

**Laws & Rules, Governmental Services Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** November 15, 2021 – 6:00 PM  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meetings, Meeting ID: 826 1609 8939  
By Phone (646) 558-8656  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Chairwoman Bartels  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Jay Mahler, Deputy Clerk  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts  
& Ronk (arrived at 6:11 PM)  
**ABSENT:** None  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Cahill & Uchitelle, Legislator-Elect Maloney, Clerk of the Legislature Fabella, Legislative Counsel Ragucci, Minority Counsel Pascale, Deputy County Executive Rider, Commissioner Wilson – UC Human Rights Commission, Comptroller Gallagher & Deputy Comptroller DiMarco – UC Comptroller’s Office, Director Doyle – UC Planning, Deputy Commissioner Quesnell – UC DPW, Mid-Hudson News correspondent

Chairwoman Bartels called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

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**Motion No. 1:** Moved to **APPROVE Minutes & Transcript of the October 18<sup>th</sup> Meeting**

**Motion By:** Legislator Roberts  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Gavaris

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner & Roberts  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 5  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Minutes APPROVED**

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Chairwoman Bartels advised the members that Commissioner Wilson of the Human Rights Department was in attendance to discuss the Proposed 2022 Budget for his department.

See attached transcript

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Resolutions for the November 16, 2021 Session of the Legislature

**Resolution No. 376:** Authorizing The Termination Of A Lease Agreement With CPR Kingston, LLC Bank For Space Used By The Board Of Elections

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Chair to mail written notice of termination of the lease agreement with CPR Kingston, LLC effective January 31, 2022 for office space currently occupied by the Board of Elections located at 284 Wall Street, Kingston.

**Motion No. 2:** **MOTION TO POSTPONE Resolution No. 376**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Gavaris  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution POSTPONED**

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**LATE Resolution No. 539:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$19,921.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – C&S Engineers, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with C&S Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$19,921 to add construction inspection services for the county public safety radio tower project and increase not-to-exceed amount through April 30, 2023.

**Motion No. 3:** **Resolution No. 539 MOVED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Donaldson

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**LATE Resolution No. 540:** Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$668,889.00 Entered Into By The County – Patriot Towers, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the execution of a contract with Patriot Towers, Inc. in the amount of \$668,889 to for construction services for the county public safety radio tower from December1, 2021 through November 30, 2022.

**Motion No. 4:** **Resolution No. 540 MOVED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Gavaris

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution ADOPTED**

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**Resolution No. 395:** Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 7 Of 2021, A Local Law Amending The Code Of The County Of Ulster In Relation To Evictions, To Be Held On Tuesday, December 14, 2021 At 7:00 PM

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution sets a Public Hearing to provide the public the opportunity to offer comments on Proposed Local Law No. 7 of 2021 on Tuesday, December 14th at 7:00 PM.

**Motion No. 5:** **Resolution No. 395 MOVED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Heppner  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Ronk

**Note:** Chairwoman Bartels recused herself from the discussion and asked Deputy Chair Roberts to Chair the meeting.

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Motion No. 6:** **MOTION TO POSTPONE Resolution No. 395**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Heppner

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts & Ronk  
**Voting Against:** None  
**Votes in Favor:** 6  
**Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** **Resolution POSTPONED**

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**LATE Resolution No. 538:** Approving The Memorandum Of Agreement Between The County Of Ulster And The Ulster County Sheriff's Employee Association, For The Years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023 And 2024 – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget

**Resolution Summary:** This resolution approves the MOA with the Sheriff's Employees Association from 2020 through 2024

**Motion No. 7:** **Resolution No. 538 MOVED FOR DISCUSSION**  
**Motion By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Donaldson

**Discussion:** See attached transcript

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Bartels, Donaldson, Gavaris, Heppner, Roberts & Ronk

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

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Chairwoman Bartels moved on to the Forthcoming Local Laws portion of the agenda. See attached transcript.

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Chairwoman Bartels advised the members that the Ulster County Ethics & Disclosure Law remained on their agenda and stated that she would like to schedule a special meeting to discuss the law. See attached transcript.

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Chairwoman Bartels asked if there was any old or new business. See attached transcript.

