

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 29, 2009

5:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Public Safety

***Jim Burn, Chair; John DeFazio, Matt Drozd, Jim Ellenbogen, Vince Gastgeb,
Chuck Martoni, and Bill Robinson - Members***

I. Call to Order

Summary: *The meeting was called to order at 5:00 PM*

Invited Guests:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee
Charles Moffatt, Superintendent, County Police or Designee
Bob Full, Chief, Emergency Services or Designee
Ramon Rustin, Warden, Allegheny County Jail or Designee

Summary: *Invited Guests in attendance: Derek Uber for Mr. Flynn, Mr. Moffatt, Mr. Rustin, and Mr. Yuretich*

Council staff in attendance: John Mascio and Jennifer Liptak

Chief Paul Yuretich, Spring Garden Fire Company

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Matt Drozd, Jim Burn, and Bob Macey
Absent: John DeFazio, Jim Ellenbogen, Vince Gastgeb, Chuck Martoni, and William Robinson

III. Approval of Minutes

4817-09 Motion to approve the Minutes of the April 15, 2009 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Action: **A motion was made by Drozd, seconded by Chair Burn, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Agenda Items**Ordinance**

4751-09 An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the disposition of a county-owned vehicle to the Spring Garden Fire Company, Reserve Township Station 240, for use in providing emergency services.

Sponsors: Jim Burn

Summary: *The Chair asked Chief Yuretich to provide the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the Allegheny County Department of Emergency Services is in possession of a decommissioned van that is no longer of value to the Department or the County. He said that the Spring Garden Fire Company, Reserve Township Station 240, has expressed an interest in obtaining the van to provide emergency services. The Chair asked him if he anticipates any problems obtaining insurance for the vehicle. Chief Yuretich said that has already been requested and approved.*

Mr. Drozd and Mr. Macey spoke in favor of the bill.

Action: **A motion was made by Drozd, seconded by Chair Burn, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.**

Resolution

4745-09 A Resolution authorizing the Allegheny County Police Training Academy to apply for and to accept a grant from the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC) and agreeing to adhere to all rules, regulations and training standards established by MPOETC.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary: *The Chair asked Mr. Moffatt to provide the committee with a summary of the bill. Mr. Moffatt said that the bill authorizes Allegheny County and the Allegheny County Police Department to apply for and accept a state grant from the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC). He explained that this authorization is required before the County may receive grant funding for the training of police officers under the terms of the statute that established the Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Program.*

He said that these funds will be equal to 60% of the salaries and 100% of the academy tuition for seven (7) newly hired police officers. He also said that MPOETC guidelines require an approved resolution stating that the County will follow the rules, regulations and training standards established by MPOETC prior to authorizing the grant.

Following preliminary approval of this bill, the Chair asked Warden Rustin to address the committee regarding a recent suicide at the Allegheny County Jail. Mr. Rustin provided the committee with a detailed explanation of the jail's policies and procedures regarding the housing of inmates. The Chair asked him if he felt that all of these policies, procedures, and protocols were followed. Mr. Rustin said that they were.

He said that there has been an increase in inmate suicides due to hard economic times. He distributed to the committee a collection of news stories (on file) which contained articles on suicides in various jails throughout the country.

Action: **A motion was made by Drozd, seconded by Chair Burn, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.**

V. Adjournment

Summary: *The meeting adjourned at 5:25 PM*