

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

- - -

BEFORE:

Nicholas Futules	-	Vice President, District 7
Samuel DeMarco, III	-	Council-At-Large
Thomas Baker	-	District 1
Cindy Kirk	-	District 2
Anita Prizio	-	District 3
Patrick Catena	-	District 4
Sue Means	-	District 5
John F. Palmiere	-	District 6
Robert J. Macey	-	District 9
Dewitt Walton	-	District 10
Paul Klein	-	District 11
Robert Palmosina	-	District 12
Denise Ranalli-Russell	-	District 13

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

Tuesday, June 4, 2019 - 5:02 p.m.

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

IN ATTENDANCE:

Jared Barker - Director of Legislative Services
Samuel J. Dalfonso - Allegheny County Council
Solicitor
Ken Varhola - Chief of Staff
Sarah Roka - Budget Assistant

MR. FUTULES: It's time to call to order the meeting of Allegheny County Council for Tuesday, June the 4th, 2019. Before we do the Pledge of Allegiance, I'd like to also mention again, Dr. Martoni, I believe he needs another moment of silence. He deserves that from us. So we'll do that after the Pledge of Allegiance. Thank you.

Repeat after me ---.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Silent prayer or reflection.)

MR. FUTULES: Roll call.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Baker?

MR. BAKER: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmosina?

MR. PALMOSINA: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Here.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Here.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: Here.

MR. BARKER: President DeFazio?

(No response.)

MR. BARKER: We have 13 members present.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Proclamations, certificates. 11108-19.

MR. BARKER: A Proclamation recognizing Autism Awareness Month in Allegheny County and congratulating Pittsburgh Autism Speaks on it's 20th anniversary of its

walk. Sponsored by Council Members Catena, Kirk and all other Members of Council.

MR. CATENA: Thank you. I'd like to --- this is Joe Kleppick, for Autism Speaks Board member for the Pittsburgh Chapter. Amy? Amy Logston, she's the Executive Director of Autism Speaks for the Pittsburgh Chapter. Ellen Allen? She's not here, okay. Bill Kai, obviously, he's a Board member of Autism Speaks for the Pittsburgh Chapter. And Brian --- I think Brian's not here, or is Brian here? Brian's here. Brian Brodeur, Allegheny County Manager of Real Estate, Division of Administration Services.

When I talk about autism, it's something near and dear to my heart, obviously, because a family member is on the spectrum and I deal with it every day, day in and day out. And as a father and a parent, it takes a toll on you, obviously, when someone's on the spectrum. They each have their little quirks, and they each have their little idiosyncrasies and some --- the weather might set --- the thunder might set one off or --- someone on the spectrum off, a siren --- a fire siren or a --- an ambulance siren might set another individual off on someone on the spectrum.

So I always tell my --- my elevator speech about autism and being on the spectrum is that, don't judge people. We're all very judgmental, obviously, in our daily lives, and if someone --- if someone, a family member or what have you has someone on the spectrum, you'll know it's difficult at times. And you try your best and things may not work out to the best --- the best that you're always hoping for unfortunately. But you don't change your love for that person. You love that person unconditionally and you know what you put into their lives, you're going to get back out tenfold because they're great people and I --- I --- like I said, I have a family member that's on the spectrum and I wouldn't change anything about him.

He's a great little guy, and I love him dearly each and every day. And I try to do everything I can for, obviously, individuals on the spectrum and try to inspire them to do more and exceed because a lot of people --- unfortunately, it's difficult at times. It's --- I mean, just to be honest, it's --- it's very difficult. People aren't accepting and unfortunately, it's a sad state of affairs. So I encourage everyone to learn about autism

and basically take that extra time to basically encourage people on the spectrum to go above and beyond, because they're great people and they can --- I mean, they can go above and beyond and far exceed any expectations that you set for them. So that's my little speech about autism and I'll go --- I'm going to go into the proclamation at this point.

WHEREAS, Autism Spectrum Disorder, ASD, commonly known as autism is a complex developmental disability that can cause social, communicational and behavioral challenges and;

WHEREAS, the cause --- the causes for autism are unknown, but likely include a few environmental and generic --- genetic factors, and there is no known cure. With early identification and intervention --- and this --- I can tell you first hand, this is the key. It is possible that individuals with autism can achieve their greatest potential. That is certainly very true. I'm not going to read all of this, but ---.

WHEREAS, on June 9th, 2019 Pittsburgh Autism Speaks will celebrate its 20th Anniversary of its annual walk at Schenley Park. Started in 2000, it was known as a Walk Far --- Far for Naar and it raised funds to support the mission of a national alliance for autism research. In 2005, the organization, along with Autism Coalition of Research and Education and Cure Autism Now, helped from --- helped form Autism Speaks, which is dedicated to promoting solutions for the needs of people with autism and;

WHEREAS, during Autism Awareness Month, let us honor the advocates, professionals, family members and all who work to build a brighter tomorrow alongside those individuals with autism. We need to continue work on developing a world that is free of barriers and --- and full of understanding and acceptance of the differences that make us strong.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE It RESOLVE --- RESOLVED, That I, Allegheny County Council Members Pat Catena, Cindy Kirk and all Members of Council do hereby recognize April 2019 as Autism Awareness Month in Allegheny County and on behalf of the Allegheny County Council, we congratulate Pittsburgh Autism Speaks on its 20th Anniversary of its walk and encourage all to learn more about autism and what you can do to support individuals with autism spectrum

disorder and obviously, all of the loved ones who support them.

IN WITNESS THEREOF, I hereto attach my Seal of the County of Allegheny, Pat Catena, County Council.

Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MR. KLEPPICK: I guess I'll talk since they talked this morning. Thank you, Members of Council and thank you Member --- Council Member Kirk, Catena and all members to supporting this Proclamation. I just do a lot in the autism community serving on the Board of Autism Speaks Pittsburgh and doing some work statewide and local. So I really appreciate your support. Thank you very much.

