

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE



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MINUTES

MONDAY JANUARY 11, 2021

PUBLIC HEARINGS AND ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

vimeo livestream <https://livestream.com/accounts/1512750/events/1824203>



Public Comment via Call in Studio. Dial: 205-Ulster-0 (205-857-8370)

6:10 PM

MEETING CALLED TO ORDER BY VICTORIA A. FABELLA, CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE:
6:20 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE TO THE FLAG AND MOMENT OF SILENT MEDITATION:
Led by Legislative Clerk Fabella.

ROLL CALL: **Present:** 22 **Absent:** 1 (Legislator Delaune)

6:23 PM - **CALL OF THE PUBLIC HEARING BY CLERK:** On Proposed Local Law No. 13 Of 2020, A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter, (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006), And Amending The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, (Local Law No. 10 of 2008) To Further Clarify Budget Modification After Adoption

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no speakers signed up for public comment.

Motion by Legislator Litts, second by Legislator Donaldson to adjourn the public hearing. All in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED: 6:24 PM

6:24 PM - **CALL OF THE 2ND PUBLIC HEARING BY CLERK:** On The Sale And/Or Transfer Of Lands Owned By The County Located At 101-899 Enterprise Drive And 605-695 Boices Lane

PUBLIC COMMENT: There were two speakers signed up for public comment. (see attached transcript)

1. March Gallagher, UC Comptroller
2. Tim Wiedemann, Dir. Economic Development

Motion by Legislator Litts, second by Legislator Ronk to adjourn the public hearing. All in favor.

PUBLIC HEARING ADJOURNED: 6:29 PM

NOMINATION OF THE CHAIR OF THE ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Legislative Clerk Fabella called upon Legislator Cahill for the purpose of making a nomination of Chair.

Legislator Cahill motioned, seconded by Legislator Petit to nominate Legislator David Donaldson as Chair.

Legislative Clerk Fabella then asked if there were any other nominations, and hearing none.

Motion to close nominations by Minority Leader Ronk, seconded by Legislator Litts.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0

Clerk Fabella announced that Legislator David B. Donaldson was re-elected as the 2021 Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature.

CHAIR'S ACCEPTANCE

Chairman Donaldson thanked everyone for their continued confidence and support and commented the county has a number of challenges to face going forward protecting the health and safety of the people of Ulster County. He also expressed "Our greatest achievements never came from cutting the budget or adding a small paragraph to a contract, they came from setting policy." (see transcript for complete acceptance speech)

OFFICIAL NEWSPAPERS

PUBLICATION OF CONCURRENT RESOLUTIONS, ELECTION NOTICES ISSUED BY THE SECRETARY OF STATE, AND THE OFFICIAL CANVASS

- (D) – Daily Freeman**
- (R) – Southern Ulster Times**

PUBLICATION OF LOCAL LAWS AND VARIOUS NOTICES

- (D) – Hudson Valley One**
- (R) – Shawangunk Journal**

BIRTHDAYS:

- Legislator Mary Beth Maio, January 15th
- Legislator Dean Fabiano, January 24th
- Legislator Laura Petit, January 28th

COMMUNICATIONS FROM:

UC Legislative Chairman, David B. Donaldson

Clerk of the Legislature
UC Majority Leader, Jonathan Heppner
UC Minority Leader, Kenneth Ronk
Tom Gibney, Compliance Officer

UC Attorney's Office, Attorney Clinton Johnson
Community Services Board

UC Personnel Department

D&M, LLP

Ulster County Planning

NYS Sheriffs' Association, Inc.
Climate Smart Communities

NYS Department of Public Service

WMC Health
Michael Baden, Supervisor, Town of Rochester
UC Tourism Department
Sarah Wenk
Daniel Gallancy
Thomas Gibney

Construction News
County News
Fawn Tantillo, Sr. Leg. Emp.

Burton Gulnick, Commissioner of Finance

Catskill Watershed Corporation

Letter to Lance MacMillan, Regional Director NYSDOT, re: Release of Maintenance and Jurisdiction 1851 Ulster Ave.

