

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Patrick Catena	-	President, District 4
Robert J. Macey	-	Vice-President, District 9
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-at-Large
Bethany Hallam	-	Council-at-Large
Thomas 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 "Liv" Bennett	-	District 13

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

December 7, 2021 a.m./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

PRESIDENT CATENA: At this time, I'd like to call the November 30th, 2021 meeting --- regular meeting of council back to order, as we had recessed rather than adjourning last Tuesday evening --- you don't need to stand for this. We're still in the November 30th meeting.

For unfinished business, a review of the video of the November 30th meeting revealed that a motion to approve the unfinished business appointments was not made or seconded. As a result we're going to revisit those items now in order to meet the procedural requirement. All of the appointments are to the Friends of the Park. If there are no objections, I'd like to have the clerk summarize them by bill number and then have Ms. Hallam make a single motion to approve them as a group.

Does anyone object? Go ahead, Jared. Summarize the titles.

MR. BARKER: The appointments fall into three groups. The first is sponsored by Ms. Prizio, all are to the Friends of North Park and all expire on August 24th, 2024. 11943-21 is Colleen Lizzie. 1144-21 is Liz Spence. 11958-21 is Jake Milowski and 11964-21 is Richard Curnick.

The second group is sponsored by Mr. Futules, all are to the Friends of Harrison Hills Park. The first four, 11951-21, Suzanne --- Susan Golfler. 11952-21, Dan Smith. 11954-21, Nicholas Cividic. And 11955-21 Sharon Cividic. All expire on August 24th, 2024.

And the other two, 12015-21, Dave Brooke and 12016-21, Carly Deskins expire on September the 28th, 2024. The last group is actually a sole individual sponsored by Ms. Bennett. 12034-21, Joe Downing to the Friends of Hartwood Acres for a term to expire August --- October 12th, 2024. And that's it.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. At this point in time, is there a motion to approve?

MS. HALLAM: So moved.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Is the only one --- does anyone have a problem without a roll call and just doing a voice vote? Hearing no objections, all those in favor, signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

Obviously last week, I didn't recess the meeting because we went into executive session. That executive

session was basically to deal with litigation and personnel matters. Just for the record at this point in time, I'll take a motion to adjourn the November 30th meeting.

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MR. BENNETT: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries.

Thank you. We'll now begin with the December 7th meeting of Allegheny County Council. I'd like to call the meeting to order. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance recited)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Please remain standing for a moment of silent reflection.

(Moment of Silence)

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. FUTURLES:	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:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Pamosina?
MR. PALMOSINA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO:	Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?  
MR. WALTON: Here.  
MR. BARKER: Mr. Zavarella?  
MR. ZAVARELLA: Here.  
MR. BARKER: President Catena?  
President Catena: Here.

MR. BARKER: All 15 members are present.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll begin with  
proclamations and certificates.

12108-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Tom Baker  
for his dedication and service to the residents of  
District 1. As a member of Allegheny County Council,  
sponsored by all members of council.

MR. BAKER: My roast is actually on December  
20th.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I think Sam's roasting you  
tonight.

MR. DEMARCO: Sure. You could have made the  
font a little bit bigger for the old guy.

Tom, it's been a pleasure serving with you.  
It's been six years for me and very --- a number of years  
for the rest of the folks, as you complete two terms. And  
you really are a servant in the community and an example  
for all of us to follow, you know, you were talking about  
crossing party lines. I mean, you know, you really did  
everything you possibly could to represent your district.  
And I can't say how proud I am to serve with you.

Whereas chosen by the residents of Allegheny  
County, District 1, Tom Baker was elected to office on  
November 3rd --- or excuse me, November 5th, 2013, and was  
duly sworn in on January 2nd, 2014. And whereas while on  
Council, Tom represented the residents of Aleppo, Ben  
Avon, Ben Avon Heights, Coraopolis, Emsworth, Finley, Glen  
Osborne, Glenfield, Hayesville, Killbuck, Moon, North  
Fayette. He's actually my Council Member, Councilman.  
Ross Township and Westview.

Prior to representing the residents of district  
1 on county council, Tom served as a school director and  
the North Hills school district. And whereas during his  
time serving the residents of District 1 on county  
council, Tom served on several committees, including  
marketing and public outreach, where he was the chair,  
economic development and housing parks, education, health,  
and human services, government reform, public safety, the

Allegheny County Election Board. He was the chair and was also Republican caucus chairman and whereas dedicated to the residents of District 1, Tom attended dozens of events each year, hosted regular annual town hall meetings, coordinated the District 1 difference maker award event. Organized the annual Ross and Westview trivia night. That was something that you should all try to attend. And holds office hours at local libraries.

And whereas Tom is currently the executive director of North Hills Community Outreach, a community and interfaith based organization, addressing the needs of people in crisis hardship and poverty. Prior to this role, Tom was the chief community affairs officer and vice president of programs with Big Brothers and Big Sisters, Greater Pittsburgh for 12 years.

And whereas Tom, the founder and chief program officer of Get Involved, Inc., a 501(c)(3) public charity, nonprofit organization that educates and empowers young leaders. He is the president of Baker Leadership and author of these books --- three books, Get Involved, Making the Most of your 20s and 30s, that was released in 2008, Give Our Passion, released in 2010, and Empowered in Pittsburgh, which was released in 2012.

He has two television programs, Get Involved Pittsburgh on Pittsburgh Community Television, and Get Involved Moon Township on Moon Community Access Television. And whereas over his years of dedicated service, Tom received numerous accolades, such as the 2011 young business leader of the year, 2018 Mayor Richard S. Caligiuri Good Samaritan award, 2018 Young Professional of the Year award, 2020 Community Partner of the Year, the Distinguished Civic Leadership award, Young Alumni Achievement award and Community Champion award. Just to name a few.

And whereas Tom and his wife, Erin have been married since July 10th, 2004. The best decision he made. They live in Ross Thompson with their daughter Lila June Baker, who was born on January 23rd, 2018. Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Allegheny County Council on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County hereby recognize the Honorable Thomas Baker for his contribution to Allegheny County Council and to the enhancement of the wellbeing of the county citizens.

Tom always acted in the best interest of the constituents of the Allegheny County and his unwavering

commitment to council serves as an exemplary model of leadership. This council thanks him for his years of dedicated public service. And we wish him well, as he moves into the future. In witness, we have hereto for cause the shield of Allegheny County to be affixed to this seal this day, the seventh day of December 2021. Tom, congratulations, by friend.

