

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Patrick Catena	-	President, District 4
John F. Palmiere	-	Vice President District 6
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
Nicholas Futules	-	District 7
Michelle Naccarati-Chapkis	-	District 8
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
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

March 21, 2023, 5:00 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
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IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services

PRESIDENT CATENA: Good evening, everyone.
I'd like to call this meeting of Allegheny County Council
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:	Ms. Bennett?
MS. BENNETT:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	Here.
MR. BARKER:	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?
PRESIDENT CATENA:	Here.

MR. BARKER: All 15 members are present.

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll begin with the Chief
Executive's quarterly address. Mr. Chief Executive?

MR. FITZGERALD: Thank you, Mr. President,
members of Council. Good to be with you again as we begin
spring. And as you may know, and you were part of there

were some changes in the administration, one of which we have a new county manager. We also tonight are going to be honoring the old former county - the former county executive, the former county manager. I'm glad to have him here. And obviously Jennifer Liptak, who you've known and got to work with as Chief of Staff, now will be as county manager, working with Deputy Manager Steve Polarsky doing that job.

There's also been a couple of other changes that have occurred. Dr. Debra Bogen, former Health Department Director, is now Secretary Bogen, tasked by Governor Shapiro to lead the State Department of Health and also former member of DHS, Dr. Latika Davis Jones has also been tapped by Governor Wolf to be the Secretary of Drug and Alcohol Program. I'm assuming there may be a few more changes in my final nine months, but we're going to do everything we can to keep moving forward in a good way.

One of the other things that has happened in that time is we have two new members of the election board I want to congratulate Councilman Duerr and former Councilwoman Kirk - former, you notice I didn't use that word - who will be doing the elections. And we obviously had a special election back in February 7th. And again, this election department did a great job, and I'm proud of the work that they continue to do. There's been many changes, obviously in state government as well. I was glad to be in Harrisburg for the swearing in of the new legislative session back in early January, and then a few weeks later, the swearing in of Governor Shapiro and former member of this administration, Lieutenant Governor Austin Davis, and then was also proud to be there for the budget address a couple of weeks ago.

Back to the elections, thought, I was also very proud of the fact that Allegheny County was recognized and were invited by President Biden to participate in the January 6 - he was giving out a number of citations, not that we got one, but others did. I was glad to be there for Secretary of State Al Schmidt was there, given a citation by the President at the White House and was proud to represent the Election Department for the great work that they did on that process.

This is going to be a different election in many ways, and I just got the number that there will be over 1,300 ballots that will be printed, so that is obviously a very big challenge as we go through municipal, school

district and local elections that bring a lot of - again, an awful lot different than we have during a presidential or gubernatorial year with ballots. I'm sure again, that the election department will be up to the challenge and our tune of board members will be helpful along those lines.

Continuing on with the Department of Health we've named Patrick Dowd, who was deputy director, now named acting Director of the Department of Health. Moving things along in a good, positive way. They released the 2023, 2027, the next four-year plan for the healthier Allegheny. Recently launched a hydrogen sulfide dashboard, worked with the Immunization Clinic partners with my chart for some scheduling on the online option, and then stipulated additional penalties for USX for the second quarter of 2022. We're also proud of the fact that the Health Department, for the third year in a row, will be listed in Allegheny County, will be listed in attainment. We remain attainment three years ago for the very first time in the history at all eight monitors in Allegheny County, and then did it again last year --- excuse me, two years ago, and now done it again for the third year in a row. I think that's something that we can all be very proud of, that the partners who came together, including our Health Department, dealing with all the industry partners that we have, you know, making that work.

And as we've grown the economy over the last 12 years, I'm one of the proudest I am of it. We have reduced hazardous air pollution by 80 percent over the last 12 years, and again, something I think --- we've got additional work to do, but something I think we could be very, very proud of the work that we continue to do.

Moving on to Human Services, we began the discounted fares program, the pilot program that Director Dalton and her team put into place. The application period closed in February, and we had over 14,000 individuals who become enrolled, including 5,000 children, ages 6 to 17, who will be able to avail themselves to the PRT, Pittsburgh Regional Transit options, and another 5,000 people who did apply, but quite frankly, weren't eligible under the SNAP program that was put into place. Human Services also put a \$50 million commitment to deal with violence reduction initiatives that are moving forward. And again, Director Dalton and her team are

working very hard dealing with that, obviously very challenging issue that plagues not just our region, but the country as a whole. We also have new incentives that were put in place for landlords running to individuals experiencing homelessness as again, we try to deal with that issue as well. That's been very problematical. The annual Project Prom Giveaway starts in a couple of days, something that very proud that the Human Service Department has done to be able to provide prom dresses for kids who want to be able to obviously participate in that important event in their high school, but might not have the financial wherewithal to do that. We can provide things along those lines.

We know that the Second Avenue shelter has opened. The Homeland shelter on Second Avenue Commons and also the Smithfield shelter does remain open and will remain open for some time.

The park season - the winter season obviously has come to an end. We had a very mild winter, which I'll talk about with salt usage and things when it comes to our Public Works Department, but it was interesting that we still at our voice. Park Slope said almost 20,000 people who attended, which is a good number, almost \$600,000 in total revenue. Almost 30,000 people went to the North Park ice rink, over \$200,000 in revenue. South Park ice rink, a little less than 22,000 people and \$167,000 in total revenue. Our total winter concessions added \$36,000 profit with some of the concessions that they do. And again, I want to thank the Parks Department and really former Manager McKain and some of the initiatives that he put forth during his time in working to make sure that the parks system is moving forward.

There's some changes that have been instituted recently. For the first time, we're going to have an online system of tea times. We've become so popular with our golf courses both at South Park and North Park, that people will now be able to sign up as opposed to just trying to get there first in line, give people a little more convenience to where they do something.

Boyce Park, we're going to be opening up a climbing wall, which is going to be exciting. I think that'll be open up by the end of the year. Boyce Park is also going to be constructing some pickleball courts and hardwood acre is going to be opening up. We opened up the sculpture garden that we did just late last year, but

opening up a major maintenance facility to be able to help them do the things they're doing. As we talked about in the past, two of our parks are going to become net zero white open deer lakes, and that should be completed in the coming months.

Moving forward, that's very good news for what's happening in our parks. The last thing I want to mention in North Park, around the tennis courts and pickleball courts, it's a very crowded area where we have cars, we have bikes, we have joggers, we have just a lot of activity. They're constructing a new trail that will allow people to be separated and be a little safer, but still want to be able to use the beauty of the park and be able to make that nice five mile loop that we've worked on and constructed over the last few years. So again, the park system is something I think we can all be very, very proud of because of many of the things that we've invested in over the past years, including this year. The parks have been just a tremendous asset that people appreciate. And we hear about all the time.

Back to Public works. I want to talk about the fact that obviously we've had a very mild winter when it came to snow removal and salt usage over time and all the things that we've been able to do, which obviously helps us to be able to start paving quicker. The great news is we did pave 41 miles of road last year. Our goal was to keep it above 40 every year. That's the 10 percent of the 400 miles of county road that we own. Over the last ten years we have done over 400 miles of road. So we have actually caught up. Again, I want to thank the county manager and his team with Director Shanley and the folks who have worked very hard, Mr. Thompson and his team. They've really been very diligent in making sure that they have made that estimate every year and hopefully that will continue on into the future.

They also worked on completed 22 landslide support projects. We know landslides in the past years have really been an issue and probably will continue to be as time goes on. They completed over ten projects within our county parks, replaced over 6,000 feet of guardrail line struck, almost 200 miles of roadway, et cetera. So I'm really proud of the work that the Public Works Department has done. The last thing I want to say about the Public Works issue with bridges, when I took office, we had 72 of our 300 bridges that are over 20 feet long

that were rated in poor condition. By the end of next year, we will be down to single digits in the amount of poor condition bridges and they continue to work. As a matter of fact, I think there's four bridges that are being having public meetings about where people can come in and give their input.

That will be happening in the coming months. In the coming years. Sustainability we're going to talk about we passed the sustainability issue ordinance and appreciate that creating a new department. One of the things we've been working on is glass collection in our county parks. The next one is going to be offered is April in Settler's Cabin. For people that want to return their glass and have it recycled, we'll be able to do that issue.

Let's talk a little bit about the airport as the TMP, the modernization program continues and moving forward in a good way. They're starting the construction on the new parking garage at the beginning right now, but we made a couple of exciting announcements over the last month or so that Southwest will be providing daily flights to Austin, Texas. Austin is a very good partner when it comes to the Tech Council, the tech initiatives that we are doing, and they're doing, so I think a lot of folks will be availing themselves to that and also adding daily flights to Phoenix, Arizona in September. That's with Southwest. Breeze Airways has announced four new summer long - summer additions. Long Island, Jacksonville, Florida, Portland, Maine and Raleigh, Durham, South Carolina - or excuse me, North Carolina. So they continue to add flights. And we are almost back to where were pre-pandemic, which I think is pretty impressive for the work that they continue to do.

The BRT continues to move forward. The phase one construction contract, I think, has been let just recently, and they're also working on unveiling new bus stops to give people more information about when their vehicle, their bus, their train will be coming. We recently completed the Moncline Incline was reopened in early March after an \$8.2 million renovation that had begun last August. That I know for folks up in Mt. Washington, that was something that they created some inconvenience.

And then, finally we announced the bulk pass program, allowing businesses and multifamily building

managers to purchase transit as we want to get more people back to work, particularly in downtown Pittsburgh. And I believe that is all I have. And I'll open it up for any questions for people might have.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any questions? Councilman Futules?

MR. FUTULES: I don't think it's a question, but I think you forgot to mention people will be able to get into the airport now without a ticket to - I've seen you in the news mentioning about the airport. You don't need a ticket to go see the restaurants and things like that there.

MR. FITZGERALD: You are able to get a pass. You can't just walk in. There's a process in which you can get a pass that allows you to do that. That is correct.

MR. FUTULES: I just wanted to clarify that.

MR. FITZGERALD: To put that into place. Yes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Duerr?

MR. DUERR: County Executive Fitzgerald, you mentioned the Elections Department, and obviously I'm very excited to be serving on the Elections Board with my former colleague, Councilwoman Kirk. But one of the other things that was a change that I know I had brought up with the administration, and I know former Manager McKain and Elections Director David Voye, it was a very small change that I think folks running for office this year really took advantage of and was the change of the petition sizes, being able to fill those out online and print those out at home. I mean, it was literally --- I can't tell you how many people said that was like the defining thing of my career on Council, was getting those things changed. I would like to hope that I did a little bit more than that, but it was a significant change. I wanted to thank you, former Manager McKain, and Elections Director Dave Voye for making that very small but significant change to make running, especially for local offices like school board and municipal council a little bit easier, so thank you.