Statement of County Equalization Reapportionment Appt. Letters
Reapportionment Appt. Letters
Minutes & Agenda for October 2020 UC Corporate Compliance Committee Meeting

County Litigation, November 2020
November 9, 2020 Meeting Minutes
L. Schwartz resignation as of 12/14/20
Civil Service Examination

Announcements
UC Social Services Agreed-Upon Procedures for the Period Jan 1-Dec 31, 2019

Notices of Ag District #1 30-day public review period (Esopus, Lloyd, Marlborough, New Paltz & Plattekill)
Expedited Bail by Credit Card Program
Annual Report of Activities 2020

Newsletter, Vol. 2 Issue 12
Fact Sheet on COVID 19 Moratorium on Utility and Municipal Shutoffs

VITAL News, November/December
Emergency Order 37-39-2020
Trending, January and February 2021

Email re: UCIDA meeting
Resignation
UC Corporate Compliance Committee minutes & agenda from November 2020

November 2020, Vol. 36 No. 11
December 7, 2020, Vol. 52, No. 23
Returning Check No. 2361192 to TH
Record sent in error

(8) UC IDA PILOT project payment calculations and billing to various Towns/Villages

Notice of Preliminary Decisions

COUNTY EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS:

Press Release: UC Executive Ryan Signs 2021 Budget
Executive Orders 60-63-2020, 2021-1.01, 2021-1.02 and State of Emergency Declaration

PUBLIC COMMENT: There was one speaker signed up for public comment. (see transcript)

1. Sarah Wenk, Kingston

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE: 6:45 PM

Chairman David Donaldson designated Majority Leader Heppner to Chair the Committee of the Whole.

Committee Chair Heppner called the Committee of the Whole to Order.

MOTION NO. 1 Resolved to consider - Resolution Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4 & 5 as a Block

Motion Made By: Minority Leader Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Fabiano

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 1: Creating Standing Committees For The Year 2021
Resolution No. 2: Designation of Official Newspapers
Resolution No. 3: Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Of Up To \$15,000,000.00 Revenue Anticipation Notes Of The County Of Ulster, New York, In Anticipation Of The Collection Or Receipt Of Revenues Estimated To Be Received From Sales And Compensating Use Taxes During The Current Fiscal Year Of Said County
Resolution No.4: Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Of Up To \$20,000,000.00 Tax Anticipation Notes Of The County Of Ulster, New York, In Anticipation Of The Collection Or Receipt Of 2021 Real Property Taxes Based On 2020 Real Property Tax Assessments For The Current Fiscal Year Of Said County
Resolution No.5: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$500,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Accucare Nursing & Homecare, Inc. – Department Of Emergency Management

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: 22
Voting Against: 0
Absent: 1 (Delaune)

Disposition: Carried, Resolutions Blocked

Committee Chair Heppner called the question on the blocked Resolutions.

Discussion: None
Roll Call Vote: No
Voting In Favor: 22
Voting Against: 0
Absent: 1 (Delaune)

Disposition: Resolution Nos. 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 Adopted

Adjournment of the Committee Of The Whole

Motion Made By: Legislator Litts
Motion Seconded By: Minority Leader Ronk

No. of Votes in Favor: 22
No. of Votes Against: 0

Committee Of The Whole Adjourned: 6:47 PM

A motion was made by Minority Leader Ronk, seconded by Legislator Litts to block Resolution Nos. 1-5. All in favor.

RESOLUTION NOS: 1 - 5

1 Creating Standing Committees For The Year 2021

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Delaune)

2 Designation Of Official Newspapers

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Delaune)

3 Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Of Up To \$15,000,000.00 Revenue Anticipation Notes Of The County Of Ulster, New York, In Anticipation Of The Collection Or Receipt Of Revenues Estimated To Be Received From Sales And Compensating Use Taxes During The Current Fiscal Year Of Said County

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Delaune)

4 Authorizing The Issuance And Sale Of Up To \$20,000,000.00 Tax Anticipation Notes Of The County Of Ulster, New York, In Anticipation Of The Collection Or Receipt Of 2021 Real Property Taxes Based On 2020 Real Property Tax Assessments For The Current Fiscal Year Of Said County

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Delaune)

5 Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$500,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Accucare Nursing & Homecare, Inc. – Department Of Emergency Management

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES: 22 NOES: 0
(Absent: Legislator Delaune)

MINUTES

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JANUARY 11, 2021

MEETING ADJOURNED IN MEMORY OF: Read by Legislator Cahill.