(Applause.)

MS. LOGSTON: Inclusion and awareness are two big words in our mission statement, and it's at the heart of what we do. And for the 20th year come this Sunday, we'll be raising money to support that mission. And we are the Western Pennsylvania Chapter of Autism Speaks and Western Pennsylvania has supported this event for 20 years to the tune of over \$10 million in 20 years. And I think that speaks to the heart of this part of Pennsylvania and --- I just moved back to Mt. Lebanon last week, by the way. So I'm so happy to be home and really appreciate this, appreciate your support and thank you to my board members and volunteers who help us achieve our mission every day. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MR. CATENA: We're going to do a picture, but one last comment that I'd like to make, actually. I'm going to be rolling out a new program within the next week or so. What we're actually doing is, if you have an occupant with autism, we've created --- I specifically created decals for my District, District 4. So you can put these on the back windshield of your car, your home window, what have you so that a police officer or emergency responder knows that you're dealing with an autistic individual, and that there --- I mean, they might have special needs.

I --- I know, like I talked a little bit early on, certain things freak --- well, a family member out of mind, and I don't want them getting hurt possibly because I want the police officer to know that this person is affected by autism, because obviously, sometimes he might not be able to speak for himself if he gets --- if he has

a little bit of a spell. So that's why I'm rolling this out to my District. I'm hoping the rest of County Council gets on board for all of your districts and I encourage you to do so because this --- I believe this is a great program for all of Allegheny County because were in one of the best counties in all of the United States and one of the most embracing counties in all of the United States. So --- and we value our people with --- our children and our adults, everyone on the spectrum and with autism. So thank you again.

(Applause.)

(Pictures taken.)

MR. FUTULES: The remainder of the Proclamations will be read into the record.

MR. BARKER: 11109-19. A Proclamation honoring Pitcairn Borough as it celebrates 125 years since its incorporation. Sponsored by Council Member DeFazio.

11109-19. A Proclamation recognizing Christopher Lee upon earning the distinction of being named a U.S. Presidential Scholar. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

And 1111-19. A Proclamation recognizing Ethan James upon receiving a perfect AP Computer Science Exam Score. Sponsored by Council Member Kirk.

MR. FUTULES: Public comment on agenda items, I believe we have none.

MR. BARKER: We have none.

MR. FUTULES: Approval of the minutes?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

MR. FUTULES: None?

MR. BARKER: None.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Presentation of appointments?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

MR. FUTULES: Unfinished business?

MR. BARKER: Also none.

MR. FUTULES: Easy meeting. Liaison?

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President?

MR. FUTULES: We can start down there and we'll work our way up. Let's start with Mr. Baker if he's got ---.

MR. DEMARCO: Oh, okay.

MR. FUTULES: Please go in line.

MR. BAKER: Thanks, Mr. Futules. Quick updates from District 1. Well, first thing is this Friday will be

our hearing that we'll have here right in the Gold Room related to the Election system and the new machines that we'll be getting. So Council Member Palmosina, Judge Hens-Greco and I will all be there. We have Manager Voye who will be sharing about the status of how the process is going so far. I know it's --- I think today was the first day for people to see the machines. I know Cindy was there, Bethany was there. Some people were there to check out the machines today, which is definitely a good thing. It sounds like it was busy and crowded which is definitely positive. There's a schedule that's been going out for the future visits for folks to actually get their hands on the machines which is definitely a positive thing.

We want it to be a transparent process, a good process, an inclusive process. I know we have a lot of guest speakers here tonight about it so we hope to see some of you back on Friday. It is from 11:30 to 3:30. We have three contended experts that have been suggested by Judge Hens-Greco for public --- well, they'll be the experts sharing and then we'll have public comment as well. So it should be good. So back in this room Friday from 11:30 to 3:30.

Other updates. We had --- well, we had a really good weekend in Ross Township and in Moon and Coraopolis and Westview, just a quick --- we had the parade in Coraopolis which was great. We had a parade in Westview which was great. Sam, Councilman DeMarco, and I spent some really quality time in Moon at a wonderful event that they do every year, and we were guest speakers along with an amazing Lieutenant Colonel who did a great job as well. Not to steal Sam's thunder, I'm sure he'll share about that a little bit more but that was great.

A man named Olav is the winner of my scholarship from --- from District 1. He's a student at North Hills High School. Olav is a senior, going to Carnegie Melon. He's just phenomenal, so I got to present him with his scholarship. My wife and I do an annual scholarship at our high school every year which --- so we got to spend some time with him on his last day of school. So the fact that he was like so serious and having a good time with it was really awesome. He --- it --- it was great.

So a lot of good things going on. And I should say, Amie Downs from the administration dropped off some big scissors to me right before this for a big ribbon cutting that we're doing tomorrow night. My pastor said,

if there's one person that I know that would have large scaled ribbon cutting scissors it would be me. I said, I don't have them but Amie Downs would be the person that I know that would probably have them. So Amie Downs got me the large size ribbon cutting scissors. And it's called the Westview Hub. It's going to be an amazing, amazing resource. It is literally a block down from where my wife and baby and I moved today actually. We just moved a block away from Westview today. So it's going to be unbelievable.

It's going to be a teen center, there's going to be a meeting space, it's going to be a library. Northland Public has been working really well with it, and a lot --- a lot of reasons to be happy. So all right, that's it. Thank you. Back to you, Council Member Futules.

MR. FUTULES: Who's next? Pat, you good? Go ahead, Sam.

MR. DEMARCO: Thank you very much, Mr. President. As Councilman Baker shared, there were a number of parades that I saw via Facebook and social media. Council Members across the spectrum were all over the county on Memorial Day participating in parades. On Sunday, we were at Moon where we participated in a service there honoring their veterans at their Memorial Day --- at their Veterans Memorial. On Monday, it was at Sewickley for their parade, as well as Coraopolis' parade. So it was a full day. Much candy was given out, kids were very happy.

