

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Thursday, October 22, 2009

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

William Russell Robinson, Chair; Jim Burn, Joan Cleary, John DeFazio, Matt Drozd, Mike Finnerty, Vince Gastgeb, Amanda Green, Bob Macey, and Chuck McCullough - Members

I. Call to Order

Summary: *The meeting was called to order at 4:00 p.m.*

Invited Guests:

Mark Flaherty, County Controller or Designee

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Amy Griser, Director, Budget & Finance

Summary: *Invited Guests Present: Derek Uber, Deputy County Manager; Amy Griser, Director of Budget & Finance; Mark Flaherty, County Controller; Guy Tumolo, Deputy Controller*

Council Staff Present: Jennifer Liptak; Jared Barker; Stephanie Buka

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: John DeFazio, Michael Finnerty, Chuck McCullough, William Robinson, Rich Fitzgerald, Nick Futules, and Jim Ellenbogen
Absent: Jim Burn, Joan Cleary, Vince Gastgeb, Amanda Green, and Bob Macey
Phone: Matt Drozd

III. Agenda Items**Ordinance****5135-09**

An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, amending and supplementing the Allegheny County Code of Ordinances, Division 4, entitled "Finances," through the creation of a new Chapter 491, entitled "Community College of Allegheny County Appropriations," in order to provide a mechanism for adjusting the County's annual budgetary appropriation to the Community College of Allegheny County in order to keep pace with rising inflationary costs.

Sponsors: William Russell Robinson, Rich Fitzgerald and Bob Macey

Summary: *Ms. Liptak provided a summary of the legislation and Chairman Robinson explained the intent of this bill. Ms. Liptak will provide the Fiscal Note to committee members for review.*

Councilman McCullough requested Sunset language be included in the bill or a clause in the bill that states Council would review this again after two years.

Chairman Robinson told members that the college estimates that they will be able to raise \$30 million within 5 years.

Councilman Drozd plans on offering an amendment requiring the college to conduct their own fundraising, prior to receiving assistance from the County.

Action: **A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by DeFazio, that this matter be Affirmatively Recommended. The motion carried unanimously.**

Discussion Topic:

County Controller Mark Patrick Flaherty will address the Committee regarding the financial status of the County.

Summary: *Controller Flaherty gave a presentation concerning the financial status of the County. Mr. Flaherty explained his revenue and expenditure concerns and shared his ideas related to the longterm financial stability for the County.*

Controller Flaherty discussed the assessment issue and encouraged Members to comply with the Supreme Court's order to reassess as soon as possible to take advantage of the declining values in the current housing market.

IV. Adjournment

Summary: *The meeting adjourned at 5:25 p.m.*