

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, August 25, 2016

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Public Works

Bob Macey, Chair

*Members; Sam DeMarco, Jim Ellenbogen, Mike Finnerty, Nick Futules, Cindy Kirk,
Paul Klein, Denise Ranalli-Russell, DeWitt Walton*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:01.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager or designee(s)

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

Mr. Evanto and Ms. Delancy present from the Department of Administrative Services.

Mr. Barker and Mr. Szymanski were present from the Office of County Council.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 2 - Macey and Michael Finnerty

Members Absent: 6 - Jim Ellenbogen, Nick Futules, Cindy Kirk, Paul Klein, Denise Ranalli-Russell and DeWitt Walton

Members Phone: 1 - Sam DeMarco

Members 1 - Sue Means

Non-Members:

III. Approval of Minutes

[9795-16](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the June 23, 2016 meeting of the Committee on Public Works.

A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by DeMarco, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

IV. Agenda Items

Ordinances

[9787-16](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, granting Woodridge Productions, Inc. a temporary license to use certain County owned real and personal property in connection with filming a television series.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain summarized its provisions, describing the television show to be filmed, noting that there would be 159 filming days within Allegheny County, and that this would favorably impact revenues through the drink, sales, hotel, and rental vehicle taxes, but that filming movies and shows with national viewership also boosts the region's national image.

Mr. Evanto discussed the location needs of the production company and indicated that North Ridge Road would be closed during filming and that the production company would rent the lodge and all structures on North Ridge Road for the period of setup, filming, and takedown, which would be September 12-16, weather and other exigencies permitting. Mr. Evanto also noted that the production company has agreed to pay all fees for filming in the park, as well as all costs of maintaining a police presence in the area. Mr. Evanto

mentioned that the contemplated filming period runs from a Monday through a Friday, which corresponds to low park usage patterns on weekdays, and Ms. Delancy described soem fo the aspects of filming.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Evanto indicated that the desired location was a winding road that could pass for rural Kentucky, and that North Ridge Road fit the bill perfectly.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Evanto noted that no events had been scheduled in the lodge during the time of the filming, so no events would be displaced.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Evanto described the production company's activities within the City of Plttsburgh in prior production years, noting tha tthe interior sets are constructed in the Strip District.

In response to a question from the Chair and Mr. Finnerty, Mr. Evanto noted that the series is very popular and the expectation is that filming would continue in future years.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain and Mr. Evanto discussed the previously referenced revenue streams that would be expected to result from activities of this nature, but indicated that it would be extremely difficult to specifically quantify the tax dollar value. Mr. Evanto also noted that state and local income taxes would be due from individuals paid locally as part of the project.

A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by DeMarco , that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:26.