. As a result, the procedure ---.

MR. WALTON: Mr. Chairman?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. WALTON: This is DeWitt Walton. I move that we approve Gayle, M. Gayle Moss's reappointment to the Jail Oversight Board.

MS. KIRK: This is Kirk.

MR. DUERR: This is Duerr. I second.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Who was that? Who seconded? I'm sorry.

MR. DUERR: DUERR.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Duerr Second. Okay. Thank you. Is there any discussion?

MS. HALLAM: President Castena, this is Council Member Hallam. I would like to address the Council regarding this appointment.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Go ahead.

MS. HALLAM: Okay. So one of the main reasons that I ran for Allegheny County Council was to reform our

broken criminal justice system and it's truly is an honor for me to represent Council on the Jail Oversight Board. It's a responsibility that I take very seriously perhaps more so than any other duty that I have as a county council person. Even before my election appointment, I attended as many Jail Oversight Board meetings as I could as a member of the general public. So there has to be general --- there has to be standards by which we hold and approve these appointments. The appointment for view committee voted overwhelmingly to negatively recommend Ms. Moss. Councilor Duerr, Macey, Klein, they all joined myself and Counselors Bennett and Prizio in recognizing in that appointment review committee meeting that Ms. Moss's record of attendance and the disregard and disinterest that demonstrates is completely unacceptable. And we voted to negatively recommend her for reappointment. I truly believe that we should take that negative recommendation to heart. If you vote yes today for this appointment, you set a precedent that participation in our county board and authority simply do not matter. As I said before, if there were a moment for which the original drafter of the state's statute was established the county level Jail Oversight Board, right now this would be it. So now is not the time to abandon our long held belief that governmental institutions need regular accountability.

Transparency and accountability are the bedrock of any healthy governmental system and may become only more valuable and vital in times such as these. Accountability includes within it the demonstration of an understanding of the seriousness of the charge. An appointment to the Jail Oversight Board along with any other board requires a level of commitment to its mission that Ms. Moss unfortunately has not displayed over the past four years where she has not attended a single meeting in four years. As recently as this past Thursday where the Jail Oversight Board held a remote vote as to whether or not to cancel April's regularly scheduled monthly meeting, Ms. Moss was noticeably absent from that vote as well. It is extremely concerning to me that it is only after working professionals and advocates started pushing to fill the seat that was essentially vacated for four years that Ms. Moss re-engaged. To me, this demonstrates that this reappointment at this time was not done with the best interest of those incarcerated at the

Allegheny County Jail or the greater community in mind, but was instead a purely political decision.

These past four years has been exceptionally tumultuous with the ACJ having some of the highest rates of suicide in the country, a severe lack and inadequate provision of proper health care, the sheer constant staffing vacancies, and countless other issues. Oversight was necessary then and it is necessary today. Several of the meetings actually which Ms. Moss did not attend were held during the period in which I personally was incarcerated at the Allegheny County Jail. This is very personal to me and so many other people who are in the Allegheny County Jail currently and who have loved ones who have been in the Allegheny County Jail. I can tell you that the issues that the jail was facing then were extremely troubling. It was hardly a time to sit it out. And now today, we're in the midst of a world-wide pandemic and worryingly more and more, I feel our local jails will be epicenters of infection and community spread. This is not an unavoidable outcome or an inevitable fate. Rather, it will be the direct result of choices made by our elected officials and political and administrative leadership. All of myself and councilmembers included.

I cannot in good conscience vote to approve the reappointment of someone who for the past four years has essentially abdicated the responsibility to some of the most vulnerable members of our community. I ask you all to join me in going along with the recommendation from the appointment review committee and vote no on this appointment. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. Is there any further discussion?

MS. BENNETT: Yes. This is Liv Bennett. I have something to say.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Go ahead, Councilwoman Bennett.

