

ALLEGHENY COUNTY COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

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BEFORE:

Richard Fitzgerald	-	President, District 11
Charles J. Martoni	-	Vice President, District 8
John P. DeFazio	-	Council-At-Large
Chuck McCullough	-	Council-At-Large
Matt Drozd	-	District 1
Jan Rea	-	District 2
James R. Burn, Jr.	-	District 3
Michael J. Finnerty	-	District 4
Vince Gastgeb	-	District 5
Joan Cleary	-	District 6
Nick Futules	-	District 7
Robert Macey	-	District 9
William Russell Robinson	-	District 10
Jim Ellenbogen	-	District 12
Amanda Green	-	District 13

Allegheny County Courthouse
Fourth Floor, Gold Room
436 Grant Street
Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219

Tuesday, August 25, 2009 - 5:00 p.m.

SARGENT'S COURT REPORTING SERVICE, INC.
429 Forbes Avenue, Suite 1300
Pittsburgh, PA 15219
(412) 232-3882 FAX (412) 471-8733

IN ATTENDANCE:

Joseph Catanese - Director of Constituent Services
Jared Barker - Director, Legislative Services
Jennifer Liptak - Budget Director
Jack Cambest - Solicitor

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I'm going to call the meeting to order. Thank you, and welcome to the Tuesday, August 25th, 2009 meeting of the Allegheny County Council. If everybody would please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance and please remain standing for a moment of silent prayer or reflection.

(Pledge of Allegiance.)

(Moment of silent prayer or reflection.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you. Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

MR. BURN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green?

MS. GREEN: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?

MR. MCCULLOUGH: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Here.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Present.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Here.

MR. CATANESE: We have 14 members present.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: We have a very special program this evening, and it's wonderful to see some of our old colleagues that are here with us this evening to honor the memory of our very good friend, John Mascio.

Following John's passing in late May, we had our very first meeting --- actually, we had to cancel --- the very first time County Council cancelled a meeting, because we just couldn't resume right away. And we wanted to have a time later on in the summer at which we could present a plaque to Nina and the boys, Johnny, Danny and Dino, and the Mascio family. And the outpouring --- anybody who knows John would not be surprised that so many former Council members who John was a mentor to and guided us all through so many very difficult times and really was a mentor to all of us.

So we wanted to have this kind of a special night tonight and allow people to express their thoughts, both members that are presently on the Council, and we'll recognize those, and then I wanted to certainly recognize former Council members who came and some coming from far distances to come and say something about John. So with that, I'm going to just --- and I know some staff members wanted to express their thoughts as well. With that, I was going to open it up to members up here on the Council and then former members who might wish to express some thoughts about John. So we'll go in order. Councilman Burn.

MR. BURN: Thank you, Mr. President and members of Council. Good evening to John's family. It's good to see you all here. I've known John not as long as some of my colleagues. I knew him esoterically when he was over at the City Council and I was still mayor of Millvale. Sometimes I would go over there for political reasons and I would stick my head into City Council and I would see John holding court.

And then when the Council formed in the late '90s, it was John who, when Tom Foerster passed away, gave me the instructions on what I needed to do to put my name in for consideration by the Council for appointment to the vacant seat. He was very helpful. He was a gentleman and he was a good friend as I got to know him better. And as I continued to serve as mayor, I would call him from time to time when issues were reported to my Council district. I'd speak to my representative, whether it was Mr. Shumaker or Ed was here, and John as well.

And John taught me a lot. And after I became a councilman, he showed me some of the protocol and procedures here that were essential. And you could always tell by looking at John's eyes he had a great sense of

humor. There was always that twinkle going, and you knew he was always thinking of --- either he was thinking of something funny to say or he would just come out and say it. And we had a lot of good North Catholic/Central Catholic ribbing back and forth for a long time. When something would happen with Central, he'd take a --- he'd remind me of something that happened at North. I would remind him.

And more than a colleague, more than someone whom I worked with here, first and foremost, John was a friend. I can tell you from the times I was out with him and the times that we had conversation. And I know that all of you know this. He loved all of you very, very much. And whenever I've been to a service or a memorial or celebration of someone's life, those who officiate always remind us that if there's ever any proof in the strength of the human spirit, in its survival, it is that you continue to love someone after they're physically no longer with us. And I love John just as much now as I did when he was sitting in that chair. I know that all of you do, too. It was a pleasure to know him. It's a pleasure to remember his good memory. And he'll always be my friend. Thank you all for coming.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilwoman Cleary.

MS. CLEARY: Thank you. I just want to say that as a new member, John really helped me, and I think he helps everybody. And as we moved along here, too, he helped us all because we all got into little glitches where we didn't know what the procedure was, and John always knew. But he did have that sense of humor. And one thing I have to say, he was very, very proud of his family. He was very proud of his boys. He talked about them all the time. He talked about what a wonderful wife he had. So he was very proud of all of you. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: And we're going to skip ---. John DeFazio is actually making a trip back from Harrisburg just to be here. He's almost here. I was just in conversation with him. So he'll be here in just a short period. But we'll move along and go to Councilman Drozd.

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. Nina, John, Dino and Danny, I think we all share a kind of common bond, whether you realize it or not. You all go to St. Therese's Church in Munhall. I was born and raised in Munhall. My family actually helped to found that church

years and years ago. And your dad, every time I come into the Council meetings --- you know, I don't think I've ever once seen John down or really, you know, depressed or anything like that. He was always jovial. He was always upbeat. He was always positive in everything he did in life. And that reflected, I think, because of the fact of the family that he had, and that was each and every one of you.

You know, there's a saying --- you know, what constitutes happiness? And it's not the material items that you gain in life. It's none of that, because that goes. A car, a new car that you have that fleeting moment, or whether it's a house or new clothes. But it's fleeting. But what remains and lasts forever is the family and the friends that you have around you, because you can relive those memories each and every day. And I know John's going to live on in each and every one of you. I can see not only a loving wife and three fantastic young men that are probably about the same age as my boys ---. He's going to live over many, many times in you, and his life is going to be shared with others throughout the decades to come, because he'll pass that on down, John would, right to each and every one of you.

And he lives in me because I learned from John. John was not only --- I consider John --- I always feel like everybody --- we serve with everybody. John served alongside us. And I believe John was a mentor to you as well as a friend and someone I served with. I learned a lot from just watching John, and he taught me a lot of things. And we'd sit --- you know, after I guess, a day of consternation sometimes in this political strife that we all do, John would just kind of take me aside a little bit and we'd sit and talk and we'd reflect and just put me on the straight track in getting the true side of it. And I really appreciate that.

You're a fine family. It reflects in John and vice-versa. And I really commend, you know, his life. And he'll live on for many, many years to come, not only in you, but everybody he touched. I saw it in church. I saw it. There were hundreds and hundreds of people, and every one of them he touched every day. We'll all pass that on. The best of everything to you and your family.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Ellenbogen.

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Thank you. This is very difficult for me. You know, I haven't been a councilman

very long, but, you know, I knew John long ago. In fact, he used to make jokes about me and him and Father Rick stealing tomatoes, and he was the guy that carried the salt shaker. So, you know, in fact, one of the jokes we used to have, we used to tell Father Rick that the only reason he was a priest and we were what we were is because he could run faster and we didn't, and we got in trouble.

