

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 27, 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 4:01.

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.

Mr. Evanto and Mr. Gittlen were present from the Department of Administrative Services.

Ms. Soroka was present from the Department of Budget & Finance.

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

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 1 - Paul Klein

Members Absent: 2 - Sam DeMarco and Chuck Martoni

Members Phone: 4 - Nick Futules, Bob Macey, Sue Means and John Palmiere

III. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the Committee on Budget and Finance meeting held on May 17, 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

[10674-18](#)

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2018 (Submission #06-18).

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 bill essentially functions to enable the tracking of proceeds from the sale of repurposed roofing tiles from the County Courthouse, with the County to retain 40% and 60% to be forwarded to the Parks Foundation. Mr. McKain handed out a brochure from Wendell August Forge which showed the finished products, and had examples of them available for the committee to view.

Ms. Gittlen described the genesis of the concept and the early interactions with Wendell August, and Mr. Evanto discussed the ability of the County to aid in promoting the sale and expressed a belief that the tiles should prove to be popular.

In response to a question from the Chair, Mr. McKain discussed the progress of the

Courthouse roof renovation project, noting that approximately 10,000 of the 435,000 tiles have been removed at this time, and suggested that the Council and other local entities like law firms might also assist with marketing the repurposed tiles.

Mr. McKain indicated that the concept of reporting is still in the formative phases, but that something approaching quarterly updates on sales is probably what will ultimately be the result.

In response to a question from Mr. Macey, Mr. McKain reiterated that 40% of the proceeds of the sale will be retained by the County, but emphasized that the actual amount will be dependent upon the numbers sold and the price point(s) for each sale. Mr. McKain noted that there may be other options for selling the removed tiles, but that he would like to evaluate this avenue before suggesting others.

Mr. Macey expressed support for the concept.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain reiterated that 60% of the proceeds from the sales will be forwarded to the Parks Foundation for their use in funding projects relating to the County parks. Mr. McKain noted that the special account is currently expected to handle up to \$200,000 in sale proceeds to be forwarded to the Foundation through the end of 2018.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain described the condition of the tiles as they are removed from the roof, indicated that some of the tiles are damaged to an extent that makes it impractical to repurpose them, and noted that the tiles are stored in the Courthouse until they are shipped to Wendell August Forge. Mr. McKain indicated that the sale would start in early July if the bill is approved at the July 3 meeting, and that he would evaluate the merits of continuing the sale based on its success as it proceeds.

Ms. Means expressed support for the concept.

Mr. Futules suggested that there may be merit in contemplating security for the tiles as they are stored, because anything of value is a theft risk, and Mr. McKain expressed agreement.

Mr. Futules suggested that there may also be wisdom in offering some type of quantity discount to encourage entities like museum gift shops to offer the tiles for sale through their gift shops, and Mr. McKain asked Mr. Evanto and Ms. Gittlen to think along those lines.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:25.