MR. WALTON: And I do as well.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Okay. Hold on, Councilman Walton. You'll be next. Councilwoman Bennett, go ahead.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you, President Catena. And I echo what Councilman, Councilwoman Hallam said, but I also add that a non-reappointment to the Jail Oversight Board is not a disinclination for Ms. Moss to be involved into the Jail Oversight Board. Under President Kim Cart's

leadership, the board, the Jail Oversight Board has been more inclusive than ever. There is actually a follow-up on inquiries that have been presented to the Board. So I think this is a time if Ms. Moss is really interested in being a part of the Jail Oversight Board, this is a time for her to prove that her interest is real as a citizen. I am advocating at almost every single meeting. I am not part of the Jail Oversight Board. So you don't have to be on the Jail Oversight Board to be a part of it. And I think this, if she's serious about being reappointed, then maybe she should end up being a productive citizen first and then we could see that. Mary Damick has never been on the Jail Oversight Board and spent every single minute of the Jail Oversight Board meeting as a citizen. So she can be invested and still be involved and not be reappointed to the Jail Oversight Board. So just something for consideration. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. Councilman Walton?

MR. WALTON: While I respect my fellow council members' concerns and the course that they've chosen, I fundamentally disagree with their path. I believe that Ms. Moss has offered up a very reasonable and plausible explanation of what has occurred and based upon my knowledge and my personal relationship with Gayle that I respect her integrity, her dignity and her commitment to social justice and predicating upon that knowledge and that history, I am willing to give her a chance to demonstrate that she is committed. And I also in my conversations with her had extracted the commitment that if she misses committee meetings that she will resign from the Jail Oversight Board. The problems that she's encountered before have been resolved, and I am willing to trust her judgment and her commitment to continue to give therapy.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you, Councilman Walton. Is there any --?

MR. KLEIN: Mr. President, Council Member Klein.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes, Mr. Klein. Go ahead.

MR. KLEIN: Yes, just a few words. Ms. Hallam, Council Member Hallam is correct, that I along with a number of other members recommended that we not send this along to the full council with an affirmative recommendation. And based on what I've learned at the review meeting when I considered her attendance record, I

was pretty put off by that. And on its face, it's hard not to be. I mean, her inattendance at these meetings was pretty puzzling and could not be something that would be viewed as something acceptable to anyone particularly when you sign on to take on that kind of responsibility. But then I had to ask what else is going on here because we're talking about a person that needs to be very high functioning in other parts of her life. I mean, she's a parent. She has raised two children. She has been a member of the Minority Business Enterprise Advisory Committee. She was four times elected as president on the NAACP in Allegheny County. And so I had to wonder what was going on here. And apparently, I think that she obviously had job commitments because she works. She was dealing with challenges. And it just seems to me that she maybe has taken on more than she should have taken on. But I don't think that because of that, that because of that we ought to simply dismiss her nomination for reappointment. I think that was an easy. I mean, clearly it seems that in this case, there was something else going on here. And I think that in light of that, in light of that, I think that we ought to, we ought to approve her reappointment.

I have had a conversation with her as well. And I think one of the things that I tried to communicate to her is the fact that once upon a time when people talked about issues at the County Jail, people looked the other way, but that is not the case anymore. I mean, today, people are paying attention. And what I suggested to her is that her commitment, should she be reappointed, we will all count on her to honor in a really significant way. So my recommendation is that with respect to our main concern for appointment or reappointment to any board or authority in this county, I think going forward we really ought to make it very clear to everyone that if you are to say yes to this, you need to be serious about it. You need to make sure that your life is in order as well as it can be so that you can be so that you can at a minimum attend these meetings, have regularly scheduled meetings or events. And if you are unable to do that or if you have doubts about that, then you probably should ask that your nomination be withdrawn. But I don't believe that we accomplish anything by making Gayle Moss an example. Setting her up, making her an example and deciding we'll draw the line in the sand right here so

that everyone else knows what's expected of them. What I think we ought to do is we ought to make sure that in our communication when individuals are being considered, that that is something that we make very clear going forward. And I think that is a due process consideration. You might say that common sense will tell you if you sign on to be member of a board, you will show up. But maybe that's something that we ask that we need to clarify because I think that if you look across this county, many boards and authorities and people, I would imagine that there are others who have had these kind of attendance issues as well and who still have been reappointed. And I don't know if it good form to begin by making Ms. Moss an example of what can happen if you don't attend regularly the meetings that are held by the committee regarding that you are appointed to. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you, Councilman Klein. Councilman Futules, do you have something?

