

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
Jack Betkowski	-	District 1
Suzanne Filiaggi	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Tom Duerr	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
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  
436 Grant Street  
Fourth Floor, Gold Room  
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Tuesday, May 10, 2022 - 5:03 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.  
225 Ross Street, Suite 202  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jack Cambest - Allegheny County Council Solicitor  
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff

PRESIDENT CATENA: Good evening everyone. We're going to get started. I'd like to call the meeting of Allegheny County Council to order. Please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Please remain standing for a moment of silent reflection. Thank you. Please be seated. Please take roll.

MR. VARHOLA:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Ms. Filiaggi?
MS. FILIAGGI:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Klein? Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON:	Here.
MR. VARHOLA:	President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Here.

MR. VARHOLA: We have 14 members present.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Proclamations and certificates.

12283-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation congratulating Jayme Graham on her retirement from the County Health Department after more than 40 years sponsored by Council Member Palmiere and all members of council.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President, Members of Council. I have a proclamation here for one of the best people I've met in over the several years I've been down here. I've been working with Jayme for the past 10, 11 years on the air advisory committee and she is just one dynamic person. We're going to really miss her and this is going to be a little lengthy, but I want this read because she deserves this recognition so bear with me, please. Okay.

WHEREAS, work ethic is important because unlike intelligence, athleticism, charisma or any other natural attribute, it's a choice. This quote by Mike Rowe epitomizes the dedication, commitment and effort of Jayme Graham on her years of service to Allegheny County.

WHEREAS, Jayme Graham will be retiring from Allegheny County Health Department after more than 40 years of service where she is currently the air quality program chief, and;

WHEREAS, Jayme holds a Bachelor's degree in chemical engineering with a specialty in environmental engineering from the University of Pittsburgh. Her hard work and dedication to the office and her job began when she started as an engineering intern in 1981. Jayme was scheduled to work on an 18 month air pollution study sponsored by the United States Environmental Protection Agency. The project's scope of work was to determine the levels of Sulphur dioxide from industrial plants which gave off its distinct rotten egg smell in neighboring communities like the Hazelwood section of Pittsburgh and others.

WHEREAS, Jayme was offered and accepted a full-time engineering position to be the coordinator with the engineering contractor company modeling the SO<sub>2</sub> and other air pollutants in the Mon Valley. After the successful mapping of air pollutants and their respective concentrations in Hazelwood and other areas, Jayme was given additional air modeling responsibilities by her mentor Dr. Roger Westman the previous air quality program chief.

WHEREAS, while she was in a male-dominated environment as a student at Pitt, seven of a hundred students were female, and in air quality Jayme never felt intimidated or unwelcome. Air pollution and modeling projects were intimidating enough. The great thing about working for Dr. Westman was it was the results that

mattered not who you are or where you came from. If you proved you could do the job, it was yours. The collegial support and atmosphere Jayme experienced as engineer one was a characteristic she inculcated to begin her climb up the ladder and;

WHEREAS, Jayme became the youngest air quality manager ever in 1981 and served in that position for more than 32 years managing air quality planning and data analysis. She supervised air pollutant dispersion, modeling, state implementation, planned developed to address existing pollution issues, air pollution research and development to strengthen air quality regulations instituting pollution prevention methods at their source and conducting outreach through public subcommittee meetings and hearings to explain the purpose of the operations and garner citizen support and;

WHEREAS, Jayme became the air quality program chief in May 2014. In this position she manages a staff of 15 individuals and a multi-million dollar budget to improve and protect the air quality in Allegheny County.

She coordinates the operation of two dozen ambient air monitoring sites, the approval permits for more than 400 pollutant emission sources, the development and enforcement of regulations and control plans, and communications as an ongoing liaison with the Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection and the EPA. I want to stop here for a second. You have no idea when we face those people in Clairton at different meetings and different organizations. Jayme the people there are hollering and screaming about the air and everything else as you can well imagine. This lady never lost her cool. Never ever was intimidated. She sat there coordinated those meetings time after time after time and we left with a nice resolution most of the time. So again, I can't emphasize enough what a pleasure it's been to work with her all these years. So let me finish.

