

# **Allegheny County Council**

*436 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Phone (412) 350-6490  
Fax (412) 350-6499*



## **Meeting Minutes - Approved**

**Wednesday, September 10, 2014**

**4:00 PM**

**Conference Room 1**

### **Committee on Budget and Finance**

*Michael Finnerty, Chair*

*Members:*

*Barbara Daly Danko*

*Amanda Green Hawkins*

*Heather Heidelbaugh*

*Bob Macey*

*Sue Means*

*Nicholas Futules, John Palmiere*

*Jan Rea*

## I. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 4:06PM.*

**Invited Guests: William D. McKain, CPA-County Manager or Designee  
Warren Finkel-Director, Budget and Finance Department, or Designee  
Jerry Tyskiewicz, Director of Administrative Services**

**Walter Szymanski, Jared Barker, Lori Sicard, Erin Graney were present from Council Staff.**

**Greg Casciato, Warren Finkel, and Kathy Celestino were present from the Office of Budget and Finance**

**Jan Chirdon and Amy Griser were present from the Controller's Office**

**Jerry Tyskiewicz and Jason Uziel were present from the Department of Real Estate**

## II. Roll Call

**Members Present:** 3 - Finnerty, Bob Macey and Sue Means

**Members Absent:** 5 - Barbara Danko, Amanda Green Hawkins, Heather Heidelbaugh, John Palmiere and Jan Rea

**Members Phone:** 1 - Nick Futules

## III. Approval of Minutes

[8466-14](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of Allegheny County Council held on September 3rd, 2014  
**Passed**

## IV. Agenda Items

### Ordinances

[8443-14](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing, as a result of the County Manager's recent performance of a mandated sunset review and the submission of a report on the sunset review, for the elimination of the County's Department of Real Estate as a separate County department, the transfer of the duties, functions and obligations of the Department of Real Estate to the Department of Administrative Services and the amendment of Chapter OC of the County Code of Ordinances entitled "Organizational Chart" to reflect the elimination of the Department of Real Estate and the transfer of its duties, functions and obligations to the Department of Administrative Services.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*The clerk read the title of the bill into the record and the Chair apologized for the confusion regarding the Sunset Review report from the last meeting and stated that the*

report was emailed to all Council Members prior to this meeting for their review.

Mr. McKain was invited to the table along with Jason Uziel, Deputy Director of the Department of Real Estate and Jerry Tyskiewicz, Acting Director, to answer questions regarding the Manager's Sunset Review.

Mr. Macey inquired as to how much the vacant Director's position played upon the decision to merge the departments. Mr. McKain stated that it was helpful that the savings generated from eliminating the position played a role and of course it was better not to have to lay-off an employee to find these savings.

Mr. Tyskiewicz and Mr. McKain stated that the information center would be moved to the first floor and expand the call center for the Department of Real Estate, making it more convenient for the public to go to one place to get all necessary documents and assistance.

Ms. Means inquired as to the number of employees in the Department of Real Estate and the history of the Department.

Mr. Uziel gave a brief history of the department and its functions and how it interplays with the Property Assessment Office.

Now the department reviews deeds for correct information to prevent problems in property tax notification.

Mr. Macey made a recommendation for affirmative recommendation. Mr. Finnerty seconded the motion.

Ms. Means stated that she reached out to the Real Estate Association and they had positive feedback on the combination. Ms. Means further stated that she was in favor of the combination because it would increase efficiency, lead to more correct information and save money.

The Chair inquired who would run the newly combined departments. Mr. McKain stated that it would be decided upon the approval of the Sunset Review.

**Affirmatively Recommended**

#### **Discussion Topic: State and Function of the Department of Real Estate**

Mr. Tyskiewicz gave a brief overview of the functions of the Department of Real Estate.

Mr. Finnerty inquired about the process of scanning property photos and other documents to be available online.

Mr. Macey inquired as to a disaster recovery program. Mr. Uziel stated that they have a disaster recovery process headquartered in Texas.

#### **V. Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 4:27 PM.