Brian Woodworth, Huntersville, NC
Janet E. Litts, Highland, NY
Emma Maio, Pozzouli, Italy
Harvey L. Every, West Shokan, NY
Edna Marable, Kingston, NY
Samantha C. Kiernan, Saugerties, NY
Joanne Michaels, Woodstock, NY
Stella L. Couris, San Diego, CA
Martin F. Tully, High Falls, NY
William A. Morse, Kerhonkson, NY
Suzanne M. Quigley, Lake Katrine, NY
Raymond Janson, Kerhonkson, NY
Christopher J. Ehring, Woodstock, NY
Joseph Petras, Tillson, NY
James F. Dodd, Sr., New Paltz, NY
Clarence E. Gardner, Saugerties, NY
John Wackman, Kingston, NY
Barbara A. Azzinaro, Gardiner, NY
Joseph P. Brice, Glasco, NY
Frank "Jeff" Budik Sr., Stone Ridge, NY

D'Janeira Mason, Kingston, NY
Timothy Stroup, Saugerties, NY
Robin Carroll, Rosendale, NY
Vincent R. Guido Jr., Kingston, NY
Elizabeth Griffith, Kingston, NY
Joan L. Klaessig, Bearsville, NY
Patricia Schiskie, Port Ewen, NY
Eric W. Borchert Jr., High Falls, NY
Theresa M. Dispensa, Ulster Park, NY
Donald M. Roper, New Paltz, NY
Michael A. Spada Jr., Kingston, NY
Christopher Arderholdt, Kingston, NY
William J. Glennon, Kingston, NY
Rev. Theodore W. Warren, Saugerties, NY
Donald E. Shaw, Saugerties, NY
Palmer L. Kocher, West Hurley, NY
Donald E. Wilson, Gardiner, NY
Frederic Infelice, Marlboro, NY
John H. Lee, Kingston, NY

Motion by Legislator Litts, seconded by Legislator Bruno to adjourn Legislative Session.
All in favor.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 6:58 PM

**Ulster County Legislature
Public Hearings & Organizational Meeting**

Meeting Transcript

January 11, 2021

Clerk Fabella

I am going to go ahead and call this meeting to order. Please stand for the Pledge of Allegiance and a moment of silent meditation. 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. Please be seated. Roll Call. Archer... Archer.

Legislator Archer

Here. Sorry, I thought...

Clerk Fabella

No problem. Bartels.

Legislator Bartels

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Bruno.

Legislator Bruno

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Cahill.

Legislator Cahill

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Corcoran.

Legislator Corcoran

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Criswell.

Legislator Criswell

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Delaune.

Clerk Fabella

Donaldson.

Legislator Donaldson

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Fabiano.

Legislator Fabiano

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Gavaris.

Legislator Gavaris

Present.

Clerk Fabella

Greene.

Legislator Greene

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Haynes.

Legislator Haynes

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Heppner.

Legislator Heppner

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Litt's.

Legislator Litts

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Lopez.

Legislator Lopez

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Maio.

Legislator Maio

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Parete.

Legislator Parete

Yup.

Clerk Fabella

Petit.

Legislator Petit

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Roberts.

Legislator Roberts

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Ronk.

Legislator Ronk

Present.

Clerk Fabella

Uchitelle.

Legislator Uchitelle

Here.

Clerk Fabella

Walter.

Legislator Walter

Here.

Clerk Fabella

And Wawro.

Legislator Wawro

Here.

Clerk Fabella

22 present one absent this evening.

Clerk Fabella

Tonight, we have two public hearings. Our first public hearing is on Proposed Local Law No. 13, 2020. A Local Law Amending The Ulster County Charter And Amending The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster To Further Clarify Budget Modification After Adoption. We currently have no speakers signed up for this public hearing. And we've double checked that to be sure. So, at this point, I'll take a motion to close.

Legislator Litts

Madam Clerk. I will make a motion to close public hearing.

Clerk Fabella

Okay.

Legislator Donaldson

I'll second that.

Clerk Fabella

Thank you, Legislator Donaldson. The public hearing is adjourned. The next public hearing we have tonight is, On The Sale And/Or Transfer Of Lands Owned By The County Located At 101-899 Enterprise Drive And 605-695 Boices Lane. We do have one speaker currently signed up to speak and that is our Comptroller March Gallagher. Can you hear us March?

