

**Economic Development, Planning, Education, Employment, Arts & Agriculture Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** October 1, 2024 – 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION(S):** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building, Kingston, NY  
Livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Sperry  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk & Tyron Rogers, Technical Support Specialist  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Legislators Clinton, Corcoran, Hewitt, Litts, Stewart & Walls  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislator Nolan; Director Dennis Doyle – UC Planning Department; Deputy County Executive Amanda LaValle; Director Berger – UC Department of Tourism; Executive Director Wedemeyer – Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District; Executive Director Hilary Nichols and Board Chair Mike Ham – Ulster County Industrial Development Agency

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

Chair Sperry called the meeting to order at 6:04 PM and asked everyone to stand for the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Motion No. 1:** **Motion to Approve the minutes of the September 3<sup>rd</sup> Regular Meeting**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Stewart  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Clinton  
  
**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Clinton, Corcoran, Hewitt, Litts, Sperry, Stewart & Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 7  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Minutes Approved**

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Chair Sperry invited Ulster County Industrial Development Agency Executive Director Nichols and Board Chair Mike Ham to update the committee on the agency and board’s activities. Board Chair Ham complimented Executive Director Nichols work since coming on board and commented that the board was working well together adding that he was optimistic about the direction the agency was moving in. Executive Director Nichols highlighted changes to the IDA website and discussed other administrative improvements.

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Resolutions for the October 15, 2024 Legislative Session:

**Resolution No. 507** – Amending The 2024 Ulster County Budget To Reallocate Unused Funds For Economic Development Research And Strategy

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution amends the 2024 Operating Budget to reclassify \$28,000.00 of attrition savings for a new designated purposed in furtherance of funding new potential economic development strategies related to industrial hemp.

**Motion No. 2:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 507**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walls  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt

After discussion Legislators Walls and Hewitt withdrew their motion and second

**Motion No. 3: Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 507**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Clinton

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Clinton, Corcoran, Hewitt, Litts, Sperry, Stewart & Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 7  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Postponed**

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**Resolution No. 508** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$565,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Medium Giant Company, Inc. D/B/A Medium Giant – Department Of Tourism

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Medium Giant Company, Inc. D/B/A Medium Giant in the amount of \$565,000 to extend the term of agreement for advertising and marketing services from January 1, 2025 – December 31, 2025.

**Motion No. 4: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 508**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Corcoran  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Clinton

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Clinton, Corcoran, Hewitt, Litts, Sperry, Stewart & Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 7  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Adopted**

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**Resolution No. 553** – Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 9 Of 2024, A Local Law Providing Real Property Tax Exemption Of The County Portion Of The Real Property Taxation And Special Ad Valorem Levies For The Creation Of New Accessory Dwelling Units In Accordance New York State Real Property Tax Law Article 4 Title 2 Private Property Section 421-P\*2

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 9 of 2024, A Local Law Providing Real Property Tax Exemption Of The County Portion Of The Real Property Taxation And Special Ad Valorem Levies For The Creation Of New Accessory Dwelling Units In Accordance New York State Real Property Tax Law Article 4 Title 2 Private Property Section 421-P\*2.

**Motion No. 5: Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 553**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts

The motion was not seconded.

**Motion No. 6: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 553**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Hewitt  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Clinton

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Clinton, Corcoran, Hewitt, Sperry  
**Voting Against:** Legislators Litts, Stewart & Walls  
**Votes in Favor:** 4  
**Votes Against:** 3  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Adopted**

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### **Upcoming Meetings:**

Chair Sperry reminded the members that a Special Committee Meeting has been scheduled for Monday, October 28<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 PM to discuss the Executive's Proposed 2025 Budget and Proposed 2025-2030 Capital Program.

Chair Sperry reminded the members that the November Regular meeting was rescheduled from Election Day, Tuesday, November 5<sup>th</sup> to Thursday, November 7<sup>th</sup> at 6 PM.

### **New Business:**

Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District Executive Director Jake Wedemeyer advised the members that SWCD was awarded \$166,400 by New York State to support a multi-farm initiative aimed at enhancing soil health management. The awarded funds will enable the farms to adopt best management practices (BMPs) such as cover cropping and reduced tillage, both proven strategies for improving soil health, reducing erosion, and increasing organic matter.

Legislator Stewart asked Planning Director questions regarding unclaimed funds/enforcement for non-compliance with the county's short term rental registry.

Planning Director Doyle advised the members of the possibility of a Late Resolution pertaining to a \$1 million federal award to go toward the Golden Hill Housing Project.

**Old Business:** None

### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Clinton  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt  
**Votes in Favor:** 7  
**Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 7:33 PM

**Respectfully Submitted:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**Adopted:** November 7, 2024

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