

**Ways &
Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: July 14, 2020 – 5:00
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meeting by dialing 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID 933 8682 0824
PRESIDING OFFICER: Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Deputy Chair
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler
PRESENT: Legislators Tracey Bartels, John Gavaris (arrived at 5:10 PM), Heidi Haynes; Mary Beth Maio, and Eve Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
ABSENT: Lynn Archer, Chairwoman
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Al Bruno, Brian Cahill, James Delaune, and Jonathan Heppner; Legislative Counsel Christopher Ragucci; Minority Counsel Nicholas Pascale; Victoria Fabella, Clerk of the Legislature; Burt Gulnick, Commissioner of Finance; March Gallagher, Comptroller; Chris Quirk, Deputy Comptroller; Lauren Sheeley, Public Defender; Deputy County Executives John Milgrim, Marc Rider, and Evelyn Wright; Dr. Allan Roberts and Jamie Capuano, SUNY Ulster Community College; Patricia Doxsey, Daily Freeman; Tom Kadgen, League of Women Voters; Laurie Lichtenstein, Confidential Secretary to the Chair of the Legislature; Andrew Pekarik, Catskill Mountain Keeper; Kathy Nolan, Resident

- **Chairwoman Archer called the meeting to order at 5:07 PM**

Motion No. 1: To approve the June 9, 2020 Regular Meeting, June 16, 2020 Regular Meeting, June 25, 2020 Special Meeting, and June 30, 2020 Special Meeting Minutes

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Vice President/Administrative Services Jamie Capuano gave a presentation summarizing the SUNY Ulster 20-20/21 Budget, informing Committee members that the College's overall budget has been reduced by an overall \$1.1 million, that there has been a 20% reduction in the June State Aid payment for the year 20-19/20, that they are proposing a \$200 tuition increase for the fiscal year, and that they are working towards a shared services agreement for the purchasing function with Ulster County. Dr. Roberts emphasized that SUNY Ulster is on the top 100 for most affordable college's in the country and is the most reasonable in the State of NY, thanking the Committee for their support. Dr. Roberts answered committee questions on topics such as changes to enrollment, the quantity of and reasons for chargebacks, and the cost of the childcare center. Legislator Ronk commended Dr. Roberts and Mrs. Capuano for jobs well done.

Motion No. 2: To postpone Resolution No. 191 – Establishing A Policy For Funding Non-County Organizations – Ulster County Legislature

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts a Policy for Appropriating Funding to Non-County Organizations, and resolves that any non-county organization with funding appropriated by the Ulster County Legislature shall adhere to accountability standards and procedures set by the Legislature and as required by law, including compliance with applicable financial, performance measurement, and any additional reporting requirements, deadlines, and deliverables stated in the County contract.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 3: To block Resolution No. 196 and Resolution No. 208

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Bartels explained that she had a conversation with Legislator Archer who had worked with Deputy County Executive Marc Rider and they are comfortable moving forward at this time.

Deputy Clerk of the Legislature- Finance Amber Feaster noted the contract's total value.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 4: To postpone the following Resolutions:

Resolution No. 196 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The Trustees Of Columbia University In The City Of New York – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with The Trustees of Columbia University in the City of New York to increase funding from the Healing Communities Grant from April 1, 2020 through March 31, 2023 for an additional \$501,853.26, making the contract total \$791,503.26.

Resolution No. 208 – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget To Accept HEALing Communities Study Funding And Create Positions – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2020 Ulster County Budget to create and fund three new positions and to fund the Professional Services Other line in the amount of \$90,156.00, and to increase Other Health Department Income Revenues, for a total budgetary increase of \$376,390.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 5: To approve Resolution No. 233 – Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 2 Of 2020, A Local Law Establishing Construction Apprenticeship Training Requirements For Certain Construction Contracts In Excess Of \$350,000, And Repealing Local Law Number 2 Of 2015