### **Adjournment**

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Ronk  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Roberts

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**TIME:** 6:38 PM

**Respectfully submitted: Deputy Clerk Mahler**  
**Minutes Approved: December 20, 2021**

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Regular Meeting Transcript**

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**ABSENT:** None  
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Chairwoman Bartels called the meeting to order at 6:02 PM

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**Chairwoman Bartels**

Thank you. All right. Welcome to the November 15 meeting of laws and rules and Government Services Committee. I will begin by asking the clerk to take attendance.

**Deputy Clerk Mahler**

Chairwoman Bartels

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Here

**Deputy Clerk Mahler**

Deputy Chair Roberts

**Legislator Roberts**

I am here

**Deputy Clerk Mahler**

Legislator Gavaris

**Legislator Gavaris**

Present

**Deputy Clerk Mahler**

Legislator Heppner

**Legislator Heppner**

Here

**Deputy Clerk Mahler**

Chairman Donaldson and Legislator Ronk. You have five members present and one absent.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, thank you. I will entertain a motion to approve the minutes from October 18, the regular meeting minutes and the transcript.

**Legislator Roberts**

I'll move it

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay. Do we have a second?

**Legislator Gavaris**

Second

**Chairwoman Bartels**

That was Legislator Roberts and Legislator Gavaris. Are there any comments on the minutes? Any, any questions, any concerns? Hearing none, all in favor of approval of the meeting minutes and transcripts?

**Committee Members**

Aye

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Opposed? Passes unanimously. Welcome, Commissioner Wilson.

**Commissioner Wilson**

Hello everyone, can you hear me well?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

We can hear you. Yes. [inaudible] I am going to hand, hand things over to you for your your department budget presentation.

**Commissioner Wilson**

Great, thank you. And thank you all for having me. I'm sorry, I'm at my son's game. So I'm multitasking here. Um, I just want to say, once again, thank you all for inviting me to this. I'm going over my budget for 2022. Um, it's, you know, it's, it's a, it's somewhat of, you know, you know, what, what, what we wanted as far as human rights department, but a lot of it is some, a lot of, we need a lot more in some ways, right? So I want to kind of take this time to explain what I mean, by that.

Um, in my department right now is just myself, and a part time, person, I did put in for another individual, because I was trying to really to explain the fact that the human rights department now is not a part time, um, department no more. So total full time department. Um, and the cases, you know, when when we look at the numbers of the cases, and like, you may see, like, you know, we had 21 cases, but that's the number of cases that we that we have the details of what each case, you know, the process of what each case takes is a real process is not just like a case coming in with a piece of paper. And then you read in it, you know, there's assessments, there's, there's consultation there is helping individuals, a lot individuals don't understand the application.

So there's that part of helping the individuals with the applications. And there's also that part where you have to reach out to each party, you know, each party has to be contacted on there's trips, that has to happen. So there's a lot into one case. As you all know, and I think Eve, Legislator Walter, you know, with the help with the help line, when I first put in for the, for another individual in this department, we had created this, I had asked for this way before to help line happened. So the individual that, you know, that we're talking about right now, that's coming in, wasn't exactly designed to be the helpline person, because when the when the ask happened, the helpline wasn't, you know, even at the table yet. So, I'm hoping, you know, to as we grow this department, that we, you know, we look at it as a department that needs personnel.

Um, and one of the biggest things coming into the office is that, you know, the Human Rights department, the Human Rights department needs to be um, you know, not just Kingston only, not just New Paltz not just Saugerties those towns have like automatic connection to us because they're close. Though, but the Plattekills the Shokans and all they don't really have that access to us. Um, so this is where the helpline happens and helps, but also when they when they do get to us the personnel to help service our constituents is greatly needed, You know, because the process is, is, you know, it could be long, there's a lot of counseling that happens, we utilize the circle training, in a lot of these cases, so personnel is, is greatly needed. And I hope that you know, in the future that, you know, that grows, and that happens, because it will basically help, um, what's going on. Um, so, you know, that's just something I just wanted to get out there, and put it in an atmosphere to really pay attention to, in the future, just so that we can be of better service to how we handle the cases and, and also being in a timely manner. So I think that'll be important, you know, just to throw out there down the line.