WHEREAS, Jayme has been dedicated in performing and excelling in all her roles, that she was always ready, willing, and able to help her fellow coworkers. She has consistently shown incredible experience and institutional knowledge or demonstrating an equally deep understanding of air quality science and;

WHEREAS, Allegheny County is grateful for the service and dedication of Jayme Graham and we commend her for all she has done over the course of her memorable career.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that myself and all of our county council members, Jayme, we salute you and we hereby recognize and congratulate her upon the occasion of her retirement from the Allegheny County Health Department after more than 40 years with her and many years and we wish her more health and happiness in her retirement. In witness thereof I hereby cause the seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed the 10th day of May '22, and Jayme, congratulations. It was a pleasure having you.

MS. GRAHAM: He always wants me to say something. It's been a pleasure. It's been an honor to do what can be done. I mean, obviously the road is not finished. We don't have clean air so we're not done, but we've made incredible progress if you just look at the charts from the numbers. And I can spell out numbers but you don't want to hear them today. But the air quality has improved greatly. We still have a long way to go, and we have a lot of young, talented, skilled and excited people ready to take on the task so I'm pleased to be able to step down and let someone else take the lead. So thank you all.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12295-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation recognizing Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. for hosting the Mobile Mammogram Screening Event and Health Fair sponsored by Council Member Bennett.

MS. BENNETT: Maybe we introduce the ones that are pending and then come back.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So we'll hold that one I assume?

MS. BENNETT: Yeah. Can we do another one?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yeah. Councilman Betkowski, I believe you have a motion to amend the agenda this evening for four proclamations. One for National Police week, one for National Correctional Employees, one for public works employee appreciation and one for National Nurses. Is that correct?

MR. BETKOWSKI: That is correct. I'd like to make that motion to amend the agenda?

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. WALTON: With one caveat. That I get a free get out of jail card.

MR. FUTULES: You need it.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. And a free get out of jail card for Councilman Walton and Councilwoman Hallam. Good luck to both of you. God be with you. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. We'll now have National Police Week. Councilwoman Bennett.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you so much for being with us today. This is a special appearance so we appreciate it, so

WHEREAS, in 1962 President John F. Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officer Memorial Day and the week in which May 15 falls as National Police Week. Established by a joint resolution of Congress National Police Week pays special recognition to law enforcement officer who gave their lives in the line of duty for the safety and protection of others and;

WHEREAS, every day across the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania and Allegheny County Police Officers take on a variety of responsibilities serving our communities. They ensure that our schools are safe by patrolling the buildings and grounds. They teach children about the dangers of drugs through programs like DARE. Keep the public safe on our highways and roadways. Respond to emergencies and encourage community involvement through programs like National Night Out, and;

WHEREAS, during National Police Week we express gratitude to the South Hills public servants who wear the badge and put themselves in harm's way to keep us safe and we pay respect to those who lost their lives in the line of duty, and;

WHEREAS, according to the officer down memorial page in 2021 617 police officers including 21 in Pennsylvania died in the line of duty. In 2022 thus far 122 police officers died in the line of duty with three of those in Pennsylvania, and;

WHEREAS, it takes a special kind of bravery to wear a badge because in moments of danger or desperation police officers are the first people to whom individuals turn to for help. These often unacknowledged heroes sacrifice precious time so their fellow Americans can live in peace.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, Allegheny County Council Members Liv Bennett, Sam DeMarco, John Palmiere, Tom Duerr, Jack Betkowski, Bob Macey, Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis, Pat Catena, Anita Prizio, DeWitt Walton, Susan Filiaggi, Paul Klein, Nick Futules and Bob Pamosina so hereby proclaim May 8th through May 15th, 2022 to be National Police Week in Allegheny County.

During this week, we recognize and honor those who serve nobly each day and remember those who gave their lives to make our world a safer and more just place. In witness hereof I hereunto cause the seal of County of Allegheny to be affixed this 10th of May 2022. Thank you so much.

MR. JOSEPH: Council Member Bennett, thank you for having me today. Thank you, Council, for having me appear for you today. Superintendent Kearns sends his regards. He was serving with the county in a different way today. He ran in the Special Olympics torch run today so that's why he's not here right now, but he sends his regards. In the proclamation you couldn't have said it better. The selfless work that the men and women of the Allegheny Police, the county sheriffs and police in general do every day. It's a tough job as you all know. A lot of sacrifice is made, but I just want to thank you for your recognition and your appreciation. Thank you.

