

**Energy & Environment Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** May 3, 2018 5:30 Tour of UCRRA Facility  
Meeting immediately following the tour  
**LOCATION:** Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency  
999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, NY 12401  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairman Mary Wawro  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Fawn A. Tantillo, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Tracey Bartels, Manna Jo Greene, Joseph Maloney, Brian Woltman  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Lynn Eckert, James Maloney (Tour only) and Kathy Nolan; Mayor of Kingston Steve Noble; Megan Weiss-Rowe, Rebecca Martin, City of Kingston; Emilie Hauser League of Women Voters; Fred Wadnola, Jack Hayes, David Gordon, UCRRA Board; Tim Rose, Executive Director UCRRA; Jeremy Cherson, Hudson Riverkeeper; Patricia Doxsey, Kingston Freeman Reporter

The committee toured the UCRRA facility at 999 Flatbush Road, Kingston, NY from 5:30 to 7:10.

Chairman Wawro called the meeting to order at 7:22 pm and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

---

**Motion No. 1:** To Approve the Minutes of April 5, 2018

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bartels  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Greene

**Discussion:** None

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

---

**Motion No. 2:** To Approve the Minutes of April 11, 2018

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bartels  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Woltman

**Discussion:** Chairman Wawro was pleased that several legislators joined the committee members at this special meeting to discuss a proposed plastic bag ban.

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman

**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

---

**No Action on Resolution No. 61** -Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 6 Of 2018, A Local Law Regulating The Use Of Single-Use Plastic Carryout Bags, To Be Held On Tuesday, June 19, 2018 At 7:05PM

---

**Motion No. 3:** To approve Resolution No. 120 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2018, A Local Law Promoting The Use Of Reusable Bags And Regulating The Use Of Plastic Carryout Bags And Recyclable Paper Carryout Bags, To Be Held On Tuesday, June 19, 2018 At 7:05PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution set a date and time for a public hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 10 regarding the use of plastic carryout bags.

**Motion By:** Legislator Maloney  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** A draft of Proposed Local Law No. 10 of 2018 (PLL 10) prepared by Legislator Bartels was distributed. This draft included red line amendments discussed at the special meeting of the committee held on April 11. Legislator Bartels included a sheet with sample language regarding various aspects the committee might want to consider adding.

Legislator Bartels shared a conversation she had with the Suffolk County official charged with enforcement of their plastic bag ban and his experience since that law to effect on January 1, 2018. The committee asked Hudson Riverkeeper Jeremy Cherson for insights on how similar initiatives to ban plastic bags have been implemented elsewhere.

Mr. Cherson discussed the potential flaws with the current plastic bag ban proposed by Governor Cuomo and how they might be corrected.

After a detailed discussion the committee agreed on several amendments and plans to move forward with this draft of the PLL 10 and to schedule a public hearing on June 19. They agreed to discuss the details with their respective caucuses and make any other amendments to PLL 10 at session before approving Resolution No 120.

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

---

Mr. Cherson discussed the annual “Come Clean Your River” event scheduled for Saturday, May 5. Locations to volunteer in Ulster County include Gardiner: Wallkill River Cleanups by Farmer’s Turnpike Fishing Access by Land and Water; New Paltz: Wallkill River from Plain Road Boat Launch River Cleanup by Canoe/Kayak; New Paltz: Wallkill River from Springtown Road Access; Accord: Rondout Creek & Trail Cleanup; High Falls: Rondout Creek (near High Falls) Cleanup; Esopus: The Mount Beach Cleanup (CLOSED); Esopus: Lighthouse Park and Esopus Meadows Cleanup; Kingston: Kingston Point Park Beach Cleanup; Kingston: Community Clean Sweep; Kingston: Lower Esopus Creek Boat Launch Cleanup by Canoe, Kayak, and Land; Saugerties: Esopus Creek and Hudson River Cleanup by Kayak; Saugerties Lighthouse Shoreline Cleanup.

---

**Motion No. 4:** to approve Resolution No. 157 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 8 Of 2018, A Local Law Amending Local Law 6 of 2014, To Improve And Strengthen The Sustainable Energy Loan Program

**Resolution Summary:** This local law is designed to make the Sustainable Energy Loan Program accessible to more locations.

**Motion By:** Legislator Bartels  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Woltman

**Discussion:** Legislator Maloney asked for clarification about the Sustainable Energy Loan Program and how it works.

Legislator Greene explained that the original program did not offer enough opportunities for business to participate and how this new language would expand those prospects.

Legislator Bartels suggested that information regarding the initial implementation of the program might be more helpful.

Legislator Maloney said he had time before the vote at session to familiarize himself with the program and would support it moving forward for now.

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Wawro, Bartels, Greene, Maloney and Woltman  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Approved

---

### Climate Smart Committee

Legislator Greene reported on the Green Business Challenge and plans to train volunteers at the Kingston Center at SUNY/Kingston Center on May 24. to be “ambassadors” to help reach the Green Business Goals. These ambassadors will be able to work with local businesses to determine what energy efficient retrofits would be most beneficial for each individual business.

## Single Stream Recycling and the City of Kingston

Chairman Wawro recognized Steve Noble, Mayor of the City of Kingston, to speak to the committee. Mayor Noble gave the clerk his written statement (attached) and reminded the committee of his background as Recycling Coordinator for the City of Kingston and serving on the UCRRA Board of Directors before becoming Mayor. He assured the committee he understood the complexity of the recycling issues. He expressed his concern regarding the recent announcement by the UCRRA that they were raising the cost of single stream recycling and planned to discontinue single stream recycling by January, 2019. He felt that a dialogue was needed before such a drastic decision was implemented.

He noted the investment of over \$1 million made by the City of Kingston toward single stream recycling and the increased recycling this produced. He also discussed the impact of ending single stream recycling would have on the city and private haulers that are also set up for single stream recycling.

Legislator Bartels pointed out that the enabling legislation for the UCRRA did not permit flow control of recycling and that Ulster County was the only county that has such a restriction.

Mr. Rose was informed that the costs of “single stream” are increasing. He reiterated information shared on the tour regarding the recent actions of China limiting the import of certain recycling. On the tour he made the comparison that currently the UCRRA earns a revenue of approximately \$800/ton for clear plastic but has to pay approximately \$50/ton to dispose of single stream recycling. Today he learned that the cost to dispose of single stream recycling was going up to over \$70/ton and the facilities that take it are limiting the amount they will accept.

Mr. Gordon noted that this discussion began as a way to “send up a flare” and begin a dialogue in an effort to get ahead of the impending crisis other communities are facing. He said that even if it costs more to dispose of single stream recycling than municipal solid waste the UCRRA is forbidden by New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to dispose of “single stream” as municipal solid waste.

Legislator Eckert repeated Mr. Rose’s assertion from the earlier tour that “single stream recycling was unsustainable” and asked for Mayor Noble to respond.

The committee, the Mayor and members of the UCRRA Board had a discussion about the un-sustainability of single stream recycling and instability of the recycling markets.

The UCRRA has scheduled an informational meeting on this issue for May 23 at 5:00. The members offered the Legislative Chambers for the meeting.

---

Chairman Wawro asked if there was any other business, hearing none

### Motion to Adjourn

<b>Motion Made By:</b>	Legislator Bartels
<b>Motion Seconded By:</b>	Legislator Maloney
<b>No. of Votes in Favor:</b>	5
<b>No. of Votes Against:</b>	0
<b>Time:</b>	8:16 pm
<b>Respectfully submitted:</b>	Fawn Tantillo, Deputy Clerk
<b>Minutes Approved</b>	June 7, 2018