Comptroller March Gallagher

Good evening. Happy New Year. Thank you for having me. I want to thank the members of the legislature for this opportunity. And I want to commend the executive and the legislature for addressing the repurposing of this portion of Tech City, a property whose history is the former IBM property has not met its potential and jobs investment or employment. So, thank you very much for taking this on. I'm here tonight as the watchdog for the people of Ulster County. Ulster County taxpayers are already very invested in this property, including \$3.8 million in back taxes, and upwards of \$700,000 in 2020 expenses for repairs utilities and bringing the building up to code. We have another \$2.9 million in the capital plan going forward. Now there are some potential tendencies and a development opportunity for this building the former Bank of America building known as Enterprise West. This hearing is in regard to the disposition of this parcel to an LDC. That is the nonprofit entity type commonly used when a government entity surpluses property for development. LDC's do not have the same transparency requirements as municipal governments. I am not looking to halt or delay disposition, but rather I'm urging the administration to make more information available about the potential uses for this building, as well as what the process will be for developing a plan. A plan that includes community input and transparency for this building, the other portions of the campus that will be eligible for foreclosure in the next 18 to 24 months, and the longer term uses for the campus as a whole. Let's go beyond beyond performative democracy here in Ulster County to ensure transparency and solicit input, particularly when discussing the single largest economic development opportunity in the county's history. Thank you very much for giving me this opportunity to speak tonight.

Clerk Fabella

We do have a second speaker signed up this evening. And that is our Director of Economic Development. Mr. Tim Wiedemann.

Dir. Econ. Dev. Tim Wiedemann

Good evening everyone, just want to check that I can be heard.

Legislator Ronk

Yes.

Clerk Fabella

We can hear you go ahead.

Dir. Econ. Dev. Tim Wiedemann

Great, thank you. Just wanted to quickly thank you all for all of your work. So far in consideration of the future of this important site. As the comptroller did explain this is a transformative opportunity for Ulster County and for our economy. We recognize that there's a lot of interest in this site. And there's a lot of need to be transparent and to allow for members of the public as well as members of the legislature and local elected leaders to be involved in this process, and offer our commitment to do so. Although that is important, it is also important to recognize that opportunities have consistently passed us by as a county due to the lack of development opportunity at this site as it was held by its previous owner. And so we feel that there's every every urgency to advance forward redevelopment of the site to allow us to capture those opportunities, particularly during a time when the county will continue to feel economic pressure as

a result of the COVID pandemic and our recovery from it in the coming months and years. We look forward to working with the legislature and towards that end, have established and will establish an advisory committee that we hope to involve the legislature in as we chart our path forward in the redevelopment of this site. And as well, we will be releasing later this week a request for expressions of interest to again provide an opportunity for local businesses, developers and professional services firms that wish to work on this redevelopment effort to put that expression of interest forward to us for consideration as we proceed with the site. So, thanks again for your time, and thanks for your comments.

Clerk Fabella

At this time, we have no other speakers signed up. We have confirmed with Fawn that that is in fact the case. So, can I have a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Litts

Madam Clerk I'd like to make a motion to adjourn the public hearing.

Legislator Ronk

Second.

Clerk Fabella

And second Legislator Ronk. The public hearing is adjourned.

Clerk Fabella

The next order of business on tonight's agenda is the nomination of the Chairperson of the Ulster County Legislature. Are there any nominations for such?

Clerk Fabella

Legislator Cahill.

Legislator Cahill

Thank you, Madam Clerk. Dave Donaldson has been a dedicated public servant for decades. His 23 years in the Ulster County legislature are testament to his commitment and desire to improve the community he serves. Legislator Donaldson has shown through his actions, his willingness to listen to all sides of an issue and use those discussions to come to consensus agreements. As a legislature and county, we are facing unprecedented times ahead with the ongoing scourge that is COVID-19. We need a leader with experience patience and foresight to guide us through these difficult times. I can think of no one more qualified or ready to lead us than Dave, Legislator Dave Donaldson. Legislator Donaldson is the right person for the job at this important time in our history. It is with great pride and honor that I nominate Legislator Dave Donaldson to remain as Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature.

Clerk Fabella

Is there a second for Legislator Donaldson?

Legislator Petit

Second.

Legislator Parete

Yeah, I'll second it.

Clerk Fabella

Legislator, Petit kind of beat you to it there.

Legislator Parete

You got it.

Clerk Fabella

Legislator Petit.

Legislator Petit

Thank you. Thank you, Madam Clerk. It has been a really rough year, and I would like to thank Legislator and Chair Donaldson, for his willingness to continue to serve. It is my privilege to second the nomination for David Donaldson as Ulster County Legislative Chair.

Clerk Fabella

We have a nomination for Legislator Donaldson. Are there any other nominations? Please excuse me for this formality. But are there any other nominations? One more time. Are there any other nominations for Chair of the Legislature?

Legislator Ronk

I move we close nominations.

Legislator Litts

I'll second that motion.

Clerk Fabella

Okay. All in favor of closing nominations.

Committee Members

Aye, Aye.

Clerk Fabella

Okay. I don't even know if we need a long roll on this Majority Leader Heppner and Minority Leader Ronk. Are you okay to call your votes?

Legislator Ronk

I'm prepared.

Legislator Heppner

Yes.

Clerk Fabella

So, on Legislator Donaldson to be the Chairperson for the 2021 calendar year. Legislator Heppner.

Legislator Heppner

We are proudly, a short yes.

Clerk Fabella

And Legislator Ronk.

Legislator Ronk

And in an unprecedented time, we are also proudly, a short yes to reelect Chairman Donaldson for another year.

Clerk Fabella

So, Chairman Donaldson, it is your show. You are the chair of the 2021 Legislature.

Committee Members

Applause.

Chairman Donaldson

Well, I am really, I'm very humbled by that. And as you know, and I will continue that my doors always open, my phone is always available. I don't care who you are, when you call, I will always get back with you. I try to pride myself on always returning phone calls. And I'll continue to do that. And I am going to make a little - say little something in reference to this coming year. So, I will start now, I guess. The legislature has to carry out its charge of protecting the health and safety of the people of Ulster County. We must have effective communication with one another when we share information. Plus, it should be done in a positive and helpful fashion and when receiving information, we must listen with an open mind. Cliques aren't just something from high school. Organizations must be aware of cliques forming, because they have a potential to do a lot of harm in the workplace. Not only do they make some feel alienated and left out of the loop, they have the potential to keep projects from reaching futation and distract members from doing their best work. That was taken from "Are Cliques Killing Your Company", HR Publications. We all need to treat and try to reach out past our comfort zones to include others you may have dismissed in the past. We are all here to create a better Ulster County. And the more involved the better we are. And the more we reach out to each other, the better off we'll be. We work through a committee system that requires a certain amount of trust in our fellow legislators. When a resolution goes to the committee of jurisdiction, we need to count on them being thoroughly vetted and if it has to go to another committee it should be done in an expeditious matter. Holding things after the original committee of jurisdiction did its due diligence should be the exception. It shouldn't be the norm. Although we have a fiduciary duty to our constituents, we must also embrace our role as policymakers rather than leaving that up to the executive and the department heads. And we get bogged down into small details of contracts that were

vetted by attorneys it takes from our ability to set policies. Our greatest achievements never came from cutting the budget or adding a small paragraph to a contract. They came from setting policy. Last year, our nation, state and county faced the year like no other. In my tenure on the legislature I've experienced many changes in the legislature and how it operated, but nothing like this. We had some very tough debates. But in the end, both sides of the aisle came together working with the executive to deliver results. And I'm quite proud of most of those results. Even though our attention was preoccupied with COVID, we were able to accomplish several things through cooperation. We held the line on the budget to the use of separation incentives and intense examination by the finance committees. We appointed a new IDA and reached out to help small businesses with a loan program to counter COVID related issues. They renegotiated pilots to ensure more jobs and began holding those with pilots accountable and a reasonable way. We took control of part of Tech City campus in need of repairs. Tonight, we took the next step to bring that property back online to create jobs and pay taxes. We are having discussions on how we will proceed and have been assured that we will be an equal partner with the executive in the development talks. You saw that tonight with Tim Wiedemann and I've had several conversations with him, along with Evelyn Wright, and with the executive in reference in this property. We will also need to discuss a policy on how we're going to address the other properties in the area that may soon be ours through default. At the beginning of last year, we established a taskforce on criminal justice reform that was created at the end of 2019. One of our last acts in 2020, sorry, was to enhance the public defender's office while creating a whole new conflict defender's office without the use of county money. We put forth a housing task force that has recently finished our needs assessment which we must follow up with a concrete policy for attracting housing development of all kinds, as well as assisting municipalities in increasing their housing stock through zoning, and on apartments and land banks to name a few. We also created the Golden Hill Housing, LDC and surplus property to them to get requests for proposals. The LDC has chosen a developer and the final details of the contract is being worked out as we meet. Let us look into other properties and surplus for housing using that same [inaudible]. The health of our county is at risk for many for us. COVID may have added to it. But the problems have been staring at us for years. At the beginning of the executive's term, he called out for cutting opioid related deaths in half. Well, with COVID the opposite has happened. We were once the model county for delivering mental health care, but over the past decade, we have become a county facing serious shortages of care. More and more of our constituents are losing their health coverage putting them at risk, as well as those around us. What can we do to address these issues? What policies do we have in place? What are the department's doing and the departments become the policy makers because we've left them to do that? So, let's use our time addressing these types of issues and seeking concrete answers and may help diminish the impact from these shortcomings and others. And I will pledge to do whatever I can in those policy moves and as policy initiatives. And thank you again for your support. We now go on with the program. Alright Vicky you want to read the official newspapers?

