

Allegheny County Council

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Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, July 6, 2016

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Budget and Finance

Mike Finnerty, Chair

Members; Sam DeMarco, Nick Futules, Paul Klein, Ed Kress, Bob Macey, Chuck Martoni, Sue Means, John Palmiere

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:04.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA, County Manager or Designee

Mary Soroka, County Budget Director or Designee

Mr. McKain was present from the Office of the County Manager.

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

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

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 6 - Finnerty, Sam DeMarco, Chuck Martoni, Paul Klein, Sue Means and Bob Macey

Members Absent: 3 - Nick Futules, John Palmiere and Ed Kress

Members 1 - Cindy Kirk

Non-Members:

III. Approval of Minutes

[9717-16](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee held on June 22, 2016.

A motion was made by DeMarco, seconded by Martoni, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by the following vote:

Members Yes: 5 - Finnerty, DeMarco, Martoni, Klein and Macey

Members Abstain: 1 - Means

Members Absent: 3 - Futules, Palmiere and Kress

Members 1 - Kirk

Non-Member:

IV. Agenda Items

[9712-16](#)

A resolution ratifying certain year-end transfers pursuant to Section 805.03 of the Administrative Code.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Szymanski summarized its provisions and gave a brief historical overview of year end transfers.

In response to a question from the Chair, Ms. Soroka described the bill's delineation of interdepartmental transfers and intradepartmental transfers and discussed the difference between the two. Ms. Soroka provided an explanation for the dollar totals referenced in the bill and its summary. Mr. McKain gave a hypothetical example of intradepartmental and interdepartmental transfers. Mr. McKain noted that a total of \$4.1 million in

interdepartmental transfers in an operating budget that exceeds \$850 million is fairly remarkable.

In response to a question from Mr. DeMarco, Mr. McKain noted that there will be no impact on the 2016 budget as a result of any of the 2015 transfers, and indicated that the bill is being presented at this time in order to allow for the CAFR to be completed and to reconcile the transfers as fully as possible.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain discussed the difference between operating and capital budget appropriations and noted that capital appropriations do not expire, so the notion of a transfer does not apply in the same fashion to the capital budget as it does to the operating budget.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Ms. Soroka discussed the function of the transfer committee and the criteria that are used in order to decide which transfers to make and when. Ms. Soroka also described how the process of formulating the 2016 budget took prior years' performance into account.

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

9713-16

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2016 (Submission #06-16).

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Szymanski summarized its provisions, noting that one facet of the amendment accounts for a new \$500,000 grant for the Health Department relating to violence prevention, and the other facet is a \$2,115 increase to an existing grant relating to the HOME Investment Partnership Program.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Ms. Soroka noted that the violence prevention program is community-focused, rather than focused on individuals. Mr. McKain indicated that the largest single portion of the violence-related cases that are in the court system come from the City of Pittsburgh, and that the focus is upon formulating a strategy for community outreach and large scale violence reduction.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that the service would be contracted to a service provider rather than hiring staff whose salary or salaries would not be paid by the grant after the exclusion of the grant term.

In response to a question from Mr. Macey, Ms. Soroka and Mr. McKain noted that the contracted services would be subject to competitive bidding.

With regard to the HOME Partnership Investment Program, Mr. McKain noted that this is the third time that the anticipated grant amount has been increased.

In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that he believed that the administration had previously provided a report detailing the recipients of funding through the County, and indicated that the report would be re-sent.

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 was adjourned at 4:38.