

# AGENDA

**Agenda for the Regular Meeting of Allegheny County Council for  
Tuesday, February 5, 2002 at 5:00 p.m., in the 4<sup>th</sup> Floor Gold Room of  
the Allegheny County Courthouse, 436 Grant Street, Pittsburgh,  
Pennsylvania, 15219**

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**I. Call to order**

**II. Pledge of Allegiance**

**III. Roll Call**

**IV. Presentation of Appointments by the Chief Executive**

**V. Proclamations**

0613-02 Recognizing and commending the Plum School District for their paramount commitment and dedication to their community as well as their unmatched pledge of volunteerism. *(Sponsored by Council Member Schwartz)*

0614-02 Recognizing and commending Ms. Jane Sucheich for her dedication to the position of Tax Collector of Verona Borough for 25 years and congratulating her upon her well-deserved retirement. *(Sponsored by Council Member Schwartz)*

0615-02 Recognizing and commending Mr. Harry Schlegal, Tax Collector of Plum Borough, upon his earning the "Qualified Municipal Tax Collector Status". *(Sponsored by Council Member Schwartz)*

**VI. Public Comment On Agenda Items**

**VII. Unfinished Business  
Committee on Budget & Finance**

0569-02 Resolution amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budgets for 2002. (Submission No. 01-02) *(Second Reading) (Submitted by County Manager)*

0577-02 Resolution amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2002 (Submission #02-02) *(Second Reading) (Submitted by County Manager)*

- 0578-02 Resolution amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2002 (Submission #03-02) (*Second Reading*) (*Submitted by County Manager*)

### **Committee on Economic Development**

- 0581-02 Ordinance authorizing the Chief Executive to execute a Deed conveying the County of Allegheny's interest in a parcel jointly owned by the County of Allegheny, the Borough of Braddock and the Woodland Hills School District to Epic Metals Corporation. (*Second Reading*) (*Submitted by County Manager*)

### **Committee on Administrative Services**

- 0583-02 Ordinance providing Allegheny County property owners with information listing the 2001 assessed value of property on the 2002 Allegheny County Real Estate Website. (*Second Reading*) (*Sponsored by Council Member Wayne Fontana*)

### **VIII. New Business**

- 0594-02 Ordinance amending Article II of the Administrative Code by eliminating the term "annual reassessment"; establishing a reassessment of all real estate located in Allegheny County every three years, and establishing a new process for levying tax on assessed value and providing procedures for transition to the new system. (*First Reading*) (*Sponsored by Council Member Fontana*)
- 0595-02 Ordinance Amending the Administrative Code, Section 207.06, Rules and Regulations for Appeals, by requiring, for all appeals, an assessor to conduct and onsite examination of the outside of the appellant's property, and for the assessor to request the property owner to allow an onsite examination of the inside of the property. (*First Reading*) (*Sponsored by Council Member Fontana*)
- 0596-02 Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 79-01, approved December 20, 2001 entitled, "An Ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania establishing standards and practices for the annual valuation of real property for taxing purposes in the County..." , by requiring, for all assessments, an assessor to conduct an onsite examination of the outside of the property, and, upon request of the property owner, an onsite examination of the inside of the property. (*First Reading*) (*Sponsored by Council Member Fontana*)
- 0597-02 Resolution amending the Grants & Special Accounts Budget for 2002. (Submission #04-02) (*First Reading*) (*Submitted by County Manager*) *Refer to Committee on Budget & Finance*)
- 0598-02 Motion Expressing the Sense of Allegheny County Council by supporting State House Resolution #306 which directs the Legislative Budget & Finance Committee to study the elimination or significant reduction of property taxes as a source of funding for local school districts. (*Sponsored by Council Member Gastgeb*)

- 0599-02 Motion to explore the possibility of establishing a new revenue stream function by creating a policy and procedure to increase the revenue flow of Parks activities by selling advertising space at County ice rinks, golf courses, ball fields, and other Parks & Recreations venues. *(Sponsored by Council Member Gastgeb) (Refer to Special Committee on Parks Study Review)*
- 0600-02 Resolution providing for an immediate extension of the date allowing individual property owners to appeal their assessment. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0601-02 Resolution of the County of Allegheny authorizing the issuance of tax and revenue notes in the aggregate principal amount \$30,000,000; providing for the date, interest rate, maturity date and place of payment in respect of the notes; accepting a proposal for the purchase of the notes; providing for the security of the notes; authorizing the proper officers to execute and deliver the notes; authorizing and directing the preparation, certification and filing of the proceedings with the department of community and economic development; appointing a paying agent and registrar; approving a form of note; and repealing inconsistent resolutions. *(First Reading) (Submitted by County Manager) (Refer to Committee on Budget & Finance)*
- 0602-02 Resolution creating an ombudsman program to deal with County assessment problems. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0603-02 Resolution requiring the County to honor the results of Property Assessment Appeals. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0604-02 Resolution requiring the Administration to fully disclose all administrative changes and creating a system to discourage political influence in the assessment system. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0605-02 Resolution requiring the Allegheny County Office of Property Assessment to respond to taxpayer requests to have a certified assessment officer (CPE) visit their property. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0606-02 Resolution allowing taxpayers to pay taxes based on a lower assessment until an appeal is heard. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0607-02 Resolution requiring full disclosure and closing the loophole allowing back door tax increases. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*
- 0608-02 Ordinance requiring the County of Allegheny to create a Homestead Exemption Program. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Administrative Services)*

- 0609-02 Resolution directing the County Finance Office to research the feasibility of eliminating the property tax in Allegheny County. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Member Crossey) (Refer to Committee on Budget & Finance)*
- 0610-02 Motion requesting the Chief Executive to allow the taxpayers of Allegheny County to pay the lower of last year's assessments or this year's assessments, or the result of an appeal heard last year for the year 2001, and during the year 2002 complete all appeals and create a set of assessment numbers that are stable, understood, and reliable that can be used for the year 2003. *(Sponsored by Council Member Crossey)*
- 0611-02 Ordinance extending the tax discount deadline from March 31, 2002 to April 30, 2002, and the gross/face period deadline from April 30, 2002 to May 31, 2002. *(First Reading) (Sponsored by Council Members Fontana, DeFazio, Crossey, Fitzgerald & Schwartz)*
- 0616-02 Motion to allocate expenses of specific legislative trips to Harrisburg and Washington, D.C. to the Operating Budget of the Office of County Council. *(Sponsored by Council Member Schwartz)*

**IX. Notification of Contracts**

- 0612-02 Communication from County Manager Bob Webb submitting to Council a summary of the approved Executive Actions relating to contracts from January 3 through January 28, 2002.

**X. Public Comment on General Items**

**XI. Approval of Minutes**

Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meetings of Council held November 20, December 4, December 11, 2001 and January 2, 2002.

**XII. Adjournment**

*Detailed copies of all proposed legislation contained in this agenda can be viewed or obtained from the Chief Clerk, Office of the County Council, Room 119, Allegheny County Courthouse, 436 Grant Street, Pittsburgh, PA, 15219.*