

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 16, 2008

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

William Russell Robinson, Chair; Jim Burn, Joan Cleary, John DeFazio, Matt Drozd, Mike Finnerty, Vince Gastgeb, Amanda Green, Bob Macey, and Chuck McCullough - Members

I. Call to Order

Summary: *The meeting was called to order at 4:00 PM*

Invited Guests:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Amy Griser, Director, Budget & Finance

Derek Uber, Deputy County Manager

Summary: *Invited guests in attendance: Ms. Griser*

Recognized attendees: Joe Olczak and Philip LaMay, Public Works

Council staff in attendance: John Mascio, Jennifer Liptak, and Jared Barker

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Joan Cleary, Matt Drozd, Amanda Green, Bob Macey, Chuck McCullough, Chair William Robinson, and Council Member Nick Futules
Absent: Jim Burn, John DeFazio, Michael Finnerty, and Vince Gastgeb

III. Approval of Minutes

4332-08 Motion to approve the Minutes of the September 2, 2008 Budget & Finance Committee Meeting.

Action: **A motion was made by Cleary, seconded by Macey, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Votes: Yes: 6 - Cleary, Drozd, Green, Macey, Chair Robinson and Council Member Futules
Abstain: 1 - McCullough
Absent: 4 - Burn, DeFazio, Finnerty and Gastgeb

IV. Agenda Items

Summary: *Prior to discussion on proposed legislation, the Chair informed the Committee that he sent a letter to President Judge Joe James regarding Councilman Drozd's bill relative to outstanding monies owed to the County from the State for the operation of our court system. He said that Judge James responded in saying that he sent a letter to the Chief Legal Counsel of the State Supreme Court regarding this issue and is waiting for a response.*

The Chair also said that he received a letter from Ms. Griser in response to his letter which invited the Chief Executive to this meeting to discuss his budget perspectives. He said that Ms. Griser indicated that the Chief Executive could not be present at the Committee Meeting but would be available to discuss this issue at the October 7, 2008 Regular Meeting when he submits the County's Comprehensive Fiscal Plan.

4322-08 A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2006 Capital Budget for Allegheny County.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

Ms. Liptak provided the Committee with a summary of the bill. She said that funding for these projects will come from postponement of the New Maintenance Warehouse project and will allow the County to fund certain additional projects related to security at the Jail as well as improvements to the Soldiers' and Sailors' Memorial Hall.

She also provided the Committee with a brief explanation of the Capital Budget process. She said that this amendment as presented would result in a balanced 2006 Capital Budget.

Action:

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Cleary, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

4324-08

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2008 Capital Budget for Allegheny County.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

Ms. Liptak provided the Committee with a summary of the bill. She said that funding for these projects will come from postponement of the New Maintenance Warehouse project and available 2008 funds from the Slope Stabilization Program, the Budget Database/Budget Preparation Software project, and the Clark Health Lab Final Construction Costs project.

She deferred to Mr. Olczak and Mr. LaMay to address specific questions. Ms. Cleary asked Mr. Olczak about the Clark Health Lab. He described some structural problems at the lab. He said that at the end of the month his department will do a punch list of what was completed and what would need to be completed. He said that it was about 85 percent completed.

The Chair asked Mr. Olczak about street paving in Council districts. He said that paving was done in Council districts 2, 4, 6, 8, 9, and 11.

Action:

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Cleary, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

4325-08

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2008 (Submission #12-08).

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

Ms. Liptak provided the Committee with a summary of the bill. She said that there was only one amendment and that the program provides experience/training to low income County residents, 55 years or older. Individuals train 20 hours a week in a non-profit agency. The Chair asked her if the trainees were County Employees. She said they were not.

Action:

A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Green, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

V. Adjournment