That being said, we've been friends for a long time. And the thing about him is, I mean, as a councilman, you know, he had an expertise in this, and even across the street. But he was kind of an outlet for me when it would get hot and heavy up here for me. And you know, I don't have to tell you guys about all his imitations and the Godfather and all that stuff that he would do. But he would always keep me on the upside. And I miss him as a friend. I'm sure --- I was hoping Father Rick would be here, too. You know, I know he shares my sentiments. And I know how he felt about you guys. You know, he was a great guy. He was a character and I'll always treasure his friendship as a friend, not as a councilman. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Finnerty.

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. John and I were both Duquesne graduates. In fact, we were both in the same frat. So one of the things John did the day I was sworn in there, when I walked back into the office, he started singing our fraternity song, We're a Bunch of Gamins. He's always had some little edge going, you know, to lighten up things when things got a little out of control.

But one of the things ---. Another thing I really remember about John is, aside from what people have said about professionalism, his enthusiasm, his joy for life, his great family --- he always talked about you. He seemed to light up a room whenever he came. He always wanted to talk, talk, talk. He always had something to say about anything and everything. And one of the big dangers about being in a conversation when you're not face to face with John, if you're standing around with three or four people and he's standing next to you, that you might get hit with arms and hands because he just flailed when he talked. And he was just --- I love him and I'll always remember him. May God bless him.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Futules.

MR. FUTULES: Thank you. My condolences to the family. Losing John was a true tragedy for all of us and it makes us all think just how short life can be. I've known John way before I was a Council member, from the Harbor House. He was a DJ, his second love. And he would always be there doing people's weddings, Rick Schwartz and other family members that ---. That's how I got to know John, because when I came to County Council, I already knew John and people like Joe and some other people here that were just a great welcome to be here.

You know, we talked about his humor --- I wasn't supposed to go into this too much. But his favorite story when he was on City Council. He was a clerk there. And he told me the story about --- I can't mention names. But it was a pretty important vote that was coming down. The vote was supposed to be --- and as the vote continued, it got to the point where somebody accidentally voted no. And the president stopped the meeting and pointed at John and said, she means yes. And John never let that go because he thought it was such a hoot that that happened. And all the time here on County Council, he would sit in that chair and look at me, waiting for me to say that, because every time somebody would make that no vote, he would look at me and whisper, she means yes. It was a hard time for me to keep from laughing at times. But tonight in John's honor, I'm going to say it. Mr. Mascio, I think she means yes. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Gastgeb.

MR. GASTGEB: Thank you, President Fitzgerald. And Nina and family, my condolences again, and the testament of the former Council members here, as well as us tonight. I have numerous stories. I didn't have a chance to meet John prior. I met him nine years ago when I was elected. And I'll reminisce back to that meeting nine years ago when we were interviewing our very first employee. Councilman Fitzgerald and I always reminisce about this. John came in and just nailed it. He knew exactly what we needed. Other people were giving us kind of a grandiose strategy. And he basically said, you guys are using telephone books as your desks. I mean, I know what it's going to take to get you up and running. And boy, was he right. I don't know if I've ever seen anybody that could have professionalism and a sense of humor the way he did.

I happened to be raised as an Italian, and we'd go to Mitchell's afterwards and put Sinatra on. We'd do our imitations from the Godfather and movies that we loved. And it just --- the ability for him to do his job the way he did and also be a friend. I also had the opportunity to be involved with him and his other life being a DJ. I used to have some parties out in the South Hills, and he wanted to come out. And he never, ever wanted any compensation for what he did, because he considered me a friend and myself back to him.

This body was so important to him. You know, he sat at that desk right there. And whatever prestige we gained, especially in the early years, we gained because John took us to that level. None of us were very strong with procedure or some of the parliamentary procedure that we had to get through. He did.

I just got a couple funny stories. One thing about John, when you went to him, he gave you his heartfelt answer and his expertise. There's so many times as a Republican I'm wondering, would tonight's meeting be somewhat tense? I'd go to John and I'd say --- knowing that there was always more Democrats than what there is now. But it didn't matter, though. It didn't matter to John what my party is because his job was so important.

And I'll just say a couple words to you,
President Fitzgerald: receive and file. Do you remember that one?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I do.

MR. GASTGEB: We pulled something as a minority receive and file. Somehow we got eight votes out of it. But John walked us through. That just says so much about him when he was big enough, smart enough and such a friend to everybody that this honor and prestige of our body was the most important thing. And that's what I'll never forget, his professionalism, his humor.

When people say that I've learned from John, trust me, we all have, especially those of us who have been here for the whole nine years. I learned. I also learned about your family although I've not had a chance to meet you formally. He always talked about you. We talked about our heritage, as I mentioned, as Italians. And I'm going to miss him. I'd come up all the time and we would reminisce, talk. An outstanding man. So may God bless you and may God bless John. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilwoman Green.

MS. GREEN: Thank you, Mr. President. As the newest member coming to County Council, I can reiterate all of the things that my colleagues that have spoken before me have said about John. And that's just a testament, I think, to his character and the type of person he was. He was just warm, friendly, loving, very, extremely funny. I will say that. Always had me laughing. And he made me feel welcome when I first came to Council. He was the person I talked to that helped me navigate what I was going to do the first day, where I'm going to sit, here's your agenda. I mean, he just walked me through each step and just made me feel very comfortable, very welcome. And I'm always going to remember his warm spirit and his humor and the affinity he had for all of us and especially for his family. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Macey.

MR. MACEY: Thank you, President Fitzgerald and members of Council and the Mascio family. Thank you for coming. You know, I come on as an appointee. And as soon as I met John, he says, anything I can do to help you, he says, let me know. Just the way he was. He was like a fly on the wall. If he overheard a conversation, you know, he'd come over and get involved because he knew he had something to offer. I remember one time I was talking about having a fundraiser. And without any hesitation, he came over and said, I'll DJ. Because as anybody knows, he loved to DJ.

I really enjoyed stories he used to tell about other experiences he had in government. And man, they were experiences and they were often, often funny. You know, you could tell when he spoke about his family, Nina, John, Dino and Danny, he had a true love for his family. We used to joke around and we'd get into this Pittsburghese every once in a while and talk about Primanti's sandwiches, you know, and that. And we just had a ball just kidding around. He always had a great sense of humor.

And I used to often ask John about specific issues when it came to legislation or it came to rules of Council. And a lot of times he would tell me very thoughtfully what he thought. Other times he said, what, are you crazy? You know, that's just the way John was. He had a laugh that was very resounding. You heard him laugh and you were laughing. You could be in the next

room and you would be laughing. He certainly will be missed. I will miss him. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Martoni.

MR. MARTONI: It's kind of hard to talk about John. I miss him a whole lot. He really cared for his family. And John was the first person that County Council actually hired, so we all --- those of us that were here in the beginning were very close to John. And probably --- we probably wouldn't be as good now as we are --- I think we're very good, by the way. But we owe a lot of that to John. John's guidance in those first months and first years were absolutely necessary. And his sense of humor, we could be striking at each other like we wanted to do each other in, and John always had a way of bringing us back together. He was just a fantastic guy. And boy, he cared about you guys, about your education and everything else. I don't know how many times John came to school with you. And he really wanted you to do well, and you did. You really did well, and we owe a lot of that to John. He knew a lot, John. He was just a ---.