We have also, in the budget, you may see that there is a professional service of advertising. Um, one of the things I thought about was that, um, you know, wrapping the buses, you know, putting numbers on there, so people you know, and that helps us, that helps us get to a extending, extending the numbers of the contacts or, or how people have access to us. I think we did a really good job, like, really locally, um even getting out as far as Ellenville and all that other stuff. But I think that's kind of the most that we kind of reached was Ellenville. So I'm thinking with the wraps, you know, wrapping the UCAT buses with informations and numbers on there, that that will help you know, get it out there. A lot of people when I first came here, really didn't know that we had a human rights and I was kind of surprised about that, but it's, we out there and they know this now so, um, so that's good, I'm happy about that we can we can really, you know, get out there and and do you know what we signed on to do. So I'm happy about that.

Um, we have like conferences and money in the conference. And the reason the reason why, you know, I was asking about that is because we want to do. I, right now, I'm a part of human rights human rights commission, team, which we which which we have done already, six webinars on different issues. We got one actually this Wednesday on disability. This will be our sixth one, this one coming up. And that's in partnership and collaboration with, it's Ulster, Dutchess and Orange County. We have got together since I got in office, I reached out to them. And we formed this alliance. And so now we're doing these webinars and on on human rights issues and stuff locally, and I love to be able

to partner with other Human Rights Commission's I think it shows, um, you know, partnership, it's a governance so I'm, I've been excited about that, as well.

Also, we have in a lot of people ask me about the non contractual expenses, that's pretty much for the hearing officer, you know, when cases have to go, you know, to the hearing officer, and we have to get to that point. Um, we haven't I haven't utilized that since I've been in office, because we had, we didn't have a case, yet worthy enough to go there. But it's always good, you just never know, um, at this point, when you're going to need that. So, um, you know, that's just good to have in a pocket, just in case you have to do that. And we're still trying to clarify that process as well. And really, what that looks like, um. I'm sorry, I went over? Did I go over?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

No, you didn't go over that was just, there was someone entering the room. You can continue Commissioner

**Commissioner Wilson**

Alright, so that's about you know, that's about the hearing officer, and we haven't utilized that yet. But that's you know, that's that's just good to have. what else we have there? You know, traveling is self explanatory. We got to go to different places and stuff like that.

Um, so basically, I mean, unless you have, you all have any other questions for me, um, that's kind of like in a nutshell of you know, this budget and in what we what we look at what we look at what we're utilizing. This other person that's coming on next year, you know, with just, you know, looking to put this person on, on a team I spoke that this person is supposed to be part time. I'm suggesting that this person, be a full time person because with the helpline. Um a part time and really wouldn't help the situation with the helpline. When, when we wanted this person, this person was opposed to come on, and be with me, like, if I have two cases, and I have to be in, in Wallkill. Or I mean, um Ellenville. And we may have a case in Saugerties, this person is supposed to be with me to be able to take care of the Saugerties while I go out to Ellenville. And vice versa, that's what this is what I asked for this person to be because I was getting swamped with a lot of gotta go there gotta go there, and I'm high on time. So I think is important, you know, that we have this person. So I, I am requesting that this person be changed from a part time to a full time, which will help better for the that half that um the helpline situation, where I can have the we can kind of do to helpline and still be able to get out to the cases that comes before us. So that's all I, that's all I really have in this. And if there is any questions for me.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, let me open the floor to members. Does anyone have any questions for the Commissioner? Okay, I don't see any questions. I'm just going to ask for clarification. You just mentioned that you're going to be asking for a full time for the person to be a part time, the part time position that's in the budget, is that the part time position that's dedicated to the hotline?

**Commissioner Wilson**

Yeah, that's, that's what I just, that's what that's what I was just getting what I was hearing in the talks with Anna and everybody, but I was explaining to them when they mentioned that to me. So we have to, we have to, we have to go back to that. Because if we, when the helpline came on, that kind of defeats the purpose of having a part time person at that point. You know, I was I was gonna manage dealing with a part time person, at least, to help, you know, do what to help with the cases and everything else. But what the helpline, you know, the part time person really doesn't make sense that this person, it'd be make more sense for me to have a full time person with the part time person.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay. All right. So we'll try to get some clarity on that. In terms of what the intention was in the, in the budget, I see that Deputy Executive Rider just joined us. Again, I was just asking for clarity that the part time position that's in the budget is for the helpline, is that correct?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