MR. FITZGERALD: And you know, as someone in your generation, small print might be easy, but for those of us of a certain age, we like things in larger print as time goes on, so -

MR. DUERR: The one thing I will say is -.

MR. FITZGERALD: - I appreciate that as you get to that point.

MR. DUERR: For the folks who were hoarding legal size paper for petitions. I apologize, because there was a lot of people who were angry about that, that now was completely useless for them.

MR. FITZGERALD: The one last thing I forgot to mention, we are opening the Learn and Earn Program. I know it's something important for a lot of your constituents. That's where the high school kids that Learn and Earn program, which we hire about 1,500, 14 to 18 year old students, it gives them an ability to earn some money, good money, and work in various organizations that they might want to do, so I want to make that as announcement as well.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yeah, you mentioned the bulk pass discount for PRT, and I was just wondering if there had been any conversations with the community colleges for them to partake in that, to maybe offer public transportation to their students or even county employees?

MR. FITZGERALD: I believe all of our universities and colleges have the opportunity to be part of the bulk pass program, and I believe many of them do that. I believe CCAC does as well, but we - they don't? Okay. I know Pitt does, Duquesne does, I think CMU, Chatham.

MS. LIPTAK: It's offered to everyone. If it's something that meets the needs of students, that's what the primary goal is. I can follow up with that, but I don't believe that they're part of that program.

MS. HALLAM: What about county employees? Like, have you purchased it for the employees of the county?

MR. FITZGERALD: Not that I'm aware of.

MS. HALLAM: Okay. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any other questions?
Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Thank you. County Executive. I have a question, as you may have seen or received in an email message today. Today we had an inversion, and so we had the Mon Valley episode rule was in a watch phase, and then a little bit later in the morning, it went to a warning, which then I think was put into setting of those requirements. The Mon Valley episodic that we all had heard about just within the last

couple of weeks, Chairman Klein had had a hearing here where we all learned a lot more about that.

Has there been any discussion within the Allegheny County Health Department to do an analysis of that rule to find out if it's working, if it doesn't, what needs to be addressed and perhaps changed?

MR. FITZGERALD: Well, I believe that they continue to analyze what goes on. And that was something just very recently in the last couple of years that we put the episodic rule in place as inversions have become more commonplace. So again, the fact that when that occurs, when we get those atmospheric inversions and notices go out so that people in the affected areas know what to do and can take action for them and their families, and so they'll continue to do that, and I can ask Director Dowd to find a follow up and get you that information.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: That would be helpful. The one thing that I'm seeing is that whenever we get those warnings and watches, if you look at the Liberty Clariton monitor as an example, at those times, it's already in the orange unhealthy for sensitive population zone or the red unhealthy for everyone zone. And so in that regard, there was some discussion about whether or not those warnings and watches have to be implemented in an earlier period so that we don't essentially get to the orange or the red zone so that those emissions are reduced and the air is indeed healthier cleaner when inversion occurs.

MS. LIPTAK: If I may, so when that episodic rule was put in place, you know, it was the first of its kind here. So they always have thought when they put that in place was it would be analyzed, because in government, you just can't stay static, you have to continue to be fluid. So they are doing that analysis now, so if there are changes that need to be made, they'll go through the proper processes and eventually come here. So yes, that analysis is currently being done.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Thank you.

MS. LIPTAK: You're very welcome.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any other questions?
Councilwoman Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Thank you, Chair and thank you, Executive, for giving us the report today. You talked about PRT and the DHS program for SNAP recipients, and I know folks have received that, and it's great, it's a

great program. However, I'm wondering if there's any conversation with PRT and the county on how we can update the technology, because even with a free pass, if you go to get on the bus and technology is not working and the bus pass isn't registering, that's not helpful for the person trying to use that transportation.

MR. FITZGERALD: Well, I will tell you that the PRT is continuing to try to upgrade their technology, whether it's with a pass, whether it's with the smart card, whether it's with the times that are listed to when the next vehicle, the next bus or train will be coming. They will continue to do that.

I think it's also important to note that most of the things that PRT gets is limited by the amount of state and federal funding that they get. We as a county, max out one of the few counties that maxes out our local share every year. And I would encourage everybody to make sure that we lobby our state representatives as Act 89 is going to be reupped again. The transit isn't pushed to the side, if you will. There's obviously going to be a lot of challenges with roads and bridges among what PennDOT is doing. I think for regions like ours, transit is certainly a critical link for folks to be able to get to school, work, hospital, healthcare, doctor's offices, grocery store, et cetera, et cetera.

So I think it's incumbent upon all of us that PRT is very limited if they don't have that access, if they don't get that funding from the state and federal government.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: One last question from me, Mr. Chief Executive. We've heard lots of discussions recently about the Clean Air Fund and possibly changing the Clean Air Fund so the Health Department would get more funding. I don't recall that subject coming up during budget discussion. Can you clarify why that would be or if there was some trouble obviously funding the Health Department, why that wouldn't have come up then?

MR. FITZGERALD: Well, the one thing I think we've always tried to do is in my philosophy has been I think the people who are doing the polluting should be paying the fare for keeping the Health Department fully funded with the Air Quality Program. And I'm proud of the fact again, that we have funded the Air Quality Program and hired more air regulators than any previous

administration by far. The fact that we have an 80 percent reduction in air pollution over the last 12 years is something we should be very, very proud of. I wish we had an 80 percent reduction in crime, or an 80 percent reduction infant mortality, or 80 percent reduction in dropout rates, et cetera, et cetera. So they're going to continue to work at what they do and we're going to make sure that we keep that program funded.

One of the things that has come up is there are less fines because there are less citations because there's been less pollution, so that's going to continue to probably reduce what goes into the air quality fund. It's kind of a mixed bag. You want to have a fully funded thing, but it only gets funded by pollution. We want the pollution to be as low as possible.

But now we still got to fund the Health Department and the irregular, so I'm sure as we go through the budget process again this year, that could be something that can be looked at.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Because it seems like there's more serious concern about moving money now than ever. I was just curious as to why that didn't come up during the budgeting sessions we had, so -.

MR. FITZGERALD: The last thing I forgot to mention, we do have the highlights report that I want to have the clerk distribute this for the 2022 report that we're always very proud of, and you can look at it at your leisure.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. There are any other questions? Thank you, Mr. Executive.

We're going to switch around the order for the proclamations of certificates tonight. We're going to move on to 12620-23.

MR. BARKER: That's a proclamation recognizing and honoring William D. McKain, CPA for his contributions and successes to Allegheny County, sponsored by the Chief Executive and all members of Council.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Mr. Chief Executive?

MR. FITZGERALD: Back up. Usually I get the lead after that, but since - I do want to bring up Mr. McKain and his family, and I know other members of Council. Willie, Francine, Bryce, Connor, Come on up.

And I won't read all the whereases, I'll let you guys do all that. I mean, we're going to - we'll name the

day after him and he gets to swim in all of our pools today and go ski. Everything you get to do is already closed.

But I also want to thank the McKain family because everybody who knows Willie knows the hours that he put in and the dedication that he put in to serving the 1.25 million citizens of Allegheny County. Every day during the pandemic, Willie was in his office every day during whatever was happening, if there was some emergency somewhere, Willie was there. During the election time a couple of years ago when it was, you know, very, very volatile, he was in that warehouse night after night after night, making sure that things were run properly.

And for Francine and Bryce and Connor, who probably had a few events and a few dinners and a few things that their dad and their husband wasn't there, I just appreciate the fact that they let him serve all the rest of us in Allegheny County. I know with Jennifer and Steve and the team and all the directors that we've had, his leadership was really something that will be missed.

I'm proud of the fact that the Allegheny Conference had the good sense to make him their COO. He'll be doing great work on behalf of all of us in that great organization beyond Allegheny. I guess it's a ten county operation that they do. I just want to thank Willie for the work that he did. Again, if I went through all Willie's things, we'd be here all night reading all the things that he did. I'll just get to the very end and do the last one and we'll do it for the record.

Now, therefore it be resolved that the citizens of Allegheny County, I, on behalf of them, County Executive and all members of County Council, you guys all know who you are, I don't have to read all your names. We want to thank Willie McKain for the great work that he has done. We hereby name March 21st, 2023 as Willie McKain Day in Allegheny County.

Before he gets up here, I forgot to say there is one from the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, from the Lieutenant Governor who served so many years with Manager McKain and learned an awful lot. Come on, Willie. But Willie, please.

MR. MCKAIN: I actually - because I knew this day was coming, I actually brought some things. To this day, it's really, really special to me because I love my job. I didn't want to come here. They thought it was

really important that I come because of what this county means to me. I'm going to try to say this from my heart. And I'm really flattered. Thank you.

I want to thank a lot of people. I want to thank Rich for appointing me county manager. I'm going to say that publicly what I said to him privately, and I'm eternally grateful for this opportunity he provided me to be county manager, you never know where your career is going to go. And he took a chance on a kid from Southside and I come back here. And it's really special to me. Thank you. Thank you, Rich.

I want to thank Jennifer Liptak for recommending me to be county manager. People might not know this, but I never met Rich before. I never knew Rich before I got hired. I knew Jennifer. Jennifer and I go back a long way and I'm going to tell you publicly what I told her privately, and it was that --- I told her that she recommended me for this once in a lifetime opportunity for this job because she's a once a lifetime friend. Thank you. Thank you so much.

For my core team administration. Steve and Amy, Andy, Heather, Sonya, Marie, Darla, Patricia, Teresa, cast a thousands thank you. I couldn't have done it without you. I told Amy, like, one of the many great things about this job is you meet people you would have never met before. A lot of the people in this room, I have never met you, and it has friendships cherish forever, honestly every day.

To my directors and the county employees, you were absolutely the best. Don't let anyone tell you different. You two are the best, and I'm so proud of you. What you do, you help people every day and you should be so proud of what you do. I am qualified to tell you, you make a difference. Rich likes to point out that unlike other administrations, if it worked out, like, most of us stayed here for 10, 11, 12 years. I have to tell you that stability helps our government. And when you work together seven days a week, eight, nine, ten days, ten hours a day, you are a family, you really are. And that's everyone here. And I couldn't be more proud of the things that we've accomplished. You know, we help a lot of communities improve their quality of life.

We literally save people's lives, and we make it better. And I find that very rewarding, but I think

that's what everyone does here. That's what we do in this government.

