

City of Pittsburgh

*510 City-County Building
414 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, PA 15219*



Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 25, 2020

10:00 AM

Council Chambers

City Council

ONE-HUNDRED

FORTY-FIRST COUNCIL

Theresa Kail-Smith, President of Council

***Council Members: Rev. Ricky V. Burgess, Anthony Coghill, Deborah L. Gross, Bruce A. Kraus,
R. Daniel Lavelle, Corey O'Connor, Erika Strassburger, Bobby Wilson***

Brenda F. Pree, City Clerk - Kim Clark-Baskin, Assistant City Clerk

ROLL CALL

Members present via video conference due to COVID-19 protective guidelines set forth by the federal, state, and local governments

Present 8 - Council Member Burgess, Council Member Coghill, Council Member Kraus, Council Member Lavelle, Council Member O'Connor, Council Member Kail-Smith, Council Member Strassburger, and Council Member Wilson

Absent 1 - Council Member Gross

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**PROCLAMATIONS**

[2020-0648](#)

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare August 29, 2020, the 150th year anniversary of Voting Rights in America and the City of Pittsburgh for all "citizens of the United States" regardless of race, color or previous condition of servitude; and,

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Saturday, August 29, 2020 to be "***Jubilee of Freeman Parade Day***" in the City of Pittsburgh.

SPONSOR /S: COUNCIL MEMBER KAIL-SMITH AND ALL MEMBERS

A motion was made that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 414

[2020-0652](#)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, That Council of the City of Pittsburgh recognizes Kenneth Felts as a courageous human, and embraces Larry in our most welcoming city.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby declare Tuesday, August 25th, 2020, to be "***KEN FELTS DAY***" in the City of Pittsburgh.

SPONSOR /S: COUNCIL MEMBER KRAUS AND ALL MEMBERS

A motion was made that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 415

[2020-0649](#)

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED; That the Council of the City of Pittsburgh calls upon President Trump to end his assault on our free and fair elections, remove Louis DeJoy by Reinstating Megan Brennan, and return the phone call of Senator Casey to explain in detail the changes at the United States Postal Service.

SPONSOR /S: COUNCIL MEMBER COGHILL, COUNCIL MEMBER KAIL-SMITH AND ALL MEMBERS

A motion was made that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 416

[2020-0653](#)

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh hereby urges Block Communications, Inc., the Newspaper Guild of Pittsburgh, and all other labor unions representing employees of the Pittsburgh Post-Gazette to resume negotiations immediately, in order to resolve the current impasse without resorting to unilaterally imposed conditions of employment or a potentially fatal work stoppage.

SPONSOR /S: COUNCIL MEMBER WILSON AND COUNCIL MEMBER KAIL-SMITH

A motion was made that this matter be Adopted. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 417

PUBLIC COMMENTS

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS

COUNCILMAN REVEREND RICKY V. BURGESS PRESENTS:

[2020-0621](#)

Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Department of Parks and Recreation to enter on behalf of the City of Pittsburgh into an agreement or agreements with Allegheny County, Department of Human Services, for the City's operation of its Senior Community Centers. Said agreement or agreement shall be for a term of one year at no cost to the City with compensation to the City not to exceed SEVEN HUNDRED EIGHTY THREE THOUSAND and FOUR HUNDRED FIFTY DOLLARS and NO CENTS (\$783,450.00).

Read and referred to the Committee on Urban Recreation

[2020-0622](#) Resolution authorizing the issuance of a warrant in favor of the DHS-OCR-Keys Service Corps in an amount not to exceed TWENTY FIVE THOUSAND DOLLARS AND ZERO CENTS, for the payment of the 2019 AmeriCorp Keys Summer Program which provides funding for hosting 17 youth to participate in the Department of Parks and Recreation Educational Programing Jobs Training for the summer. The AmeriCorps members who participated in this program worked alongside Citiparks staff to support the multi-site summer camps; and providing for the payment thereof.

Read and referred to the Committee on Urban Recreation

[2020-0623](#) Resolution authorizing the Mayor and Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to execute relevant agreements to receive grant funding from the National Recreation and Park Association to provide emergency funding relief for costs incurred by the City's Summer Food Program due to the Corona Virus and further providing for an agreement and expenditures not to exceed TEN THOUSAND (\$10,000.00) dollars for this stated purpose.