I'd like to talk to you a little bit about a couple things coming up. Next Thursday, June 6th, Soldiers and Sailors Memorial Hall and Museum is going to have an event starting at 9:30 to 10:30 in the morning. It's the 75th annual commemoration of the D-Day. And so there going to have some stuff with free --- free stuff, recognition, proclamations, County Executive Rich Fitzgerald, Mayor Peduto, will be there, as well as others.

On June 15th, there'll be a plaque --- some plaques that will be taken and presented over here at the County's memorial park, honoring the sacrifice of Vietnam Veterans from Allegheny County in the Vietnam War. And this was a project that had been initiated by Jimmy Cvetic. And unfortunately, he passed away before he was able to see this come to fruition, but that's going to take place. So I just wanted to remind folks, that'll be

at 10:00 a.m. Saturday, June 15th if you would like to --- to see that. It will be the County's black granite Vietnam War Memorial Park. Thank you, Mr. President.

MR. FUTULES: Cindy?

MS. KIRK: Thank you. I just wanted to mention real quickly, I did go to see the display of potential voting machines. I encourage everyone to go, all the Council members to go. There's four very viable options to try. When I was there, it was at Community College North this afternoon and this evening, actually. There were a steady stream of people. Many poll workers, there were several people with disabilities. It was interesting. There was a man who was blind who could give interesting input that we might not think of, and it was great to have that. And they do have paper there where they encourage you, please write down your comments because you have the input, you have the knowledge and that's how the best decision is made.

So I encourage everyone to try and go. It's interesting. I think we're going to have a great solution once it's picked. I think they're all pretty good. We'll have --- we'll have a nice trail, nothing is connected to the internet. It seems very safe, there's redundancy built-in. It looks like they've done a nice job giving us some options that, I guess, will be chosen pretty soon. Okay. Try and make it. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Paul, do you have any?

MR. KLEIN: No.

MR. FUTULES: Bob?

MR. MACEY: Yeah. Thank you, Mr. President, Members of Council and those who are in the audience. I'll try to --- I try to do this every couple meetings and I --- and I have to continue to reiterate how important it is to have volunteers in our --- our communities. But one of the volunteer work --- works that I do is very near and dear to me and it's the West Mifflin Number 3 Volunteer Fire Company. And if anybody has a --- a relative, a friend, a son or daughter that would like to get involved, please do so because we're running very, very short on our volunteers. At one time, we had 300,000 volunteers in Pennsylvania. We're down to 50,000. So you can see there's a genuine need.

Many of the fire departments have merged and some of them have been disbanded because of lack of volunteerism and --- and most importantly, fundraising.

So that brings me to the West Mifflin Number 3 Volunteer Fire Company. We have a car cruise every Wednesday and that's throughout the whole summer and that's at 3722 Rodeo Drive, right next to the Allegheny County Airport across the street, of course, from the Lebanon Road.

The car cruise provides door prizes, food and it's very inexpensive. And the food is --- it's all homemade. It's really good stuff. And it --- rain or shine, we'll still serve food. We also have a 50/50 raffle, and I encourage you, if --- if you have a --- and we need volunteers. You don't have to fight fires. You could sell raffle tickets, you could come and sell food at our --- our --- or at any fundraising event that a volunteer fire company has. So it's real important and there again, I just want to thank everybody that volunteers in any capacity in this region because without our volunteers, a lot of things wouldn't get done. Thank you very much.

MR. FUTULES: Sue?

MS. MEANS: Thank you for recognizing me, Mr. Futules --- Chairman Futules. So I wanted to speak to people, you know, it's summertime and we --- it seems in Allegheny County we have an increase in rabies, and we have rabid animals. So if you ever see a raccoon running around in the day, it's a nocturnal animal, it should not be out. So call animal control and have them come and collect the animal and have it tested because you don't want to get bit or scratched and get rabies.

So I even made a collection of all of the reports that we've had in the last 18 months of rabid animals. And so I just wanted to warn the citizens that please, if you see an animal --- a mammal in the middle of the day, a --- a groundhog or a raccoon, they shouldn't be out walking about. That's your sign that maybe there's something amiss.

The other thing I wanted to share with --- I'm excited to share is that on June the 19th in Bethel Park I'm hosting a Highmark UPMC divorce public meeting to --- there's a lot of concern over, what does that mean moving forward. When July 1st comes, what does that mean to the individual citizens and patients on how they're going to navigate the new system? So it's from 7:00 to 9:00 at the Bethel Park Municipal Building. Anyone that would like to come, they're welcome to come and attend. I have an independent speaker who's not tied in to either UPMC and

--- or Highmark. And he's going to be very candid and very helpful. Hopefully, it be a very helpful session. If you have any questions about it, please call the main line for County Council which is 412-350-6490. Thank you, Mr. President.

MR. FUTULES: John, you're next.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you, Mr. President. I appreciate the opportunity, Members of Council. On Sunday, last Sunday, it was the 26th of May, I had the pleasure of attending the 100th Anniversary of Castle Shannon incorporated as a --- a borough and we had a wonderful time down there. All the who's who of Allegheny County were there, so many people I hadn't seen for a long time. It was a wonderful occasion. Mayor Bumgarner, they do a great job down there and music all day long.

Even some --- they even had a band that I even knew what they were playing, you know what I mean? That was --- that was really --- so it's a lot of this modern stuff and new stuff, it's great. I mean, it gets everybody active and moving but I want to tell you ---. But it was --- I just wanted to let you know that it was just a wonderful day and the weather held out for us fortunately.