MR. FUTULES: I do. Thank you. I too had a personal conversation with Gayle Moss. And she did explain to me the reasons why she wasn't there, health issues and work issues. And I had this conversation, take this break. Quite frankly, she asked me for a second chance. I'm a compassionate person. If somebody says to me please give me a second chance, that's exactly what I'm going to do. And I'm sure that there's many people in this room on the phone who would agree with me that I believe anybody should have a second chance, and that's exactly what I'm going to offer her in giving her that chance. So thank you.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. Is there anyone else wishing to make comment?

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, this is Councilman Demarco.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Yes, Councilman Demarco.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, Mr. President for recognizing me. I don't believe that I need to echo the comments a number of other council members have made in regard to Ms. Moss and her commitment to follow through here. I'd like to commend my colleague Councilwoman Hallam for chair of the appointment review committee in taking the role seriously in trying to ensure that she's appointing the best people she can for each board. I also have had the opportunity to touch base with Ms. Moss as well as many others in the community who appreciate what

she's done in her entire body of work whom have explained to me what these, the challenges that she faced that prevented her from being able to take as many of those meetings originally and how those have been rectified. So, you know, I think the example that's made here tonight with a discussion that we on Allegheny County Council to take these appointment seriously, and I believe that the message delivered to all, including to Ms. Moss. And I recommend her approval.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. Is there any other one --- anyone else wishing to make comment?

MR. WALTON: On the motion.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Go ahead, Councilman Walton.

MR. WALTON: On the motion.

MS. HALLAM: Councilman Catena I have a comment please.

PRESIDENT CTENA: The comment's already been raised on the motion, so is there a second?

MS. HALLAM: Well, I would just like to --- I would just like to make another comment to say that all these people who are referencing second chances, I hope that in the future when we're talking about legislation, ordinances sent to the Council regarding our jail population, that the need for second chances is also at the forefront of their minds at that time as well.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. So basically what's going to happen is those wishing to reappoint Ms. Moss will vote yes on the motion. Those wishing to deny her reappointment will vote no on the motion. Is everyone clear on that?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Okay. Jared, take the motion.

JARED BARKER: On the motion to approve the appointment, Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: No.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: No.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: No.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: President Castena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Yes, 12. No, 3. The motion

passes.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. We'll now have Committee of Budget and Finance second reading. Councilman Palmosina. I'm sorry. Hold on one second. I'm sorry, Councilman.

JARED BARKER: 11454-20, a resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the grants and special accounts budget for 2020. Submission number 02-20.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead, Councilman Palmosina.

MR. Palmosina: Thank you, President Catena. On April 2nd, the Committee on Budget and Finance met. We authorized acceptance of additional funds to the administration office. I make a motion for removal.

MR. MACEY: Second, Macey.

PRESIDENT CASTENA: Thank you. Motion has been made and seconded. We'll call a vote, please, Jared.

JARED BARKER: Motion to approve, Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: President Castena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: I's 15 No's 0. Motion passes.
PRESIDENT CATENA: 11461-20.

JARED BARKER: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the grands and special accounts budget for 2020 for submission number 03-20 sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, President Catena. This amendment was authorized and accepted for the following revenues. I will read all four together. There's one amendment. The U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development to fund year 46 of the community development block grant program. Item two, additional CDBG revenue for HUD to be used in assisting individuals, communities, and citizens recover from COVID-19 pandemic. Three, revenue under HUD diverted to solution grant program be used in assisting individuals, council, and vulnerable populations in recovery from COVID-19 pandemic. Four, revenue for multiple foundations and private organizations to support COVID-19 response and recovery. Items two and three were both made available under the recently passed Coronavirus Aid Relief and Security Act. I make a motion for approval.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Who was the second?

MR. PALMIERE: Palmiere.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you, Councilman Palmiere. Motion has been made and seconded. Is there any comment? Hearing no comment roll call vote please, Jared.

