

Ways & Means Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: August 15, 2017 – 5:30
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building,
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Richard Gerentine, Chairman
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Amber Feaster
PRESENT: Legislators Thomas J. Briggs, Chris Allen, Tracey Bartels,
Carl Belfiglio (arrived at 5:38), Mary Beth Maio (arrived at
5:38), James F. Maloney, Legislative Chairman Kenneth J.
Ronk, Jr.
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Nicholas Pascale, Legislative Counsel; Kyle Barnett, Legislative
Counsel; Chris Ragucci, Minority Counsel (arrived at 5:51);
Legislators Manna Jo Greene, Dean Fabiano, and Jonathan
Heppner (arrived at 5:52); Ken Crannel, Deputy County
Executive; Marie Bing, County Attorney's Office; Jennifer
Clark, County Attorney's Office; Patricia Doxsey, Daily
Freeman; Cliff Fainty, Ulster County Resident

- **Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM**

Motion No. 1: To approve the Minutes of July 11 and July 18, 2017

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 2: To approve Resolution No. 223 - Requiring The Payment Of A Living Wage To Employees Of Contractors And Sub-Contractors That Provide Services To The County Of Ulster

Resolution Summary: This Resolution requires that for every contract entered on or after July 1, 2017, compensation for covered employees employed by covered employers be set in an

amount no less than \$15.00 per hour worked, in addition to retirement, health, or other benefits received by the covered employee, if any, and that an exemption to this Resolution may be granted, with prior Legislative approval, to not-for-profit organizations which perform services for the County or its Departments.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Discussion: Committee members discussed mutual concerns over employer ability to afford the legislature, the legislature's effects on the County's budget which is predicated on current wage provisions, and the lack of detail included therein, specifically pertaining to the legislature's cost to the County and to participating contractors. All committee members expressed agreement that a living wage should be supported as a general concept. Chairman Gerentine expressed disagreement with the government dictating wages and expressed belief that employers should have the right and ability to determine what is considered an appropriate wage. Deputy County Executive Ken Crannel emphasized the effects of the legislature on tax payers and local municipalities, stating that the County must balance fiscal and social responsibilities.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 0
No. of Votes Against: 8
Disposition: Defeated

Motion No. 3: To approve Resolution No. 323 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 6 Of 2017, (A Local Law Repealing The Wireless Communications Surcharge Authorized By Article Six Of The County Law Of The State Of New York; And Imposing The Wireless Communications Surcharges Pursuant To The Authority Of Tax Law § 186-G)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 6 of 2017 for the repeal of the Wireless Communications Surcharge authorized by Article Six of the County Law of the State of New York and imposition of the Wireless Communications Surcharges pursuant to the Authority of Tax Law § 186-G.

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 4: To approve Resolution No. 329 - Authorizing The Construction Of The Hudson Valley Rail Trail West (Phase 4), In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$1,734,069.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,734,069.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the issuance of \$1,734,069.00 in serial bonds for the construction of the Hudson Valley Rail Trail West (Phase 4).

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 5: To approve Resolution No. 333 - Authorizing The Issuance Of An Additional \$45,000.00 Bonds Of The County Of Ulster, New York, To Pay Part Of The Cost Of The Reconstruction Of Various Parking Lots, In And For Said County

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the issuance of \$45,000.00 in serial bonds for the reconstruction of various parking lots.

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 6: To approve Resolution No. 335 - Authorizing The Replacement Of Roofs At County Buildings In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$1,580,000.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,580,000.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the issuance of \$1,580,000.00 in serial bonds for the replacement of roofs at County buildings.

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Discussion: Legislator Bartels expressed concerns over discrepancies between a report issued by LaBella Associates, D.P.C. and statements made by the Organization at a meeting of the Special Oversight Committee on Family Court Renovations concerning a structural analysis of the roof for the installation of a photovoltaic (PV) array system. Legislators Bartels, Briggs, Fabiano, and Greene were in agreement that a cost analysis, detailing the cost of the system versus the estimated savings on electricity, is necessary in order to determine if the structural reinforcement of the roof is worth the additional cost. Legislator Briggs suggested that the County contact a solar provider to obtain an estimate of the materials needed, the cost of the system, and the pay-back period, stating that this service is often free of charge and would provide the County with more detail of the weight requirements which could then be used to perform a more adequate structural analysis of the roof. Committee members were in agreement that doing this would result in the opportunity to make a more informed decision as to whether solar installation is worth the additional costs. Chairman Gerentine and Deputy County Executive, Ken Crannel, expressed concerns over a delay in the Capital Project's timeline. Further, Ken Crannel asked the Legislature to consider the added costs of such services when the Legislature is emphasizing the importance of keeping the Capital Project within its budgetary limitations. Additional arguments against the additional services were from Legislative Chairman Ronk and Legislator Belfiglio who questioned whether the decision to explore these avenues rested within the Committee or if these actions exceeded the purview of the Legislature. The Committee requested for the County Executive to further research the options for implementing solar. Deputy County Executive Ken Crannel agreed to communicate this request.

It was asked why the roof is a separate capital project from the Family Court Renovation. Legislative Chairman Ronk explained that this is because the County owns the building and the roof would have to be replaced regardless of whether the Court moved

there or not and because there are other facilities housed within the building.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 7: To approve Resolution No. 343 - Supporting A Grant Application To The NYS Department Of Transportation To Apply, Accept And Administer Public Transportation Modernization And Enhancement Funding For Bus & Bus Facilities Capital Investment Program And Authorizing The Ulster County Executive To Execute Any Required Applications Or Agreements To Accept Funding- Department Of Public Transportation (UCAT)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution supports a grant application to the New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) and authorizes the County Executive to execute any required applications or agreements, and any amendments to any documents, to accept the funding agreement with the NYSDOT.

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Allen

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 8: To approve Resolution No. 344 - Supporting A Grant Application To The Federal Transit Administration To Apply, Accept And Administer 5339(B) Funding For Bus & Bus Facilities Infrastructure Investment Program And Authorizing The Ulster County Executive To Execute Any Required Applications Or Agreements To Accept Funding- Department Of Public Transportation (UCAT)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution supports a grant application to the Federal Transit Administration's Bus and Bus Facilities Program and authorizes the County Executive to execute any required applications or agreements, and any amendments to any documents, to accept the funding agreement with the Federal Transit Administration.

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Discussion: Clarified that the cost to the County is \$150,000.00.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Briggs, Allen, Bartels, Belfiglio, Maio, Maloney, and Ronk

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Chairman Gerentine asked if there was any other business or questions. There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made to adjourn.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Belfiglio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 6:05 pm

Respectfully submitted: Amber Feaster

Minutes Approved: September 13, 2017