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts Proposed Local Law No. 2 Of 2020, A Local Law Establishing Construction Apprenticeship Training Requirements For Certain Construction Contracts In Excess Of \$350,000, and repeals Local Law Number 2 Of 2015.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, Maio, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 6: To approve Resolution No. 235 – Confirming The Appointment Of Lauren Sheeley As Director Of Ulster County’s Public Defender’s Office

Resolution Summary: This Resolution confirms the appointment of Lauren Sheeley as Director of the Public Defender’s Office.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: Legislator Ronk noted that the Committee must pass the Resolution onto the floor of the Legislature for a vote by the body or the appointment becomes a default appointment. Lauren Sheeley stated that she is more than qualified for the position of Public Defender, providing a brief summary of her work experience and the populations she has served, as well as a brief description of her vision for the office. Chairman Donaldson asked if Ms. Sheeley is aware of any other County within New York State who has a Chief Public Defender with no criminal experience. Deputy County Executive John Milgrim stated that New York City has a Chief Public Defender with no such experience. Chairman Donaldson provided the Committee with the historic quantity of criminal prosecutions the office has handled, further inquiring of Ms. Sheeley’s experience with family court matters, explaining that New York City’s structure is much different from that of Ulster County, containing many attorney’s and divisions. Further, Chairman Donaldson discussed the history of the Public Defender’s job requirements within Ulster County, emphasizing the importance of the Public Defender and the opportunity before the body. Deputy County Executive Marc

Rider said when the charter was created, it was put together by the legislative body at that time and is not relevant to today. Chairman Donaldson answered that the charter is the base from which County personnel are supposed to be working from, noting that the Public Defender's job description came directly from the personnel department. Mr. Rider argued that the appointing authority creates minimum qualifications, stating that the job description provided does not match the advertised job. Legislator Walter acknowledged the work that Ms. Sheeley has done, asking for clarification of how Ms. Sheeley is more than qualified considering the majority of the office's work is in criminal court. Ms. Sheeley provided a brief breakdown of the attorney's in the office and the cases trialed, stating that she has 13 years of experience, that she has led staff, and that she would leverage her experience and the experiences of the team to lead the office. Legislator Ronk pointed out that the office has a broad brush of cases and the former public defender had no experience in family court. Discussion pursued as to the quantity of cases Ms. Sheeley has overseen, consideration of the staff's moral under Ms. Sheeley's oversight, and Ms. Sheeley's experience and qualifications. Chairman Donaldson asked how, given the office's limited resources, Ms. Sheeley will weigh which needs are most important. Ms. Sheeley answered that State funding will cover the costs in discussion and she won't need to make such decisions, but if needed she would consult with the team.

The Committee took a recess from 6:11 PM to 6:59 PM.

Motion No. 6: To approve Resolution No. 235 – Confirming The Appointment Of Lauren Sheeley As Director Of Ulster County's Public Defender's Office

Resolution Summary: This Resolution confirms the appointment of Lauren Sheeley as Director of the Public Defender's Office.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 7: To approve Resolution No. 236 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 8 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 Clarify Budget Modification After Adoption, To Be Held On Tuesday, August 11, 2020 At 6:15 PM

Resolution Summary: This Resolution sets a public hearing on Proposed Law No. 8 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 Clarify Budget Modification After Adoption, to be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 at 6:15 PM.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Discussion: Deputy County Executive Marc Rider stated that budget transfers from payroll accounts are used as a last resort and, in a year such as this, reducing the amount of money available for transfer at the County Executive’s discretion may not be the right time to enact this restriction.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 8: To discuss Resolution No. 238 – Establishing A Policy Regarding Legislative Access To Ulster County’s Municipal Uniform Information System (MUNIS)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Legislature to have direct and unimpeded access to the County’s MUNIS platform, as detailed therein.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Bartels informed Committee members that Chairwoman Archer has respectfully asked that the Committee postpone the Resolution so that she may be present for the discussion.