Clerk Fabella

Our official newspapers this year will remain unchanged from previous years. Concurrent resolutions, election notices issued by the Secretary of State and the official canvass will be the Daily Freeman and the Southern Ulster Times. While the publication of local laws and various related notices that we must comply with in our office will be advertised in Hudson Valley One and the Shawangunk Journal.

Chairman Donaldson

Alrighty thank you. Alright today's birthdays, Legislator Mary Beth Maio, happy birthday on January 15th. Legislator Dean Fabiano January 24th. And I think they wrote on the on his refrigerator behind him what his age was, in case he forgot. And Legislator Laura Petit, January 28th. As you know, there's various communications that are on file. When you get a chance, you should peruse through them. And now for public comment.

Clerk Fabella

We do have one person signed up. Mr. Chairman, we did abide by your direction to stop restricting session, public comment. So, it was advertised in the typical fashion. The first and only speaker we have signed up is Sarah Wenk.

Sarah Wenk

Hi, can you hear me?

Chairman Donaldson

Yes.

Clerk Fabella

We can hear you.

Sarah Wenk

Hi, great. Hello. Hi. Hi, everyone Happy New Year. Thank you for letting me speak. I actually wanted to comment on the Tech City issue, which I and I got confused about the time of the when the public hearing was so I apologize. But I did just want to make a quick comment. That, you know, I'm very excited about the possibility of some something useful and interesting happening at Tech City. But I have been a little dismayed at how little transparency there's been about what's happening there and how much confusion there's been particularly in the public about what's going on. I mean, I just jotted down the entities I'm aware of that are either involved or claiming to be involved are rumored to be involved. The county, the NOVO Corporation, the Farm Hub, this new group called Blueprint that has popped up out of nowhere and seems to be taking some interest in the in the space and then of course, E&M Real Estate Developers. And, you know, as somebody who tries to be fairly aware of what's happening in the county, I have no idea what's happening, what's true, what's not true. And I do think that that with a project of this size that has potentially so much really positive impact, it would be great to have a lot more information available in a much clearer way to the citizens involved. And I know, it seems like it was like ten years ago, it was probably like two years ago, the county executive had a meeting about Tech City. That was really interesting. And a lot of people came and there are a lot of ideas floating around. And I think that even with the restrictions of virtual meetings, we should try to keep that kind of transparency going. So,

I'm looking forward to finding out more and to being involved in whatever the next steps are. But I would really urge you to get more information out in a more transparent way to the public. And thank you all very much. Appreciate your time.

Chairman Donaldson

Do we have any further public comment?

Clerk Fabella

There are no other speakers signed up. The majority leader did ask me to remind any public watching that if you missed a public hearing or missed this public comment period that at any point in time this body welcomes input from the public. You can email me. All of our contact information is on our website. And your, any of your input that's sent to us will be received by every legislator.

Chairman Donaldson

Thank you for that information, or sharing that information shall I say. Alright then I will close public comment.

Chairman Donaldson

And I will appoint Legislator Heppner to run the Committee of the Whole. Legislator Heppner.

Legislator Heppner

Thank you, Chairman Donaldson. At this point I called the meeting of the Committee of the Whole in order. With the blessing of Leader Ronk I will move for a motion to block resolutions one through five.

Legislator Ronk

I'll make that motion.

Legislator Heppner

Can I have a second?

Legislator Fabiano

I'll second it.

Legislator Heppner

Taking a second from Legislator Fabiano. On the block. All in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Legislator Heppner

And, that I think I'll take a motion to adjourn.

Legislator Ronk

So, moved.