So, that is partially for the helpline. The idea is that the two part time people that Tyrone will have for the '22 budget, one being someone who's already hired, and an additional part time person to cover a full time position will help take in tickets from the recovery service center 2.0, all calls coming into the county again, would come through that line. And when one of the service navigators gets a call related to the Human Rights Helpline, they would be directed to the Human Rights Commission, and one of these two positions that are now a full time position would help answer those calls and follow up on tickets.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

What do you mean that they're now a full time position? There's two part time.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

So there's two part time but they're, they're working off set hours.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay. So together, they make a part time position.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Okay, they make a full time position.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

A full time position

**Deputy Executive Rider**

The reason we did that way is that the current person is Spanish speaking and the, the commissioner did not want to lose that that current part time person. So instead of having a full time benefited, benefited person, we just added an additional part time person, but he will have somebody nine to five Monday through Friday. Okay, thank you. Does anyone else have any questions? Chair Donaldson?

**Chairman Donaldson**

Why, the Spanish speaking person, why, why won't that person just go full time?

**Deputy Executive Rider**

They are not able to.

**Chairman Donaldson**

Okay. That answers that.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Does anyone else have any questions? Legislator Roberts,

**Legislator Roberts**

Thank you, Madam Chair. I just like to follow up and thank Commissioner on his good work and, you know, maybe he can get settled in with the part time help and then maybe come back and see us in a couple of months. If he still thinks he needs a full time position or you know, we'll gladly take a look at it.

**Commissioner Wilson**

I appreciate that

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Anyone else have any questions? Alright. Thank you, Commissioner Wilson.

**Commissioner Wilson**

Thank you all. Appreciate it.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Enjoy your son's game

**Chairman Donaldson**

Thanks Ty. Have a good day.

**Commissioner Wilson**

All right. Good night everyone.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Goodnight. Okay, moving on to resolutions. First resolution is resolution number 376 authorizing the termination of a lease agreement with CPR Kingston LLC Bank for space used by the board of elections.

**Legislator Gavaris**

A motion to postpone it.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, I hear a motion to postpone

**Legislator Heppner**

I'll second

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Moved by Legislator Gavaris, seconded by Legislator Heppner. All in favor of postponement?

**Committee Members**

Aye

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Postponed, I mean, opposed? Okay passes unanimously

**Legislator Ronk**

Madam Chair?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Yes.

**Chairman Donaldson**

Um, can we take the two late resolutions out of order? So Mr. Quesnell doesn't have to stay with us all night.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Yeah, that's fine.

**Deputy Commissioner Quesnell**

Thank you.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

So we are going to move to the late resolution. Late resolution number 539. Approving the execution of a contract amendment for 19,921 causing the aggregate contract plus amendment amounts being in excess of 50,000 entered into by the county CNS engineers, Inc. Department of Public Works.

**Legislator Ronk**

I'll move it

**Chairman Donaldson**

I'll move it

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Moved by Legislator Ronk. Seconded by Chair Donaldson. Okay, Mr. Quesnell, you want to give us a little explanation?

**Deputy Commissioner Quesnell**

Sure. Sorry about it being late. It's just the reality behind the project is we have to be concerned with lead times and we're seeing it across a lot of our capital projects. Dennis can speak to a little bit of it as well. But we're just hoping to get it established, rather than wait another month so we can get the order in to help us with lead times. And in fact, I was telling Jay earlier that we're trying to establish more projects next month as well, just to help us with lead times.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

And for clarification, you mean materials lead times? Correct?

**Deputy Commissioner Quesnell**

Absolutely.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

They're steel towers.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Yeah.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

The other, I, so the reason this wasn't on time, though, as well, was that the bid for the project was open last, I think Wednesday.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay. Planner Doyle. Did you want to add anything?

**Director Dennis Doyle**

No, that's no, they. They're fine. That's a great explanation. I would say that, you know, we we've heard lead times for some of the tower and shelter facilities of over 22 weeks.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, does anyone have any questions? Okay, seeing none. On the resolution, all those in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Opposed? Passes unanimously. Okay, resolution number 540. Approving the execution of a contract for 668,889 entered into by the county Patriot towers Inc Department of Public Works.

**Legislator Ronk**

I'll move it

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Moved by Legislator Ronk seconded. Do I have a second? Seconded by Legislator Gavaris. This is the same circumstance, correct?