And also, the next day I was --- I had the pleasure of going and the distinction of going out to Clairton for their Memorial Day services, their parade and service and they do a wonderful --- wonderful ceremony out there, Mayor Lattanzi and his people. And it was a nice way to spend the holiday weekend and during --- and you know, I want it to be understood. I don't go there because I have to, I go there because I want to. And to me, there's a big difference there. So I --- I just wanted to let you know that we were --- we were doing our civic duty as they say, okay. Thank you very much.

MR. FUTULES: Bob, do you have any? Anita? Denise? Dewitt?

MR. WALTON: Thank you, Mr. Vice President. I'm really dumbfounded and --- and troubled. The City of Pittsburgh is engaged in an action to limit weapons in the city and their ability to be used. And I --- I really think that it's an issue whose time has come, not only for the city but for this country. In the city of Chicago this past weekend, there were 50 shootings, 10 deaths. In Allegheny County this past weekend, there were a number of homicides from gunshot wounds. And so terribly, in

Virginia Beach, 12 people died at the hands of some individual for whatever reason had access, legal access to weapons and people became victims of --- of a senseless decision.

At some point in time, we as Americans have to take some action to engage in reasonable gun control, whether it's universal background checks, whether it's limiting large capacity magazines or the ban on assault rifles completely. I know some of my friends don't agree with that position, but notwithstanding that, it's something that has to occur. This --- say, this series of senseless murders have to end, whether it's the Tree of Life, whether it's Parkland, whether it's Mother Emanuel Baptist Church in Charleston, South Carolina.

It just is happening far too frequently, see, frequently, and easy access to weapons is a major cause. We have to engage in concerted activity to stop it. I don't know what the --- you know, I just want to urge my fellow Council Members. We may not agree, but I think we all agree that this has to end and we have to take some steps to move reasonable positions forward. And I don't know, but I'm just so frustrated and I'm hurt. I'm really saddened by the stupidity and the insanity of it all. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: New business ordinances and resolutions.

(Applause.)

MR. FUTULES: 11112-19.

MR. BARKER: An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the grant of a temporary license agreement to Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta Incorporated for the purpose of staging a craft and food vendor market on the Roberto Clemente 6th Street Bridge on Saturday, August 3rd, 2019 and Sunday, August 4th, 2019. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. FUTULES: This will be referred to Public Works. 11113-19.

MR. BARKER: A Resolution ratifying certain year-end transfers pursuant to Section 805.03 of the Administrative Code. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

MR. FUTULES: This will be referred to Budget and Finance. Non-agenda items? Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: New business motions? Yes, I'd like to make a motion.

MR. FUTULES: Yes?

MR. DEMARCO: That we amend the agenda.

MR. CATENA: Second.

MR. DEMARCO: I'd like to add a --- an ordinance here. WHEREAS, the County would accept a donation for it to be used by the County. It would be accepting a pair of bronze plaques each measuring two feet by three feet to be displayed in or around the County's black granite Vietnam War Memorial Park, in order to memorialize the contributions of Vietnam veterans and former County resident, Jim --- James Cvetic. The motion is being passed out.

MR. FUTULES: A motion to put on the agenda?

MR. BARKER: Correct, Mr. DeMarco made a motion.

MR. FUTULES: We need to take a vote to put it on the agenda?

MR. BARKER: Correct.

MR. MACEY: Make a motion to put it on the agenda.

MR. CATENA: Second.

MR. FUTULES: Go ahead, second. We have that. All in favor of putting this on the agenda signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

MR. FUTULES: Any opposed? It's on the agenda.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, I'd like to make a motion that we waive the second reading on this so that we're able to vote on this tonight as the planned dedication is June 15th?

MR. MACEY: Second.

MR. FUTULES: That will also require a vote. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

MR. FUTULES: Opposed? The ayes have it. Now, is there any further discussion on the agenda item?

MR. DEMARCO: Not on this one, we just passed it.

MR. FUTULES: Everybody's good? If there's any questions?

MR. DEMARCO: Oh, no. I'm sorry, no. I'm sorry.

MR. FUTULES: Everybody's up to speed? So we ---.

MR. BARKER: You call for a motion to approve a second and a roll call vote on that.

MR. DEMARCO: There's no cost associated with this as far as I know.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Other than that?

MR. DEMARCO: So we don't --- I'm sorry. My colleague, yes.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Anybody --- any further questions? Roll call, please. Don't need one?

MR. BARKER: You need a motion and a second before the roll call vote.

MS. PRIZIO: Move for a motion.

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Now can we do the roll call?

MR. BARKER: Mr. Cat --- Mr. Baker? I'm sorry.

MR. BAKER: That's okay, yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Catena?

MR. CATENA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. DeMarco?

MR. DEMARCO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Oh, yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Kirk?

MS. KIRK: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Klein?

MR. KLEIN: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Means?

MS. MEANS: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Palmiere?

MR. PALMIERE: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Pالموسينا?

MR. PALMOSINA: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Prizio?

MS. PRIZIO: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Ms. Ranalli-Russell?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Yes.

MR. BARKER: Mr. Walton?

MR. WALTON: In honor of Jimmy Cvetic, hell, yes.

MR. BARKER: Ayes 13, nos zero. The bill passes.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. I believe we have one more item to be put on the agenda?

MR. PALMIERE: Mr. President, if you don't mind, I have a motion. Mr. Barker, will you read the motion and explain to a little bit --- do a little bit of explaining for that, please?

MR. BARKER: Would you like me to read the whole thing or just the title and the operative language?

MR. PALMIERE: Summarize it.

MR. BARKER: Fair enough. The motion is captioned a Motion of the Council of Allegheny County encouraging Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance needs in America's National Park System. The operative language is found on page two about halfway down. The Council would be urging Congress to create a reliable, predictable stream of resources to address deferred maintenance in America's National Park System and to ensure that Federal Infrastructure Initiatives include provisions to address park maintenance. The cost of that deferred maintenance, as of 2018, was estimated by the National Park Service at about \$11.9 billion.