MR. KEARNEY: I just want to do the same. Thank you guys for recognizing us and the county police and all police officers. Sheriff Kraus is sorry he couldn't be here today. He had a prior commitment, so again, just thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll now have National Correctional Officer's Employee Week Proclamation. Councilman DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Folks, I'm happy to have Allegheny County Jail Warden Orlando Harper here today to award him the proclamation recognizing National Correctional Employees Week.

WHEREAS, on May 5th, 1984 President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation declaring the first full week in May to be observed as National Correctional Employees Week, and;

WHEREAS, the Pennsylvania penal system originated in 1682 under the leadership of William Penn and became the leading force in the development of penology through the 19th century. Today the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has 28 state prisons and 63 county jails with Allegheny County being one of the largest facilities and one of only three American Correctional Association accredited adult local correctional facilities in Pennsylvania, and;

WHEREAS, correctional employees have a difficult and often dangerous job of ensuring the custody, safety and well-being of inmates. Their position is essential to day

to day operations of the institution and without these individuals it would be impossible to achieve institutional goals and successes, and;

WHEREAS, historically correctional employees have been viewed as guards. However, in recent years the duties of these employees have become increasingly complex and demanding. They serve admirably as teachers, counselors, supervisors, chaplains, directors and managers. The professionalism and dedication encouraged exhibited by correctional employees throughout the demanding and often conflicting roles deserves our utmost respect.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, Allegheny County Council Members Sam DeMarco, John Palmiere, Tom Duerr, Liv Bennett, Jack Betkowski, Susan Filiaggi, Bob Macey, Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis, Pat Catena, Anita Prizio, DeWitt Walton, Paul Klein, Nick Futules, Bethany Hallam and Bob Palmosina do hereby proclaim May 2 through May 8, 2022 to be National Correctional Employees Week at Allegheny County. And we recognize and admire the service of all correctional employees and the overall importance of this committed profession. In witness thereof I have hereunto caused the seal of the County of Allegheny to be affixed this 10th day of May 2022.

MR. HARPER: First of all, good afternoon, county council, and I want to thank you for recognizing all the employees and everybody that provides services at the Allegheny County Jail. But most importantly I want to thank all of our employees and everybody that provides services at the jail because without you we would not be as successful as we are. So thank you so much.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll now have Public Works Employee Appreciation proclamation. Councilman Betkowski.

MR. BETKOWSKI: This really is a pleasure for me to sponsor this proclamation. When you talk to someone about what exactly is it that you do in local government, and usually the first thing that comes to mind is something like, oh, when it snows somebody's out with the trucks plowing and salting. And then in the spring they're out patching potholes, and in the summer which hopefully we'll eventually have this year they're cutting the grass in the ballparks so our kids can play. That's what they think local government is, and that's actually what I think local government is. It's the day to day things that just kind of keep things going and Director Shanley and his



crew are the reason why Allegheny County runs as well as it does so it's my pleasure then to read this proclamation.

WHEREAS, public works professionals focus on infrastructure, facilities, emergency management and services that are of vital importance to sustainable and resilient communities in the public health, high quality of life and well-being of the people of Allegheny County, and;

WHEREAS, these infrastructures, facilities, and services could not be provided without the dedicated efforts of public works professionals who are federally mandated first responders and the engineers, managers and employees of all levels of government and the private sector who are responsible for rebuilding, improving and protecting our nation's transportation, water supply, water treatment and solid waste systems, public buildings and other structures and facilities essential for our citizens, again,

WHEREAS, it is in the public interest for the citizens, civic leaders and children in Allegheny County to gain knowledge and maintain ongoing interest in understanding of the importance of public works, first responders and public works programs in their respective communities, and;

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Department of Public Works is responsible for the administration of all contracts involved in the construction, reconstruction, alteration, repair and improvement of county roads and bridges. The department also ensures the safety and reliability of the county's fleet of 781 vehicles and heavy equipment while being responsible for 408 miles of county roads and 533 bridges and culverts, and;

WHEREAS, the year 2022 marks the 62nd annual national public works week sponsored by the American Public Works Canadian Public Works Association, and;

WHEREAS, the Allegheny County Department of Public Works employees should be commended for their unwavering dedication and determination to ensure the safety of our roads and bridges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that I, Allegheny County Council Member Jack Betkowski and all members of council do designate the week of May 15 through 21, 2022 as National Public Works Week. We pay tribute during this week and throughout the year to our public works

professionals, engineers, managers and all employees who contribute to protecting our national health, safety and quality of life in witness whereof I have hereunto caused the seal of the county of Allegheny to be affixed this 10th day of May 2022. Would you care to say something?

