

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 17, 2018

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

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

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:03.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager or Designee

Mary C. Soroka, Allegheny County Budget Director or Designee

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

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

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

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 2 - Sue Means and Paul Klein

Members Absent: 5 - Sam DeMarco ,Nick Futules,Bob Macey,Chuck Martoni and John Palmiere

III. Approval of Minutes

[10634-18](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Committee on Budget and Finance meeting held on May 2, 2018.

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

IV. Agenda Items

Resolutions

[10622-18](#)

A Resolution ratifying certain year-end transfers pursuant to Section 805.03 of the Administrative Code.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain summarized its provisions and described the history and function of the Budget Transfer Committee, the budget transfer process, and the ratification process. Mr. McKain noted that there were \$13.6 million in interdepartmental transfers, which is a small number given the size of the County's operating budget, and indicated that the intradepartmental transfers totaled \$14.5 million. Mr. McKain noted that the fund balance went up, as well.

Ms. Soroka indicated that the bill is being submitted a little later than in past years in order to allow for the Controller to weigh in on the process based on what the comprehensive annual audit shows.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain confirmed the membership of the Budget Transfer Committee, and noted that the transfer numbers are also audited. Ms. Soroka discussed how the Department's computer software is used in the process of tracking the transfers.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain described how the Department maintains constant communication with the various departments regarding their spending in relation to their respective budgets, and also noted that the County had made a concerted effort to employ individuals with relevant budgetary knowledge and experience in the various departments in order to improve the efficiency with which those conversations take place.

The Chair and Ms. Soroka discussed the importance of being able to minimize surprises while maintaining the ability to react to those that do occur.

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

[10623-18](#)

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2018 (Submission #04-18).

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 \$51,000 grant at issue is intended to supplement a prior grant in improving the security of court facilities located in the Frick Building. Mr. McKain indicated that the funding would principally be used to acquire a magnetometer, an X-ray machine, and safety glass for the Orphans Court Division.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that the grant at issue requires no County match, and that it is in addition to the previously approved court security improvement grant revenue.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain described the County's active shooter training initiatives.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:24.