

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

**DATE & TIME:** June 4, 2024 – 4:30 PM  
**LOCATION(S):** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building, Kingston  
Livestreamed at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Hewitt  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Lizvett Bost, Legislative Administrative Assistant; Tyron Rogers, Legislative Technical Support Specialist  
**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**MEMBERS ABSENT:** Legislator Litts  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislator Collins, Marc Rider (Executive Director UCRRA), Amanda LaValle (Deputy, County Executive), Victoria Lucarini (EMC), Europa McGovern (Director Department of Environment).

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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 4:31 PM

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**Motion No. 1:** **Motion to Adopt the minutes of the April 30, 2024 Meeting**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart  
  
**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Minutes Approved**

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Resolutions for the June 18, 2024 Session of the Legislature:

**Resolution No. 269** – Confirming Appointment Of Member To The Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal Council

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution confirms the appointment of Benjamin Gannon to serve as the Ulster County representative on the Hudson River Drinking Water Intermunicipal for a term to begin immediately and expiring on December 31, 2024.

**Disposition:** **Withdrawn by Sponsor**

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**Resolution No. 270** – Appointing Members To The Recycling Oversight Committee

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution appoints the included individuals to the Recycling Oversight Committee to fill a term effectively immediately and expiring in 2025.

**Motion No. 2:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 270**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Adopted**

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**Resolution No. 271** – Urging The Governor Of New York To Deny The Iroquois Pipeline Expansion

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution calls on Governor Hochul to immediately deny the permit for the Iroquois natural gas pipeline expansion, thereby upholding New York's CLPA and the state's environmental standards and commitment to a sustainable future.

**Motion No. 3:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 271**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Donaldson  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Greene

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt and Stewart  
**Voting Against:** Legislator Walls  
**Abstention:** Legislator Nolan  
**Votes in Favor:** 4  
**Votes Against:** 1  
**Votes Abstain:** 1  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Adopted**

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**Resolution No. 272** – Adopting And Issuing A Negative Declaration Under 6 NYCRR Part 617 State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) By The Ulster County Legislature For The Construction Of A Public Safety Radio Tower And Appurtenances To Be Located At Pitcairn Estates/Mt. Rd. (SBL 37.1-5-12.412) Town Of Olive New York – Department Of Emergency Services

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution adopts and issues the Negative Declaration under SEQRA for the Public Safety Radio Tower to be constructed at Tonche Mountain site in the Town of Olive.

**Motion No. 4:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 272**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Greene

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition: Resolution Adopted**

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**Resolution No. 274** – Amending Capital Project No. 574 UCAT Phase 2.1 Rooftop Solar Installation - Amending The 2024 Capital Fund Budget– Department Of The Environment

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 574 - UCAT Rooftop Solar Installation in the amount of \$353,484.00, making the total project cost \$811,015.00, to maximize the amount of rooftop solar photovoltaic (PV) capacity at the facility and install the maximum fit design.

**Motion No. 5: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 274**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution Adopted

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**Resolution No. 276** – Amending Capital Project 568 - UCAT Phase 2.2 Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure Project – Amending The 2024 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Public Transportation (Ulster County Area Transit)

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 568 - Charging Infrastructure in the amount of \$769,557.00, making the total project cost \$2,224,786.00 for additional electric vehicle charging equipment at the UCAT facility.

**Motion No. 6: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 276**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Resolution Adopted

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**Resolution No. 278** - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Power Authority Of New York (NYPA) - Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure Project Phase 2 - Departments Of The Environment And Public Transportation (Ulster County Area Transit)

**Resolution Summary** - This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute the Customer Project Commitment (CPC) with NYPA for a rooftop solar installation and electric bus charging infrastructure upgrades to the transit facility ("UCAT Phase 2") with a maximum net project cost of \$2,244,248.63.

**Motion No. 7: Motion to Amend Resolution No. 278 as follows:**

**Amend the 12<sup>th</sup> Whereas to add the words “and municipalities”** - WHEREAS, under the Federal Inflation Reduction Act of 2022 Clean Electricity Production Tax Credit, tax-exempt organizations **and municipalities** may qualify for a direct pay incentive equaling up to 30% of the costs of new, qualified clean energy installations under Internal Revenue Code (IRC) 45W; now, therefore be it

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Donaldson  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Walls

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Adopted**

**Motion No. 8:** **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 278 as Amended**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Donaldson

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Adopted as Amended**

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**Resolution No. 356** – Establishing A Policy Requiring Consideration Of Use Of Hemp Insulation In Certain Ulster County Capital Construction Projects

**Resolution Summary** – This Resolution establishes that it is the Policy of Ulster County that prior to the allocation of any County funding toward any housing development project in Ulster County, or toward Ulster County Capital Projects proposed after the Policy's effective date that require the use of insulation for purposes of construction and development of space used for delivery a county service, it shall be required that such projects include consideration of hemp insulation as a component, and that such determination much be documented and included in the initial funding request for the project.

**Motion No. 9:** **Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 356**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Nolan  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Donaldson, Greene, Hewitt, Nolan, Stewart and Walls  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution Postponed**

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## Reports

- **UCRRA Update – Executive Director, Marc Rider**
  - Discussed mattress recycling initiative with potential cost increases for residents.
  - Discussed New York State’s Solid waste management plan, focusing on circular economy and potential increases in disposal and transportation costs.
  - Discussed food waste diversion plans with county officials.
  - Explained the budget process for the solid waste department, including the importance of counting widgets and projecting four years into the future.
  - is open to hosting a tour and committee meeting at the landfill, with July or August preferred, or presenting the budget in September.
- **UCRRA Reform**
  - Commission explored feasibility of constructing a new landfill in Ulster County at the last UCRRA meeting.
  - Legislator Greene gave an update on the Hurley Pilot Project, Towns can choose to work with UCRRA, Community Compost and can compost on site.
  - Legislator Stewart stated the Town of Hurley will not get funds from the County.
- **UC 70 x 30 Renewable Energy Implementation Plan**
  - Legislator Greene mentioned that there is a real focus recently on batteries, they are trying to get every municipality in the county essentially to create their own Renewable Energy Implementation Plan.
- **Reuse Innovation Center**
  - Legislator Greene Spoke on mattresses and Zero Waste Implementation Plan considering regionalizing.
- **Climate Smart Committee & Climate Corp Intern**
  - Legislator Greene stated that the Climate Smart attendance is down, suggested to the committee if they know any member from the Climate Smart Task Force’s in their town to please encourage that there is a consideration.
  - There was an interest for a Climate Corp Intern and they withdrew their application.

## New Business

- **CMRR herbicides and waivers**
  - Deputy County Executive LaValle after reviewing the CMRR application for a waiver from the local law that prohibits county owned property, that waiver was denied.
- **New CMRR Air Quality Reports**
  - Chair Hewitt received an air quality report from CMRR.
- **Hempcrete Usage in county buildings** – no discussion
- **Decentralized composting** – no discussion

## Old Business

- **Greenway Tour** – Legislator Stewart and members recommend Greenwood Greenway's pilot project as a county-wide initiative to improve waste diversion.
- **Parks Director hiring** – Deputy County Executive LaValle stated that they have not created that position, there was some concern from her office regarding timing and waiting for salary and budget discussions for this time of year.
- **Balancing committees and task forces** – will be discussed off line

**Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Stewart

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Nolan

**Votes in Favor:** 6

**Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 6:11 PM

**Respectfully Submitted:** Lizvett Bost, Legislative Administrative Assistant

**Approved:** August 6, 2024

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