Motion No. 9: To postpone Resolution No. 238 – Establishing A Policy Regarding Legislative Access To Ulster County’s Municipal Uniform Information System (MUNIS)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Legislature to have direct and unimpeded access to the County’s MUNIS platform, as detailed therein.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 10: To approve Resolution No. 239 – Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2020, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 10 of 2015, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 10 Of 2008 (A Local Law Adopting An Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York), Pertaining To Change Orders And/Or Amendments To Contracts Equal To Or Exceeding \$50,000.00, To Be Held On Tuesday, August 11, 2020 At 6:25 PM

Resolution Summary: This Resolution sets a public hearing on Proposed Local Law No. 10 Of 2020, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 10 of 2015, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 10 Of 2008 (A Local Law Adopting An Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster, State Of New York), Pertaining To Change Orders And/Or Amendments To Contracts Equal To Or Exceeding \$50,000.00, to be held on Tuesday, August 11, 2020 At 6:25 PM.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 11: To discuss Resolution No. 240 – Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Article 31 Of The New York State Tax Law To Permit The County Of Ulster To Adopt A Local Law To Impose, Collect And Retain A Tax On Real Estate Transfers

Resolution Summary: This Resolution requests the New York State Legislature and Governor pass legislation amending Article 31 of the New York State Tax Law, adding subdivision “H”, permitting the County of Ulster to adopt and amend a local law imposing in the County of Ulster a tax on each conveyance of real property or interest therein when the consideration exceeds five hundred dollars, at the rate of one dollar for each five hundred dollars or fractional part thereof.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Discussion: Chairman Donaldson provided a brief description of the Resolution. Legislator Bartels stressed that the Resolution is for a Home Rule Request which, if granted, could then be decided on. Legislator Ronk expressed disapproval of the transfer tax. Legislator Walter confirmed understanding that the tax is on the seller. Legislator Gavaris asked if there is a way to structure the tax so that it applies only before a specified time limit. Legislator Bartels questioned whether this specification needed to be included within the Home Rule Request. Minority Counsel Pascale suggested adding this language upfront in the request. Deputy County Executive Evelyn Wright expressed discontent in the concept of adding a new tax, asking that an analysis be completed before a tax is enacted. Chairman Donaldson suggested the Resolution be postponed so that a deeper conversation could take place, asking that the Ways & Means Committee have a special meeting for the purpose of discussing this topic alone. Comptroller Gallagher agreed to provide the Committee with a report containing revenue estimates.

Motion No. 12: To postpone Resolution No. 240 – Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Article 31 Of The New York State Tax Law To Permit The County Of Ulster To Adopt A Local Law To Impose, Collect And Retain A Tax On Real Estate Transfers

Resolution Summary: This Resolution requests the New York State Legislature and Governor pass legislation amending Article 31 of the New York State Tax Law, adding subdivision “H”, permitting the County of Ulster to adopt and amend a local law imposing in the County of Ulster a tax on each conveyance of real property or interest therein when the consideration exceeds five hundred dollars, at the rate of one dollar for each five hundred dollars or fractional part thereof.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 13: To approve Resolution No. 241 – Confirming Appointment Of Wanda Williams As The Ulster County Representative On The Catskill Off Track Betting Corporation Board Of Directors

Resolution Summary: This Resolution confirms the appointment of Wanda Williams as the Ulster County Representative on the Catskill Off Track Betting Corporation Board of Directors.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 14: To approve Resolution No. 244 – Approving The 2020-2021 Ulster County Community College Budget – SUNY Ulster

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the 2020-2021 Ulster County Community College Budget in the amount of \$27,362,353.00, providing for a contribution by Ulster County in the amount of \$6,400,863.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 15: To approve Resolution No. 245 – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget To Accept Increased Funding From The New York State Office Of Addiction Services And Supports For Minimum Wage And Workforce Cost Of Living Adjustments – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2020 Operating Budget in the amount of \$8,250.00 by increasing both State Aid, Narcotic Addition Control Revenues and Other Misc. Contractual Expenses upon the receipt of notification from the New York State Office of Addition Services and Supports (OASAS) of increased funding for minimum wage and workforce cost of living adjustments.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 16: To approve Resolution No. 248 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services – Raise The Age Program – Department Probation

