

Allegheny County Council

436 Grant Street
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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, October 4, 2017

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

Paul Klein, Chair; Patrick Catena, Samuel DeMarco, Nick Futules, Ed Kress, Bob Macey, Charles Martoni, Sue Means and John Palmiere, Members.

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04.

Invited Guests:

The Honorable William P. Mullen, Allegheny County Sheriff or Designee
William D. McKain, CPA, County Manager or Designee

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

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

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 4 - Patrick Catena, Paul Klein, Sue Means and John Palmiere

Members Absent: 4 - Nick Futules, Ed Kress, Bob Macey and Chuck Martoni

Members Phone: 1 - Sam DeMarco

IV. Agenda Items

Ordinances

[10302-17](#)

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the Allegheny County Sheriff's Office to accept a donation of a 2017 bi-fuel Chevrolet Tahoe, VIN 1GNSKFEC6HR287917, Model K15706, by Peoples Natural Gas Company LLC (PNG), subsequent to their purchase of the vehicle in accordance with, and in support of, the PNG Clean & Green Project promoting the reduction of carbon emissions.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, Mr. McKain provided a brief overview of the ordinance, noting that People's Natural Gas would be donating a bi-fuel vehicle capable of operating on natural gas or diesel fuel, with the vehicle to be equipped by People's under the supervision of the Office of the Sheriff. Mr. McKain noted that the Office of the Sheriff undertakes a significant amount of outreach during the course of its activities through the Crime Prevention and Community Relations division, and the vehicle would be of great use in those efforts. Mr. McKain indicated that, while maintenance would be the County's responsibility, the donation of the vehicle is a significant benefit to the County.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. McKain noted that the vehicle is brand new, and that he anticipates that the Office of the Sheriff will find it tremendously useful.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that he feels that there are several potential reasons for the donation, including increasing awareness of natural gas powered vehicles, as the vehicle will likely carry a badge that indicates that it is fueled by natural gas.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that there is a natural gas fueling station in the Strip District, indicated that he would anticipate that would be the

primary location for gas fueling, and indicated that he would ask the Sheriff about the vehicle's value, but that his sense is that it is likely over \$50,000.

In response to a question from Mr. Palmiere, Mr. McKain noted that the Port Authority is also undertaking some actions relating to powering vehicles with natural gas, but that there are logistical impediments to the County to doing the same, as the County's vehicles are distributed throughout the County and fueling stations are not necessarily in the same locations.

In response to a question from Mr. Palmiere, Mr. McKain discussed the County's current efforts to convey the old District 5 maintenance building, because a prior conveyance fell through.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain indicated that he would have to check on the cost of natural gas fuel and the mileage that vehicles get when powered by it.

Mr. DeMarco suggested that there may be wisdom in considering whether natural gas fuel is currently taxed or not when making decisions about vehicle fuel sources.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:19.