

**Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning & Transit Committee
Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: August 31 2021 – 6:00 PM
LOCATION: KL Binder Library
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairman Brian Cahill
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn Tantillo
PRESENT: Legislators Lynn Archer, James Delaune (Herbert Litts, III, Mary Beth Maio and Abe Uchitelle
ABSENT: Legislator Thomas Corcoran
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislator Tracey Bartels; Deputy County Executives Evelyn Wright, Marc Rider and John Milgram; Timothy Weidemann, Director of Office of Economic Development; Dennis Doyle, Director of Planning; Alicia DeMarco, Comptroller’s Office;

Chairman Cahill called the meeting to order at approximately 6:10 PM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Motion No. 1: Motion to Approve the Minutes of August 3, 2021

Motion Made By: Legislator Delaune
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Litts

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes Approved**

Resolution No. 325 - Establishing “The Ulster County Land Bank Development Corporation”, A New York State Landbank

Resolution Summary: This resolution would create a Land Bank; appoint members to the Board of Directors of the Land Bank; and approve other provisions.

Motion No. 2 Motion to discuss Resolution No. 325
Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: Legislator Bartels, sponsor of Resolution 325 asked to postpone action on the resolution. She discussed some challenges such as finalizing names for the board members. Legislator Uchitelle discussed meetings with the City of Kingston regarding combining efforts with their land bank, what that would look like, ways to ensure they honor the contribution of the members of the Kingston Land Bank, defining the role of the City of Kingston and the County. He said their land bank was reaching an “inflection point” as they work to get people into homes.

The committee discussed continuing to explore parallel paths and moving forward.

Legislator Bartels felt that time was of the essence to work with the City of Kingston and wanted to develop a timeline.

Motion No. 3 Motion to postpone Resolution No. 325 at the request of the sponsor.
Motion By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded by: Legislator Archer

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Postponed**

Resolution No. 390 - Authorizing The County Executive To Execute A Contract With The New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation Represented By The Office Of Community Renewal For Federal Funding For The Implementation Of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget - Department Of Economic Development

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes the County Executive to execute a CARES act grant agreement to support small businesses and contract with Ulster County Economic Development Alliance as a subrecipients to effectuate the awarded program

Motion No. 4: **Motion to discuss Resolution No. 390**

Motion By: Legislator Archer
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Discussion: The committee discussed how the program would be implemented and promoted and the guidelines for the grant.

UCEDA has one year from the date the grant is awarded to distribute the funding.

The Committee asked for quarterly updates on the progress of the program.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution Approved

Resolution No. 391 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$1,000,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Ulster County Economic Development Alliance – Department Of Economic Development

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a contract for the administration of the CARES Grant.

Motion No. 5: Motion to approve Resolution No. 391

Motion By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion: The committee discussed the organization structure of this grant and how it would be distributed to a subrecipient and the term of the contract.

Motion No. 6: To amend the contract under Article 2 – Term of Agreement to strike the words “With written notice to the Firm, the County may extend the Term of this Agreement at its sole discretion for up to an additional one (1) year period.”

Motion By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Delaune

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune and Uchitelle

Voting Against: Legislators Litts and Maio

Votes in Favor: 4

Votes Against: 2

Disposition: **Amendment to Contract Approved**

Voting in Favor of Resolution 391 with the Amended Contract: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved with Amended Contract**

Resolution No. 392 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$600,000.00 Entered Into By The County – RUPCO, Inc. – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Rural Ulster Preservation Company (RUPCO) to administer the 2020 CDBG homeownership program.

Motion No. 7: Motion to approve Resolution 392

Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Delaune

Discussion: None

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 393 - Authorizing The Chair To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement With New York State Department Of Information Technology Services To Provide Updated Ortho Imagery For The County – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution approves a contract with New York State Office of Information Technology and execute a funding agreement with the New York State Office of Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Coordination, to provide the collection of up to date aerial imagery as part of a Statewide Digital Ortho Imagery Program.

Motion No. 8: **Motion to approve Resolution 393**

Motion By: Legislator Maio

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: None

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 394 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$165,550.04 Entered Into By The County – Gioia P. Ambrette, Inc. D/B/A Newcastle Communications – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This resolution authorizes 6th amendment to extend the term of agreement for hardware and software maintenance services for the County's VolP system and managed services for the Office Watch call accounting software.

Motion No. 9: **Motion to approve Resolution 394**

Motion By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion: None
Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Approved**

Resolution No. 395 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 7 Of 2021 , A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster In Relation To Evictions, To Be Held On Tuesday, October 19, 2021 At 7:05 PM

Resolution Summary: This resolution would set a public hearing for Proposed Local Law 7 of 2021

Motion No. 10: **Motion to Postpone Resolution 395 at the request of the Sponsor**
Motion By: Legislator Mao
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: Legislator Uchitelle, sponsor of the Resolution, discussed the need to protect tenants from landlords who would make unreasonable increases in rent to take advantage of the high demand for rental housing. He requested it be postponed at this time to allow a thorough discussion before setting a hearing. He noted this does not interfere with landlords evicting for non-payment or other good-cause.

The Committee discussed the current housing crisis and the record influx of individuals to Ulster County that was noted in the national media during COVID.

Voting in Favor: Legislators Cahill, Archer, Delaune, Litts, Maio and Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Postponed at the Request of the Sponsor**

Old Business:

New Business:

Chairman Cahill asked if there was any other business, hearing none;

Motion to Adjourn

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Time: 7:38 pm

Respectfully submitted by: Fawn Tantillo
Minutes Approved: October 7, 2021