Legislator Litts

Second, whatever.

Chairman Donaldson

All those in favor of the...

Legislator Heppner

All in favor?

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Legislator Ronk

For the purposes of the record, Legislator Litts was the one who made the motion to adjourn. I seconded.

Legislator Heppner

Yep. And Clerk Fabella make sure Legislator Litts is on the record for that. Thank you.

Chairman Donaldson

And now we have the legislature as a whole to vote on those. That's correct. So, I'd entertain a motion to block the resolutions.

Legislator Ronk

I'll make that motion Mr. Chairman.

Legislator Litts

I'll second.

Chairman Donaldson

Alrighty. All those in favor of blocking it.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Donaldson

All right on the blocked resolutions, Legislator Heppner.

Legislator Heppner

We are short yes Mr. Chairman.

Legislator Ronk

We're short yes Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Donaldson

Thank you.

Clerk Fabella

The resolutions are adopted 22 to 0.

Chairman Donaldson

And tonight, we have our meetings adjourned in memory of and I call on Legislator Brian Cahill to call the names?

Legislator Cahill

Thank you, Chairman Donaldson. You know this - reading these each month is a little bit difficult anyway, but when it hits our extended legislative family, it makes it even a little bit more difficult to read each month. And this month, we have three folks on here who are part of our legislative extended family. And they'll be the first three names on the list. Brian Woodworth of Huntersville North Carolina, who is Chairman Donaldson's stepson. Janet E. Litts of Highland, New York who is Legislator Herb Litts mom. And Emma Maio of Pozzouli Italy, who is Legislator Maio's mother-in-law. Harvey L. Every West Shokan, New York. Edna Marable of Kingston, New York. Samantha C. Kiernan of Saugerties, New York. Joanne Michaels of Woodstock, New York. Stella L. Couris of San Diego, California. Martin F. Tully of High Falls, New York. William A. Morse of Kerhonkson, New York. Suzanne M. Quigley of Lake Katrine, New York. Raymond Janson of Kerhonkson, New York. Christopher J. Ehring of Woodstock, New York. Joseph Petras of Tillson, New York. James F. Dodd, Sr. of New Paltz, New York. Clarence, E. Gardner of Saugerties, New York. John Wackman of Kingston, New York. D'Janeira Mason of Kingston, New York. Timothy Stroup of Saugerties, New York. Robin Carroll of Rosendale New York. Vincent R. Guido Jr. of Kingston, New York. Elizabeth Griffith of Kingston, New York. Joan L. Klaessig of Bearsville, New York. Patricia Schiskie of Port Ewen, New York. Eric W. Borchert Jr. of High Falls, New York. Theresa M. Dispensa of Ulster Park, New York. Donald M. Roper of New Paltz, New York. Michael A. Spada Jr. of Kingston, New York. Christopher Arderholdt of Kingston, New York. William J. Glennon of Kingston, New York. The Reverend Thomas W. Warren of Saugerties, New York. Donald E. Shaw of Saugerties, New York. And Palmer L. Kocher of West Hurley, New York. Thank you, Mr. Chairman.

Legislator Fabiano

Mr. Chairman.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Fabiano, I'm sorry, I was muted.

Legislator Fabiano

That's okay. Um, I don't believe I heard the name of Joseph Brice of Glasco, New York who just passed away a few days ago. Joe Brice was a neighbor of mine. He was a fine young man, very decent hearted, helped a lot of people throughout his life. He was also an avid hunter, and fisherman. And I know that people in our community will miss Joe very, very much.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Greene.

Legislator Greene

Yes, I just like to put in a word for John Wackman who's been working with several - Legislator Bartels and Legislator Petit and myself and two of the staff people from Department of Environment and a few other knowledgeable community members and Joanne Meyer from UCRRA on refining the zero waste implementation plan. And John is best known for the Repair Cafe's that he started here in Ulster County, and now throughout the mid-hudson region. And he recently published a book on that. And John's vision was to create an Ulster County resource recovery park that would allow us to either reuse, repair, replenish, recycle and create jobs and really help us to approach a model of zero waste here in Ulster County. And I know that those of us who have been working with him are going to re-double our efforts to see that vision manifest. So, thank you. And he will be sorely sorely missed.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Wawro.

Legislator Wawro

I'd like to offer up the name of John Lee from Kingston.

Chairman Donaldson

Thank you. Legislator Bruno.

Legislator Bruno

Yeah, well, I want to echo Legislator Fabiano's sentiments on Joseph Brice. He'll be missed throughout the community of Saugerties. Heaven just gained a hell of a barbecue. And with that, I'd also like to add the name of Jeff Budik who graduated in 1979 from Saugerties High School. I'm not sure the town he's living in right now. But he hails from Saugerties, New York. He just passed away this week.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Uchitelle.

Legislator Uchitelle

I'd like to acknowledge the horrific loss of twelve-year old D'Janeira Mason, one of my constituents who on December 17th, was shot and killed in her home. Her murder has sent a shockwave through our community with reverberations in every corner of Kingston. And after a hard year for our community here,

this is a really sad way to end and D'Janeira you know, her family is in all of our hearts, and we need to do better as a community. Thank you.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels

Thank you. I'd like to add the names Donald Wilson and Barbara Azzinaro both of Gardner.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Ronk.

Legislator Ronk

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I'd like to add the name of Fred Infelice from Marlboro. You know a great family man.

Chairman Donaldson

Thank you. I don't see anyone else do you, speak up. No. Alright so before I ask for a meeting to adjourn, I have a letter that I'm going to be sending out noon time tomorrow. Anybody that wishes to sign on to the letter may do so. I will read it to you is relatively short. We are a nation governed by the rule of law. And our democracy is built upon the fundamental principles of majority rule and the peaceful transfer of power. The chaos, violence and insurrection at the US Capitol this past Wednesday, incited by the call of an outgoing president was an act of treason and the first breach of our home of our democracy and the first breach of the home of our democracy since 1814 when the British army set it on fire. The terrorist that carried out last Wednesday's insurrection and those that provoked it should face criminal charges. Although there's only nine days left of his presidency, many fear what will come next. I would hope that he would resign and let the vice president fill his duties until the next president is sworn in. In fact, that the members of the Democrat and Republican caucus returned to their seats after the insurrections and work well into the morning to carry out your ritual certification for the transfer of power is very reassuring. But it does not erase what happened. We ask you, our representatives in Congress to do everything in your power to ensure that all of the individuals incited and perpetrated the deadly insurrection on the people's house are prosecuted to the fullest extent of the law. I ask anybody wishes to sign on to that do so before 12 o'clock tomorrow, a send a note to Vicki or Jay and move on. And then now I'll entertain a motion to adjourn. Legislator Litts did you want to speak?

Legislator Litts

Yes, I will make that motion. But before I do, I just want to say thank you very much to my extended family in the legislature. The thoughts, the good prayers and thoughts that were extended to me on the passing of my mom meant an awful lot to me and my family. And I thank you all. And I do consider all of you, my extended family. Thank you with that I will make a motion for adjournment.

Chairman Donaldson

Before you do that I might as well follow through. I have a hard time, I choke up a little much. And in my with my situation you know, I do have to occlude myself in order to speak it gets a little tough when I get

choked up. I thank everyone for reaching out. And it's been pretty tough. And I know as Legislator Litts, I know it hurts him losing his mother. And losing a son is pretty tough too. But thank you all. And I hope we have a wonderful year, even though we're COVID related there already but, we'll continue plugging away. And Legislator Litts I'd like to have you do our tradition. And ask for the adjournment.

Legislator Litts

Mr. Chairman, I'll make a motion for adjournment.

Chairman Donaldson

Legislator Bruno.

Legislator Bruno

I'd like to second Legislator Litts for adjournment.

Chairman Donaldson

All those in favor.

Committee Members

Aye. Aye.

Chairman Donaldson

Okay, this legislative body is adjourned. Our next meeting - I didn't put that on there. It's normally sitting there. next meeting is February... What is it?

Legislator Litts

Nineteenth.

Chairman Donaldson

February 19th.

Clerk Fabella

No, I'm sorry. It's up to you when the next meeting is. You have to declare that calendar within the...

Chairman Donaldson

Oh, I gotcha. I see what you're saying. Well, be the same as it was before. A third Tuesday in February, how's that.

Clerk Fabella

Perfect.

Chairman Donaldson

All right thank-you. And a well we are adjourned. Everyone enjoy the rest of the day, evening rather and good night.

Legislator Fabiano

Good night.

Legislator Litts

Thank you. Happy New Year.

Legislator Fabiano

Happy New Year, Dave.

Chairman Donaldson

Thank you, Happy New Year.