It's hard to say things about him. It's just like he's still here. I mean, his spirit is all over this place. Everywhere I look, I see John almost. He was the first guy with us, the first person with us, and he left a mark that ---. We have great people, but I don't think anybody can leave a mark like John left in the beginning. And he came in with a ton of experience, by the way, from City Council. And he made us --- and I hate to say this to my friends across the street. But he made us so much better than the City Council. Okay? We won't say that outside of this room. We are so much better. Okay? I think you guys would agree with that; right? We're so much better.

MR. DEFAZIO: Do you want to vote on that?

MR. MARTONI: Yeah, I'd like to vote on that. But he really did. And it was his spirit and his knowledge and his experiences. And we just love him.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman McCullough.

MR. MCCULLOUGH: Thank you. I had the good pleasure of getting to know John and becoming friends with him before I was on County Council. I was the county solicitor about seven years ago. And when I became solicitor, one of the things you do when you're coming in from the outside and you're coming into a situation like that cold is you try to find out who are the people you

can go to in government? And pretty quickly I was told John Mascio was one of those guys who not only knew his stuff, but he was a straight-shooter and he would level with you.

And it's hard for me to put this in terms that you can all understand, but let me put it to you this way. The politicians, the elected officials, the Chief Executive and us, we are like one layer of government. There is an entire culture, and I call them County regulars. These are the people who are here, come rain, come shine, administration after administration, but politicians come and go. But the people that make the County go are people like John Mascio, who it doesn't make a difference what party you're from, who you are, what your background is. They are going to show up and they are going to do it to the best of their ability because they are professional.

And that might be hard for some people to understand, that, oh, you got, you know, this government and you got --- most of them are Democrats and what have you, and how can you Republicans count on any of these people? But that all goes by the board. Professionalism is what counts with somebody like John.

And the other thing that stuck in my mind about John is from the first time I met him, you just wanted to smile when you saw him. I mean, there's certain people when you see, you want to break out and smile. And John was that kind of person. He had that kind of engaging personality. He put you at ease. He made you feel like a friend.

And I wish I could tell you some of the stories he had to say about any number of you that we shared when I was a solicitor. I'm sure he had some about me that he could share with you. But they were always with a degree of respect. But he also had it in perspective.

And I'd just like to make a couple remarks to the family specifically. I know what it's like to lose a dad before his time or what you think is before his time, and to lose him suddenly. There's nothing tougher because you have no way of preparing for it. I mean, you've never been through anything like this before. And I'll give you some advice that was given to me when I lost my dad. Your father is alive. You just can't see him. He's alive in Heaven. And just like a child can't understand there's a toy on the other side --- in the other room when the door

is closed, we can't understand that he's very much alive because we can't see him. So we have a hard time not understanding what we can't see. But he's there.

And what I'm trying to tell you is maintain a relationship with your dad. Pray for your dad because they do receive and feel the aura and the good feelings of prayers being received in Heaven. But pray to him to intercede for you and to help you get through your day. And keep in touch with him. Keep him in your thoughts. Ask yourself how your dad would evaluate something before you make a decision. Keep that memory alive and keep that relationship alive with you. And over time, it will help us in the pain. You will grow in your relationship with your father and you will look forward to seeing him. And Nina, I can say the same thing to you as his spouse. He's there for you. And in many respects, he's in a position to help you in ways that he couldn't do on earth.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilwoman Rea.

MS. REA: Thank you. I want to thank you for sharing your husband and father with us for nine years. And to the boys, I want to say --- they've been to my home a few times --- I would really worry when you were there because the most important thing I knew that you were to your father --- if you were home too late or the roads were icy, I would really worry because I thought John would really be upset with me if anything would happen to his boys. I knew how he dearly loved you.

And the one thing I shared with John probably more than any other Council member was his candy. He always kept candy in his office. I always checked his drawer and I stole his Kit-Kats or whatever I could find, and I'm sure he was sick of me. But I did that all the time. But boys and Nina, I mean, I know a lot about you because he talked about you all the time, and he dearly loved you. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Councilman Robinson.

MR. ROBINSON: Nina and the Mascio family, I echo Councilwoman Rea's thank you for allowing us to share your husband and your father. I had a little different relationship with John than most of my colleagues here. Probably other than Jim Ellenbogen, no one on this Council knew John longer or as well or especially in politics, because I knew John for 30 years. When I was on City Council, John Mascio worked there, so he had an inside view on my thoughts, my ideas, the things that I did well

and things that I didn't do well. So when I came to County Council, the first person I saw was John Mascio. And he smiled and I smiled. We knew we were going to have a real good time.

I remember I was in a meeting once and I was trying to have my way about changing the rules. And I was being extremely aggressive, but he just sat there and he kept watching me. And after the meeting, he says, were you serious? I said, of course, I'm the chairman of this committee. He says, yeah, I know that, but were you serious? I said, I'm the chairman of the committee. I can do whatever I want. And I turned around and then I heard him laughing a little bit, like, oh, there's something else going on here.

But John was very perceptive as to what I was attempting to do to help build this institution and the way I thought I had to do it. And he understood that I needed his help and that he needed my help. So when we were in this room, we had a lot of eye contact, a lot of body motion, and we knew what each other was going to do. And we talked about it after the sessions and sometimes before, so we were able to bring together all that experience to help our colleagues.

One of the first things I said to John when I got here was, we have to build this institution. It has to live beyond any Council member. Now it has to live beyond John Mascio. We began to build an archive and a history of this Council. John is a part of that history now, literally carved, chiseled in stone. Something beyond his expertise and the skill and talent of anyone who's been a part of this Council is this institution. And once you're a part of it, you can't get away from it. So John will always be here. He'll always be here to remind us that the institution is far more important than any of us. Professional, friendly, funny, all those things are true about John, and we all have our stories.

I'll never forget the day when I walked in his office and told him about something I said to Alan Faneca at Steeler camp. He said, what did you say to him? I said, I got real close as he was autographing my hat. I told him, you are the most valuable player on this team. He said, what did he say? I said, he was trying to restrain himself from laughing. Then I kept explaining it to him that nothing could happen without him, without Alan Faneca. Nothing could happen without the line. And John

looked at me. He said, I never thought of it that way. I said, yeah, you need somebody that you can count on that's on the line. It's all on the offensive line.

John was our Alan Faneca. That's what he was, the guy that you could always depend upon to hold, to block, to block more than one person. He was our Alan Faneca. John Mascio, little did he know, little did he anticipate that he would become as important to this Council as he is today. That wasn't in his plan. He was having too much fun, too busy helping us. Never, probably, in his wildest imagination did he think that he would be a bedrock of this new form of government and somebody who we would honor in this way and celebrate in this way. Never in his life did he think about that.