JARED BARKER: On the motion to approve. Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

JARED BARKER: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: And President Castena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: I's15. No's zero. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Committee on Economic Development and Housing for the second reading, 11396-20.

JARED BARKER: An ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to levy an Allegheny County Demolition

Fund fee of \$15 on each mortgage and deed recorded in Allegheny County to be used for the purpose of funding demolition of blighted properties situated in the County in accordance with the provisions of 42 P.S. Section 21052.2 sponsored by Council Members Macey and Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes, President Castena. Wednesday April 1 the Committee on Economic Development and Housing met, and we discussed this ordinance. This ordinance would authorize a levy of a \$15 fee on all mortgage and deed recording transactions. The proceeds for demolished blighted properties throughout the County and in accordance with provision of Pennsylvania Act 152 of 2016. This --- we heard from a number of experts joined at the meeting to talk about how blighted properties decrease the property values of other properties that are nearby and how they hurt out taxing base. Loathe as we are to take an increased fees or anything else here we believe that this is justified, and we've been assured by the Department of Economic Development that the money will be used solely for taking in demolishing blighted properties. I urge the passage. I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. PALMIERE: Second. Palmiere.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Now I'll have a roll call vote. Is there any discussion I should say first?

MR. WALTON: Yes. From my perspective, this is the right thing to do. But I also want to repeat some conversation that I had with the Economic Development Department in the past that as we move these collecting dollars and intend to put together a plan for distribution that we should look to cobble abandoned properties and do it collectively and also begin thinking about a reconstruction component as a career path, as well as utilizing materials, salvageable materials from those projects that are going to be demolished. Increase the entrepreneurial opportunity, increase employment opportunity, and limit materials going to landfills. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you, Councilman Walton. Is there anyone else wishing to make comment?

MR. FUTULES: You know, I was at that meeting. This is Futules.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes, Councilman.

MR. FUTULES: I forgot to ask a question during the committee meeting about, and I'm not 100 percent sure

the answer's laid out. But how did they come up with a \$15 fee in the first place, or was it \$20, or \$10, or \$25? How did they derive the \$15.

MR. ZAVARELLA: I can answer that. It's Councilman Zavarella. The stat sheet provides for each county to authorize through quarter of deeds, or in our instance the Department of Real Estate to collect a fee not to exceed \$15 for each deed or mortgage recorded in section B of the statute.

MR. FUTULES: That's right. I forgot that fact.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you, Councilman. Is there any other comment?

MR. DUERR: Can I make a comment, please?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes, Councilman Duerr. Go ahead.

MR. DUERR: So yeah. I just wanted to thank, I wanted to thank Lance for, you know, helping everyone walk through this at the meeting this past week. In particular for me to try to understand the effect it has on county council. I had questions as to how effective it would be initially since we don't have a choice. We are incredibly lucky, you know, to not have to deal with that issue. But, you know, one of the things that was brought up to me at the meeting was that this could have a tremendous effect county-wide on generating additional property tax revenue of raising property value for county residents without actually having to raise property taxes county-wide. That's from the additional people who have been reading into the buildings that are being constructed. In addition to that, in my district we desperately need help. It's affecting buildings that specifically flood. Along that corridor we have problems in Bridgeville and Upper St. Clair and these funds will help in order to knock those buildings down in a timely manner. I just wanted to say I strong support this bill now and, you know, would ask my fellow councilmembers to do the same. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you, Councilman Duerr. Everyone can you please mute your phones because there's a lot of static we're hearing here. So does anyone else wish to make a comment?

MR. DEMARCO: President Catena, I would just like --- it's Councilman Demarco. I would just like to add this fee has been proposed by 19 other counties including surrounding counties to Allegheny. They included Beaver, Butler, Westmoreland, Armstrong, and then

Fayette. I don't believe that \$15 is that much. And I believe that I think we can reduce the amount of blighted properties and maintain property values. And that is a benefit to all.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. I agree with you, Councilman Demarco. Is there any other comment? Seeing none, we'll do a roll call vote, please.

JARED BARKER: On The motion to approve, Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: And President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: I's 15. No's 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. 11453-20.

