

Allegheny County Council

*County of Allegheny
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Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 1, 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:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Amy Griser, Director of Budget & Finance

Derek Uber, Deputy County Manager

Summary: *Invited Guests Present: Jim Flynn, County Manager; Amy Griser, Director, Budget and Finance*

Recognized Attendees: Dr. Bruce Dixon, Director, Health Department; Pete Schepis, Deputy Director, Budget and Finance; Phil LaMay, Deputy Director, Department of Public Works; Marianne DiVecchio, Administrative Assistant, Sheriff's Office; Mary Lou Mikula, Grants Manager, Allegheny County Police

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

II. Roll Call

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

III. Approval of Minutes

5077-09 Motion to approve the Minutes of the August 11, 2009 Budget & Finance Committee Meeting.

Action: **A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by Macey, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by the following vote:**

Votes: Yes: 3 - Finnerty, Macey and Robinson
Abstain: 1 - McCullough
Absent: 4 - Cleary, DeFazio, Gastgeb and Green
Not present: 1 - Burn
Yes Phone: 1 - Drozd
Non-Member: 1 - Rea

IV. Agenda Items

Resolutions

5062-09 A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2009 (Submission #13-09).

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary: *Ms. Liptak provided the committee with a detailed summary and explanation of the amendment to the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2009.*

The Chair invited County Manager Jim Flynn to the table to discuss the state's budget

impasse and how it would impact the County's receipt of state funds. Mr. Flynn indicated that the Department of Human Services would incur the biggest impact.

Councilman Finnerty inquired about a Justice Assistance Grant provided to the Allegheny County Police and Ms. Mikula provided background information regarding such.

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

5063-09 A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the 2009 Capital Budget for Allegheny County.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary: *The Chair invited Ms. Griser and Mr. LaMay to the table to discuss the amendment to the 2009 Capital Budget.*

Mr. LaMay described the two new projects which include Browns Hill Road Improvements and River Road Relocation. He explained that the Department of Public Works is working in cooperation with the Department of Economic Development in order to accomodate the expansion of Allegheny Ludlum's plant at the River Road relocation.

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

5073-09 A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2009 (Submission #14-09).

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Summary: *Ms. Liptak provided members with a detailed summary and explanation of the amendment of the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2009.*

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

Discussion topic:

2010 Budget Schedule

Summary: *Chairman Robinson indicated that a discussion concerning alternative revenue sources for 2010 will be a necessity.*

In response to a question from Councilman McCullough, the Chair replied that County Council's Solicitor, Mr. Jack Cambest, would be presenting information to Council concerning Judge Wetnick's decision related to property assessments.

Councilman McCullough suggested that using Capital bond funds to cover operating expenses will lead the County into financial trouble.

A discussion ensued concerning the upcoming G-20 Summit and the budget.

V. Adjournment

Summary: *The meeting adjourned at 4:55 p.m.*