All of you and everyone that's listening, the joy of public service is helping people. And that's what we do, and I find it so rewarding. I also want to thank County Council past and present, elected officials and staff, Ken, Jared, Sarah, Jordan. I believe the manager's office is that bridge between the legislative branch and executive branch. I believe the relationship that we've had has really, really solid, and all of you have been so respectful to me. And we communicated a lot, almost daily, and I mean every day, day and night. It was mutual respect. I really respect the work that you do. This is a new form of government and I think it works. I really do. I think it works - I think it really works very well. And so your recognition to me tonight means so much to me, so I want to thank you.

And you know, Rich talked about my family and I was offered this job and I talked to Francine, and you see the boys here - we were - this is about 11 years ago, and they were a lot smaller. They were actually smaller than I was at that time. We went out to dinner and Francine says, daddy's going to have this really busy job. It was busier than we thought. Thank you for letting me do something that I love and you really should recognize her for letting me do something.

But lastly, I really want to talk about how important is it really is important. I mean, all branches, executive, legislative, consulate, courts, row offices. I work for municipalities, I've been government for over 30 years. I work for municipalities, school districts. And I've seen what they do. They do terrific job. I'm very well aware of what state government brings, federal government brings. I'll tell you, business government, we do better than anybody. We're positioned to help people more than anybody. I'm telling you, I'm very qualified to tell you that. We do core to core public services, you know, really better than anybody. We actually have life changes things, and people criticize government, and I get it. We deserve it. Sometimes. I'll tell you, when they're in trouble, they turn here, they turn to us, and then we deliver. We all saw it during COVID. You know, we answered the belt. Our employees took care of our government, and they also helped all of our citizens that needed that. And so we

safeguarded our people, the people around us. I think we did better than anyone in the country. The only thing that I'm asking is, please don't forget how important the role that you all play in this government. For me to be part of that government, protect people against quality of life, is one of the greatest privileges I've ever had. Very blessed, and it's been an honor. Thank you.

MS. KIRK: If you will, just for a minute. Will, you've given your heart and soul to this kind. It's only appropriate that we give them a piece of the county back. This was on the roof of this building for 130 years. This roof slate. We replaced the roof late 2020. We did scrub it up hard, but you can see it's the original. It's 130 years old, and it just says William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager 8/1/12 to 2/3 of '23 with the seal of the County and then a picture of the courthouse so you never forget us, ever. You made the county a better place, so I'll keep it simple.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Before we do pictures, does anyone want to say anything? Councilman Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Willie, so, you know, I am incredibly lucky that I represent the district that you live in. I always say my favorite McKain first was Bryce, since I met him first. I was lucky to have both you and former Solicitor Szefi, now Judge Szefi, both live in my district. And I met you two very early on and was incredibly lucky to be able to learn from the two of you. But honestly, Willie, people ask me all the time, you know, who runs the county? How does Rich do? And I say, well, Rich doesn't run the county, Willie McKain does. I am so grateful to have been surrounded in my early career with such dedicated public servants around the campaigns I've worked on and serving on this body, and right at the top of that list is you. I mean, you are the embodiment of what public service truly is, someone who's behind the scenes, who never asks for thanks, who puts his heart and soul and every ounce of himself into making this county and this region a better place.

And we are all - all of us, myself, who grew up in this region, who our region is growing again because of the work that you have done and this administration has done to help shift that change and that outlook. And you know, I hope, you know, how grateful I am and for the tens of thousands of people who never will meet you. I hope you have impacted their lives in such a significant way by

the work you have done. And wherever you go from here - obviously I'm super happy with your new position, but you will always, Willie, have a mark on this county and on this government. I'm very happy to represent you on county Council. I'm very happy to have worked alongside you and to have someone else in my life to look up to as I try to model my public service after some of the best people I know. So thank you very much, Willie.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Willie, I want to thank you so much. Being here almost 16 years. My first four years, I watched this county go backwards. In the last 12 years, I've seen it go forward in a way I've never seen before with this administration. And the innovative things that I've seen websites and even the documentaries of what goes on in this county, I'm sure we had something to do with. And you are always there for me. Anytime I called you, emailed you, texted you, you always answered me, you always gave me the answer. I just want to thank you for that. Thank you so much.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Demarco?

MR. DEMARCO: What I want to tell you that the seven plus years I've been on County Council, working with you has been one of the greatest and most distinct honors and pleasures for all of my constituents out there. Anything that I did on your behalf, the help that I gave you, was done because of Mr. McKain. He has an incredible work ethic. I would get texts at six o'clock in the morning and I would still see him here at 7:30, at eight o'clock at night. For folks who wonder how hard people work as public servants, there's not a harder worker out there than Willie McKain. I can't tell you what a distinct honor and pleasure it's been to get to know you and to work with you, and I wish you and your family the very best in the future, my friend. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Walton.

MR. WALTON: Willie, it has been a privilege and an honor for me to work with you. I clearly understand the sacrifices that your family has made in order to allow you to do the things that you do with integrity, with the sincerity and the accountability, and most importantly, the success that you've been able to generate. Thank you, Francine, Bryce and Connor, for giving up the old man, because again, we live in a better community as a result of the things that you've given up.

To Willie, hey, man, you've been a friend, you've been an ally. You look for solutions to problems that people that I represent have been confronted with, people that I work with have had challenges that they've made. And some of the things that will go unsaid tonight that you know and I know you've done. Thank you.

And the great thing is, as I said, I don't have to come all the way up to Grant Street now. I can just look out my window and throw a rock and say, Willie. Thank you. Congratulations. Let's move forward, brother.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Macey.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. I can truly say that this old guy, I really appreciate our friendship. Willie is such a humble guy. Just this little guy is steel worker from the Mon Valley always had Willie's ear. He would come out of meetings because he knew whatever I was doing was really important and that Willie just wanted to hear any - he was concerned about what I had to say.

Willie is a true, true public servant. Don't anybody ever call him a politician because he serves, he's not a politician. Thank you, Willie. It's an honor to be your friend.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmosina.

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you, Mr. President. I could probably sit here and go on and on with all the things you have done for this county, but seeing the raw emotion just shows how much you care. As good of a worker you are, I think you're a better husband and a better father. So we're going to miss you. You will never be replaced. I've been here my second term and you were always a phone call away from me. I never thought about you as always nothing but a friend. So I wish you and your family - they're lucky to have you. But don't change your phone number.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilor Klein.

MR. KLEIN: Thank you, Mr. President, members of Council. When I joined County Council seven years ago, I think one of the first people I met was Willie McKain. And I've never recovered. I've never recovered because he set the bar as high as it could be set in terms of what you could expect from a public servant. Willie is a consummate public servant, a true professional who did his work for this county with pride and with purpose, and perhaps most importantly, with a true sense of decency. I

feel very fortunate to have had the opportunity to work with him. He is really the gold standard when it comes to public service. Our loss is truly the gain of the Allegheny Conference. In many respects, I think about Willie as a man for all seasons. He was always ready to meet any contingency, any challenge that came this way, and to discharge his duties, his responsibilities in this county in a way that - well, every day he really measured up and he was committed, I think, to serving the truth and not opinion.

So Willie, I will miss you. I miss you right now. Thank you very much for what you've done.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Anyone else? Last but not least. Thank you, Willie. Words cannot express. You were there on day one for me, and I hate to see you leave now. You've always been there. You've been a true gentleman. You're the type of guy that, no matter how hard we would argue back and forth about different things, you and I could still go out after 5:00 for that beer. So thank you, Mr. McKain, for all of your service and years to Allegheny County you deserve the best. Thank you.

(Photographs were taken)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Now we'll go on to 12619-23.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the month of March as National Kidney Month and March 9th as World Kidney Day, sponsored by Council Member Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: What a wonderful day we're having. Lots of good people in this county. I'm sure we cannot deny that. So today I have the privilege and honor to present the National Kidney Month and World Day Proclamation. We have some guests with us today that we would like to present. Holly Turkovic is the senior manager of community outreach at the National Kidney Foundation. Jamie Greenwald is here, and she's the director of development at the National Kidney Foundation. Phil Petraglia and his wife Jenny are also here.

Phil is a CPA and has had a long career as a financial executive. He's a prolific volunteer. Obviously, he volunteers his time with the National Kidney Foundation, but he also volunteers time with the River City Brass Band, his Presbyterian church, and his alma mater, Westminster College. Phil undoubtedly attributes his ability to participate in so many work well programs to his life saving kidney transplant that he had in 2007, and the donor for that transplant was his wife Jennie.

We also have another guest today. It's Cindy Kirk. As luck would have it. She's here and she's my friend, and she's a former member of Council, but the member who normally presented this proclamation. Yes. So at this point, I'm going to make an effort to channel the indomitable force of Cindy Kirk and present this in a way that I think she would approve of by reminding all of you that hey, did. You know that the National Kidney Foundation is a leading patient centric organization in the United States dedicated to the awareness and prevention and treatment of kidney disease and is calling on all Americans to take care of their kidneys and participate in raising awareness about kidney disease.

In her style of caring for all of our health and wellness or the health and wellness of the people that she loves, she would also remind you that there's seven golden rules of kidney disease and prevention. One, you get regular checkups. Two, you control your blood pressure. Three, you manage your blood sugar. Four, you eat a healthy diet. Five, you exercise. Six, you quit smoking. And seven, you don't ever use pain meds. Right. Some straight talking.

MS. KIRK: And be happy. Good mental health.

MS. FILIAGGI: Absolutely. So getting to some of the meat of the proclamation. Whereas there is an estimated 37 million adults in the United States with kidney disease, and one in three adults in the United States are at risk, 660,000 people live with kidney failure, and 100,000 people are waiting for a kidney transplant. Whereas most people are unaware that the risks for kidney disease include diabetes, heart disease, high blood pressure, obesity, and family history, with diabetes being the leading cause of kidney disease. Whereas to generate awareness for the chronic disease the month of March is now National Kidney Month, and March 9 is World Kidney Day, whereas across the globe, events will take place and have taken place for World Kidney Day and this year, the National Kidney Foundation staff was at the Pittsburgh City County Building to assemble for drive for dialysis care packages for patients on dialysis.

Whereas, in celebration of National Kidney Month, the National Kidney Foundation would like to recognize Phil Petraglia as he celebrates his birthday today on March 21st. Mr. Petraglia is a kidney transplant recipient who received his transplant in January of 2007.

And because of his kidney transplant, Mr. Petraglia has been able to travel and celebrate many more birthdays.

