

**Laws, Rules & Government Services Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: February 8, 2024 – 4:00 PM
LOCATION(S): KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
Livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Kovacs
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk & Tyron Rogers, Technical Support Specialist
MEMBERS PRESENT: Legislators Gavaris, Hansut (arrived 4:10 PM), Harmon, Kitchen (arrived 4:20 PM), Levine & Uchitelle
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Maloney, Nolan & Roberts; Legislative Counsel Ragucci and Minority Counsel Pascale; Comptroller Gallagher & Deputy Comptroller Dinstuhl; Commissioner Quigely & Deputy Commissioner Bloom – Board of Elections; Deputy County Executive Capuano – UC Executive’s Office; Carl Brown, Martin Dunkley & Tyrone Wilson – UC Human Rights Commission (former)

Complete content of the meeting can be accessed via the Ulster County Legislature’s YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>

Chair Kovacs called the meeting to order at 4:04 PM, welcomed the members, and offered introductory remarks.

Motion No. 1: **Motion to Approve the Minutes of the December 18, 2023 Regular Meeting**
Motion Made By: Legislator Levine
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Voting in Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Harmon, Kovacs, Levine & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes Approved**

Resolutions for the February 13, 2024 Session of the Legislature:

Resolution No. 38 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 1 Of 2024, A Local Law Amending Article III Hotel And Motel Room Occupancy Tax Of The Code Of The County Of Ulster In Relation To Determination Of Taxable Rent, To Be Held On Tuesday, March 19, 2024 At 7:00 PM

Resolution Summary – This resolution sets a public hearing on Tuesday, March 19, 2024 At 7:00 PM to provide the public with an opportunity to offer comment on Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2024.

Motion No. 2: **Motion to Discuss Resolution No. 38**
Motion Made By: Legislator Levine
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Motion No. 2: **Motion to Amend Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2024 in the form as presented**
Motion Made By: Legislator Levine
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hansut

Legislator Maloney, sponsor of the Resolution, consented to the proposed amendments.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Hansut, Harmon, Kitchen, Kovacs, Levine & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Amendments Adopted**

Motion No. 2: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 38 with Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2024 as amended**
Motion Made By: Legislator Levine
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hansut

Voting in Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Hansut, Harmon, Kitchen, Kovacs, Levine & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted with Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2024 as amended**

Resolution No. 72 – Appointing Chair Peter J. Criswell As The Ulster County Legislature’s Member To Serve On The County Jury Board

Resolution Summary – This Resolution appoints Chair Criswell to serve on the County Jury Board pursuant to NYS Judiciary Law Section 503(a)(1) for a term commencing immediately and terminating on December 31, 2024.

Motion No. 3: **Motion to Discuss Resolution No. 72**
Motion Made By: Legislator Levine
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Motion No. 3: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 72**
Motion Made By: Legislator Gavaris
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hansut

Voting in Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Hansut, Harmon, Kitchen, Kovacs, Levine & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

New Business

- Ulster County Sexual Harassment Policy

Chair Kovacs led an extensive discussion on the county’s sexual harassment policy, its applicability to members of county boards and commissions, and the county’s handling of a particular situation involving a complaint against a former member of the Human Rights Commission. Deputy County Executive Capuano spoke on behalf of the County Executive’s Office and answered questions. Former Human Right Commission members Brown, Dunkley and Wilson also participated.

Old Business: None

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Gavaris
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0

TIME: 5:32 PM
Respectfully Submitted: Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
Approved: March 14, 2024

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