

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

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

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

Tuesday, September 22, 2020 - 5:00 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

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll now have a moment of silent prayer or reflection.

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

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

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Present

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella.

MR. ZAVARELLA: Here.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Here.

MR. BARKER: We have 14 members present for the moment.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So we --- before we begin the meeting, can everyone hear me clearly?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MEMBER: Yeah.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MEMBER: Yes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: All right. Thank you, everyone.

We'll now begin with proclamations and certificates. These proclamations will all be read into the record. 11608-20.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation declaring Tuesday, September 22nd as National Diaper Need Awareness Day in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilmember Baker.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 11609-20.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing Amachi Pittsburgh. Sponsored by Councilmember Baker.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 11610-20.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation declaring September 2020 as National Recovery Month in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilmember Hallam.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 11611-20.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring the life, memory and legacy of Fr. John "Jack" O'Malley. Sponsored by Councilmembers Catena, Duerr, Futules, Hallam, Kirk, Klein, Palmiere, Prizio and Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 11612-20.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing Joseph Palmer upon receiving the Eagle Scout Award. Sponsored by Councilmember Baker.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 11613-20.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation declaring September 2020 as National Suicide Prevention Awareness Month in Allegheny County. Sponsored by Councilmembers Duerr, Bennett, Catena, DeMarco, Hallam, Kirk, Macey, Palmiere, Palmosina, Prizio and Zavarella.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll now have any public comment on any of the agenda items.

MR. BARKER: We have none.

MR. MACEY: Mr. Chairman? Mr. Chairman.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes. Go ahead.

MR. MACEY: Yeah, Bob Macey. I also was on the proclamation for Fr. Jack O'Malley.

PRESIDENT CATENA: He wants to be added.

MR. BARKER: He's on it. He's good. He's there.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MR. WALTON: And me as well.

MR. MACEY: No. I --- I asked two days ago.

All right.

PRESIDENT CATENA: And Councilman Walton as well.

We'll now have approval of the minutes, 11614-20.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the August 18th, 2020 regular meeting of Council.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Would someone like to make that motion?

MEMBER: So moved.

MEMBER: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed?

Motion carries.

We're on presentation of appointments.

MR. BARKER: We have none to be presented.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

Unfinished business. Committee on appointment review, the second reading, 11587-20.

MR. BARKER: Approving the appointment of LeSans Heard Montgomery to the Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review for a term ending on September 8th, 2023. Sponsored by Councilmember Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Thank you, President Catena.

On September 15th the Committee on Appointment Review met and voted to affirmatively recommend the appointment of LeSans Heard Montgomery to the Board of Property Assessment Appeals and Review for a term ending on September 8th, 2023. So I would like to make a motion for the full Council to approve this appointment.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MEMBER: Second.

MS. BENNETT: Second, Liv Bennett.

MEMBER: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion?

Hearing no discussion, we'll move on to the voice vote. All those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed?

MEMBER: Nay.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion carries.

Committee on Budget and Finance, second reading,
11601-20.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance amending the definition of rental vehicle set forth in the Allegheny Code of Ordinances, Division 1, the Allegheny County Administrative Code, Article 808.B entitled Rental Vehicle Taxation. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Budget and Finance met on September 15th and affirmatively recommended this ordinance that would expressly exclude motorcycles and scooters from the definition of rental vehicle for rental vehicle taxation purposes. I move for approval.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there a second?

MEMBER: Second.

MS. PRIZIO: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Hearing a second, any discussion?

Hearing no discussion, Jared, would you please take a roll call vote?

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

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 14, nos 1. The bill passes.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.
11602-20.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance approving the sale of a parcel of property identified as McWhinney Street, Borough of Munhall, PA, Block and Lot 182-A-9, for the sale price of \$1,500 to Gregory Baranowski, an adult individual and Munhall resident. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Budget and Finance met on September 15th and also affirmatively recommended this ordinance that would authorize a conveyance of the County's interest in a parcel of a property located in Munhall, PA to a Munhall resident. The property is currently owned by the three taxing bodies within which the parcel is located, and the sale would return the property to the tax rolls. I move for approval.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there a second?

MR. MACEY: Motion --- Macey. Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion?

Seeing no discussion, all --- we'll do a roll call vote on this. Please take a roll call vote, Jared.

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

MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, nos 0. The bill passes.
PRESIDENT CATENA: 11576-20.

MR. BARKER: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2020, submission number 07-20. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Budget and Finance met on September 15th and affirmatively recommended this resolution that would authorize the acceptance of two new grants. The first is from the Pennsylvania Commission on Crime and Delinquency, and totals \$27,067 to be used for training and instrumentation, upgrades in the Office of the Medical Examiner. While the second is from the UPMC and totals \$3,000 to be purchased for technology for the use --- of use in the juvenile justice system, primarily for the purpose of remote participation in treatment and educational programs. I move for approval.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there a second?

