

**Energy & Environment Committee
Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: May 3, 2021; 6:15 PM or immediately following the Public Health & Social Services Committee
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 973 2073 9410
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn A. Tantillo, Laurie Lichtenstein
PRESENT: Legislators Al Bruno (in at 6:20), Peter Criswell, Laura Petit and Mary Wawro
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Tracey Bartels; Christopher Ragucci, Legislative Counsel; Deputy Executive John Milgrim; David Haldeman, Ulster County Environmental Management Council (EMC); Amanda LaValle and Nick Hvozda, Department of Environment; Charles Landi and Tim DeGraff, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA); Don Markle.

Chairwoman Greene called the meeting to order at approximately 6:18 PM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance

Motion No. 1: To approve the minutes of April 5, 2021 and April 15, 2021

Motion Made By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Discussion: None

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Criswell, Petit and Wawro

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 4

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Minutes approved.

UCRRA Report by Tim Degraff

Mr. DeGraff gave the committee an update on UCRRA events including

- Household Hazardous Waste
 - New Paltz on April 24
 - Next in Kingston on June 27
- Compost and Rain Barrel Sale – May 1
- E-waste events

- Spring Classes held virtually

Resolution No. 156 - Appointing Members To The Recycling Oversight Committee

Resolution Summary: This resolution will appoint a representative of the Commercial or Institutional Sector and an At Large member, both to be determined, to the Recycling Oversight Committee

Motion No. 2: To discuss Resolution No. 154

Motion Made By: Legislator Criswell

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Petit

Discussion: See transcript

No action taken

Resolution No. 227 - Amending Capital Project 568 - Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure Project— Authorizing The Chair Of The Legislature To Execute An Amended Customer Project Commitment With New York Power Authority And Amending Capital Project 568- Department Of Public Transportation (Ulster County Area Transit)

Resolution Summary: This resolution will authorize the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute the Authorization to Proceed letter and amended Customer Project Commitment with NYPA in the form as filed with the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature or as modified with the approval of the County Attorney

Motion No. 3: **Motion to approve Resolution No. 227**

Motion Made By: Legislator Bruno

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Bruno, Criswell, Petit and Wawro

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 5

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution approved**

Resolution No. 229 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 1 Of 2021, A Local Law Amending Various Provisions Of Local Law No. 1 Of 2020, A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster To Include Mandatory Food Scraps Composting By Large Generators, To Be Held On Tuesday, June 15, 2021 At 7:10 PM

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Wawro

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Bruno, Criswell, Petit and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution amended**

Resolution No 241 as amended

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Bruno, Criswell, Petit and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution approved as amended**

Chairwoman Greene introduced Don Markle, a private business owner, who reported being unable to purchase compost from the UCRRA while the brother of the UCRRA Director of Operations and Compliance was seen leaving the facility with compost. His efforts to address this problem with the UCRRA Director were unanswered. Other legislators reported receiving similar reports.

Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss this issue and possible actions and allowing Legislator Bartels, Legislative Counsel Ragucci, and committee staff into this executive session.

Motion Made By: Legislator Wawro
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Petit

Discussion: See Transcript

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Bruno, Criswell, Petit and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Committee entered Executive Session at approximately 7:34**

Executive Session

Motion to come out of executive session at approximately 8:16

Motion Made By: Legislator Bruno
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting in Favor: Legislators Greene, Bruno, Criswell, Petit and Wawro
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Committee came out of Executive Session at approximately 8:16 and reported that no action was taken in Executive Session**

The June meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, June 3, 2021 at 6:15.
The July meeting was rescheduled to Thursday, July 8, 2021 at 6:15.

Chairwoman Greene asked if there was any other business, hearing none;

Motion to Adjourn

Motion Made By: Legislator Petit
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 0
Time: 8:34 PM

Respectfully submitted by: Fawn Tantillo
Minutes Approved: June 3, 2021

**Energy & Environment Committee
Meeting Transcript**

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LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing (646) 558-8656, Meeting ID: 973 2073 9410

PRESIDING OFFICER: Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn A. Tantillo, Laurie Lichtenstein

PRESENT: Legislators Al Bruno, Peter Criswell, Laura Petit and Mary Wawro

ABSENT: None

QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Tracey Bartels; Christopher Ragucci, Legislative Counsel; Deputy Executive John Milgrim; David Haldeman, Ulster County Environmental Management Council (EMC); Amanda LaValle and Nick Hvozda, Department of Environment; Charles Landi and Tim DeGraff, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA); Don Markle.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

It is a little after 6:15. On May 3rd, [inaudible] On May 3rd. This is the May meeting of the Energy and Environment Committee. And would Fawn... Would you kindly call the roll and then we'll do pledge.

Fawn Tantillo

Manna Jo Greene

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Present.

Fawn Tantillo

Mary Wawro.

Legislator Mary Wawro

Here.

Fawn Tantillo

Al Bruno is not with us yet. Peter Criswell

Legislator Peter Criswell

Here.

Fawn Tantillo

Laura Petit.

Legislator Laura Petit

Here.

Fawn Tantillo

So, Madam Chair, you have four of your members. You have a quorum.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Thank you. And with that, I'd like to ask that we stand for the Pledge of Allegiance. When someone like to start saving...okay, now

I pledge allegiance to the flag of the United States of America, and to the republic for which it stands, one nation, under God, indivisible, with liberty and justice for all.

Thank you. And have the committee members had a chance to review the minutes and transcript of our April 5 and April 15th brief special meeting. I'd see a nod. I would entertain a motion to approve the minutes.

Legislator Peter Criswell

I'll make a motion to approve the minutes April 5 and the special meeting of April 15.

Legislator Mary Wawro

I'll second.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

All right. All in favor, please signify by raising your hand saying "Aye".

Committee Members

Aye

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay. Anyone opposed? Motion carried four to zero. With Legislator Bruno not yet here.

Fawn Tantillo

Legislator Bruno is joining us now.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay. With that, I would like to ask Tim DeGraff, Executive Director of the Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency for an update.

