

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 25, 2006

5:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Public Safety

Jim Burn, Chair; John DeFazio, Matt Drozd, Vince Gastgeb, Chuck Martoni, Rich Nerone, and William 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

Summary: *Invited guests present: Mr. Flynn and Mr. Moffatt*

Council staff in attendance: John Mascio and Jared Barker

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Jim Burn

Absent: John DeFazio, Vince Gastgeb, Chuck Martoni, Rich Nerone, and William Robinson

Phone: Matt Drozd

III. Approval of Minutes**2834-06**

Motion to approve the Minutes of the March 16, 2006 Public Safety Committee Meeting.

Summary: *Council Member Drozd said that he was not present at the meeting from which the minutes were drawn, and therefore he could not vote. The Chair said that he would hold the Motion and bring it back up at the next Public Safety Committee meeting.*

Action: **Held in Committee**

IV. Agenda Items**Resolution****2759-06**

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: *Superintendent Moffat provided a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would authorize the County to apply for and accept grant funding from the Pennsylvania Municipal Police Officers' Education and Training Commission (MPOETC). 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, Act 120 of 1974.*

He also said that the legislation contains an agreement on the part of the County to adhere to the rules, regulations and training standards established by the MPOETC as a condition for receipt of the grant.

He said that these funds will be equal to 60% of the salaries and 100% of the academy

tuition for 9 newly hired police officers.

The Chair asked if the program included other police municipalities. Mr. Moffat said that they train police officers from municipalities throughout Allegheny County with the exception of the City of Pittsburgh.

Mr. Drozd spoke in favor of the bill.

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

Motion

2672-06

Motion of the Council of Allegheny County requesting that the Governor and General Assembly revisit the appropriate provisions of state law and recreate the requirement that all motorcycle riders wear helmets in Pennsylvania.

Sponsors: Matt Drozd

Summary: Mr. Drozd provided a summary of the bill. He said that In September 2003, Pennsylvania repealed its mandatory helmet law, which required all motorcycle riders in Pennsylvania to wear helmets. He said that this motion requests the Governor and General Assembly to reconsider a state helmet law and urges them to reinstate the repealed mandatory helmet law.

He said that the motion is premised upon data that suggest that the use of helmets by motorcycle riders has saved lives. In addition, the data suggest that Florida, which also repealed its mandatory helmet law, experienced significantly increased subsidized medical and other costs due to accidents involving riders who were not wearing helmets. He said that it is detrimental to the public welfare and places a financial burden on the citizens of Allegheny County.

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

V. Adjournment