MR. BAKER: Thank you, Sam. Thank you all. I think, I think the only person that didn't stand was the person that endorsed me in my first race for school board, Joe Klepick (phonetic), there back in the old days when we used to not win elections. But I can't believe tonight's here honestly. And I can't believe that these eight years have gone by so fast.

This honestly has been the journey of a lifetime. First and foremost, I just want to thank a small army, a team that it took to get us to this point. There's a gentleman watching this broadcast right now named Matt Vermeer. Sam actually officiated his wedding. Without him, you know, we wouldn't have won in 2011, 2013, 2017. Without people like my wife, Erin, Chris Meaner (phonetic) that's here today, my mom, my stepdad, Phil, the people that are out there on election days, we all know this about elective office, right? It's the eight years you serve, but it's also that one year that you really give up a lot of your life to run for office. Without our team, while we wouldn't have been able to do it. I've never broke 51 percent in a general election.

Right, Chelsa? That's impossible, but I've never --- I've never broke 51 percent. So it's been 50 point something. The thing at the day after the election is that I care --- and this is truly true, care about 100 percent of the people that live in my district. It honestly doesn't matter. But I've been here since 2014.

Speaking of 2014, they let me do one page for every year I've been here, so get ready for a little bit of a show. This --- these things happened in 2014. This was a 3:00 a.m. thought. Councilman Duerr was a middle-schooler, just kidding. He was actually in high school. I Googled that last night, in 2014. I wasn't a dad yet when I got sworn in the first time, I wasn't a dad yet when I got sworn in the second time. Erin and I became parents, about two and a half weeks after I got sworn in, for the second time. Some of you from council might remember, that Sue Means threw a surprise baby shower.

The hashtag was Sue Means baby showers, because remember she was the whole Sue Means business. Hashtag Sue Means baby showers.

In 2014, I'd never officiated a wedding. Now I've had the honor of doing 11 in 2014. I'd never run - I'd run a few half marathons, but now I've done 20 half marathons.

And 2014 Big Brothers, Big Sisters. Let's talk about that. Preston, my little brother, had not yet become a first-generation college graduate, a first generation grad school graduate. Irab (phonetic) is my 23-year-old little hadn't graduated from PA Cyber, AmeriCorps or Job Corps. E.J., my third little brother, hadn't graduated yet from Brashear. Hadn't completed boot camp like Sam with the Marine Corps. My final, little Eddie, he's going to graduate from City High next year and we're really proud of him.

In 2014 I was a board member of North Hills Community Outreach. I used to go to our meetings and events and say someday when I grow up --- and I was 30 when I was saying this, but when I grow up, I would love to be Fay Morgan, the executive director of North Hills Community Outreach. I guess I grow up. I grew up already. So it's a great to serve in this role.

Things have changed in District 1 over these last eight years, we've had four state senators. Think about that. Like since the time that Bill Peduto and I got elected back in 2013, there's been four state senators serving in District 1. The legislative map where we live --- where Erin and I live in Ross, we had three men and now we have three women that are all younger than me, which is pretty cool actually. And I will say I've gotten all three of them to at least promise somewhat that Lyla June Baker can be their succession plan. I think they're just being nice, but they have promised that. When I got here, there was a Tomas Governor, there still is a Thomas Governor, it's just a different Tom.

When I see posts from those early days --- and this is true, Bell, the Mayor Peduto, there's tons of reminders in May and November every year of the day that you, Dan Gilman and I all won in 2013. Democrats posting, Republicans posting just how excited they were that these three people that they liked all won on the same day.

And I don't know, in 2021, if that same post would still stand, to actually share that you care about a

Republican and a Democrat, but I hope it does. I hope we get back to that. Because it's okay to like people on both sides. It's okay to like people in both parties. I was promising my friend, Michelle Gaskey the other day, you would like State Representative Emily Kincaid.

And she's like, I don't know. And I was like, you would like her, she's like, well, I do like people. And I was like, that's true, we should like --- what is the most basic thing on earth, but liking people is A okay.

With that, we've been out and about as a council --- John Palmiere's here. One of the coolest things we would do as a council, Republicans, Democrats, everyone. We would usually lose that crest on the side street, but we would go to the Brentwood parade and John Palmiere would be there. The most famous barber in all of Southwestern, Pennsylvania, Johnny DeFazio would be in the car with us, and people would come up to me on the street acting like I was the intern for county council. And they'd say, do you know John Palmiere, do you know Johnny DeFazio, and I was like, yeah, like I have been to vote with them. Like, I --- we were like --- we were like peers, and Johnny's the president. We're all kind of peers in this thing. It was so much fun to do that together.

On the other side, our Republican side, working with Sam and Cindy has certainly been a pleasure. People, all the time asking me how's the caucus doing? How are you all doing together. Two summers ago, I was asked that, and my literal answer was Cindy just babysat two weeks ago. And Sam just officiated a wedding that I was co-best man. That's how we're doing. We're friends. I hopefully think of myself as an honorary nephew of their lifetime.

County Council, one of the key roles that we can play is that of connector; right? The Malcolm Gladwell concept from the tipping point. We know people; right? They come to us, they want access to the county government and they want county government to care about them in some way. We can't solve their problems if we don't have Ken Varhola. Ken, your leadership as chief of staff, your ability to make me a better legislator has meant a lot to me. I've gotten dozens and dozens and dozens of thank yous over the years because of Ken Varhola. And tonight I



want to say thank you to Ken. Can we give a round of applause to our chief staff, Ken Varhola?

So the other thing, too, I will say with the proclamations, I know we mess with me about the proclamations, but they bring a lot of joy to people. We as county council sometimes hit singles and doubles. Like, you know, I'm a big baseball guy. The county executive often gets to hit home runs all the time; right. But we've had some good success along the way. Chairing the Elections Board was a great experience. I will say, if you love the election system, you're welcome. If you don't, call Sam, Bethany and Rich, if they would love to talk to you about it, but it was --- it was a real honor working with Bobby Paul Messina and Johnny DeFazio and Judge Hens-Greco through that was amazing.

Just to get a little serious for a moment, one of the two people that was running to replace me passed away just a few weeks ago, and he was a supervisor in Moon Township for six years. There's literally a road there named after his dad. He --- he was very passionate about doing this role. For the 14 communities and District 1, I'm just asking that everyone here take 14 seconds of silence in Joe Wise's memory. And I'll talk about Jack in a second. I promise. If we can do 14 seconds of silence for Joe Wise.

(Moment of Silence.)