MR. MACEY: Second the motion. Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there any discussion?

Hearing and seeing no discussion, Jared, would you please take a roll call vote?

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

MR. BAKER: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?
MS. KIRK: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?
MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, nos 0. The bill passes.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Committee on Government

Reform, second reading, 11605-20.

MR. BARKER: A resolution of the Council of the County of Allegheny authorizing the County to adopt the Rules and Regulations of the Allegheny County Human Relations Commission, ACHRC, in order to affect the policies and provision of Chapter 215, Article V of the Allegany County Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive and Councilmembers Duerr, Klein, Walton, Bennett, Hallam, Macey and Futules.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Mr. Futules ---
or Councilman Futules.

MR. FUTULES: I'm here. Last week the
Government Reform meeting met, and we discussed the
Allegheny County Human Relations Commission. And it was
approved unanimously as a positive to go to the full
Council for consideration. I make a motion ---.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: --- to approve.

MEMBER: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and
seconded. Is there any discussion?

Seeing and hearing no discussion, Jared, would
you please take a roll call vote?

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

MR. BAKER: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pamosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 15, nos 0. The bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Are there any liaison reports this evening?

MS. KIRK: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go. I'm sorry. Who was --- was that --- was that Councilwoman Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes. Yes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.

MS. KIRK: I'd like to just remind everyone and inform everyone that the Health Department has started their flu vaccine clinic from 9:00 to 3:00, Monday through Friday. It's a walk-in. Just bring ID, wear a mask. No appointment needed. They do have Thursday evening hours also. You can always check the website. But the vaccines are available now, and we should start getting our flu shots. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Councilman Walton?

MR. WALTON: Thank you. I think that on what has occurred --- what occurred last week with the Elections Board vote that they took to establish satellite voting in the multiple locations around the County and then particularly the African-American community is to be commended. I had multiple conversations with the Executive, and he has been --- he was absolutely responsive and looked at this issue through multiple lenses and understanding the impact of creating opportunity for --- to ensure that the greatest possible opportunity for residents of Allegheny County to cast votes was considered. And I'm really pleased --- I'm really pleased and really proud to be part of that effort. And hopefully, we will have an unprecedented turnout in this November election. Great work by everyone involved, and the residents of Allegheny County won on this one completely.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

Is there anyone else?

MR. MACEY: Mr. President, Bob Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead, Councilman Macey.

MR. MACEY: Okay. In these unprecedented times we've all had problems, especially the nonprofits trying to raise money. And a lot of our volunteer fire companies are suffering. And one of the things that we do at the West Mifflin Number 3 Fire Hall is that we have a car cruise every Wednesday. Some of that has been taken away

from us, because of the Corona 19. But those --- I just want people to know that on this Saturday, and it's going to be one beautiful day, at 3722 Rodeo Drive, West Mifflin Number 3 Volunteer Fire Company is having a super cruise. So all those people like Mr. Futules who has those fancy cars, come on out and join us in a day of festivities as well as door prizes and super prizes for those with the nicest cars. And you can get yourself a meal, a total meal, for like \$7. So we're at 3722 Rodeo Drive, West Mifflin 15122.

And I want to commend Councilman DeWitt Walton for his efforts in --- in the voting efforts. Thank you so much.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Is there anyone else this evening?

Hearing no one else ---.

MEMBER: Don't profile, Mr. Futules, about cars.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Hearing no one else, we'll move on to new business, ordinances and resolutions, 11615-20.

MR. BARKER: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2020, submission number 08-20. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to budget and finance.

We now have new business, motions. We have two non-agenda items. Per the rules of Council, these may be introduced by their respective sponsors without a motion to add them to the agenda. Ms. Bennett, I believe you have the first one.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you, President Catena. So yes, I have a motion that I am wanting to introduce and have voted on tonight. Today is National Voter Registration Day. I just wanted to make a motion around it, and I think that we all, as much as we disagree, that we can all come to an agreement here that it's very important that we get everybody engaged in the voter's process --- in the voting process. It is the most basic civic duty that one can do, so I just thank all my colleagues for entertaining this last-minute motion and ask for your support in acknowledging this important day.

MR. MACEY: Second, Bob Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Before we take the vote on this, does everyone

have a --- has everyone seen a --- does everyone have a copy of it?

MR. ZAVARELLA: Yes. President Catena, I'd like to be added as a sponsor to that as well.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Let me ask this question, is there anyone that does not want to be a sponsor on this?