JARED BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Fidelis Productions LLC to use certain County-owned real

and personal property in connection with filming a television series.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, President Catena. This ordinance would authorize filming a television series. Filming in the Pittsburgh area was originally scheduled for March through June of 2020. Obviously all of that has been delayed because of all the shutdown here. The ability to respond. This will allow it to be able to filmed on our property here once everything is open. We met on Wednesday, April 3, this was affirmatively recommended by the Committee on Economic Development and Housing. I urge the staff. I'd like to make a motion.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there any discussion? Seeing no discussion, roll call move, please, Jared.

JARED BARKER: Motion to approve. Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: President Castena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: I's 15, No' 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll now have liaison reports. Is there anyone wishing to make a liaison report?

MR. MACEY: Go ahead, Tom.

MR. BAKER: I'm good though for tonight. I appreciate that.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. We'll now have new business ordinances and resolutions. 11465-20.

JARED BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Administrative Code of Allegheny County through the creation of a new Article 914, entitled "Clean Construction" in order to protect the health, safety and well-being of the County's residents by requiring the use of environmentally responsible equipment in the course of completing certain County construction projects. This projected is sponsored by Council Member Prizio and Bennett.

Next, we'll go to Committee on Public Works, 11466-20. An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth Of Pennsylvania, authorizing the McCandless Township Sanitary Authority to install a sanitary sewer line in the County's North Park. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to marked.

Now, we have new business. 11467-20.

JARED BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County expressing the sense of Council regarding the County jail staff and inmate population, and the Council's desire to continue efforts to minimize any potential deleterious impact of the County Jail on the health, safety and well-being of the community at large during the COVID-19 pandemic. Sponsored by Council Members Hallam and Bennett.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Councilwoman Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: You know I have something to say if I'm allowed, President Catena. Is that okay?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MS. HALLAM: All right. So I had prepared some remarks for the ordinance decisions last time, but since we now have a motion with all this identical language with

the same end result. You know, I basically want to say the same thing I wanted to say back then. So I just wanted all of the council to imagine for a moment that the Allegheny County Jail was on fire. Okay? There would be no arguing about whether the county could or should immediately evacuate the building and ensure as much as possible that no one would perish in the blaze right? Or perhaps more realistically since we're in Pittsburgh and all, what if a sinkhole were to develop or a landslide that would threaten the foundation of the building? Again, the safety and security of those in the care and custody of the County would be, as it should be, the predominant concern. Yet at this very moment, some of our most vulnerable community members are trapped and are unable to protect themselves putting them and the greater community at great risk of infection and harm. For which prisons, jail, and other detention facilities are particularly and almost uniquely vulnerable to viral outbreak like the COVID-19. Many of those inside the jail have serious potential comorbidities such as respiratory illnesses, diabetes, and heart issues. So it's often unavailable. Hygiene is horrendous. Its overall medical care is inadequate. Just the other day, I received information from a corrections officer that the whole jail is out of toilet paper and it's currently only readily available via commissary and otherwise gives one roll a week per individual. So for all of you who are out hoarding toilet paper the past few weeks, in the jail you get one roll a week.

We're in the midst of an unprecedented public health crisis. Every single moment that we delay waiting for the court, for the district attorney, or for someone else to act, the risk to those incarcerated rises exponentially. We can't sit idly by while this tsunami of positive COVID-19 results and even deaths rushes towards our community and our incarcerated population. Social distancing is impossible in the Allegheny County Jail. We can ensure it follows the lead of our neighbors around the country to move to release everyone currently held in the jail. So far according to our own county's numbers, we have lowered the jail population by a little over 500 this month, even though Allegheny County has a similar size population to Cuyahoga County where they have drastically reduced their population by almost 1,000 inmates. While some are claiming that we at County Council don't have the

authority to take such steps, we can and we do have the power to act. And that is the purpose of this motion today. I shouldn't have to remind any of you how serious this matter is. The situation in the Allegheny County Jail contrary to certain pronouncements is dire. According to the information provided to the Jail Oversight Board, there are at least 48 vacancies of healthcare worker positions, including six of the nine positions for licensed practical nurses, and six of the nine top medical administrators in the jail. The overall vacancies account for over one-third of all required healthcare authorities necessary for the regular and safe operation of the jail, let alone in the middle of a global pandemic. It's not a matter of if, but when COVID-19 reaches the incarcerated population of our jail.