So now, therefore, be it resolved that the members of Allegheny County Council do hereby declare March to be National Kidney Month and March 9th to be World Kidney Day in Allegheny County. And we recognize the National Kidney Foundation for its continued efforts to fight this epidemic and build a brighter future for the families of Allegheny County. Thank you very much. We'd like to have Mr. Petraglia come up and tell us some of his story.

MR. PETRAGLIA: Well, thank you. It is truly an honor to be here. She didn't mention is one of my volunteer activities, too, is I volunteered to be the president of my HOA board, and I'm retired. People ask me, why did you do that? What's that like? And maybe you all can kind of relate. I always tell people it's like being on the school board, except without the praise and glory.

My story is, back in 1996, I was diagnosed with a hereditary disease called polycystic kidney disease. It's a disease in which cysts begin to form on both kidneys and eventually destroys your kidneys to the point where you have no kidney function. Patients who have this disease, it's one of many kidney disease. Sometimes their kidneys get so large, their kidneys become the size of watermelons. Now, fortunately, I didn't get to that point, but I visited a surgeon, and shortly after I was diagnosed, and he said, well, you'll probably need a kidney transplant come back and see me when you transplant. And so I went home.

Fast forward about ten years, my disease progressed. Fortunately, I did hook up with a nephrologist who tried to help me, but, you know, it was a foregone conclusion that I was going to need a kidney transplant. Before me and joining me up here today is a woman who on June 30th, 1990, gave her heart to me in front of a church. On January 22nd, 2007, we were wheeled side into side by side operating rooms and they took one of her kidneys and put inside me. And I tell people not many people get to go to sleep every night with their hero, but I do.

You covered a lot of the information about kidney disease. One in three people are at risk. One in seven have chronic kidney disease. The really sad thing

is that 90 percent of those people don't even know they have it. The problem with kidney disease is by the time you begin to show symptoms, it's too late. You can still function until your kidneys get down to maybe 15 percent. But by the time you begin to show symptoms of that, you've lost the opportunity to take any preventive actions. And so that's one of the things that the National Kidney Foundation is all about, because really, that's why I'm here today.

It's not about my story, but it's to kind of educate people, including the people in the audience here. She mentioned about the number of people that need transplants, a hundred thousand people. That's enough to fill up Heinz Field, Acrisure Stadium and PNC Park, all waiting for a transplant. Every day 17 of those people will die just because there's not enough kidneys. For that, the National Kidney Foundation came up with a program called the Big Ass, Big Give. And that's a program where people who are in need of a kidney, the Kidney Foundation trains them how to be an advocate for yourself, but how to go about finding a potential living donor.

Let's talk about dialysis. Dialysis costs an individual about \$75,000 a year or more. Fortunately, Medicare covers a large portion of that. The total cost to Medicare is \$8 to \$9 billion a year just for dialysis. Total cost spent by Medicare for all kidney patients is \$130 billion a year. If we can get to the point where we're helping people before they progress to that point, the savings are just enormous. Another program that Kidney Foundation has is a lot of these people have no transportation to even get to dialysis, so they have a program that provides transportation for those who don't have available transportation to get to their dialysis treatments.

Another program is they have a program called Your Kidneys and You, in which they educate the public what your kidneys are, how they work, how important they are, and what some of the risk factors are and preventive steps that you can take so that you don't become one of those 100,000 people that need a transplant.

They also take - undertake advocacy efforts. They're always encouraging Congress to increase dollars to prevent end stage renal disease and result. The subsequent cost of dialysis and treatment. They encourage

Congress to pass the Living Donor Protection Act, which is an Act which protects living donors, and it protects the individuals who donate a kidney, protects them from losing their job, it protects them from being discriminated against when they go to apply for insurance. It gives them extended FMLA leave, among other things.

So in closing, what can you do? Nobody likes to think about their mortality, but an individual can potentially be a donor to eight individuals. You know, eyes, kidneys, heart, lungs, bowels, the list goes on. They're now doing full face transplants, incredibly enough. While nobody likes to think about their time ending here on Earth, if it's yourself or if it's your son or daughter, if it's your grandchild, and they're in need of any transplant, would you like to thank somebody who passed on, made that decision for your loved one.

I tell people that anybody who is an organ donor, it's the greatest gift you can live, because it's a gift not only to the recipient, it's a gift to whoever loves that recipient, whoever cares about that recipient. You're not gifting to just one individual. Once again, and listen up. The risk factors are diabetics, high blood pressure, fewer family history of kidney failure 60 or older, which being today is my birthday, I now qualify. Obesity, heart disease and the minority population. Blacks have a four times greater chance than the white population of progressing end stage renal disease. Why? I could take the rest of the evening. There are so many socioeconomic factors and all, but there's a four time greater risk.

So the Kidney Foundation came up with this program called are you the 33 percent? Are you the 33 percent that's at risk of developing kidney disease and potentially end stage renal failure.

So the best thing you can do for yourself, for your loved one, is encourage your doctors to do screenings. And screening is simply a blood and maybe a urine test. From that, they can tell your kidney function and whether you need to take some progressive action. Thank you on behalf of the National Kidney Foundation, of the Alleghenies their hardworking staff, and the 37 million people that are suffering from chronic kidney disease. I'll leave you with these last six words. Get tested. Get tested. Get tested. Thank you.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: We have one proclamation that was originally going to be read into the record, but I believe it will not be presented. 12622-23.

MR. BARKER: A certificate recognizing Katelyn J. Miller for her dedicated service to guiding youth in her community, sponsored by Council Member Palmosina.

MR. PALMOSINA: Thank you all very much. This will be a lot faster than the last hour, I can promise you that.

So over the last 30 --- I guess, 32 years, I started a program called the Little Dribbler's Program out in my neighborhood, for in the West End area for children. At first it was from third grade to fourth grade. Now the kids are so advanced. This year we had children from three years old to nine years old, which is hard to believe, but ---.

A year ago, an eighth grader, Katelyn, came to me and says, I'd like to help you out, and I'm thinking, yeah, she'll come in one Saturday and I'll never see her again. I don't think in two years she ever missed a Saturday morning. Now, they're long days. We get there by 7:00, the parents come in - this year we had 48 kids. So we had an 8:00 a.m. session, and we had a 9:00 a.m. - 8:00 a.m. and a 9:00 a.m., so they were long days, and Katelyn never missed. That's the kind of girl she is. She's a freshman at OLSH, and I am thinking of big things for her. She's very confident. She's great with the kids. She's a mentor. I grew up with her - with Bob, her dad, who's a policeman and who I respect very much.

I'll read this and I'll let you take it over because I know you're excited to talk. A certificate recognition award to Katelyn J. Miller. Allegheny County Council was pleased to present this certificate to Katelyn J. Miller in recognition of her commitment and dedication. Her Saturdays over the last couple of years coaching and mentoring the younger players of St. Raphael's and Greentree. Katelyn is a freshman at Our Lady of Sacred Heart High School, and is a member of the girls cross country team. This council acknowledges Katelyn for her dedicated service to guiding youth and her community.

She serves as an inspiration to this council and the citizens of Allegheny County. Congratulations, Katelyn.

MS. MILLER: Thank you. Well, thank you, Coach Bob. Hello. My name is Katelyn Miller, and I'm a

freshman at OLSH Coraopolis. I'm a member of the track and cross country team. I've been helping out Councilman Palmosina, aka Coach Bob, for two years now. To give you a little information on what I've been doing these past two years with him is showing up to my grade school Guardian Angel Academy, every Saturday to help young kids play basketball. I help Coach Bob set up drills, and help keep all the kids in their lines. My first year coaching, I guess you could have considered me a rookie. I was kind of just learning as went along. I knew I had it in me to be a better coach that was more experienced. I've learned so much at OLSH this year already, even though I'm just a freshman.

During cross country season, I had two amazing coaches, coach Hamilton and Coach Reese. They taught me everything I needed to know about being a better runner, but they even taught me how to be a better coach. They showed me how important it was to spend that extra time with someone to make them better. I can remember vividly all the times they pulled me aside and show me the proper running form to become faster. If they're watching this meeting right now or later, just know I think I mastered the running form. Every time I run, I remember to get my wrists in my hips. Anyway, I knew I could always count on them. I want those kids to have the same experience I had with Coach Hamilton and Coach Reese.

I felt like the kids this year at this basketball program knew they could always count on me. I'd spend that extra time with them to make sure they understood what they were doing. Not only could they count on me, but they could always count on Coach Ball. I knew that I could always count on him, too. He has done so much for me, whether that's signing off on service hour forms or writing letters of recommendations. My favorite memories are when we began to debates on whether OLSH or Canaman was better at all the basketball practices. Let's just say neither of us won those.

I love how relatable Coach Bob was. He'd do anything for you and his community. To me, he is a role model. I wouldn't be surprised if I get into a county council wherever I end up when I'm older. I absolutely love what Coach Bob does.

Since I go to a Catholic high school, I figured I should add some words of wisdom from a Bible. For it is God who works in youth to will and to act in order to

fulfill his good purpose, Philippians 2:13. I truly believe that everyone's put on this world to do good. I want to thank my family, friends, and OLSH for truly recognizing how much work I put into this program. Last, but certainly not least, I want to thank you, Coach Bob, for everything you've done for me. Especially for this proclamation, which is such an honor. I always knew I had someone that believed in me and appreciated my work ethic. I plan on helping you out for years to come. By the way, Coach Bob, go OLSH. Thank you.

(Photographs were taken.)

PRESIDENT CATENA: The remaining proclamations will be read into the record. 12621-23.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing March 18, 2023 as National Public Defenders Day in Allegheny County and across the Commonwealth, sponsored by Councilmember Hallam.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12623-23.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing Dan Giebel for his contributions to the Township of Reserve, sponsored by Councilmember Prizio.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12624-23.

MR. BARKER: A proclamation recognizing the 50th annual conference of the Association for Business Stimulation and Experiential Learning sponsored by Council Member Klein.

MS. BENNETT: Excuse me, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You would like to be added.

MS. BENNETT: Please, to the PD National Public Defenders Day proclamation.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Public Defenders.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

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

MR. BARKER: We have several. First up is Zachary Barber.

MR. BARBER: Hello, everybody. Thank you for the opportunity to speak. My name is Zachary Barber. I'm a clean air advocate with Penn Environment. I'm a resident here in Allegheny County. Penn Environment is a statewide people powered environmental advocacy group working for clean air, clean water and open spaces. I'm going to talk to you about that first one, clean air.

