

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

John F. Palmiere	-	Acting President, District 6
Robert J. Macey	-	Vice-President, District 9
Bethany Hallam	-	Council-at-Large
Jack Betkowski		District 1
Suzanne Filiaggi	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Tom Duerr	-	District 5
Nicholas Futules	-	District 7
Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis	-	District 8
DeWitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Robert Palmosina	-	District 12
Olivia "Liv" Bennett	-	District 13

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

November 9, 2022 - 4:59 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services  
William McKain - County Manager  
Chuck DeSabato  
Carmella Mullen  
Nabin Sharma  
Keith McCombs

MR. PALMIERE: Okay. Gentlemen and ladies, if you don't mind, we'll get the meeting started. Okay? Thank you. And will join us with the Pledge of Allegiance, please.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

MR. PALMIERE: Take a minute of silence and reflection please.

(Moment of Silence.)

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you very much. A roll call, Mr. Barker.

MR. BARKER:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	President Catena?
	As of now, we have 12

members present.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you. And we're --- we're going to read these proclamations. We're going to present them all at the same time here. So if ---.

12499-22.

12500-22.

And 12501-22.

Would you mind reading those, please? And then Ms. Filiaggi we'll take care at rest.

MR. BARKER: Absolutely.

12499-22 is a proclamation recognizing Friday, November 11th, 2022 is Veterans Day in Allegheny County, sponsored by Council member DeMarco and all members of council.

12500-22 is a proclamation recognizing and honoring members who work hard to honor veterans with the Veterans Day Parade, which will take place on Friday, November 11th, 2022, also sponsored by Council Member DeMarco and all other members of Council.

And 12501-22 is a proclamation recognizing Friday, November 11th, 2022, not only is Veterans Day, but also Light to Unite, which recognizes the 240th anniversary of the inception of the Purple Heart Award, also sponsored by Council Member DeMarco and all other members of council.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you.

MS. FILIAGGI: Thank you very much. And at this time I would like to ask everyone who is here for today's presentations to please join me up here at the podium so we can give you our proper admiration and gratitude. Thank you.

So first off, I'd like to say, I have --- as a council person, this is my first time making a presentation, and of course this isn't for me. Unfortunately, Sam DeMarco, who was so honored to give these presentations, couldn't be here today. And so he asked me to give this on his behalf. I am a little nervous, but however, I'm super proud to do this on behalf of my friend and colleague and veteran himself, a veteran of the Marine Corps. Sam would only be missing this important event if it --- it was unavoidable. I would like to say that although I am not a veteran myself, my brother is a veteran of the United States Navy, and my cousin is a veteran of the Marine Corps as well. And my father-in-law is a veteran of the United States Army and served in World War II. So we do have --- I do have a perspective. Again, I'm honored to show our gratitude as council members to all of these fine gentlemen here.

The first one I would like to read is honoring Veterans Day itself, and this proclamation is recognizing Veterans Day for 2022.

WHEREAS, on Veterans Day, we reflect upon the immense burden so many took upon themselves whenever they decided to wear America's uniform and the families who stood alongside them. We salute those men and women for their service and we express our perpetual gratitude. And whereas Veterans Day is a national holiday celebrated on November 11th honoring veterans of Armed Forces and those killed in our country's wars. The observance originated in 1919, on the first anniversary of the 1918 Armistice that ended World War I and was known as Armistice Day. It was commemorated on 1921 with the burial of an --- an unknown soldier from World War I at Arlington National Cemetery in Arlington, Virginia. November 11th became an official national holiday in the United States in 1938. And in 1954, the name was changed to Veterans Day to honor those who had served in all US wars. And;

WHEREAS, there are nearly 800,000 veterans in Pennsylvania. It's the fourth largest population in the country, and approximately 18,000 members of the Pennsylvania National Guard. Pennsylvanians from every corner of our state owe these men and women a debt of gratitude for their service, dedication, commitment, sacrifice and service to our great nation. And;