John and I had a lot of little conversations down at the garage, too. Many of you probably had with him. Sometimes you'd see him down there. Sometimes Jack Cambest would be there or John would be there. We had little offhand conversations. Always reminded me of Deep Throat Jack down there. We're down there talking some nights and we're looking around to see if anybody else is in the garage. But John and I, we used to have real serious conversations down there and they were really informative. Sometimes they were funny. But they were always respectful, they were always private, and we kept each other's secrets.

And that's important for all of us to remember. John kept secrets. John kept secrets. And those secrets went with John and whoever else he shared them with in terms of Council members or staff. You never got a report that John was talking out of school. You never got a report that John compromised somebody. You never got a report that John was talking about what was talked about down in the garage. Never, ever. And I'll always respect him for that.

In closing, let me say to the family, I agree John's still here. His spirit's here. And all of you represent the life that he built. Now what you have to do is do those kinds of things that John would be proud of, the kind of things that John would advise you to do, whether you're a wife, you're a mother, you're a cousin, whether you're a friend. We now are going to be held accountable to live up to all these nice, good things we said and are saying about John Mascio. Thank you again, family. Thanks, all of you who touched John's life and

vice-versa. And I'll never forget him. And I look forward to learning more and more from my colleagues about how instrumental he was in building this institution.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Now we go back to Councilman DeFazio, who was the first president when John was hired. Councilman DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Thank you. Yeah, I go back to the beginning. And really, John was a big help to us because we really didn't know what we were doing. I mean, everything had to be from the beginning, rewrote and new books and this and that, administrative code. Everywhere we went, John helped us because he had the experience from City Council. He was a big help to us, really was. You know, the only thing ---. Bill was talking about him being the Alan Faneca. The only difference is we would never trade John to the Jets.

You know, John would laugh every time we stopped on the street. Most people would say, do you want a drink? I always say to John and some of the other people, do you want a fish sandwich? Laughing, he said, you know, you're the only person I know that never says you want a drink. You ask if I want a fish sandwich. And a lot of the times he'd say, you know, I better see what my wife has at home. He'd just pick at things. John wouldn't eat a lot. He would just take a drink or something and, you know, just talk. He liked to talk and laugh.

The only thing I had a disagreement with John is, he'd bring me back ---. The very beginning when we would be here, there seemed to be a lot of TV cameras. Everything we did, they scrutinized us with a fine tooth comb, it seemed like. John would talk about some of the old City Council people way back that do certain things. I said, John, you can't get away with that stuff today. He used to tell me when he'd do this and this. I said, that doesn't work that way here. I said, you know, this is altogether different, John. You'll never get away with that here. You've got to remember, we had people like Vince and some of the other ones in the beginning. You had to beat them down with a baseball bat, but you do it nice, though. You can't do it the other way, John.

I'm going to be honest with you. John --- let me tell you something. He was fair with everyone. I think John always thought I was going to ask him to do or get something on the other side of the Republican --- he'd tell me, hey, you know, I work for everybody. I said,

John, I know that. That's your job. You work for everybody. That's right. And I represent everybody, too. I'm the president. And he'd always tell me that I'd start asking stuff that ---. He'd say, you know, I have to watch, you know. I can't ---. I said, John, I know that. He said, I work for everybody. So he was fair with everyone. And I like that feature, and that's nice. I mean, he never really favored people. He was fair and decent with everybody.

One other thing. I had two daughters getting married, and he was the disc jockey. And everyone, everyone asked me --- well, he's good. And his kids, you guys do it. John did a good job for us. And I do --- in closing, I'd like to give my condolences again to the family. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilman. At this point, I would like to ask any of the former Council members ---. What I was going to do is just basically in order, starting with the at-large. I see Councilman Fawcett is here, and then just go in numerical order of anybody who would want to offer any reflections of John. Just come up to the podium. Dave, do you want to start? And I see Ed Kress is here. We won't even put the timer on you tonight, Dave. John would have that going.

MR. FAWCETT: Thanks for having me back. It's really great to be back. I have a lot of great memories here, not all great memories, but a lot of great memories. Nina, it's great to see you. Boys, it's great to see you. Yeah, I want to go back to the start, too, to pick up on some things that we've said. John and I were the first folks elected to the Council because we were elected in the primary in '99, ten years ago. And you know, at that point in time, there was a real question as to what this Council was going to be. And in my mind, I certainly had my doubts because it was a part-time body. We had 15 people and we didn't have staffs to ourselves. So we didn't know what it was going to be like. And yes, certainly, John helped us along. And I think there's no question --- I echo what's been said here --- that we really do have a great government body. I mean, I felt that that's something we all worked at. It came along.

And when we talked about John helping --- you know, you have to think, well, what is it that John stood for that really is sort of an enduring legacy when it comes to government? And John was a huge proponent of

open government. And you know, that's really what this Council is about. We don't have just three people the way we used to that know what's going on. We have 15 people. And John would encourage us all to get involved, to ask questions and to demand answers. And if you remember when we started, of the 15 people that started on the Council, I think there were 13 of the members who had no prior government experience at all. And so we were really newbies. And you know, John, in terms of having an open government and good government, told us how to have committee meetings, make sure things were transcribed, have minutes, keep records. The recordkeeping is an enormously important thing that John gave to us.

The thing I want to say about John, if I could sort of sum up some of his characteristics is --- I was thinking about, you know, how was he able to have the effect that he had? And John had a lot of contradictory but complementary characteristics. For example, John was a great listener and yet a great teacher. I think a lot of us, I speak for myself, like to talk and think we're good teachers. But you know, it's interesting that really great teachers oftentimes are the ones that can listen and not just do the talking. And John certainly did that.

And John was also a man of great emotions. He was sensitive. He was always laughing and joking and displayed his anger on occasion, but on the other hand, he was also a man of intellect. And you would see that because in the heat of battle, when we were up here and things would be getting heated, that wasn't a time for John to show emotion. In fact, John remained very calm and deliberate and, you know --- and logical. And you know, that's a really great quality that he had and certainly encouraged us to have.

And John also, I would say, was both street-wise --- how could he be from Bloomfield and not be --- and yet religious and spiritual and could carry those two things in just a beautiful, beautiful way. And John certainly valued, as we mentioned, fairness and he valued competency, you know. So it wasn't about political parties. And I recall a couple of our debates, and you all will recall this. And John, especially, you early on, you and I might be going back and forth. And both of us got burned in a sense. We'd turn to John and say, now, John --- because some of these things turned on procedure. Now John, what's the right way to do this. Isn't it, you

know, this, this, this and that? And John would raise his eyebrow and look at me --- actually, that's not correct, and would straighten us out. So you learned that it wasn't about, you know, anything but doing it the right way.

John did what he did also by telling stories and making impersonations, as everybody knows. And that's a great way, I think, to give advice and reality checks where appropriate. You know, he always did it with his facial expressions and his impersonations. He had lots of stories about Bloomfield. He was always casting specific people; the priest, the nun, the butcher, his father. And lots of times he would tell a story to impart a lesson.

I remember when we were considering gaming or gambling in Allegheny County, and I said to John, I don't know if that really will take off here, you know, in Pittsburgh, and whether the numbers are realistic. And rather than saying to me, are you crazy, Dave, you know, he just says, Dave --- he told me the story of how he was in Bloomfield as a kid in the basement of the church. And he said everybody was doing what they were doing. It might involve some gaming. And he said, Dave, the young kids --- when you were six years old, you needed a button to push on the wall if somebody came in there that you didn't know. I don't want to go into any details, but it was a great way to say, think about the culture in Pittsburgh, the Roman Catholics. And Dave, do you think gambling is not going to go in Pittsburgh?