MR. FUTULES: Now, we have to put it --- we have to put this on the agenda first; don't we? Excuse me?

MR. BARKER: It's a motion, it doesn't require.

MR. FUTULES: If it's a motion, it doesn't require?

MR. BARKER: He's good.

MR. FUTULES: Okay.

MR. PALMIERE: Motion for approval.

MR. FUTULES: Any seconds?

MS. RANALLI-RUSSELL: Second.

MR. FUTULES: Any discussion? Okay. Roll call or just a voice vote?

MR. BARKER: Either.

MR. FUTULES: A voice vote works. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

MR. FUTULES: Any opposed? The ayes have it.

MR. PALMIERE: Thank you very much, Mr. President.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Let me see here, notification of contracts?

MR. BARKER: We have none.

MR. FUTULES: Public comment on general items?

MR. BARKER: We do have several of those.

MR. FUTULES: We have several; correct?

MR. BARKER: Correct.

MR. FUTULES: I'll --- I'll name them.

MR. BARKER: Okay.

MR. FUTULES: For those of you that are going to speak, please remember to state your name and address for the record and the first up was Susan Pickup. Is she here? Oh, there she is.

MS. PICKUP: My name for the record is Susan Pickup. And it's spelled, P-I-C-K-U-P. My current address is within Allegheny County. It's 320 Fort Duquesne Boulevard, Pittsburgh, PA ZIP Code 15222.

Members of Council, thank you for allowing me the opportunity to speak to you on behalf of the members of the Allegheny County Association of Court Supervisors also known as ACACS. As an association of Council, I'm here to request your support and assistance in getting the County to sit down and sincerely negotiate with the ACACS so that parties may enter into a new memorandum of understanding or an agreement to interest arbitration for the term 2018 to 2020.

The members of the ACACS are tasked with the responsibility to supervise adult probation officers, juvenile probation officers, domestic relations officers, municipal court employees, information technology employees and secretaries in Allegheny County. The members of the ACACS are critical for an effective legal system here in our community. The ACACS, as a meet and discuss employee unit, are not permitted to collectively bargain with the County. Rather, the members depend on negotiations with the County via a memorandum of understanding.

This requires the time, participation and cooperation of both the ACACS and the County. The parties have a longstanding history of negotiations with respect to terms, conditions, wages and benefits of the Allegheny County court supervisors. Over the years, the members have been kept in limbo with frozen salary rates due to the delay and noncompliance with the County to negotiate.

A new memorandum of understanding or an agreement to interest arbitration has not been entered for the term of 2018 to 2020. The County has not given --- may I offer ---?

MR. FUTULES: Well, you're halfway. Go ahead.

MS. PICKUP: The County has not given the ACACS an opportunity to sit down and effectively negotiate which

has caused the association to pause any efforts to benefit the working conditions of its members. The members have continued to provide services to the County and courts without any adjustment for 2018 to present day.

The ACACS requests your action in order for negotiations to continue in a productive and efficient manner, and so that the salaries and benefits of these professionals reflect the hard work and dedication they have to this community. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. Patricia Murray?

MS. MURRAY: Yes, my full name is Patricia Murray. That's, M-U-R-R-A-Y, and I live at 505 Lyndhurst Avenue, that's, L-Y-N-D-H-U-R-S-T, Pittsburgh, 15216, which is the Mount Lebanon area. And let's add I've lived in the Pittsburgh area for over 47 years.

Council, I'm --- I'm bringing to you today an issue that is important to a couple organizations that I belong to. One of them is the Pennsylvania Interfaith Impact Network, also known as PIN, an organization made up of over 50 congregations of many faiths and over 20 associations. I am also --- I'm also a member of the Unitarian Universalist Church of the South Hills. Both organizations are asking that you, the County Council, will support a County Citizens Police Review Board.

I want to mention that I worked for Mellon Bank for over 30 years, and in our legal contracts with customers, we included protections for the bank that we entitled abundance of caution. So we had covenants and protections for the bank because we were doing this under an abundance of caution. Certainly, if an abundance of caution is needed with financial matters, it is more important that we have that with regard to life and death situations.

I want to point out the judges are not allowed to hear cases in which the judge has a relationship with a party to a case, yet we allow police to self-adjudicate issues with the public they serve. Those issues may very well be handled fairly, but they can be overshadowed by the appearance of impropriety. The review board is a win-win situation for both the police and the community. An independent citizen's police review board will avoid the appearance of impropriety and that review board independence will provide the community with the protection as an abundance of caution.

Thus, the review board will improve the relationship between the police and the community. I have observed this at police community functions in the city, which has had a review board for over 20 years and I ask that you support the proposed County Citizens Police Review Board. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. Juliet Zavon?

MS. ZAVON: I'm Julie Zavon. I live at 1318 Malvern Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15217.

When I signed up to be a poll worker in 2018, I got no response from the Elections Division for months. They finally called me days before the election, but I'd given up on them and had volunteered elsewhere. This year, I wanted to work the May elections. As time went by without hearing anything, I feared a repeat of my 2018 experience and contacted the amazing Amie Downs, Director of Communications for the County. She's a fabulous resource.

When the Elections Division called soon afterward about working at Chatham University, I thought I had Amy to thank, but it turned out an election judge and friend, Gwen DiPietro, had arranged it. However, in a subsequent conversation with the Elections Division, Gwen discovered they had me signed up for two different locations, Chatham and Gwen's location at CMU. Another problem with the Elections Division system. Fortunately, Gwen discovered it and got it sorted out.

From Gwen and others, I learned that unofficially, it's election judges who recruit their poll workers. When polls get busy, they call in friends and relatives to come and help. These folks aren't trained. Do they know when to do a provisional ballot? My written comment lists reasons why training is critical.