**Deputy Commissioner Quesnell**

Yes.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Any questions on the resolution? Seeing none all those in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Opposed? Passes unanimously. Thank you very much.

**Deputy Commissioner Quesnell**

Thank you everybody. Have a good night

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, moving back to our agenda order. Resolution number 395 setting a public hearing on proposed local law number 7 of 2021 a local law amending the code of the county of Ulster in relation to evictions to be held on Tuesday, December 14, 2021 at 7pm.

**Legislator Heppner**

I'll move it

**Legislator Ronk**

I'll second it

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Moved by Legislator Heppner, seconded by Legislator Ronk. I'm gonna, I think I'm, well I'll defer to the, defer to counsel if I'm overstepping my bounds, but my understanding is we don't have a response from the ethics board. So,

**Legislative Counsel Ragucci**

That's correct

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, so I will I can hand this over to Deputy Chair Roberts to handle if we're going to do anything other than postpone or take no action.

**Legislator Ronk**

I'm prepared to, I'm prepared to postpone tonight or take no action but it's up to the rest of the committee. I'd be just as happy to defeat it. But if the if there's will of the committee to postpone it I, I'll make that motion now.

**Legislator Roberts**

Tracey, do you want me to take over?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

I

**Chairman Donaldson**

May I say something?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Why don't you? I think I can speak to postponement as I recall, but other than postponement

**Chairman Donaldson**

Yeah. I mean, can I say something, or?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Yeah, I handed it off to Deputy Chair Roberts.

**Legislator Roberts**

Go ahead Chairman Donaldson.

**Chairman Donaldson**

I don't see how, you know, this would be a conflict of interest. If somebody has an apartment house or a, something of that nature. I mean, or you are, you have a family member, I mean, I just find that a pretty far reach. You know, when you're thinking about that, it'd be like me not being able to vote on the budget because I have, because I'm paid through the budget. There's just so many things, it's just seem odd.

But having said that, I mean, we can postpone this, or we can look at it. I really feel that we've been putting this off, and we're not really doing our due diligence and tearing, tearing this apart and bring it in putting it back together, again, like we often do with these types of resolution these types of laws. I mean, I think the concept is good here, in that, you know, you want to protect tenants a certain amount. And I think, there, there's some positive stuff here. But there's some things here that are just way too far into a point where it really hurts somebody that owns a duplex, or somebody that owns, you know, there's most of the people that rent out, are small renters. It's not the large apartment buildings, and they're the ones, the large apartment buildings, they're the ones that create most of the problems. If you take a look at what is it, Sunset Gardens? Ones that they call [inaudible] they call it Royal?. I don't know what, Royal, do you know what it's called Marc? The new [inaudible] over there.

**Deputy Executive Rider**

Oh, that, yeah, the new owners of Sunset?

**Chairman Donaldson**

Royal Gardens Apartments. Their lease is, if you look at their leases, they're disgusting. What they're attempting to do to tenants there. And that's what we need to be addressing things of that nature. In many cases, you're not seeing a massive amount of evictions by, particularly people that own duplexes, because they do not want people to leave. You know, they really do want to keep them. A good tenant means an awful lot to somebody that owns a duplex, or maybe two of them, because that's their retirement. So my concern is with this is if you're going to do this bill, we need to do it in a manner and in a fashion that we have with so many others. Meeting, bringing in, you can bring in a couple of landlords, particular small landlords is what you really want to bring in. And then tenants right's people and then and break this down and tear it apart and create a law that is fair. [music]

**Legislator Roberts**

Chairman Donaldson, did we lose you?

**Chairman Donaldson**

Yeah, you did for a second, my damn phone went off. I'm still there?

**Legislator Roberts**

Yes

**Chairman Donaldson**

So I mean, so there's things in its law, that is no way that I would support. But there's other things in here that I would. So, my mindset is, we can either turn this down, postpone it, but you people have work to do, I'm not going to be here to do it. But I really think you need to take this apart and you need to do it the way you have done so many of them. Legislator Bartels, Legislator Ronk. Both of you have been involved in many resolutions similar, not this type, but similar ones that are taking on a really a big issue. But you got to break it down into small parts that we have done so many times before. So I'm up for whatever you want to do with this. I'll go with it. But I, the way it's written, if it's a vote, I'll be voting no. I don't believe it should be brought the way it is written.

**Legislator Roberts**

Okay, I cannot see everybody. Anybody else need to speak?

**Legislator Abe Uchitelle**

If I may, Deputy

**Legislator Heppner**

Legislator Uchitelle has his hand up

**Legislator Abe Uchitelle**

Deputy, Deputy Chair Roberts, may I speak?

**Legislator Roberts**

Yes, Sir, please.

**Legislator Abe Uchitelle**

So you know, as the bill sponsor it does pain me to say this, but I do think that the best option is is the postponement tonight. Out of respect, while I agree with Chairman Donaldson on the question of the conflict out of respect to my colleagues, I have not been engaging with a couple of folks that feel that the conflict would preclude them from discussing the details. You know, the a couple of thoughts on that. One, you know, I think that there is still work to be done on this.

We made progress last month in economic development where we made a number of changes based on feedback that I had received. And I think that there's further changes. I think that there's consideration of the fact that we've particularly heard from a number of landlords that operate in New Paltz, about the unique circumstances of the student population. You know, that's something that we can't take lightly. There are a number of details that I think that we can still drill down on here to Chairman Donaldson's point.

My, kind of, feelings based on the rule change in our in our process around changes to legislation following a public hearing are that we can bring a law to a public hearing without it being in its final form. I realized that not everyone might be comfortable with that. And it might be wise to actually have further public hearings after hearing from the public. But that's what we're reviewing tonight. Resolution 395 refers to the public hearing.

I think that, I think we all realize whether we authorize a specific public hearing or not, we're going to be hearing from the public every month until we actually authorize the public hearing, because this is what folks are dealing with right now. This is what landlords that have been dealing with the moratorium are dealing with, this with tenants that

are dealing with rising prices are dealing with, and I get that. And my goal is to hear from these groups and to further work on this. However, having having heard some of the thoughts on the committee, I you know, as the sponsor would be appreciative of a postponement tonight as much as it pains me to say that.

**Legislator Roberts**

Thank you, sir.

**Chairman Donaldson**

I think I'd like to make that motion, Mr. Chairman,

**Legislator Roberts**

go ahead, Kenny. Second? Can I get a second? [inaudible]

**Legislator Heppner**

I'll second

**Legislator Roberts**

Jonathan, thank you. All in favor postponement?

**Committee Members**

Aye

**Legislator Roberts**

Back to you Chairwoman Bartels

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Thank you. And just to confirm, we're allowed to vote on the postponement while we're waiting for this correct? Yes. So Aye. Okay. Thank you. Chair Donaldson?

**Chairman Donaldson**

Yes, I think it, you know, we're postponing this, but each time you're postponing it, the committee has not worked on it. I think they need to start working on this in a manner that you can put something together. So maybe you just you know, by February or March, you could actually get this thing passed. I mean, I'm I don't want to I don't want to see it necessarily prolonged. But I don't want to see it rushed. either. I could, because there's a lot of things, little things in there that are concerning to me. And I know that I've had discussions with others that it was concerning with them. And I think that's what you, we need to address. And I think this committee needs to address it. Maybe start addressing in the new year. I don't know, whatever you guys think is right. But the point is, is it's got to be done, and it's not being done. And that's what my concern is. And I know that there's been a ruling saying that we, some people are claiming that you can't vote on it if you own an apartment, or you rent an apartment or a house out, or something of that nature. I mean, that could stretch to almost anybody. So what my, that's a concern. So, I think that once that's straightened, you know, let's get to work on this.

**Legislator Abe Uchitelle**

Yeah, can I, can I just speak to that before we move off of it?

**Chairwoman Bartels**

I just I feel a need to speak to it. Despite the fact that I'm one of the people being referred to. And counsel can stop me if I'm overstepping. I just want to be clear that I am anxious to work on this. I have been advised not to work on this until, and the same goes for Legislator Gavaris, we have been advised by counsel not to work on it due to the potential of an appearance of a conflict, and out of abundance of caution requested a ruling from the ethics board. Soon as that ruling comes in, I'm more than happy to work on this. I'm I'm waiting. I have my notes ready to go. I'm just I have been advised, I am not saying that is my opinion. I'm saying that I've been advised not to speak on it. And the same goes for Legislator Gavaris.