MR. SHANLEY: I'd like to thank council for recognizing public works for the great work they do, the employees. There are 533 bridges and 408 miles of road and 780 vehicles. Our public works department paves 40 miles of road for the last six years. We were challenged by the county manager to get this work done and proud that we can pave that with in-house forces with more than 30 miles of road and our engineering division reconstructs 10 miles of road. We have a great staff. Our bridges division has done 12 bridges last year. We have the Sixth Street Bridge under construction at this time. We do a bridge repair contract every year, preservation, betterments so we have a great engineering staff dedicated to a great job for public works.

Also in the field our supervisors are out 24 hours a day. We have been getting these rainstorms that have been very intense. Everybody's seen them. There's trees down in the road. They're out there in the middle of the night clearing these roads. We've had a challenging winter. Every time I have to report to the reporters on the work on our roads they make my job easy because I can always give a great report so staff have done an excellent job. I'm proud to be the director. I'm proud of all the work they do both the engineering and the operations staff so they do a lot of great work and they're always challenged and they come through. The sign shop, the ironworkers all the work they do, field managers out there. We're doing a lot more slide projects with outside forces, and our engineering division is doing more and more projects with all the slides throughout Allegheny County so the paving, all the bridgework, slides. There's always a new challenge, winter storms so we appreciate you recognizing the work this department does and thank you for that. I appreciate it.

PRESIDENT CATENA: At this point we'll have the proclamation for National Nurse's week, Councilman Macey.

MR. MACEY: Good afternoon. It's certainly a pleasure to give out proclamations and recognize people and corporations and of course professional people like our nurses. I don't think you get the true just due I

must say but on the other hand I feel a little responsible for doing this not only to recognize the people that serve as nurses as well as their supervisors. I have a daughter that's a nurse, and I have a granddaughter that's studying to be a nurse so this brings it home to me. And I'd also like to say I'm doing this on behalf - well, I'm doing it out of my feelings for a past council person Cindy Kirk who would do this every year. So not only - there's a lot of reasons why I'm doing that.

Without further ado whereas in 1982 President Ronald Reagan signed a proclamation declaring May 6 through the 12 as National Nurse's Week which coincides with Florence Nightingale's birthday, and;

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania has over 149,000 registered nurses making nursing the largest licensed healthcare profession throughout the commonwealth. Allegheny County also has a high level of registered nurses due to our large healthcare providers in the area and whereas the nurses are the leading advocates of overall public health and are responsible for fulfilling most challenging responsibilities and roles within the healthcare system. They represent the largest component of the statewide healthcare community today.

WHEREAS, as a diversely educated group of professionals, nurses provide indispensable care in a variety of settings including medical centers, hospitals, clinics, health departments, psychiatric centers, nursing homes, addiction treatment centers, correctional facilities, medical rehabilitation facilities, developmental disability facilities, and in schools. And whereas since the beginning of 2020 and the start of the coronavirus pandemic, nurses have been a very underappreciated group. They work hard to keep us all safe and healthy. The many of us take for granted the sacrifices of nurses like long hours which means less time at home with family, and;

WHEREAS, the demand for registered nursing services is greater than ever due to the pandemic and because of our county's aging population so anything that can be done to recognize their hard work is really deserving.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the members of Allegheny County Council do hereby proclaim May 6 through May 12, 2022 to be National Nurse's Week in Allegheny County, and we recognize the selflessness and

service of our nurses and the overall importance of quality nursing care. Thank you.

I'd like to introduce Dennis Biondo. He's the director of Kane Hospital, also Renee Madden from the Allegheny County Jail, Kathy Mayle, from CCAC Allegheny County Health Network Chief Nursing Executive Claire Zangerle.