MR. BAKER: Thank you. Joe was a nice friend to several of us. If I can tell a funny story about Joe Wise, just real briefly. So he had yard signs. Sometimes people put their faces on them, sometimes they don't, but he had his picture on his yard signs. So I have the pleasure of driving our daughter to daycare most days. It's really fun. I love doing it. So we were driving to daycare one day and we're looking at the Joe Wise signs and she's like, why is Joe Wise everywhere? And I said, Well, Joe Wise wants to be daddy. And she --- I hear a little grimace in the back. And then all of a sudden flood gates on flood gates of crying. And she said, you're my daddy, Joe Wise is not my daddy.

I was like, sweetie, I am your daddy. But Joe Wise is a good daddy to his son, Christian, who I still hope someday gets to serve you guys as the intern for county council, one of these upcoming summers, because he was really into it. So he was a kind man.

Let's talk about Jack. Every --- a lot of people know Jack. I know Bethany knows Jack very well. Jack Betkowski has never been anything but nice to me. He's our Councilman elect for our district. I want it to be a good transfer of power. We have plans to grab breakfast or lunch sometime soon. I'm there to work with him, support him and make him love this position as much as I do.

A story about Jack is we debated each other, and it was a pretty kind debate honestly. Pat, you were there that night. It was a fairly calm debate. Like Jack literally --- Erin and I have walked out of the library together --- I don't know about you Bill. Have you ever walked out of a debate with your opponents? Oh, you have? Okay. Okay. So it doesn't happen that often though.

So the District 1 Different maker awards events have been awesome. The TV show has been awesome. I'll start wrapping up. I've really enjoyed them. We brought it over a thousand people together through the difference maker, awards events. Senator Valockovich, who I think a lot of us on both sides, Republican and Democrat, have a lot of respect for Senator Randy Valockovich. On an election night party that he did not win, so a sad night in his life. He said to the crowd, it was nice to be called representative. It was nice to be called senator, but the best things I have been called in this lifetime are dad, husband and pap. And I agree with that. It's been nice to be called Councilman for these years, but being Erin's husband, being a son to my mom, being a friend to many of the people in the back two rows there, being a big brother to my littles and to be Lyla's dad has been truly the experience of a lifetime as well. That I'm very grateful for.

I got to my my college sweetheart. Anybody marry their college? Okay, cool. Oh no, where'd you guys go to college? Jack, no. Okay. She's here. It's Erin. And we went to --- we went to the greatest college in Pennsylvania, which you all know, what's it called? Not Millerstown. Millersville. Thank you. And to get through these races is not easy. It's a family affair, right? You have to work together with your spouse. You have to be there for each other. You have to drive in parades when you don't want to. You have to have a fancy, successful career of your own and go to stuff where people

ask you if you work, which is ridiculous, right. That literally happens. But Erin's been there since day one.

In 2017 my re-election literally had me on a meditation app and had me on a medication for physical stuff. And it was hard, right. Erin never wavered. She was there every single second of the way. She stood for 13 hours pregnant on that November election day. Unbelievable. Unbelievable. Her blood pressure was so high. She wants to go the hospital for it. So Erin, I couldn't have done it without you. And for that, you get flowers and cheeses. I don't know what the better, flowers or cheeses. We can debate that.

And just finally, my favorite song since high school has been changed the world by Eric Clapton and Babyface. My favorite lyric has always been, if I could change the world, I would be the sunlight in your universe. Things change in your life, right? At one point I thought about my mom. I just wanted to be the sunlight in her universe. I want to make her proud. Then you want to be your wife's --- the sunlight in her universe. Now, we've got Lyla and I've just been really proud to try to do good things through this role. I thank you all for the opportunity of a lifetime.

Thank you for being a friend, a colleague and whatever you all need in the future, please count me in to help. That was probably longer than eight minutes. The eight years that I served here, way longer. But I just want to thank you all for the experience of a lifetime and liaison reports and proclamations will go down a number next year, but I'll still be cheering you on. Thank you. Give yourselves a round of applause for being friends. Thank you.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12109-2.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Paul's Zavarella for his dedication and service to the residents of District 8 as a member of Allegheny County Council, sponsored by all members of council.

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you very much. Tom, I want to direct this to you first and just say, congratulations. And it's been an honor serving with you.

We have great colleagues up here, but the one thing you always do besides talk a lot, like you just did --- and I won't miss those proclamations you --- I have to be --- I have to be honest. And I probably --- I probably

should come to your roast, but I won't. But one thing you do is you're always educated. You are always ready and you you have served your constituents extremely well. And it's been my honor serving with you. So congratulations to you. I appreciate that.

Now, on to Paul. And one thing about Paul, I think Tom's speech was about eight minutes, his might be about eight seconds. He is a very quiet man. I met him two and a half years ago and he said to me about two weeks ago he goes, I guess when I'm done here, we won't talk no more. I said, what does that mean, Paul? I mean, so we golfed a couple of times during the year, and you know, his, his score is kind of questionable, but you know, I never said nothing, but same thing with Paul is with Tom is, when he comes here, he don't say too much, but when he talks, I can see the colleagues, how they listen to him, because he's an attorney, but he thinks things and he don't say anything until it's time to say some something. And when he does it, we all watch, because we know that he's --- he's intelligent and he's just a fine man. He's brought a lot of professionalism to our --- our seat up here, so ---. He didn't even want to do this. He didn't want to come. He wanted to go out quietly, but I thought he deserves it, which he does.

So that being said, I want to congratulate Paul and bring up my fellow councilwoman --- everyone's favorite councilwoman, Bethany.

MS. HALLAM: Really, they just bring me in because the old guys can't read the little letters on the proclamations. That's the real reason, but I suppose it's the least I can do for someone who not only helped me become a better legislator, but also perfected my golf swing.

So thank you, Paul.

MR. ZAVARELLA: What do you mean I can't read?

MS. HALLAM: A proclamation honoring Paul Zavarella, whereas throughout the history of Allegheny County in the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania talented officials who possess great knowledge and determination exhibit exemplary leadership in elected positions and contribute invaluable to our community.

And whereas Paul Zavarella was approved by vote of council as the interim replacement for Dr. Charles Martone on June 18th, 2019, and whereas a resident of Plum Borough, Paul received his undergraduate degree from the

University of Dayton and went on to get his juris doctorate degree from Duquesne University Law School.

And whereas Paul is fervent about preserving community values and being active in a plethora of local charitable and professional organizations. During his time on council, Paul was vehement about implementing the clean construction ordinance and the real estate tax deadline extension, both of which passed.

And whereas during his tenure, Paul served as a member of the education, health and human services, marketing and public outreach and parks committees. And now therefore be it resolved, that the Allegheny County Council on behalf of the citizens of Allegheny County hereby recognizes the Honorable Paul Zavarella for his contributions to Allegheny County Council and to the enhancement of the wellbeing of the county citizens.

