

**Energy, Environment and Sustainability Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: February 4, 2025 – 4:00 PM
LOCATION(S): Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
Livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Hewitt
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Lizvett Noriega, Legislative Administrative Assistant; Tyron Rogers, Legislative Technical Support Specialist
MEMBERS PRESENT: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls
MEMBERS ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Collins, Corcoran, and Roberts; Deputy County Executive Amanda LaValle – UC Executive’s Office; Executive Director Marc Rider – Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency; Director Dennis Doyle – UC Department of Planning; Poppy Cannon-Reese – member of the public

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

Chair Hewitt called the meeting to order at 4:06 PM

Deputy Chair Hewitt let the committee members know that the Ulster County Executive & Green Fleet 2024 Annual Report has been received and can be access through the committee one drive.

Motion No. 1: **Motion to Approve the Minutes of the February 4, 2025 Regular Meeting**
Motion Made By: Legislator Greene
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes Approved**

Resolutions for the March 18, 2025 Session of the Legislature:

Resolution No. 470 of 2024 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2024, A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster, Chapter 205 Food Service, Article II Use Of Disposable Polystyrene Foam, To Include Thermoform Plastic, To Be Held On Tuesday, April 15, 2025 At 7:00 PM

Resolution Summary – This Resolution sets a public hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2024, A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster, Chapter 205 Food Service, Article II Use Of Disposable Polystyrene Foam, To Include Polypropylene Thermoform Plastic, to be held on Tuesday, April 15, 2025 at 7:00 PM.

Motion No. 2: Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 470 of 2024

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution Postponed

Resolution No. 33 – Opposing The Establishment Of A County-Wide Landfill In Wawarsing, NY, And Urging The Exploration Of Alternative Locations And Waste Management Solutions

Resolution Summary – This Resolution opposes the siting of a landfill at either Milk Road or Brown Road in Wawarsing, NY, and calls for the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency to explore alternative locations and waste management solutions that prioritize environmental protection, community well-being, and sustainability, and reaffirms the Legislature's commitment to responsible environmental stewardship, sustainable waste management practices, and the protection of health, safety, and quality of life of the residents of Ulster County.

Motion No. 3: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 33

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walls

Voting in Favor: Legislators Litts, and Walls

Voting Against: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart

Votes in Favor: 2

Votes Against: 5

Disposition: Resolution Defeated

Resolution No. 81 – Confirming Appointment To The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

Resolution Summary – This Resolution appoints an individual (To Be Determined) to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency for a term effective immediately and ending on December 31, 2027.

Resolution No. 82 – Confirming Appointment To The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

Resolution Summary - This Resolution appoints an individual (To Be Determined) to the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency for a term effective immediately and ending on December 31, 2027.

Motion No. 4: Motion to Block Resolution Nos. 81 and 82

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls

Voting Against: Legislator Greene

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 1

Disposition: Resolutions Blocked

Motion No. 5: **Motion to Postpone Blocked Resolutions**
Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolutions Postponed**

Resolution No. 83 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Amendment To The Service Agreement With The Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency

Resolution Summary – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to sign an amendment to the Services Agreement with the UCRRA that extends the existing service agreement for sixty days.

Motion No. 6: **Motion to Amend Resolution No. 83 as Presented**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Stewart

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart
Voting Against: Legislators Litts, and Walls
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 2
Disposition: **Resolution Amended as Presented**

Motion No. 7: **Motion to Amend the Agreement and Adopt Resolution No. 83 as follows:**

2. Notwithstanding any contrary provision contained in the Service Agreement, as amended, the Agency shall not issue bonds **in the amount of \$500,000.00 or more other than the purchase of the Reuse Innovation Center with a bond limit of in the amount of \$10 million dollars or more** without obtaining prior approval from the County, acting through its Legislature.

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Greene

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, and Stewart
Voting Against: Legislator Litts, and Walls
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 2
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted As Amended**

Resolution No. 84 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Village Of New Paltz, As An Ulster County Grant Recipient, For Installation Of Solar

Panels At The Village Of New Paltz Water Treatment Plant – Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Resolution Summary – This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute the Inter Municipal Agreement with the Village of New Paltz to partially fund the installation of solar panels at the Village of New Paltz Water Treatment Plan in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Motion No. 8: **Motion to Adopted Resolution No. 84**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Litts Nolan, Stewart, and Walls
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Resolution No. 85 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$1,427,490.29 Entered Into By The County – Solar Liberty Energy Systems, Inc. – Departments Of Planning And Public Works

Resolution Summary – This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$1,427,490.29 with Solar Liberty Energy Systems, Inc. to install a new photovoltaic system associated with the Golden Hill Affordable Housing Project for the term 3/15/25 – 3/15/26.

Motion No. 9: **Motion to Adopted Resolution No. 85**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Stewart

Voting in Favor: Legislators Donaldson, Hewitt, Litts, Nolan, Stewart, and Walls
Voting Against: None
Abstention: Legislator Litts
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Votes Abstain: 1
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Resolution No. 91 – Authorizing A Right To Cross The Right Of Way Owned By Ulster County Of The Ulster And Delaware Railroad Corridor Near Mile Point 3.8 City Of Kingston, West Of Westbrook Lane, Kingston Plaza To TESLA Inc. – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary – This Resolution grants TESLA right to cross the Ulster and Delaware Corridor in accordance with construction documents and authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute any and all documents related to such right to cross.

Motion No. 10: **Motion to Adopted Resolution No. 91**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Litts, Nolan, and Walls
Voting Against: Legislators Donaldson, Hewitt, and Stewart
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 3
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Reports

- **UCRRA Update – Director Marc Rider:** Executive Director Marc Rider of the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA) provided an update on the Agency.
- **Industrial Hemp Progress – Chair Hewitt:** Chair Hewitt provided the Committee with a brief update on the implementation of industrial hemp.
- **Climate Smart Progress – Legislator Greene:** Legislator Greene discussed the Climate Smart Committee’s progress.
- **Zero Waste Progress – Legislator Stewart:** Legislator Stewart discussed progress on the Zero Waste Report.

New Business

- **Supporting Reuse Innovation Center Building Purchase – Chair Hewitt** acknowledged the agenda item but provided no additional updates.
- **Rights of Nature:** Chair Hewitt stated that he is working on updating language with former Legislator Erner for the Rights of the Hudson River to remove the name “Hudson River” and add the names “Rondout, Esopus, and Wallkill Creeks and Rivers” because of Ulster County’s jurisdiction.
- **Elizabeth Street Deconstruction – Chair Hewitt:** Chair Hewitt acknowledged the agenda item but provided no additional updates.

Old Business

- **Southern Ulster Shawangunk-Catskill Connector Park – Chair Hewitt:** Chair Hewitt stated belief that the property can be secured and may possibly connect the Catskills to Shawangunk.
- **Ag Society Negotiations:** Chair Hewitt briefly discussed progress on the Ulster County Agricultural Society’s negotiations.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0

TIME: 5:39 PM
Respectfully Submitted: Lizvett Noriega, Legislative Administrative Assistant
Approved: April 1, 2025

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