WHEREAS, in Allegheny County and around the country, we understand the true significance in taking care of our veterans when they return home. It is important that we are committed to ensuring that when our heroes return home that they are --- they have every opportunity to experience the American dream that they risked their lives to defend. And;

WHEREAS, our nation's veterans have an exemplary standard that will delineate the American character for eternity. It is our duty as citizens to preserve these heroic individual's legacy, as we shall never forget those who sacrificed for a safer America. And;

NOW, THEREFORE IT BE RESOLVED that we, Allegheny County Council member Sam DeMarco, and all council members do hereby commend the brave men and women of our Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard who took part in our nation's cause of peace and freedom around the world. This council asks all citizens on this Veteran's Day to acknowledge the courage and fortitude our veterans and --- of our veterans and realize the importance of keeping their legacy engraved through time.

As witness hereof, I have here unto cause the seal of Allegheny County to be affixed this 11th day of November, 2022. And this Veterans Day presentation will be given to Willie McKain, who is representing the County. And we thank you for coming and joining us on this very important day.

MR. MCKAIN: Thank you.

MS. FILIAGGI: Would you like to say anything?

MR. MCKAIN: I would.

MS. FILIAGGI: Okay.

MR. MCKAIN: Thank you. First of all, thanks county council for recognizing our heroes, and thanks to all of you. On behalf of the County Executive and all county employees, thank you for your service.

When I walked in today and I had the opportunity to --- to thank them for their service because that --- that's the way that I was brought up. There was six of us, and my mom and dad told us anytime you see a veteran, a man or a woman that served, the first thing you should do is to thank him and don't take for granted the freedoms that we have. My dad served in World War II, so did his older brothers. And we grew up in a community that recognized them, and we were always told in life not to take things for granted. And we certainly don't take for granted what you did. Because we wouldn't be standing here right now in the Gold Room if it wasn't for all of you, and --- and we should not take you for granted. And I think we should challenge all of ourselves today to do it not just on Veterans Day, but every day. And thank you for your service, and we should not take for granted what you did and what you do for this country and for our county and for our community. So, thank you so much.

MS. FILIAGGI: So, I couldn't have said it better myself, and I didn't. So you did. Thank you.

The next presentation that I would like to make is for the 103rd Veterans Day parade.

WHEREAS, on Friday, November 11th, 2022, the Federation of War Veterans Societies of Allegheny County and the City of Pittsburgh will be hosting the 103rd consecutive Veterans Day parade, the oldest and one of the largest Veterans Day parades in the United States. And;

WHEREAS, the Veterans Day Parade will begin at 10:30 AM, Liberty Avenue, 10th Street, and then proceed down Liberty Avenue to the Apex of Liberty and Penn Avenues. This year's Veterans Day Parade will be led off

with an all service color guard where all branches will be represented, including the Space Force for the second time anywhere in the United States. And;

WHEREAS, Pennsylvania Veterans of Foreign Wars, State Commander Henry Mannella will be serving as this year's Veterans Day Parade Grand Marshall. This year's Parade announcer is Colonel Anne M. --- I had this, I'm so sorry. Pospisil, retired from the Air Force. Veterans ---.

WHEREAS, Veterans Day Parade will culminate with a military flyover by the Army and Air Force scheduled for 11:00 to 11:30. And the nation's veteran --- veterans has set an example --- exemplary standard that will delineate them the American character for eternity. It is our duty as citizens to preserve their heroic --- these heroic individuals' legacy that we shall never forget those who sacrificed for a safer America.

And again, I here unto cause the seal of Allegheny County to be affixed on this 11th day of November, 2022.

And I would like to make this presentation to Mr. DeSabato. Thank you for coming in.

