

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

**DATE & TIME:** December 3, 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:** Legislators Collins & Nolan; Director Dennis Doyle – UC Planning Department; Director Kevin Lynch – UC Department of Economic Development; Deputy County Executive Amanda LaValle; Executive Director Jake Wedemeyer – Ulster County Soil & Water Conservation District; Executive Director Melanie Forstrom – Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County; President Katie Scott-Childress – Mid Hudson Library Association

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Chair Sperry called the meeting to order at 6:20 PM and asked Legislator Litts to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Motion No. 1:** **Motion to Approve the minutes of the October 28<sup>th</sup> Special and November 7<sup>th</sup> Regular Meetings**

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

**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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Resolutions for the December 17, 2024 Legislative Session:

**Resolution No. 641** – Authorizing The 2025 Appropriation For The Ulster County Libraries Program – Ulster County Legislature

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution authorizes and directs the Ulster County Commissioner of Finance to pay to the Mid-Hudson Library System the sum of \$120,600.00, and requires the Library System to render a verified account of disbursements, including a list of the distribution.

**Motion No. 2:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 641 As Amended As Presented**  
**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 Adopted As Amended**

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**Resolution No. 639** – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With Cornell Cooperative Extension Of Ulster County For 2025 Appropriations – Ulster County Legislature

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to sign a memorandum of agreement, as well as an agreement for professional services in the amount of \$479,046.00 with the County of Ulster and Cornell Cooperative Extension Association of Ulster County.

**Motion No. 3:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 639 As Amended As Presented**  
**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 Adopted As Amended**

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**Resolution No. 640** – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The Ulster County Soil And Water Conservation District For The 2025 Appropriation – Ulster County Legislature

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an agreement in the amount of \$181,500.00, to be expended towards the costs associated with operations of the Ulster County Soil and Water Conservation District.

**Motion No. 4:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 640 As Amended As Presented**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt

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

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**Resolution No. 633** – Establishing Capital Project No. 718 – Cornell Street Park, Amending Capital Project No. 479 Midtown Linear Park, And Declaring Intent To Act As Lead Agency (SEQRA) – Department Of Planning

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution establishes Capital Project No. 718 - Cornell Street Park in the amount of \$157,134.00, and amends the 2024 Capital Fund Budget accordingly.

**Motion No. 5:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 633**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt

**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. 634** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$131,618.00 Entered Into By The County – PORT Architecture And Urbanism LLC – Department Of Planning

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution approves a contract with PORT Architecture And Urbanism LLC for \$131,618.00 engineering and landscape design services for a community park on the Kingston Linear Park from Cornell St to Downs St.

**Motion No. 6:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 634**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Hewitt  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Corcoran

**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. 635** – Reappointing Member Andrew Boggess And Alternate Member Heidi Emrich To The Ulster County Planning Board – Town Of Olive

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution reappoints Andrew (Drew) Boggess to the Ulster County Planning Board as the Town of Olive representative and Heidi Emrich as the alternate representative from January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028.

**Motion No. 7:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 635**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Corcoran  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt

**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. 636** – Reappointing Member Victor Markowitz To The Ulster County Planning Board – Town Of Wawarsing

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution reappoints Victor Markowitz, Town of Wawarsing, to the Ulster County Planning Board through December 31, 2027.

**Motion No. 8:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 636**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Corcoran

**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. 637** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$102,600.00 Entered Into By The County – Transpo Group USA, Inc. – Department Of Planning

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution approves a contract with Transpo Group USA, Inc. for \$102,600.00 for transportation planning services for development of a Long-Range Transportation Plan for the UC Transportation Council.

**Motion No. 9:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 637**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Litts

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hewitt

**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. 638** – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature to Execute A Grant Application With The New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation Represented By The Office Of Community Renewal, For Federal Funding For The Implementation Of Community Development Block Grants (CDBG) - Business Expansion And Start Up (BEST) – Department Of Economic Development

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution authorizes the Director of the Department of Economic Development to submit an application, as well as all necessary understandings, assurances, and additional information as may be required, to the New York State Office of Community Renewal for the purposes of New York State Community Development Block Grant (NYS CDBG) Business Expansion and State-up Program toward the creation of a microenterprise grant program to provide financial assistance for profit businesses with five (5) or fewer employees, for an identified CDBG eligible activity which will result in the creation or retention of permanent private sector job opportunities, principally for persons from low-moderate income families.

**Motion No. 10:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 638**

**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 Adopted**

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

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution reallocates the Parks Director vacancy savings for a new designated purpose in furtherance of funding new potential economic development strategies, including the exploration of the potentials of industrial hemp, identifying local nonprofits that can support industrial hemp, and empowering farmers to come to the table from the outset of the local industrial hemp movement.

Legislator Hewitt advised the members that he is withdrawing the Resolution from consideration.

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**New Business:**

The members briefly discussed Legislator Hewitt’s proposed amendment to the Executive’s 2025 Budget to fund research into industrial hemp.

**Old Business:**

Planning Director Doyle commented on the previously approved funding for septic improvement and lead remediation funding and mentioned possible late resolutions.

**Adjournment**

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

**TIME:** 7:04 PM

**Respectfully Submitted:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**Adopted:** February 4, 2025

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