And he'd give advice by telling stories about other politicians and how they handled things. And I know I had a period where I was having a number of contentious --- seemed like contentious interchanges with other people. And John one time told me the story how a former politician --- actually, I think I can say the name, Bob O'Connor, who he knew very well. And he said, you know, when Bob would be in a situation and be concerned if somebody was, you know, going to really take him on or something, he'd always say, how's the family? You know, how's the family? It was like he was telling me as a little lesson, Dave, get off your --- whatever your platform is for the day and just ask him about something human.

So in summary, you know, John has a great legacy in government and for this Council. I continue to believe it's a great body. It's our public hearings. It's our

mode of discourse. It's our public records. It's access to things that he brought to us. But you know, his real legacy, his overall legacy, is as someone who was caring and loving and was happy and overall was positive, you know. And isn't that what it's all about? Either people are going to be positive or negative. And John was teaching us all to be positive, so I'll miss him greatly. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilman. Councilman Kress? I don't want to put anybody on the spot. You know, I'm assuming everybody might want to say something. Councilman Ed Kress.

MR. KRESS: Thank you for calling me. I haven't been here in a while, but I have to say, John ---. The thing about John is that he was just a very fair person. I mean, when I first got involved in politics, I didn't see, like, political parties. I just saw --- hey, you know, we're just trying to do what's best for the people in this county. And the thing about John, he was fair with everybody. He really was. It didn't matter if you were Republican. It didn't matter if you were Democrat. If you went to him for advice, he gave it to you and it didn't matter.

And the one thing I want to echo about --- Councilman Martoni said about, John said, it didn't matter, you know, what political party was here. He said, the Communists could take over. They could throw us all in jail, but John would still have a job here in County Council. And that's the thing about John. I mean, what a wonderful man. I mean, sometimes you may have disagreements here at Council, but you know, his humor, he'd always lighten things up. And that's one of the things I knew about being on Council, was that there was a person like John there. Now I have to go home and watch the Comedy Channel. John was the Comedy Channel. But thank you very much.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thanks, Ed. Councilwoman Wagner, Eileen Wagner? Welcome back.

MS. WAGNER: Thank you. It's great to be back. Nina and boys, Mascio family, this is a wonderful tribute to the life of your husband and our friend. And I can tell you that I reiterate everything that everybody has said about him. He was our first hire, and I remember sitting with all of us, thinking about who we're going to hire and the interviews that we had gone through. And I

went home that night and talked to my brother-in-law, who was president of City Council. And he said to me, you'll not make a mistake hiring John Mascio. And we didn't. And what a tribute to your dad and your husband with past councilmen and councilwomen here. It's great.

But now I'm going to tell you a little story that John and I mostly talked about. I had three sons in ages like you, separated ages. They're quite grown up. But he always talked about not being able to keep the refrigerator full. And I used to say, hey, John, get used to it. They're getting bigger. And that's when you guys were little. That was in 2000, 2001. So he said, I'm always at the store. Get used to it. So thank you, Council.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilwoman. Councilman Price?

MR. PRICE: Good evening. Thank you. I just want to express my condolences and say it was really nice knowing John. I was a Councilperson back in the day. In 2001, I was elected. And at the time, as most of the members here can attest, we had some pretty contentious debates on certain issues. But the one thing I always remember was --- and the Republican side of me would try to introduce this legislation, that legislation, this --- and back and forth. And the Democrats --- and we were going back and forth. And John was always the calming influence.

And what I mean by that is I would come in, and as Councilman Fawcett would mention, I was frustrated. And I would say, you know, this happened, that happened, somebody did this, somebody did that. And John would just sit there and listen. And he would never engage in any type of gossip or he would never tell any stories outside. It took me once or twice to learn that that was his job, that he just wanted to treat us all the same way. And it was a tribute to him that he wouldn't engage in it, because it was easy. He heard 15 stories every week, all of us, about different things. And he always made sure that this Council was ---. He wanted to make sure that it was a --- you know, a good institution and not just simply a place to gossip or a place for petty politics. I thought that that raised the institution up with him.

So I appreciated meeting John and having him guide me through some of the legislation and some of the procedures here at County Council, because like most of

us, we hadn't been involved in it before. We didn't know what was going on. And John gave his institution and always really helped us out. I've been off Council for a few years, but I see him on the street --- or I did see him on the street. He was walking. He always smiled, always said hi. And I appreciated that, even after I left. So I know he's left you now, and it's tough. I wish you only the best memories and my condolences.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Councilman, and welcome back. Councilman Schwartz?

MR. SCHWARTZ: Hello. I guess I'm one of the originals, too. I know anything, everything we did was a first. And I remember when John was doing the interviews and everything else and John said to us, he said, this is something new. I'm trying to think now, listening to everything that was said. But he used to equate us to --- it wasn't just like being elected or coming into an institution that existed. You had to come in and you actually had to turn the light switch on first when you came into the room and you had to build it. And he was really one of the people responsible for doing this.

But I'm not going to talk a lot because everything --- you know, what I thought about, a lot of it has been said. I just remember one thing I wanted to talk about, and it was always kind of special to me that John used to use it because it had to do with me. Johnny said when we were first up and running, we were a public spectacle, not on purpose, but the papers used to do everything. You know, if someone looked cross-eyed up on the podium, you were in the paper the next day. But one time we were talking about getting laptops. As a matter of fact, John was real big in terms of getting the laptops, bringing us up into, you know, the 21st century. Well, it was editorial fodder. We had people arguing, they don't need laptops, they're part time, you know, whatever.

Well, needless to say, we got the laptops. And we were coming to a meeting right after we got the laptops. We all had our nice little bright and shiny cases and everything else. And Jim Roddey was the chief executive at the time, and Jim's office was right across from where we came out, and the elevator was in between the two. And I was coming out to go upstairs here with John and the laptop, and Jim Roddey was having an impromptu press conference in front. And there was one of

the reporters who wrote an editorial about us having a laptop. So as we're walking by, I'm going like this (indicating) with the laptop. Well, John cracked up. And John --- I find out later, John used that story at Seven Springs and he said he used it at County Council --- or at clerk conventions and everything else. So I was kind of touched by that. But yeah, John affected us all. John came to County Council from a chief clerk job with the City. And John came to continue to build and, I believe, to make his mark in the world. And I believe he did. Again, thanks for coming down. Thanks.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Councilman. Councilwoman Eileen Watt? Welcome back, Eileen.

MS. WATT: Thank you. Mrs. Mascio, my heart goes out to you and to your children. My children had lost their father a couple years ago, so I do understand that you have the role now of mom and dad. John was a wonderful man. From the moment that I came into County Council, he helped me learn the way. He never looked over and recognized me other as --- from the other party. He was probably the most optimistic person I have ever met. He had a wonderful sense of humor and just a really good guy. My prayers are with all of you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Councilwoman. Councilman Jay Jabbour? Councilman, welcome back.