MR. BIONDO: Thank you to - first to council for recognizing our nurses and when you think back to what we've gone through for the last two years and what our nurses have gone through for the last few years, nursing staff particularly I don't know how you find the words to express the thanks that they deserve. This proclamation is one small way to do that, but we realize that these individuals would work 8, 12, 16 hours a day in our facilities caring for the most vulnerable individuals and have to go home and take care of their families and then come back the next day and start over and do it again and do it seven days a week. There is not a way to express the gratitude. Again, thank you for the proclamation, thank you for allowing us to be here and to serve the citizens of Allegheny County. And thank you most of all to our staff, our nurses because without them we couldn't do it. We couldn't take care of the residents. I do have our Chief Nursing Officer Nancy Ehrman. If I ask for her to say a few words and accept the proclamation on behalf of nurses. Nancy's been a nurse for more years than I'm allowed to say. She and Kathy from CCAC know each other very well so, Nancy, if you want to accept this on behalf of the nurses at Kane particularly and all the county nurses, just all the nurses in the healthcare system. It's much appreciated.

MS. EHRMAN: Thank you, councilmembers. On behalf of the nurses of the Kanes, we thank you for this recognition. It has been an unbelievable year. Many of our nurses left us during this time. We have not been able to hire new nurses because the hospitals are in dire straits of nurses so what we've done is we've come up with some ideas. We've networked with CCAC and now have our own nurse aid training program. Two of our buildings Scott and Glen Hazel are certified by the Pittsburgh Education Department to train nurse aids and we've had five classes already and in the fall we are looking at - we are already working together with Greater Johnstown's LPN program. It's a technical program and we will be the satellites and

we are going to begin by training our own nurse aids to be LPNs. We have 60 of our nurse aids that are interested in the program, and we're starting to do interviews. They will take a pre-test, and we will consider ourselves Kane Academy when all this is said and done.

We've been working together and today Char Flaherty said to say hello to you, Bob. We brought her out of retirement, and she's going to help teach the nurse aid program also. Thank you very much.

MR. MACEY: Excellent.

MS. MAYLE: Well, Nancy, we're going to have to get together because we want those LPNs at CCAC. Well, I'm six days with my new title. See if I can remember it. Assistant Vice President and Dean of Nursing, Allied Health and Sciences at CCAC. So I want to thank, you know, the Honorable Councilman Macey and all of you at council for all you have done for CCAC and our programs. You surely have been a blessing to us. I love nursing. I have always wanted to be a nurse, and I am very committed to our values and beliefs such as integrity, trust, honesty, caring, compassion. That forms the baseline for our profession of nursing.

Nursing nowadays is the only reason why hospitals exist. It's to provide around-the-clock care, and we saw that throughout the pandemic. Currently there's a severe nursing shortage not only here in Allegheny County, across the nation but also across the world. I have been at CCAC for the last ten years in my role as Dean of Nursing. Probably one of the longest lasting deans there and we've made strides in turning the program around into a quality nursing program that you would just be so proud to have a CCAC nurse take care of you.

The pandemic has proved to show you the value of nursing, and CCAC has stepped up to the plate to respond to the call to action with all other nursing programs and serve Allegheny residents by getting shots into the arms. Our CCAC graduates are sought after by the hospitals and with the nursing shortage comes opportunities. There's jobs to be had in healthcare, all faces of healthcare professions and the opportunity exists to retool Allegheny County residents and get them back to work and a CCAC education is waiting for you all, so thank you very much.

MS. MADDEN: Thank you, council, for the recognition of our nursing staff at Allegheny County Jail. We're so grateful for the nurses that we have and the work that

they do every day providing patient care to a vulnerable population and they have overcome throughout the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic and the effects of that and we're so grateful for the work that they do this week and every week. Thank you.

MS. ZANGERLE: Hi. I'm Claire Zangerle. I'm a chief nurse executive at Allegheny Health Network. Thank you, councilman and council, for the recognition of our nurses. I work for 8,000 nurses at Allegheny Health Network practicing across Allegheny County and beyond. And I agree with everything everybody said about the shortage and what we have been through, but we're ready to move forward and we appreciate all the support from Allegheny County to do that. We have 1,200 open nursing positions at Allegheny Health Network, but you still get the care that you need because our nurses have stepped up to the plate and we looked at lots of different models of care. And we had to be creative so encourage your children, your grandchildren, your nieces, your nephews, your cousins to go into nursing, because it's a great profession and we need to keep it going. So thank you for the recognition.

MR. MACEY: And I forgot to mention that Warden Harper was also here representing the county jail. You saw him before, but he's with his nursing staff.

