

# Allegheny County Council

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## Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, April 17, 2019

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

## Committee on Budget and Finance

*Paul Klein, Chair; Sam DeMarco, Nick Futules, Bob Macey, Sue Means, John Palmiere  
and Paul Zavarella, Members.*

## I. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 4:02.*

### Invited Guests:

**William D. McKain, CPA, County Manager or Designee(s)**

**Mary C. Soroka, Director, Budget and Finance or Designee(s)**

*Mr. McKain was present from the Office of the County Manager.*

*Ms. Soroka, Ms. Berbekec, Mr. Lentz, Ms. Perez, Mr. Humenik, Mr. Rambo and Mr. Cox were present from the Department of Budget & Finance.*

*Mr. Chimka and Mr. Exler were present from the Department of Economic Development.*

*Mr. Biondo was present from the Kane Regional Cengers.*

*Mr. Barker and Ms. Roka were present from the Office of County Council.*

## II. Roll Call

**Members Present:** 2 - Sue Means and Paul Klein

**Members Absent:** 2 - Sam DeMarco and Chuck Martoni

**Members Phone:** 3 - Nick Futules, Bob Macey and John Palmiere

**Members** 1 - Anita Prizio

**Non-Members:**

## III. Approval of Minutes

## IV. Agenda Items

### Resolutions

[11037-19](#)

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2019 (Submission #01-19).

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain summarized its provisions, noting that the first grant to be accepted is for the Courts from the PPG Charitable Trust for use in improving a children's play area at the Family Law Center.*

*In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that the outdoor area already has some equipment in place, but it is outdated, and indicated that the installation will either be funded by the grant or undertaken by the County's trades employees. Mr. McKain noted that the County would review and inspect the construction no matter who completes it in order to ensure safety, and that the hope is to have the equipment installed for the coming summer.*

*In response to a question from Mr. Macey, Mr. McKain noted that anyone volunteering to work on the project would be adequately insured.*

Mr. McKain, Mr. Chimka and Mr. Exler discussed the CDBG Year 45 program, noting that information regarding the approved projects had already been distributed to the members. Mr. Chimka indicated that the funding for Year 45 remained approximately static at \$13.7 million, summarized the application and approval process, and noted that the uses of the approved funds varies significantly throughout the County. Mr. McKain and Mr. Chimka discussed the County's use of a 100% electronic application process for the first time, which both made it easier to apply for funding and reduced the administrative cost of applying and receiving applications.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Chimka noted that eligibility criteria are primarily designated by the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development. Mr. Exler and Mr. Chimka provided additional detail regarding the general outlines of eligibility criteria.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Chimka noted that the Department assists applicants in completing the application and adhering to the application protocols, and providing advice regarding the eligibility of projects for funding before the full application is prepared.

**A motion was made by Means, seconded by Palmiere, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

#### 11038-19

A Resolution of the County Council of Allegheny County, Pennsylvania, authorizing participation in the 2018-2019 Nursing Home Intergovernmental Transfer Program proposed by the Pennsylvania Department of Human Services; authorizing the transfer of funds as required by the said program and further granting authorization for any and all lawful actions necessary to effectuate Allegheny County's participation in said program.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain summarized its provisions, noting that this is the fourth or fifth time that the County has participated in the program since DHS re-initiated it. Mr. McKain provided a brief summary of how the program works, noting that the County essentially pools some of its revenue together with other jurisdictions for a short time in order to receive a greater sum in return after participation.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Biondo noted that the transfers are initiated in May and must be completed by July 1. Mr. Biondo noted that this year's contribution is \$15.8 million, and the County would be receiving \$24.7 million. Mr. Biondo and Ms. Soroka noted that last year the County's contribution was \$15 million, and \$22 million was received in return.

**A motion was made by Macey, seconded by Means, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

## V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19.