Hearing no one, we'll add everyone then, Jared.

The motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion?

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed?

Motion carried.

Mr. Futules, you have the second motion this evening.

MR. FUTULES: Yes. My motion is --- it started, I'd say, back in June of this year when DeWitt Walton had mentioned to me about Juneteen Day. And quite frankly, I was unaware of what that day was. I'm almost embarrassed to say that. It was a significant day in the history of this Country, and I had further discussions with our staff and realized that there is no national holiday or national observance day for this. And I think it's important that we send a motion to the --- to Congress to recognize this. And I want to send it to Committee, because it's also in our Committee right now about Juneteen giving as a holiday for the County. And --- and I certainly am supportive of that as well. But I want to bring these two together, not necessarily in the same motion or bill, but have that discussion next week at a Committee meeting. And then we will bring it to the full Council for consideration. So at this time I will not ask for a vote.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you, Mr. Futules. I'll be sending that actually to Government Reform, your committee, then, so you can discuss it for the next meeting.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You're welcome.

We'll now have notification of contracts.

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there any public comment on any of the general items?

MR. BARKER: We have two individuals who signed up. First up is Daniel Welch.

Who is evidently not here.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MR. BARKER: Second up is Marie Norman. Who also is evidently not here.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

And I believe we have a speaker that didn't sign up in time, but does anyone have a problem with having him present tonight?

MR. ZAVARELLA: No.

MR. WALTON: No.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

Step forward, sir.

MR. JOHNSTONBAUGH: Thank you, President Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You're welcome.

MR. JOHNSTONBAUGH: Where would you ---?

PRESIDENT CATENA: At the podium, please.

MR. JOHNSTONBAUGH: Thank you, sir.

My name is Steve Johnstonbaugh, and I'm a member of the North Park Council of Friends, appointed by Councilwoman Prizio on May 19th of 2022 --- I'm sorry, that would be my expiration date, 2022. I've written a correspondence here, and I'll just simply read it.

Subject is the Council of Friends adopted 10/22/02 by ordinance number 54-02. The ordinance stipulates that the agency shall be comprised of a minimum of seven members per county park. Simple math indicates that we should expect a minimum of 63 appointees to the Council of Friends agency at any given time. A roster of appointments was prepared and submitted to me on August 31, 2020 by Jared E. Barker and John Daley for the period beginning 7/02 to the present. My analysis of the records indicate the unexpired census to be 17 appointees representing 4 parks. Based on these facts, I am presenting to Council a question as to the ongoing relevance of the mission of the Council of Friends.

Personally, I am highly supportive of an initiative to reinvigorate the advisory agency. It is my belief that the park rangers and naturalists should act as a constant source of candidates, as they spend all of their time on the ground in the parks interfacing with citizens. They know which citizens are engaged, and it would seem an easy task to identify those willing to serve. Further, it seems prudent that a division responsible for a \$22 million operating budget that directly serves individual citizens of Allegheny County

should have some formal entity agency that communicates directly with the citizens served, and that entity in turn should report directly to County Council to avoid potential conflicts of interest.

However, the current metrics gives some indication that the Council of Friends is no longer relevant to Council. Now that this matter has been brought to your attention, my question to Council this evening is, what is your vision for the future of the Council of Friends going forward? Do you wish to fully populate and reinvigorate the Council of Friends, or do you intend to sunset this ordinance in the next round of administrative review?

I look forward to learning your thoughts and forward-thinking direction on this matter. You're also welcome to join the North Park Council of Friends, Pittsburgh, PA. Thank you for your time this evening.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MS. HALLAM: President Catena, personal privilege?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.

MS. HALLAM: Yes. For the folks who aren't there at the meeting, do you forward a copy of those comments along to all of us? It was a little difficult to hear.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes. We'll do that this evening.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you.

MR. VARHOLA: They're in text.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I'm sorry.

MR. VARHOLA: I forwarded them in a text.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We --- it's in a text, Councilwoman Hallam. So it should --- you should be seeing it, so ---.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you, Ken. Thank you, President Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You're welcome.

Is there anything else this evening? If there's nothing else, we'll have a motion to adjourn?

MR. WALTON: So moved.

MEMBER: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed?

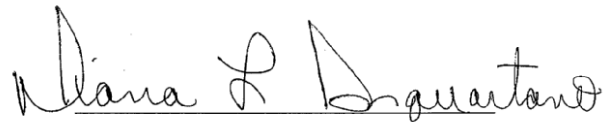
Motion carries.

Thank you, everyone. Have a nice evening.

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 15th day of October, 2020

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Diana L. Inquartano". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above a horizontal line.

Court Reporter

Diana L. Inquartano