I've heard judges say you don't need training to be a poll worker. If there's one trained poll worker, that's enough. Other judges dispute that, but I remain astonished that everybody can do their own thing. This is far from best practices. It's a scandal and a lawsuit waiting to happen. I called the Elections Division. Do you check that folks working the polls have been trained? No, they said. We have 7,000 poll workers and no time to check this. They encourage training by paying poll workers \$20 to attend it, but what kind of standard is that?

Moreover, judges recruiting their teams amplifies the opportunity for wrongdoing. I saw this in Ohio. During the morning setup, the poll judge, a preacher who had several parishioners working that poll told us, wink, wink, it would be a whole lot easier if we just don't do provisional ballots. They're a lot of bother. But the problem goes deeper than a lazy judge. A corrupt judge who backs a particular candidate can recruit friends to be part of the team. Indeed, I've heard that instances of this caused problems during the primary elections and have been reported.

We need consistent qualified administration of elections at the polls. How should the Elections Division improve management of polling places and poll workers and judges? I list a couple examples from my Ohio poll worker experience in the written comments. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Juliet. Deborah Bogen?

MS. BOGEN: My name is Deborah Bogen, B-O-G-E-N. I live at 1112 North Highland Avenue, Pittsburgh, 15206.

In the fall of 2018, I worked with other Pittsburgh residents to inform voters about candidates and to encourage them to vote. As a resident of Ward 11, I worked in East Liberty, focusing on Highland Park and Larimer, and found voters there to be extremely interested in the election. However, some significant obstacles made it difficult for them to vote.

As you're aware, undoubtedly, many polling places were changed or closed a few weeks before the elections. Letters informing voters were mailed out, the letters were fatally flawed. The name of the new polling place was correctly given, but the address underneath it was the address of the old polling place. Imagine the confusion. When the election people were made aware of this, new letters were sent out, but in my neighborhood, I found that many arrived not at all or too late to be any good.

Those of us who are concerned about people knowing their polling places undertook just a process of our own writing postcards to all of our neighbors, informing them of their new polling place. I spent several hundred dollars doing that myself, and I was not the only one. It was so --- we got so used to the process that when I was at Target checking out, the gentleman checking out told me that his family had gotten this wonky letter and they didn't know where to vote. And I was so

familiar by then with the addresses of the polling places that when he gave me his address, I could tell him where to go to vote, and that's obviously not how we want to handle our elections.

On Election Day, I arrived at seven o'clock at a polling place in Larimer because it had been closed just days before the election. I wanted to be sure there would be a sign there that would tell people where they should go to vote, and it's good that I came with my sign because there was no sign there. Fortunately, a lot of other people came, too. There must have been around seven of us, and we waited all day. We drove 127 voters up to their correct polling place under very difficult situations, both for us and for them. So I think we need to address this with citizens and with the election officials working together. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Deborah. Alison Fujito? You can correct me if I said your last name wrong.

MS. FUJITO: Alison Fujito, 8199 Streamside Drive, Pittsburgh, 15237.

First of all, I'd like to thank the County Council for your transparency. You guys are wonderful. You record every public meeting and you keep verbatim public meeting minutes. Unfortunately, the Allegheny County Board of Health does not adhere to the same standards. Their public meeting minutes reduce public comments to short one or two sentence summaries that don't accurately reflect what was said.

On September 14th, 2016, I made a public comment where I directly addressed Dr. Lee Harrison regarding his effort to mandate HPV vaccination. I complained that he dismissed public comments from eight Allegheny County residents who had presented him with data and peer-reviewed studies indicating significant potential for harm from HPV vaccines, and I pointed out that Dr. Harrison hadn't told us that the girls in the Gardasil pre-licensure trials died at 3 to 10 times the rate of their same-age counterparts in the general population. Dr. Harrison was a voting member of the CDC's ACIP committee in 2016.

But according to the Board of Health minutes, I only expressed concern that ACIP, rather than Dr. Harrison, was dismissive of evidence of harm. By the way, simultaneously serving on a CDC national policy-setting

and a county Board of Health seems like a conflict of interest to me. Being in a position to recommend medical intervention on a national level and then aggressively attempting to mandate that same intervention on a county level, that's a lot of power for one person.

On November 7th, 2018, I read a letter addressed to the Board of Health from Emily Tarsell who wanted the Board to know that the US Department of Health and Human Services officially conceded that it was proved by preponderant evidence that her daughter Christina died from Gardasil. However, the minutes stated only that Christina died after receiving the vaccine.

In that same meeting, there was no discussion of any of the issues I and others raised. The Board ignored us and voted on a resolution that was not on the agenda, that they did not read aloud and for which they did not allow public comment. And they silenced and threatened an Allegheny County resident who requested clarification on a point of order. That's really troubling.

Has Dr. Harrison ever disclosed that he's been a paid consultant for vaccine manufacturers? In 2017, he was paid \$7,688 in consulting fees and travel and lodging by vaccine manufacturer GlaxoSmithKline. GlaxoSmithKline happens to manufacture an HPV vaccine called Cervarix. This is just the tip of the iceberg, all I could fit into three minutes for why we need a public hearing addressing oversight of the Board of Health's procedural rules, transparency and potential conflicts of interest. Thank you very much for letting me talk.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Alison. Gwen DiPietro?

MS. DIPIETRO: Thank you. My name is Gwen DiPietro and I live at 430 Locust Street in Edgewood, 15218. I've been an election judge and poll worker at the Carnegie Mellon polling place since about 2007. Today, my comments are going to focus on the efficient and fair processing of absentee ballots.

Due to long-established plans, my daughter's graduation, my son and I applied for absentee ballots in late April and received them within a week. So we had enough time for the system to work for us. The ACLU, however, sued Pennsylvania in 2018 over the legality of the state's tight absentee ballot deadlines. Over 2,000 votes were rejected in the 2016 mid-terms because they arrived after the deadlines, state's deadlines. Voters need to understand better how to ensure that their

absentee ballot applications are accepted and that their completed ballots are not discarded.