Tim DeGraff

Hi, everybody. Um, a couple of items here. We held our HHW [Household Hazardous Waste] event at our... we actually did it at the New Paltz transfer station on Saturday, April 24, from 8 to 12. Usually we'll have it longer, but we tried to limit, you know, a smaller group of people. We serviced the approximately 220 households on Saturday. The next event scheduled for the Ulster Transfer station in Kingston. And that will be June 27, which is a Sunday and reservations are opening tomorrow.

This past Saturday, we did a compost bin and rain barrel sale. We actually had about 150 pre-orders. And we sold 112 compost bins and 80 rain barrels. So that was very successful.

Our e-waste [electronic waste] for the month of April, we had three Saturday, we have 407 drop offs of e-waste. So, full loads.

Angela wanted me to pass along that spring classes. Um, so far 68 residents have already participated in the free spring classes virtually. The last one will be Wednesday, "Using compost in the garden". And there's already 20 plus residents for that.

And I should note that May 2nd to the eighth is International Compost Awareness Week. And the Recycling Outreach team has planned social media outreach campaign all month long.

On the operation side, I just wanted to make everybody aware that we received our Ulster transfer station receive permit renewals and modify. One of the items that that affects is we have now ordered our, our building so that it can be installed for it's going to double as a recycling education center and as a compost bagging building. So that's really good to get that going. That's all I have.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Right. Thank you. Any questions? With that, I would like to move to the resolutions for a session. Next week, May 18th, actually, I think it's more like two weeks. So, we'll start with Resolution Number 156. appointing? No. That's not right. Yes. Oh, appointing members to the recycling Oversight Committee. Sorry, Fawn, I don't have the resolutions pulled up. Would you mind just filling in a little detail on that.

Fawn Tantillo

So, that it's, it's still "to be determined". The seats that are open. And right now, hang on Hang on. The seats that are open right now there's an "at large member" at seat and "a commercial or institutional sector" seat open.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

So, I'd like to ask Legislator Petit. Um,

Legislator Peter Criswell

Um, can I move it for discussion?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yes. Thank you.

Legislator Peter Criswell

I move this discussion.

Legislator Laura Petit

I'll second.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

And seconded by Legislator Petit. Oh, okay. We'll get you next time Legislator Wawro. Legislator Petit, could you just help us understand? Do we have people? Have we advertised? Where are we in this process?

Legislator Laura Petit

When we, when we did the RRA Board appointments, we had asked all the applicants if they would be interested, if they didn't make it onto the agency board. So I guess procedurally, that would be up to you. You know, we could always go into Executive Session to discuss those candidates. You know, or we could go out and advertise. I mean, procedurally that that's I submitted the resolution, but I'm not sure where you want to go from here. We do have five very viable candidates.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Do they fill the vacancies? Do they qualify to fill the vacancies?

Legislator Laura Petit

Yes.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

They do? Yes. All right. Let me take the pulse of the committee. Legislator Criswell.

Legislator Peter Criswell

It was just a question. I guess a procedural question. Would it be wise for us to actually talk to the folks that were interested, get them on board with it, get their names, get their resumes, and then pass this resolution as a resolution that actually has people attached to it? I just... I'm not understanding the idea of passing it with TBD's [to be determined] in it.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Anyone else?

Legislator Laura Petit

I mean, that would be my preference. Yes, I even like to, you know, relist it in case somebody missed it, and is interested in being on this committee. We can move it to next month. And we could also schedule the interviews at that point.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

And if we have recommendations, we can fill in the blanks, and we could probably even do that. Time 100 with the rest of the committee members feel,

Legislator Peter Criswell

I just want to say I really liked that idea, because we had such great folks lined up. And I think we could easily fill it with wonderful people who are really dedicated and committed to this. Right?

Legislator Albert Bruno

I agree with Legislator Criswell.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay. And I see Legislator Wawro nodding. Um, so we look take no action. Is that correct? Fawn?

Fawn Tantillo

You may. And you have the resumes in the, in the, on the cloud on the OneDrive, but I can send them to you, again, as an attachment if you want to just freshen your thoughts about them. And see, you know, who you remind yourself about the resumes?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

And just so there's no question. Maybe we can put it on the website, or whatever we do to in case there's someone else who would like to apply?

Fawn Tantillo

I believe. I believe it's on our Acella program. I'll double check.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Thank you. Resolution Number 227. Amending Capital Project 568, The Electric Bus Charging Infrastructure Project, Authorizing The Chair Of The Legislature To Execute An Amended Customer Project Commitment with the New York Power Authority and Amending Capital Project 568, Department of Public Transportation, UCAT. Do I here. I would entertain a motion, Legislator Bruno.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Move it.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Second?

Legislator Peter Criswell

I'll second it.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay, any discussion?

Legislator Peter Criswell

I just wanted to note that there is there is a significant New York State reimbursement attached to this. So that that is great, you know, \$394,000 attached to it, or 300, almost 395. So, I always like to see New York State reimbursements attached to our bonds. So

Legislator Albert Bruno

I get, I kind of have a little bit I first of all, I support it 100%. But I questioned it. At the same time. Basically, this resolution is just saying that we reiterating what we already said in a previous resolution, and in that, right?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

It's a little different. And I would like someone from Department of Environment who might be more familiar with the details. I know that transportation did a lot of work, and they were in close consultation. Amanda, would you be able to fill us in a little

Amanda LaValle

Happily, thank you, um, this since the time of our initial, the resolution last year. So last March. We've done several we have several kind of different projects that we needed to take into consideration with the design for this. The first one being the transit electrification study, we now have a study that maps out a future 10 years for us to look at how to best electrify our transit fleet.

And what we've been able to do by revisiting the design for this project is to essentially future proof the electrical systems at the UCAT facility in order to enable us to build out to the extent we believe we need to two for 10 years in the future. It also, since that last March, when the we initially again, scoped this project, we have had the opportunity where we will be receiving some state state money to help install solar at that facility that also required some significant considerations with the electrical system of how to work that into some pretty major, we really, we really need to upscale the electrical system of the building several times over in order to accommodate charging the buses. And it also allowed us to ensure that we're thinking about generators, whether it's just for the building backup, or eventually, if we need a generator sized for that facility, which could be used to if the power grid goes down. Now you're smiling. Sorry, to have to think about all these contingency plans, as we're thinking about, you know, transitioning from diesel fuel.

So, the additional year allowed us study time, time to revisit it and really know what we need to do to not just accommodate the buses that are coming this year. But for, you know, the 10-year plan,

Legislator Albert Bruno

I think it's a smart idea. If I can just follow up a little bit...a Legislator...Chairman, Manna Joe.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yeah, please.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Okay. Um, so I was smiling, because I caught a certain irony in the saying, I agree. I mean, "future proofing" the building for, you know, what's coming down the road in 10 years, if that makes sense. You know, putting one charger in per bus right now is just kind of like, it's not not very insightful, because we know where it's headed.

And I like the idea of the solar panels and that particular thing, because it will offset the charging of the buses. My ...The irony that I smiled that was that the generators, what are these generators going to be powered with?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I have, if I may, I have the same thought in that, well, maybe we should be looking at battery storage, because that is extremely reliable. And we have some room to charge it. So To be continued, but

Legislator Albert Bruno

I just noted most, most large scale generators of that nature, are generally powered by diesel fuel. They usually have big diesel Detroit Diesel engines on them. So, it's kind of like, it's kind of like offsetting the whole purpose of having the buses in the first place. If we need to run them on diesel generators.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Well, that would only be in the case of an outage, what and, and, you know, we really have time,

Legislator Albert Bruno

Well, generators need to be run. They need to be run all the time for testing. So that they are maintain, there's a certain amount of maintenance that comes with them. With all that maintenance, they typically, I know, they were my facility where I work, they run the generators every week, and they run for a half an hour to an hour each time. So that amount of carbon, we need to consider and see whether it's actually offsetting the idea of using the generators, I mean use any electric buses.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Amanda,

Amanda LaValle

If I may, I appreciate those points, because they're they're very good generators have to be exercised. And we should be looking at the fuel that we're thinking about for that, at this point in time, there is an existing generator at the building for the building facilities and this would be allowing that generator to connect into the proper place in the electrical system and and designing the electrical system to better accommodate the generator and if a larger generator is needed in the future. Again, that connection, it would be properly designed to accommodate that. I think that nobody wants to see a situation... no one wants to see a situation where we are using diesel generators to charge battery electric buses. That is kind of madnes to... and I I believe that point fully. However, I feel as we have learned lessons about the reliability or unreliability of the electric grid in certain cases after watching the events unfold in Texas in the recent past. I feel that these are contingencies that I think everyone thinks that we should be cautious and err to... in order to be able to accommodate, but I very much think we should be doing the math on the on the fuel use.

Legislator Albert Bruno

I think financial use as well, because this is, in my opinion, I mean, I believe that I wholeheartedly agree with the electric buses and electric fleet completely. I just want to see it done, I want to see if we're going to do it, let's do it using some common sense, you know, not just because it's electric, everybody jumps on it, the electric that

comes down to wires right now comes from mostly gas, oil and coal plants. So they're not as globally as efficient as we might think. But they're going in the right direction.

The battery object is a good idea. But does anybody see what an environment environmental disaster it takes to make those batteries. It's just not in our backyard. But do some research. It's pretty horrific, what it takes to make those batteries and not to mention to recycle the batteries at this point. They're not recyclable. So we have to look, if we're going to be looking at this whole thing in an energy and an environmental standpoint and a way of looking at it, I think we need to look at all of the pieces of the puzzle, before we start trying to put it on the box.

We just really need to not just do feel good things because "oh, this is this is a really good idea." In the long run, it may not be. I think we really need to examine, especially when we're dealing with taxpayers money to make this happen. And I haven't Believe me, though, I'm not against this, I just think we need to look at it a little harder.

Like it sounds to me at the rate you're going, we're gonna end up in a new bus garage. You know, you'll need all the electric, I know there was discussion whether they were going to be indoors under a pavilion, putting a new roof on it so that it can handle the solar, you're building the new garage, if you want to build a facility like that, for that purpose. That's not a bad idea. But maybe we should look at it in that manner.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I do want to... go ahead, Amanda, because I'm sure what you're going to say is more relevant.

Amanda LaValle

So, I will offer that this is being done in tandem with a study to look at the future needs of UCAT, not just for electric buses, but as far as fleet maintenance and storage. And that, that study, UCAT along with the planning department have been looking at. And it's very much good timing in that that study has been progressed at the same time as the transit electrification study. So, we're in a unique pic... picture in that we really do have this map, that we've spent a good year working on this to have a very good lay of the land for a 10 year plan for that. So, we feel like this is a very solid way to do it once and really do what we need to do at this facility.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I just want to go a step further and remind everyone that the state climate action law, the Climate Leadership and Community Protection Act is being rolled out. This is the year that they're developing the details. But overall, it is saying 70% renewables by 2030 and significant greenhouse gas emissions. So we're going to have to be able to design systems that use beneficial electrification. And there's also a number which I can't quote off the top of my head, but the amount of battery storage that will be necessary for 24-7 reliability.

So, that transition is underway, and should be informed by some of the concerns that Legislator Bruno just raised. And I had a conversation recently with the sheriff and he's raised others. So, all of those need to... this is the year for the state decisions to be made on how this will be rolled out. The schedule is pretty clear. But the

details are being informed by I think eight advisory panels and three working groups. And they are advising the Climate Action Council who's responsible for the implementation plan.

So please, if you have comments that you think they may not be considering, get them in they're still taking comments for another couple of weeks and then they'll issue documents for public comment the same as we do. We take comments while a law is being developed, or an implementation plan is being developed, and then we take comments after the decision before it's acted upon. So, you know, that's a bit of a side. But it's very important because we're in the middle of a transition want to get it right. So I really appreciate everyone's comments on this.

But are we ready to call the question? Yes. Okay. So now we are on. This is Resolution Number 227. Basically, the electric bus charging infrastructure project. All in favor, please signify by raising your hand and or saying aye.

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Anyone opposed? Motion carries unanimously. Okay, the next resolution setting a public hearing on Proposed Local Law Number 1 of 2021, A Local Law amending various provisions of Local Law Number 1 of 2020. The... a local law amending the code of the County of Ulster to include mandatory food scraps, composting by large generators. And that public hearing would be held on Tuesday, June 15. At 7:10pm. Can we move for discussion?

Legislator Peter Criswell

So moved.

Legislator Laura Petit

Second.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

By Legislator, Criswell and seconded by Legislator Petit. I just want to point out that the current law for generators of one ton per week or more of food waste is scheduled to go into effect in July 1, which is why we would need you know, there is a time constraint on this. So, let's thank you for and let's look at the provisions. I think there are only three of them, and see if anyone has any concerns. So this is the food scrap, recycling law. And the very first, um, I don't think there were any changes here. Let's see. Yep. Chairman

Legislator Peter Criswell

Chairman Greene, can I just ..

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yes.

Legislator Peter Criswell

I just have a quick question? Are we currently voting on the public hearing? Right,

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Right.

Legislator Peter Criswell

Okay. I just want to be, we're not we're not actually voting on any of this. We're just

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Your right. All we need to do, do want to do it in the other order to look at the, um,

Legislator Peter Criswell

I think we should just say yes, I mean, we should vote on the public hearing and then move on to... if we're gonna have discussion about the local law, we should have discussion about the local law.

Legislator Albert Bruno

I agree with Legislator Criswell This is just a public hearing.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

All right. So and if we need to go back and change it, but for now, since we've moved this and seconded it is there any further discussion on the public setting a public hearing? All right, all in favor, please signify by raising your hand and are saying aye.

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Opposed? Motion carries unanimously. All right now. urging? Nope. Where's did I skip the let's see. Man, if we know as soon as we set the public hearing,

Fawn Tantillo

So, 241 is the next resolution.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yeah, but what happened to the public hearing.

Legislator Peter Criswell

There was no resolution in our packet that had anything to do with discussing the law. It was just setting the public hearing.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I Fawn, didn't you send me the actual All, not just setting the public hearing, but I thought you sent. I remember earlier today reading the Law.

Fawn Tantillo

Yeah, the, the ,the law is in your file is as backup, because that's what will be discussed. Do you want it? Okay.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yeah, let's take a look at the changes. And if we have to go back and change this, but I expect that when we look at the changes, if we have to amend them, we will. But can we look at the actual amendment to the law?

Fawn Tantillo

Give me one moment to share my screen. Okay, so that's the law. These are the proposed changes to the law. I don't know if Amanda was

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

There, there are only about three of them. And there are a strike through. Here's the first one. date. Thank you.

Legislator Peter Criswell

And if I'm remembering, if I may, Chairman, if I'm remembering this right, we did this because we thought it was too heavy a burden to place on these facilities during COVID. And we were trying to move it forward for them for to make it more manageable. Is that correct?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Fawn, hold it still for a minute whoops. Um, we have amended this law once during the height of COVID. Because, um, we move the date forward, even for the two tons a week, and the Department of Environment has now had seven direct experience with generators for two tons or more. And they will follow the enforcement or the law will apply to them as of January 1, or did apply to them as of January 1 of this year. And at that time, we expected the one ton or more generators for to apply to them in July, and the others subsequent.

And there, as we look at these changes, proposed amendments. And hopefully, this will be the last time we have to amend this law. A couple points of interest will come up, but I think it helps to just look at the proposed changes. And I do want to say that I believe the state law is going into effect January 2022. So this would more or less put us in alignment with the state law, except that we have already started for the approximately 26 very large generators with just two tons or more. And some of them are considerably more, such as SUNY New Paltz, which was already composting.

So, the first change, the first amendment is that from generators producing two tons or per week to 0.5 tons a week. And that was going to be complete by July 2023. But the Department of Environment in a memo requested that we move this up to January of 2024. And below, you'll see the sequence of changes. So let's go

Amanda LaValle

Chairman Greene, if I may just get that one of the... we are currently regulating generators more than two tons per week, which is which is great. And it's been a we have not heard of anyone who had been notified about the law requirements that is having any difficulty with that. So that is that is a good sign.

There is some sensitivity to regulating this next cohort. You know, still while we're kind of coming out of some of the challenges of COVID. However, there's also a rather kind of substantial timing issue when it comes to working with this state regulation, we have used up to date, some of the state's organic resource inventory

locator. And they are coming into a pattern where they're going to be publishing that data every year, June 1, as the law requires that we give generators, three months of notice.

Also, we feel like it's important to kind of look at those lists, see if they're kind of capturing the businesses that we think are here. You know, look at the list from the prior year, figure out if we're adding businesses or subtracting businesses, and having a July one date to begin regulating, does not match Well, with that June 1, publishing of the updated list from the state. So that's a major driver here. As far as the timing goes.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

And let's see if we could go to where the changes are. I have one other question. Um, I think the strike throughs are in another section. your strengths? I see. Okay, the January 2021, is complete. And I'm Amanda, if you wouldn't mind? Can you just give us an idea of right now with the Pollution Prevention Institute data? And any other data you have for the next cohort? one ton a week? Well, for all four cohorts, um, could you say approximately how many food waste generators there are for greater than two times one time, three quarters and a half a ton.

Amanda LaValle

It's I can give you for greater than one ton and greater than two tons. Okay, where there are about 30 in each cohort. Okay. And I can get the other numbers for you. It just takes one more step. That's,

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yes, if you wouldn't mind, because I want people to realize that the numbers do go up considerably. As the amount of food waste generated goes down. And at some point, some of the local restaurants will be impact. The larger numbers tend to be food waste processors, I believe supermarkets and schools, institutions, institutional cafeterias, SUNY New Patlz as I mentioned, etc.

And then the when you have the three quarters and the half a ton. But as you can see, the first change was already made. And so that's there's no strike through. But instead of July, for the one time instead of July 2021, the proposal is to move that to January 1st 2022. And that would coincide with the state law, which is all two tons or more. They don't go down to half a ton.

But in Ulster County, we already have experience that it works. And we have a collection system that has capacity. And we have facilities that have capacity. And we want to divert as much waste as possible without making a hardship for anyone.

And so that's what we've tried to do and we held very inclusive stakeholder meetings, a conference and then the required public hearing and then a second public hearing to move the date because of COVID last year. So, now we want to renovate this so that the three quarters of a ton would begin in July or rather in January 2023, and a half a ton would begin in January 2024. Giving them you know ample time to giving Department of Environment ample time to reach out and do the education and outreach and inform people. And they would have ample time to work with their hauler, or keep their hauler for garbage and get another hauler or decide to compost on

site. And that's where the agency could come in with educational programs and peer match programs, because there's a lot of successful on site composting already going on. So U'm Amanda, were you able to find those last two?

Amanda LaValle

I'm sorry, I'll share them with you later. I have to pull them out of the database. I apologize.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

All right. Any questions on those changes? Because they want to kind of take it step by step and then we'll vote on one. Well, we did vote on but if there's any problems, we can go back and and change the vote during the course.

Alright, so the next change? Yes. There we go. I think it's coming up now. Right there. "Ulster County may waive the requirements of paragraph B. If the county determines that compliance with the requirements of paragraph B," which we can go back and look at if we need to, "would result in an extraordinary financial hardship to the large food scrap generator or that other unique circumstances justify a waiver."

Originally, we had focused on post-consumer food scraps, I'm causing contamination. So all the food that's prepped in the kitchen and at a restaurant that scraped off plates. But for example, in a food court, if there is a place for recycling and a place for trash, and then a place for compost. People may include things that are not compostable in in a somewhat unsupervised setting. Although there are places along the I think it's the New Jersey Turnpike, where they do food waste composting that came up while we were developing the law. It's possible, but the experience at SUNY New Paltz who have been composting for several years very, very successfully and reusing takeout containers that the students trade in for a clean one. You know, they they've really had very high success in the dorms, and in even the the cafeterias.

But it's the food courts and the unsupervised areas where you know, the contamination or, yeah, where the contamination is high. And so this is leaving it to the department to determine hardship, rather than specifically citing postconsumer food scraps. Which by the way, the state does not distinguish. And, um, and just trusting the department to determine when a waiver is justified. Is that correct? Is that your I see your hand Legislator Bruno. I just want to see if I said that, right. According to Amanda.

Amanda LaValle

Yes, it also... the way it was written. The revision also gets to a kind of issue with how it was written, which was that if you had an operation. And you wanted to waive them, you could only waive them for post-consumer food scraps, they would still be required to compost The, the pre-consumer food scraps. And that was a little bit of a trick in it, this gets to some of that kind of so if there was a unique circumstance and a waiver was. was justified, it would be a waiver for the entire operation and not just for post-consumer.

And even the financial hardship language was tied up in that post consumer. So it kind of corrects that which I think was not the original attention, intention in the drafting. But it ironed out that issue.

Also, just to address the next condition here, which is financial hardship, the polystyrene law has same guidance, Part A here subpart a as far as gross income, and that was very much a strong request from the health department was to have that in the law to have the actual financial the number in there. And then subpart B, that is that mirrors the state law, so that there is also some sensitivity to really increasing cost of disposal.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay, hold on, stay there for a minute. Please. Legislator, Bruno, you had your hand up?

Legislator Albert Bruno

Yes. Chairman Greene, I did. And my, my concern, honestly, this is all nice and great. We've already hashed this over is to the point where it's a public hearing. We're already voted on this as a public hearing. And I think we're kind of beating a dead horse, so to speak right now at this point, I think we should move on to the other resolutions, and then go back to this at a later date after the public hearing if need be. But to do this right now is really not doing anything. Sorry, I appreciate it. But I it's getting until the we're gonna be here at 10 o'clock. But

Legislator Laura Petit

I agree we did have a chance to read this. And we do have other people here at the meeting who are getting ready to give reports.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I am sorry, I thought there were only three changes and it would be easy to to go over. But I hear you. And unless anyone has any objection. We move we set the public hearing. And we can reconsider any details after we hear from the public.

So , Fawn. Thank you for your help with that. And now let's see the water quality resolution. And that is Resolution Number 241. urging the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation to protect water quality in Ulster County and require the New York City Department of Environmental Protection to offer detailed alternatives to the release of turbid water into the Lower Esopus. Do I hear a motion to consider this.

Legislator Peter Criswell

So, moved.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Second.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Motion by Legislator Criswell. Seconded by Legislator Bruno, any discussion?

Legislator Peter Criswell

My question is, is just... Is this a memorializing resolution? Is it really just something saying that we support? You know, examining this problem? I mean, that's really what this is right?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Looks to me?

Legislator Peter Criswell

I mean, I'm in full support of it. I just wanted to make sure, yes. There in this resolution, there is really us just calling on calling out the problem and saying, well support looking at it.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yes. Legislator Bruno.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Yeah, there is a public comment time frame is very close, very short. So this is a memorializing resolution, per se, as we're answering the public comment in our forum, basically, we're giving our input to the public comment section of the state.

Legislator Peter Criswell

Thank you.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Green

So, hearing. Oh, yes. Amanda, please go ahead.

Amanda LaValle

And thank you for continuing to work on this. I think it really appreciate all the attention in the first and second, whereas in the second, whereas there's reference to it. The consent order proceedings. And the last part of that, whereas is that it was done behind closed doors without participation. And I think it that may be better placed in the first whereas where were really it was what was done without public participation or the secret process or any input from any stakeholder was between 2006 and 2010. The reestablishing of the use of their release channel.

So just, I've been very involved in this issue for about 10 years. And when I just think through it, kind of from a detail point, I would I would move that clause to the first whereas, and I'm happy to provide that to anyone who would want to review that.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Legislator Bruno,

Legislator Albert Bruno

Fawn, can this be done and still make it to the full legislature in time?

Fawn Tantillo

Absolutely. You...

Legislator Albert Bruno

I don't have any issue with that. I think that's fine.

I mean, you can just make that amendment tonight and I'll do it. You know, and turn it in with that amendment. Okay, so first, so if somebody to move to make that amendment,

I'll make the motion.

Legislator Peter Criswell

I'll second. Go ahead, Mary.

Legislator Mary Wawro

Second the amendment.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

As provided by Amanda LaValle, and all in favor of resolution number 241.

Fawn Tantillo

First, the amendment. First you have to vote for the amendment and then on the resolution as amended.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay. On the amendment, please signify by raising your hand and or saying Aye.

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Legislator Wawro, did you say "aye" and raise your hand? Okay. Fine.

Fawn Tantillo

I want to remind you all that tomorrow at one o'clock at Diamond Mills, there is a press conference about this topic, with the County Executive and you've all been invited.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Do we need do we need to RSVP?

Fawn Tantillo

I don't believe so. I think you can just show up with your mask.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Oh, yes. Thank you for that reminder that resolution carries. And I will before we go into new business, I would like to... I think we had a request from Don Markle, to speak on composting. He can again at the public hearing, but he's patiently sat through this much of the meeting. So I wanted to recognize Don.

Don Markle

Hi, how are you?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Good. Long time no, see?

Don Markle

Yes. Thank you for hearing me. Um, I guess my biggest concern is recovery and their compost. I don't know if this is something that use here. Though somewhere else above and beyond Well, what they're doing with their compost is are monopolizing so that only one person is allowed to get it. Now I have a small business. You know, just a one-man crew and I have a lot of customers that want this compost, but we're not being sold the compost in a very small amount. Meanwhile, you know, I don't want to throw too many names, but the head of operations brother hauls 20 tons of compost out of there per day, and I'm allowed one ton. Now, so I don't know if it's something that you guys deal with or, or do I have to go somewhere else about this?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I think likely it would be appropriate to go into Executive Session to discuss this. How long there's

Don Markle

No, I just want what's fair and to get to the bottom of this is all.

Legislator Mary Wawro

I moved to go into Executive Session for purpose of discussion.

Legislator Laura Petit

I'll second that.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay, Don. Thank you for the information. We will

Fawn Tantillo

You can invite Chris and you can invite Don into your executive session, but I believe your attorney has something to say.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay. Legislative Counsel Raucci. Please advise.

Counsel Ragucci

Sure, it's and sorry to interrupt. I just wanted to just address one point. I mean, the purpose of executive session is particularly outlined in the Open Meetings law, if a member of the public is just you know, if he's going to present some concerns he has, And at this point, they just are concerns as far as I'm aware they're there his observations or are, you know, his concerns regarding certain facts that he believes to be true. At this point, I'm not sure if it would be a valid basis to go into Executive Session. He could present his his concerns and then you know, and then the discussion could proceed.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Legislator Bruno, go ahead.

Legislator Albert Bruno

I just have a question. While he's a member of the public, he's an employee of the, of the department we're discussing. So, does that make him a public member or not?

Don Markle

Well, I don't I'm not employed there.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Oh, I thought you were employed there. I apologize.

Don Markle

Oh, no, no, no, no. .

Legislator Albert Bruno

Okay. I'm sorry, I thought you were you spoke with such confidence.

Don Markle

I own a small dump trailer business is what I'm saying is, you know. I come in there, I have a lot of customers that want this stuff, but, but we're not being allowed it. And it's not just myself. It's, it's every other small hauler out there. They're monopolizing it, and basically lining the pockets of the head of operations, brother, who, who also works there.

Legislator Laura Petit

And if you pull up the UCRRRA website, now, you'll see that it says, "Sorry, no compost available". I'm getting photos that there are trucks going out with compost on them. You know, and an audio of them refusing to sell to a customer saying that they don't have any. So I'd like to proceed with this.

Don Markle

You know, in my eyes being a, you know, person of the public and a resident, it's, it's theft. And it's not fair to every other resident who wants it.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Alright, let's hear from counsel.

Counsel Ragucci

All right, and I appreciate the recognition. Chairman Greene [inaudible]. And to Mr. Marle, through the Chair, have you addressed this issue with the resource recovery agency board at all? Have you attended any of their meetings?

Don Markle

I have not. No. You know, and from, from my gatherings, it's not going to get me anywhere, because they're pretty keen with, with the head of operations. So

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I do want to say that, as a Legislator in Rosendale, I've also gotten calls with similar concerns, and I referred them back to to the agency. And they didn't, didn't hear it again.

Don Markle

If I may, I've called. I've tried to speak to the Executive Director. And they tell me it's, it's I have to speak with the Head of Operations, which is who is basically allowing what's going on? So it's a waste of time? Because his brother is the one who is, is monopolize it.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Legislator Bruno. And, um, I just want to say to Don Markle, I think that, you know, it is a sensitive issue in that it does involve personnel. And I think you've probably been as clear as you can be. So, I'm going to leave the rest of the discussion to the committee right now. And recognize Legislator Bruno.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Thank you, Manna Jo. My, my question is this, since the RRA is an autonomous agency, with we have limited oversight over it, I'm not sure whether we would actually can do anything. This may be something... or even if the county as a whole can do anything. What you're describing is, in my opinion, not a legal opinion, but an ethics violation in the department, in that department. So again, I don't know whether even the county's Ethics Board can address this, either. It's kind of like a catch 22 that the legislature created by giving them autonomy.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Legislator Criswell.

Legislator Peter Criswell

Yeah, this. Thank you for bringing it up, Legislator, Bruno, cuz this brings you back to the exact thing that I keep asking for is "What is our relationship to this agency?" And I know that we had talked about actually getting a really clear picture of what we are as an oversight organization, or how does that work? Legislative Counsel, I know we talked about that at one point.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Can please direct response, counsel?

Counsel Ragucci

For, so, to your question, Legislator Criswell and Legislator Bruno: I think you you pretty much intimated what, what the answer is. And that is very limited. The legislature obviously has the power to appoint members to the board to set terms as set forth in the statute. And as you know, we just went through an appointment process for a new member last month. And the direct oversight by the legislature, unlike other agencies, is very limited with the... to... with regard to the RRA for very specific reasons.

The State Senate and Assembly wanted to create a resource recovery agency that was, in some ways insulated from political winds of the day. And there are several Attorney General opinions that I've read that actually cash it in that way. And to that end, they, they set a very strict... they set up and passed a very strict statute, which, which really gives the Legislature limited... a limited role in the RRA process.

Our RRA members, board members can be removed pursuant to the state statute, in any manner that other county officers can be removed. So, for example, there, there is a provision that, you know, sets forth a basis to remove the County Executive, just by way of example, but it is an extremely high bar to to make. And removal of any officer, is it an extremely tough case to make. So, to that end, I would just conclude by saying, you know, our oversight is extremely limited. We can certainly, you know, investigate, we can certainly, you know, take, you know, to you know, accept complaints like this and then investigate them and come up with a formal conclusion to an investigation. But we really don't have a lot of oversight authority, other than the appointment of the board members

Legislator Peter Criswell

May I, may I respond?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Go ahead.

Legislator Peter Criswell

I just thank you so much, Legislative Council. I appreciate that. And I just want to say that I'm I'm feeling frustrated for Mr. Markle right now because he's come to us with a with a serious question. And I feel like we can't give him a straight answer, because of the way that this is setup. So, I just wonder where... where this citizen, who's a taxpayer, can go to get some sort of answers to his questions.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I'm going to recognize Legislator Petit. And then I'm going to put myself in the stack because I had a similar situation recently.

Legislator Laura Petit

Thank you. And I would like to thank Mr. Markle for stepping forward. I mean, I've been getting phone calls. He's the first one who's actually, you know, come out publicly to say anything. And, and with that, you know, we do have a contractual agreement with the Resource Recovery Agency to develop and provide a solid waste system for the county. So, in some respects, they are a vendor. You know, we brought this up with Packer Materials when they were violating the PLA [Project Labor Agreements] agreements that we were supposed to be having. So my question, through the Chairwoman to Counsel is, how do we begin moving forward with an investigation to see if there is any gross ethics violations? And to proceed with removing board members? If we find that necessary? You know, we've just been discussing it for about six weeks now, maybe two months. So where do we go from here? How do we proceed?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Before, because I would like to add something that I think might... you could answer all at once, Counsel, if that's okay. I recently had a question for the Ethics Board. It was not a charge. It was not any accusation of misdoing or anything. But it was a question to prevent the question or wanting to prevent a problem for themselves or their business. And they and one of the roles of the ethics board is to offer. I think it's an advisory. Not decision but it's a term that has advisory. They can advise or someone has an ethics question.

However, The Ethics Board has not been convened in a long time, it will need to be convened. Legally, it should be convened twice a year. And it will need to be convened, because we're all submitting, as, as Charlie Landi suggested earlier, he was going to get his disclosure forms, and we all need to submit our disclosure forms. One of the functions of the ethics board is to review the disclosure forms. And so as part of counsel's counsel to us, it seems to me that that the UCRRA would be subject to Ethics Board decisions, but um, you know, like, I forget what you just, you know, the idea that if we had to, we could remove a board member there are those connections? And if you needed to research that, at least there would be an answer, and wouldn't just be "We can't undertake this and neither can anyone else." There has to be a place to bring a concern.

Legislator Bruno and then Counsel. And then I'd like to, and then I'd like Counsel to make a list of our questions. All right.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Well, this, this is kind of a straight forward question, Legislator Greene. I like to address Counsel, if I may, through your chair, whether an autonomous, essentially a business, because money changes hands back and forth... are they subject to the District Attorney's oversight? So, what he's describing, and again, I'm not a lawyer, I'm not a judge, but almost sounds criminal, in a lot of ways. And I think that would probably be better suited to go through the District Attorney's office.

Counsel Ragucci

If I may, Madam Chairwoman. So, it's an excellent question. And without, of course, making any judgment on the merits of any such claim, you're absolutely right. We're all subject to the district attorney's jurisdiction in this

county, with respect to criminal matters. So' if a crime is being committed, whether or not, whether this is a crime or not, then that certainly could be subject matter for an investigation by the district attorney's office.

Fawn Tantillo

We are getting feedback, I'm gonna just going to mute...

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Thank you.

Fawn Tantillo

Think I got it?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yeah, anything more, Counsel? And

Counsel Ragucci

If I could, if I could just address the question relating to investigations. The legislature has very broad authority with respect to investigation, we can we can call for an investigation, either an independent investigation, or we can investigate matters ourselves as a body with, with our staff internally. And to that end, if a resolution was going to be proposed, you know, and pass that would commence, essentially start the clock of any investigation that this this body wishes to take.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Swinging left with a motion here tonight?

Christopher Raucci

Well, it would have to... I would suggest it would be in the form of a written resolution.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Tracey Bartels

Yes. To follow on that, I mean, the the legislature's investigative power is, is, is broad. I mean, we have that we have subpoena power. And we have used it in the past. But I just want to say, I do think there is a portion of this discussion that warrants an executive session discussion. So, I know I can't make that motion. That would be the committee members. But I'm hopeful that that'll happen.

But before that, I also want to say that, well, the agency is autonomous and the setup of the agency was definitely was created to, to provide that buffer from political influence. There's no doubt that we're, we're connected in ways that we aren't it with other, other organizations. And I mean, that to say that, that the financial arrangement that results in the potential net service fee, that requires that the legislature make up any deficit in an in an operating budget, puts it... makes it of critical interest to each of our each of our constituents and the taxpayers as a whole.

And, you know, I, too, want to thank Mr. Markle for coming forward and, and putting his face on the camera and raising the concerns. And, and his. his concerns do deserve to be investigated in some form. But, um, but I think that all that we share concern any concern about the agency is a concern, whether it's criminal or not, I'm not even going to speak to the nature of the allegation, even if, even if the allegation is such that it would affect the bottom line or profit or some anything. It's an it's a concern to us. And I really, I have things that I want to say, which I said last month, that are most definitely Executive Session material as they relate to specific personnel. So I'm hopeful that someone will make a motion at some point to go into an Executive Session.

