

Allegheny County Council

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



Meeting Minutes - Approved

Wednesday, April 22, 2015

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

*Michael Finnerty, Chair;
Nick Futules,
Amanda Green Hawkins,
Heather Heidelbaugh,
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, Ms. Celestino and Mr. Cox were present from the Department of Budget and Finance.

Mr. Hurley, Mr. Exler and Mr. Earley were present from the Department of Economic Development.

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

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 3 - Finnerty, Bob Macey and Sue Means

Members Absent: 5 - Barbara Danko, Amanda Green Hawkins, Heather Heidelbaugh, John Palmiere and Jan Rea

Members Phone: 1 - Nick Futules

III. Approval of Minutes

[8922-15](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee of Allegheny County Council held on April 15, 2015
Held in Committee

IV. Agenda Items

Resolutions

[8888-15](#)

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2015 (Submission #04-15).

Sponsors: Chief Executive

The Chair provided a brief overview of the Year 41 CDBG program, noting that revenue for demolition projects would be comparatively scarce in Year 41, and highlighting the contents of the packet provided to the Committee.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Hurley discussed the possibility of increasing demolition funding in future program years.

The Chair and Mr. Hurley discussed the reasons that certain municipalities may not have made requests for CDBG funding, with Mr. Hurley suggesting that the decision not to apply was probably largely a function of whether a given municipality meets the eligibility requirements.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Hurley discussed how the COGs assist with making the Department aware of priorities with regard to funding allocation.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Exler discussed the scheduling of the required public hearing for the Year 41 program.

Ms. Means and Mr. Hurley discussed how funding could be provided to various programs, rather than for specific economic development projects, with Mr. Hurley noting that often the types of programs that receive funding relate to job skill training or job readiness assistance for certain at-need populations.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. Hurley described how charities with certain missions and sufficiently inclusive participation guidelines may receive funding through the CDBG program.

Ms. Means and Mr. Hurley discussed a project to aggregate small lots that were at one time given as prizes at bingo games and which have almost all become tax delinquent, and to transition the aggregated lots back to the tax rolls.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. Hurley noted that Penn Hills, McKeesport and Pittsburgh receive their own CDBG funding, and that those municipalities therefore do not apply for County CDBG funding. Mr. Hurley also noted that Trafford and McDonald are only partially within Allegheny County, and have opted to apply for CDBG funding through the other counties in which they are partially located.

Ms. Means suggested that the CDBG funding be submitted as a stand alone bill in future years, and the Chair and Mr. Hurley noted that, in prior years, the CDBG funding was included as part of the regular budget process, but that the suggestion may bear consideration.

Affirmatively Recommended

Enactment No: 10-15-RE

V. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 4:21.