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute a contract, and any amendments thereto, with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the Raise the Age Program for the period April 1, 2018 through March 31, 2020 in the amount of \$812,788.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 17: To approve Resolution No. 249 – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget To Adjust The Annual Salary Of The Public Defender In Order To Be Consistent With A Full-Time Position

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the Public Defender position to be held on a full-time basis, requiring the Public Defender to devote 100% of his or her full working time to their duties of the office, and increases the annual salary to \$120,916.00. Furthermore, this Resolution increases the Regular Pay line in the Public Defender office by \$14,305.00, and the Social Security line by \$1,095.00, and reduces the Other Misc. Contractual Expense line by \$15,400.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Bartels requested the Resolution be postponed, stating that she would like to offer a few changes in the “Whereas” language.

Motion No. 18: To approve Resolution No. 249 – Amending The 2020 Ulster County Budget To Adjust The Annual Salary Of The Public Defender In Order To Be Consistent With A Full-Time Position

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the Public Defender position to be held on a full-time basis, requiring the Public Defender to devote 100% of his or her full working time to their duties of the office, and increases the annual salary to \$120,916.00. Furthermore, this Resolution increases the Regular Pay line in the Public Defender office by \$14,305.00, and the Social Security line by \$1,095.00, and reduces the Other Misc. Contractual Expense line by \$15,400.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Donaldson

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 19: To approve Resolution No. 251 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Lease With CPR Kingston, LLC Bank For Space To Be Used By The Board Of Elections– Department Of Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute a lease agreement and any amendments thereto with CPR Kingston, LLC, for 3,566 square feet of office space located at 284 Wall Street, Kingston, NY, to be used to house the Ulster County Board of Elections.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 20: To approve Resolution No. 252 – Amending The 2020 - 2025 Capital Improvement Program – Establishing Capital Project No. 572 – Wittenberg Road Culvert, Town Of Woodstock – Amending The 2020 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution Establishes Capital Project No. 572 – Wittenberg Road Culvert, to replace the outside span between girders which collapsed on June 25, 2020 which is to be performed with in house labor, and amends the 2020-2025 Ulster County Capital Improvement Plan and the 2020 Capital Fund Budget accordingly in the amount of \$62,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 21: To approve Resolution No. 254 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement With The Town Of Ulster For Security Services At The COVID-19 Testing Site – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement, and any amendments thereto, with the Town of Ulster for Security Services, for the period February 27, 2020 through May 16, 2020.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Discussion: Legislator Gavaris asked why the Ulster Police Department was contracted with when the Sheriff has available staff. Deputy County Executive Marc Rider said overtime to Sheriff's department was also paid out, answering that this was a coordinated effort between the State, the County Sheriff, and the Town of Ulster in which the County agreed to contract with the Town of Ulster for the purpose of flowing FEMA funding down to cover the Town's costs, assuring Committee members that this cost is covered in full. Legislator Cahill pointed out that the agreement between the County and the Town of Ulster has already been executed and the Town of Ulster has already expended the money for the fulfillment of their portion of the agreement.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 22: To approve Resolution No. 255 – Authorizing The Conveyance Of County-Owned Properties To The Original Owners – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Commissioner of Finance to accept payment as set forth therein with respect to the disclosed parcels, and, upon receipt of such payments with respect to each parcel, authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to make, execute, and deliver to the owner making payment, a quitclaim deed conveying the interest of the County in the parcel.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 23: To approve Resolution No. 256 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Primecare Medical Of New York, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Primecare Medical of New York, Inc. from January 1, 2020 through December 31, 2020 for the purchase of Medication Assisted Treatment (MAT) medications for inmates utilizing a one-time funding provided to the County from the New York State Office of Addiction Services and Supports in the amount of \$50,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 24: To approve Resolution No. 257 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Alison Krause, LMSW – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Alison Krause, LMSW from June 30, 2020 through January 15, 2021 to extend the term of agreement and increase the not-to-exceed amount for behavioral clinical services in collaboration with Child Protective Services for an additional \$70,000.00, making the contract total \$140,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: Legislator Walter stated that during the Chair’s meeting it was unclear as to whether funding was full time or half time. Deputy County Executive Marc Rider stated that the amendment is for a lesser time period because of an uptick in usage so that the not-to-exceed value could remain the same. Legislator Walter stressed that the not-to-exceed value of the contract is for half the time period of the prior contract.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, and Haynes, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: Legislator Walter
No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 1
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 25: To approve Resolution No. 258 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – NYSARC, Inc. DBA The Arc Of Delaware County – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with NYSARC, Inc. DBA The Arc of Delaware County from July 1, 2020 through June 30, 2023 for preschool special education services for rates anticipated to exceed \$50,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 26: To approve Resolution No. 259 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Town & County Bridge and Rail, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Town & County Bridge and Rail, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount for shotcrete work on bridges and culverts from June 15, 2020 through April 30, 2021 for an additional \$23,500.00, making the contract total \$168,500.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 27: To approve Resolution No. 260 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Dutchess Overhead Doors, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Dutchess Overhead Doors, Inc. from August 1, 2020 through July 31, 2022 for overhead door maintenance and repair services in the amount of \$55,100.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 28: To approve Resolution No. 261 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Accucare Nursing & Homecare, Inc. – Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Accucare Nursing & Homecare, Inc. from March 10, 2020 through March 10, 2021 for addition of FEMA rider to an already executed agreement for nursing services needed to respond to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic in the amount of \$300,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 29: To approve Resolution No. 262 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Metroland Business Machines, Inc. – Purchasing Department

