

Allegheny County Council

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Agenda Synopsis

Tuesday, January 26, 2010

5:00 PM

Conference Room 1

Committee on Economic Development & Housing

*Mike Finnerty, Chair; Jim Burn, Joan Cleary, John DeFazio, Nick Futules,
Amanda Green Hawkins, Bob Macey, and Jan Rea - Members*

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:14 p.m.

Invited Guests:

Jim Flynn, County Manager or Designee

Dennis Davin, Director, Economic Development or Designee

Mike Wojcik, County Solicitor or Designee

Invited Guests Present:

Mike Wojcik, County Solicitor; Jack Exler, Deputy Director of Economic Development; Bob Hurley, Deputy Director of Economic Development; Darnell Moses, Authorities Manager.

Council Staff Present:

Mr. Barker and Ms. Liptak.

II. Roll Call

Roll Call: Present: Michael Finnerty, Nick Futules, Bob Macey, Jan Rea, William Russell Robinson, and Rich Fitzgerald

Absent: Jim Burn, Joan Cleary, John DeFazio, and Amanda Green Hawkins

III. Agenda Items

Motion

5324-10

Motion of the Council of Allegheny County amending the Rules of Council for Allegheny County Council to establish Rules pertaining to the legislative action by Allegheny County Council relating to certain projects for which bonds are to be issued by a County authority under the terms of the Municipality Authorities Act.

The Chair read the title and called Mr. Hurley, Mr. Exler, Mr. Moses and Mr. Wojcik to the table. At the Chair's request, Mr. Robinson discussed the rationale behind and function of his bill.

Ms. Rea expressed her feelings regarding the need for the bill.

The Chair described the authority bond issuance process and his opinion of the need for the bill.

Mr. Robinson clarified his prior remarks regarding the rationale behind the bill.

Mr. Fitzgerald discussed the fee structure and budgetary impact of authority bond issuances, and suggested the possibility of the Department of Economic Development and/or the authorities involved in bond issuances providing more information regarding those issuances as Council evaluates legislation relating to them.

Mr. Moses described his impression of the bill, noted that at least some of the items described in the bill are included to some extent in the bond issuance applications that are filed by the entities seeking the bond issuances, and suggested that the application documents could be provided to Council as a matter of course.

In response to a question from Mr. Robinson, Mr. Wojcik discussed the Municipality Authorities Act and the requirements of the Act regarding authority bond issuances and Council's role.

Mr. Hurley provided some further information regarding the role of the Department and the County in authority bond issuances.

The Chair asked Mr. Robinson to consider the possibility of adopting the suggestions from the committee meeting in lieu of the motion, and asked that the Council and the Department meet to discuss the possibility.

At the request of Mr. Wojcik, the committee entered an executive session to discuss pending litigation at 5:47 p.m.

IV. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 6:08 p.m.