**Chairman Donaldson**

No, I, I know that. I don't, I hope I didn't make you feel like I was putting you on the spot.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

I just want to make sure it's on the record that I'm not I'm not claiming I have a conflict. I've been advised.

**Chairman Donaldson**

No, no. I know that. I realize that. And the idea that the ethics board hasn't weighed in on this is a little absurd.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Well, hopefully that will be soon. Legislator Uchitelle

**Legislator Abe Uchitelle**

Yeah. Thank you Chairwoman Bartels. You know on in turn, I think legislative counsel can testify that that he's sick of me on this because I have been really pressing our legal staff on ways, on options around specific types of amendments that we could make, to make it fair to, you know, get the votes to get people comfortable with this. And and that's something I'm really excited to do. And and I do very much agree with the spirit of everything you're saying. Chairman Donaldson. Once ants this, this curtain is lifted, that the ethics question has left us with, I suspect, we'll be off to the races. And I'm trying to do as much work behind the scenes as legislative counsel can testify to, to get ready for that to for those negotiations and improvements. And he's probably sick of dealing with me on this. But I can assure you I've tried to make best use of the downtime, if you will, as possible. So I appreciate that sentiment and I agree 100%.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Thank you. Thank you. So moving on. We're late resolution number 538 approving the memorandum of agreement between the county of Ulster and the Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association for the years 2020.

**Legislator Ronk**

I'll move it

**Chairman Donaldson**

I'll move it

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Thank you. Okay, that's moved by Legislator Ronk, seconded by Chair Donaldson. And for the record for the for the audio record. That's 2020 through 2024. It's been moved and seconded. Does anyone have any questions? Okay, seeing none, I'll call the vote. All those in favor?

**Committee Members**

Aye.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Opposed? Passes unanimously. Thank you. Okay. So that's the end of the resolutions.

You'll see in in your packet forthcoming local laws, we will be having public hearings on session night. For local law number six of 2021, the school based mental health law and local number eight of 2021 further composting amendments, that's just flagged for everyone's awareness, because they will, they will be coming back to us.

And then we had on tonight's agenda, which I will open the floor, a discussion of Ulster County ethics and disclosure law amendments. I don't know how deep we want to get into this tonight, you know, I had the expectation with a light agenda that we would really have time to dig in. I'm not sure that's going to happen. And, and I'll open the floor. But I will say I read I reread it. And there's a there's a lot of really good work there. We spent a lot of time on this. Every member of this current committee will be here next year. And I really would like to see this, these changes may not necessarily these exact changes, but us to complete this job. It may not happen before the end of the year, obviously, but but I don't want to, I don't want to give up on it Legislator Ronk.

**Legislator Ronk**

Thanks. I agree. And we definitely put a lot of time and effort into that in the last term. I don't think that we should take action until the next term, because quite frankly, you know, we're up against deadlines, you know, for public hearings and action at this point. I don't even think that we have time if we wanted to. But I do think that this should happen been at a special meeting that, whose purpose is to discuss these changes, because I personally haven't taken the time to go back and review all the changes that were made. You know, I have the recollection of the, you know, 30 meetings or so that we had the last time. But I, I would like the opportunity to have the focus on that rather than go through them tonight.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

So, so that's fair. I appreciate the hyperbole. But I know it was excessive. It was many hours of discussion. So is it the, is it the committee's want to to have a special meeting before the end of this term? Just so again, since we're all the five of us, we'll be back at the at the least so that we can at least get our footing on where we're at with this in heading into the next term.

**Legislator Heppner**

I'm open to that.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Okay, so I will have Clerk Mahler either send around a doodle or check with everybody and we will schedule a special meeting to discuss this. So if everyone can take the time in advance to look back over it. The distance provided me some, I noticed things I hadn't noticed before certainly and probably the same will happen for everyone. So it's

probably a good idea to to give it its own its own day. Okay, so any other any old business anyone wants to bring up?  
Any new business? Alright then I'll entertain a motion for adjournment.

**Legislator Ronk**

So moved.

**Chairman Donaldson**

Seconded.

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Thank you. All in favor of adjournment.

**Committee Members**

Aye

**Chairwoman Bartels**

Bye bye, everybody. Thank you