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Metroland Business Machines, Inc. from August 1, 2020 through October 31, 2025 for lease of new mail sorter equipment in the amount of \$112,392.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Ronk, Bartels, Gavaris, Haynes, and Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

New Business: None

Old Business: None

Chairman Ronk asked the members if there was any other business, and hearing none;

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Donaldson

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 7:35 PM

Respectfully submitted: Amber Feaster

Minutes Approved: August 11, 2020

**Ways &
Means Committee
Regular Meeting Transcript**

DATE & TIME: July 14, 2020 – 5:00
LOCATION: Powered by Zoom Meeting by dialing 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID 933 8682 0824
PRESIDING OFFICER: Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr., Deputy Chair
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler
PRESENT: Legislators Tracey Bartels, John Gavaris (arrived at 5:10 PM), Heidi Haynes; Mary Beth Maio, and Eve Walter, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson
ABSENT: Lynn Archer, Chairwoman
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Al Bruno, Brian Cahill, James Delaune, and Jonathan Heppner; Legislative Counsel Christopher Ragucci; Minority Counsel Nicholas Pascale; Victoria Fabella, Clerk of the Legislature; Burt Gulnick, Commissioner of Finance; March Gallagher, Comptroller; Chris Quirk, Deputy Comptroller; Lauren Sheeley, Public Defender; Deputy County Executives John Milgrim, Marc Rider, and Evelyn Wright; Dr. Allan Roberts and Jamie Capuano, SUNY Ulster Community College; Patricia Doxsey, Daily Freeman; Tom Kadgen, League of Women Voters; Laurie Lichtenstein, Confidential Secretary to the Chair of the Legislature; Andrew Pekarik, Catskill Mountain Keeper; Kathy Nolan, Resident

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Calling of the July 14 Ways and Means to order. Natalie, I guess, would you mind calling the roll?

Amber Feaster: I'll do it today.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Perfect. Amber, it is.

Amber Feaster: Archer.

Ronk.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Here.

Amber Feaster: Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: Here.

Amber Feaster: Gavaris.

Legislator Gavaris: Present.

Amber Feaster: Haynes.

Legislator Haynes: Here.

Amber Feaster: Maio.

Legislator Maio: Here.

Amber Feaster: Walter.

Legislator Walter: Here.

Amber Feaster: Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Here.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All right. At this time, I will make, accept a motion to approve the minutes of the July 9th, 16th, and 25th and 30th meetings of Ways and Means.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move it.

Legislator Walter: I'll move it, I'll second it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All in favor?

Committee Members: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed? Motion carries.

We have with us tonight Jamie Capuano and Dr. Alan Roberts from the Ulster County Community College who are going to be giving us a presentation on the 2021 Ulster Community College Budget.

Jamie Capuano: All right, thank you Ken. So, I'm just going to do share screen. Just bear with me one second. Can everybody see this? Everybody set, okay I think you can.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Yes we can.

Jamie Capuano: So, just jumping in on our 2021 SUNY Ulster Budget. Overall, you know we're projecting a reduction of expenses by \$1.1 million. This is reflective, as you see here, salary and wages are down about \$700,000, mostly through attrition. We've also seen an uptick in our benefits. Again, as folks retire, they go on to our retiree health insurance that we're picking up a little increase on retiree health insurance.

The largest area in terms of our budget that we really reexamined is our contractual relationships. So, we have a contractual relationship with our Office for Information Technology, we contract that out with the company through Ellucian. And the contract is up for renewal this year, and we really had to renegotiate it to reduce our overall costs. So, through that negotiation process, we've reduced our overall cost there by about \$600,000. Again, resulting in a total net reduction in expenses by \$1.1 million. Again, 77% of our budget is salary and benefits. You know, this makes it really difficult when you're trying to reduce your overall budget components to really look through line by line analysis on where you can reduce. So, that's why the contractual areas became so important with the upcoming fiscal situation ahead.

Just a quick State Aid update for current year. We received notice that a 20% reduction. We're about \$310,000 reduction in our June payment. The State allocates payments on a quarterly basis. This is a 20% reduction on our fourth quarter payments. We will still try to work with the State to get that funding. Hopefully, that funding comes in before year end. If it doesn't come in before year end, we would certainly book that revenue into next year. But at this point we are anticipating a 20% reduction. The governor has been out saying 20% reductions across the board. We are tracking this as we go forward into next year but that is our current year State Aid Update.

On the revenue side of the house, we are expecting a reduction in tuition. This is mainly because our enrollment were expecting a reduction in for the upcoming fiscal year. We were surprised to see an uptick in our summer enrollments. So we're hopeful that our enrollment will bounce back for Fall and for Spring. But again, we need to project the reduction there based on what we're seeing in the trends.

State aid; we are projecting a reduction of about \$900,000. That's again, looking at what's happening statewide, what's happening with the fiscal crisis from the pandemic, and where we think that we'll land by year end.

At this point, we have no change in the sponsors contribution. Again, we're so thankful for that. We are really, you know, one of the few community colleges who have been really supported strongly by the county through all of this. We thank you for all your continued support.

We are projecting a slight uptick in charges to other counties. So, those are charges for students who come to SUNY Ulster from neighboring counties. We do see an increase there. And some of our banner programs, our police station training our nursing program, our vet technology program, those programs really do bring in a lot of students from out of county.

We are projecting a slight reduction in other revenue, and we are showing a fund balance withdraw of about \$400,000. So, again, on the revenue side, or for balanced budget, we're reducing revenues by \$1.1 million.

In terms of tuition, we are proposing a tuition increase. This is a \$200 increase for the year. As you see here, this puts us in line with other community colleges in our region, and our total tuition of \$4,880 is still below the statewide average of \$5,024.

Again, with the fiscal uncertainty ahead, we felt it was really prudent to review every line item in our budget this year, reduce expenses where we can and also reduce our revenue projections for the upcoming fiscal year.

We have a new Shared Services Initiative that we're still working on with the county. This will be shared services for the purchasing, for our purchasing functions. We had two vacancies in our purchasing department. And it was really important for us to look at all of our cost centers and really say, where can we reduce, and where can we achieve savings and improve efficiencies. And this option seemed like a like a win-win where we can work with the county on purchasing. We won't fill those two vacancies and we can enter into a Shared Services Agreement with the county.

