

# **Allegheny County Council**

*436 Grant Street  
Pittsburgh, PA 15219  
Phone (412) 350-6490*



## **Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, September 21, 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 4:03.*

**Invited Guests:**

**William D. McKain, CPA, County Manager or Designee**

**Mary Soroka, Director, Budget and Finance or Designee**

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

*Ms. Soroka and Ms. Berbekic were present from the Department of Budget and Finance.*

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

**II. Roll Call**

**Members Present:** 2 - Finnerty and Sue Means

**Members Absent:** 5 - Nick Futules, Paul Klein, Bob Macey, Chuck Martoni and John Palmiere

**Members Phone:** 2 - Sam DeMarco and Ed Kress

**III. Approval of Minutes**

[9821-16](#)

Motion to approve the minutes of the Budget and Finance Committee meeting held on August 31, 2016.

**A motion was made by Finnerty, seconded by DeMarco, that this matter be Passed. The motion carried by a unanimous vote.**

**IV. Agenda Items****Resolutions**

[9820-16](#)

A Resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2016 (Submission #09-16).

**Sponsors:** Chief Executive

*At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Mr. Szymanski summarized its provisions.*

*The Chair noted that background information had been provided to the Members along with the agenda materials.*

*Mr. McKain provided an overview of the grant that the County is receiving to construct a training ground for K9 officers, noting that suitable areas for these training activities are not common, even though there are 68 K9 officers in the County at present. Mr. McKain indicated that there is some unused space at the Police Academy that would be suitable, that the fence will not cost the County anything, and that the projected lifetime for the proposed fence is roughly 40 years.*

*In response to a question from the Chair, Ms. Soroka noted that the opioid surveillance grant is entirely new.*

*In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain noted that the Department of Health will be using the revenue to help establish a statewide database of fatal opioid overdoses and to catalog and follow up on non-fatal overdoses that are reported. The concept is to begin the process of gathering data geared toward future prevention activities. Mr. McKain also indicated that there is no County match for this grant.*

*Ms. Means highlighted a call that the Office of County Council had received from the mother of an overdose victim, and Mr. McKain described how the County and other municipalities handle family notifications, taking into consideration a number of factors.*

*In response to a question from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain speculated that the purpose of the data tracking initiative would also be to facilitate the CDC's review of the data.*

*The Chair expressed support for the program.*

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

#### **Discussion Topic 2017 Budget Process**

*The Chair noted that he had planned to discuss the upcoming budget process, and noted that the September 28 meeting would include a review of the County's financial status from the Controller and the October 5 regular meeting of Council would include the Chief Executive's presentation of the Comprehensive Fiscal Plan. The Chair highlighted other future meeting topics through the budget public hearings near the end of October.*

*The Chair recommended that the members discuss their thoughts on potential budget amendments with him in advance in order to facilitate the Committee's review of those amendments.*

#### **V. Adjournment**

*The meeting was adjourned at 4:17.*