MR. DESABATO: Well, Suzanne, you stole my thunder because you read everything that I was going to remind everybody about. But that being said, I'd like to, as the commander this year of the Federation, invite all of you and your families to join us on Liberty Avenue, Friday morning at --- at 10:30. Try to get there a little bit early because you know the roads are going to be closed. And with that, I'd also like to thank Allegheny County for supporting us over this last 103 years. And you know, one of these guys behind me was there for the first one, I'm not sure which one, but and there he is. Anyhow, thank you so very much. I want to thank the council for this proclamation. It really means a lot to me. Thank you.

MS. FILIAGGI: I'd just like to read one little quote, when looking and thinking about this day, and --- and Willie was so gracious to give us some --- some words of remembrance and a reminder, but I think this is also something important. Courage is contagious. When a brave man and woman, like the people here take a stand, the spines of others around them often stiffen. Something to remember.

And then the final proclamation is for Light to Unite for 2022.

WHEREAS, on November 11th, 2022, the National Flag Foundation will continue a year of initiatives marking the 240th anniversary of the inception of the Purple Heart Award with the Light to Unite National Day of Unity. And;

WHEREAS, the NFF is a non-profit, non-political foundation dedicated to education about the American flag and honoring those who have served to support our country and its national symbol. And the Light to Unite National Day of Unity will be the culmination of a year of initiatives to mark the 240th anniversary of the inception of the Purple Heart. And;

WHEREAS, some of this year's initiatives include the National Football League allowing the 240th selection of this year's NFL draft to be announced by Project Purple Heart Co-chairman and former Pittsburgh Steeler legend and military veteran, Rocky Bleier and John Banaszak. A video narrated by Jim Nantz has been produced in coordination with the NFL's Salute to Service games, and the NFF has joined other service organizations to pass legislation in Congress that improved the ability to identify, verify and serve Purple Heart veterans. And;

WHEREAS, the NFF with the help of affiliates, of Building Owners and Managers Association International, and the Society of Industrial and Office Realtors, and with the full support of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Marine Corps League, and the United Steel Workers, will commemorate the 240th anniversary of our Nation's Purple Heart Award on Veteran's Day by lighting buildings across the country in purple as a show of unity and support for our military heroes. And;

WHEREAS, more than 50 buildings across more than 30 cities will see key locations light to unite in support of our nation's wounded veteran community. In Pittsburgh, the following buildings have agreed to light to unite, the Kauffer's building, home of the NFF in Pittsburgh, the US Steel Tower, 11 Stanwix, the Gulf Tower, Oxford Center, and Nova Place.

NOW, THEREFORE it is resolved that we, Allegheny County Council member Sam DeMarco and all of us here at County Council do hereby commend the brave men and women of our Army, Navy, Air Force, and Marine Corps, and Coast Guard who took part in our nation's cause of peace and

freedom around the world. We also want to take the opportunity to thank brave men and women that were injured or lost their lives, fighting for the great community, this great community.

In the witness hereof, I here unto cause the seal of Allegheny County to be affixed this 11th day of November, 2022. And I would like to make this presentation to Ms. Carmella Mullen and hopefully she will also speak as she's here representing the Purple Heart.

MS. MULLEN: Yes, thank you. Romel Nicholas, who's the chairman of the National --- National, I'm sorry --- National Flag Foundation, regrets that he cannot be here and asked me to accept.

My late husband was a Marine --- Marine Corps Purple Heart Vietnam Veteran. So with this --- sorry. I'm sorry. I wanted to accept on behalf of the National Flag Foundation, and we've been working together to get all the Purple Heart recipients through Congress to be identified from the Vietnam War to present. We are also honored to have, as an honorary Grand Marshall, James McCormick, who's the national --- National Commander --- I'm sorry, of the National Purple Heart. He will be an honorary --- Honorary Marshall in our parade, and also he will be there at the lighting in the Kauffer's building at about five o'clock. People should gather there. We're going to have a Marine Corps guard, and also they're going to flick the switch at 5:15. Then all the buildings in Pittsburgh, including the City Council. I'm sorry, that wasn't on the City-County building. We'll light them purple. If they don't have purple, they'll light up in red, white and blue.