Paul always acted in the best interest of the constituents of Allegheny County and his unwavering commitment to council serves as an exemplary model of leadership. This council thanks him for his years of dedicated public service, and we wish him well, as he moves into the future.

In witness whereof we have here unto cause the seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 7th day of December 2021.

Congratulations, Paul.

MR. ZAVARELLA: Thank you. I was unaware, until I heard TB talk that I only had two and a half minutes. If he's basing one minute for each year, he served, I've only served two and a half years. So I'll try and see if I can cram everything into two and a half minutes long.

First off, I'll echo the comments I made when I first addressed this body some 30 months ago when I was appointed that, blessed are the brief. I would first like to thank my colleagues and my fellow Council Members for the civility and the consideration they've shown me over the years. I valued the discussions and conversations we had over the various topics that came before us as a body or what we discussed outside of the room.

I think everyone helped to make me a better thinker through this process and taught me to look at some of the issues through their eyes that made me a better legislator during the time. I like to also thank the constituents of District 8 that placed their trust in me over the time I served.

I appreciate their input. I hope that through the time on council, I made District 8 and the county a better place to live and work. I would be really remiss if I didn't think the staff, Ken Varhola, Jared and Sarah for all the work you did for me during my time here. I'm quite sure there are many things that I couldn't have accomplished without their hard work and guidance. And for that, they deserve a lot of the credit that --- what I was able to accomplish. I'd also like to thank the Chief Executive and his staff, his team for their help throughout the years. I'd personally like to thank Willie, Andy, as well as Jack for all the questions they fielded for me, all the answers they got for me and their quick responses to some rather difficult issues.

And I'm quite sure I put them in some difficult positions over time. I'd like to thank the elected officials throughout my district, throughout the county, the row officers in the county for all the guidance and support they gave me as well. Most importantly, I like to thank my family. As Tom said, your family makes a lot of sacrifices for you that go unnoticed. Most importantly, though, I like to close by saying I value the friendships I've made throughout this journey. I will cherish them. I hope I can sustain them. And I hope they grow over the years. Thank you.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12110-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Sheriff William Mullen for his dedication and service to the residents of Allegheny County, sponsored by all members of council.

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you very much. Although all these are very emotional and very hard to hear sometimes, I think this one might be a little more harder than most for me, because Sheriff Mullen and I go back many, many, many years.

I can just tell you a brief story. It'll be brief, Bill. Bill and I now live like maybe three miles --- a mile apart. I'm coaching St. Margaret's, he's coaching St. Simon Jude down the block. I have a loaded team. Bill has a loaded team. We ended up getting to the finals of the Diocese, and back in the day, Diocese basketball was very good. We were a very good team and he was a very good team. To make no excuses one of my best players got hurt, and did not play in that game. So we

lost by five to St. Simon Jude. And Mike Colbert made it like every foul shot he took, so --- and that's how Bill and kind of first met each other. And then, obviously, I worked 32 years in the city and Bill worked many, many, many years in the city. And the one thing I always say about Bill --- I'm not looking that way because I might get emotional is every time you ask somebody about Bill Mullen, it was always about what a good man he was, what a good family man he was and what a good policeman he was. And I don't think there's any job right now, harder in our country than being a policeman.

But Bill knows how to tow that line. I believe that he is the most respected law enforcement man that I've ever known. He comes to work every day. All the way through COVID I saw him going to work. I saw him in the neighborhood coming home late hours and that means a lot. Kevin is a very good friend of mine, but I have told Kevin, boy, you have big, big shoes to fill. You have good people around you, but man, those shoes are about as big as they come.

Growing up, being in the city for all these years, it's a hard job. And when Bill came over to the County, I remember saying it was the city's loss, because Bill knew the city like the back of his hand and now he went over to the county, and he did the same job. He took over when --- when the Sheriff's department was in disarray, there was a lot going on. And after all these years, it's time, I see his family out there. I see his wife. I see his two boys. I don't think they could be any more prouder than their father. I don't. Because as good as the police me is, he's a better man.

And it's my honor to even say these words, Bill, because I'm sure every person up there would like to have done what I just did. So I just want to wish you a luck. I'll always be a phone call away and, I'm just honored to call you my friend.

Thanks, Bill.

MR. PALMIERE: I thought he was going to give you a battle there for a while, Tom.

It's a pleasure. I'm really honored that Bob asked me to do this. Sheriff Mullen, I go back a long way with him. We've campaigned together on many, many times. We didn't know each other very well at the time, but we got to know one another, and certainly I've gotten to

respect him and everything that he's done and everything he stood for.

And without any further --- the only thing I will say, we do the digging here, but this fellow shined the light. Okay. He showed us the way. So --- and it helped in so many ways. As I read this proclamation --- and again, Bill, this was a pleasure for me to be able to do this.

As a proclamation, recognizing Sheriff William P. Mullen, whereas in 1964, Sheriff William P. Mullen attended the University of Dayton and majored in political science. While in his senior year, still uncertain about a career path, Sheriff Mullen decided to take a test for the Pittsburgh Police. Two months after graduation in December 1968, he entered the Pittsburgh Police Academy and whereas for 37 years, Sheriff Mullen served with the City of Pittsburgh where he worked in a variety of divisions, including narcotics, detective, homicide, lieutenant commander, assistant chief of operations, assistant chief of investigations and deputy chief.

Sheriff Mullen and former Allegheny County police superintendent, Charles Moffett, are the only Pittsburgh officers ever to have worn seven different badges, patrolman, third, first grade detective, lieutenant commander, assistant chief and deputy chief. And whereas, after retiring from the city as deputy chief Sheriff Mullen accepted the position of Allegheny County Chief Deputy Sheriff offered to him by former Sheriff Pete DeFazio. And whereas shortly after becoming chief deputy sheriff, there was an opportunity to run for Allegheny County Sheriff and Sheriff Mullen took it. And whereas Sheriff Mullen was elected to office in October 2006 and has since been re-elected in '09, '13 and '17.

And whereas Sheriff Mullen is the 53rd sheriff of Allegheny County to serve the region's 1.2 million citizens. Whereas while in office, Sheriff Mullen has been lauded for establishing the mortgage conciliation program, implementing the Courthouse Emergency Response Team and Project Dump. Sheriff Mullen has an office of 169 sworn officers and 34 civilians.

And now, therefore be it resolved that way to members of Allegheny County Council do hereby recognize Sheriff William B. Mullen for his years of dedicated service to law enforcement. And we thank him for his



years of unwavering commitment to protecting the citizens of Allegheny County.

This Council thanks him for his years of dedicated public service and we wish him well as he moves into the future. In witness thereof I unto caused to seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed as this day, 7th day of December 2021.

Congratulations, Bill.

MR. MULLEN: Well, thank you very much. My speech isn't going to be very long, but you know, I thank Council. I was talking to Mr. President, I appreciate this award and I --- I appreciate this award. But it's not me that does this, you know, the whole team in the Sheriff's office has done this. They've listened to the instructions that I gave and they followed that. And we've --- you know, I was told by Sheriff DeFazio, when he asked me to come over to the Sheriff's office, that he wanted me to write the script.

And I think we've done that. And when I first come over, the only thing I was worried about was the budget, because in the city I had very little to do with the budget. I asked him how the budget was before I accepted to come over. And he said it was in great shape. So once I got sworn in, the very first thing I did was went to the budget person and asked her, I understand we're really in good shape and then she turned beet red and I knew we weren't in good shape.

And she informed me we were a hundred --- going on the way we were going for the rest of the year would be \$170,000 over budget. So we kind of straightened it out. We got it down to a reasonable amount in the budget then, and since that time, we've been under budget all the time. And when I got there --- and I speak to --- to Kevin about this, we had no money in the bank. There was nothing in the bank. And now I think I'll be leaving, there's going to be \$6 million in the reserve for the bank. And I've told Kevin I was going to spend it all so he would have to do the same thing I did. And he got very nervous. I said, Kevin, you should start out like I did, with --- with no money in the bank and see where you went from that.

But we've --- we've done some very other good things a couple of times. And people don't understand what the Sheriff's office does and how business --- you know, how busy we are. It's different than the regular

police officers around here, although we're the only Sheriff's office in the Commonwealth that has full municipal police powers. And we use them, you know, very well. When I come over, we didn't use those powers, but now we dedicate people in different sectors of the county and to help out the other place departments in the county.

I thank you very much for this. It's --- it's time to go. I loved doing what I was doing, but it's time to go. And I thank all of you. I'd like to thank my family, my wife, my son, Brandon and Connor, and my daughter-in-laws, Jamie and Sharice, and Aria and Nia. So -- but thank you very much. Thank you very much. I appreciate it.

(Photographs were taken.)

MR. MULLEN: I forgot one thing I have said. I have some advice for Kevin who's taken over as the sheriff, and I told him don't screw this up.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12111-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring controller, Chelsa Wagner for her dedication and service to the residents of Allegheny County, sponsored by all members of council.

MS. HALLAM: Okay. So long before I ever met Chelsa, she was such a role model of mine. I, you know, had all followed her career, followed the changes that she brought to this county, followed her fight for all things that were good and just. And she was my hero. And you know, everyone says, don't meet your heroes, right? Because it never lives up to the expectation that you have in your head of that person. But since the first day I met Chelsa, she's not only lived up to all those expectations, but she's exceeded them.

When I was running for office, it was Chelsa who I knew I could go to, to find out how to do this. I had no idea what I was getting myself into.

She told me how great it could be and warn me how miserable it could be sometimes, too. And I appreciated that and I carry that with me everywhere I go. Once I won my election and got sworn in, it was Chelsa, the first person I knew that I could go to in this county, who would tell it to me how it was, who would show me the lay of the land and let me know what to look forward to in the coming four years.

Once I started getting the hang of things, it was Chelsa who knew I could go to her in her office every

single time I had a question, because for Chelsa being the controller, wasn't just about making sure every penny and every dime was where it was supposed to be, where it was, but serving her constituents each and every day, bringing transparency to an office that so desperately needed it. Bringing the good fights to people and taking on healthcare giants like UPMC, giving a meaning to the controller's office and fighting for all things that were good and just in every single day of her position.

And when I found out she was running for judge, I was like, oh man, that's awesome. But then I had to take a step back because it meant losing a controller who I respect so immensely. But still for forever, having a friend who I know I can turn to for anything that it is, and that's the type of person that Chelsa is. And that's what she's brought in her years of service to this county in her decades of just fighting the good fight and making sure that no one had to experience injustice, that no one had to worry when they woke up tomorrow, were they going to have health care. No one had to worry what was going on in the county, because Chelsa was in her office, made sure that everything was out in the forefront.

So for that, I am so honored to be here tonight to present you this proclamation. I look forward to you bringing fairness and impartiality to the bench, and I know you're going to continue serving this county for decades and decades to come. You're welcome.

So with that, this is a proclamation recognizing Allegheny County Controller, Chelsa Wagner. Whereas Pittsburgh native Allegheny County Controller Chelsa Wagner is a graduate of the university of Chicago and received her juris doctorate degree from the University of Pittsburgh Law School. And whereas before seeking public office Controller Wagner worked as a private sector, business analyst and an attorney in private practice. In 2006 she was elected to her first of three terms in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. During her time as a representative, Controller Wagner focused on saving neighborhood libraries and bringing other types of community and economic development opportunities to our districts through innovation and collaboration. Her leadership helped resurrect the Pittsburgh Marathon from a five-year hiatus to become a world-class event that also promotes health in local schools and communities.

And whereas in 2012, Controller Wagner was elected as the first woman to hold the office of Allegheny County controller and is currently serving her second term. As county controller, Controller Wagner oversees Allegheny County's annual expenditures of over \$1 billion. And whereas over the years, Controller Wagner has modernized her offices auditing functions to meet the highest professional standards and implemented technological impacts.

Under Controller Wagner her office was the first known public office in Pennsylvania to provide paid family leave and instituted a \$15 per hour minimum wage for her employees. And whereas under her leadership, the controller's office has modernized its auditing function to meet the highest professional standards and implemented technological improvements that promote efficiency and transparency. And whereas while in office Controller Wagner has been lauded for her efforts at bringing transparency and accountability to municipal authorities, tax exempt, purely public charities, jail, health care, and water quality just to name a few. And now therefore be it resolved that we, the members of Allegheny County Council do hereby recognize County Controller, Chelsea Wagner, for her years of dedicated service to the controller's office.

And we thank her for her on her years of unwavering commitment to conduct performance audits of county departments and functions, ensuring they operate efficiently and effectively for the taxpayers. In witness whereof I have here unto caused the seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 7th day of December 2021.

Congratulations.

MS. WAGNER: Thank you. I don't think I deserve Bethany's kind words, but I really appreciate them. And I also really appreciate all the members of Council, your staff, the county staff. It really has been an honor and a journey working with everybody in this position. And I have great respect for this Council. I believe it's critical to our government still, as you all know, relatively new and its form, and I've always believed that much like the position of controller, these checks and balances are of critical importance.

And I think in the words of Tom and others who spoke tonight, I'm reminded of how important it is that we can disagree without being disagreeable. And I think

that's really critical to the future of this county. I would also be remiss if like Sheriff Mullen and I didn't mention, all of the great staff of the controller's office.

And to me, it is always the people with whom you surround yourself. So the work that I'm able to do is just by virtue of all of the great employees of the controller's office. It has really been meaningful to me, to be controller, but I'm always reminded when I was sworn in, I was eight months pregnant. As an aside, the news said I was three months pregnant and I was this big (indicating), so if I was three months pregnant --- but my hair was nice and thick. So, you know, those pictures they show forever are good, but that little eight month old --- or not yet born is now my nine-year-old who likes to say to me, you are not the controller of this house. He keeps me humble at home, but likewise, here I really am excited for, I think, what the future holds, with all of the members here on council and with the couple of new members that you'll have and what the future of county leadership.

One of the things we've tried to do in the controller's office is to really make people know how important county government is. And as you all know too well, people might know what the city government does, what their school district does, but too often, they don't realize how critically important county government really is to their lives. So I hope that like yourselves we've been able to contribute to that. And again, I'm just really grateful for all of your partnership over the years and for this recognition.

And I would just like to mention, I'm here with Tracy Royston. Tracy was recently sworn in as my deputy, so I want to make sure that I put the name and the face to everybody here in Council, because we certainly, as I said, value the ability to work with all of you. So per the state law, when I vacate the office as of January 3rd, when I take the office of judge, Tracy will then become an interim controller until whichever point, if there ever is a nomination and confirmation that goes through state government. So again, on behalf of my entire office, my entire team, I'm really, really grateful for all of you. And again, thank you to Bethany.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12112-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Mayor William Peduto for his dedication and service to the residents of the City of Pittsburgh, sponsored by all members of Council.

MR. DEWITT: Mayor. First, I get a chance to talk before I read the print proclamation. I've known Bill, Mayor Peduto, for quite a while now, and he's always been a visionary of sorts, always believed in progress, transformation, growth, and opportunity. And that's how you lived. That's how you've worked. And for that, I am truly appreciative.

Additionally, you've always wanted to be a friend, which is equally important. You've operated with dignity, integrity, character, and if I've ever needed something, I've always been able to call and get my calls return answered, and my issues addressed in a constructive way. That's the kind of leadership you provided for the city, and for that, we're forever indebted for how you've led, how you believed and how you've operated.

And the city's a much better place because of the leadership that you've provided, the principles that you've espoused and the discipline that you've utilized in your leadership as Mayor of the City of Pittsburgh. Our residents are better prepared, have greater opportunities. And we have a much brighter future because of your leadership.

I sat in your office one day when you enacted an executive order talking about the issue of diversity, equity and inclusion in contracts that were issued, were awarded to the construction and building trades, how you stood up and said what was counted in minutes. And for that, you know, for me, it doesn't ever get any deeper than, creating opportunities for people that look like me live like me and have aspirations like me.

So Mayor, it's a privilege to be your friend, to be your constituent. And if you ever need me, I'm there always. So with that being said, whereas on November 5th, 2013 William Peduto was elected to the office of Mayor, the City of Pittsburgh. He was sworn in on January 20th, January 2014 as the 60th mayor, the City of Pittsburgh.

And whereas prior to becoming mayor, Mayor Peduto worked for the Pittsburgh City Council for 19 years, seven years as a staffer, then 12 years as a member of council, while on council, Mayor Peduto is most well-known for writing government reform legislation. He

strengthened the ethics code, created the city's first campaign finance limits, established lobbyist disclosure, and a lobbyist registration, and ended no big contracts.

And whereas as mayor, Mayor Peduto was passionate about maintaining fiscal responsibility, establishing community-based development plans, embracing innovative solutions and becoming a leader in green initiatives. And whereas under Mayor Peduto's leadership, his administration was committed to modernizing city government and implementing leading practices to provide taxpayers with an efficient, effective, transparent and more accountable government.

And whereas Mayor Peduto's administration aimed to achieve the following modernizing city government, implementing leading practices to provide taxpayers with an efficient, effective, transparent and more accountable government and developing the long-term maintenance and investment plan for the city's assets just to name a few. And whereas since taking office Mayor Peduto has led a collaborative effort to make Pittsburgh a leading 21st century city. He strengthened the city's communication with the White House, which has resulted in direct access to federal support and has helped Pittsburgh be acknowledged on a global level by playing an active role in the National League of Cities, U.S. Conference of Mayors, and the Pennsylvania Municipal League Initiatives.

And whereas in 2015, Mayor Peduto, along with 39 other Mayors and university leaders joined to create MetroLab Network. MetroLab Network is an international collaborative of 28 cities, six counties and 36 universities focused on civic, civic research and innovation.

Now therefore be it resolved that we, the members of Allegheny Council, do hereby recognize City of Pittsburgh, Mayor William Peduto for his years of dedicated services --- service to the City of Pittsburgh. And we thank him for his unwavering commitment, making sure that Pittsburgh's transformation and growth would benefit all city residents. In witness thereof, I've here unto caused the seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed to the 7th day of December 2021.

Mayor Peduto, thank you for being a friend and thank you for your future and we're there for you.

MAYOR PEDUTO: Thanks, guys. Hey, James, we got our Wiki page. First Tom, so 2000 - oh God, I can't

remember which campaign it was. Maybe '13. Not only after a brutal debate did I walk out - and he'll tell you this, Les Ludwig, out of the debate, but as we were standing in the parking lot, he looked at me and said, can I have a ride home? And I drove him home. Yeah. Yeah. That's why I was laughing when you were telling the story. I'm like, oh yeah, I got you on this one.

Guys, first off, thank you. I mean, you honestly didn't have to do this. You know, the way that people view government is everyone's in their silos and you know, this is a city and county, but as we know it, there's this big overlap.

And as the county goes, the city goes and as the city goes, the county goes. And a lot of times people don't realize that, you know, we are interconnected in everything we do. You know, after 30 years I finally have found myself in that position where I'm ready for that next adventure, even though I'm not really sure what it's going to be or where I'm going to be doing it.

I know that I'm done with the elected office. And for the most part, politics maybe a little bit more time in government, but not in the elected role, but I don't look back with any remorse or any type of negative feeling. I look back and just understand how politics changes. I - the world that I entered into and, you know, may be a surprise even to Tom, you know, back in 1988, I was working for Bob Dole.

I was up in New Hampshire trying to help Senator Dole to win an election. And I stood there in Nashua with him on that morning of that primary with him and his family and when I was trying to figure out if we were going to be able to beat George Bush in that primary. But it was a very different time back then, you know. People were able to look over aisles. They are able to understand that, when doing good for the people that they served, it was about building a coalition and it wasn't necessarily just on one side, it was how can we build a coalition? I think within county government, you have that ability more so that within city government and city government, we try to do it within one party, but you really have that ability to do it with different parties.

And I would say that, I think that the people of Allegheny County are well served. It's very rare that you hear about the fireworks that occur at Allegheny County courthouse like you do in Harrisburg or in Washington.



You don't hear about the political battles being done strictly for the sake of politics. If you do, it's happening back there and it's happening in a way that is still being done in a respectful manner. And for that, as a citizen, very soon, I'm going to say thank you.

One of the things that I'll take away in my eight years of Mayor is that in all of the votes that we had - and we have over 2,000 votes annually in City Council, and in all of those votes over eight years, you know, nearly 17,000 votes, there was only one, five four vote.

And it wasn't by political power moves. I watched that for 19 years and I saw Mayors that won a battle to lose a war, and putting down a will to get those five votes, but then losing Council Members for the next 20 to 30 votes that were critical. It was that whenever we had somebody who was not on board, we worked with them to find out why and to get them onboard so that their thumbprint was on that bill and that they felt comfortable enough to support it.

Yes, we had a lot of eight to ones. We had a number of seven to twos, and we had a handful of six to threes, but we only had one, five to four, one of the most important things that I think that we had in city government over those eight years. And the second thing there was never a public battle between the city and the county. And in my entire 57 years of life, I can't think of one time that that happened, whether it was going back with Tom Murphy and Jim Morati or Dan Onorato and Luke Ravenstahl or Sophie Masloff and Tom Forester, whoever it was, there was always - whether it was battles of who would speak first, or you know, who is leading this economic development effort, or who's leading this team emergency response. All of these different things that you would get trapped into within the administration.

We never got into that. In fact, there was really a partnership where we liked working together and we never stopped doing that. I often told Rich, I mean, politics is politics, right. There were six years Rich and I didn't talk to each other. We lived two blocks from each other. It's pretty hard. You know, you see the guy at the grocery store, you know, how hard it is to like not even say hi. It takes a certain level of like there - there were six years we did not talk to each other. In the history of city and county the first two Council

Members whoever sponsored joint resolution of city and county were Rich and I. The first two Council Members who ever had a joint meeting of city and county councils together were Rich and I. And that was years before we were ever to run for the executive position. And I think that's needed now as we start to look at issues like Wilkinsburg. You know, Wilkinsburg is not going to be alone. It's going to be Duquesne. It's going to be the Mon Valley, the Allegheny Valley maybe even looking into the Ohio Valley.

Is it - is it right for Pittsburgh or is it a better idea for the county to start looking at these areas and starting to look at areas like that? And police reform isn't going to be just an issue in the City of Pittsburgh. It's going to be in all the other 130 municipalities and start to pull together these councils, city council, and county council to empower the best legislation throughout this entire county.

So I'll leave you with this. I pulled up a quote that I remember when I was on city council and I often read it to remember. And this was from a guy who walked around the earth 500 years before Jesus. And his name was Lao Tzu, he was a Chinese philosopher. And I think this really says it, and I think that each of you - and I was listening to the goodbye speeches and everything else also said it. And I think it's why you decided to be a part of public service. The leader is best when people barely know --- and this is 500 years before Jesus said he exists --- not so good when people obey and acclaim him, worse when they despise him, but a good leader who talks little when his work is done, his aim fulfill, they will say we did it ourselves.

I think that's what the Founding Fathers wanted to do when they put together this crazy system that we have. Kind of hard not to have the acclaim and everything else with social media. It's almost instantaneous now, but at that same time, there is this way to go about it as a team, as a body and to be able to work on the good things. And even though we live in an era of politics now that works to divide us and the systems seem to be created to do so. Be those people to be able to make that change, find the way that you've been able to stand above a world that is basically created for that separation and continue to do what you've been able to do in looking over the

aisle and to be able to create that type of partnership, to serve the people of Allegheny County.

It's an honor, and I really do appreciate you looking across Ross Street. Thank you.

(Photographs taken.)

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

12113-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Michael Dennehy for his dedication and service to the residents of Pine Township, Allegheny County, as a supervisor, including time as chairman sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12114-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation honoring Ed Holdcroft for his dedication and service to the residents of Pine Township, Allegheny County as a supervisor, sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12115-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the dedication and commitment of Gannon Sprinkle in meeting the necessary requirements to achieve the rank of Eagle Scouts sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12116-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the dedication commitment of Nolan Collery in meeting the necessary requirements to achieve the rank of Eagle Scout sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12117-21.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the 75th anniversary of Boy Scout Troop 329 in McCandless sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

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

MR. BARKER: None on agenda items, no.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Any approval of minutes?

MR. BARKER: None.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. We'll begin with presentation of appointments.

12106-21.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Jesse Torisky to the accountability Conduct and Ethics Commission for a term to expire on December 31st, 2026. Sponsored by Council Member DeMarco.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to Appointment Review.

12107-21.

MR. BARKER: Approving the reappointment of Sarah Roka to serve as a Member of the Retirement Board of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025, sponsored by Council Member Palmiere

PRESIDENT CATENA: Technically this should go to committee for Appointment Review, but we all know Sarah, and I'd be as willing to ask if anyone objected to voting on this tonight, since it's actually requirement that she serve on this board.

MR. MACEY: No objection.

MR. PALMOSINA: No objection.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Is there a motion to approve?

MR. MACEY: So moved.

MS. BENNETT: 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.

Unfinished business. Committee on Appointment Review. We have a number of appointments tonight. Would anyone object to basically doing these as a group? Does anyone feel that there's need for an individual vote on each of these appointments? If no one objects, we'll just do them as a whole.

MR. DEWITT: So moved.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. So at this point in time, I'm going to have Jared read them and then Cindy, if you could make the motion.

So go ahead, Jared.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 11950-21 approving the appointment of Sanford Leuba to the Friends of the Park of Harrison Hills Park for a term to expire on August 24th, 2024, sponsored by Council Member Hallam.

12061-21 approving the reappointment of Ashley Henry Shook to the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2026, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12062-21 approving the reappointment of Jan Rhea to the Allegheny County Airport Authority for a term to

expire on December 31st, 2020, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12063-21 approving the appointment of Daniel C. Connolly to the authority for improvements in municipalities for term to expire on December 31st, 2026. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12064-21 approving the reappointment of Betsy Bechtolt Magley to the Human Relations Commission of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31st, 2024 sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12065-21 approving the reappointment of Marlon D. Woods to the Human Relations Commission of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31st, 2024, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

13066-21 approving the appointment of Louis J Weyand to the Board of the Tri-COG Land Bank for a term to expire on December 31st, 2024, sponsored by the Chief Executive. I apologize.

12067-21 approving the reappointment of Marianne Malloy to the Personnel Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2024, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12081-21 approving the reappointment of Kenneth Kevin Kinross to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire December 31st, 2026, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12082-21, approving the reappointment of Mary Ann Eisenreich to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire December 31st, 2027, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12083-21 approving the reappointment of William T. Cagney to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12084-21 approving the reappointment of Sala Udin to the Sports and Exhibition Authority of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County for term to expire on December 31st, 2026, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12085-21 approving the reappointment of Derek Uber to the Allegheny County Housing Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

12087-21 approving the appointment of Amrita Chhettri to the Area Agency on Aging Advisory Board for a term expire on December 31st, 2025, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

And 12097-21 approving the appointment of Lauren McAndrews to the Friends of the Park for North Park, for a term to expire on November 30th, 2024, sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.

MS. KIRK: Okay. The Appointment Review Committee met on December 1st, 2021, and voted to affirmatively recommend all the previously mentioned people, and I move to appoint them.

MR. PALMOSINA: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Hearing no discussion, all those signify by saying yes.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those against? The motion carries. We'll now have new businesses, ordinances and resolutions.

MR. BARKER: None.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Nothing? New business for motions. Typically - obviously since this is a motion, it doesn't require a second reading. So does anyone object to basically voting on this one tonight?

MR. MACEY: No.

PRESIDENT CATENA: No one objects? Okay.

12118-21.

MR. BARKER: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County. Re-establishing the Budget Transfer Committee in accordance with section 8050.03 of the Administrative Code, sponsored by Council Member Palmosina.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Mr. President Catena. This is an annual motion that reestablishes the Budget Transfer Committee that consists of the County Controller, Director of Budget and Finance and Council's Budget Manager. I move for approval.

MR. MACEY: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Notification of contracts?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Public comment on general items?

MR. BARKER: We have three. The first is Nick Drahnak of Swissvale, Pennsylvania.

My name is Nick Drahnak, and I live in Swissvale. I am contacting you to voice my strong support for Bill Number 11804-21, which would ban fracking and other industrial activities on our public lands. This is common sense legislation, which should already have been the law of land for decades. Our parks exist for public recreation and enjoyment. Our parks do not exist to create profits for out-of-state petrochemical companies.

The impacts of fracking on public health are well-documented and fracking does not even create lasting jobs or economic benefits. When fracking moved into 22 counties across Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, their residents experience a decline in jobs, average personal income and overall population according to a nonpartisan think tank.

Fracking is toxic for air quality, water quality and our economy. It shouldn't be allowed in our parks. Please move Bill Number 11804-21 out of committee and pass it into law immediately. Thank you for your time.

Next up is Karsen Shoger of the City of Pittsburgh.

My name is Karsen and I live in Morningside. I am contacting you to voice my strong support for Bill Number 11804-21, which would ban fracking and other industrial activities on our public lands. This is common sense legislation, which should already have been the law of land for decades.

Our parks exist for public recreation and enjoyment. Our parks do not exist to create profits for out-of-state petrochemical companies. The impacts of fracking on public health are well-documented and fracking does not even create lasting jobs or economic benefits. When fracking moved into 22 counties across Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia, the residents experienced a decline in jobs, average personal income and overall population according to a nonpartisan think tank.

Fracking is toxic for air quality, water quality and our economy. It shouldn't be allowed in our parks. Please move Bill Number 11804-21 out of committee and pass it into law immediately. Thank you for your time.

And last up is Noble Maseru of -.

MR. DEMARCO: Sheridan. I looked him up on LinkedIn. He's a Commissioner in the Health Department. He doesn't appear to be a resident of Allegheny County.

MS. BENNETT: He's here.

MR. DEWITT: He's here. He's a resident of Pittsburgh.

MR. MASERU: Good evening, everyone. I'm fully vaccinated, so I'm removing my mask. I'm Noble Maseru. I served as a health commissioner and health officer for the Cities of Detroit and Cincinnati, respectively. Currently I'm a professor of public health practice at the University of Pittsburgh.

My comments and views are solely my own and not those of University of Pittsburgh or the Black Equity Coalition of which I'm a member. Currently there are 780,000 deaths that have succumbed to COVID. The U.S. vaccination rate is the same as the State of PA, which is 59 percent. Allegheny County's vaccination rate is 48.1 percent, roughly 45 percent of the citizenry, or at least the residents of Allegheny County are not vaccinated. The herd immunity that we're trying to achieve, that we should achieve is 70 percent of the population being vaccinated.

The World Health Organization has a threshold of five percent positivity. That means infection percentage. Currently Allegheny County's positivity percentage is ten percent, so we're exceeding that number. The idea is for us to be less than five percent.

In the last 24 hours, we've had 849 cases. In the last 72 hours, we've had 1,523 cases and 10 deaths.

So as you know, the University of Pittsburgh, as well as UPMC requires our staff, students and faculty to be vaccinated. I don't see a timer here. Hold up one finger so I know that we have one minute left. So the question that I'm posing to this honorable body is that why are we requiring Allegheny County employees to be vaccinated and wear masks indoors if we're not doing so for our own citizens and the - and the public that live, work and play and worship in Allegheny County? Why don't we afford them the same protection?

Greater than 90 percent of the new infections are - have been attributed to those individuals who are not vaccinated. So new infections, hospitalizations and deaths are primarily attributed to those who are - who have not been - who are unvaccinated. So we know that masks are our first line defense against COVID-19.



My appeal to this honorable body is to require the wearing of masks indoors at all public facilities. I would ask, if you haven't already done so, invite the public health director and seek her opinion on whether or not --- on questions on the efficacy of requiring wearing masks indoors. With that said, I'd like to say, I thank you for your time. I'll leave the data that I quoted, for the record.

Again, thanks for your time.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Any other comments this evening? That's it. Okay. Motion to adjourn?

MR. DEWITT: So moved.

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. Have a good evening.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6:21 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

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

Dated the 4 day of February, 2022

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

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter