## Ways &

## Means Committee Regular Meeting Minutes

**DATE & TIME:** April 28, 2020 – 5:30

**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting by dialing 1-646-558-8656,

Meeting ID 938 4272 1649

**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Lynn Archer, Chairwoman

**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler

PRESENT: Legislators Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Tracey Bartels, John

Gavaris, Heidi Haynes; Mary Beth Maio, Eve Walter,

Legislative Chair David B. Donaldson

**ABSENT:** None **QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Brian Cahill, Manna Jo Greene, Jonathan Heppner,

Minority Counsel, Nicholas Pascale; Legislative Counsel, Christopher Ragucci; Deputy County Executives, Marc Rider, and Evelyn Wright; Deputy Commissioner of Finance, CJ Rioux; Comptroller, March Gallagher; Deputy Comptroller, Christopher

Quirk; Laurie Lichtenstein, Victoria Fabella, Clerk of the Legislature; Confidential Secretary to the Chair of the Legislature; Kathy Nolan, Resident; Bill Wallens, Roemer Wallens Gold & Mineaux LLP; Chris Silva, Ulster Performing

Arts Center (UPAC)

• Chairwoman Archer called the meeting to order at 5:33 PM

**Motion No. 1: To discuss Resolution No. 172** – Implementing A Voluntary Separation Program For Eligible Ulster County Employees

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution permits employees eligible for retirement by December 31, 2020 to apply for retirement through the County Executive to receive an additional contribution on their County Health Care Share.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

**Discussion:** Chairwoman Archer stated that edits have been proposed and that

the County Executive has approved of the edits. Legislator Ronk stated that he feels the edits are not necessary but he is comfortable

with the changes.

**Motion No. 2: To amend Resolution No. 172** – Implementing A Voluntary Separation Program For Eligible Ulster County Employees

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution permits employees eligible for retirement by December 31, 2020 to apply for retirement through the County Executive to receive an additional contribution on their County Health Care Share.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

**Discussion:** Deputy County Executive Marc Rider asked if the County's labor

council could see the amendments and read these to Mr. Wallens. Mr. Wallens confirmed that the changes are operational and not

necessarily a legal question.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter,

and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against:
No. of Votes in Favor:
8
No. of Votes Against:
0

**Disposition:** Amended

**Motion No. 3: To approve Resolution No. 172** – Implementing A Voluntary Separation Program For Eligible Ulster County Employees, as Amended

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution permits employees eligible for retirement by December 31, 2020 to apply for retirement through the County Executive to receive an additional contribution on their County Health Care Share.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Voting In Favor: Legislators Archer, Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter,

and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0

**Disposition:** Approved

**New Business:** None

**Old Business:** Chairwoman Archer stated that the Democratic caucus asked a

number of questions which the County Executive answered,

bringing some new information to light. As a result, Chairwoman

Archer asked the Committee to refer Resolution No. 171 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Central Hudson Gas & Electric Corporation – Department Of Public Works to the Public Works & Capital Projects Committee. Further, Chairwoman Archer expressed concern that the contract contains COVID-19 language which is not applicable. Legislator Ronk emphasized uncertainty as to whether the building will be used for COVID-19 or not, stating that he does not believe the current contractual language hurts the County. Legislator Walter noted that considering the capacity of hospitals within Ulster County, among other information, it does not seem logical the building would be used for COVID-19. Chairman Donaldson agreed the building will not be used for COVID-19 but stated he doesn't feel there is harm in the current contractual language, emphasizing the need for the gas and electric services regardless of the building's end use, and stating concerns over the delay of these services. Chairwoman Archer questioned the necessity of bringing the building online during an unprecedented time of uncertainty pertaining to the pandemic's impact on revenues and expenditures, adding that there is uncertainty over how long the building will need to be maintained before there is a potential buyer. Deputy County Executive Marc Rider indicated the building will be used for COVID-19 services, stating they can't hold the fieldhouse for much longer and an Emergency Room Expansion within the Health Alliance facility is scheduled for June or July. Moreover, Deputy County Executive Rider said it will cost \$100,000 a year to de-winterize the building otherwise mold growth may become an issue. Legislator Walter emphasized one of her biggest concerns is that the building was a remediation site which had contamination, noting concern for the safety of any person being there. Legislator Walter questioned when was an environmental assessment was last completed, whether there is contamination, and if contamination is even known. Deputy County Executive Rider answered that the DEC confirmed there is contamination on the East side of the site, not the West where this contract applies. Deputy County Executive Evelyn Wright answered the West site had a bit of ground-water contamination that is well contained, but that crossed over to a tiny area of the parking lot, and that there are not environmental contaminations on or around the site. Discussion pursued on the timing of the services, the anticipated use of the building, and additional expenditures not disclosed that will be required on the building. Legislator Bartels expressed concern that the Committee was just provided different information than they had received ever before concerning the environmental status of the site, emphasizing that this building and future required

expenses related to it are a slow bleed during a difficult time where the County is inevitably going to face immense budget shortfalls. Moreover, Legislator Bartels stated concern that the building will cost the County a tremendous amount of money. Chairman Donaldson noted the rebate contained in the current contract. Discussion pursued on the receipt of documentation leading to the discussion points brought up.

Chairwoman Archer asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

## Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

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

**Time:** 6:03 PM

**Respectfully submitted:** Amber Feaster **Minutes Approved:** May 12, 2020

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Gavaris, Heidi Haynes; Mary Beth Maio, Eve Walter,

Legislative Chair David B. Donaldson

ABSENT: None QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Brian Cahill, Manna Jo Greene, Jonathan Heppner,

Minority Counsel, Nicholas Pascale; Legislative Counsel, Christopher Ragucci; Deputy County Executives, Marc Rider, and Evelyn Wright; Deputy Commissioner of Finance, CJ Rioux; Comptroller, March Gallagher; Deputy Comptroller, Christopher

Quirk; Laurie Lichtenstein, Victoria Fabella, Clerk of the Legislature; Confidential Secretary to the Chair of the Legislature; Kathy Nolan, Resident; Bill Wallens, Roemer Wallens Gold & Mineaux LLP; Chris Silva, Ulster Performing

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**Archer:** Ways and means committee meeting. We're on zoom, everybody.

If you could call roll Natalie. Natalie.

**Kelder:** Archer

Archer: Here

Kelder: Ronk

**Ronk:** Present

**Kelder:** Bartels

**Bartels:** Here

**Kelder:** Gavaris

**Gavaris:** Present

**Kelder:** Haynes? Haynes is on mute, but she's here. Maio

Maio: Here

**Haynes:** Present

Kelder: Walter

Walter: Here

**Kelder:** and Donaldson

**Donaldson:** Aye

**Archer:** Great. Thank you, everyone. Okay, we have Resolution 172, implementing a voluntary separation program for eligible Ulster County employees.

Donaldson: So moved

Ronk: Second

Archer: Thank you, As I mentioned, we had some edits that were proposed and it's in the One

Drive.

Ken, did you get a copy as well?

**Ronk:** I assume that I did, but I haven't looked at it since earlier today.

**Archer:** Everything on the first page stayed the same, but it was the second page where we had some edits.

Jay, could you put that up for everyone to see?

Okay, so it's the, it's the bold are the changes.

Ronk: Yeah, I'm aware of the gist of it, Lynn. Everybody else probably is to um, you know.

**Archer:** You're okay?

**Ronk:** I think it's unnecessary, but I'm comfortable with it.

**Archer:** Okay. And we've already run it by the execs office, they're comfortable with it. So on the resolution as amended.

**Donaldson:** Let me ask you something.

**Ronk:** It hasn't been amended yet.

**Donaldson:** Um, first, I want to ask what was the final, okay it was, what was the final change that the Executive put in?

**Archer:** The second resolve from the top of the second page, that in order to participate in the plan, an eligible employee must apply

**Donaldson:** Okay, I got it, I see it, Okay

**Archer:** in writing, right

**Donaldson:** Yeah, that's, that's something. That's good. I had the conversation with Marc and John and that's, I'm glad that they're, they're fine with that. And a good edit. Okay. I'll make the motion to, uh amend as written.

**Archer:** Second?

**Ronk:** I'll Second, the motion.

**Archer:** Okay. All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Rider: Hi, did we, uh, okay.

**Archer:** Marc, did you have something?

**Rider:** Yeah, I just wanted to highlight and since he's on the line, and although he may be on the phone, so he may not be able to see the changes. But I mean, we there was a memo our Labor Council was good with the Resolution as it was written at that time. He has not seen any of these changes. I don't know if he's able to see this screen.

Wallens: No, Marc, I'm not. I'm only on the phone. I'm sorry.

**Rider:** That's okay. They really just they add dates in. One adds a date that the employee would have to notify us in writing by which is August 3rd in order to be eligible. The County Executive would have to come up with a plan by September a plan and a list of positions by September 21st. And all eligible employees must leave County employment no later than March 31, 2021. I don't anticipate these changes really do much.

**Wallens:** It sounds like the incentive of leaving employment was extended.

**Rider:** Yes

Wallens: It's fine

Rider: Okay

**Wallens:** Yeah, that's an operational for the County and not necessarily a legal question. I understand the change Marc, thank you.

Rider: Okay, thank you.

You're on mute, Chairwoman.

**Archer:** Thank you. All and thank you. I appreciate it. I'm getting used to this.

All in favor of the changes as as highlighted?

Group: Aye.

**Archer:** Opposed.

Okay. Any new business? You can take that down now Jay.

**Ronk:** We didn't take a vote on the resolution.

**Archer:** Oh, I'm sorry. You're right. Thank you. On the resolution as amended.

Group: Aye.

**Archer:** Opposed? So moved. Okay, any new business?

Ronk: I move we adjourn.

Donaldson: Second it.

**Archer:** I have some old business that I'd like to bring up.

**Wallens:** This is Bill Wallens, I'm assuming that you won't need me any longer?

Rider: You're good Bill. Thank you.

**Group**: Thanks. Thank you, Bill.

**Wallens:** Thank you everyone and please stay safe.

**Archer:** Thank you, you too.

Under old business, I know we spoke about this at the last meeting, but we had some new information brought forth. The Democratic Caucus put out some questions and Marc responded. I at this juncture would like to make a motion to refer Resolution 171 to Public Works Committee for a full evaluation of this project.

**Ronk:** Due respect, Madam Chair, a point of, a point of order that resolution is not before us this evening. It passed last month. So, if you're going to do something of that nature, it would have to be on the floor of the Legislature.

**Ragucci:** I think she can move it for discussion purposes. You can make a motion to have it put on the table or just refer it

**Ronk:** You can make a motion to reconsider the resolution since it passed last month, and she voted in favor of it. But there needs to be a second from the folks who voted in favor of it last, last week

**Ragucci:** Actually, a motion to reconsider would probably not be an appropriate motion to make in a committee according to our rules.

**Ronk:** Is Minority Counsel on here?

**Archer:** Well, let me just, if I, can we at least, can we at least have a conversation about this?

**Ronk:** We can have a conversation about whatever you'd like. I just don't believe that a motion to refer a resolution that passed last week to another committee is in order.

**Archer:** Well, we have new information and as as we are sitting here obligated to do the taxpayers work. I think we're obligated to ensure that we have fully investigated all aspects of this. And at the end of the day, we went to change the blurb in the resolution to reflect just the hookup of gas and electric. And the contract that goes with the resolution has, has COVID-19 written all over it, which isn't relevant to this. So we're going to be signing a contract that's not relevant to what is happening with this with this resolution today. Ken.

**Ronk:** Thank you, Madam Chair. I don't know for sure. Nor do I think anybody on this on this call or in this meeting, whether this will have an effect, or where whether Covid will have an effect on the use of this building or not. Quite frankly, Governor Cuomo said in his daily press briefing today that he is keeping the Javits Center and Stony Brook in the Westchester County center as makeshift hospitals until the fall, because experts don't know whether or not we're going to need them for the flu combined with a second wave of Covid. I'm not saying that it's going to be used for that. I just don't think that it hurts us in any way, shape or form to leave the resolution as it is with the wording as it is.

**Archer:** Eve did you have your hand up?

**Walter:** Yeah, I mean, so there's two pieces to it. I do think that with the information that we have in terms of the capacity of the hospitals, and the concerns about what really would be necessary to make this space habitable. I think we do feel safe that it cannot be used for Covid. Whether the hospitals will need further space, we don't, I guess, perhaps know, although it doesn't seem there are signs of it, but if it does, it doesn't seem logical that this would be the space so I don't, with all due respect, don't agree, that I think COVID should be removed from this.

**Archer:** Chair Donaldson.

**Donaldson:** Yes, I mean, I, I certainly understand that the Covid doesn't necessarily need to be on that. But I don't see the harm in it actually being there. In the end, we still have to bring the gas and electric to the building. We don't have much of a choice of that. Can we put it off? Well

we could put it off for a month. But what's the purpose of that? I mean, it's got to be done. It's a building we own. Whether you know, we like the idea that we have to do this at this juncture, we still have to do it. It's got to be done. I really don't understand how putting this off is going to change anything when it goes to Public Works. They're going to say the same thing. Well, we're going to have to bring the gas and electric to the building. Now I kind of, I do not think it's going to be used for Covid. I agree with that concept without it out, and I mean, I also agree with the idea that we can never say never. But I don't think it's going to but the point is we still need the gas and electric brought to the building.

**Archer:** I guess the question is do we need to bring the building online and spend at least \$100,000 a year to keep the HVAC system running in a building when we have no clue at this juncture, with with the pandemic and the financial impact? How long we're going to have to keep that building running at the taxpayers' expense until we have a buyer for the building.

**Ronk:** I think Marc wanted to say something.

**Donaldson:** I think Marc was going to say something.

**Rider:** Am I okay to speak?

Archer: Marc. I'm sorry. I didn't see your hand. Yes, Marc.

**Rider:** I just think the idea that there's any other location, and again, I think it's looking optimistic that, at least for now, in this cycle, we probably won't use this facility. What I will say is, we can't hold the Field House much longer. It was a temporary agreement. Also in June or July, possibly Health Alliance will start to move on the much awaited, potentially much awaited, emergency room expansion which will limit that use. I'm not saying we're going to use this as a Covid hospital but as Legislator Ronk pointed out, the Javits Center and others are being held and I don't know of another location that would be used in the fall, if not for here. That being said, what I just also want to mention, we answered those questions in good faith, to now say that there's new information that came out of those questions; so that this needs to be reconsidered. I mean, one of the points that was in those answers was that there's paint that is starting to deteriorate. And while this specific contract is for just separating the power from one Tech City campus to the other side, at some point, we're going to have to make a decision as well on whether we're going to de-winterize the building. As Legislator Archer said, if we do that, it'll cost \$100,000 a year. But I think there's great costs potentially in not doing that, because we'll start to see mold growth. That being said, this contract only separates out the electric and it doesn't actually do the other pieces of de-winterizing this building.

**Archer:** And so those things will become before us when when that's being proposed? You're on mute Marc.

**Rider:** Yep, sorry, I hit something and it made my computer go crazy. Um, I mean, if they're over \$50,000, they'll come before you. Otherwise, I think the County Executive has said that we will keep you in the loop and aware of what's going to happen as we incur those costs. We're not going to send a contract that is under \$50,000 to you when there's no, I mean, that's not in the Charter, it's not in the Administrative Code, and it would

**Archer:** Eve

**Rider:** bring you

**Archer:** I'm sorry, go ahead.

Rider: we would give you, we would let you know that was going to occur.

**Archer:** Legislator Walter,

Walter: So um, I guess I feel like I had some questions that I didn't feel were quite answered. And I, I feel like my biggest, one of my biggest concerns, I have a few, but one of them is just the fact that it was a remediation site that it had contaminated water. It was a superfund site from IBM. And, you know, I did my work to try to understand what had been done to remediate that problem and the only thing I can find was just that it was sort of sub categorized because of the lack of anyone being there, but that I don't feel like I really have a sense of even the safety, at all, of using that space and and when how recently was an environmental assessment done and do we know whether the air is contaminated right now how contaminated the water is, do we know that?

Archer: Marc, and then Ken.

**Rider:** So one of, one thing we needed to do in order to, to get this contract to the point to where we could get it to you is that the DEC gave us a permit to do this drilling in an expedited fashion, which was needed because of the well water. However, the contamination is on the East side of the Tech City site. It is not on the West side of the site. The plume is under the portions that are on the other side of the road.

(Unintelligible)

**Wright:** May I add to that?

Donaldson: Hello. Hello.

**Archer:** Evelyn Wright. Is that who want who was speaking?

**Wright:** Yes. May I just add some to the to Mark's answer?

**Archer:** Mm hmm. Yes.

**Wright:** Yes. Yes. Do you hear me?

Archer: Yes.

**Wright:** So yeah, I just wanted to add to what Mark said, we did an extensive drill down with DEC on exactly where the contamination is on the Tech City campus, with all the maps and the operating units and all of that. The West campus is not a superfund site. There was a tiny bit of groundwater contamination that is well contained that crossed over into a tiny triangle of the parking lot. There's no contamination in the building. The asbestos in the building was all properly sealed and remediated in terms of what's around the pipes. There's there are not environmental hazards on the site or in the building.

**Archer:** Okay, thank you, Ken Ronk

**Donaldson:** I keep raising my hand, nobody calls on me.

**Archer:** I know but Ken, Ken had his hand raised as well. Dave, you're next.

**Donaldson:** I had it long before but

**Archer:** You're on mute Ken.

**Ronk:** sorry, uh, you know, Dave can go first. You know, my comment was probably like, five minutes ago. I've seem to have lost my train of thought in the middle of the stream of consciousness is going on. So David go first.

**Donaldson:** He had his senior moment. Anyway, exactly what Mark was pointing out, and Evelyn. We dealt with that quite a while ago. In that, that's part of the site that, that part of the site there. And in fact, if you will remember, it wasn't that long ago that that building was occupied by Bank of America and a lot of employees were in there. And this was after the understanding of the, you know, the plume and the environmental problems, but they were still allowed to operate there because, as a pointing out, it was on the opposite side of the street where the real problems were. So, and IBM actually came in and actually met with Ginsburg, and I happen to be the Chairman at the time, and we met and we sat down with a number of those issues there. And, of course, that Ginsburg, of course, was an impossible guy that deal with, even though IBM flew people in from all over the Country, we were attempting to try to actually work towards dealing with that plume that's on the other side. And they were willing to start to bend a little bit, but he kind of screwed that deal up, like he screwed all the other deals up that we've been, we've dealt with. So there is not an environmental issue on that. So my mindset is, let's move on and let's get that building electric and gas.

**Archer:** Well, and my final comment is basically, the taxpayers are counting on us to be prudent during a crisis that we have before us. We have a \$30 to \$40 million gap and we don't even know if it's going to end up being more and I just feel that we need to take a closer look at all projects as we go through this because we are not sure what we're going to get from State or Federal.

Donaldson: Alright.

**Archer:** Legislator Ronk

**Ronk:** Thank you. Thank you, Madam Chair. I totally agree that we should be looking at every, at every dollar and every cent. I think that we've looked at this dollar and cent project quite a bit more extensively than we've looked at almost any project that I can remember on this legislature. Including, you know, multimillion dollar renovations of buildings. You know, this is \$130,000 gas line, of which we're going to receive back \$60,000 in credits from Central Hudson. You know, it's going to be needed no matter if the building is used for a Covid purpose or not, whether it's sold, whether it's auctioned, whether we, you know, blow it up and rebuild something else. Regardless of all of those, you know, and with respect to your questions, you know, and, you know, they're good questions if we're concerned about what purpose the building is going to be used for, and if the fact that the difference between what the use of the building would be would matter to whether or not we want to replace the gas and electric lines. I think that neither one of those things is a factor. We're not going to, regardless of what the building's going to be used for, we still need to do this work. I don't understand what's the utility of waiting a month. For more information on the use of the building when we might not know what we're going to use the building for three months from now, we might and, and with respect to serving the taxpayers of Ulster County, I think that it behooves us to get this building ready. So if a suitor came along, who wanted to purchase the building, it's ready to be purchased. We don't have to wait another month for us to pass a contract with Central Hudson to replace the gas and the electric lines.

**Archer:** And with all due respect, Legislator Ronk, you're right, you're absolutely correct, except that this is the start of additional expenses going to be incurred. We already know that there's expenses that will take this \$137,000 to two potentially \$230,000 we're putting a building online a significant space that are now going to be \$100,000 plus in expenses every year until the building is sold. All I was asking for was a little time to say, Do we need to bring the building online right now? Can do the the electrical hookup, but this is the slippery slope and it starts from here. And, and and and expenses are going to build. So with that. I will any other comments anybody wants to make before we go? Tracy? Legislator Bartels.

**Bartels:** Thank you. I just want to be on record as agreeing with everything that you've last said. I know that I said it at the last meeting. But I have the same concerns. I do. I think one month we're not going to answer all the questions. But from Deputy Executive Wright. We just heard different information than was provided to us in the, in the response to our questions in terms of an absolute, there are no environmental implications. That's not the answer that we got, we got that we got a different answer. And I am very, very concerned about the slow bleed, the slippery slope, that this building could be in this moment in time. If we were talking about this building, before the Covid pandemic, I would be 100% in to get moving to have the strategy sessions to talk about the rehabilitation of this site for the good of Ulster County, the Town etc. But we are going to be facing immense budget shortfalls. And I believe based on even what I'm hearing at these meetings that these costs are going to start to build after today. This is just the first of many, many costs that are going to be tacked on to this building. And again, it may be small, maybe a little at a time. What we know of right now is the \$230,000 plus \$100,000 now there's going to be the paint. Once we once we de-winterize, there's going to be all other problems that we're going to be dealing with. And I am very concerned that it's going to cost us a tremendous amount of money.

**Archer:** Good. Did I see your hand Legislator Ronk?

**Ronk:** Several times, but I'm just going to reserve comment.

**Archer:** Anybody else? Legislator, Walter. You're on mute.

Walter: That was my first. Um, you know that that was why we asked questions such as know the timeline and estimated budget, so that we really could have a sense even before today's meeting, what this cost what these costs can be, and the answers were not sufficient. I mean, the, the when, when when asked the timeline and estimated budget, and if there's a contingency budget, all we got was that the electric work will be four weeks. So to me this is a matter of having really more substantial kind of information about the expenditures already be the expected expenditures coming up in front of us so that we can make an intelligent decision. I'll agree with Legislator Bartels that that question we asked about environmental remediation was not answered the way it was just answered now. That is the first time we're hearing in that way. So I support the idea as I propose last week to give this a little time because some of these we do want answers to we really would like to know what the budget would be not just if it's under \$50,000 we probably won't hear about it but what that total might end up being to get it to the level it needs to be.

**Donaldson:** May I speak?

Archer: Chair Donaldson and then Legislator Ronk.

**Donaldson:** Right now, with this gas and electric we're going to get a \$60 rebate, \$60,000 rebate in order to help us deal with this issue. Nothing's going to change, we still have to put the gas and electric in it, then we're still going to have to evaluate how much money we're going to put in after that, whether we do, we have to do the gas and electric first, that's got to be done. And then we'll have to evaluate what we're going to be putting into it. And what we're going to have to be put in, we're going to have to be putting into it, we own the buildings for either that or we're just going to blow it out and say, let's forget about it and put a baseball field there, I guess whatever you want to do but the point is, they still need electric and gas and electric to that site. And so my mind said is all these things that you're asking for are immaterial, you still at the bring the gas and electric to the site, and that's and whether you can put it off for a month and ask more questions and to nauseum. But it's still not going to change. It's still not going to change the fact.

**Archer:** Legislator Ronk

**Ronk:** Thanks. You know, and mark this down. I don't usually say this the too terribly often. But I agree with everything that Dave just said. And in addition to that, you know, I have serious concern about some of the things that are being brought up here about the kind of decisions that the legislature is, is Legislators are saying that they would want to weigh in on here. You know, I can't imagine the kind of questions we would have had over every single contract having to do with the building of the new Family Court facility, which came in on time and under budget. You know, if we're going to start micromanaging these capital projects to this level, you

know, then why do we need a County Executive? I really, I mean, this is what the Legislature used to do, which is one of the reasons that we had, you know, the jail debacle is we want to know all the information about every single project, that's how that's how projects come in late. That's how projects come in over budget. I just I, I have serious concern about some of the things being brought up here today.

**Archer:** I have serious concern about this as well.

**Donaldson:** I call for any votes.

**Archer:** One moment, please. I have serious concerns as well. First of all, this isn't listed as a Capital Project as it should be. And second of all, Marc Rider just told us if the invoices are under \$50,000, we're not going to know what they're doing in the building. And so as appropriators as to understanding what we're doing, how do you make a decision on appropriations if you have no idea what the plan is, so I take, I take my responsibility to my to my constituency, and the taxpayers of this county that were asking the right questions to get the answers so we can make informed decisions. That's what we're here for.

**Donaldson:** Isn't the plan to bring in the gas or electric to it? That's the plan?

**Ronk:** Correct. Yes. That's the plan. You're absolutely right.

**Donaldson:** The plan is to bring gas and electric to it.

**Archer:** Legislator Haynes.

**Haynes:** Yeah, I'm just confused. I know. Last week, there was a series of questions. Was there an internal email that got sent around with those answers to those questions was there any

**Ronk:** Yes, that was not shared with us, Heidi.

Haynes: Oh.

**Ronk:** Imagine that.

**Archer:** You're welcome to them. I think you already got them, didn't you Legislator Ronk? You already got them?

**Ronk:** I don't believe so.

**Archer:** Oh, okay.

**Donaldson:** I didn't get them.

**Archer:** Any other questions, any other comments?

**Haynes:** Well, why wasn't that email shared, though? Is that, was it because it was only sent to the people who had questions?

**Archer:** We sent it through our caucus Heidi.

Haynes: Okay.

**Ronk:** Not for us, Heidi, or Dave, apparently.

**Archer:** Dave most certainly did. He's in our caucus.

**Haynes:** The chairwoman

**Donaldson:** I did not get I didn't get all those questions. I got a request for questions, but I didn't get the answers that were given.

**Archer:** Any other questions?

Archer: Okay, I'll take a motion to adjourn.

Ronk: So moved.

**Donaldson:** So moved, second.

**Archer:** Thank you, everyone.

**Donaldson:** Thank you.