Text File

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Committee: City Council

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WHEREAS, after twenty years of long-winded lectures, laughter, heated debates, rants, tears and misplacement of files, Councilman Doug Shields will be leaving City Council, though his time in Council halls will not be forgotten; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Shields often reflects on his experiences as a kid raised in Lincoln-Lemington, on his time living on a Kibbutz in Israel, and on his unique career choices as a riverboat operator, a Jitney driver, a steelworker, a chef at the Grand Concourse, a paralegal, an actor (which has yet to be confirmed) and most notably, as Stevie Steeler, the Steeler's former mascot. It is this understanding of the common working person and his love of this City that served as a driving force in his work; and,

WHEREAS, coming into Council by happenstance as Chief of Staff to then-Council member Bob O'Connor, Councilman Shields was the self-proclaimed GREATEST Chief of Staff and office organizer that ever lived; and,

WHEREAS, Hardworking, progressive and caring, Councilman Shields has championed legislation that has moved Pittsburgh in a positive direction from a steel town to a modern, most livable city, including but not limited to, domestic violence, living wage, wage equity, budget reform, and a ban on natural gas drilling in the City of Pittsburgh. Councilman Shields continues to his very last day to advocate on behalf of his residents for the betterment of the City, refusing to let industry giants drill and pollute Pittsburgh's waterways; and,

WHEREAS, in the midst of all this work, all who have met Councilman Shields have remembered him either through his unprecedented work ethic, commitment to social causes or small talk; and,

WHEREAS, a committed family man, Councilman Shields embraces a new chapter in his life so that he can devote more time to his counterpart, fellow activist and understanding wife, Briget Shields; his two children, Liza and Elliot; and his adored grandson, Franklin the pig; and,

WHEREAS, Councilman Shields' institutional knowledge, passion, and friendship will be missed in City Council by his colleagues and constituents, although not so much by the drilling industry.

NOW, *THEREFORE*, *BE IT RESOLVED*, that the Council of the City of Pittsburgh does hereby affectionately celebrate our beloved Doug Shields, who continues the fight against drilling and the rights of the common man and in honor of his years of dedication and service does declare December 30, 2011 to be *"Councilman Doug Shields Day"* in the City of Pittsburgh.