

**Energy, Environment & Sustainability Committee  
Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** April 7, 2022; 6:30 PM or immediately following the Law Enforcement & Public Safety Committee  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting, Meeting ID: 843 2440 6481  
By Phone Dial (646) 558-8656,  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chair Manna Jo Greene  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Fawn A. Tantillo  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Gina Hansut, Joseph Maloney, Eric Stewart  
**ABSENT:** Legislator Phil Erner  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Deputy Executive Marc Rider; Emily Hauser, Ulster County Environmental Management Council (EMC); Dennis Doyle, Amanda LaValle, Department of Planning; Nick Hvozda, Director of Department of Environment; Tim Degraff, Charles Landi, Tom Kacandes, Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA); Ellen DiFalco; Molly Scott; Matt Colangelo; Laurie Lichtenstein.

Chairwoman Greene called the meeting to order at approximately 6:33 PM and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

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**Motion No. 1:** **Motion to APPROVE the Minutes of March 3, 2022**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Hansut  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Discussion:** (See transcript)

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Hansut, Maloney, and Stewart

**Voting Against:** None

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

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** **Minutes APPROVED**

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Mr. Landi gave an update of the UCRRA that included the completed 2020-2021 Financial Report.

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Director of the Department of Environment Nick Hvozda shared an update on the Food Waste Prevention Act.

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Emily Hauser gave an update of the Environmental Management Council (EMC) work including support of the NY/NJ Water Protection Act. The EE&S Committee wants to support this with a memorializing letter.

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Several speakers expressed concern about the demolition of the former jail at Golden Hill discussed in resolution no 167.

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**Resolutions for April 19, 2022 Legislative Session**

**Resolution No. 15:** Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 1 Of 2022, A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster, Chapter 131, Vehicles, County, Article I, Sustainable Green Fleet Policy, In Relation To Strategies And Goals, To Be Held On Tuesday, April 19, 2022 At 7:00 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution schedules a date and time for a public hearing on a proposed local law to update the Ulster County Green Fleet Policy.

**Motion No. 2:** **Moved Resolution No. 15 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Maloney  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Discussion:** See Transcript

**Disposition:** **No Action**

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**Resolution No. 154:** Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With SG Pioneer PV, LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487 – Department Of Finance

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to enter into a PILOT Agreement, and any amendments thereto, with SG Pioneer PV, LLC for the building and operations of a Solar Energy System

**Motion No. 3:** **Moved Resolution No. 154 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Maloney  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Hansut

**Discussion:** See Transcript

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Hansut, Maloney, and Stewart  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 165 -** Establishing And Funding Capital Project No. 629 – ARPA Brownfields Redevelopment – Planning Department

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution would allow Ulster County to avail itself of a mechanism in NY Environmental Conservation Law known as a Temporary Incidence of Ownership (TIO) to gain entry to the properties for the purposes conducting the necessary environmental investigations to understand the risks involved prior to foreclosure eliminating the risk of entering the chain of title

**Motion No. 4:** **Moved Resolution No. 165 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Maloney  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Discussion:** See Transcript

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Hansut, Maloney, and Stewart  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 167** - Adopting A Negative Declaration For The Demolition Of The Former Ulster County Jail Located On Golden Hill, And Establishing And Funding Capital Project No. 630 - Demolition Of Jail Golden Hill- ARPA – Department Of Planning

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution confirms Ulster County Legislature has reviewed the Environmental Record, the demolition plans, and determines that the demolition of the former Jail located on Golden Hill is an Unlisted Action that is a discrete action that can be considered separate and apart from the future actions, including the construction of affordable housing at the site, and that as such a segmented review is warranted and determines that approval will be no less protective of the environment nor will it commit the Legislature to any future course of action and that its approval will not have an adverse impact on the environment and adopts a negative declaration as provided in 6 NYCRR 617.7 and established Capital Project 630 to accomplish this demolition.

**Disposition:** **No Action**

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**Resolution No. 188** - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With West Shore Solar LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution authorizes the Chair to enter into a PILOT Agreement, and any amendments thereto, with and any amendments thereto, with West Shore Solar LLC for the building and operations of a Solar Energy System

**Motion No. 5:** **Moved Resolution No. 188 FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion Made By:** Legislator Hansut  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart

**Discussion:** See Transcript

**Discussion:** See Transcript

**Voting in Favor:** Legislators Greene, Hansut, Maloney, and Stewart  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**New Business**

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**Old Business**

Chair Greene reported that the Climate Smart Committee is working with the Department of the Environment for a possible hybrid zoom meeting in May.

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

**Motion to Adjourn**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Hansut  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Stewart  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 4  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Time:** 8:20 PM

**Respectfully submitted by:** Fawn Tantillo

**Minutes Approved:** May 7, 2022

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**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay so, I would like to call the April 7 meeting of the Energy Environment and Sustainability Committee to order and ask if the clerk would kindly call the roll.

**Fawn Tantillo**

Manna Jo Greene.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Present.

**Fawn Tantillo**

Gina Hansut is here. I know I saw her. Yeah, there she is. Phil Erner not with us tonight, I believe Hang on one momentwhile I let Eric in. ..Joseph Maloney

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Present.

**Fawn Tantillo**

and Eric Stewart is getting connected to his audio. Eric, I'm calling roll

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Well, that's good timing. I'll be right there. All right, very good. Why is my camera out?

**Fawn Tantillo**

We will count him present.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

All right, thanks.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay, so Eric is present. We have a quorum. And Would someone like to volunteer to say the Pledge of Allegiance? Can I get a volunteer for that?

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Sure, I'll do it.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Great. Thank you.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

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.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you. And have folks had a chance to look at the minutes of the previous meeting the March 5 meeting. Okay, I see Gina is nodding. Legislator Hansut, Can I get a motion to approve? Well, let me just ask Is there any discussion on the previous meeting minutes? Okay. I will seek a motion to approve the minutes.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Moved.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Second,

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Legislator Stewart, legislator handset. All in favor, please signify by raising your hand and saying aye. Hi. Is anyone opposed? Okay, motion carries. And let's see i i did get a note that Tim DeGraph might not be able to be present. And I think I did see Charlie Landy. Yes, Charlie. Charlie, would you like to give a quick update from the UCRRA? Think you're still on mute. We're not hearing you. Charlie. Do you hear us? Looks like he's looking to unmute.

**Fawn Tantillo**

I don't believe he's muted.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Do you guys see Charlie? I don't see him. Yeah, I

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

see him. I don't think he can hear us though.

**Fawn Tantillo**

He's not responding to

**Matt Colengelo**

he's not on my screen.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Why don't we go to the Department of Environment, and then see if we can circle back to the UCRRA. And I and I see Nick is here. Welcome. Nick, do you have an update you'd like to share with us, please?

**Nick Hvozda**

Thank you. Good evening. One quick update to bring attention to a memo that we submitted from the Department of the Environment to the committee earlier this week. The details some of the results from the first year of the food waste prevention and Recovery Act implementation. I'm happy to answer questions about that. Anytime. There are a couple of caveats that go along with the report. One is that we this report covers the calendar year of 2021 when we were still forming some of the of implementation regulations around the law, and also determining staffing for education and outreach from this department. So there's a little bit of a learning curve there. And then we're using a tool from an organization called the Pollution Prevention Institute in Rochester, called the organics resource locator to identify those entities that are regulated by the law. And during the course of the this regulation year, there had been some changes to that dataset that impacted who was who was covered under the law. So we're, we have a better footing for the regulation year of 2022. But this is these are some numbers for 2021. That will give you a feel for what's happening with the law.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

If I could ask, are there is there any resistance are people generally understanding, feel prepared and are participating?