Read and referred to the Committee on Urban Recreation

COUNCILMAN ANTHONY COGHILL PRESENTS:

[2020-0624](#) Resolution authorizing the Mayor and the Director of the Department of Public Works to enter into a License and Maintenance Agreement in which the City grants to Walnut Capital a right to plant and maintain landscape improvements upon City property along Bakery Square Boulevard in Mellon Park.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0625](#) Resolution authorizing the Mayor, the Director of the Department of Public Works, and the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to execute relevant agreements to receive grant funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Aging's Senior Community Center Grant to make improvements at the Hazelwood Healthy Active Living Center and further providing for an agreement and expenditures not to exceed SIXTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$65,000.00) dollars for this stated purpose.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0626](#) Resolution authorizing the Mayor, the Director of the Department of Public Works, and the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to execute relevant agreements to receive grant funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Aging's Senior Community Center Grant to make improvements at the Sheraden Healthy Active Living Center and further providing for an agreement and expenditures not to exceed FORTY FIVE THOUSAND (\$45,000.00) dollars for this stated purpose.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0627](#) Resolution authorizing the Mayor, the Director of the Department of Public Works, and the Director of the Department of Parks and Recreation to execute relevant agreements to receive grant funding from the Pennsylvania Department of Aging's Senior Community Center Grant to make improvements at the South Side Market House Active Living Center and further providing for an agreement and expenditures not to exceed FIFTY ONE THOUSAND (\$51,000.00) dollars for this stated purpose.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0628](#) Resolution granting unto The Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, their successors and assigns, the privilege and license to construct, maintain and use at their own cost and expense, a new projecting sign, at 612 Smithfield Street, in the 2nd Ward, 6th Council District of the City of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

A motion was made that this matter be Waived under Rule 8. The motion carried.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0629](#) Resolution granting unto Renewal Inc., their successors and assigns, the privilege and license to construct, maintain and use at their own cost and expense, a new exhaust flue that will project into the right of way, at 329 Boulevard of the Allies, in the 1st Ward, 6th Council District of the City of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0630](#) Resolution granting unto SMITH BROTHERS BOGGS LP, their successors and assigns, the privilege and license to construct, maintain and use at their own cost and expense, (3) new canopy covered awnings, on an existing building, at 120 Federal Street, in the 22nd Ward, 1st Council District of the City of Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0631](#) Resolution providing for an amended reimbursement agreement with the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation for costs associated with the Preliminary Engineering phase of the Penn Avenue Reconstruction Phase II project, and providing for the payment of municipal incurred costs thereof, not to exceed Eight Hundred Twenty Five Thousand (\$825,000.00) dollars; federally reimbursable at eighty percent; and the municipal share of Commonwealth Incurred Costs not to exceed Ten Thousand (\$10,000.00) dollars.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

[2020-0632](#) Resolution amending Resolution 744 of 1996 entitled the “Resolution authorizing and directing the City Controller to create a special trust fund, to be designated as the “Shade Tree Trust Fund”, for the deposit of cash and contributions and authorized the use of the funds deposited therein by the Department of Public Works for any and all expenses associated with the operation and implementation of projects related to the planting and promotion of trees in the City of Pittsburgh”; to provide the Director of the Office of Management and Budget with authority to direct certain proceeds of the Shade Tree Trust Fund.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Works

COUNCILWOMAN DEBORAH L. GROSS PRESENTS:

[2020-0633](#) Resolution authorizing the City to enter into an agreement or agreements with Allegheny CleanWays to grant a license to Allegheny CleanWays to enter onto certain City-owned parcels in order to perform certain work including assessment and removal of litter and illegal dumping. This agreement will also allow access to certain Department of Public Works division facilities by Allegheny CleanWays for disposal of collected litter and illegal dumping.

Read and referred to the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

[2020-0634](#) Resolution adopting Plan Revision to the City of Pittsburgh’s Official Sewage Facilities Plan for proposed land development located at 316 S. Highland Ave. at the parcel number 84-K-260, Pittsburgh, PA 15206.

Read and referred to the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

[2020-0635](#) Resolution adopting Plan Revision to the City of Pittsburgh’s Official Sewage Facilities Plan for 1501 Penn Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15222.

Read and referred to the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

[2020-0636](#) Resolution adopting Plan Revision to the City of Pittsburgh’s Official Sewage Facilities Plan for Sweetbriar Houses at 450-454 Sweetbriar Street, Pittsburgh, PA 15211.

Read and referred to the Committee on Intergovernmental Affairs

COUNCILMAN R. DANIEL LAVELLE PRESENTS:

[2020-0637](#) Resolution providing for further renewal by the Council of the City of Pittsburgh of a Declaration of Disaster Emergency, ratified by Council on March 17th, 2020; to extend the effectiveness of the Declaration for fourteen days (14) additional days thereby making the Declaration effective until September 8th, 2020; in response to the ongoing public health emergency associated with the spread of coronavirus

**A motion was made that this matter be Waived under the Rules of Council.
The motion carried.**

[2020-0638](#) Ordinance amending the City of Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances at Title II: Fiscal; Article I: Administration; Chapter 219: Operating Budget; Section 219.03 Collaborative Budgeting Process.