MR. JABBOUR: Mr. Fitzgerald and members of Council, Mascio family, all of these things that have been said about your husband and father are all sincerely from the heart. And I'd look at John as a heart hotel because he had room for everybody, no matter who you are or where you came from. And before I left Council, he took time to go through his computer and type up every motion, every vote that I took on Council. And believe it or not, I still have it, and it's about six inches deep. I can't say enough about him. He's such a gentleman. But I do want to say this. There will never be another John Mascio. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thanks, Councilman. Senator Wayne Fontana, although tonight he's going to be Councilman Fontana again, so we won't lobby him for anything in Harrisburg. Senator, welcome back --- Councilman, welcome back.

SENATOR FONTANA: Thank you. It's hard to be here without seeing John there. All the years I was here, he was sitting there. It's pretty difficult. Mr.

President and Council, thank you for letting me speak. I'm here this evening to present a condolence resolution to the family of John Mascio. On behalf of myself, Senator Ferlo, Senator Costa, Senator Logan, which is our Allegheny County delegation, all of whom, I'm sure, over the years have interacted with John at some point, especially Senator Ferlo being at City Council, and, of course, myself here in County Council. This condolence resolution acknowledges John's love of his family, his job, his music and sports.

But actually, on a personal note, if I may, you know, everything that was said here is true; it's all true. Everybody enjoyed him. I met John for the first time when he applied for the job of chief clerk here at County Council. It didn't take long to talk. About ten minutes, I think. Right away, we knew that he was the right man for the job. He would make an excellent choice. And we were all right. We all chose him and there was no question, and we were right about that.

For me, I was involved in a lot of reorganization at the beginning, and John was helpful with that reorganization of this Council, creating committees, all those types of things. And he was there because he had the expertise from City Council to come over and help us. I relied on him. He was my counsel, for sure, as I was moving forward. And as was said, none of us had the experience in politics or even organizing something like this. But he was there to guide and counsel, and I appreciated that.

And as we went forward over the years, John was very dedicated to his job. He was always talking about technology and how to make it better and how to do his clerk job better. It wasn't just about, hey, I got the job, I'm here, and that's it. He was always striving to make his duties better and do a better job. He understood his job, which was interesting. He understood his role here and what he needed to do. And he understood all of us. No matter who was here, Democrat, Republican, it didn't matter. He understood us. And he played to that. He sat and listened, and when we needed counsel --- any of us. I'm sure everybody did --- went to him. And he worked well with all of us, which was, I think, a good thing.

You know, when I think of John, I smile all the time. It doesn't matter. The last time I was with John

--- I don't know if I should say this. But I was at the Duquesne Club. That's not really where you want to think of John, but we were there at the Christmas ---. They have the Christmas reception for legislators, and he was there. And John and I decided to take a walk back up here to get our cars, and for some reason --- at least, that was our initial attempt, was to walk up and get our cars. But we got a little thirsty on the way, so we sat a while at a local establishment here down the street. And what we did was we talked and we laughed. You know, it's been said John loved to tell a story. And he told stories about his days at City Council and I told him about Senator Ferlo.

And he also told stories about all of us and certainly about me. Mine was always about the maps. That was a touchy subject with some of us, but he was telling me about the maps. He said, I pulled them out from ---. He pulled those maps out from everywhere. They were coming every which way. He might have embellished the story a little bit, but he loved to tell it. He loved to tell a story, and he would laugh and smile when he did tell it. It made him laugh. John loved to laugh and smile. But I think more importantly, he made all of us laugh and smile, so ---.

Now, therefore, be it resolved that the Senate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania notes with great sadness the passing of John Mascio, whose life greatly benefited all those who lived, served and worked with him. And we extend heartfelt condolences to his wife, Nina, sons, John, Danny and Dino, father Richard, and many other family members and friends.

Be it further resolved that a copy of this document, sponsored by myself, Senator Ferlo, Senator Costa and Senator Logan, be given to Nina. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you, Senator. And welcome --- also, I see Kate Ritchie, one of our first staffers, is here tonight as well. And normally at a Council meeting, obviously, you've got to sign up and you've got to call the clerk and get your name on for your three minutes. But I know some of our staff members, I think, maybe want to say a few words tonight. Are there any other people, former staff members, who might have worked with John? And I'd like to recognize Fomeeka Bey to come forward.

MS. BEY: Hi. I'm a little nervous. At one point, John, in 2000, had recommended me to be hired, and I was. And then I went on to be his assistant. So therefore, the rest of the Council staff members thought it would be fitting that I read our remarks, and I am honored to do so. So at one point, John and I were the last of the original staff members, and John used to call us the originals. So you know, after some time taking them on, they'd get a new job and it was just him and I. And he would say, it's just you and I. We're the only originals. I'm like, I know. So then I went on to school, and I had just graduated this past May. And I would say to John, what are you going to do when I'm gone? He'd say, you're not going anywhere. You're not leaving. And then at that time, it never occurred to me that I would end up being the last original. And I just couldn't picture the office without him. So that was my memory.

And I would like to read Matt Lavitsky's (phonetic) remarks. Being a new member to the staff this year, Matt knew John for a relatively short period of time. Even in that brief time, however, he grew to understand John's importance in the office, not only as a co-worker but also as a friend and mentor. After getting to know him little by little, Matt came to know his unique character and realized why he brought so much life and happiness to the room he entered. Matt was privileged to have known John, even though it was only for a matter of a few months. Matt.

Sonya. Her best thoughts and memories of John include, first and foremost, how absolutely alive he was. She never met another person so in love with living than him. It's something to behold and be in awe of. She often ordered supplies --- office supplies for John and even managed to make a mundane task like that into an adventure. His attention to detail in supplies and everything was amazing. It was almost impossible to order exactly what he wanted right off the bat. In the end, they passed through the frustration to his laughter. That ability to convert situations, no matter how difficult, into something funny made John unique, and we will miss him.

Stephanie. Stephanie feels honored and privileged to have had an opportunity to work with John, a generous, thoughtful and humorous individual, and most importantly, for being a dear friend. John, thank you for

brightening our lives. We will love you and miss you. Your legacy will live on in our hearts and those who knew you and your life, which you fully lived each day.

Jennifer. Jennifer remembers John for his peaceful persona, kind heart, caring spirit and great sense of humor. She still smiles when she thinks about how a three-minute walk to the parking garage turned into 15 minutes. And John would always bump into several friends along the way. She remembers John as a man of great character, who was also a great character. And it counts as an honor to have worked with him. She feels privileged that she could call him a friend.

Joe. Joe began working with John when he was hired by first Council. But he felt almost like they had been lifelong friends. They would often speak in Italian in the office and reminisce about their long-time appointments in the government. They also often talked about favorite old television shows. He will miss the stories and great times they had.

Jared. John was the first Council staff member that Jared met outside of the interview process. And John immediately made him feel welcome and at ease. Although they did not always see eye to eye, John never understood how Jared could possibly not have seen the Godfather. It is a tribute to John's great humor that they always remained on the best of terms. He is profoundly grateful for John's guidance over the years and will forever feel honored to have counted him along his friends.

