

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

**DATE & TIME:** October 12, 2022 – 5:00  
**LOCATION:** KL Binder Library, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, County Office Building,  
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Peter Criswell, Chairman  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Amber Feaster  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Thomas Corcoran, Jr, Aaron J. Levine, and  
Megan Sperry  
**ABSENT:** Legislator Craig V. Lopez  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Manna Jo Greene, Kathy Nolan, Laura Petit,  
and Abe Uchitelle; Deputy County Executive Chris Kelly;  
Director of ARP Administration Nate Litwin; ARP  
Administration Ashlee Long, and Molly Scott; Comptroller  
March Gallagher; Director of Economic Development Tim  
Weidemann; Director of Planning Dennis Doyle; Director  
of Youth Nina Dawson; Seasoned Gives Martin Duncan

- **Chairman Criswell called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM**

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**Motion No. 1: To approve the Minutes and Transcripts of the August 31, 2022 and the Minutes of the September 13, 2022 Regular Meetings**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Corcoran  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Levine  
**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 2: To discuss Resolution No. 497 – Amending The 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Program – Increasing Funding For Capital Project No. 642 – ARPA Homeowner Energy Improvements And Job Training Project – Amending The 2022 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Finance**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 642 – ARPA Homeowner Energy Improvements and Job Training to increase funding in the amount of \$400,000.00, for a total project cost of \$490,000.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Sperry  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Levine

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Discussion:** Chairman Criswell provided the Committee with a brief history of the Resolution and the Project. Director of Planning Doyle detailed the Project’s progress and development, explaining how the Project has evolved to reduce administrative costs while conducting the Program as a PILOT with future intent to continue with a lesser government subsidy. Legislator Greene added how the program enforces the State’s goals for emissions reductions. Director Doyle thanked Legislator Greene for all of her hard work on the development of the Program. Legislator Petit asked if it is enough money for the amount of houses they hope to complete.

**Motion No. 3: To approve Resolution No. 497** – Amending The 2022-2027 Capital Improvement Program – Increasing Funding For Capital Project No. 642 – ARPA Homeowner Energy Improvements And Job Training Project – Amending The 2022 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Finance

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 642 – ARPA Homeowner Energy Improvements and Job Training to increase funding in the amount of \$400,000.00, for a total project cost of \$490,000.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Sperry  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Levine

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 4: To discuss Resolution No. 498** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$221,430.60 Entered Into By The County – Legal Services of the Hudson Valley – Department Of Social Services

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$221,430.60 for Eviction Legal Services.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Sperry  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Levine

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Discussion:** Legislator Uchitelle informed Committee members that there was only one responder to the Request for Proposals, that the Organization has been administering the requested services for an extended period of time, and that the value of the contract came in under expectations. Further, Legislator Uchitelle explained that the services are not geographically limited, that the Organization will submit geographical information with their required reporting, that 75 households are anticipated to be helped, and that the contract will report to the Department of Social Services.

**Motion No. 5: To approve Resolution No. 498** – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$221,430.60 Entered Into By The County – Legal Services of the Hudson Valley – Department Of Social Services

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley from January 1, 2023 through December 31, 2023 in the amount of \$221,430.60 for Eviction Legal Services.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Sperry  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Levine

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Criswell, Corcoran, Levine, and Sperry  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Approved

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## **Old Business:**

### **ARPA Financial Update**

**Discussion:** Chairman Criswell provided an overview of the ARPA Project Tracker, asking that everyone review the tracker and noting the remaining balance of unallocated ARPA funding. Director of Recovery & Resilience Nate Litwin informed the Committee that the next submission to Treasury is forthcoming.

### **Update on Resolutions No. 435 and 436 (Main Streets)**

**Discussion:** Director of Economic Development Tim Weidemann spoke to the involvement of local municipalities in the selection of Main Streets projects, disclosing that an endorsement from the Municipality has been added to the application submission requirements. Director Weidemann overviewed the Program and answered Committee member and other attendee questions.

### **Update on Resolution No. 400 (Agricultural Crisis Relief)**

**Discussion:** Chairman Criswell provided an overview of the proposed program. Deputy County Executive Kelly explained that there is an outstanding discussion regarding the creation of a position to support the Program. Discussion pursued on the potential position, the department of oversight, and the Program's qualifiers, application process, and the inclusiveness and fairness of the program's eligibility requirements.

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**New Business:** Deputy County Executive Kelly provided Committee members with an update on the development of the ARPA Community Kitchens Project, speaking to a secondary kitchen location.

Chairman Criswell recapped previously discussed Legislative Priorities for the remaining unallocated ARPA funding, saying he would like to take time during the next meeting to talk through these ideas. Comptroller Gallagher requested Broadband be added to the list for discussion.

Committee members discussed the Mental Health in Schools Program which was previously approved. Director of Youth Nina Dawson vocalized support for this Program, acknowledging that there is a shortage of Social Workers and asking that consideration be given to a mentoring program. Discussion pursued on the positive effects that mentorship programs can have and have had within the Community.

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Chairman Criswell asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

**Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Corcoran

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Levine

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Time:** 5:57 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Amber Feaster

**Minutes Approved:** October 26, 2022