Legislator Laura Petit

Well, we didn't but no, no, vote was taken?

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Not tonight yet.

Legislator Laura Petit

We did, Mary, Legislator Wawro did.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Oh, okay. Um, I want to just say, one other thing that I just want to run, remind people, and then we'll decide if we're going to go in to Executive Session, I just want to be sure that well, if you, if you say that you believe it needs to be then we'll go into Executive Session. And you can say what it is, and counsel can verify that or not.

But I want to remind folks that a while ago, the Comptroller's office, let us know that they were doing a... I don't know what this routine, but it was on their schedule, to do an audit of the UCRRA. I don't know where that stands. I don't know. If this isn't an issue. It is a financial matter. So, it I just wanted to remind everyone that the Comptroller's office is at some point in the process of auditing, the UCRRA, in terms of finances. So, what is the will of the committee with regard to going into Executive Session?

Legislator Laura Petit

I mean, I would vote yes. I think I see that our legal counsels, looking a little stressed. So, I just want to make sure we're... Are we okay to do this? I mean, I'll just keep talking about it publicly. But I think part of the concern was the information we have, we don't want it to be public until we can, you know, follow up on it. And I mean, just to add to that, I mean, there are public funds involved in this composting operation. We just got a significant grant for them. And they've been reaping the benefits of what was it like \$280,000? So, you know, there's a lot going on here.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yeah, go ahead.

Christopher Raucci

Sorry, I'll defer to Legislator Bruno. I thought he was gonna...

Legislator Albert Bruno

Well, my thing is since and, again, I'm not a lawyer, you are, since this could be deemed part of an investigation, we should be able to go into Executive Session to discuss the matters of that investigation.

Counsel Ragucci

So, I do just before I comment on that, I do have a question. There is an active case pending, obviously, against the RRA, which we're not going to be addressing, you know, in this in this meeting, at least in this moment, but the person that made the complaint identified a certain employee of the RRA, and without naming names, of course. And it's is it... Am I correct in understanding that the employee that was named in that lawsuit? Is the person that is being is now being referenced in this complaint that we're hearing today? Or is it his brother?

Legislator Laura Petit

It's his brother, I believe the operations manager was specifically referenced in a discrimination suit.

Counsel Ragucci

Right. So, yeah, I mean, I would, I would say, based upon all these facts, we certainly have a basis enter into executive session at this point. Okay.

Legislator Albert Bruno

Oh, yeah.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay, so, we have a motion on the floor that's been seconded. All in favor of going into executive session. please signify.

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Anyone opposed? All right.

Fawn Tantillo

Mary, we cannot see you. So, you, you can't vote unless we can see you. I don't know. You can get a camera... There you go. And who are we allowing into executive session?

Legislator Albert Bruno

I'd like to make or suggest Tracey join us.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Thank you. And do we want to allow Mr. Markle into executive session? Do people have questions for him? And then he could leave for our discussion or, or not? Counsel?

Counsel Ragucci

I would strongly encourage us to just keep it to members in Executive Session for purposes of confidentiality and maintaining it. You know, but, but I defer to you, I certainly wouldn't have any discussions with any members of the public present.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

All right. I think my sense since we have enough information, if we need to get more information, we could ask Fawn to bring him in for a specific question.

Fawn Tantillo

I will put him in the waiting room, so you're going to let Tracey in and sorry, folks, you have got to let me in to run the meeting.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yeah.

Fawn Tantillo

And I assume we're letting Christopher Ragucci, our counsel join us.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Yes, we're but we're not recording executive sessions do not get recorded. Is that correct?

Fawn Tantillo

So, once you go into, I'm going to put Don, I believe he's the only person who's not a committee member, I'm going to put Don in the waiting room and turn off the tape. So just give me one moment.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

And I see that

Legislator Albert Bruno

I will be here. I need to turn the camera off for a few minutes cuz I have to take care of something.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay.

Fawn Tantillo

Okay, so I'm turning off the recording

Executive Session

Okay. Go ahead and make your motion.

Legislator Albert Bruno

I'd like move that we come out of executive session.

Legislator Peter Criswell

I'll second that.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

I'm looking at motion by Legislator Bruno. second by legislator Criswell. All in favor, please signify

Committee Members

Aye.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Anyone opposed? Okay. And now that we are out of executive session, there were two last bits of new business. American Rescue Plan funding? Do we need to talk about that tonight? We're just looking at the hour? And

Legislator Tracey Bartels

Can I just suggest that you let the record reflect that no action was taken? Okay.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

We came out of executive session and no action was taken. Thank you. Um, is there anything urgent in the new business, which is

Fawn Tantillo

It's for the, the June and July meeting. The Public Health committee has moved theirs to June 3 and July 8, because the office is closed on the Mondays that our meetings would normally fall on. So just, you know, we will put these meetings to follow Public Health on the Thursday, June 3 for the June meeting, and then the July meeting will be on Thursday, July 8, if that's alright, with everyone.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Do we have anybody oppose, okay.

The Champlain Hudson Power Express, I don't think we need to go into that right now at this hour. And there is an open seat on the climate smart committee, if anyone would reconsider. So at this point, if there's any Thank you, Jason, if there's any other if there's no other business? I would entertain a motion to adjourn, please.

Legislator Laura Petit

I'll make a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Peter Criswell

Second.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Okay. Made by Legislator Petit, seconded by Legislator Criswell All in favor. Thank you. And to be Oh, we didn't set um, we need to set another meeting.

Fawn Tantillo

No, we just did. It's going to be on June 3 will be Oh, for that for an executive session. Yeah. We did not set a date for that.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Do you want to look in and suggest some dates and we'll get back to you?

Fawn Tantillo

That would be better. I looked quickly and I see a lot of special meetings with this American Rescue Plan and special Ways and Means meeting so I'm not really sure what's available. Wasn't obvious, so I'll do that.

Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene

Alright, thank you everyone. Stay well.