

Allegheny County Council

*436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
Phone (412) 350-6490
Fax (412) 350-6499*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

4:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Public Safety

*Robert Palmosina, Chair; Tom Baker, Sam DeMarco, Paul Klein, Bob Macey, Denise
Ranalli-Russell and DeWitt Walton, Members*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 4:00.

Invited Guests:

William D. McKain, CPA, Allegheny County Manager or designee(s)
Coleman McDonough, Superintendent, Allegheny County Police

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

Superintendent McDonough was present from the County Police.

Mr. Barker was present from the Office of County Council.

II. Roll Call

Members Present: 2 - Bob Macey and DeWitt Walton

Members Absent: 4 - Sam DeMarco, Paul Klein, Denise Ranalli-Russell and Robert Palmosina

Members Phone: 1 - Tom Baker

Members 2 - Patrick Catena and Sue Means

Non-Members:

III. Approval of Minutes

IV. Agenda Items

Ordinances

[11131-19](#) An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the acceptance of the donation of a Dutch harness horse for adoption by the County for use in the Allegheny County Police's Mounted Unit.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

Mr. Macey chaired the meeting at the request of Mr. Palmosina.

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Superintendent McDonough summarized the bill, noting that the horse in question is nearly perfect for use by the mounted unit, both in terms of temperament and size.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Superintendent McDonough discussed the horse's size, noting that draft horses tend to be preferred for use by the mounted unit due to their size, because they provide a higher vantage point for the rider, and noting that they tend to be less high strung than horses that are bred for racing. Superintendent McDonough noted that the mounted unit has six horses before this donation, and the ideal number is 10-12.

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

[11132-19](#) An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania,

authorizing the acceptance of the donation of a Clydesdale horse for adoption by the County for use in the Allegheny County Police's Mounted Unit.

Sponsors: Chief Executive

At the request of the Chair, the clerk read the title of the bill and Superintendent McDonough noted that the ordinance is essentially the same as the other, but involves a Clydesdale with a slightly higher value than the Dutch harness horse (approximately \$10,000, compared to \$5,000 to \$7,000). Superintendent McDonough noted that the horse's size is an advantage in many settings, not only as observation positions, but also as a deterrent to unruly behavior and a means of directing crowds.

In response to questions from Ms. Means, Mr. McKain discussed general concepts regarding taxes for donations to government.

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

V. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:09.