MR. HARPER: Good afternoon again. I just want to reiterate what Deputy Health Services Administrator Ms. Madden said. We really appreciate the nursing staff at the jail. They work tirelessly to make sure that the men and women living in our facility is provided quality healthcare, so I want to thank them and also thank council again for recognizing our nursing staff. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So 12295-22 will be read into the record.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation recognizing Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. for hosting the Mobile Mammogram Screening Event and Health Fair sponsored by Council Member Bennett.

PRESIDENT CATENA: And all the remaining proclamations will be read into the record. 12284-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation recognizing Janet Robb as National Aviary Volunteer of the Year for 2021 sponsored by Council Member Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12285-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation recognizing Joe Barron for his 50 years of dedicated service as an employee of Kennywood Park sponsored by Council Member Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12286-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation recognizing and congratulating the Clairton Lions on the occasion of their 100th Anniversary sponsored by Council Member Palmiere and Council Member Macey.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12287-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A proclamation congratulating Superintendent of O'Hara Police Scott Slagel on his retirement and wish him well in his future endeavors sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any public comment on agenda items?

MR. VARHOLA: No.

PRESIDENT CATENA: None? Skipping none. Any liaison reports this evening? No liaison reports? New Business. 12288-22.

MR. VARHOLA: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny Commonwealth of Pennsylvania amending the Administrative Code of Allegheny County Article 301 entitled County Council 5-301.03 entitled Councilmatic districts in order to provide a uniform process for the reapportionment of Council districts within Allegheny County sponsored by Council Member Duerr.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform 12289-22.

MR. VARHOLA: An ordinance approving the sale of the County's interest in a parcel of property identified as 2608 Crestas Avenue North Versailles, PA, 15137 Block and Lot 376-M-201 for the sale price of \$6,000 to Melvin Gooden and the sharing of the sale price with North Versailles Township and the East Allegheny School District sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to economic development and housing. 12290-22.

MR. VARHOLA: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2022 sponsored by the chief executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to budget and finance. New business motions 12291-22.

MR. VARHOLA: Motion of the Council of Allegheny encouraging the Allegheny County Division of Elections to revise its technical requirements relating to the form of

nominating petitions filed by candidates for local elected office sponsored by Council Members Duerr, DeMarco and Filiaggi.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Duerr, did you want to make a comment on this?

MR. DUERR: I did. Very quickly. So I had spoken - I had a few constituents during the most recent nominating petition cycle which was condensed due to some of the redistricting processes in Harrisburg. And also people who came forward to me were folks running for local committee and they asked me why, dear Lord, did we still use legal sized paper for petitions for all of the county, municipal, ballot questions, pretty much anything that isn't state or federal we still use legal size paper for. And I reached out to Mr. Szefi actually for a question he said he had never gotten before so I was glad to stump him a little bit.

And we realized very quickly that this was something that was not set in stone, it wasn't written down anywhere that it was a requirement that legal paper be used for nominating petitions, from elections that run through the county elections division. And it would be a very easy change to simply say okay going forward we will now do these on regular size paper so letter size paper which will running for the most local of offices just a little bit easier for those of us. We all have run for local office before. A lot of us are on various local committees whether those be democratic or republican committees and we know how big a pain in the butt it can be when you can't email things as pdfs these days especially when they're not on normal print sized paper. So I think this would be - I have spoken with the county and they said they're looking at making this change which I wholeheartedly support and I would ask that all my colleagues support this motion tonight in supporting the county's efforts to make this change and make running for these local offices just a touch easier so that's it.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. You don't want to make that motion?

MR. DUERR: Oh, yeah. I will make a motion to approve.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion all those in favor



- does anyone object is anyone going to object if we do a simple roll call? Do we need to do a roll call? No objections? All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. 12292-22.

MR. VARHOLA: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County providing for the creation of a Special Committee of Council to study the issue of Council District reapportionment and formulate and ordinance to accomplish such reapportionment in accordance with the deadlines established under applicable law sponsored by Council Member Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Does anyone object to doing a simple voice vote on this? I'll make the motion to approve. Does anyone object to -?

MS. BENNETT: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. 12293-22.

MR. VARHOLA: Motion of the Council of Allegheny County authorizing the Council of Allegheny County to conduct a public hearing pursuant to Article II.G. of the Rules of Allegheny County Council on June 9, 2022 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Allegheny County Courthouse Gold Room located at 436 Grant Street in Pittsburgh, PA. The council president shall designate a presiding officer for such public hearing sponsored by Council Member Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Council Member Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yeah. I'd like to make a motion. This is pertaining to the banning fracking in the parks and in the spirit of transparency I think it's so important we have a robust discussion concerning this. We have to see - we've had audience come and speak to this. We've also had notices in our inbox so I think it's very important. Many of us were not on council when Deer Lake Parks was approved so this is an opportunity for us to hear and we have a new council member on board who would also benefit from having a public hearing on this very important topic.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a second?

MS. HALLAM: I'll second.

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

MR. DUERR: Mr. President, very quick question. May I address Councilwoman Prizio?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.

MR. DUERR: Quick clarification, Anita. I just wanted to hear what the differences between doing this in say the sustainability committee versus public, a public hearing.

MR. PRIZIO: Well, a public hearing would be just like a council meeting so what we envision is individuals signing up for three minutes to speak. In a committee meeting that's not possible.

MR. DUERR: Okay. Just wanted a clarification. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any other discussion? Does anyone else need a roll call vote on this, or can we do a simple voice vote? Simple voice vote. All those in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Notification of contracts 12294-22.

MR. VARHOLA: Communication summarizing approved executive actions for the month of April 2022.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a motion to receive?

MR. MACEY: Motion to receive and file.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a second?

MR. DUERR: Second.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Any public comment on any general items.

MR. VARHOLA: We do. We have two. Ian Anderson.

MR. ANDERSON: My name's Ian Anderson, and I worked the last four and a half years at the Allegheny County Health Department as a food and housing inspector. I'm also president of AFSCME local 2622. We represent about 500 professional employees at Allegheny County representing CYF and agent caseworkers at DHS, caseworkers and recreational therapists at the Kanes, caseworker at the jails, IT specialists, food inspectors, housing inspectors, public health representative, food nutritionists and microbiologists at the health department.

We provide essential services to the residents of Allegheny County protecting vulnerable children, older adults and provide frontline public health services. None of us go into public service for the money, but we do so for the shared goal of serving our communities. We are not welcomed into people's homes to evaluate their children or into their restaurants to do an inspection but it's something we know that must be done. We remained on the job and in our communities throughout COVID while many of members struggle financially unfortunately. Our members are required to have a college degree and use personal vehicles for county business, but our median salary is \$42,000 per year significantly lower than the county median of about 50,000 a year.

This led to significant staffing problems in our office with 129 of our bargaining unit members leaving last year alone and 80 through 100 between 2017 and 2020. CYF has an estimated 90 vacancies requiring higher paid supervisors and administrative staff to take on casework. The health department as I'm sure we've read in public stores is stretched thin at half-staff and has 2,400 overdue food facility inspections. Our work nutritionists are also understaffed and contractors and other staff are needed to meet program goals where this should be done by county employees.

Understaffing contributes to slower and less effective services to the public. We've been out of contract since the end of 2021, and for the last nine months we have been meeting with the county and we've made about a dozen meetings to reach a reasonable agreement.

We've reached one ten agreement which did not meet the needs of our members and was voted on one day after the county reached a better agreement with SCIU obviously making that vote a no vote.

Our members work hard and current staffing and salary situation is untenable. We understand funding constraints and are not asking for radical change, but we need to move in the right direction. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Next.

MR. VARHOLA: Jane Yanosick.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here?

MR. VARHOLA: She submitted comments. I'm assuming she's not here.

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

MR. WALTON: So moved.

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

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: All those opposed? Motion carries. Have a nice night.

WRITTEN COMMENT:

Jane Yanosick City of Pittsburgh.

Pets and outdoor setting in Pennsylvania. I just read you are trying to limit bringing pets to outdoor seating areas. If anything I thought the health department would be going the other way and relax some situations. I've always found it a joy to be around animals while I eat outside. They bring additional business to restaurants and make for a more relaxing experience. I see no health violations this would cause. Most restaurants are happy to have your pups, offering treats and water. This is the way it should be. Please, county officials, do not go backwards on this. Can we please make Allegheny County a more welcoming and progressive county? This is what you claim you want when trying to bring in new business. If you look at the responses from a KDKA Facebook post, you will see the overwhelming response to this. Please encourage peoples to bring their pets out and enjoy the wonderful restaurants in the county.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 5:56 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 27 day of June, 2022

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

Jeremy Harris,

Court Reporter