Resolution No. 465 August 15, 2023

Establishing A Policy To Record Electronically All County Public Meetings

Referred to: The Laws, Rules and Government Services Committee (Chairman Heppner and Legislators Gavaris, Levine, Roberts, and Ronk), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Roberts, and Ronk)

Legislators Tracey Bartels, Phil Erner and Laura Petit, and Minority Leader Ronk offer the following:

WHEREAS, the people must have equitable access to their government including knowledge of the proceedings of public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature and County boards and commissions conduct their official business in open public meetings; and

WHEREAS, the Legislature video records its sessions, as well as audio records committee meetings; and

WHEREAS, a record of minutes must be maintained for all open meetings; and

WHEREAS, the County maintains its records electronically in keeping with the standards set forth in open meetings law; and

WHEREAS, maintaining audio and/or video records of public meetings expands their accessibility to those who speak and understand but do not read (English), or who have visual or aural impairments; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, video and/or audio recordings shall be required for every public meeting-of the government of Ulster County required to keep an official record, and, be it further

RESOLVED, such video and/or audio recordings shall be kept publicly accessible; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that this policy shall not remove or replace any existing requirement to keep minutes, transcripts or other official records on paper or in any other form whatsoever, and, be it further

RESOLVED, where possible, this policy shall take effect immediately after adoption, with all records in compliance no later than three months following adoption of this Resolution,

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and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 21 NOES: 0

(Absent: Legislators Heppner and Stewart)

Passed Committee: Laws, Rules and Government Services as amended on August 10,

2023

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on August 15, 2023

FINANCIAL IMPACT: TBD

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 15th Day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three, 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 18^{th} Day of August in the year Two Thousand Twenty-Three.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk Ulster County Legislature

Submitted to the County Executive this 18th Day of August 2023.

Approved by the County Executive this 24th Day of August 2023.

[s] Victoria A. Fabella Victoria A. Fabella, Clerk Ulster County Legislature [s] Jen Metzger Jen Metzger, County Executive