

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone (412) 350-6495
Fax (412) 350-6499*



Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 8, 2006

5:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Executive Committee

***Charles Martoni, Chair; John DeFazio, Brenda Frazier, Vince Gastgeb,
and Jan Rea***

I. Call to Order

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

Invited Guests:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Jack Cambest, County Council's Legal Counsel

George Janocsko, First Assistant Solicitor

Summary: *Non-Committee Members Present: Finnerty, Cleary, Drozd (by telephone).*

Ex-Officio Member Present: Fitzgerald

Invited Guests Present: Uber, Janocsko

Staff Present: Barker, Liptak, Catanese

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Chair Chuck Martoni, Council Member Brenda Frazier, Council Member Jan Rea, and Council Member Rich Fitzgerald
Absent: Council Member John DeFazio, and Council Member Vince Gastgeb

III. Approval of Minutes

Action: **A motion was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Rea, to Passed. The motion carried unanimously.**

2636-06 Motion to approve the Minutes of the December 13, 2005 Executive Committee meetings.

Action: **A motion was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Rea, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried unanimously.**

IV. Agenda Items**Ordinance**

2536-06

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the placement of certain ordinances of general application of Allegheny County enacted prior to the adoption of home rule and all ordinances of general application of Allegheny County enacted subsequent to the adoption of home rule into a single ordinance to be known and designated as the Code of Ordinances of Allegheny County, accepting, approving, adopting, ordaining and enacting as the Code of Ordinances of Allegheny County that compilation of previously enacted ordinances of general application of Allegheny County, as revised, organized and consolidated into chapters, articles and sections by General Code Publishers Corporation, providing for the continuation of all previously adopted County ordinances, repealing and saving from appeal certain legislation not included in the Code of Ordinances, and providing for the proper maintenance of the Code of Ordinances, and providing for penalties for the altering or the tampering with any chapters, articles and sections of the Code of Ordinances

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary:

The Chair summarized the bill and expressed a desire to release it to the full Council.

In response to a questions from Council Members Cleary and Finnerty, Mr. Janocsko noted that not every rule or regulation would be included in codification, only those done by ordinance. All Code-eligibel ordinances would be threaded into the Code, which is maintained by the Clerk as ordinances are passed. The publisher will do periodic cumulative supplements, however.

In response to a question from Council Member Rea, Mr. Janocsko noted that codification does not change the effect or applicability of any existing ordinance; it simply puts them all in one conveniently accessible place.

Council Member Frazier expressed her approval of the bill.

Motion to approve: Fitzgerald, Cleary

Action:

A motion was made by Council Member Fitzgerald, seconded by Council Member Frazier, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion**2425-06**

Motion of the Council of Allegheny County adopting Rules of Council for Allegheny County Council

Sponsors: Executive Committee, Chuck Martoni, John DeFazio, Brenda Frazier, Vince Gastgeb and Jan Rea

Summary:

The Chair summarized the bill and the suggested amendment.

In response to questions from President Fitzgerald and Council Member Frazier, Mr. Barker explained the proposed distinction between primary sponsors and co-sponsors for new legislation, and that the proposed alteration would not change the ability of

committee chairs to release bills to the full Council.

Motion to approve: Frazier, Fitzgerald

Action: **A motion was made by Council Member Frazier, seconded by Council Member Fitzgerald, that this matter be Amended and Affirmatively Recommended as Amended. The motion carried unanimously.**

Discussion Topic:

Televising of County Council Meetings

Summary: *The Chair noted that staff has been investigating options for televising meetings, and deferred to Ms. Liptak.*

Ms. Liptak gave an overview of the four most practicable alternatives for televising meetings. In response to a comment from President Fitzgerald, Ms. Liptak noted that improvements to the lighting in the Gold Room would be required for any of the four options.

Council Member Rea suggested that the four options should be presented to all 15 Council Members.

Ms. Liptak also discussed the status of the webcasting program, and noted that it is not quite ready to be implemented.

All members present expressed a desire for the meetings to be viewable by as large a portion of the County's residents as possible.

Ms. Liptak noted that the existing trial videotaping has generated tapes that Comcast has indicated are not up to broadcast standards.

Executive Session:

Personnel Matters

Summary: *The committee adjourned to executive session at 6:25 to discuss personnel issues.*

V. Adjournment

Summary: *The meeting adjourned at 6:50.*