So as you may have heard, unfortunately, Allegheny County has some of the dirtiest air in the

entire country and a lot of it comes from industrial pollution, which the Allegheny County Health Department has the Cleaner Act authority to regulate and to clean up. The EPA has proposed lowering the acceptable standards for soot pollution in our air. One reason why I hope you will support the resolution here tonight, encouraging the EPA to move forward with those regulations is that will make life easier for the Allegheny County Health Department and for us here in the county.

Since we --- as we've heard, the county has been afraid to go beyond the existing standards or feel a fear of what would happen if they got challenged in court. They frequently said that they need the federal government to go further. Now the federal government is going further. I hope we all can stand together in support of this. Soot pollution is tiny microscopic particles of industrial pollution that can go deep into our body, gets past our nose and into our blood. It's linked to cancer, asthma, premature health, death, other health problems. Since we have high levels of it here in Allegheny County, our region would be a place that would see healthier lives, longer lives as a result of lowering the standard. And once again, this is something that federal government is going to do and we just need to help them do it. I know we're all in support of letting someone else be the bad guy. So this is an opportunity for the county to not have to be the bad guy here and get the little help here from the EPA. I hope you will support the resolution tonight. Thank you, Councilman Klein, for sponsoring this, and I'm sure we will hear more about this. I will give the rest of my time.

MR. BARKER: Next is Matthew Mehalik.

MR. MEHALIK: Hi there. I'm Matt Mehalik. I am the director of the Breathe project. Thank you for letting me speak this evening. How did you all enjoy this beautiful spring morning? It was beautiful in every respect, except for air quality, especially in the Mon Valley.

At 12:38 a.m., there was a spike in air pollution propelling the Liberty monitor to read an air quality of index of 124 for fine particles, making it the number two worst monitor in the US. By 2:31 a.m., the situation got worse. It jumped to 162, red unhealthy for everyone and ranked number one worst in the country. That remained in the red all morning, reaching a reading of 170

at 9:31 a.m. Why this spike? All evidence points to the Clairton Coke Works. We know this because the rapid rise in pollution means it comes from a large source.

Many residents in the Mon Valley, particularly around Clairton submitted geocoded smell reports through the Smell Pittsburgh app.

I wish this were an isolated incident. It's not. Our county has appeared as number one on this worst list over 10 percent of all days in 2023 and 2022. It's in the top 10, about About 40 percent of all days from 2022. The most important thing this institutional body can do, and what each county council member can do, is send in comments to the U.S. EPA by March 28 demanding that the agency improve its annual average, fine particles and soot standard so that it can be set to eight micrograms per cubic meter. This will protect public health better than keeping it at 12 or even the suggested nine to ten level.

More importantly, and this is something that I didn't see in the resolution, you should include in your comments a demand to improve the 24 hour standard so that it's set to 25 micrograms per cubic meter, and make the standard a 24-hour rolling average instead of a midnight to midnight standard. It's currently set to 35 micrograms per cubic meter.

It's reasonable to risk our region's poor cancer statistics where we're in the top one percent of counties for point source air pollution, as well as many voices heard in the Mon Valley about family and community disruptions to these ongoing acute air pollution episodes. The situation needs to stop.

There's one other thing I'd also like Council to do. Please consider calling for an independent, transparent audit of the Health Department, because of recent budget issues coming to light that do not make sense. Why is the county manager running air quality meetings, subcommittee meetings at the Health Department?

Going back to the standard, you all have a chance to save thousands of lives, reduce burdens on vulnerable people, and take action that makes everyone proud of our county by embracing these improvements.

Thank you very much for your action tonight.

MR. BARKER: Next is Lori Davidson.

MS. DAVISON: Ditto on the science of what both of those guys just said. I'm here to thank you for

supporting the EPA adopting higher standards for air quality. And just to make it a little more personal, I serve the children of Allegheny County for 33 years now as a public servant, and I work mostly in Mon Valley. My reactive airway condition has gotten progressively worse for 30 of those 33 years now, to the point that I needed to take this year off because getting up and down the stairs is too difficult. No one else in my family has asthma, they all live in other cities with clean air. It impacts us. It makes me really sad that the minute I retire, I got to get out of here because the air is unsafe for me to live here. I appreciate all that you can do for the younger generation so that my children don't have to grow up in the air that I experienced as most of my adult life here.

So thank you for supporting what the EPA is doing and trying to make it - what he said make an eight instead of nine to ten that would be even better. Thank you.

MR. BARKER: Next is Joy Braunstein.

MS. BRAUNSTEIN: Hi, my name is Joy Braunstein. I work with Clean Water Action. I'm a resident of the east end of Allegheny County, Squirrel Hill, specifically. I have two small children that live in that neighborhood, and there's a lot of mornings - I've said this before in front of you. There's a lot of mornings I open up my door to let my dogs out and think, oh my gosh, we're in another very bad air day. Like, why on earth do we have to deal with this constantly?

You've heard from us repeatedly over the last couple of months about this issue. I cannot tell you how grateful I am that you're actually bringing to your colleagues, Councilman Klein, and Council Prizio, the vote tonight to support the EPA's movement on this, to change our air standards. I strongly believe that doing this and the voices that are going to come from other elected officials and the voices of the public in Allegheny County will get the EPA to make this change and that that will change our air for the better.

We'll get the EPA to make this change, and that that will we don't have these episodes, so that we don't have children in the hospital, so that we don't have people dying of very, very preventable disease on a day when my phone rings three times in the same day to change the air quality expectations. It's not working right.

Thank you for doing the right thing. Please do move it down to eight. And please specifically put into your will of council a change on both the daily and the annual standard that will be the absolute most important thing that this body can do for the health of our community this year. Thank you.

MR. BARKER: Last on agenda topics is Jay Walker.

MR. WALKER: Good evening. My name is Jason Walker, and I'm an outreach coordinator with Clean Air Council, a nonprofit environmental health organization with offices in Philadelphia and Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. The Council has been working to protect everyone's right to a healthy environment for over 50 years. The council is approximately 35,000 members, including many in Allegheny County.

Today, Allegheny County Council will be voting on Motion 12633-23 to urge the Environmental Protection Agency, EPA, to lower its annual average standard for particular matter 2.5. These particles are so small that they can directly enter the bloodstream. The residents I personally work with in Clairton, Pennsylvania and surrounding communities through the organization Valley Cleaner, now speak consistently about the cumulative health impacts of PM 2.5 from living in the area. Clairton, Pennsylvania hosts the Clairton Coke Works facility, a major PM 2.5 emitter.

The motion currently urges the EPA to lower the annual average from 12 micrograms per cubic meter to nine to ten micrograms per cubic meter. Cleaner Council requests an amendment to the motion - requested an amendment to the motion, instead urging the EPA to lower the annual average standard to eight micrograms per cubic meter. We additionally ask for the council to further urge EPA to lower the average 24 hour standard from 35 micrograms per cubic meter to 25 micrograms per cubic meter to lessen the suffering of the residents who are sickened from short term PM 2.5 spikes.

That these lower limits are necessary to protect the health of Allegheny County's residents is backed by - backed up by the experience of residents. The data presented in EPA's Integrated Science Assessment ISA report, the recommendations of the 2022 Clean Air Scientific Advisory Committee of the EPA KSAT, and the

recent guidelines presented by the World Health Organization.

An annual standard average of at least - at most eight micrograms per cubic meter is also supported by many of our county, state and federal environmental organizations. A PM 2.5 standard of eight micrograms per cubic meter would have prevented deaths and health conditions that have directly impacted residents, their family, and their friends today. The data in the ISA report shows a linear relationship between mortality and PM 2.5 concentrations. The lower the standard value, the more public health will be protected. For every one microgram per cubic meter, the annual average is lowered, 10,000 U.S. lives per year will be saved.

An annual average standard of eight micrograms per cubic meter, as opposed to a standard of nine to ten micrograms per cubic meter, would save 10 to 20,000 lives, based on the best science available. In addition, the 2021 World Health Organization guidelines on PM 2.5 recommends a PM 2.5 level as low as five micrograms of cubic meter to prevent harmful human health impacts.

Lastly, please consider urging EPA to measure the 24 hour average as a rolling average instead of measuring it from midnight to midnight. Residents often experience overnight spikes, which are not considered because they are split across two days. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you.

MR. BARKER: That's it.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll move on to approval of minutes. 12612-23.

MR. BARKER: A motion to approve the minutes of the December 6, 2022 regular meeting of Council.

MS. BENNETT: Mr. President, I have a question. Are we normally this far behind on our minutes? I've been seeing emails asking for minutes, and I just wanted to know the general information is this typically how far behind we are? Is that a yes?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yeah.

MS. BENNETT: Okay. Thank you.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Did you make a motion?

MS. BENNETT: I did make a motion, yes.

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.

Presentation of appointments. All the presented appointments are referred to the Committee on Appointment Review. If there are no objections, I'd like the clerk to read them all now. Hearing no objection go ahead.

MR. BARKER: 12614-23 approving the appointment of James Kuhn to the Friends of the Park for Boyce Park for a term to expire on March 30th, 2026, sponsored by Councilmember Naccarati-Chapkis.

12615-23, approving the appointment of Phyllis J. Anderson to the Allegheny County Conservation District Board for a term to expire on December 31st, 2026, sponsored by the Chief Executive. 126-1623, approving the appointment of Kellie Ware, Esquire, the Human Relations Commission of Allegheny County for a term to expire on December 31, 2026, sponsored by the Chief Executive. 12617-23 approving the appointment of Alan Shepard to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees returned to expire on April 23, 2027, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

And 12618-23 approving the appointment of Timothy E. Chesleigh to the Community College of Allegheny County Board of Trustees for a term to expire on December 31st, 2027, also sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Unfinished business. Committee on Public Safety for the second reading.

MR. BARKER: Bill Number 12578-23 an ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Section 1007.11 of the County Administrative Code, codified in Chapter 5 of the County Code of Ordinances as Article 1007.11, to provide for an exclusion from the residency requirement for County employment for Allegheny County Jail staff within the Allegheny County Bureau of Corrections, sponsored by Councilmembers Hallam, Bennett, Macey, Futules and Catena.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Bennett.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you, Mr. President. The Committee on Public Safety met on March 15th and affirmatively recommended this ordinance. So I move to move a motion. Make a motion.

MS. HALLAM: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Any discussion? Hearing no discussion, roll call vote, please, Jared?

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve, Ms. Bennett?

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

MR. BARKER: Ayes 13, with two members not present. The Bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12610-23.