**Nick Hvozda**

Of those that we did outreach to in starting in the fall of last year for this, this current year of regulation, there were some questions around, we did receive some requests for waivers or for exemptions from the law, some of which we did grant, those were primarily based on on business model type, where we had estimated using this pollution prevention tool that a business did produce food waste, but their business model was such that they didn't maintain any food inventory, or didn't have any waste that was produced because of the way that they manage their inventory. So but as far as I know, no major negative feedback, I suppose, from the businesses that we reached out to

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Great, and for those of you who weren't on the legislature, I just want to say that it was at least a year, maybe a year and a half, that we did a very iterative process to try to pass legislation that would be acceptable, that people would participate in that wouldn't have serious negative effects. And we also already had many good examples in the county of businesses that were large food waste generators, that were composting, some composting on site, and others using a hauler who took it to a processing facility. And one thing I'd like all of us to be aware of and help with. And this comes from a suggestion by legislator I think is that one of the things that people can do with their food waste is send it as animal feed. And we have a lot of local farmers. We can work with Cornell or so I went over to help promote that. But I just want to mention it, because I think it's a really good idea. And it probably won't affect that many businesses. And most of them will send it to a hauler, who will send it to a composting facility, and we have at least four active processing facilities in the county. So I think it's a good program. And I think it also shows that it's very valuable to have a stakeholder inclusive process. And I mentioned that because one of the other things that Department of Environment is working on is that there was money set aside in the capital improvement plan, earmarked, we haven't actually acted on it, but for our reuse Innovation Center, and I think if we use a similar process, in this case, we're looking to hire a firm that will coordinate a feasibility study. But I think if we make sure that all the stakeholders are included as we develop that facility, it will end up being successful rather than somebody sitting in an ivory tower somewhere and calling the shots. I think that process is really important. Um, anything else? Before we move on?

**Nick Hvozda**

Nothing else. Thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you. And thank you for the really great work you and your team are doing. It's greatly appreciated. And Charlie Landy Are you able to? And you do not have to give her a report. But I want to make sure there's an opportunity for you to if you want to

**Chairwoman Manna Jo Greene**

better

**Charles Landi**

Manna, Can you hear me?

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Yes. Now we can.

**Charles Landi**

Yes, I can give you a report. As a matter of fact, I am prepared to give you a report. Right. You tell me when you're ready.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

We're ready.



**Charles Landi**

Okay. Recently, within the last couple of weeks, we completed our annual comprehensive financial report, for the years ended December 31, 2021, and 2020 to 2020 . The, the report is phenomenal. We did a phenomenal job with this. And it's readily available on our website for anyone who wants to really find out what's going on in the agency, because it's all right here. I isolated a couple of paragraphs though quote right now. It's 75 pages. So clearly, I'm not going to be able to go through the whole thing. But on page 66, revenues by source this is a very interesting study. MSW, C&D, tipping fees amounted to \$15,583 in 275, I'm sorry. And \$275, Sledge tipping fees amounted to \$342,532, sale of recycleables amounted to \$934,639 compost tipping fee sales amounted to \$154,321. These are interesting numbers because they compare favorably with the rest of the from 2012 to 2020. Clearly we're on the move upward. And it seems to be working out very well. But I want to I want to add a couple of comments that were made by the auditors about what they their study. And you'd be interested in this. Okay, quickly "awards and acknowledgments" this is after the auditors did did the report. "The preparation of this report would not have been possible without the skill, effort and dedication of the entire staff of the agency and the enthusiastic support of the board of directors. We wish to thank all of those involved in providing the necessary data to prepare this report. The quality and timely preparation of the ACFR was also made possible by the dedication dedicated services of Kiel Becker and Charmante CPR TPAs professional corporation, the agency's independent auditor independent auditors" that, that's who this was done by. But clearly if you're interested you should make avail yourself of this report because it's inclusive and it's tells you what everybody out there right from the top of the board to the to the labor on the recycling line really did phenomenal effort of putting this report together. And I would highly recommend that anybody interested should go on the website and grab it. That's all I really have. Unless you want me to go further into the repor , Manna, but and I can if that's what you want.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Well, I think that that's appropriate. (coughing) I'm sorry about the coughing. I don't think it's COVID but some little tickle that won't go away. I think you know, we're fine with that unless anybody has any questions. And thank you for calling that to our attention. I know that a few of us definitely will go on and read that report.

**Charles Landi**

Manna, not to interrupt you but I I was part of the study as, as, as the auditors were going through the books and everything, and I thought you know, this is going to be very good as far as getting the word out as to what the agency is really doing. And I was impressed with it after I saw it done. And Timothy De Graff, who is our Comptroller, Director Executive, did a phenomenal job of helping put this this report together. I can't say enough about it. But I'll rest my case unless you want me to continue.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you. And I know that the folks that have been working on this zero waste implementation plan will be very interested in that, and I'm sure Department of Environment, because ultimately, if we're going to maximize our waste diversion, we all need to work together and understand how the pieces fit together. Any questions or comments? Yes, Legislator Maloney, Please.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I just like to make a quick comment. One, I appreciate you. Mr. Landi Always be in here every meeting on whether it's the recycling oversight committee or energy and environment, you seem to be there ready to answer any questions, I will be printing that report out and I will be going through it. Thank you for letting us know, I would like to make the point that the Executive Director/Comptroller I think makes about \$150,000 a year, I hardly ever see him. I used to see Tim Rose a lot more. And, you know, we're all here for the people. And I'm the first first guy there last guy to leave kind of person. And I'd like to see that I see that for many people in government and in charge of these public beneficiary corporations. But I don't see that from the Executive Director who wears two hats also as the Comptroller, and makes a very good salary, whether or not he's invited. And sometimes I think if he's invited and hasn't been here, I think he should probably try to be at all these meetings. I mean, I really am a little disappointed that I don't see more of him. And but on the flip side of that, Mr. Landi, I appreciate you as a volunteer appointee. That's always here. But I really wanted to make that point, because it's been starting to get to me after a couple of months,

**Charles Landi**

Joe, I understand what you're saying. But let me assure you that Tim DeGraff, Tim DeGraff is really doing a good job. As a matter of fact, I am the treasurer of the board, and I have to co sign all of his checks. And this morning at Ulster Uptown Coffee on Wall Street in Kingston, we met, and he had a pack of checks this thick that we had to sign and talk about. But let me assure you that he is putting a phenomenal effort into this. And if we are successful financially, and if we are successful with our audit, for most for the most part, it's because he's the CPA of the operation. Okay, and he really puts in the time, man. So and I understand where you're coming from.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I appreciate your support of him, but I still feel comfortable with with my statement, and I think he ought to, I think you want to do a little bit better job of trying to get to these meetings and communicating and being there to answer questions and let us know. I mean, most of the time, I'm seeing the plant operator as well, that comes in here and, and is always here to answer questions. Not a little, I'm just a little disappointed. That's not the approach I'd like to see from our executive director.

**Charles Landi**

Well, well, Joe, let me tell you that I would like to help you eliminate that disappointment, because I will talk to him about it, and have him reach out to you. I think and I understand where you're coming from, you're interested in the agency,

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

This isn't just about this is not about a personal contact with me, this is about these, these these very important committees that I think, you know, I would just like to, I would like to see him showing up like so many other people do next year, as the head of the environment, you know, all the time, you know, I the head of the RRA, I feel like should put a little more value in being here. Also, the public sees these meetings as well. You know, I just want to say I'm a little disappointed, I don't see more of them.

**Charles Landi**

Okay, Joe, just one final remark. When Tim Rose resigned, and we convinced Tim de Graaff to take the position. He indicated that he was worried about losing the stability and stability of his CPA position with the agency. And we wrote into our agreement with him that if anytime he wanted to step back to his CPA position, he could do that. And he has not done that. So far. He's still working as CPA slash, Executive Director, and doing in my mind a phenomenal job with it. But let me just add this last point. I don't want to be be grown to be the subject. When Tim Rose resigned, and we did what we did with Tim de Graaff and Charley Whitaker. We saved the agency \$80,000 I'm the treasurer of the board and I can tell you, I counted it. Okay, we did that. And Tim DeGraff signed on to doing it, and said that, if any, any point in time, he was feeling uncomfortable with it, and we assured him that if he needed to hire people hire and coach them through whatever jobs you had to do, he could do that. He hasn't done that. He has continued to run the CPA end of it and the operations end of it in in conjunction with Charley Whittaker, who also does a phenomenal job. Let me let me just assure you one thing, Joe, this report, it wouldn't be as positive as it is if it wasn't for the people who are running the operation. That's all I have to say, Joe, thank you. Thank you, Charles. Thank you for your time, Joe. And I see Legislator Stewart and then I have well, actually before Legislators Stewart, I do want to say that for tonight, Tim said that he was going to try to get here and that he might be late. But he has been to some meetings, but not all. And Charlie Landy will bring that comment back, Legislator Stewart and then let's move on.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

You accidentally put yourself on mute?