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance and Law

[2020-0639](#) Resolution authorizing and directing the issuance of a warrant to Cocoapreneur, LLC. for the sponsorship of events related to small business engagement and education.

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance and Law

[2020-0640](#) Resolution authorizing the issuance of a warrant in favor of Brenda Richmond, Administratrix of the Estate of Christopher M. Thompkins, c/o J. Kerrington Lewis, Esquire, Lewis, Lewis & Reilly, 1040 Fifth Avenue, 1st Floor, Pittsburgh, PA 15219, in the amount of Thirteen Thousand Dollars and No Cents (\$13,000.00) relating to the full and final settlement of a litigation filed at No. 2:2018-cv-00319 in the U.S. District Court for the Western District of Pennsylvania.

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance and Law

[2020-0641](#) Resolution amending Resolution #431 authorizing the City of Pittsburgh Ethics Hearing Board to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with DeForest, Koscelnik, Yokitis & Berardinelli, Koppers Building, 30th Floor, 436 Seventh Ave., Pittsburgh, PA 15219 for professional legal services regarding ethics matters by increasing the total cost Fifteen Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$15,000.00) from Thirty Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$30,000.00) to Forty Five Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (\$45,000.00).

Read and referred to the Committee on Finance and Law

COUNCILMAN COREY O'CONNOR PRESENTS:

[2020-0642](#) Resolution providing for the issuance of a warrant in favor of Scanlon Fiber Optics LLC in the amount of Twenty-Nine Thousand Nine Hundred Fifty Dollars and Eighty-Six Cents (\$29,950.86) for the installation of in-car camera access points for the Department of Public Safety, Bureau of Police.

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Services

[2020-0643](#) Resolution authorizing the City's Department of Public Safety to purchase hazardous material emergency response equipment from Midland Manufacturing Corp. at a cost not to exceed Thirteen Thousand Eight Hundred One Dollars and Eighty-Six Cents (\$13,801.86).

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Services

[2020-0647](#) Ordinance amending and supplementing the Pittsburgh Code of Ordinances at Title One: Administrative, Article III: Organization, Chapter 116: Department of Public Safety to regulate the use of facial recognition and predictive policing technology.

SPONSOR /S: COUNCIL MEMBER O'CONNOR

Read and referred to the Committee on Public Safety Services

COUNCILMAN BOBBY WILSON:

[2020-0644](#) Resolution authorizing the Mayor and the Director of the Department of City Planning, on behalf of the City of Pittsburgh, to apply for a grant from the Pennsylvania Department of Community and Economic Development's Blight Remediation Program to study City owned vacant lots in the Homewood Neighborhood. The grant proposal includes an ask of \$25,000.00 with a local match of \$2,500.00 to come out of the City of Pittsburgh's 2020 Operating Budget. In the event the grant is awarded, this resolution provides for an agreement and expenditures not to exceed TWENTY-SEVEN THOUSAND FIVE HUNDRED (\$27,500.00) dollars for this stated purpose.

Read and referred to the Committee on Land Use and Economic Development

[2020-0645](#) Resolution providing for the designation as a Historic Structure under Title 11 of the Code of Ordinances that certain site known as The Shrine of the Blessed Mother, located off Wakefield Street (29-B-215, 29-B-216, 29-C-23, 29-C-21, 29-C-20, 29-C-19, 29-C-18, 29-C-17, 29-C-16, 29-C-15), in South Oakland, in the 4th Ward, City of Pittsburgh.

(Needs to be held for a Public Hearing)

A motion was made that this matter be Waived under Rule 8. The motion carried.

Read and referred to the Committee on Land Use and Economic Development

[2020-0646](#) Resolution providing for the designation as a Historic Structure under Title 11 of the Code of Ordinances that certain structure known as The John P. Robin Civic Building, located at 200 Ross Street (2-J-164-2), in downtown, in the 1st Ward, City of Pittsburgh.

(Needs to be held for a Public Hearing)

Read and referred to the Committee on Land Use and Economic Development

COUNCILWOMAN THERESA KAIL-SMITH PRESENTS:

[2020-0650](#) Resolution authorizing the reappointment of Brenda F. Pree as City Clerk of the City of Pittsburgh for a three year term to expire April 4, 2023.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 418

[2020-0651](#) Resolution authorizing the reappointment of Kimberly D. Clark-Baskin as Assistant City Clerk of the City of Pittsburgh, for a three year term to expire April 4, 2023.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 419

[2020-0603](#) Resolution appointing Douglas Anderson as the Director of the Department of Finance and City Treasurer.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 420

[2020-0604](#) Resolution reappointing Ms. Sabrina Korbel as a Member of the Gender Equity Commission for a term to expire December 31, 2022.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 421

[2020-0605](#) Resolution reappointing Mr. Knowledge Hudson as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2023.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 422

[2020-0606](#) Resolution reappointing Ms. Lena Andrews as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2024.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 423

[2020-0607](#) Resolution reappointing Ms. Ethel Johnson as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2023.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 424

[2020-0608](#) Resolution reappointing Mr. Mark Masterson as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2023.