MR. BARKER: A motion of the Council of Allegheny County requesting the performance of historical overview of former Shuman Juvenile Detention Center formation of the Juvenile Justice Study Group and a full, transparent overview of current needs of the county's juvenile justice system within the context of the juvenile detention facility prior to any final determination regarding the use of the former Shuman Center site, sponsored by Councilmembers Catena, Palmosina, Naccarati-Chapkis, Bennett and Klein.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I believe we have amendments to the bill to consider. First, I'll need a motion to approve and second discussion.

MS. BENNETT: So moved.

MR. BETKOWSKI: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: We met again on March 15 and this was returned without recommendation, so that motion has already been made.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes. I'd like to introduce Walton One. Amendment Walton One.

MR. DUERR: I'll second that.

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

MS. BENNETT: Mr. President, I had a comment. I just want clarification. So we're going from seven members to eleven members in this proposal?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MS. BENNETT: Thank you.

MS. HALLAM: Yeah, I have a question, comment, I guess, if anyone wants to answer it. I'm just wondering specifically about the whereas clauses that were taken out. It seems that this amendment includes taking out any history of cited violations, investigations and licensure issues since at least 2008. It takes out that whole paragraph and takes out lines about the burden borne by juvenile centers and their families, and I'm just wondering if someone who is either sponsoring this amendment or supportive of it can talk about why they thought it was necessary to remove those historical data points from this.

MR. WALTON: Simply from my perspective, simply put, the history is - the history is the history and it's factual and it serves no useful purpose. It serves no useful purpose to raise those superfluous kinds of issues. You may have a different opinion, but again, the amendment is designed to resolve the challenges that we're confronted with and not make accusations. Some of them are matters of interpretation. The citations themselves by the state are factual. Those opinions are opinions.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any other discussion?

MR. DEMARCO: I would just like to say, just looking at that first whereas clause, I believe my colleague was referring to when they were talking about the violations and things like that, it was also further statements where it said, well, the county did not undertake those remedial actions. I mean, we don't know all what the county did or did not try to do before the permit was finally revoked by the state. So to have that in there, I don't think just makes sense. I would agree with Councilman Walton on that particular point there.

And then, also looking here at the second - well, actually this is the page two, I guess, third whereas where he strikes the sudden permanent closure. I mean, I don't believe the adjectives are necessarily helpful. The closure of the Shuman Center. We all know what that's done, is why it's in the news today. That's why we're taking up a study group creating that. So I think striking, that was appropriate. Thank you, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes. Any other comments? Hearing none. Jared, please take a roll call vote on the amendment.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to adopt the amendment Walton One, Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT:	No.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Futules?
	Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM:	No.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Macey?
	Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS:	No.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE:	Yes.
MR. BARKER:	Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA:	No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: No.

MR. BARKER: Ayes seven, nays six with two members not present. The amendment fails.

MR. WALTON: Does the language of Council mandate a majority vote?

MR. BARKER: I'll double check the roll.

MR. WALTON: Members are present and vote.

MR. BARKER: I'm looking. It's a we have a plurality members present and voted office.

ATTORNEY FRANK: The rules of Council provide that motions, ordinances and resolutions may be amended by affirmative vote with the majority of the seated members of Council when they're all present at the meeting.

MR. WALTON: So we have a full rally, seven to six.

ATTORNEY FRANK: It's been approved.

MR. WALTON: Thank you. No, it says the majority of votes - the language says that the majority of those seated. There's 13 seated.

(OFF RECORD DISCUSSION)

PRESIDENT CATENA: Well, hold on, let's the solicitor talk. We're going to just take a five-minute recess so they can look into this.

MR. WALTON: And I like to --- I'd like the county solicitor involved in that conversations as well. You can't - okay.

(SHORT BREAK TAKEN)

PRESIDENT CATENA: We'll go back in session.

ATTORNEY FRANK: I just read the provision on amendments. The affirmative votes of the seated members, which is the number of members we have elected to council. So we would have needed a majority of the elected members. The distinction in the amendment provision, that amendments approved by a majority of members present of a committee to which its amendment is presented. That is members present.

For a general amendment, it has to be a majority of the council present.

MR. WALTON: So what are you trying to me, that we got the majority vote. The amendment go the majority

vote, and you're telling me you're rejecting - that you're attempting to reject it?

ATTORNEY WALTON: Yes, I'm telling you we're rejecting it.

MR. WALTON: I challenge the decision of the chair. If your decision is to accept the solicitor's position, I challenge the decision of the chair.

ATTORNEY FRANK: That's my ruling.

MR. WALTON: And that's why we should fire him.

ATTORNEY FRANK: Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That's out of order.

MR. WALTON: True.

PRESIDENT CATENA: At this point in time, based upon the Solicitor's advice - I'm accepting the Solicitor's advice and if you wish - I mean, you appeal the ruling of the chair, so be it. Does anyone want to -?

MR. DEMARCO: I'll appeal it as well then.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So let's just do a simple roll call vote.

MR. WALTON: For what? Mr. President, for what purpose is your effort to generate a roll call vote?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Just to say to appeal the ruling of the chair?

ATTORNEY FRANK: You have to have a vote on the ruling to appeal the chair.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yeah.

MR. WALTON: If I remember correctly - and again, I have no authority, but the only choice that is in front of us is you seize your seat to the next ranking officer and then a vote is taken.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Paul, would you please do that?

MR. WALTON: Am I correct?

MS. HALLAM: Can I have a point of personal privilege here?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Go ahead.

MS. HALLAM: I just have a question. What is up for debate? That seated - is the challenge that seated doesn't mean seated, it means present, even though the other provision about amending a committee clearly defines a difference between present and seated?

So we have - and I think - are you quoting the county code when we're talking about the majority of the seated members?

ATTORNEY FRANK: The rules of council.

MS. HALLAM: The rules of council. Right. So the rules of council talk about we need a majority of the seated members. Another provision talks about in committee, you need a majority of the present members, so we clearly see that there's two different terminologies that mean two different things, so are you challenging that there's a difference? I'm just trying to understand. My understanding is if there was a vacancy on council, there would be 14 seated members. That seated is different than present and different than voting members.

MR. DUERR: Can I also make a comment?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Sure.

MR. DUERR: We are having this argument over a non binding motion of council. I just want to once again ground everyone in that.

MS. HALLAM: Well, it's important to follow the rules also.

MR. DUERR: Yeah, yeah, yeah. But still, it has been a proclamation filled day. I want to make sure we're doing things correctly on this. Once again, grounding us in the fact that this is a non-binding motion of council and there are bigger fish to fry. So you know - yeah, that's it. I'm just throwing it out there.

PRESIDENT CATENA: I mean, at this point the chair has been - I mean, we need to take a vote. Someone needs to take the vote. Someone.

Sam, would you authorize the vote?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmiere, would you authorize the vote to appeal the ruling of the -.

MR. PALMIERE: I'll second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Did you hear that Councilman Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: I heard that.

ATTORNEY FRANK: They're appealing his ruling.

MR. PALMIERE: Hold on. Mr. President, everybody's talking at one time. What the hell are we voting on?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Palmiere, we're basically voting on - Dewitt is saying - Councilman Walton is saying - I've accepted the ruling of our solicitor on the grounds that what he is saying, basically, as the seated members means all of council and Councilman Walton is challenging that, because I've accepted that as fact from our Solicitor. So he's appealing the ruling on the

chair to say I'm wrong, and that we shouldn't do that. So that's what the vote needs to be on, that I'm wrong and he's appealing that obviously, because I've accepted the decision of the Solicitor. Does that makes sense?

MR. PALMIERE: So a yes vote means we're supporting the chair, and the no vote means we're Mr. Walton?

PRESIDENT CATENA: The opposite.

ATTORNEY FRANK: A no vote means that you're accepting the ruling of the chair.

MR. PALMIERE: A no vote means it - okay.

ATTORNEY FRANK: A yes vote, you're overruling the chair.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So would you call - ask Jared to do that, take the roll.

MR. PALMIERE: There's been a motion to overrule the Chair's ruling, which accepted my ruling on whether the number needed for the amendment, if you vote in favor of that motion, you are voting to overrule the Chair's ruling, and if you vote against it, you're supporting the chair's ruling.

MS. FILIAGGI: Interpretation, the Chair's interpretation, and the solicitor interpretation that as to what seated actually means, present or elected.

MR. PALMIERE: Right.

MS. HALLAM: No means you agree with the president and the solicitor, yes means you don't. You're welcome.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay.

MR. WALTON: That's the reverse.

MS. BENNETT: No, it's not.

MS. HALLAM: No means no to overrule. It means you agree with the solicitor and the president. Yes means you disagree with the solicitor and the president and you would like to overrule.

PRESIDENT CATENA: True?

ATTORNEY FRANK: Are you ready for a roll call.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Jared? John, can you direct Jared?

ATTORNEY FRANK: Direct the roll call.

PRESIDENT CATENA: You're directing the roll. Just direct him to take a roll call.

MR. PALMIERE: Take the roll call.

MR. BARKER: Thank you. On the motion to appeal the ruling of the Chair. Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Betkowski?
MR. BETKOWSKI: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Sure. Yeah.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?
Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?
Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: No.
MR. WALTON: He can't.
PRESIDENT CATENA: He still gets to vote.
MR. WALTON: Yeah, but he ---.
PRESIDENT CATENA: He gets a final vote.
MR. WALTON: He gets a final vote.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: No.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: No.
MR. BARKER: Thank you. Ayes four, noes nine
with two members absent. The motion to appeal fails.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Moving on. So at this point
in time, I also have an amendment to offer. It's actually
Catena One. Can we pass that out?
So I'd obviously like to introduce amendment
one. Is there a second?
MS. FILIAGGI: Second.
PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and
seconded. Obviously I'll give everyone a chance to read
it so we can have discussion.
I believe everyone's had an opportunity to read
it. Is there any discussion at this point in time? Just

before that, I entertained discussion, actually. I tried to basically make this - I knew there were going to be possibly competing amendments at some point, so I tried to take pieces of Councilman Walton's amendments and pieces of other amendments that might have been out there and try to mesh them into one bill and try to basically have representations from both sides. It just makes them six. It adds six non-voting members to the board, but it basically keeps Councilman Walton's intact, and then, like I said, the other ones. And then, the whereas clauses are still in there. And like Councilman Duerr said, I mean, this is a non-binding resolution, so I'm not going to get too far into the weeds on this.

So any questions or concerns? Okay. Hearing none, I think it was made and seconded already. So go ahead and take the roll.

MR. BARKER: Thank you. On the motion to adopt amendment Catena One. Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: No.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes nine, noes four with two members absent. Amendment Catena One is adopted.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. So now we'll have a final vote on the Bill. So at this point in time, would someone like to make a final vote on the Bill as amended?