**Charles Landi**

I'm sorry.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

No, no, she was talking to me. I'm the one having the issue. Charlie, I just wanted to ask you how how things are going with the new appointees to the board and just was just curious how, how you felt, you know, things are adjusting to their, you know, membership.

**Charles Landi**

Just think it takes a little bit of time. I'm a little bit concerned that the webinar that the authority budget office presents to new new board members is not done before they're voting. And we're going to modify our rules of order rules of order so that new board members coming on can't vote until they take the webinar. The webinar is a study that's presented online by the Authority Budget Office. And and it's very inclusive as to what you can do and what you can't do. I took a look going back now to 2012. I'm the unfortunately, I'm the oldest board member on the board. And that scares me. But anyway, I want to I want to I want to make the connection between the webinar that's being done by the by the New York State Legislators authority, but budget and new appointments coming on, before they vote, they should know what they're voting on. Okay, and that didn't happen. I was a little bit disappointed in that. I

don't have any there's no regrets as far as what they did. They were trying to do the right thing. But when we look back at it, they might not have voted the way they voted. But that's okay. It's something we can correct. Eric, that's all I got. Thank you.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Thank you for that. Mr. Landi.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

At this point, I think we're ready to take public comment, and then move into the...well

**Fawn Tantillo**

Emily Hauser is here for the EMC

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

I just realized that Yeah. Sorry. Emily, please. Is there any news from the Environmental Management Council?

**Emilie Hauser**

Sure. Thank you for your time today I'm the vice chair of the AMC. And there we we meet on the fifth day, Wednesday of the month. And we usually have presentations. And this week, this month, or last month, it was the UCRRA and Angelina gave Angelica rank gave a really nice informative presentation on the composting to our members. And then and we also heard from river from Scenic Hudson and River Keeper and they are they are interested in my ask for you today. Sorry. Phil Erner was on, attended our meeting. And and he and he suggested that we ask, we've kind of bring this asked to you and that is that you the senator Tonko. Is there. I'm sorry. I lost you last week I Okay. HR 4677 Is the New York New Jersey Watershed Protection Act. And taco is spearheading this. And it basically would bring funds to the Hudson, the New York New Jersey watershed, watershed, which would include everything from the Adirondacks to the Mohawk all the way down, including the watersheds of New Jersey that go into the harbor. And they would provide funding that this grant would provide funding of \$550 million annually for until 2026. So for five years, and it would be led by in, in inside the Department of the Interior, in fish and wildlife. And so they are asking municipalities to support this. And I will follow up after the meeting with with one any anyone who wants to take that down, if you want to take that resolution on through the legislature.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

I think we could do a memorializing resolution. But it might be faster to do a sign on letter. And if you could work with Fawn, and Vicky, is anybody here willing to sponsor it just to move that along? I can, but I wanted to just be careful because they work for Clearwater. Yeah.

**Emilie Hauser**

They're they didn't provide us with the sign on letter, they provided us with a sample resolution. So but but the EMC wrote a letter that we were gonna send in ourselves. So, I have that wording. So what do you think I should do? Please share that with phone. And Vicki. And I saw legislator Stewart raised his hand, so Okay, I'd be happy to sponsor that. Or, you know, however we choose to proceed, okay.

There's no rush. So that's why I didn't send it beforehand, because they're looking for like through June, to get those letters. So in that sense, it's not a great rush, it can happen during the next month. Alright, so I'll follow up on that. Thank you. Great, thanks. I just want to say You're welcome. And then a shout out to Eric for being a former EMC member. And I just want to say that, that the the EMC continues to work on a lots of great programs, including Community Preservation, looking specifically a development projects, putting in EV and doing a lot of natural resources and climate smart activities. Those are the members that have the members of the municipalities. Not the EMC itself, but but every town is doing many good things.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Thank you. And if I could, I just wanted to follow up on Emily says, the EMC does great work. And I'm hoping to attend the next meeting. And I know I said that last time. But I'm gonna get in trouble with Dave if I don't actually show up. So I'm trying to get representation from Marble town, permanent representation from a little town. So and

**Emilie Hauser**

Then the next meeting is in person. And we're going to hear from students from Bard that are working on some climate projects.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you. Will it also be virtual or live streamed or recorded?

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Nice.

**Emilie Hauser**

Yes, yes. Yes, I believe so.

**Nick Hvozda**

Yes, it will be on zoom as well.

**Emilie Hauser**

Okay, thank you. Yep. Yes. Nick is here. Thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

And also, if if we can get that Zoom information, I think some of us would really like to see that presentation. And I think that because they're also presenting to the Climate Smart committee at some point as well. So how

**Emilie Hauser**

Okay, yes. And this, by the way is April 27. And Bard College students on climate adaptation in that is at the beginning of the meeting if you don't want to stay for the whole thing. And we thought that I was under the impression that you received our agendas. So that you knew I know, you get lots of emails, so and lots of agendas. But anyway, the last month, last Wednesday of the month,

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

It's always good to call your attention, you know?

**Emilie Hauser**

Yes. Thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Yeah, the meetings do show up on our calendar. So which we get from Fawn's office? So

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

[inaudible] Somebody needs to maybe put their, their mute button on. I just want to get a sense of the committee. Do we want to go with a municipal resolution or a letter since there's no rush, a memorializing resolution or a letter? Does anybody have a sense of that?

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I'd like to see what was

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

I'm sorry.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

They have something for us right to look at.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

They have two different things.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I'd like to I'd like to look at them. And then I have an opinion on which way to go.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay, great. So we'll get those.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

And I agree with Joe on that. So thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Great. Okay, onward. Let us hear from anyone. Fawn. Do you have a list of the people that want to make comment? Oh, you're on mute.

**Fawn Tantillo**

I'm sorry, Chairwoman. I do not I didn't know anything about people making comments. Me and Molly are on the ARPA team. So my guess would be it's Matt glandulosa and Ellen De Falco. Okay, we have people coming in now.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Let's see Matt's hand is up. And Matt, if you would, tell us what resolution you're addressing. And please keep your comments brief, because we do have a bit of an agenda to get through.

**Matt Colengelo**

It'll be brief, I appreciate the opportunity. This is in response to Resolution Number 167. Adopting a negative declaration for the demolition of the former the county jail, just wanted to thank Legislator Maloney for giving us the opportunity to inform us of this resolution. The reason? What I'm asking the committee to do is to really evaluate what's being requested here. In particular, the impacts with respect to the environment regarding the removal of the debris, we've been following this project and a stakeholder in the area. I have not received any information regarding the county's plan, or how they're going to remove the debris. We've asked several times, we haven't been given that plan. I don't know if it's been given to the committee. The reason why I'm emphasizing this has to do with the traffic engineers report highlighting a severe deficiency with the Route 32 and golden Hill drive egress and Ingress. So if construction debris, they're going to be full of, you know, demolition material are going to be exiting left onto Route 32. That could be a very dangerous situation. So I'm not sure or if anybody on that committee is aware of what route or what routesthe construction vehicles will be taking. If you're not aware of that, I would ask that you table this resolution and request that the planning department update the committee so that you do make an informed decision. And so, you know, that's kind of what what I hope you guys are, are willing to do. And if you do have that information about the route, if you could share that, that would be great.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you, the next person....have we determined who the next person might be.

**Matt Colengelo**

Ellen DiFalco?

**Ellen DiFalco**

Yes.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

If folks can put their hand up and make it easier.

**Fawn Tantillo**

Ellen was on the phone, so I'm not sure she just muted herself if she wanted to speakI can just go around...

**Ellen DiFalco**

Fawn?

**Fawn Tantillo**

Yes, now we can hear you. Ellen, did you wish to speak?

