

# **Allegheny County Council**

*County of Allegheny  
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## **Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Tuesday, June 26, 2007**

**5:00 PM**

**Conference Room 1**

### **Committee on Public Works**

***Bob Macey, Chair; Jim Burn, Vince Gastgeb, William E. Lestitian, Chuck Martoni,  
and William Robinson - Members***

**I. Call to Order**

**Summary:** *The meeting was called to order at 5:05 PM*

**Invited Guests:**

**Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee**

**Tom Donatelli, Director, Public Works**

**Summary:** *Invited guests in attendance: Mr. Flynn and Mr. Donatelli*

*Recognized Attendees: Phil LaMay, Deputy Director of Administration, Department of Public Works; and Cathy Trexler, Accreditation Project Manager, Department of Public Works*

*Council Staff in attendance: John Mascio and Jennifer Liptak*

**II. Roll Call**

***Roll Call:*** Present: Vince Gastgeb, William Robinson, Chair Bob Macey, Council Member Susan Caldwell, Council Member Joan Cleary, Council Member Matt Drozd, Council Member Michael Finnerty, and Council Member Rich Fitzgerald  
Absent: Jim Burn, William Lestitian, and Member Chuck Martoni

**III. Approval of Minutes**

**3311-07** Motion to approve the minutes of the April 24, 2007 Public Works Committee Meeting.

**Action:** **A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Gastgeb, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried unanimously.**

**IV. Agenda Items****Ordinances****3037-07**

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances to include a new Chapter 271, entitled "Allegheny County Utility Infrastructure Web Site."

**Sponsors:** Bob Macey

**Summary:** *The Chair provided the committee with a summary of the bill, he said that the bill would create a new Chapter in the Administrative Code requiring the creation and maintenance of the Allegheny County Utility Infrastructure Web Site.*

*He said that as the bill is written, it would permit (but not require) Public utility providers to post information on the County's website such as contact information, descriptions of infrastructure improvements performed and budgets for past and future infrastructure improvements, notations of service failures together with causes of such failures and remedial actions taken, and descriptions of the utilities' businesses. The*

*database would be searchable at no fee to the County's residents.*

*He said that although the bill as written makes this voluntary, he would like to change the bill to make this mandatory. Mr. Donatelli described the current process that the county uses and said that he agrees that making this mandatory would be an improvement to the bill.*

*Mr. Fitzgerald said asked if there would be any cost to the county. Mr. Donatelli said that although there would be administrative costs, the fees would probably cover most of it.*

*Mr. Gastgeb said that he would support making this mandatory but asked if they were within their legal rights to do so.*

*The Chair said that he did not know about the legality of this. Mr. Donatelli said that they would have the right to require this for county right of ways but that it may be more difficult to enforce that outside the county's purview.*

*Mr. Robinson suggested that someone put forth an amendment to the bill to make it mandatory but that the committee should hold the bill until they find out whether it would be legal to do this.*

*Mr. Fitzgerald said that the committee should ask County Solicitor Mike Wojcik and Council's Legal Advisor Jack Cambest for some advice on how to make this mandatory.*

*The committee agreed.*

**Action:**

**Held in Committee**

**3043-07**

An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to convey in fee a 0.15 acre area of required right-of-way, 0.01 acre area of drainage easement and 0.47 acre area of temporary construction easement on county-owned Montour Trail property at its intersection with Brownsville Road Extension (SR 3013) in the Township of South Park to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, through its Department of Transportation.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Summary:**

*There was no discussion on the bill.*

**Action:**

**A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Gastgeb, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.**

**3214-07**

An Ordinance authorizing the County of Allegheny to convey a 20,779.23 square foot area required right-of-way, in fee, and a 19,893.46 square foot temporary construction easement on County-owned White Oak Park property to the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, acting through its Department of Transportation for replacing its bridge carrying McClintock Road (SR 02033, Section A02 R/W) over Jacks Run, 76 feet east of its intersection with Jacks Run Road (SR 48) in White Oak Borough.

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

**Summary:** *The Chair provided the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would authorize the conveyance of property to PennDOT for the purpose of replacing a bridge near White Oak Park.*

*He said that in 1958, the County acquired property for the White Oak Park. On April 26, 2007, PennDOT sent its Notice of Acquisition to acquire required right-of-way and easement needed to replace its adjacent bridge carrying McClintock Road over Jacks Run. A two-lane bridge will replace the existing one-lane bridge.*

*There was no further discussion on the bill.*

**Action:** **A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Gastgeb, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Resolutions**

### **3061-07**

A Resolution of the Allegheny County Council urging the placement of a new coal gasification plant in the Mon Valley of Allegheny County.

**Sponsors:** Bob Macey

**Summary:** *The Chair provided the committee with a summary of the bill. He said that the bill would urge that Governor Rendell evaluate the available sites in the Monongahela Valley area of Allegheny County for existing sites that could potentially be used for the construction of a modern bituminous coal gasification facility, as well as to engage in site acquisition for such a facility. He said that the bill also requests that, once a site is selected and acquired, the construction of such a facility become a priority for the Governor and General Assembly. The Chair distributed various articles containing Governor Rendell's positive recommendations on this issue. He said that even though he would prefer that it be in the Mon Valley, that he at least wants it to be in the region.*

*Mr. Finnerty said that he has no objection to requesting that it be in the Mon Valley.*

*Mr. Fitzgerald expressed support for this being in the Mon Valley. He said it makes sense to have it there and would be a perfect fit.*

*Ms. Cleary said that even though she agrees that the Mon Valley would be a good location for this, she has some reservations about specifically requesting that. She said that she would be happy if it were just somewhere in Allegheny County.*

*Mr. Drozd asked for a list of all the sites in Allegheny County where this could be located.*

**Action:** **A motion was made by Robinson, seconded by Gastgeb, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.**

## **Discussion Topic:**

### **Presentation from the APWA**

**Summary:** *Mr. Donatelli and Mr. LaMay provided the committee with a formal presentation of the Self Assessment Phase Results of the American Public Works Association Accreditation Project. They distributed to the committee hard copies of a Power Point presentation to*

*accompany the verbal presentation.*

*Following the presentation, Mr. Fitzgerald commended Mr. Donatelli and his staff on their work, and said that his department was probably the best Public Works Department in Allegheny County.*

*Mr. Gastgeb, Mr. Finnerty, and the Chair also commended Mr. Donatelli and his department on their presentation for all the work they do throughout the year.*

*The Chair opened the floor for Public Comment. There was none.*

**V. Adjournment**

**Summary:** *The meeting adjourned at 6:05 PM*