As you all might remember, the second casualty from COVID-19 Allegheny County didn't even know she had COVID-19 until it was too late. There have been reports of exposure within renewal or test results that are still pending. There has been a confirmed case of a correctional officer in our own Allegheny County Jail. We as council can absolutely take steps to reduce the damage infections of the jail would cause for both folks there, the incarcerated population and staff and our greater community. I ask you all to find the courage within and vote with us. This is our one chance. This is a moment that people will look back to judge our actions or inactions, and how this saves lives or led to preventable death. And we have all been appropriately told everyone should wash their hands regularly and thoroughly. But we cannot and must not wash our hands of the responsibility to care for our most vulnerable population who desperately need our attention. Now is the time to act and I ask from the bottom of my heart each of you to stand with us on this. We must act now before it's too late. I ask that you all consider supporting this motion to protect our most vulnerable population. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there anyone else wishing to make a comment?

MR. DUERR: President Catena. Did I miss a vote on 11467-20 or are we voting on that now? I'm sorry.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Referred to Committee, Tom.

MR. DUERR: Okay. So we're done. We're on the motion?

PRESIDENT CATENA: We're on the motions now.

MR. DUERR: Okay. Great. I just wanted to make sure I didn't miss the vote.

PRESIDENT CATENA: No.

MR. BAKER: Thank you, President Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You're good. You're welcome. Anyone wishing to make comment? If not ---.

MR. FUTULES: I have one.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Go ahead.

MR. FUTULES: This is Futules. If I'm not mistaken, I swore I heard her say wants everybody released from the jail. Did I hear that properly?

MS. HALLAM: Did you read that in the motion?

MR. FUTULES: No.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I don't believe that's in the motion, Councilman Futules.

MR. FUTULES: No, but I heard it come out of her --- I heard her say --- I thought I heard her say she wants everyone released from the jail. And quite frankly, they've been doing --- this motion seems to be something that's already been done.

MS. HALLAM: Something you heard was a move to release nearly everyone? So it is everyone in the categories that are outlined in the motion we are suggesting we release.

MR. FUTULES: Okay.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. I wanted to be clear on that.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We're going to move to a roll call vote. Go ahead, Jared.

JARED BARKER: Okay. Do we have a motion to second on this yet?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Oh, we didn't?

JARED BARKER: I don't believe we did.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Councilwoman Hallma, do you want to make a motion on this?

MS. HALLAM: Yes. I make a motion to approve this motion.

MS. BENNETT: Liv Bennett. Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Motion has been made and seconded. Roll call vote, please.

JARED BARKER: On the motion to approve. Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: No.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?
MR. DEMARCO: No.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: No.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: No.
JARED BARKER: That was a no, Ms. Kirk? I heard
that as a no. Okay. Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: No.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: No.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
JARED BARKER: Mr. Walton? Mr. Walton? Mr.
Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
JARED BARKER: I's eight. No's six with one
member not present. The motion passes.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll now have
1468-20.
MS. HALLAM: Oh. Point of order, President
Catena. Was that an abstention from Council Member
Walton?
PRESIDENT CATENA: He didn't vote, so there was
no abstention. He just --- I don't know if he's not on
the line. Council ---.
MR. WALTON: I'm on the line. I didn't --- my
phone was muted.
PRESIDENT CATENA: What is your vote on that,
Councilman Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. What is the vote
now, Jared? Sorry. Hold on a second. Jared's tallying
the vote.

JARED BARKER: It is now nine yes, six no. The motion still passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. 11468-20.