So on behalf of the National Flag Foundation, all our veterans and Purple Heart recipients, I'd like to thank you. Thank the County Council, Sam DeMarco, and your presentation, Ms. Filiaggi. Thank you very much.

MS. FILIAGGI: Thank you so much. So at this time, I guess I would like to invite all of you veterans who've come today to join us for a picture and thank you.

(Photographs were taken.)

UNIDENTIFIED VETERAN: Hey, ladies and gentlemen. I have one more thing to add. I've been hearing voicemails and e-mails all day long about the storm coming and I was in the Marine Corps. So I don't know what to tell them, except if it ain't raining, we



ain't training. So hopefully we get a six hour delay and we'll get it in just in time. That's what I'm hoping on.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you so much for your service.

MS. HALLAM: Thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: The rest of the proclamations will be read into the record, please.

MR. BARKER: Actually before proceeding, please let the record reflect that Ms. Hallam is now present. The only other proclamation is,

12502-22.

A proclamation recognizing 45 years of service to Etna Borough by Borough Manager Mary Ellen Ramage sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

MR. PALMIERE: Thanks very much. All right. Any public comment?

MR. BARKER: We do not have any on agenda items. No.

MR. PALMIERE: 12503-22.

MR. BARKER: That's a motion to approve the minutes of the August 23rd, 2022 regular meeting of counsel.

MR. DUERR: So moved.

MR. PALMIERE: Sorry about that. I keep forgetting. Okay, we have a motion. Do I have a second?

MR. KLEIN: Second.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you. And we'll just have a voice vote. All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

MR. PALMIERE: Any nays? Motion passes. 12504-22.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the August 30th, 2022 regular meeting of counsel.

MS. BENNETT: So moved.

MR. KLEIN: Second.

MR. PALMIERE: Motion and second. All those in favor?

(Chorus of ayes.)

MR. PALMIERE: No --- no nays? Motion approved. Thank you.

And presentation of appointments. All the --- all the presented appointments are referred to the committee on appointment review. I'd like to have the clerk read them all in turn at this time.

MR. BARKER: Bill number 12490-22.

Approving the appointment of Guillermo Valazquez to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31st, 2023.

12491-22.

Is approving the appointment of Elayne Arrington, Ph.D. to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire December 31st, 2028.

12492-22.

Is approving the appointment of James Sacco to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31st, 2028.

12493-22.

Is approving the appointment of Sydney Hayden to the Allegheny County Housing Authority Board of Directors for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027.

12494-22.

Is approving the appointment of Reverend Dr. William H. Curtis to the Allegheny County Airport Authority Board of Directors for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027.

12495-22.

Is approving the appointment of Richard Hrivna to the Personnel Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025.

12496-22.

Is approving the appointment of Barbara Pares to the Personnel Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2025.

12497-22.

Is approving the appointment of Stephanie Turman to the Authority for Improvements in Municipalities for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027.

And 12498-22.

Is approving the appointment of Stephanie Turman to the Allegheny County Industrial Development Authority, the Allegheny County Hospital Development Authority, the Allegheny County Higher Education Building Authority, and the Allegheny County Residential Finance Authority for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027.

All of those appointments are sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you. Unfinished business.

MR. BARKER: We have none.

MR. PALMIERE: Liaison reports.

MR. DUERR: Vice President Palmiere. I just wanted to, if I may, very quickly. I'm not a member of government reform, but was a co-sponsor of the bill. I just wanted to congratulate a Council member Macey and the co-sponsors of the Resign-to-Run bill. Resign-to-Run overwhelmingly passed last night in Allegheny County. Last I checked it was --- yes, was above 16 percent. So, good job, Bob. Sorry, DeWitt.

MR. MACEY: Thank you. Thank you all.

MR. DUERR: But I --- I want to say, I think this was --- on a personal note, I was proud to co-sponsor the legislation. I think this was --- I'm glad the county residents saw fit to make this change in the charter. I think this is --- was the --- was the correct move and will only enhance the quality of candidates we see run for County Council going forward and put County Council a little bit in line with some of the other offices here in county government. So, thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you very much. Anyone else?

Okay. By now, we're moving right along here. New business ordinances and resolutions, please.

12505-22.

MR. BARKER: An --- an ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny through the Department of Public Works and the law department to acquire by condemnation a permanent right of way, a slope easement and a temporary construction easement from one parcel of land located at 3222 Mount Troy Road, Reserve Township, Allegheny County, required for the stabilization of Mount Troy Road and to take such further action as may be necessary under applicable law, including but not limited to the Eminent Domain Code sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. PALMIERE: That'll go to the Committee on Public Works. New business motions.

MR. BARKER: We have none.

MR. PALMIERE: Notification of contracts.

15 --- 12506-22.

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

MR. MACEY: Received and filed.

MR. DUERR: Second.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you. All those in favor?  
(Chorus of ayes.)

MR. PALMIERE: That's unanimous. Thank you very much. Public comment on general items.

MR. BARKER: We have two. The first individual who signed up is Nabin Sharma.

MR. SHARMA: Hello, Council. I'm sorry. I cannot speak --- speak perfectly. I'm recovering very soon. I'm hoping --- improving day by day, but what I found last time I came two times here. When I interface with the other public in the community, they're at least acknowledging what invisible disability is, how to accommodate it. But when they look at the stipulation or legislative brands or somewhere, they could not find that type of ADA accommodation, and they're telling me, go do this and that. At least they're initiating. I really appreciate from you guys are giving me input or you somebody giving input is kind of working towards that type of disability accommodation. And because that is the one holding my family, my interaction with kids, and kids' life, my life that I found is called unconscious bias for myself. I'm not interacting with kids. Kids who live on down the road, will point towards me, what you did that time. That is the reason I'm standing in front of you guys now. It's moving right direction. At least I am given some type of light at the end of the tunnel.

I still request, please help --- help me and my family and people like me who support this type of situation. Down the road at least, there will be some type of accommodation, some type of facility who are invisibly disabled. They can do good thing, and we can do better communication. I found miscommunication, misunderstanding between public like me and all other people.

Everybody's working really hard. I respect, and you guys are giving me that kind of hope. Thank you for your help, suggestion and that's what I want to tell you. Thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you. Thank you. Thank you.

MR. BARKER: The only other individual who signed up is Keith McCombs.

MR. MCCOMBS: Good evening, Council. My name's Keith McCombs. I work for T-Mobile, site development manager. And I want to discuss, we have a partnership with Allegheny County. We have numerous leases with you for communication antennas. We're on the Allegheny County

Building, we're in North Park, and we're in South Park. In particular, I'd like to talk to you about the South Park fairgrounds facility that we have with you.

We currently have a monthly lease with you, which is expiring at the end of December. And to me, I think it's very lucrative and its part of --- the overall plan for the fairgrounds is to have a brand new community development there, and it's wide broadening. And at this point our lease is due to expire and we will have no communications in that area.

So what I'm requesting to you is to help us look into, you know, an in-depth study on how we can keep that facility there. It's on a light stanchion. I don't believe it's in any way a burden to the county, and I'd like to continue to provide to the county and have that facility stay there or work to build another facility.

Any questions?

MR. PALMIERE: Ken, can you --- this representative, can you follow up with him? Make sure we get that information to the administration. Thank you.

MR. MCCOMBS: Thank you.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you very much.

MR. PALMIERE: Thanks. Motion to adjourn.

MR. KLEIN: Motion to adjourn.

MR. DUERR: Second.

MR. PALMIERE: Motion to adjourn? We already did that. Thank you.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:28 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 9 day of December, 2022

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

Amber Garbinski,

Court Reporter