

# Allegheny County Council

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## Meeting Minutes

Thursday, July 6, 2017

5:00 PM

Conference Room 1

## Committee on Public Works

*Bob Macey, Chair; Patrick Catena, Samuel DeMarco, Jim Ellenbogen, Nick Futules,  
Cindy Kirk, Paul Klein, Denise Ranalli-Russell and DeWitt Walton - Members*

## I. Call to Order

*The meeting was called to order at 5:02.*

### Invited Guests:

**William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager or designee(s)**  
**Stephen Shanley, Director, Allegheny County Department of Public Works**

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

*Mr. Evanto was present from the Department of Administrative Services.*

*Mr. Barker was present from the Office of County Council.*

## II. Roll Call

**Members Present:** 4 - Sam DeMarco ,Nick Futules,Macey andDeWitt Walton

**Members Absent:** 5 - Patrick Catena,Jim Ellenbogen,Cindy Kirk,Paul Klein andDenise Ranalli-Russell

**Members Phone:** 1 - Tom Baker

**Members** 2 - John DeFazio andSue Means

**Non-Members:**

## III. Approval of Minutes

[10242-17](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 25, 2017 meeting of the Committee on Public Works.

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

## IV. Agenda Items

### Ordinances

[10233-17](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing the grant of a temporary license to The Pittsburgh Three Rivers Regatta Inc. for the purpose of staging a craft and food vendor market on the Roberto Clemente Bridge (6th Street) Bridge as part of The Three Rivers Regatta between Friday, August 4, 2017 until Monday, August 7, 2017.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill.*

*The Chair briefly noted that, while some individuals may occasionally have issues with the closure of the Clemente Bridge, he believes that the benefits of the occasional closures far outweigh any downsides.*

*Mr. Evanto summarized the provisions of the bill, noting that this had been done last year very successfully and that the Pirates are playing at home the same weekend, but that*

*the impact on traffic should be minimal given the timeframes envisioned for the bridge closure. Mr. Evanto noted that crowds probably would be larger than normal, due to a combination of the Regatta events and the Pirates playing at PNC Park at the same time.*

*The Chair expressed a desire to provide information to the public regarding the bridge closure well in advance of the event, and indicated that this together with the provision of adequate security and other services should contribute to a successful event.*

*In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Pilarski and Mr. Evanto noted that the County Police patrol the bridge itself, while the City Police patrol the access ramps and surrounding streets.*

*In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Pilarski noted that the rivers will be closed to traffic during certain timeframes due to Regatta activities.*

*The Chair, Mr. Walton and Mr. Futules discussed the duration of the authorization and the comparative merits (or lack thereof) of delegating authority to allow recurring events to take place without individual legislative authorizations.*

*Mr. DeMarco expressed support for the event, and indicated that closing the Clemente Bridge for the weekend should not cause any major issues.*

*In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Evanto noted that the Regatta would be paying the highway occupancy fee and reimburse the County for out of pocket expenses and that the County's bridges are insured, while the Regatta and all vendors provide insurance coverage appropriate for the activities that they undertake.*

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

#### 10234-17

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing Cinatit LLC to use certain County-owned real and personal property in connection with filming a motion picture.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill.*

*The Chair noted that motion picture and television filming generally increase the County's visibility nationally and that, in his view, the film industry is a benefit to the County and region in the aggregate.*

*In response to a question from Mr. DeMarco, Mr. Evanto noted that the writer, producer and director of the film are all from Pittsburgh, and that the filming will all take place after dark when the pools are closed, and that the pools would be open exactly as they ordinarily would be.*

*Mr. Walton suggested that the motion picture tax credit functions to generate ancillary revenue that he believes far outweighs the amount lost through the credit, and that the film industry is therefore a benefit to the County and Commonwealth.*

*In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Evanto noted that the tax credit is determined after the filming is wrapped up, that filming would take place over 33 days with 200 employees, 90% of whom are local, and that equipment rentals and security*

would all be provided by local companies, the County Police, and the like. Mr. Evanto also noted that they are renting about 40 motor vehicles and 200 hotel room-nights, both of which generate tax revenues. Mr. Evanto also indicated that, while post-production work on most films is done in a studio that is not where filming took place, the post-production work on this film will all be done in Pittsburgh.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. Evanto noted that the setup and takedown time for the sets would not occur during the times that the pools would be open, and that the County would be paid the \$1,000 per day fee for filming in the parks, while out of pocket expenses would be reimbursed.

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

## **V. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 5:26.*