

**American Rescue Plan Act Special Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: October 25, 2023 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building, Kingston
PRESIDING OFFICER: Peter Criswell
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Amber Feaster
PRESENT: Legislators Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry
ABSENT: Legislator Lopez
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Greene, and Hewitt; Director of ARP Administration Nate Litwin; ARP Administration Molly Scott; Deputy County Executives Johanna Contreras, and Amanda LaValle; Director of Planning Dennis Doyle; Director of Economic Development Kevin Lynch; Joleen Darby, Mental Health

Peter Criswell called the meeting to order at 5:10 PM

Motion No. 1: **Moved to Approve Minutes of the September 27, 2023 Meeting**

Motion By: Legislator Sperry

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Levine

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 4

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Minutes Approved**

ARPA Administration Project Reporting

Director of ARP Administration Nate Litwin provided Committee members with an update on the Division’s ARPA Project Tracker, starting with projects which are fully completed, and including the status of open projects such as Food Security, Non-Profit Grants, Small Businesses, Parks, and Silver Gardens. Joleen Darby from the Department of Mental Health gave a detailed explanation of the County’s plans for the Crisis Stabilization Center Project, and explained the progress made on Respite Houses, stating that a location in Ellenville was lost and describing how the Department is analyzing long term sustainability. Further discussion pursued on the Land Bank Project.

New Business

Chair Criswell asked members how they felt about the Committee’s duties and if they felt it was time to consider dissolution of the Committee. Chair Criswell provided a brief overview of the Committee’s highest priorities for previously discussed projects including Workforce Development, Commissary / Community Kitchens, and Broadband. Director of Planning Dennis Doyle expanded on the County’s work thus far and its plan for Broadband, agreeing to submit a Resolution for consideration in December.

ARPA Financial Tracker

Director Litwin stated that the Department of Finance has caught up on encumbrances and invoices, and has caught up on most journal entries related to revenue.

Resolutions for the November 14 Session of the Legislature:

Resolution No. 559: Funding American Rescue Plan Small Business And Economic Recovery For Low And Moderate Income (LMI) Businesses – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary: This resolution assigns an additional \$419,079.00 of ARPA Funding to the Ulster County Cares Small Business Assistance Program for low-to-moderate income businesses.

Motion No. 2: **Resolution No. 559 Moved for Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Corcoran
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Levine

Discussion: Legislator Hewitt expressed support for the Resolution and asked for clarification as to why the Resolution was reassigning the remaining funds from the Parks Program. Legislator Hewitt further explained he would like to see the Parks Program opened up again with this round reiterating the need for food resilience projects within municipal parks. Director Litwin agreed to work with Legislator Hewitt to adjust the call for bids and open up a third round for the ARPA Parks Program. Further discussion pursued on where the funding for the proposed addition to the Small Business Program should come from.

Motion No. 2: **Resolution No. 559 Moved for Postpone**
Motion By: Legislator Corcoran
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Sperry

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 4
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Postponed**

Resolution No. 560: Recording ARPA Revenue Loss – Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Finance to record revenue recognition in the amount of \$668,449.00 for the receipt of Federal ARPA Funds due to Revenue Loss.

Motion No. 3: **Resolution No. 560 Moved for Discussion**
Motion By: Legislator Corcoran
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Sperry

Discussion: Chair Criswell expressed desire to consider this Resolution’s action at a later date if the Federal ARPA timeline becomes an issue. Director of Planning Doyle questioned how the Resolution works, and how a continued ARPA purpose may be designated.

Chair Criswell asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor: None
Voting Against: Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry
Votes in Favor: 0
Votes Against: 4
Disposition: **Resolution Defeated**

Resolution No. 601: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Town Of Hurley, As An ARPA-SLFRF Subrecipient, To Improve The West Hurley Town Park – Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Hurley for administering a program to improve the West Hurley Town Park including demolition of obsolete equipment, improving the recreation building, constructing an accessible trail loop, recoating the existing basketball court, and providing new signage in the amount of \$80,000.00.

Resolution No. 602: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Town Of Marlborough, As An ARPA-SLFRF Subrecipient, To Fund Improvements To Young’s Park And Cluett Schantz Park – Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Marlborough for administering a program to improve the baseball fields and lighting at two parks in the Town of Marlborough in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Resolution No. 603: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Town Of Rosendale, As An ARPA-SLFRF Subrecipient, To Fund Improvements To The Rosendale Community Center Park – Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Rosendale to administer a program to improve the Rosendale Community Center Park with new outdoor lights and poles and playground equipment in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Resolution No. 604: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement With The Town Of Saugerties, As An ARPA-SLFRF Subrecipient, To Fund The Construction Of Pickleball Courts And Access Improvements At 3 Court Drive – Department Of Finance, Division Of Recovery And Resilience

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an Intermunicipal Agreement with the Town of Saugerties to partially fund construction of four (4) Pickleball Courts and court access improvements in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Motion No. 4: Resolutions No. 601, 602, 603, 604 Moved to Block

Motion By: Legislator Corcoran

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Levine

Discussion: None.

Motion No. 5: Resolutions No. 601, 602, 603, 604 Moved to Approve

Motion By: Legislator Corcoran

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Sperry

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 4

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolutions Approved

Legislator Greene emphasized the importance of energy efficiency in workforce development, asking that climate be considered in every action the Legislature takes. Legislator Greene introduced a budget amendment that she is sponsoring with Legislator Stewart for a Climate Smart Schools program to be administered with a partner Organization for \$150,000.00, potentially utilizing ARPA funds.

Unfinished Business

Village of Saugerties – Wastewater Treatment Plant – Letter Dated: April 6, 2023

Legislator Levine informed the Committee that the Village has broken this project out into short-term and long-term steps. Legislator Levine continued; the Short-term project is a replacement of critical infrastructure at the wastewater plant that the Village intends to complete no later than Spring of 2024 for a grand total cost of \$400,000.00. The Committee discussed the necessary next steps. Director of ARP Litwin agreed to accept the application from the Village of Saugerties.

Chair Criswell asked if there was further discussion, old or new business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Corcoran

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Sperry

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

TIME: 6:55 PM

Respectfully submitted: Deputy Clerk – Finance Feaster

Minutes Approved: November 29, 2023