

Authorizing The Use Of The Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund For COVID-19 Related Expenses

Referred to: The Ways and Means Committee (Chairwoman Archer and Legislators Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, Ronk, and Walter)

Chairwoman of the Ways and Means Committee, Lynn Archer, and Deputy Chair Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr. offer the following:

WHEREAS, Resolution 405 of 2014, established a tax stabilization reserve fund pursuant to Section 6-e of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York to protect taxpayers from unsustainable and unpredictable fluctuations in county taxes; and

WHEREAS, this fund was established in the amount of one million five hundred thousand dollars (\$1,500,000) to guard against unforeseen increases in County costs such as additional unfunded state mandates, increase pension costs, cuts in state aid, or unexpected expenditures for specific purposes; and

WHEREAS, Section 6-e of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York permits expenditures from a tax stabilization reserve fund in the case of a public emergency, which is defined to include the 2019-Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19); and

WHEREAS, a public emergency, under General Municipal Law 6-e(3)(k), is defined to include an “epidemic” or other sudden, unforeseen or unexpected occurrence or condition which requires the immediate expenditure of moneys to protect the public health, safety or welfare of the Ulster County community; and

WHEREAS, the tax stabilization reserve fund has a balance of \$2,596,546.31 as of October 31, 2020; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 6-e of the General Municipal Law of the State of New York, no expenditure shall be made from the tax stabilization reserve fund except upon the recommendation of the County Executive and the adoption of a resolution appropriating the recommended amount by at least two-thirds vote of the County Legislature; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the County Executive recommends the use of the tax stabilization reserve fund to offset the unexpected expenditures for COVID-19 related expenses as of November 23, 2020 in the amount of \$1,910,066.72; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Finance is hereby authorized to make any and all 2020 budget adjustments necessary to transfer and appropriate the necessary funds up to the recommended amount of \$1,450,562.72 into the appropriate budget lines from which COVID-19 related expenditures were made; and, be it further

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RESOLVED, a list of any and all such transfers shall be provided at the first Ways and Means Regular Committee Meeting following said transfer, and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 16 NOES: 7
(Noes: Legislators Archer, Bartels, Fabiano, Gavaris, Greene, Heppner, and Walter)

Postponed in Committee: Ways and Means on September 8, 2020 for one week

Postponed in Committee: Ways and Means on September 15, 2020

Postponed in Committee: Ways and Means on October 13, 2020 for one week

Postponed in Committee: Ways and Means on October 20, 2020

Defeated in Committee: Ways and Means on November 10, 2020

Petition to Discharge successfully executed.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$1,450,562.72 – ADDITIONAL 2020 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$1,450,562.72 – REDUCTION TAX STABILIZATION RESERVE

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STATE OF NEW YORK

ss:

COUNTY OF ULSTER

I, the undersigned Clerk of the Legislature of the County of Ulster, hereby certify that the foregoing resolution is the original resolution adopted by the Ulster County Legislature on the 8th Day of December in the year Two Thousand Twenty, and said resolution shall remain on file in the office of said clerk.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and seal of the County of Ulster this 10th Day of December in the year Two Thousand Twenty.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this
10th Day of December, 2020.

Approved by the County Executive this
15th Day of December, 2020.

|s| Victoria A. Fabella
Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk
Ulster County Legislature

|s| Patrick K. Ryan
Patrick K. Ryan, County Executive