

Audit Committee

Regular Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME: September 8, 2022 – 4:15 PM
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meeting by dialing 1-646-558-8656,
Meeting ID 811 4330 8853
PRESIDING OFFICER: Tracey A. Bartels, Chair
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Amber Feaster
PRESENT: Legislators Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr. (arrived at 4:20 pm), John Gavaris,
Craig Lopez and Eve Walter; Deputy Comptroller Alicia DeMarco on
behalf of Comptroller March Gallagher
ABSENT: County Executive or designee
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Director of Purchasing Ed Jordan, and Department of Purchasing
Peter Esposito

- Chair Bartels called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM and Deputy Clerk Feaster called the roll.

Motion No. 1: To approve the Minutes and Transcripts of the August 15, 2022 Regular Meeting

Motion Made By: Legislator Lopez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Gavaris, Lopez, and Walter
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 2: To enter into executive session at 4:20 PM for the purpose of discussing the External Audit of the Annual Financial Statements Request for Proposals.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris
Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Gavaris, Lopez, and Walter
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 3: To exit out of executive session at 4:58 PM.

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Ronk, Gavaris, Lopez, and Walter
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Chair Bartels noted that no action was taken during executive session.

New Business: The next upcoming meeting of the Audit Committee was scheduled for Tuesday, September 13th at 4:30 PM.

Old Business: Compensation Salary Study as required by the Ulster County Fair Pay and Salary Equity Policy established in Resolution No. 26 of 2022 – see attached transcript.

Chair Bartels asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Motion to Adjourn

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 5:03 pm

Respectfully submitted: Amber Feaster
Minutes Approved: September 13, 2022

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QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Director of Purchasing Ed Jordan, and Department of Purchasing
Peter Esposito

- Chair Bartels called the meeting to order at 4:17 PM.

Chair Bartels: To order. We can start recording. Great. Alright, thank you. This is a meeting of the Audit Committee. Clerk Feaster, can you take attendance please?

Deputy Clerk Feaster: Bartels.

Chair Bartels: Here.

Deputy Clerk Feaster: Ronk. Not here. Lopez.

Legislator Lopez: Here.

Deputy Clerk Feaster: Walter.

Legislator Walter: Here.

Deputy Clerk Feaster: Gavaris.

Legislator Gavaris: Here. Present.

Chair Bartels: Great. And we also have with us representative, Deputy Comptroller DeMarco representing Comptroller March Gallagher. And do we have a designee for the Executive's office? Nope. And Mr. Esposito from Purchasing. Okay, so I'll entertain that we've circulated the minutes and the transcripts from our August 15 2022, regular meeting. Hopefully everyone's had a chance to look at them. I'll entertain a motion to accept them.

Legislator Lopez: I'll move it.

Chair Bartels: Do we have a second?

Legislator Gavaris: I'll second.

Chair Bartels: Okay. Are there any questions, concerns, any comments? Seeing none, all those in favor of accept-, of approving the minutes and transcripts of August 15, as presented? And opposed? Passes unanimously. Mr. Jordan, nice to see you.

Director of Purchasing Jordan: Chair Bartels, I just want to let you know I'm on as well. I, I'd stopped the video, but I'm on as well.

Chair Bartels: Okay, thank you very much. Okay, we are here to discuss the external audit of our annual financials, financial statements and the Request for Proposals. This is both related to discussion of the proposals and an award. I would entertain a moment, if it is appropriate, I'd entertain a motion to go into Executive Session to discuss the proposals that are made.

Legislator Walter: I'll make that motion.

Legislator Gavaris: Second.

Chair Bartels: Okay, all those in favor of going into Executive Session.

Group: Aye.

Chair Bartels: And opposed. Okay, seeing none. We will move into Executive Session. The members of the Purchasing department. Can I, Can I ask for approval to invite the members of the Purchasing Department and our Clerk into Executive Session?

Legislator Walter: I'll motion we keep them in our Executive Session.

Chair Bartels: Great. Thank you. Opposed? A second please, actually.

Legislator Gavaris: I'll second it.

Chair Bartels: Legislator Gavaris. Is there any opposition to having members of Purchasing-, Hello Legislator Ronk, members of the Purchasing Department and our Legislative Clerk in our Executive Session. Okay, so all those in favor? Did we already do move in Executive Session? We did. Okay, so we'll now move into Executive Session.

Chair Bartels: Here we are. We're out of Executive Session. Let the record reflect that no action was taken. Legislator Ronk.

Legislator Ronk: Thanks. Legislator Maloney had asked me to mention to the committee that he's working on amendment language to give some leeway, leeway on the salary study policy to allow us to move forward. So, he just wanted me to apprise the committee of that and he's gonna distribute his changes soon.

Chair Bartels: Okay, that's, that's great. Thank you. And I also will reach out to him because we, we do need to amend the language based on the fact that we're not in compliance what it currently says but we're looking to a change in cycle for the next next year. And we also had some issues regarding required comparison and optional comparison with private sector, etc..., So, and the financial impact. So, I look forward to getting those changes from him and I'll reach out to him, and, and Clerk Feaster, I'll make sure, and maybe you can reach out to him too and ask that anything in terms of changes come through you two been shared with the with the committee. I

did just want to mention on that subject as well before we close, that Comptroller Gallagher had gotten an update on a compensation study. Cortland, Cortland County she let us know did a compensation study last year for positions under the CSEA union contract and management, management confidential compensation plan only. It came in at a very low number in terms of the cost of the study. I want to say, I'm looking at notes that she said that it cost just under \$30,000 for that study. Now Cortland County is a smaller county than we are, but even applying it to our number of titles, it's still less than we thought. For Steuben County, it says also did the same process. They used the same organization. It was a group called the Burke group. And Cattaraugus County did an analysis of all county positions, approximately 295 titles, using that same group and that one cost \$20,000. So, this is all information that's helpful and maybe, maybe actually going out to RFP we'd come in at a lower number, or at least we'd have one respondent that might come in at a lower number than we expected. So, we might want to revisit that once we get Legislator Maloney's changes. We will circulate a notice and a specific time for the next meeting which will be on September 13th, Ways and Means, the day of Ways and Means. At the moment, it's expected that that meeting will be in person. Our meeting will be in whatever format Ways and Means is in. If for some reason Ways and Means is on Zoom, we will be on Zoom. If Ways and Means is in person, we will be in person and we will be immediately preceding Ways and Means. Specific time to be noticed shortly. Anything else that anyone would like to discuss today? Okay, I'll entertain a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Ronk: I move we adjourn.

Chair Bartels: Thank you. Second.

Legislator Ronk: Only because Herbie's not here.

Chair Bartels: Okay. All those in favor of adjournment.

Group: Aye.

Chair Bartels: Opposed. Okay, great. Thank you all. And we will wrap this up the next meeting.

Time: 5:03 pm

Respectfully submitted: Amber Feaster

Minutes Approved: September 13, 2022