**Ellen DiFalco**

Thank you. Thank you. Okay, thank you. Chairman Manna Jo, for for allowing us to speak briefly. We just this afternoon actually learned that the Resolution 167 was on your agenda for this evening. So, I'm briefly going to make a couple comments regarding the need to have the ARPA funds earmarked for the demolition of the former jail. When the original RFQ was prepared in 2020, I believe the developer was going to be responsible for the demolition before moving forward with this project. In addition, prior to 2020, the county DPW for years had this on their capital plan list. And it was never done to make this property shovel ready. I'm not sure whether the asbestos abatement was completed. There, there might be reports attached to the original RFQ regarding that, and the sale of this property has not been finalized to date. And I also am questioning the fact that the environmental review forms state that there are endangered species or threatened species on this property and blasting rock removal will have restrictions. And they'll be certain times of day that you won't be able to remove debris. And the final thing that I wanted to mention was that the taxpayers in years back 1967, paid millions to actually have this jail built. And I was wondering if there was a plan, at some point to recycle any of the building materials, particularly the bricks, there might be some nonprofit groups, Youth Build perhaps might have a need for them. And that would be a wonderful way to pass pass along some of the materials. And I guess at this point, that's pretty much all I have to comment about. And I do appreciate your time and for listening. Thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

You're welcome. And usually, when we do public comment, the legislature doesn't interact. We just take the comment,

**Ellen DiFalco**

I understand that. Yes.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

But I'm gonna make an exception, because Deputy Rider will recall that when this came up in things, the Committee Chairs meeting, I did suggest looking into a process of instead of just demolition, actually deconstruction. That's part of zero waste, and I promised to get them information. So you're not the only one thinking in that direction? And are there others who can indicate that they would like to offer comment before we move on? Okay, and I want I see that Tim DeGraaff has joined us and welcome. And Tim, I actually apologized because you had asked me if you could speak later in the meeting, and I just went into kind of automatic mode and went down the agenda. Charlie did give a report where he shared the audit and invited us to look at the audit report. And I just want to give you a minute if there's anything else you would like to add.

**Tim DeGraff**

Yeah, no, that's great. That was one of the items I was going to bring up I had sent you and Fawn the link so if you wanted to forward that along to any other committee members, but it also can be found on



our website the About Us heading if you click on that and can then click Authorities Budget Office, you can find all of our financial reports and the big one is the annual comprehensive financial report and it's loads of information in there. I'm pretty proud of it. So, so, I'm glad Charlie brought that up. There was some stuff that the Angie want me to pass along And most of this can be found under our events tab on our website as well. Our compost bagging operation, the board set a price on that at our last board meeting, we actually have some training that's going to happen on April 20. I believe that set up and so we're hoping to get that going maybe within the next month or so. I'm not sure if we're going to do some type of an online order like we're doing with the the compost bin and rain barrel sale, which is going to happen May 7, or if we'll just set up a booth and take credit cards or something like that. We haven't worked out those details, but we're starting that process. The residential e-waste program is back up and running that's every Saturday from eight to two and that'll run through November, and that's across from the agency's main office. So you don't actually have to go down to the facility, Our HHW event the person's going to be at New Paltz, and that's open for registration for any Ulster County resident and the first one will be April 30. At our New Paltz facility. The other three are scheduled for June 26 in Kingston, August 20, at New Paltz and October 23, at Kingston. Angie is doing a movie screening for its free admission at the orfeome and Saugerties, the movie theater, I think that's mainstream celebrities. And they're gonna be shown the documentary "Just Eat It the food waste story", and that'll be May 1 from one o'clock to three o'clock and there's going to be a q&a session on that as well. What else? Oh, there was a Angie also sent me a long email that I wanted to read directly from her "April's always a busy time for educational programs and tours. The recycling outreach team is currently working with some college students at SUNY Ulster on a new video project at UCRRA. They're putting the final touches on our new home home composting demonstration garden which is across from the main office. They're hoping to launch that by Earth Day." Angie and Tanesia, our recycling educator, are collaborating on a number of community educational events with organizations like Habitat for Humanity, Kingston public library, Ellenville Central School District, the Mount Academy of Esopus, the Junior Girl Scouts troops or Gardnerr, the Town of Plattekill Climate Smart Committee, and many others, many others all this month. As I mentioned, our Spring compostin, winter rain barrel sales happening. Now you can place your orders on through our website. Residents can sign up for free at our compost bins and rain barrels will pick them up on our one day bin distribution event. Any any questions with that type of stuff, I encourage you to reach out to Angie. Also, we celebrating International compost Awareness Week. We have a slew of other events and campaigns happening around international compost Awareness Week. So check our website for events and classes. And then the last item. There was the organic summit up in Albany which Angie and Charlie Whitaker attended, and he was actually a presenter on a panel. He was invited to speak at New York State organic center in Albany this year. His annual event has an opportunity to connect with over 150 materials management professionals from across the state and beyond the share success stories and discuss creative solutions for the further development of the organics recycling industry in New York State. Angie was a panelist on a session called source separation and its impact on product quality. Moderated by Nora Goldstein of bio cycle magazine. As a reporter the popular themes at the summit are updates on federal New York State composting laws, which continues to be a focus and goal for our county to further implement that law and see the benefits. That's all I got.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you. Any questions? Or comments? I want to add one thing going back actually to Department of Environment. And that is we now do we have appointed an administrative hearing officer which the agency had been asking for. And I think we probably I'm bringing this up because deputy Ryder is here as well. I think we need one more meeting to get clarity on enforcement. Hopefully it'll never get to that point. Particularly around composting but I think also around any of the laws. There was a complaint, the agency has a compliance officer. But it hasn't been determined. It's really up to the County Executive to determine enforcement and I think that's still loose end. so one more meeting and we can probably resolve that.

**Tim DeGraff**

Okay, that's great. Thank you.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Yeah, I would concur with Chair Greene that we still are looking at, you know, the between Health Department and the agency. I know right now the Department of the Environment is doing a lot of the outreach and education pieces, but um, whether we would contract with the agency to do compliance or whether we would do it in house at the Department of Health is still an open ended question.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

As long as it's still on the table, and we're aware. And again, I hope it never comes to that. And I think with the excellent outreach that Department of Environment is doing, and the agency is doing, and the level of cooperation that we're getting. It's almost a moot point. But but just in case it is needed, it's better to have it ahead of time. Okay. Thank you, that was very helpful, and particularly for the events coming up. If that's already in the report, then it's up to us to find them. But if it is not, if you could send them to Fawn to share, because it sounds like a good events coming up.

**Tim DeGraff**

Yeah, it's I think it should have been in. Angie usually, I think includes that stuff as part of her recycling update and our board packet that gets sent along. But if I can just send you the link to our events tab as well, so that you'll always have it because that keeps getting updated. So

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Great. Thank you. Thank you. I think we are finished with public comment and ready to dive into resolutions. And there are not that many so I am not going to take them out of order. We might as well go right through. And so resolution number 15, setting the public hearing on the proposed local law, number one of 2022 local law amending the code of the County of Ulster Chapter 131 vehicles. And let's say it's really the Green Fleet policy in relation to strategies and goals. And it's a public hearing to be held on Tuesday May 17. At 7pm. Motion for discussion?

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I'll make a motion.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Second

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay, motion by Legislator Maloney, seconded by Legislator Stewart. Any comments? Yeah, please. Legislator Maloney.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

So this was something we had postponed in the past. And, and I think we postponed it for a couple of reasons. One, we had a bunch of questions about going green with nothing much that we're seeing about reducing the size of the fleet. And Phil felt as strongly as I did, if not stronger, that if you're really going green is just about as much about reducing the size of the fleet, which we've heard nothing about. As, as it is just going to electric vehicles, we have issues because we went and bought three buses that are very limited in what they can do. And now we're hearing and it was kind of acknowledged, the new director of UCAT kind of acknowledged, there are different ways you can go and there's possibly there was possibly other buses out there, that wouldn't have been limited to the City of Kingston. We have the majority of vehicles in UCAT, the sheriff's department and DPW, many of which, if not the majority of which cannot go green. So we've kind of chosen this arbitrary number. We've talked about going from 20% to 30%. Without knowing what that's like, and I'll remind everyone without having the all important conversation of reducing, I've seen no reports on reducing the size of the fleet who's got take home cars, do they actually need them? I mean, you know, their savings there's as to there's there may be people take there's an economic question to be answered about gas cards and mileage as opposed to giving somebody a vehicle that they may not need a county vehicle, which would go into the reducing aspect of it. So I don't see where the two legislators that have sponsored this still haven't shown up to one of our meetings to answer any of these questions. So if we postponed it last month for all of these reasons, and the fact that no one was here to answer these questions. I don't know why we wouldn't postpone it again.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Anyone else? Yes, please.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

I just want to say that I agree with Legislator Maloney. I remember and I have my old notes here in front of me that we had a different number. And we, like you said, we just there's just the percentage went down, but not really sure where those numbers came from. And then I'm just curious. I don't recall the buses, did we buy them? Or were they a grant? Or were they through a different program? Can it somebody?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

We purchased the buses, they were part of a in the funding that we use to purchase them. We we use through a lawsuit that I believe with Volvo. Amanda, maybe you could correct me if I'm wrong on that. But I believe that was the automaker, but that was just the funding source. There was no time that we had to use that for the buses. We did purchase the three buses.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Okay, thank you. And like, you know, I just wanted to say again, like the the numbers and, you know, we went from I think it was from 30 to 20. But I'm not really sure why, or how we came up with those numbers. So I just, it looks like it was postponed, but really not much has changed in it. So I'm not really sure how we're going to go forward with it. But...

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Yes, please.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I believe the current the current guidance is 10%. And the goal was to double it to 20. Nick, this either nod or tell me I'm wrong on that. But I think the current goal is 10%. This was raising it doubling it to 20%. Because we've already met the 10%. I mean, if if it's the will of the committee to postpone it, I'm fine with that. I think we submitted this 20% is a goal that we felt was doable. Albeit it will be it won't be easy. 30% I don't think is realistic.

**Fawn Tantillo**

To legislator Maloney's point, I mean, I do think looking at reducing the overall size of the fleet is a worthy goal. I don't think you're gonna get there by reducing things like take home vehicles, because there's just not that many. I mean, there's more probably in the sheriff's department than anywhere. So there might be an argument made there. But they're going to tell you that, you know, they need to be able to when they're driving home, if they want to stop a crime, they should be able to stop a crime. But there's very few other take home vehicles, we have mostly a pool fleet. People don't even for the most part have their own vehicles, there are some departments who have some set aside for them. But if like myself, if I wanted to go up to a conference, if, if I wasn't going to drive my car, I would request a pool vehicle, and it would just be for that that trip.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Chair. If I could just respond to that real quick.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay, please,

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

My, I'm a trust, but verify kind of guy. I'm sure you're telling me the truth, and you're doing everything you possibly can. And there's not one person in this county taking home a vehicle that doesn't need to. I mean, the Executive is never driving around in a vehicle, right? I mean, but as long as I mean, so I don't know exactly what departments are, I have heard things from certain departments, rank and file, where they've gone. Yay, this, that, and that about take home vehicles. So I bet you, I bet you there's a couple we could we could reduce. But that being said, I mean, that's I didn't, I didn't get voted in here to come up and say, Hey, I'd like to take a look at this and have the deputy executive say, No, everything's fine, believe me. And we go, okay, well, I did my due diligence. So that's all I mean, and I don't see. And I was a little disappointed to see at least that, in that report. I didn't go through it with a fine tooth comb, but I didn't see much in that Greenfleet report, about Even "Hey, we've looked into this." And here's our take home vehicle, da, da, da. There's all the sheriff's this has that policy on that.

And we've done everything we possibly can to reduce the size. Phil, I know I've had lengthy conversations with him about it, he feels the exact same way I do. So I would like to look a little further into that. And maybe that's what comes out of this. Because this is basically a memorializing resolution to ourselves, where it's like, we're just, we're voting on this to set a goal, which is, you know, whatever that means, I mean, you guys are you just said Mark that you're planning on getting to 20% Anyways. And then this is just codifying that plan. So it's, maybe it'll lead to something real, which is a conversation. I mean, it sure led to me, finding out that these buses that we bought are limited to the City of Kingston. I remember, you know, talking to couple of legislators that were so excited, they went to the press conference, they were taking pictures in front of it. And I remember telling him, you know that that's not really that big of a deal. They can only drive around the city of Kingston, this isn't really, you know, monumental, we're limited in what we can do and and talking to some other people, I found out that there may have been other buses out there that were 100% Electric, that had the ability to go much further, with much more power, they were more expensive. That was a conversation we never had. So rather than legislators just taking the word of things, I think we need to dive deep and demand a little more once in a while. This is one of those situations, and I'm not just going to vote something that's to me silly anyways, through without getting at least some answers.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

So we have two choices. One is we could move this forward. And remember it is setting a public hearing. And it to me, it seems like it's a step in the right direction, and it can be modified. Or we can postpone one more time and specifically invite the sponsors and asked for any missing information. So what is the consensus of the committee? Do we want to consider postponing? Or do we want to set the public hearing? Or at least look about setting the public hearing. Legislators Stewart, please?

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

I was gonna say since it's just about setting a public hearing, I mean, I have no problems and proceeding and as you said, I think it's a step in the right direction. I do think it would be important to have the sponsors of the resolution appear at the public hearing and be able to give a report.

**Fawn Tantillo**

They don't speak at the public hearing.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Well, that's true. My apologies.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

To have the sponsors come to our next meeting. Okay, please, Legislator Hanset?

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Well, that's what I was gonna say. Right? That public hearing would be on Tuesday, May 17. But we have a meeting prior to that. So maybe they could come and speak at our at our meeting. Okay, great.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

So no action or our meeting in this committee's meeting in May precedes the public hearing. Yes. So in that case, it does make sense to postpone or to set the public hearing and ask them to come in May. All right,

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

I'm good with that.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay, and so, can we just do a motion to postpone and request...

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Or we could just not act? And then ask them to come to the next meeting? It's kind of the same thing? Well, if they if they say it's, what's that, Fawn?

**Fawn Tantillo**

I was gonna say they probably wouldn't have the public. If you don't pass it, there won't be a public hearing on May 17.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Right. So, right, so let's act on it. If people are in agreement, let's act on the resolution to set the public hearing and make the request. Because the it's giving the public until May 17. Even though we're meeting again, it's giving the public an opportunity to weigh in on this. It's not. This is the resolution to set the public hearing not the resolution to adopt. acts.

**Fawn Tantillo**

That's correct you you'll this will come back before you if if the public hearing goes well, if you'd like what they tell you what your next meeting, and they put in the resolution to adopt it. That would be a separate resolution that would also come before you.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I just don't see I don't see anything being answered. I don't know why you would go to a public hearing with all these questions. And Phil's not here feels felt as strongly as I did. So I'd prefer Phil to have a chance to speak as well, this isn't ready made. What we're saying is we could get a much different goal. After we get the diligence that we're asking for, which would be a substantive change. The only time I'm okay, sending something to a public hearing that may be I think need some kinks worked out is if you work those kinks out and it's not a substantive change. This would be a substantive change what I'm talking about in these goals that I'm putting forth.

**Fawn Tantillo**

You're correct. That would require another public hearing. If we'd set this

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Deputy Rider.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

I mean, we submitted this there's no time sensitive nature to this resolution that we have no problem postponing it for another month.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

It doesn't change operations whatsoever. You guys are doing exactly what you're doing anyways?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Correct?

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

I think the only thing that would change is we wouldn't have to set a different date. I don't think we have enough time from that meeting to pass this. There has to be a certain amount of time between. All right,

**Deputy Executive Rider**

The last, the last resolution that you postponed actually had it set for April. So it's just legislative staff, we just move the public hearing to June instead of May.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

This is not a big deal. If I'm the only one that I'm not offended, if you if you push it through to the public hearing, I just I'm on the record with how I'm at it, but I totally respect if you if you if you know, Manna Jo and Eric are comfortable going forward. Um, I'm okay. You know, that's that's your guys decision. So obviously,

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Having now heard this conversation, it sounds to me like out of deference to Legislator Erner, who's, you know, unavoidably absent? Maybe we should postpone? And also because there's not urgency? No, it's not like we're gonna lose a grant or, or anything. So are folks okay with us not taking action. We've kind of gone around the block. And I think we've landed where we need to be. And so we will not take action and we will specifically invite the sponsors to come to our next meeting. And at that point, it will still be in front of us with a June date. All right. Resolution Number 154 Authorizing that chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a payment in lieu of taxes with SG Pioneer PV for the solar energy system, pursuant to property tax law, section 47. Department of Finance and Motion for discussion. Legislator Maloney. Is there a second?

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Moved.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Second

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Legislator Hanset. And I just want to be sure that every one Oh, hold on one second. Just before I forget on transportation, want to take a step back and mention something i i heard just this morning.

That is really interesting. There's a proposal for the City of Kingston to use electric vehicles to bring people who are not already on UCAT transportation routes so that they can use public transportation, and it's a zero emission vehicle. And it just sounded like it addressed environmental justice, a lot of other issues. Please, deputy.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

I think what you're speaking to is a NYSERDA clean neighborhoods grant that the county and via partnered with. We have a proposal in and we were awarded a phase one. Grant, which includes planning is for electric micro transit in both the City of Kingston and the Village of Ellenville. If we are awarded, then we will get a three year \$10 million grant to establish programs in those two areas. Those are both distress census tract areas. So that was a requirement for this grant. And why we are looking at those two areas. They will be pilot programs. We will plan to sustain them beyond the three years if we're awarded the grant. We're currently in the process of doing community engagement. We will have a kind of a community engagement kickoff meeting on Monday, April 18, from 5:30 to 7:30. At the restorative justice center, anybody is welcome to attend that. We're going to be sending out surveys and really We're trying to drive our proposal off of community engagement. We've contracted with sustainable Hudson Valley. And they're fortunate Family of Woodstock and Ellenville NAACP. The proposal will be submitted in June. And towards the end of June slash early July, our team will go up and present Shark Tank style presentation of about 15 minutes to NYSERDA. They will also have other funders there. In case we don't get funded. We were one of six proposals that have been moved forward for phase one. And there are three awards. So we feel like we have a pretty good chance, but it's 5050. Really, and this is throughout the state. So we're really excited about this program.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Excellent. Thank you. I was too it was it? I hadn't heard an idea that solved a problem so cleanly. And I mean that in pun intended. Anyway. Please, let's get back to the resolution. I just, I meant to say that before we moved away from transit issues. So we are here with the resolution regarding the payment in lieu of taxes, and I just want to be sure that people understand that it's what some of us are calling a reverse pilot in the sense that they would be paying taxes that they're already exempted from. And is there any discussion on this resolution? If I'm not mistaken, this is located. I think it's tele vostre, kind of bordering town of Kingston. And, unfortunately, if it's the project that I'm thinking of, it involves taking out 20 acres of trees. I see your hand, Legislator Maloney. Let me just finish my sentence - to put in 20 acres to solar. Legislator Maloney.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Yeah, um, is it the one we postpone? No, that was on, it was. Alright, I thought it was closer to like, bro, I was out near Rosedale. But uh, so this is another one that I think Phil is pretty motivated to come up with kind of what we collectively came up with an idea that we could probably send off a checklist to the town's it's kind of hard, I was happy to postpone to continue to keep this going. I don't know if we're going to, we're going to now pick this first one to kind of punish the town in a way financially, to prove a point to go any further with this. But I do think it's something that could come out of this committee. And we could send off a kind of a checklist criteria type thing to the municipalities and let them know, if you're going to look for failure of a better word or reverse pilot, and you need legislative approval, that if you're if your solar project, can't check these boxes, or check these negative boxes as far as clearing or



or to adjacent to a drinking water supply, or something that we may not approve, you getting this reverse pilot. So I thought that that was something we had all kind of collectively thought was a good idea to explore. I've talked to Phil about it. So my point here as I'm not looking to hold this up anymore, I think we at some point, surprising this town with without ever telling them that you might not you know, they entered disagreement thinking that they were going to get more tax dollars than than if we said no on this. So that's where I'm at. I'm okay going forward this even if we're not happy with it, because I don't think we can just pull this out of nowhere and do that because many times we've entered into these agreements and got up and we've approved every one of these for us to continue to not approve this one. I think we've gotten what we wanted to get out of it. We do need to we do need to communicate with these municipalities and let them know that if you're going to clear cut too much for us or if there's drinking water issues, then then you might then then we're not going to approve your reverse pilot so don't enter that don't enter into an agreement with a with a solar array that that that looks like this if you plan on getting any tax dollars yes deputy.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

I just I want to clarify one thing, the only thing that the legislature is being asked to approve on this one and the one that's a couple of resolutions down is, is the county being able to get tax revenue from this? If if the legislature were to vote against this, the town would actually double the amount that they get, because they they approve their own pilot. This is proving clarity. That the the county portion, and I don't I thought the state,

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I thought the state required our approval for the town's Oh, I wasn't, Oh, I've been totally mis-reading that.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Yeah. So if we turn it down, they still can go through at the pilot, they actually get the whole amount.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

So, Marc, we could, correct me if I'm wrong, we could opt out of the automatic that we could opt out of the county getting these automatic, right?

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

We could. The school district opts out which it means. So when the school district opts out, we get half and half instead of the school district getting a third or whatever their chair is. And if we were to opt out the tax payments the same, it would just all go to the town. So that's why you see sometimes these are different. I know there's always been questions about these because sometimes it's a different amount per kilowatt hour that it looks like for revenue on these agreements, from agreement to agreement. It depends on whether the school districts opted out Kingston, oftentimes, for whatever reason, decides to opt out of these agreements. So then that means the town and the county take the full share. If the school district and the county opted out, the town would get the full share of the revenue. So Jim Quigley is back waiting for us to turn this down because he gets more money.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

So we can't opt the entire county out of we would only be opting ourselves out if we even opted out because I thought the state I was wrong about that than to the way it was I thought it was always said was that we opt into being a county that these solar projects automatically get these abatements for any solar project. But we're only opting out, each municipality is only opting out of their own share.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Right. I mean, if it was automatic, we wouldn't need to do these agreements. Every time that there's one. Go ahead, Dennis.

**Director Dennis Doyle**

And I don't mean to belabor the point, the point Legislator Maloney, but it is it's an individual by project by project, it's not a it's not an opt out, the project send you a notification that indicates their building, and you have 90 days to respond. If you don't respond in the 90 days, you're not allowed to tax them. And that's what happens on the school district level. There's a different programming you're talking about with with opting out of that has to do with municipalities ability to tax without a PILOT, that would still leave them the opportunity to to go to the IDA for PILOT. And I would also and so the the thought that we've had at the planning department and from the planning board is we have a standard, there's a standard set of guidelines with respect to the amount of taxes that you can ask for it. It's based on a megawatt basis. One of the things that we thought was is that if you were looking at sensitive areas, particularly agricultural areas that you wanted to preserve, you actually punish the solar company by basically saying we have a standard set, here's what it is. But if you're in an ag district, you're recovering prime soils, you're doing something that then it goes up and you get more tax dollars on that basis. And you set those dollars aside to do things that you wanted to do. With respect to this project. It's on the access point to the Thruway, it's when you come off the Thruway by the RV, where the RV area is that actually acts that actual access point. Right there is where this project sits. The county planning board reviewed this last night we've had some we've had some comments with respect to this. Prior they refer it to the county planning board, we've determined that it doesn't have a significant county impacted path back there is a penalty for their determination doesn't have any sensitive sites associated with it. There's no historic issues, they're still doing some historic work on it. We're waiting for those those work to come through. It's not in a habitat core area that the Department of Environment has looked at. So the only thing you really have here is clearing with respect to that, and that's not that bad in this particular location.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Well, I am glad to hear that. That review is being done. That's what we're and now I'm putting on my Clearwater hat for a moment but what we're teaching the municipalities I think we have 45 people from 22 municipalities signed up for this spring. So were mapping training. And it goes through the use of a program that seemed to catch them prepared a solar mapping tool to show them how they can look at each each of these layers. And when we looked at this, it is it is a core for right there. And that is it's not a prohibition, but it's recommended against. On the other hand, it is, as Dennis said, in a, you know, near the traffic circle and in a in a very disturbed area. So it's not prime forest. And it's good to hear that the county is looking at this. And I just wonder if there's a way to strengthen it, because this, to me, this is an exception, but Korf are so important to protect because of their ability to draw down and sequester greenhouse gases. So I think this might be a further discussion offline and see if we can come up with

a policy for for Ulster County. But for the moment, I think, my sense is that people are ready to act on this, given what we just came to understand. So I would like to call the question unless there's other discussion. All right, so on resolution 154, authorizing the county to execute a pilot with reference to this particular solar energy system. For real estate, tax, section 487. All in favor, please signify by raising your hand and saying aye. Or Or saying aye.

**Committee Members**

Aye.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

And is anyone opposed? Okay, motion carries for resolution 154. Now we're gonna go to resolution 165. Establishing and funding capital project number 629, Arper brownfields redevelopment. And that's from the planning department. And we did hear some public comment. Motion for discussion.

**Fawn Tantillo**

Madam Chair, I just want to draw your attention that we're discussing the the amended one that I sent this afternoon.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Yes.

**Fawn Tantillo**

It was amended in Public Works

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Yes, motion for discussion on the amended version at on on the version of resolution number 165, as amended. Is that new hand legislator...Deputy Rider?

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Yeah, I just want to specify that the public comment was on the next resolution that you heard tonight. Not on this resolution? This is the Brownfields Program.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Oh, yes. Thank you. All right. Anything on the Brownfields?

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

We've we've had multiple presentations on this correct. I've seen presentations, I think in two different committees. Right.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

All right. So on on resolution 165, as amended.

**Fawn Tantillo**

Well, not as amended here, but as presented here.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

As presented. Okay. Thank you.

**Fawn Tantillo**

Do you need to move it in second? I believe it's been moved for discussion.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

That's right. Because we just had discussion. So do we have a motion?

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Motion.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay. That's Legislator Maloney.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Second.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Legislator Stewart. Okay. Oh. You'll get the next one. Legislator Hansut.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

That's OK.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

All in favor, please signify by saying aye.

**Committee Members**

Aye.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Raising your hand or both. Anyone opposed. Okay. Motion carries on resolution number 165.

Resolution number 167. Adopting a negative declaration for the demolition of the former Ulster County Jarrell located on Golden Hill and establishing and funding capital project number 630 demolition of jail Golden Hill, ARPA, and also the develop planning department.

**Fawn Tantillo**

It's also was amended in public works. So you're voting on the amended version I sent today. So you're voting on that one as presenting

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

As presented. Any discussion. Yes, please. Legislator Maloney.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Um, you know, I just back this term. I had heard some about this. I definitely had concerns. The process, I would rather, I'd rather see it kept inside the county as we decide what we're going to do with it. I do not like the idea of transferring, like, we'd love to transfer out. I have a lot of issues. I have issues with conflicts. I don't think there's been traffic. Questions Answered. Do we know how much the county is selling this for yet? Do we have a price? The demolition costs? I know, there's been mentioned mentioning of pilot, is that an IDA pilot? What type of housing I think the neighbors deserve more answers with exactly what's gonna go on up there. There's more. Are there water issues that have not been that have been really, truly answered? I mean, what was up there before is, was you're going to have way more units, as I hear him called all the time now, which is odd? Will there be more blasting? Why did we have four major topics at one public hearing? Can somebody answer me yes or no? Is family of Woodstock involved? As I'm reading in this? Then? Can you tell me how the President a family of Woodstock is on the this Housing Corporation? And that's not a conflict? I mean, that makes me actually angry. That's such a conflict. We have Dennis Doyle on that same who's great at planning and this project goes through planning in the county, doesn't it? Didn't didn't the county planning board? Have some say over this? Then how can you have two votes, one on this level? And one on that level? This is completely unacceptable. I mean, it's, it's borderline. I don't know if you can use the expression off the rails anymore. It's I don't think there's enough rails left in Ulster County to use that expression. But it's off the rails with zero transparency. And the people that live around there seem to have a lot of valid questions that I don't think were answered. And it's just to reiterate that, again, four major topics at one public hearing. This is disgusting. And it's just and the conflicts. I don't even want to hear from Dennis Doyle tonight, because he's conflicted. And the idea that family of Woodstock is going to benefit and be a part of this and we appoint the president of family of Woodstock onto this oversight committee is insanity. Like it's shameful. I'll be a no on anything to do with this until many until the conflicts are fixed. And until many of these questions are thoroughly answered. At the very least I think we should postpone and for one another major reason that this is a Mr. Erner's district and he's not here and he's just becoming aware of a lot of these issues as he's new to this term.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay, any, any other comments?

**Director Dennis Doyle**

Mark, can you start with explaining how you appointed the the President of Family of Woodstock who is now going to benefit from this. Can you please explain that first and foremost,

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

I'm happy to...

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

As lawyer, as a lawyer, can you tell me that that's not a conflict?

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

I'm happy to have that conversation. So, the Housing Development Corporation was created through a resolution of this body. There was appointments made by both the Legislature and the Executive. When

the the LDC was created, there was no there was no Family of Woodstock was not involved in any of the processes that led up so they were not a part of the project originally. When the RFQ went out there. The the proposer, Penrose. Initially, I do not believe and I wasn't on the board at the time. I know you don't want to hear from Dennis but Dennis is here to speak on it. By the way doesn't have a vote on the planning board

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

But he's the Director. What which hat will he be wearing when he talks to us?

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Well, he is our Director of Planning. He does not have a vote on the planning board. When when Penrose was selected, I don't believe that Family of Woodstock was involved in the project and they have been later added on as an operational sort of supportive housing. So there was no action of the LDC that favoreFamily of Woodstock and so there was no conflict by the President of Family Woodstock because there was no vote towards towards them at at the time, then if you correct me if I'm wrong there, but I don't believe that family of Woodstock was in the initial proposal. Penrose Can you just speak to that really quick read?

**Director Dennis Doyle**

I'd have to go back and look, but the point being is, is that there was discussion with within or LDC, as, as it became aware that that family of Woodstock was involved with respect to Mr. climates, participation. And that was discussed with with with respect to that, I believe there was a determination that was made that there was not a conflict.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

That's convenient. I think anybody with a brain in their head can see that that's a conflict.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

There's no, there's that's the President a Family of Woodstock isn't paid, there's no kids, no financial benefit.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Oh, my God. Mark, you know, perception of you're a lawyer, you know that, regardless of a financial impact at times, you can still have a conflict, you know that to be true.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Anyway, happy to answer your other questions. So,

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

you're going to treat me just how you treat the people that live the name of the people that live over there.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

I think this has been a transparent and open project.

**Director Dennis Doyle**

Well, you're on the minority on that.

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

I think the public comment through the Kingston planning board that just held their meeting and had six individuals that came out and spoke goes to show that I mean, any project is going to have six people that speak on it, that's certainly not for a project this size, a large amount of of public, you know, input, we had two people speak on it tonight. It's a good project, the chair, woman of the legislature got up and are in our chairperson speech, and talked for length about affordable housing, and a need for affordable housing in this county. This has housing units that are supportive of people who are anywhere from 30% Ami, which is extremely low income, all the way up to 80%. But the vast majority of them are low to moderate income and the 80 and hires workforce. It's a very good project. I'm very proud of it. And I think it's a great reuse of a former jail facility.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Anyone else?

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Oh, there was a petition with 50 signatures, by the way, Marc.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Legislator Stewart, please.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

I was just gonna say, you know, I think that there's such a desperate need for affordable housing in this community. That, you know, in general, I'm highly supportive of anything we could do along those lines. I do agree that since this is in legislator earners district, and that he had requested that we hold off, you know, voting on this i i think it would be a good idea to you know, let us hear from him. And perhaps, you know, put off voting on this until we meet again.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Legislator Hanset. Did you have your hand up a moment ago,

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

No. I'm good

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

. Okay.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

But again, like I say, I think that anything that we can do here in Ulster County to help alleviate the housing situation is something that we shouldn't be doing. So

**Director Dennis Doyle**

I'll make a motion to postpone.

**Fawn Tantillo**

There's no, you don't have to take any action. If no one no one's moved it for a vote. So you could just take no action tonight. But you could postpone it.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Well, I think it would be good to hear from Legislator Erner and hear his concerns.

**Fawn Tantillo**

You can I'm just saying technically, you could take no action at this point.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

So we'll just take no action. Yeah, that's good with me. All right. Is there any is there any downside of not? I mean, so there's no time crunch here or is there, Marc?

**Fawn Tantillo**

So I'm not going to. I'm not going to rail against whether you all want to proposed, I understand that legislator enter can't be here and you all want to hear him. So if it's the will of the community to take no action, we'll live with that. I will say that the only reason we're coming to you now is because we're trying to get the building demolished, this construction cycle and delaying a month will will make that more difficult but not impossible. So I'm not overly concerned about it. We will, we believe that the City Planning Board is going to act this month, and this will put us in line. So if it has to wait until May, then then we're, we're okay. And we do but we'll, we'll get through it.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

I believe it's been on the county demo list for multiple years. But but and, and the City of Kingston is still you're still awaiting action on their behalf as well. Correct? Correct.

**Fawn Tantillo**

They close the public hearing is open for written comment through April 11. They have a meeting scheduled April 18. From what I we get, you know, they send us as the proposer. And a partner, they send us public comment. And my guess would be that they act in on April 18. But I have no knowledge of that. So anyway, even if they do if we come to you in May, it's a month it's not the end of the world.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

And in that meantime, would we be ? Would we excuse me, I can't speak be able to perhaps get some answers on these concerns about traffic and asbestos abatement and that sort of thing.

**Fawn Tantillo**

There's been extensive traffic studies done. The City of Kingston Planning Department hired their own consultant to review the traffic studies. We've answered the questions on on traffic, we're trying to work with the neighbors. And we're trying to work with the nursing facility to potentially close the gate at Glen



Street, when we talked about construction vehicles and making a left hand turn onto Route 32. That's where our UCAT facility is we have large UCAT buses that make the left turn onto that road every single day, multiple times a day. I think a few construction vehicles are not a concern of mine, I'm waiting. I'm not going to wait for manna to send the the reuse materials but will will ensure that in the bidding documents for the demolition of this jail, that they go to every single effort to reuse the materials prior to just sending them to some facility so well well ensure that those best practices are done. It's in the county's best interest for them to both recycle as much as this materials can, because we're gonna get a better bid, but to require them to reuse materials as well. Just makes sense.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

I think it probably is better for the neighborhood to them just outright demolition. My sense is...

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Manna Jo, I believe Gina has her hand up.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

I'm sorry.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Okay. Um, I don't know. Ms. Falco had mentioned about endangered species. Do you know anything about that?

**Deputy Executive Marc Rider**

Dennis did the environmental work on here?

**Director Dennis Doyle**

Yeah, we, this is this is an all disturbed area. So there's no no endangered species out of sight. This is literally taking the area that the current jail parking lot and other facilities up there. And there has been there's been a look at endangered species as well as the State Historic Preservation Office, all of that material has been provided to the City Planning Department.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Okay, thank you.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

And I do want to say I see your hand. I do want to say that from the solar mapping that we've done, that often. The state will map an area that may be of concern for endangered species, but it needs to be sort of field verified. They don't want to be too specific. Because they don't they don't want to advertise and invite people who are mal intended. So it really is more of a check this carefully. Then a prohibition. And let's see, did I see legislator Stewart please?

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

I just said had a quick question for either mark or Mr. Doyle about one of the callers brought up asbestos abatement. And I was just wondering if you could provide any insight into that?

**Director Dennis Doyle**

If I may, the short answer is, is that there's been a complete look at the environmental issues inside the existing jail. And by department of labor regulations, they'll have to be asbestos abatement and other abatements associated with that before demolition takes place. So we will provide that information as part of the bid package and I believe I included it in some of the materials that I sent the legislature. Thank you,

**Fawn Tantillo**

If you look at the backup in your committee file on the OneDrive you'll have a lot of information.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

My apologies, I must have missed that about the asbestos. So thank you.

**Director Dennis Doyle**

If I could just make a request that each time Dennis speaks on this topic, could he tell us who he's speaking what title he's speaking us? For the record? Sure. I was speaking as the Director of the Planning Department.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay. What what is the will of the body in terms of resolution 167?

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

So take no action is that what we're planning?

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Resolutions 188 Our last resolution of the evening authorizing the chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute payment in lieu of taxes. With West Shore Solar, Solar energy system to real estate, property, tax law. It sounds to me like even though it's a different project, the same principle applies. So do I hear a motion on resolution number 188? I see your hand. But I want to get a motion in a second. I see legislator Hansut is moving the resolution.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Yes.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Do we have a second? Legislator Stewart?

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

My apologies about that. I'm trying to get my video back on. Okay, sorry. And Did I did I miss a vote? My apologies.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

We were looking for a second on resolution number 188 second.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

I'll second. Sure.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Okay. And is it just before we take a vote? Is there any background information from the Department of Environment or planning in terms of dislocation or any of the factors that would influence we still, as I said, the same principle applies, but I just want to double check and Deputy writer Go ahead.

**Fawn Tantillo**

I just want to point out that I put a very, very short primer in the in the chat that that talks about property law 174 There is an opportunity to opt out of giving the exemption if you can, which would mean that you would try to tax it if for there was no way to opt out of of doing the pilot this way. You could you could opt out of the full exemption but it's not believed that you would get more money doing it that way. And it does talk a little bit more. It's like a It's a policy paper on local governments and the tax law. So there is a link to it there. I don't know where this project is. I don't know. Dennis, if you know.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

All right, well,

**Fawn Tantillo**

I believe technically our chat is shut off. So I don't know that they can see what you wrote in chat. Is there any way when it's shut off? It doesn't let me chat? Let it let me. I don't. Oh, do I see it? Oh, yeah, I do see it. You're correct.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Is there any other discussion on resolution? 188? If not, I'd like to call the question. All in favor, please raise your hand or signify by saying aye.

**Committee Members**

Aye.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Anyone opposed? Okay. Motion carries. And now we're up to new business. And I know that Legislator Erner had new business, but we'll clearly postpone that. And have business climate smart. Trying to think anything, you know, each month we share really valuable information. And I believe coming up in May, we're going to be meeting at the Department of Environment is willing to host our climate smart meetings. And that way, we can do a hybrid of having the actual members that are appointed to the climate smart committee, the voting members present, and anyone else who wants to join us. But we also have a good sized contingent of people from around the county that are part of their town or city, climate smart task force that participate share information. And we also usually, or often have a presentation. And the reason for that is that, in addition to the climate smart committee that was created by resolution, there's also a municipal climate smart task force for the county. And that is hosted by the Department of Environment. And it's part of, you know, how we get our climate smart certification, etc.

Sorry about this. Um, so that's the major news. I think we've gone over most of the other topics. Yes. Let's just put your hands up, please.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

I'm just curious. Someone that's new to this committee, and under the description of our committee is I'm just wondering where the Fish and Wildlife Management Board and the Forest Practice Board, how does that play under our committee and just if somebody could fill me in a little bit about that, because I haven't heard anything about that to date.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

There have been times in the past where at one point Soil and Water reported and the the fishing and hunting Sportsman's Association typically when we hear from the committees that are supposed to report to us, is around budget time. And but one of the things we could easily do is each month invite so that they don't have to come every month, but they can fill us in long before budget. So we could go through that list. And each month have somebody else do a report. Is that would that be fate favored that action by that? The rest of the committee? Yes, sir. Maybe? I know it's getting late.

**Fawn Tantillo**

I'm not sure we have a legislator currently on the Fish and Wildlife Management Board. Those are I'll have to double check that there are there should be a legislator and an alternate on that. In the olden days. I used to serve on that when I was a legislator. I also was the representative on the forest practice board for the county when I was a legislator but I believe that's still like a holdover I was looking into that or Earlier this year, and I am not sure there still is a forest practice board in region three.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Well, for the ones that are officially listed, could we, um, we can try to indict, it will continue. And they don't have to come to every meeting. But if they would, you know, want somebody come in May and somebody come in June. You know, then when budget time comes around, we have a context.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Yeah, I was just curious, like, where, you know, where it falls into our committee, so,

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Thank you. Yeah, I think that's very valid. And I appreciate your calling it your attention. Okay, um, if we have no further business, I would entertain a motion to adjourn.

**Legislator Gina Hansut**

Moved.

**Legislator Eric Stewart**

Second.

**Chair Manna Jo Greene**

Moved by Legislator Hanset, seconded by, by Legislator, Stewart. All in favor, please signify by raising your hand and or say hi. And thank you all for your participation. And we look forward to carrying forward next month. And also thank you, Fawnm for your very valuable assistance. Have a good evening, everyone and stay well and look for the joy.

**Legislator Joseph Maloney**

Yeah. Good. Thank you, folks.