

Allegheny County Council

436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone (412) 350-6490



Meeting Minutes - Approved

Wednesday, September 9, 2015

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

*Michael Finnerty, Chair;
Nick Futules,
Amanda Green Hawkins,
Heather Heidelbaugh, Terri Klein,
Bob Macey,
Sue Means,
John Palmiere and
Jan Rea
-Members*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:01.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA - County Manager or Designee

Mary C. Soroka - Director, Office of Budget and Finance or Designee

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

Ms. Soroka and Mr. Casciato were present from the Department of Budget & Finance.

Mr. Eichenlaub was present from the Builders Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh.

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

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 5 - Heather Heidelbaugh, Bob Macey, Sue Means, Nick Futules and Michael Finnerty

Members Absent: 4 - Amanda Green Hawkins, John Palmiere, Jan Rea and Terri Klein

Members 1 - John DeFazio

Non-Members:

III. Approval of Minutes

[9159-15](#) Motion to approve the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of Allegheny County Council held on August 12, 2015
Passed

[9160-15](#) Motion to approve the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting of Allegheny County Council held on August 26, 2015
Passed

IV. Agenda Items

[9121-15](#) A Resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of 911 subscriber and consumer fees from the newly created 911 Fund for the provision of 911 services in the County as provided by the Act of June 29, 2015 (P.L.36, No. 12).

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. McKain offered a brief summary of the resolution, noting that acceptance of funds from the Commonwealth's 911 Fund is required prior to any disbursement of those funds to the County.

Mr. Macey discussed issues that have existed for years relating to radio interoperability between emergency service providers, and noted that he is in favor of this funding stream, insofar as it eases the emergency services funding burden on the local municipalities.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that the new fee applies to both cell phone lines and land lines, and described the deficit historically incurred by the 911 call center, noting that it was roughly \$6 million last year due to prior fees that generated funding for the County's 911 system only applying to land lines, and the number of land lines dropping. Mr. McKain expressed a belief that the new fee should get the County close to eliminating the 911 call center deficit, but he will not be certain until it becomes clear how the funds will be distributed through PEMA's funding formulae.

In response to a question from Ms. Heidelbaugh, Mr. McKain noted that the timeline for processing the bill will not impact the County's receipt of funding.

Mr. Futules and Mr. McKain discussed the need for authorizing the acceptance in order to be eligible for the receipt of funding.

Affirmatively Recommended

V. Discussion Topic

Builders Association of Metropolitan Pittsburgh Presentation

Mr. Eichenlaub gave a brief presentation regarding new home construction trends in Allegheny and surrounding counties.

VI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:39.