Starting at the County website front page, it takes five clicks to get information about absentee ballots. Buried even further is a critical sentence that says, your absentee ballot application must be received by the Election Division by 5:00 p.m. on the Tuesday before the Primary or General Election, very general, all-purpose. One further click reveals a second critical all-purpose sentence that says, your voted absentee ballot must be received by the Election Division by 5:00 p.m. on the Friday before the Primary or General Election. Both of these deadlines are hard stoppers for the County. For the last minute voter, there are only three days between submitting an application for an absentee, receiving that absentee ballot and returning the voted ballot, an almost impossible feat for anyone who can't hand deliver their voted ballot. Note also that the website clearly states that the Election Division's regular business hours end at 4:30, which is 30 minutes before the deadline.

It would be helpful if --- this is just one idea, the front page of the website ran an election-specific notice that said something like, absentee ballots for the municipal primary must be received by the Election Division no later than 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, May 14th. Completed and voted absentee ballots must be received by the Election Division no later than Friday, May 17th, very specific.

The County website should highlight the common problems that cause the Election Division to, one, decline to issue an absentee ballot, and two, reject a completed ballot. What goes wrong? How can voters avoid those types of issues? There's no public information posted about the types of processing issues that the Election Division encounters and how voters can maximize the likelihood that their absentee ballots will be counted.

Voters should understand how to best comply with the current absentee ballot process. Council should understand and address the challenges that the Election Division faces that causes them to reject ballots --- applications and ballots. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Gwen. Brady Miller?

MS. MILLER: Brady Miller, 261 Mingo Road, Wexford, 15090.

Good evening. My name is Brady Miller. I stand here today as a concerned parent and as a registered nurse. I'm concerned over the misconduct of the Allegheny County Board of Health. The Board of Health violated the Sunshine Act during their scheduled meeting in November of 2018. I was in attendance. The lack of professionalism and respect for the community was very unsettling. The lack of transparency has broken my trust in the division responsible for the health of my family and community.

It raises many questions such as, why was the HPV resolution snuck in? Why did they feel they could get away with it? Do Dr. Lee Harrison, Dr. Karen Hacker or the Board as a whole have something to gain from their blanket recommendation that all children entering school receive the HPV vaccine? Why did they get so defensive and adamant in pushing their vote through? I'm asking as an Allegheny County resident that the City Council provide more oversight to the Board of Health.

Due to their actions, it has become the public's responsibility to hold the Board of Health accountable for their actions. This is unacceptable. A parent should not have to take them to court and spend \$15,000 to make them follow the rules. What will they pass next if no one is watching? I am asking that a public hearing to be held to discuss the misconduct of the Board of Health. Regulatory policies, including ramifications to ensure that this will not happen again, it owed to the public. And just a little information for everybody.

Right now they recommend that children as young as nine years old start to get this HPV vaccine and they are starting to change that to infants. A sexually transmitted disease for infants, so we're talking kindergarteners. So I'm a nurse, I'm very well-educated on this, and I don't feel that something so serious should be pushed through without public comment being allowed. So I feel like this was completely inappropriate. Thank you.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you, Brady.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President? If I may call for a point of personal privilege? I'd like to make a statement for the record.

MR. FUTULES: Sure.

MR. DEMARCO: Sure. Earlier this evening or at our meeting here, there was comments made about violence in the city here and in this area. I want to point to an

article that was in the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette written by Kris Mamula which was published on May 4th, 2019. And in this article, they point out that violent crime in Pittsburgh fell 24 percent from between the first quarters of 2015 and 2019. During the same period, property crimes fell 10 percent while the number of less serious crimes such as driving under the influence, disorderly conduct and prostitution was down 13 percent. Overall, crime dipped seven percent in the first quarter year-to-date comparisons between 2019 and 2018.

So while there is still work for these folks to do, we were not Gotham City before Batman decided to show up and clean the place up. And I would also like to point out that the number of concealed carry permits issued by the Allegheny County Sherriff's Department in 2015, we had 86,000 concealed carry permit holders in Allegheny County. Today, we have over 127,000. So if guns were the problem, then we'd see an increase in crime, not a decrease. So I just wanted to put that --- point that out for the record so that people watching or people reading would understand that Allegheny County and Pittsburgh, for the most part, is a safe place to live and raise their kids. Thank you very much, Mr. President.

MR. FUTULES: Sure thing. Mr. Barker, do we have ---?

MR. WALTON: Mr. --- Mr. President, Mr. Vice-President? I feel a need to respond to that comment and with your permission, I'd like to do so.

MR. FUTULES: I'm disheartened in the fact that we're taking liaison reports and now we're going to debate them. I don't think it's a good idea for any of us to start debating on liaison reports. It's a bad idea and I --- but I'm going to permit you to do it this time but in the future, I would suggest that we don't.

MR. WALTON: Well, Mr. President ---.

MR. FUTULES: It's my --- it's my opinion, but go ahead.

MR. WALTON: My --- my --- my response to that is, I laid out a series --- a series of concerns. I did not respond --- I did not respond to my earlier issue, but given that retort, I feel I must. Clearly, there's a national trend in terms of a reduction of crime overall across America. That is without --- that is without question. However, there is a clear increasing trend in --- in mass actions that cause serious amounts of injury

and death. That is unquestioned, that is unquestioned. That fact alone. If we have a --- a reduction in crime and a reduction in violent crime not only in Allegheny County but in our nation by its very logic would indicate there is a less need for more weapons than a greater need for more weapons.

