

**Ways & Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: October 21, 2014 – 5:00PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, Sixth Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Richard Gerentine, Chairman
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Donald J. Quesnell
PRESENT: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio(@ 5:15), Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Archer, Wishnick, Legislative Counsel Weiner, Ragucci, Guerin, County Attorneys Bea Havranek, Jonathan Engel, Sue Plonski, Deputy County Executive Ken Crannell, Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick, Director of Purchasing Marc Rider, Director of Planning Dennis Doyle, Deputy Director of Planning Chris White, Sheriff Paul Van Blarcum, Suzanne Holt, Josh Sommers, Bill Madden, Clerk of the Legislature Victoria A. Fabella

- Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM
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Motion No. 1: Resolution No. 348 – October 21, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 348 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 4 of 2014 (A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 2 Of 2006 (A Local Law Adopting A County Charter Form Of Government For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York) And Amending Local Law No. 10 Of 2008 (A Local Law Adopting An Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York), To Update The Term Of Membership To The Environmental Management Council)

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio said he would like to commend the County Attorney and the Chairman of the environmental committee on their hard work.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2: **Resolution No. 349 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 349** - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 6 of 2014, A Local Law To Establish A Sustainable Energy Loan Program In The County Of Ulster

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio said he had concerns and he talked to his constituents and they felt it was unfair to give businesses another break. Legislator Bartels spoke about figures regarding risk, she quoted real numbers of commercial defaults. She went on to say that Bank of America made a deal with the Energy Improvement Corporation and that she sees this as an economic development tool. Legislator Belfiglio said one resident asked why are we giving business a break and not home owners and that he didn't have a real answer to that. Legislator Gerentine said we are not choosing one over the other we are choosing what is best for the county. Legislator Bartels said on the floor it is going to be amended.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney and Rodriguez

Voting Against: Legislator Provenzano

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against 1

Disposition: Carried

Legislator Gerentine gave Suzanne Holt and members of Focus Media the floor for their presentation that was requested.

- Suzanne Holt spoke about resolution 373 and the counties Economic Development Policy. She explained Ulster Tomorrow that was adopted by the Legislature in 2009. She said Economic practices require and integrated approach and in order to be successful they must be proactive and not just reactive. She went on to explain their proceedings and how they help businesses. She explained businesses call them for help all the time. The programs available to businesses were explained and the support that is offered to local businesses. She stated UCEDA brings things to the County and benefits that the Legislature cannot offer itself.
- Josh Sommers spoke about how they have been a partner to Ulster Tourism. He explained how they wanted to take proactive steps in helping Ulster County. He explained the 3 S.W.O.T. sessions they held and how they helped display the areas of economic

opportunity. He stated at the previous meeting that more information was requested. In June a presentation was held that solidified their plan for advertising/marketing. He explained about site selection magazine and the add that is going to be run very shortly. He briefly went over some areas they are looking to work on. He stated they have rewritten the website.

- Legislator Belfiglio asked why are we approving contract now when it states that it was started January 1st. Suzanne Holt said she realized that it was her mistake after she realized the contract wasn't reciprocal. She said it should have been done earlier in the year.
- Legislator Maio asked if the \$150,000 was all going to Focus Media. It was explained it was for other programs as well.
- Legislator Gerentine asked if they could break this number down. Josh Sommers gave a figure of approx \$88,556.
- Legislator Rodriguez said we originally paid the UCDC \$300,000 and he wanted to know where those figures were. Burt Gulnick supplied the committee with UCEDA's current balance sheet and stated they have approx.. \$165,000 cash currently. Legislator Rodriguez clarified that they have \$165,000 and are now asking for another \$150,000. Burt stated that of the \$165,000, \$65,000 has already been expended in contracts. Legislator Rodriguez stated are we now funding the same business that we did before? Bea Havranek stated that now we have a true LDC before that we had the economic development organization; with the LDC we have more authority in certain situations. She stated now that we can use county employees we can get a lot more bang for our buck.
- Legislator Gerentine asked what they are going to do with the excess monies they are going to get. Burt Gulnick replied this organization needs to operate there are accounting fees, an audit and other expenses.
- Legislator Bartels asked if the \$88,000 was for six months of time.
- Legislator Archer stated any other contract in any other department for over \$50,000 dollars the Legislature has to approve. But, because of the way this was set up there is no accountability back to the Legislature.
- Legislator Gerentine restated he felt the problem is that why are we authorizing another \$150,000 at this point and we don't know how we are spending.
- Bea Havranek said the other problem is the piece of property that we are trying to market and the expenses accompanied with it.
- Legislator Belfiglio said he would like to see a budget in the beginning of the year. Legislator Bartels agreed with Legislator Belfiglio.
- Legislator Provenzano said early in the presentation Suzanne explained and apologized for the submission being this late. She said we didn't receive a budget when we gave the UCDC their \$300,000.
- Burt Gulnick handed out a budget for UCEDA that included the \$150,000 from this contract.
- Legislator Briggs verified that the \$150,000 was included in the 2014 budget and now that the majority of it is going to Focus Media that it is an issue.
- Legislator Maio said for tonight there is money here to pay Focus Media; so we are not hanging them up. She suggested to postpone this until we get a break down of what the funds are going for.
- Dennis Doyle mentioned the contract states that they have to invoice us to expend the monies and that would tell us what they are spending it on.

- Erica Guerin said that the contract that is before the Legislature has very little detail in regards to what is being proposed.

Motion No. 3: **Resolution No. 373 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Refer Resolution Back to Economic Development Resolution No. 373** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – UC Economic Development Alliance, Inc. – Department Of Planning

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: Legislator Belfiglio
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 1
Disposition: Referred Back to Economic Development Committee

Motion No. 4: **Resolution No. 355 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 355** - Appropriating Funds From The District Attorney Forfeiture Account - Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget – Ulster County District Attorney’s Office

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 5: **Resolution No. 363 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 363** - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Settlement Agreement And Release Between HealthAlliance

Hospital Mary's Avenue Campus, Benedictine LaSalle Medical Office, LLC, The City Of Kingston, The Kingston City School District And The County Of Ulster

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 6: **Resolution No. 366 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 366** - Authorizing The Construction And Reconstruction Of The Former Sophie Finn Elementary School In The City Of Kingston, In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$6,402,315.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$6,402,315.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 7: **Resolution No. 369 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 369** - Amending The Indigent Veteran Burial Policy To Equalize the Reimbursement Rates For Burial And Cremation Services

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 8: Resolution No. 384 – October 21, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 384** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Correctional Medical Care– Ulster County Sheriff

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belgiflio

Discussion: Legislator Bartels said she was going to be a no on this and Res. 390. She said she did some research and the Attorney General’s research paper labeled things that concerned her including suicides. Sheriff Van Blarcum spoke about the process and how the AG office only signaled out the CMC he said 4 other organizations bid on this none of which were looked into. He said they have no problems with this company at all. Marc Rider spoke about the RFP process and he clarified there were only 3 responses. Legislator Gerentine asked what happened if we did not approve this. Sue Plonski explained what this amendment is doing and what happened to the company that required this resolution. Bea Havranek said they have been in contact with the AG’s office for months now. She said they made sure they were in compliance with the AG and that the jail cannot go without health care; many laws would be broken.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: Legislator Bartels

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 1

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 9: Resolution No. 390 – October 21, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 390** - Nullifying Resolution No. 253 Of July 15, 2014, And Approving The Execution Of A

Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County –
Correctional Medical Care Inc., CBH Medical, P.C., And SM
Dental, P.C. – Ulster County Sheriff

Motion Made By: Legislator Maio
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano
and Rodriguez

Voting Against: Legislator Bartels

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against 1

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 10: **Resolution No. 385-389 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Motion Made to Block the following Resolutions:**

Late - Resolution No.385 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The
Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By
The County – Clove Excavators – Department Of Public Works

Late - Resolution No.386 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The
Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By
The County – Hudson Valley Electrical Construction &
Maintenance, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Late - Resolution No.387 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The
Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By
The County – Jersen Construction Group, LLC– Department Of
Public Works

Late - Resolution No.388 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The
Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By
The County – John W. Danforth Company– Department Of Public
Works

Late - Resolution No.389 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The
Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By
The County – S&L Plumbing and Heating Corporation–
Department Of Public Works

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 11: **Resolution No. 385 -389 – October 21, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 385-389 –**

Late - Resolution No.385 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Clove Excavators – Department Of Public Works

Late - Resolution No.386 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Hudson Valley Electrical Construction & Maintenance, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Late - Resolution No.387 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Jersen Construction Group, LLC– Department Of Public Works

Late - Resolution No.388 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – John W. Danforth Company– Department Of Public Works

Late - Resolution No.389 – October 21, 2014 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – S&L Plumbing and Heating Corporation– Department Of Public Works

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Discussion: None.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against 0
Disposition: Carried

New Business:

Old Business:

General Discussion:

There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made by Legislator Briggs, seconded by Legislator Maloney and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:13pm.

Dated the 27th day of October, 2014
Donald J. Quesnell, Fiscal Analyst
Minutes Approved On: November 12, 2014