We have all been amazed by how John was universally regarded as a friend by everyone he encountered. Everyone talked about his humor, his charm and how it is almost impossible to imagine that County Council office without him. John was fond of saying that he was in a charter, but for all of us, he is in our hearts. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I also have a letter that was sent by Councilman Tom Shumaker --- Tom was one of the original members of County Council, and Tom is now living in Norfolk, Virginia --- addressed to the present members of Council. I was deeply saddened to learn of John Mascio's passing. In the almost six years I worked with John, I repeatedly witnessed a remarkable dedication, kindness, humor and professionalism. And I soon came to rely on him as an indispensable colleague, so

indispensable that I simply cannot imagine Allegheny County Council without John Mascio.

John Mascio will always epitomize for me the values of public service. He never cared about getting credit or even being thanked. He was exceptionally thorough and accurate in his work. He always kept his composure, even when others around him lost theirs. He was one of the most compassionate listeners I ever met, and perhaps above all else, he demonstrated a joy and enthusiasm for life and constantly lifted the spirits of those fortunate enough to be in the same room.

John was also a wonderful teacher about local government. I learned so much from John, and he was a very patient and diplomatic teacher. When I started on County Council, I thought I knew all about county government. John overlooked this attitude and took the time to help me. And he used his compassion to correct me and others constructively so that no one's feelings were hurt.

There's nothing I would enjoy more than being with you on the 25th of August to honor John, but regrettably, it is not possible. I pray to God that He will give peace to the Mascio family and that they will take pride in knowing more about John's extraordinary contribution. Councilman Tom Shumaker.

With that, I would like to have all Council members join me at the podium while we present the plaque to Nina and the entire Mascio family. And I'm going to ask John DeFazio, the original president of County Council, to read this into the record. I'd also like all former members of Council to please come up and join us as well to present this to the Mascio family.

MR. DEFAZIO: Okay. This is the Allegheny County Council proclamation.

WHEREAS, John Richard Mascio was born January 13th, 1952, and from his childhood in Bloomfield to the career in government with the City of Pittsburgh and Allegheny County, John was a source of great joy and charm, an inspiration for anyone he encountered.

WHEREAS, John began his service to the residents of the county in 1976 as an aide for the Council of the City of Pittsburgh and remained a faithful and dedicated city employee through 1999, at which time he was a deputy city clerk.

AND WHEREAS, in 1999, the newly-established Allegheny County Council chose John as its first employee in the capacity of chief clerk, a position that he retained until his passing, providing invaluable service to the residents of Allegheny County by guiding the Allegheny County Council through its infancy and helping to establish the Council as an effective legislative body for the county.

AND WHEREAS, John's grace, wit and compassion inevitably made a tremendous impression upon his co-workers, all of whom came to regard him as a friend and mentor.

AND WHEREAS, the skill and tact with which John provided advice to County Council and its staff will never be forgotten by those who were privileged to work with him.

AND WHEREAS, John passed away on Friday, May 29th, 2009. His family, friends and co-workers lost a remarkable man of great passion.

NOW, THEREFORE, be it resolved that Allegheny County Council hereby recognizes John Richard Mascio's commitment to public service, skill and professionalism and devotion to his family, which serves as an inspiration to all of us. And while we cannot hope to replace him, we will honor the memory by emulating the spirit of his dedication.

Council further expresses its profound gratitude to his wife, Nina, his sons, John, Danny and Dino, and his devoted extended family for their support throughout John's career. Sponsored by all members of Allegheny Council. Thank you.

(Applause.)

MRS. MASCIO: Thank you. It was so nice to hear all the things that we knew, and we learned more. We learned more tonight through all of you and everybody he touched because they say sometimes you never know somebody that's right under your nose. But really, everything you said, you know, it was true. Its humor you haven't even touched.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: No, we couldn't tell those stories.

MRS. MASCIO: You have no idea. Thank you very much.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: We're going to have a short meeting, hopefully.

(Pictures taken.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Okay. Thank you, everybody, for your indulgence. We're going to move on, and Joe's going to read 5074-09 into the record.

MR. CATANESE: Proclamation honoring the memory of John Richard Mascio and recognizing his commitment to public service, skilled professionalism and devotion to his family. Sponsored by Council Members Burn, Cleary, Drozd, DeFazio, Ellenbogen, Finnerty, Fitzgerald, Futules, Gastgeb, Green, Macey, Martoni, McCullough, Rea and Robinson.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Presentation of appointments. Please do 5070, 5071 and 5072-09 all together.

MR. CATANESE: If I may note, I'm going to put into the record that Councilman DeFazio is present. Communication from Chief Executive Dan Onorato submitting his recommendation of Timothy H. Johnson, Marc Little and Iftikhar Malik for appointment to the Minority Business Enterprise Advisory Committee. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Refer to Committee on Appointment Review. Unfinished business. Committee on Economic Development and Housing, second reading. 4204-08.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania expressing support for the continuation of feasibility studies for a commuter rail line between Pittsburgh and the Alle-Kiski Valley, with the ultimate aim of opening commuter service, with all deliberate speed. Sponsored by Council Member Futules.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Chairman Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This was before the Committee on Economic Development and Housing, and we're to release with an affirmative recommendation. I'd like to move it.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second. Discussion? Please call the roll.

MR. FUTULES: Hold it.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: I'm sorry.

MR. FUTULES: I have an amendment to introduce. Will you pass it out, Jared? I make a motion to make this an amendment. This amendment is a very easy one. In the

original resolution, it had mentioned the train from New Kensington to Oakmont. As you can see on the second page, we underlined it, it actually starts at Arnold. It went through New Kensington, Plum Borough, Oakmont, Verona and Penn Hills. And also, it talked about the Allegheny Valley Railroad. They were formerly based down there. They're now in Oakmont. Those were just the only changes. I'd like to make a motion to amend that.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Motion to amend?

MR. DEFAZIO: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Seconded. Discussion?

We'll call for a voice vote on this. All in favor signify by saying aye.

(Chorus of ayes.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Opposed? The amendment carries. Now on the bill as amended, please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green?

MS. GREEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?

MR. MCCULLOUGH: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?

MS. REA: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?

MR. ROBINSON: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes zero. The motion passes.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: 5064-09.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution providing for a program of temporary exemption from county real property taxes for improvements, including repairs, construction or reconstruction, made on industrial, commercial or business property in a deteriorated area in the Township of McCandless, County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, pursuant to the Local Economic Revitalization Tax Assistance Act. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Chair Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Thank you, Mr. President. This was also before the Economic Development and Housing Committee and was released with an affirmative recommendation. I'd like to make a motion to approve.

MR. MACEY: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second. Discussion? Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

(No response.)

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?

MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?

MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?

MR. FINNERTY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?

MR. FUTULES: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?

MR. GASTGEB: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green?

MS. GREEN: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?

MR. MACEY: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?

MR. MARTONI: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?

MR. MCCULLOUGH: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?
PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 14, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Liaison reports? Okay.
Moving on, new business. Ordinances and resolutions.
5073-09.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution of the County of Allegheny amending the Grants and Special Accounts Budget for 2009, Submission 14-09. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Refer to Committee on Budget and Finance. 5075-09.