However, the inverse is true. Because of --- because of manipulation, weapons are being foisted upon everyone in every community in every sense. Common sense, at some point, must rule and human decency, at some point must rule. That's all I'm saying. We can disagree and we can --- and we can respectfully disagree, but at the end of the day, 12 people just three days ago lost their lives unnecessarily. Just six months ago, in Squirrel Hill, a number of people lost their lives unnecessarily with legal weapons. We can't argue. We can't dispute that. Action has to be taken to resolve that issue. Humanity must survive.

MR. DEMARCO: Mr. President, and I'll make this the last comment, okay?

MR. FUTULES: I appreciate it.

MR. DEMARCO: One of the things that all these instances show is that criminals don't obey the law. So passing laws which do nothing but deprive law-abiding citizens the right to protect themselves and their families is unacceptable in my opinion. We've all watched the evening news. When was the last time you watched and saw breaking news, police arrived just in time to stop. They don't. As great of a job as the police officers in our community do, when they respond, many times it's too late.

So it's up for the folks, the homeowners and the people protecting their own homes, their families and their properties to protect themselves. And I will vigorously oppose and fight any attempt to restrain --- restrain their rights to be able to defend themselves. And when we talk about facts, I would disagree that the facts are not out there that we have an overabundance or a plethora of the mass shooting incidences, even though what we do have is public --- publicized and the publicity that these things generate. So thank you very much, Mr. President. I'm done.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. Thank you both for your comments and concerns.

MR. DEMARCO: Second.

MR. FUTULES: Whoa, whoa, whoa, whoa. We're not done. You just think we are.

MR. WALTON: A motion --- a motion was ---.

MR. FUTULES: We have another speaker that you guys interrupted, I wanted to ---.

MR. WALTON: Adjourn cannot be amended and it rules. If there's a motion to adjourn and it's seconded ---.

MR. FUTULES: Would you let me speak for a second? We have a person on the --- that's not on the agenda that's signed up to speak until I was interrupted. So I would like to give this person that opportunity to speak.

MR. WALTON: Mr. President ---.

MR. FUTULES: But I need permission from you guys to let that happen.

MR. WALTON: Mr. Vice President, I must --- I must challenge the decision of the Chair.

MR. CATENA: Mr. Vice President, I'll withdraw the motion.

MR. FUTULES: There, okay. So do we have a speaker here tonight that signed up three hours late?

MR. BARKER: We did have one individual who attempted to sign up yesterday, it was slightly past the deadline. Her name is Marie Norman.

MR. FUTULES: Okay. So wait a minute. We need permission from the Council to allow you to speak. Is everybody okay with it?

MR. MACEY: I'm okay.

MR. PALMOSINA: Absolutely, absolutely.

MR. FUTULES: Come on up.

MR. MACEY: Go ahead.

MR. FUTULES: I don't know your name but he --- he has it. So state your name and record --- and address for the record for us. Thank you.

MR. CATENA: Mr. President, the only point I wanted to make for the motion to adjourn was because I didn't want any further debate on this argument that was going on.

MR. FUTULES: I'm not opposed to that.

MS. NORMAN: Thank you for allowing me to speak. My name is Marie Norman, N-O-R-M-A-N. And my address is 1139 Wightman Street, Pittsburgh, 15217.

So yeah, thank you again, for allowing me to speak today and for being so open in general to hearing

public commentary about election integrity in Allegheny County. I've spoken here before, as have many of the others here about the need for reliable voting machines that preserve an auditable paper trail and the imperative to make voting, particularly by absentee ballot easier. And again, I really want to thank you for the meetings that are coming up about voting machines and the chance to see vendors. I think this is a move in --- in the right direction. But today I wanted to bring attention to a different issue.

So as Julie said, after our recent primary elections, I heard a number of accounts of improprieties in polling places. For instance, in one --- at least one polling site in the Hill District, a poll worker was observed sitting behind voters while they voted and watching them as they voted which is a violation of --- of voter's privacy and a form of voter intimidation and may have been intended to be. In another polling site, a candidate who was on the ballot, showed up to the polling place wearing a t-shirt advertising himself and was allowed to vote wearing that shirt which, you know, violates the rule against having, you know, sort of polling materials, campaign materials inside the polling location.

In other sites, first-time voters arrived to vote and were told that they weren't registered even though they were sure they had and they were not given provisional ballots. In another polling location, and this was back in November, a friend who had finished voting overheard poll workers whispering to each other that they may have given her and other voters the wrong cartridge. And in Squirrel Hill, a friend of mine took her son to vote for the first time and the poll workers just did not seem to know what to do with the first-time voters. They couldn't find the young man in their book of signatures, they got confused about what forms he was supposed to fill in. They didn't understand the fact that his mother and he had different names but shared the same address. They just seemed sort of undone by the fact that he was a first time voter and it ended up taking him 20 minutes just to get him registered or get him permission to vote.

You can imagine that for somebody who has less wherewithal or speaks English as a second language or is less confident, they might have left and been

disenfranchised. So I know that polls are staffed by volunteers and I'm greatly to those volunteers but these kinds of problems really are unacceptable. We need poll workers who are informed, efficient and capable. When people go to vote, they need to do so with total confidence that proper protocols are being followed and that the information they're getting is accurate and that their votes will be counted.

So I know you know this, and I know you share our desire for elections in Allegheny County to be fair and transparent and well run. So my question for you is, what steps can Council take to ensure that citizens of the County have faith in the election system and how can we ensure that people are properly trained to work the polling stations and do their jobs well? So thank you very --- very much.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. Now, we can make a motion to adjourn.

MR. CATENA: Motion to adjourn.

MR. DEMARCO: Second.

MR. FUTULES: All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

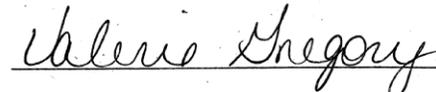
MR. FUTULES: Opposed? Meeting adjourned.

MEETING CONCLUDED AT 6:05 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 15th day of July, 2019


Court Reporter

Valerie Gregory