Economic Development, Planning, Education, Employment, Arts and Agriculture Committee

DATE & TIME: July 6, 2023 – 6:00 PM

LOCATION: KL Binder Library, COB, Kingston, New York

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Brian Cahill **LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Michael Tierney

PRESENT: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Maloney, Sperry

ABSENT: Legislators Corcoran and Litts

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Erner, Legislator Uchitelle, Deputy County Executive Amanda LaValle, SUNY Ulster President Alison Buckley, Amy Winters, Travis Ferry, Jake Wedemeyer, Tom Denton, Susan Denton, Lin Sakai, Mike Ham, A. Joseph Scott, Kai Lord-

Farmer, Dennis Doyle

Chair Cahill called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Chair Cahill recognized Mike Ham and Joe Scott of the Ulster Industrial Development Agency to give an update on the Agency.

Chair Cahill recognized Jake Wedemeyer of Ulster County Soil & Water to give an update on their active projects.

Resolutions for the June 13, 2023 Legislative Session:

Resolution No. 430 Establishing A Traffic Demand Policy

Resolution Summary: Requiring the Ulster County Planning Board to reject any

proposal that fails to ensure car-free access.

Motion No. 2 Moved to POSTPONE Resolution No. 430

Motion Made by:Legislator CriswellMotion Seconded By:Legislator Sperry

Discussion: Chair Cahill stated that once counsel weighs in on the Resolution

the Committee will have a discussion. Hearing no further discussion, Chair Cahill called the question in favor of

postponement.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Maloney, Sperry

Voting Against:NoneVotes in Favor:5Votes Against:0

Disposition: Resolution POSTPONED

Resolution No. 331 Approving The 2023-2024 Ulster County Community College

Budget - SUNY Ulster

Resolution Summary: Approving The 2023-2024 Ulster County Community College

Budget.

Motion No. 3 Moved Resolution for DISCUSSION

Motion Made by: Legislator Hewitt Motion Seconded By: Legislator Sperry

Discussion: Chair Cahill asked if there were any additional questions for Dr.

Buckley following their presentation last month. Hearing no questions or further discussion, Chair Cahill called the question

in favor of the Resolution.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Maloney, Sperry

Voting Against:NoneVotes in Favor:5Votes Against:0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 379 Reappointing Member And Appointing Alternate Member To

The Ulster County Planning Board – Town Of Lloyd

Resolution Summary: Reappointing Scott McCarthy of Lloyd to the Ulster Planning

Board and appointing Charly Long of Lloyd as alternate.

Motion No. 4 Moved Resolution for DISCUSSION

Motion Made by:Legislator CriswellMotion Seconded By:Legislator Sperry

Discussion: None. Hearing none, Chair Cahill called the question in favor of

the Resolution.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Maloney, Sperry

Voting Against:NoneVotes in Favor:5Votes Against:0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 380 Authorizing The Inclusion Of Additional Lands In Agricultural

Districts Within Ulster County As Recommended By The Ulster

County Agricultural And Farmland Protection Board –

Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: Adding approximately 535 acres in 22 parcels.

Motion No. 5 Moved Resolution for DISCUSSION

Motion Made by:Legislator CriswellMotion Seconded By:Legislator Sperry

Discussion: None. Hearing none, Chair Cahill called the question in favor of

the Resolution.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Maloney, Sperry

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 5 Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 381 Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To

Execute An Agreement With The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) To Accept Grant Funds For The Golden Hill Renewable Energy Project - Amending The

2023 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: Accepting \$1.68 million from NYS DEC for the purposes of

renewable energy infrastructure at the planned Golden Hill

Housing Project.

Resolution No. 382 Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To

Execute Various Agreements To Fulfill Requirements For Grant

Funding Through The New York State Climate Smart

Communities Program For Renewable Energy Equipment At The

Golden Hill Housing Site – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: Authorizing the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to

execute the agreements, and any amendments thereto, with the

Golden Hill Owner LLC as filed with the Clerk of the

Legislature that includes: (i) Development Services Agreement, (ii) Maintenance and Operation Agreement, (iii) a Solar Power Purchase Agreement, and (iv) a Climate Change Mitigation

Easement.

Motion No. 6 Moved to BLOCK Resolutions 381 & 382

Motion Made by: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Discussion: None. Hearing none, Chair Cahill called the question in favor of

the Resolution.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Maloney, Sperry

Voting Against:NoneVotes in Favor:5Votes Against:0

Disposition: Resolutions 381 & 382 BLOCKED

Motion No. 7 Moved to POSTPONE Blocked Resolutions

Motion Made by:Legislator CriswellMotion Seconded By:Legislator Sperry

Discussion: Planning Director Doyle stated that these Resolutions were

intentionally introduced this month despite the contracts not being settled as the Executive's office wanted to ensure

Legislators had the opportunity to review and ask questions this month so that the agreement would not be delayed next month.

Hearing no further discussion, Chair Cahill called the question in

favor of postponing the blocked Resolutions.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Hewitt, Sperry

Voting Against: Legislator Maloney

Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 1

Discussion:

Disposition: Resolutions 381 & 382 POSTPONED

Resolution No. 330 Dedicating Funding To Housing Affordability, Establishing A

Policy For Its Use, And Authorizing The Release Of A Notice Of

Funding Availability (NOFA) For 2023 – Department Of

Planning

Resolution Summary: Creating the Affordable Housing Fund, and allocate \$15,000,000

to such fund.

Motion No. 8 Moved Resolution for DISCUSSION

Motion Made by:

Motion Seconded By:

Legislator Maloney
Legislator Criswell

Planning Director Doyle and Planner Lord-Farmer gave an overview of the fund and it's impacts. Chair Cahill inquired if any private developers have approached the county seeking funding. Lord-Farmer indicated that while Ulster has not, Dutchess and Westchester, who already have Housing Action Funds have had developers contact them with success. Legislator Criswell asked if there would be a cap on disbursements per year, which Director Doyle said it is, however the cap could be changed by the Legislature through a Resolution. Legislator Maloney cautioned that the County is behind and overbudget on several projects, then asked about the impact on school taxes. Legislator Uchitelle answered the first point highlighting that this fund is not similar to those projects in that the fund is open ended on the types of projects it could allocate funds to, such as private or public construction. Director Doyle said that the fund would not impact school taxes. Chair Cahill said he was not comfortable moving forward with the Resolution at this time due to the lack of minority representation, with Legislator Maloney concurring. Chair Cahill requested that the Resolution be Postponed until August when Republican members would be present. Legislator Uchitelle requested that those with questions ask him and the Planning Department so that they can be

answered by the August Committee Meeting.

Motion No. 9 Moved to Postpone Resolution No. 330

Motion Made By: Legislator Maloney
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Hewitt

Discussion: Legislator Sperry asked what would happen if there were two no

votes. Clerk Tierney indicated that the motion would fail and

they would have to take a vote to adopt the Resolution.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Maloney, Sperry

Votes Against:NoneVotes in Favor:5Votes Against:0

Disposition: Resolution POSTPONED

Adjournment:

Motion Made By:Legislator HewittMotion Seconded By:Legislator Sperry

No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 7:46 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Michael Tierney, Senior Legislative Employee

Approved: August 1, 2023