MR. CATANESE: A resolution approving the sale of certain real property owned by the County of Allegheny, Pennsylvania to a development group comprised of Massaro Properties, LLC; Langholz, Wilson, Ellis, Incorporated; Kratsa Properties and Tasso Katselas Associates, Incorporated for a sale price of \$4,900,000 for the purpose of demolishing the current building located thereon and constructing a new development, including a hotel, office building and parking garage. Sponsored by the Chief Executive.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Refer to Committee on Economic Development and Housing. Before we move on to new business, motions, I have an order of business to be presented, and it should be in front of all your desks. It's just marked ordinance with no bill number to it. And I had a discussion with the Public Safety Chair, --- this deals with public safety --- Chairman Burn, among others on this Council. In light of the G-20 summit coming up, I think there's an awful lot of angst in the community regarding public safety. There's certainly other issues with transportation and roads, but I think a real worry to a lot of people, at least what I hear in my district, is a fear of what could occur.

Normally, when we enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements, it takes, obviously, the sign-off of the Chief Executive, but then a return to this body for ratification of any such agreement, whether it be with the

City of Pittsburgh or another municipality or the state or any other governmental entity. I think in light of the extraordinary circumstances that we're going to be entering into, we certainly want to give the County Manager, the Superintendent of Police, the Executive all latitude to be able to do whatever they deem necessary to provide public safety in the month leading up to this event. I think they probably would be able to just do it anyway.

But really, to take any doubt away, I just thought it would be good to allow that --- to enter into a governmental cooperation agreement with respect to public safety. And it would basically expire on October 1st, so it's a very short window. Anything other than that would normally come back here through the normal process. So what I wanted to do, in light of the fact that there could be riot training or some other things that might come into play, I was going to ask for a waiver of the second reading tonight, rather than send it to committee, to give the latitude that Director Full or Superintendent Moffatt or County Manager Flynn might need to do anything. So I'm going to ask for a waiver of the second reading.

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Second. Do we have a discussion on the waiver of the second reading? Seeing none --- Joe, would you just read whatever we need to read in this part of it?

MR. CATANESE: An ordinance of the County of Allegheny, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, authorizing the County Administration to enter into discussions regarding the joint cooperation of Allegheny County and other units of government in connection with the upcoming G-20 summit to be held in Pittsburgh on September 24th through the 25th, 2009, and providing for the adoption of an ordinance to enter into intergovernmental cooperation agreements pursuant to the Intergovernmental Cooperation Act 53.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: And then you'll see --- if you turn to page two, this is really the body of it. Again, it expires on October 1st, 2009, so it's a short period in which it would revert back to the normal operation in any intergovernmental cooperation, whether it be purchasing, public safety, parks, computers, any of the other things that have been discussed previously. I'm

going to call --- the second reading having been waived, I'm going to ask for a motion to approve this resolution.

(Chorus of motions.)

MS. CLEARY: Second.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Moved, second. Any discussions of this ordinance? I'm sorry. Discussion? Mr. Drozd?

MR. DROZD: Thank you, Mr. President. I think it's a good idea to anticipate --- you know, have some foresight in this. The only question I would have --- there's been concerns raised by some other members of Council at our last Committee meeting on the G-20 about --- the cost of this could exceed the \$20,000,000 mark. And you know, there was some indications that they felt that we don't have our affirmative yet that the White House would be reimbursing the County and City for these funds. So would this ordinance give the power in anyone to commit funds from the County?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: No. We would still have the normal ---. Anytime funds are authorized by this county, it would require this body to vote for that authorization. That is a good question, and I should have mentioned also we're going to be holding another informational session with the Government Reform Committee meeting next Thursday, again, just to update us on some of these instances. Councilman Burn?

MR. BURN: Thank you. Mr. President, just a point of order. You put the motion on the floor to waive the second reading, and there was a second, and then we were in discussion of the motion. But I don't know that we voted on anything to vote to waive the second reading.

UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: We did a voice vote.

MR. BURN: We did? I apologize. Thank you, sir. I wanted to be sure. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yes. Any further discussion?

MR. BARR: Mr. President, may I address ---?

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: No.

MR. BARR: It would be under new business. I would really like ---.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Please call the roll.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. Burn?

MR. BURN: Yes.

MR. CATANESE: Ms. Cleary?

MS. CLEARY: Aye.

MR. CATANESE: Mr. DeFazio?
MR. DEFAZIO: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Drozd?
MR. DROZD: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Ellenbogen?
MR. ELLENBOGEN: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Finnerty?
MR. FINNERTY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Futules?
MR. FUTULES: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Gastgeb?
MR. GASTGEB: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Green?
MS. GREEN: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Macey?
MR. MACEY: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Martoni?
MR. MARTONI: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. McCullough?
MR. MCCULLOUGH: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Ms. Rea?
MS. REA: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Robinson?
MR. ROBINSON: Aye.
MR. CATANESE: Mr. Fitzgerald, President?
PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Yes.
MR. CATANESE: Ayes 15, noes 0. The bill

passes.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: And Mr. Barr, we're going to have public comment on --- excuse me. New business, motions. Any motions this evening? Moving on, Public comment on general items. One speaker, Mr. Barr.

MR. BARR: Good evening. My name is Jim Barr. I live in West View Borough. I do want to comment on this new business. I just wanted to emphasize that this new safety committee does not infringe on anybody's First Amendment rights at the G-20 Summit.

And I also wanted to address --- hereto request a written copy of the procedure for the 2010 redistricting. I have contacted the Department of State once before. They had no information on it. I contacted my state senator. They're still working on it right now. The second time I have contacted the Department of State, and now they're saying that the County has that information for redistricting, the 2010.

My main concern about the redistricting is the redistricting in the past. As illustrated in this flyer, this pamphlet, Duquesne Light, Use Your Voice, it's an excellent publication on the redistricting. And I'd like to thank Duquesne Light and the Government Affairs Department for the publication Use Your Voice, which they mailed to me upon my request. This excellent color-coded pamphlet illustrates Allegheny County legislative districts, including City Council, which is a supplement, County Council, State House and state legislation and U.S. Congressional Districts. In addition to the geographic depictions of individual municipalities, this quick reference material was sent to me at no direct cost to me. And I've never seen a better source of information than this brochure.

The reason I brought this up is, as you can see in the redistricting of the 2000, it's a very, very poor quality. To my understanding, there's two major political parties that redistrict this. I think it's a very, very poor quality of work that they presented to us, we, the people. And I'd like to be part of the procedure that --- when they enter in the 2010 redistricting. Thank you.

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Thank you. I'd also like to welcome and thank for being with us tonight the Academy of Court Reporting and Technology. If you've noticed, some of the extra stenographers we have with us this evening, we have the Academy with us and their Executive Director, Beth Duzzny, and I believe its 12 students that are with us this evening. So welcome, and hope you got some good stuff down. With that, do I have a motion to adjourn?

(Chorus of motions.)

(Chorus of seconds.)

PRESIDENT FITZGERALD: Meeting adjourned.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:40 P.M.

CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify, as the stenographic reporter, that the foregoing proceedings were taken stenographically by me, and thereafter reduced to typewriting by me or under my direction; and that this transcript is a true and accurate record to the best of my ability.


Court Reporter