JARED BARKER: A motion on the Council of Allegheny County calling on the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office, the Fifth Judicial District of Pennsylvania, and landlords, property management companies, and utilities companies leasing property or providing utility service within Allegheny County to explore residential rental rate freezes, residential rental payment abatements, temporary moratoriums on evictions, residential foreclosures, tax liens on residential properties, and an extended moratorium on utility shut-offs in response to the COVID-19 health emergency. Sponsored by Council Members Hallam and Bennett.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes. I promise I'm not going to go on long about this one. I just wanted to remind everyone that a lot of the stuff that's been quoted in this motion has already been set forth by different courts around the county and around the state regarding eviction moratoriums, regarding utility holds being placed on set offs, things such as those. The only notable difference between things that are already in place and what we're calling for in here is regarding the rental rate freezes and the residential rent payment abatements. The theory behind this is what happens is when the eviction moratorium expires, correct me if I'm wrong, but I believe it was just extended until the end of May. But the problem is that come June 1st, all of those back months worth of rent is due. And because so many of our constituents in Allegheny County live paycheck to paycheck, this would very well likely leave them out on the street without a home to be able to stay safe in. So I think the motion is very timely, very urgent, and I urge my fellow council members to stand up for people when they need it most. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Is there any other comments? Hearing no other comment, so Councilwoman Hallam, do you make a motion to move that forward then?

MS. HALLAM: Yes. I motion to approve this motion.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MS. BENNETT: Liv Bennett, second.

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

JARED BARKER: On the motion to approve, Mr. Baker.

MR. BAKER: No.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: No.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Ms. Prizio? Ms. Prizio? Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

JARED BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.

JARED BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes. Ms. Prizio, are you there? Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Can you hear me? Yes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We can now. Are you a yes on that?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

JARED BARKER: Counting Ms. Prizio, the votes are 12 in favor, three against. The motion passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. 11469-20.

JARED BARKER: A Motion of the Council of Allegheny County expressing the Sense of Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, thanking the residents of Allegheny County for staying at home and following

physical distancing recommendations during this time, expressing our care and concern for those who have COVID-19 and our condolences to the families and friends of those who have died, and voicing our deep gratitude to those who are on the front lines providing care to those who are ill and all individuals working in essential businesses to provide the goods and services our community relies upon. Sponsored by Councilman DeMarco, Baker, Duerr, Bennett, Palmosina and Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Councilman DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, President.

MR. MACEY: Mr. Chairman, point of order. Point of privilege, please. I'd like be a co-sponsor. This is Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there anyone who doesn't want to be on in. Okay. That's everyone, Jared. Okay. Councilman DeMarco, you have the floor again.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you, President Catena. I just felt it was appropriate. We all understand the difficult conditions that we're dealing with here in Allegheny County. It seems like it's been forever. It was just over three weeks ago that conditions were placed on us and we asked to stay at home, shelter in place, businesses were closed, things of that nature. Due to the fact that so many people in Allegheny County are actually following social distancing recommendations, the numbers that we've seen are something that is manageable. I felt it was appropriate in asking the council to express our condolences to the folks, to the family and friends who have lost people to COVID-19 and our thanks to residents of Allegheny County for staying home and following the physical distancing recommendations, to give thanks and gratitude to those who are on the front lines in the healthcare sector who are caring for these people who are ill, and also all individuals working in essential businesses providing goods and services who are being relied upon, whether it be truck drivers of delivery goods or people actually working in our grocery stores and in our restaurants and things of that nature. That's why I sponsored the motion. I'd like to make a motion that we approve this motion.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

ALL RESPOND AYE

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed. Motion carries. Notification of contracts, 11470-20.

JARED BARKER: A communication summarizing approved executive actions for the month of March 2020.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We need a motion to receive and file.

MR. MACEY: Motion to receive and file. Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Was that you, Mr. Palmiere, that seconded?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes, it was, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

ALL RESPOND AYE

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. We'll have public comment on general items.

JARED BARKER: We had one sign up, but I inadvertently read hers during the agenda topic that was Ms. Diskin's comment.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So it's already been covered.

JARED BARKER: It already has.

PRESIDENT CATENA: All right. Motion to adjourn.

MR. MACEY: Motion.

MR. DEMARCO: Second.

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

ALL RESPOND AYE

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion carries. Thank you everyone. Stay safe.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.

Dated the 17th day of April, 2020

 _____

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter