Health, Human Services & Housing Committee Meeting Minutes

DATE & TIME:	July 5, 2023 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION:	KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER:	Chair Uchitelle
LEGISLATIVE STAFF:	Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk
PRESENT:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit and Stewart
ABSENT:	Legislator Corcoran
QUORUM PRESENT:	Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Commissioner Iapoce – Department of Social Services; Commissioner MacDonald – Department of Mental Health; Director Doyle – Planning Department; Deputy County Executive Contreras – County Executive's Office; Rakosh Most – HV One; Terry Morrow – member of the public

Chair Uchitelle called the meeting to order at 5:09 PM.

Motion No. 1:	MOTION to APPROVE the Minutes of May 31st Meeting
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Erner

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion or comments/question on the minutes. Legislator Nolan questioned the use of the word houseless in the minutes and requested the minutes be amended to reflect the terms used in committee; homeless or unhoused.

Chair Uchitelle asked of there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote to approve the minutes with the amendments requested.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Nolan, Lopez, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Minutes APPROVED AS AMENDED

Resolutions for the July 18, 2023 Legislative Session:

Resolution No. 381 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Department Of Environmental Conservation (NYSDEC) To Accept Grant Funds For The Golden Hill Renewable Energy Project - Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Planning **Resolution Summary**: This Resolution authorizes the Chair to execute an agreement with the NYS DEC to accepting a grant in the amount of \$1,684,980 from the Climate Smart Communities Program and amends the 2023 county Budget to accept the funds.

Motion No. 2:	Moved Resolution No. 381 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Lopez

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Planning Director Doyle to provide background. Director Doyle stated that they were not looking for adoption of Resolution Nos. 381 and 382 this month, rather that the Legislature look at them and forward any questions they have about the project. He added that the contract for the project was not ready yet, but was expected the following month. He explained that this is one of the first instances that the grant would be used for affordable housing so they are working through the terms for how the \$1.6 million can be used. He stated that Resolution No. 182 explains what the county's and the developer's responsibilities are as it relates to the solar installation, equipment, maintenance, etc.. He added that they also wanted to get in front of any questions the Legislature may have now because the developer is in the final design stages of the project and the solar component is critical to those designs.

Chair Uchitelle stated that he appreciated the early introduction and asked if the members had any questions.

Legislator Petit asked if the property has been transferred over to the LDC yet. She added that she had concerns with passing county funds to a private developer as opposed to RUPCO or Family. Director Doyle responded that the property had not been transferred to the LDC yet because they want to own it as briefly as possible. Additionally, not all of the environmental work is complete, and they just recently secured the necessary approval for a subdivision.

The members discussed the logistics of the solar project and the relationship between the county, developer and Family of Woodstock. Chair Uchitelle questioned about the reference to matching costs in the resolution bringing the members' attention to the last whereas in the resolution which, as written could imply that the county is responsible for the costs rather than the developer. The members discussed amending the whereas to provide clarity.

Planning Director stated that he had no issues with the amendment. Chair Uchitelle stated that the Resolution could be further amended the following month if a concern with the amendment arose.

Motion No. 3:	Motion to Amend the last Whereas to read as follows: WHEREAS, Ulster County, the Golden Hill Project developer has agreed to provide matching funds and oversight of solar installation and to fulfill the grant agreement; now, therefore, be it
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Erner

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any further discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the amendment.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Nolan, Lopez, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Amendment ADOPTED
Motion No. 4:	Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 381
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there were any other questions or discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of postponing the Resolution as amended.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Nolan, Lopez, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION POSTPONED AS AMENDED

Resolution No. 382 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute Various Agreements To Fulfill Requirements For Grant Funding Through The New York State Climate Smart Communities Program For Renewable Energy Equipment At The Golden Hill Housing Site – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair to execute the following agreements with Golden Hill Owner LLC to satisfy requirements for funding in Resolution No. 381: (i) Development Services Agreement, (ii) Maintenance and Operation Agreement, (iii) a Solar Power Purchase Agreement, and (iv) a Climate Change Mitigation Easement.

Motion No. 5:	Moved Resolution No. 382 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked Director Doyle if he had any additional background to add. Director Doyle briefly explained that an 11 page memo from the developer laying out the structure for the agreements and the reasoning was provided as backup to the Resolution. The agreements include: Development Services, Maintenance and Operation, Solar Power Purchase, and a Climate Change Mitigation Easement.

Legislator Erner asked how the useful life of five years was determined. Director Doyle stated that he thought the useful life referred to the tax credit, but would get back to him. The members briefly discussed the sale of the electricity and the comparison with market rate.

Chair Uchitelle stated that postponement in committee could jeopardize a full discussion in subsequent committees, especially Ways and Means and offered to help communicate with Chair Gavaris about having a conversation in his committee despite the Resolution's postponement.

Director Doyle advised the members that the county would be generating a tax credit through the solar project and that those credits would be passed on to the developer.

Motion No. 6:	Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 382
Motion Made By:	Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there were any questions or discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of postponing the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Nolan, Lopez, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION POSTPONED

Resolution No. 390 – Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Health And Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution transfers \$20,000 from the Department of Health to the Department of mental health for the purposes of executing a contract with the Federation Sportsmen's Club of Ulster County for programs including suicide prevention.

Motion No. 7:	Moved Resolution No. 390 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By: Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Erner Legislator Petit

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Commissioner McDonald for a brief explanation. Commissioner McDonald explained that through conversation with Commissioner Smith it was determined that administration of the grant was better suited in the Department of Mental Health as part of their suicide prevention activity. She added that the Federated Sportsman's Club was integral in getting gun shop owners engaged in suicide prevention.

Legislator Nolan expressed support for the Resolution, but stated concern with complaints they have received about the Federated Sportsman's Club and engagement in partisan political activities. They suggested that

the person in DMH responsible for monitoring and implementing the contract get on their email list to keep appraised of activities. They also requested a list of projects funded with the contract. Legislator Erner echoed Legislator's Nolan's concerns. Legislator Stewart stated his support for the program and considered it bridge building with a community that may not traditionally receptive to government involvement.

Chair Uchitelle asked if the members would consider postponement while the requested information was gathered. He added that the 2022 contract for the same funding amount speaks to different services including Lend a Pole, SPEAK, and hunting safety class. He expressed his concern that a NRA certified instructor is specifically listed as being required to teach the safety class. The members briefly discussed the benefits of outdoor recreation for mental health.

Legislator Nolan asked if postponement would cause any hardships. Commissioner McDonald responded that services have been provided in 2023 and no disbursements have been made to date. The members briefly discussed if there are other organizations besides the NRA which offers the services. Commissioner Iapoce offered that the NYS DEC has certified firearms instructors. Legislator Lopez expressed his support for the Resolution and stated his desire to move forward with its adoption.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 391 – Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget To Accept Increased Funding From The New York State Office Of Addiction Services And Supports For A 4% Cost Of Living Adjustment – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the budget to accept additional funding from the NYS OCFS due to a 4% COLA adjustment.

Motion No. 8:	Moved Resolution No. 391 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Petit

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there were any questions or discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 392 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$10,959.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Family Services, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$10,959 contract amendment to reflect the additional NYS OASAS 4% COLA adjustment.

Motion No. 9:	Moved Resolution No. 392 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Commissioner McDonald who stated that the Resolution and the next two accepted the increase in funds associated with the 4% COLA increase.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 393 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$2,548.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Gateway Community Industries, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$2,548 contract amendment to reflect the additional NYS OASAS 4% COLA adjustment.

Motion No. 10:	Moved Resolution No. 393 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 394 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$7,930.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Mental Health Association In Ulster County, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$7,930 contract amendment to reflect the additional NYS OMH funding for support services.

Motion No. 11:	Moved Resolution No. 394 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 395 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$11,004.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$11,004 contract amendment to reflect the additional NYS OASAS 4% COLA adjustment.

Motion No. 12:	Moved Resolution No. 395 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Legislator Erner stated that he has heard concerns about compensation for top level people at the organization. Chair Uchitelle stated that they could amend the procurement manual to request information on the salary of top level officials in addition to the information on the rank and file employees.

Chair Uchitelle questioned if the members would be expecting a similar resolution for Family of Woodstock. Commissioner McDonald responded that Family was not eligible for this funding. Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	Legislator Petit

Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	1
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 396 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$185,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The Hudson Valley National Center For Veteran Reintegration, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$185,000 contract for peer to peer veteran support services to aid those suffering from PTSD, and other related stress disorders for the period 1/1/23 -12/31-24.

Motion No. 13: Moved Resolution No. 396 FOR DISCUSSION

Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Petit

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Commissioner McDonald to briefly describe the contract. Commissioner McDonald explained that the contract funds the veteran peer to peer program that provides socialization and behavioral health support. She added that the program has expanded to 52 counties in the state.

Legislator Petit asked where the services are preformed stating that she received calls about where to access the program because the facility on Grant Avenue was vacated. Legislator Nolan commented that most peer to peer work is done where the person lives or wants to meet opposed to an office.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 400 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Lease Agreement With Access: Supports For Living Inc. For Office Space At 368 Broadway – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes a lease with Access Supports for Living for 3,398 ft² of space at 368 Broadway at a cost of \$11/ ft² for the term 8/1/23 - 7/31/28.

Legislator Nolan stated that they would be recusing themselves from the discussion and vote.

Motion No. 14:	Moved Resolution No. 400 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Erner

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Deputy County Executive Contreras for some brief background. She advised the members that they were pervious located at Golden Hill but were looking to locate at the Crisis Stabilization Center for 3,398 square feet at \$11/square foot. She added that the expansion will allow them to serve hundreds for more people each month. The members briefly discussed Access' role at the CSC.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Abstention:	Legislator Nolan
Votes in Favor:	5
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED
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Resolution No. 397 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$150,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Anderson Medical, P.C. D/B/A Emergency One Urgent Care And Diagnostic Center – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$150,000 contract for independently administered drug and alcohol screening to certain DSS clients for the period 7/1/23 -6/30/25.

Motion No. 15:	Moved Resolution No. 397 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Petit

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Commissioner Iapoce for a brief explanation. Commissioner Iapoce stated that the service was pretty standard and straightforward, adding that the services pertains primarily for the children and family services population as a result of court orders, preventative service and other arrangements. He mentioned that he had shared a description of the service. Chair Uchitelle stated that is was not provided as part of the backup. Legislator Erner asked if there were provisions for testing of gender non-conforming individuals. Commissioner Iapoce stated they rely on the judgement and care provided by the doctors at Urgent Care and have not received any feedback from folks tested.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 398 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$25,000.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Anderson Medical, P.C. D/B/A Emergency One Urgent Care And Diagnostic Center – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a \$25,000 contract amendment for independently administered drug and alcohol screening to certain DSS clients for the period 4/1/23 - 6/30/23.

Motion No. 16:	Moved Resolution No. 398 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Commissioner Iapoce explained that the contract was for the same population but for a number of tests conducted in the second quarter of the year.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	RESOLUTION ADOPTED

Resolution No. 399 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The New Village View SP LLC – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves a contract for rates anticipated to exceed \$50,000 for Assisted Living Program services under Title XIX of the Federal Social Security Act for the period 1/1/23 - 12/31/23.

Motion No. 17:	Moved Resolution No. 399 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Commissioner Iapoce for a brief explanation. Commissioner Iapoce stated that the vendor changed their name so the county needed to execute a new contract. He added that the county did not expect to pay the vendor as the services are billed to the clients Medicare/Medicaid.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle

Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 421 – Requiring Dedicated Space Within The Workplace For Nursing Mothers Employed By Ulster County

Resolution Summary: This Resolution requires the county provide a designated private room close to any nursing mothers' work area containing a chair, small table or flat service where breast milk can be pumped, and a refrigerator to store pumped milk.

Motion No. 18:	Moved Resolution No. 421 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Petit

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized Resolution Sponsor Petit who recalled the hurdles she had to go through at work as a young mother. She stated that there are no dedicated spaces in the county for breastfeeding mothers to comfortably and privately pump and store breastmilk. Legislator Nolan expressed support for the measure and asked if there was current space available and questioned implementation with staff located throughout the county and asked to know more about the practical implications. Chair Uchitelle asked Deputy County Executive Contreras if she would like to respond. She stated that she had the same sort of question on current available space. She added that she has been in the position herself but could not think of a space in the county office building that was always private.

Commissioner Iapoce stated that his employees have often been in this situation. He added that they have been able to make accommodation, but a dedicated space would be appreciated. Chair Uchitelle asked if the County Executive's Office would like to move forward or hold off. Deputy County Executive Contreras responded that they would appreciate some time to survey departments and possible include in the space study. Legislator Stewart commented that he recently toured a facility in Ellenville that had dedicated space and was impressed with the accommodation.

Motion No. 19:	Motion to Postpone Resolution No. 421
Motion Made By:	Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Lopez

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle asked if there were any questions or discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of postponing the Resolution.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Erner, Lopez, Nolan, Petit, Stewart and Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	6
Votes Against:	0

Disposition:

Resolution No. 423 – Establishing A Policy To Reform Social Services – Temporary Assistance – Housing

Resolution Summary: This Resolution makes numerous requirements for the Department of Social Services including: methods for communication with clients, 24/7/365 hours of operation, improved waiting areas, transportation plan for TA recipients, compensation for clients for time in application interviews, establishing additional TA shelters, penalties for refusing to house TA clients, monthly reporting, assured TA for all applicants.

Motion No. 20:	Moved Resolution No. 423 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Erner
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Stewart

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized legislation sponsor Erner who explained that the policy stems from recommended improvements from client experiences at DSS. Legislator Nolan noted that lack of any research or data to show which recommendation would be helpful and what the cost may be. They stated that they could not with the information provided understand the benefits or costs of the proposals. Chair Uchitelle was concerned that one recommendation may fall into the category of turning DSS into a 24 hour shelter because of the requirements that come along with operating a shelter, along with other unintended consequences of changing an offices hours.

Deputy County Executive Contreras advised the members that the county put out an RFP for a firm to take a deep and broad look at the emergency housing system, but did not receive any satisfactory responses. Legislator Lopez stated his concerns on the legality on some of the proposals and stated that there was a lot packed into one Resolution. He added that he would appreciate clarification from counsel of the allowability on each recommendation.

Chair Uchitelle stated that he would like to hear some responses from the Executive's Office and Commissioner Iapoce on the items, especially those that pertain to client experiences. Commissioner Iapoce stated that some of the concerns they have also expressed and asked for attention to be paid during the space study. He added that a collaboration between DSS and DPW will not be enough to implement some of the suggestions. Legislator Nolan stated that there was so much in the Resolution it was hard for them to see what was achievable in the current system and what required rebuilding the system. They were also surprised that so many topics were permitted to be addressed in one Resolution.

The members continues to discuss concerns with the contents of the Resolution and the desire to not advance the measure out of committee. Legislator Erner reminded the members that the recommendations came from clients in dire straights and emphasized the urgency for changes. He added that he would welcome the opportunity to work with the administration to improve the legislation.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none moved on to the next Resolution.

Disposition:

NO ACTION TAKEN

Resolution No. 424 – Establishing A Policy To Track All Temporary Housing Facilities On A Daily Basis

Resolution Summary: This Resolution requires DSS to conduct daily surveys of conditions of facilities that house or may house TA clients.

Motion No. 21:	Moved Resolution No. 424 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Stewart
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Petit

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized legislation sponsor Erner who stated that after conversations with administration he feel more comfortable that the communication is already occurring and that the policy may not be necessary.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Disposition: NO ACTION TAKEN

Resolution No. 425 – Establishing A Policy To Liberalize Access To Public Spaces For Survival

Resolution Summary: This Resolution opens for public use all county property suitable for unhoused people to use as temporary homes or shelters.

Motion No. 22:	Moved Resolution No. 425 FOR DISCUSSION
Motion Made By:	Legislator Petit
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Erner

Discussion:

Chair Uchitelle recognized legislation sponsor Erner who explained that there were material and philosophical basis for the Resolution. He stated that county has property and that property belongs to the residents. He stated that those who are homeless or have tenuous situations should be able to access the county property where they might be able to construct places to bath, prepare food and sleep.

Legislator Nolan stated that the working group she chaired on temporary and emergency housing discussed at length tiny houses, tent cities, container homes at length and there were many shared concerns across all of them. Chief among them safety and security.

The members discussed concerns with safety, security, inter-personal conflict, management, sanitation, potable water and costs. Legislator Nolan suggested reaching out to churches across the county to see what services they are offering in their local community to those in need of emergency shelter or other temporary assistance. Deputy County Executive Contreras advised the members that they were looking into extending the hours of the warming center to a year round facility. Commissioner Iapoce commented on challenges that warming center staff have encountered with difficult individuals. He added that the opening of the Crisis Stabilization may help.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other discussion and hearing none called for a vote in favor of the Resolution.

Disposition:

NO ACTION TAKEN

Chair Uchitelle moved on to Resolution Nos. 126 and 127 under Old Business on the Agenda. He briefly stated that he was hoping to see the County Executive's Housing Action Fund passed this month and welcomed everyone advocacy for that. He added that he was waiting for the results of the county's emergency housing analysis before moving forward with Resolution 127. Legislator Petit stated that she would like Chair Uchitelle to move forward with adoption of his Resolution.

Resolution No. 126 – Establishing A Policy To Liberalize Access To Public Spaces For Survival

Resolution Summary: Dedicates \$20 million to the Housing Justice Assigned Fund from 2022 unassigned fund balance.

Disposition: NO ACTION TAKEN

Resolution No. 127 – Establishing A Policy To Liberalize Access To Public Spaces For Survival

Resolution Summary: Establishes a policy requiring the issuance of a Request For Proposal (RFP) on behalf of Ulster County to seek a vendor who shall assess need and prepare and deliver meals daily to all residents placed in Emergency Housing hotels and motels within Ulster County.

Disposition:

NO ACTION TAKEN

Chair Uchitelle reminded the members that they had received an email announcing an Info Session on the ADU Design Competition on July 13th. A flyer was provided with the meeting materials. Director Doyle added that the session will provide more details about the \$1.75 million grant from the county/city jointly to provide for the construction of accessory dwelling units.

He asked if there was any other new business. Legislator Nolan advised the members that they introduced Resolution No. 400, a policy on policies. It would require contractors and businesses to comply with the county's policies, such as the anti-smoking policy. They asked Legislative Staff to share the Resolution with Legislator Petit, Chair of the Public Works, Capital Projects and Transportation Committee as it will effect vendors whose contracts are seen in that committee.

Legislator Stewart asked for an update on the motel at Skytop. Deputy County Executive Contreras advised the committee that septic issues were remediated and that the renewal of their permit by the Department of Health was likely. She added that the county was not placing people their for the time being. There was a brief discussion about a property for sale in Saugerties as a possible temporary housing site. It was determined that the property is scheduled for demolition.

Chair Uchitelle informed the members that Legislator Erner withdrew Resolution No. 422 which established a policy to ban discrimination in housing based on source of income. He added that Legislator Erner would

be re-introducing the measure as a Proposed Local Law amending the Human Rights Law to add the protection.

Chair Uchitelle asked if there was any other business and hearing none;

<u>Adjournment</u>

Motion Made By:	Legislator Lopez
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Nolan
No. of Votes in Favor:	6
No. of Votes Against:	0
<u>TIME:</u>	7:31 PM
Respectfully submitted by	: Deputy Clerk Mah

Respectfully submitted by:Deputy Clerk MahlerMinutes Approved:August 1, 2023