

Ways & Means Committee Special Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: November 27, 2017 – 1:00 PM
LOCATION: Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building,
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Richard A. Gerentine
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Amber Feaster, Legislative Fiscal Analyst
PRESENT: Legislators Thomas J. Briggs, Chris Allen, Tracey Bartels, Carl Belfiglio (arrived at 1:27), Mary Beth Maio, James F. Maloney, and Legislative Chairman Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Heppner, Rodriguez, and Donaldson; Victoria Fabella, Clerk of the Legislature; Fawn Tantillo, Confidential Secretary to the Chairman of the Legislature; Ken Crannell, Deputy County Executive; Robert Sudlow, Deputy County Executive; Burt Gulnick, Commissioner of Finance; Ken Juras, Deputy Budget Director; Jamie Capuano, Deputy Budget Director; Elliott Auerbach, Comptroller; Holly Carnright, District Attorney; Joseph Maloney, Legislator Elect; Julius Collins, Jr., Legislator Elect

Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 1:20 PM.

Comptroller Elliott Auerbach spoke from 1:20 – 1:35 requesting the addition of a Confidential Secretary position within the Office of the Comptroller.

Burt Gulnick, Commissioner of Finance, spoke from 1:35 – 1:45 informing the Committee of the UC Staff Association (NYSUT) Contract Settlement and its effects on the 2018 Budget Recommendation.

Legislator Rodriguez spoke from 1:45 – 1:50 proposing an Amendment to fund the Confidential Secretary position within the Office of the Comptroller at a salary lower than that requested by the Comptroller with hours greater than that requested by the Comptroller.

Legislator Heppner spoke from 1:50 – 2:05 requesting additional funding for Arts Mid-Hudson. Legislator Donaldson affirmed his and the Legislative Programs, Education, and Community Services Committee's support for the request.

Legislator Donaldson spoke on behalf of the Legislative Programs, Education, and Community Services Committee from 2:05 – 2:20 proposing additional funding for Arts Mid-Hudson, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA), the Ulster County Library Association, and the Ulster County Cornell Cooperative Extension.

Legislators Rodriguez spoke from 2:20 - 2:50 proposing a transfer of funding for vacant positions currently outstanding, beginning prior to January 1, 2017 to the Contingency account. Chairman Ronk expressed support for an amendment transferring funding for vacant positions currently outstanding, beginning prior to January 1, 2016.

Chairman Ronk spoke from 2:50 – 3:00 supporting an amendment to fund a contract with the Arc of Ulster Greene to hire an individual with developmental disabilities to help digitize records within the Board of Elections, proposing that the funding either be through the Board of Elections or through the Legislature.

Chairman Gerentine informed the Committee that there will be a Special meeting of the Ways & Means Committee to review the Budgetary Appeals and Amendments presented, and to make a recommendation to the Legislative body as a whole on Monday, December 4th at 4:00 PM.

The Committee took a brief recess from 3:05 – 3:15.

District Attorney Holley Carnright spoke from 3:15 – 3:30 requesting for an individual within his department to be upgraded to a grade 12 from a grade 10 due to the passing of an examination. Further, Mr. Carnright explained to the Committee that a grant award has been received from a DCJS/Bryne Jag Grant Application to hire an investigator for the Inmate Partner Violence Initiative (IPVI).

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 Briggs

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 3:32 PM

Respectfully submitted: Amber Feaster

Minutes Approved: December 12, 2017