MS. BENNETT: I'll make that motion.

MS. BETKOWSKI: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Go ahead, Jared, please take the roll - or is there any discussion I should say? Seeing none, Jared, please take the role.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve the Bill as amended. Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pالموسينا?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: No.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 12, noes 2 with 2 members not present. The Bill passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. We'll now move on to liaison reports. Any liaison reports this evening? Seeing none, New Business Ordinances and Resolutions.

12626-23.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Article 1013 of the Administrative Code of Allegheny County entitled Political Activity, Accountability, Conduct and Ethics Code, Section 5-1013.09(g) entitled Patronage/Nepotism, in order to alter the provisions relating to county employment, sponsored by Councilmember Futules.

MR. DUERR: Mr. President?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Duerr.

MR. DUERR: I would like to make a motion to waive the second reading and vote on this ordinance tonight.

MS. BENNETT: Second.

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

MR. DUERR: Yes. Can I explain my rationale?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. DUERR: So this Bill does something - it's very easy explanation. So the Nepotism clause in the County Administrative Code currently states that no family member of a county official or county officer shall be permitted to obtain full-time employment with the county or agency except to the election of public office.

This ordinance removes that clause, so it would make it easier, in fact possible for city elected officials to directly hire family members into not just county government, but the departments that they are overseeing. In a time where we're talking quite a bit about county ethics and the hiring on certain boards and things, this is it moving backwards, not forwards on this topic. I don't know. Councilman Futules is not here to discuss this, but I believe this is a gross misuse of our time, given especially that this is likely going to government reform and that is already backed up enough as it is, that we should take a vote on this tonight and hopefully, I would urge my colleagues to vote against making this in, what would be my opinion, a rather unethical misstep, making it easier for undue influence to enter our county government.

So thank you. And if you agree on that, you'd like to vote on this tonight. I hope you vote yes on waiving the second reading. So yes on the first vote and

second, once we vote on the Bill itself, no, on the actual bill.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: It's just kind of - even though I support much of Councilman's comments, I do believe that we should use regular order for our business unless there is a true urgency to the matter. And I would suspect that after vigorous discussion in the Government Reform Committee, that the concerns that the Councilman has mentioned, which I share, and I'm sure many of my colleagues share, can be addressed in the ordinary order of business.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Any other discussion? Hearing no other discussion. Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to waive the second reading. Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pamosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 12, noes zero with two members not present. The motion to waive second reading passes.

MS. HALLAM: There was one no. Councilman Betkowski.

MR. BARKER: I apologize Councilman Betkowski.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Okay. Now to proceed on the main Bill.

ATTORNEY FRANK: Someone has to move it. Somebody has to move the adoption.

MR. DUERR: Yeah. I'll move to bring this up to the floor for discussion.

MR. KLEIN: Second.

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

ATTORNEY FRANK: Somebody has to move to approve to pass the ordinance.

MR. DUERR: Yeah. I'll make a motion to pass the ordinance.

ATTORNEY FRANK: All right. And then we need a second.

MR. DUERR: Councilman Klein seconded that motion.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The motion has been made and seconded. Is there any discussion? Go ahead, Jared.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to approve the Bill. Ms. Bennett?

MS. BENNETT: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pamosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: No.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: No.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: No.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: No.
MR. BARKER: Ayes 0, noes 13 with two members

absent. The Bill fails.

PRESIDENT CATENA: 12628-23.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending Section 5-1007 of the administrative code - of the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances entitled residency.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to government reform. 12629-23.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the Council of the County of Allegheny ratifying an amendment that revises Section 2105.73, Municipal Solid Waste Landfills, of the Allegheny County Health Department Rules and Regulations, Article XX1, Air Pollution Control, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to Health and Human Services. 12630-23.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the continued use of the BMX bicycle facility in the county, South Park by South Park BMX, Incorporated, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to Parks. 12631-23.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of County of Allegheny, Commonwealth, Pennsylvania, authorizing the continued use of real property in the county's Deer Lakes Park for purposes of farming by Beacom Farms, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: That will go to the Committee on Parks.

12632-23.

MR. BARKER: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the continued use of real property in the county's White Oak Park known as Angora Gardens by UPMC Western Behavioral Health at Mon Yough, sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT CATENA: And that will go to the Committee on Parks. We now have new business motions. 12633-23.

MR. BARKER: A motion of Council of Allegheny County urging the United States Environmental Protection Agency to revise its standard for annual average fine particulate matter exposure from 12 micrograms per cubic meter to 9 to 10 micrograms per cubic meter, sponsored by Councilmembers Klein and Prizio.

MR. PALMIERE: I believe Mr. Klein would like to vote on the motion tonight. And he would also like to offer an amendment for the final vote, so it's going to be a little bit complicated. So we'll have to do this in two steps.

First, we'll need a motion to approve the Bill and a second, which will then open discussion. And then we'll need a motion to waive the role of Council requiring advanced notice of the amendments. If the role waiver passes, then we'll be able to proceed with a motion to amend. So at this point, Mr. Klein, would you like to make the motion to approve?

MR. KLEIN: Yes. I would like to make the motion to approve at this time.

MR. DUERR: Second.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Motion has been made and seconded. Discussion?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Am I able to co-sponsor that, or is that just for the chairs of the committee?

MR. KLEIN: No, you can do that.

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Okay. I'd like to join in.

MS. BENNETT: I would as well, please.

MS. HALLAM: Same.

MR. PALMOSINA: Me too.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Me too. Okay. The motion has been made and seconded, any discussion? Okay. No discussion, go ahead.

MR. BARKER: I apologize, that was the motion for the parent Bill. I believe, Mr. Klein would like to make a motion to waive the 48-hour rule for his amendment at this point.

MR. KLEIN: Yes. Yes.

MR. DUERR: I'll second.

MR. KLEIN: I'll waive the 48-hour rule, yes.

MR. DUERR: Paul, do you want to explain the amendment?

MR. KLEIN: Yeah. So let me talk for a moment about the amendment itself. So the Environmental

Protection Agency is considering a proposed rule change as per the Administrative Procedures Act, which is the federal law, and what the EPA is proposing is a new standard, and the title of the matter that they're considering is a reconsideration of the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for particulate matter.

So the original Bill was introduced, and the standard in that original Bill was more stringent than the standard that has been in place for the last 11 years. This is a standard that was introduced in 2012, and there has been no updating or revisions on that during that period of time. So normally we might find that if a standard was established 11 years ago, at some time during that period of time, maybe four or five, six years later, the EPA would have revisited it again and made additional adjustments.

But during the Trump Administration, the work of the EPA was in no small measure deprioritized. And so as a result, a change that probably would have been recommended by the EPA in 2017, 2018 was not recommended. So here we are 11 years later, with no change at all. So what is being introduced by way of an amendment is an attempt to adhere to a more stringent standard still, that probably brings us to where we would have been today had there - had attention been paid to this by the EPA during that period of time between 2017 and 2018.

So tonight I'm introducing an amendment that would, again, adhere to a more stringent standard. All we're really asking for here is this, we're simply introducing a motion urging the Environmental Protection Agency to adapt to adopt this standard. It is something that we are urging. It is not something that we can require. The agency will receive many comments, hundreds, thousands of comments during the comment period, but we want to make sure that we get this in before the comment period ends, which is on March the 28th.

Since Council will not meet between now and March 28, there is some sense of urgency in making our voice service as the Council and in recommending that Council validate this, this evening.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Rather than - we jumped a little bit ahead of ourselves, rather interrupt you Councilman Klein. We still need to go back. I mean, that was your comment. That obviously is your comment on the amendment, but we still need to take a vote on the

waving the 48 hour rule and the second. I believe we've made the motion and seconded, but we just need to physically take the vote. So Jared.

MR. BARKER: On the motion to waive the 48-hour rule. Ms. Bennett? Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?
MR. DEMARCO: No.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?
MR. DUERR: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.
MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?
MS. HALLAM: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?
MR. KLEIN: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?
MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?
MR. PALMIERE: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?
MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?
MS. PRIZIO: Yes.
MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 11 noes 1 with three members not present.

PRESIDENT CATENA: The amendment's coming around you'll have a chance to read it. If Councilman Klein has anything else to add he can add - he can add it and then we'll have any further discussion. Just take a moment to read the amendment.

MR. KLEIN: I would add this in terms of the work that's done by the EPA in reviewing comments that are made during the notes and comment period of time. I mean, the EPA doesn't make decisions to adopt a rule or modify a rule based upon kind of taking an overall vote. What they're looking for is thoughtful insights that they might look at in order to, you know, justify or validate the changes that they are proposing.

So what we're advancing here tonight is sense of the County Council in this region, a region that has been

dealing with a number of these air quality challenges. What we're doing is trying to provide some perspective in the amendment itself and I think that it's laid out pretty well here.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there any further discussion at this point?

Councilman DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yeah. Looking at this, I wonder what study or analysis has been done to determine if I lower the standard to eight micrograms, what that would do, how that would affect business here or jobs. Because we're going to eight, right? I mean, is that even scientifically possible? When President Obama passed the Clean Air Act, there was industry out there talking about technology didn't exist at that time to be able to clean the air scrubbers on some of these facilities here to that standard. So I understand this doesn't mean anything, but at the same time, I think we should be responsible. We're pushing so how does this affect the industry? I mean, eight micrograms, if they took and they enacted that, what does that mean, for a company like U.S. Steel, because - yeah, life always does, doesn't it.

And you heard the county executives say air pollution is down 80 percent here in the last 12 years, so you're absolutely right, life does go on. We still should not be a joke. We just pass these things that we say. Good, Paul, if that's the act, why not what?

MR. KLEIN: Yeah, I mean, the EPA is contemplating a standard. This is a national standard. It's not a standard for just the Mon Valley. It's not a standard -.

MR. DEMARCO: They're looking at nine, ten. And you're talking eight.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Well, hold on, Councilman. Let him respond and then you can -.

MR. DEMARCO: And I would also say that in terms of visiting that standard, a lot of the concerns that we have had about healthcare environment are not improving. I think that given that reality, given the fact that the EPA has not revisited this for 11 years, this really seems to be something of a modest proposal in terms of what we are asking industry and others to do in order to comply with it. So what will the implications be? Well, I guess we think about it in the larger context in terms of the health of our communities, the health of this region.

Obviously, organizations, businesses will adapt to these kinds of changes or standards and they'll be helped by the technology. If they choose to invest in it will make it possible for them to adhere to this newer standard. But once again, this is a motion. The EPA obviously has to decide for themselves whether or not this is something that they will choose to adopt.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Anything further?