A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 425

- [2020-0609](#) Resolution reappointing Ms. Adrienne Walnoha as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2024.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.
Enactment No: 426
- [2020-0610](#) Resolution reappointing Ms. Megan Winters as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2023.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.
Enactment No: 427
- [2020-0611](#) Resolution appointing Mr. Oliver Beasley as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2021. Mr. Beasley will serve in a seat designated for a representative from the Mayor's Office.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.
Enactment No: 428
- [2020-0612](#) Resolution appointing Ms. Diamonte Walker as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2022. Ms. Walker will serve in a seat designated for a representative of the Urban Redevelopment Authority that had been vacant.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.
Enactment No: 429
- [2020-0613](#) Resolution appointing Mr. James Myers, Jr. as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2024. Mr. Myers will serve in a seat designated for a community resident of a neighborhood in the central region of Pittsburgh.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.
Enactment No: 430
- [2020-0614](#) Resolution appointing Mr. Paul Spradley as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2024. Mr. Spradley will be serving in a seat designated from a representative from a financial institution, which had been vacant.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.
Enactment No: 431
- [2020-0620](#) Resolution reappointing Ms. Kellie Ware-Seabron as a Member of the Housing Opportunity Fund Advisory Board for a term to expire April 30, 2024.
A motion was made that this matter be Approved. The motion carried.

Enactment No: 432

[2020-0615](#) Resolution appointing Ms. Rosamaria Cristello as a Member of the Board of Directors for the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority for a term to expire January 5, 2025. Ms. Cristello will be serving a seat that had been held by Margaret Lanier who has retired.

A motion was made that this matter be Held, Pending Interview to the Committee on Hearings. The motion carried.

[2020-0616](#) Resolution appointing Ms. BJ Leber as a Member of the Board of Directors for the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority for a term to expire January 1, 2023. Ms. Leber will be serving a seat that had been held by Chaton Turner whose term has expired.

A motion was made that this matter be Held, Pending Interview to the Committee on Hearings. The motion carried.

[2020-0617](#) Resolution appointing Dr. Audrey Murrell as a Member of the Board of Directors for the Pittsburgh Water and Sewer Authority for a term to expire December 31, 2023. Dr. Murrell will be serving a seat that had been vacant.

A motion was made that this matter be Held, Pending Interview to the Committee on Hearings. The motion carried.

[2020-0618](#) Petition from the residents of the City of Pittsburgh requesting a Public Hearing before City Council relative to a plan by the Department of Mobility and Infrastructure to install roundabouts on Reynolds Street (aka "The Neighbor Way"). If City Council is unable to conduct a Public Hearing due to Covid-19, we request the project be postponed/cancelled until a (live) Public Hearing can be held. The Petition is valid in accordance with the Home Rule Charter.

A motion was made that this matter be Held for Public Hearing to the Committee on Hearings. The motion carried.

[2020-0619](#) Communication from Michael Lamb, City Controller, submitting performance audit of the Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy, dated July 2020.

A motion was made that this matter be Read, Received and Filed. The motion carried.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

REPORTS OF COMMITTEE - FINAL ACTION

MOTIONS AND RESOLUTIONS

Councilman O'Connor called for a Cablecast Post Agenda relative to Justice Related and Human Services[2020-0637](#)

Resolution providing for further renewal by the Council of the City of Pittsburgh of a Declaration of Disaster Emergency, ratified by Council on March 17th, 2020; to extend the effectiveness of the Declaration for fourteen days (14) additional days thereby making the Declaration effective until September 8th, 2020; in response to the ongoing public health emergency associated with the spread of coronavirus

A motion was made that this matter be Passed Finally. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 7 - Council Member Burgess, Council Member Coghill, Council Member Kraus, Council Member Lavelle, Council Member Kail-Smith, Council Member Strassburger, and Council Member Wilson

No: 0

Abstain: 0

Out of Room: 1 - Council Member O'Connor

Absent: 1 - Council Member Gross

EXCUSE ABSENT MEMBERS - Ms. Gross

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

ADJOURNMENT

LEGISLATION PRESENTED BY SIGN LANGUAGE INTERPRETER