MR. DEMARCO: Yeah. Well, you're assuming that the technology exists to be able to meet that standard. And then, you know, one of the things that we heard today when we talked about the watch and the warning down the Mon Valley, which was the result of an inversion. Okay? Those are things that we can't control. They're outside our control. Okay. And so - so you know, again, it doesn't mean anything. I just like to think that if we're going to pass and we're at the motion asking someone to go somewhere that we have done the necessary research to understand what the effect would be on jobs.

MR. KLEIN: Yeah, in fact -.

MR. DEMARCO: U.S. Steel is not a minor employer in this region with the 3,000 direct jobs it represents at the 10,000 to 12,000 ancillary jobs to support that operation.

MR. KLEIN: I think that the episodic rule that the administration should champion was an attempt to in some way address these situations and require that industry adjust their production standards accordingly. It's not as though the episodic rule is, you know, indifferent to those considerations. There are reasonable concerns that isn't enough. There's more that needs to be done. But nonetheless, I think that in introducing that, what we're talking about is what do companies, organizations, these 16 companies in this region have to do in order to minimize the possibility that we will have these inversions that will produce these high particulate matter days.

So I mean, if we're going to address this in a meaningful way - and you know, the world, the environment that we live in is changing, and it's not changing slowly, then we're going to have to make some decisions. In many respects, this to me seems like probably a fairly modest proposal given the amount of time that's passed between the last time we looked at it and today.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman, anything further?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Filiaggi?

MS. FILIAGGI: Filiaggi for anyone else who wants to pronounce it correctly, but thank you. I have to say that I do echo Councilman DeMarco's comments. That why eight, why not one? Some of these numbers - sufficient study hasn't been done on whether or not these are numbers that need to be. However, in light of what Councilman and Chair Klein has done and the work that he has done on this, and shed light on the fact that there has been no movement on this EPA, I think that most of us think that there should have been movement. If this encouragement is what would help that movement that I am, I do support it not necessarily the number, but supporting sending up movement. And then, if this brings up meaningful discussion and all the parties to the table, then yes, I'm in support of it. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Hallam? I'll call you next.

MS. HALLAM: Yeah. Thank you, President Catena. I've been hearing this like 80 percent decrease in pollution number thrown around. I'm just wondering what is the source of that, because it sounds very false and made up to me. I'm just wondering where the pollution in Allegheny County has decreased by 80 percent over the past 12 years. Like where in the world that number came from.

MR. DEMARCO: Well, it came from the County Executive standing here before you tonight. I've seen studies here that I'll be happy to forward you tomorrow.

MS. HALLAM: Please do that.

MR. DEMARCO: Tomorrow. So the pollution here, the air in Allegheny County is drastically different and better -.

MS. HALLAM: Eighty (80) percent?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Let's not talk over one another.

MR. DEMARCO: So I'll send you the study.

MS. HALLAM: Okay. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilman Walton.

MR. WALTON: It's not going to change the dynamics. Let's move.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Councilwoman Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: I just wanted to say a couple of things. One, to thank my colleagues for taking a leadership role in this regard to providing public

comment to EPA. I think that's a significant step. The question was asked earlier, how will this protect or impact industry? And the other question that I ask is how will it impact public health, which is significant, because we know that Allegheny County is in the top one percent cancer risk for air quality across the country. So that is a significant statistic that has been shown by our academic community that exists.

When we talked about inversions and that there's nothing that we can do with those inversions with the air quality. We can do something, we can lower the emissions and pollutants that are happening and being emitted during that time period of inversion, so that we know that when children are walking to school in the Mon Valley, when an inversion occurs, that they're not being impacted by this slew pollutants that they're breathing in as they go to the doorstep to the school door.

And you know, I think about young children in childcare centers and other people, the elderly, you know, when those warnings happen, they talk about making certain that children of all ages, the elderly, those with respiratory and cardiac disease, stay indoors. And we know that's an impossible thing to do when children have to go to school, when people have to go to work, and so for that - and the science is there. EPA has well over 1,000 scientists and that's how they get these numbers. So to say that the science isn't there is not accurate. That's all I have to say. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Thank you. Anybody - Councilman DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: So if the health ramifications are so terrible with the air quality as it is today, are you telling me that eight micrograms is going to take and solve all those problems, that if we reach eight - I mean, where's the science that says if we reach eight that none of this is going to happen or occur, that these kids you're talking about going to school or they're in these pre K programs are going to be breathing clean air or not being suffering from asthma or things like that, you know. Again, this gets back to the is it eight or is it one, right? You know what I mean?

MR. KLEIN: So I think that bodies of our nature, when we're trying to set these standards or encourage these kinds of adjustments - I mean, we're coming to terms with the fact that sometimes change is

incremental. We're trying to do something to move the needle in that regard. Will we have to recommend or will the EPA have to recommend moving the needle again, maybe in the not too distant future? I have no doubt that they will. But this is where we are tonight, and that is what our effort is here. And encouraging to adopt this lower more stringent standard.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Anyone else this evening? I would just like to say that I agree with Councilwoman Filiaggi. I'm not sure what the exact number is, obviously, but we need to do better. And obviously, if this does anything to move the discussion or drive the discussion forward, I think it's our responsibility to do that.

So Jared, please take roll.

MR. BARKER: On the amendment, I do not have have a motion or second recorded at this point.

MR. DUERR: I made a motion on the amendment, and Paul seconded it.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Paul seconded it.

MR. BARKER: Thank you very much for clarification. On the motion to adopt amendment Klein One. Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: I'm going to abstain, because everyone's for clean air and clean water, but I haven't seen any information to tell me what the impacts are going to be.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pالموسينا?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?
MR. WALTON: Yes.
MR. BARKER: President Catena?
PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 11, 1 abstention and three members not present. The amendment is adopted.

MR. DUERR: Jared, can you please add me to the Bill as amended as a co-sponsor, please? Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: So with the amendment now disposed that we cannot vote on the bill. We already have a motion for approval and a second, that we'll do a roll call.

MR. BARKER: It's on the motion to approve Bill Number 12633-22 as amended. Mr. Betkowski?

MR. BETKOWSKI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: I abstain for the same reason.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Duerr?

MR. DUERR: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Filiaggi.

MS. FILIAGGI: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Hallam?

MS. HALLAM: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

Ms. Naccarati-Chapkis?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Yes.

MR. BARKER: President Catena?

PRESIDENT CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 11, 1 abstention and three members not present. The Bill as amended passes.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Notification of contracts?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Any public comment on general items?

MR. BARKER: We have several. First up is Michael Dellasprito.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Not here. Is there a motion to adjourn?

MR. BARKER: Wait, there are more. Next would be Lance Miller. Next would be Robert Mills. It's Jacob Poole. Here's why I will speak, and I'm here to speak on contrasting labor, those kind of things.

MR. POOLE: Hi, I'm Jacob Poole. Thanks for letting me speak. And I'm here to speak on human trafficking, labor, and slavery and those kind of things at Allegheny County, Westmoreland County and this general area. And I want to speak on those topics, because I'm here, and that's my story. Because Pittsburgh has all the Carnegie Mellon and National Energy Lab and Westinghouse and all these great places where brain power is useful. People wanted to get more of that so they financed - targeting my Jewish family in Europe and Hungarian, German, France and Poland, Czechoslovakia, in that area, Romania, to get more smart people. I was in European police custody when I was ten years old, they were investigating the manufacture of children for self money.

And I am one of those children. I was literally manufactured from abducted people in Europe during the civil wars of --- the Czechslovakian War, the Romanian break up, the Berlin Wall Civil War. People financed human trafficking rings and human trafficking rings. There are no extra kids. People abduct people and make them, by rape, abductions, whatever - anything imaginable. So I'm here because of that. I have a Ph.D. from Pitt. I have discoveries from National Energy lab, yet I go to the homeless shelter for Christmas and I watch people grow old, have families, have kids, and I'll never have those things because I never had a mom, never had a dad. I was raised by people connecting me with things that would do with performance athletes, you know, like - when I was in high school in Ligonier Valley instead of going home for Christmas, I went to a family who had connections to Carnegie Mellon and the National Energy Lab, their house, for Christmas.

So they could be influencing me to be a really good scientist. And that's my story. I'm here with Ph.D.s and things like that, and I walk the streets handing out human trafficking awareness flyers, because I'm watching people get old, watching people have families

and kids and I was held captive in isolation. I have medical issues. I'm banned from hospitals and things because I go in and ask for help from human trafficking related stuff. There's no help.

Human trafficking is so deeply ingrained in this area that people actually walk up to me and can't deport me. I currently have USCIS things that I was given citizenship is being taken away from me and all these complicated stuff. And I'm going to the European Union and saying, guess what? Walk me back, because I'm in the process of being deported back to the European Union after I was human trafficked for exploitation. So they're waiting for me to come back and file international civil rights suits in European courts. Thank you.

MR. BARKER: Next up is Lynn Thompson.

MS. THOMPSON: Hi, everybody. My name is Lynn Thompson. It's actually Lynn Thompson McKenley. What we are doing is we are starting a new organization, and I'm sure all of you've heard of it, it's called fighting back. And what fighting back is we're going to help change the criminal justice system. When I say change the criminal justice system, I mean by taking on the things that are important.

We're working on a bill - or I guess you want to say, a motion that we're going to try to help decrease restitution payments from people that have been on probation from the year of 1983 and they're still on probation, and they keep getting extended and extended. The courts have become a collection agency. Well, we're going to extend that. We're going to stop it. We want to make sure that anybody that has been on probation from the year of 1983 all the way through the present, we're going to try and get that forgiven. Because why are we a collection agency as a courthouse? We have things that they're supposedly waiting on JRS that are filling our jails, and they're not doing anything, and they're not taking people out. So fighting Back, we're getting real involved, and we're going to be filing lawsuits. We're going to be doing everything.

There's people that are working with us, and there's attorneys and judges and whatever. We hopefully we can get this criminal justice system changed. And that's our goal. Thank you.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Next?

MR. BARKER: The next speaker is Akana Halmakina, who I believe is not here tonight.

MS. THOMPSON: She is not.

MR. BARKER: Thank you. And last up will be Brian Fender.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a motion to adjourn?

MR. DUERR: So moved.

PRESIDENT CATENA: Is there a second?

MS. NACCARATI-CHAPKIS: 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? The motion carries.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 7:23 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 May, 2023

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Allison Walker", is written over a horizontal line.

Allison Walker,

Court Reporter