As I said before, we are revisioning or information technology operations. We're going to be partnering with SUNY SICAS (SUNY Student Information and Campus Administration Services) and SUNY ITEC (SUNY Information Exchange Center). These are the SUNY arms for information technology. We're going to be hosting our servers with them. And we're going to be really working with them to really revision how we do, how we do information technology. This will also get us out of the business of hosting our own servers and will reduce our maintenance costs in the out years for our server maintenance components.

Just a quick update on Capital Projects. Our waterline project is now complete, as is our water tank project. We're in the final stages of doing the hookups. And we hope to have that operational by the fall when we have students back on site. At this point, we're just waiting, again, for the aqueduct to open. And then we will be tapping into the city water. So, we are moving on capital projects. I know the state has put a pause on most capital projects. We are starting to see some capital projects with emergency funding requests going through. But again, the state has paused, at this point, all contract requests.

So, with that, I can open up to any questions? Any comments? I don't know if you want us to jump in with anything additional.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Dr. Al, if you've got anything to add before I open up for questions?

Dr. Alan Roberts: While I was talking, I was on mute. I'm sorry. Yeah, I was just going to indicate that this year again, we are on the top 100 as the most affordable colleges in the country. And we're the only one on the state. So, it may look like we're below the average, but after you add grants and our foundation support, we are the most reasonable in the state. So, we're proud of that.

And by the way, just thank you for all you do. The waterline was incredible, the capital projects, and continued support. It's just means a lot to us when we're going to be looking at some interesting cuts from the state. We just got word about a week ago that they were cutting our Pell payment by 20%, but we have to give the students 100%. So, that's one way that the state gave all students a 20% decrease in their tuition. So, things like that just are challenging, but we're going to get through them, and we were one of the few institutions who are going to come out of this fine.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Thanks, Doc. Does anybody have any questions? Anybody in the committee? Going once, going twice?

Legislator Walter: I have questions.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Okay.

Legislator Walter: But someone else said it, Tracey did you want to go first?

Legislator Bartels: Either, mine's quick. So, I'll go first.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Jamie, can you stop the screen share? And then I can see actually when people are raising their hand.

Legislator Bartels: Ken, you can manually slide it over as well. If it's okay, Ken, can I go first?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Sure.

Legislator Walter: Yes.

Legislator Bartels: Okay. Thank you. Jamie, you mentioned that you're basing the downgrading of enrollment on trends. Are those trends that apply to community colleges as well as four-year colleges? Or are you looking at four-year college trends?

Dr. Alan Roberts: Oh did you get lost?

Jamie Capuano: Yeah, I'm here, sorry.

Dr. Alan Roberts: She lost her computer, she just walked into my office.

Legislator Bartels: Okay.

Jamie Capuano: So sorry.

Dr. Alan Roberts: Well, I can answer the question too. We use, we have a matrix that we've been using for years to determine enrollment. That's different than state. You know, we projected to be down about 10%. But right, now as we speak, we're down 25%. So, we got a lot of catching

up to do. We just advertised our reopening plan which is going to allow our students to have access to the campus and it's been approved by the state and by the county. So, we have to hold our breath now. We don't know what will happen, honestly.

Legislator Bartels: Dr. Roberts, did you just say that you're down 25%? I thought that Jamie said that you were up in the summer enrollment. That's you're down 25 for the Fall enrollment at the moment.

Dr. Alan Roberts: For the Fall, right.

Legislator Bartels: Okay.

Dr. Alan Roberts: We're up about 6% for the Summer, which was a surprise. We didn't expect that. We're just hoping, keep our fingers crossed, something might happen in the Fall too.

Legislator Bartels: Okay, thank you.

Dr. Alan Roberts: What happened to your computer?

Jamie Capuano: My internet just gave up.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Eve, go ahead.

Legislator Walter: Thanks. So, I have a few questions. And you know, this is my first rodeo. So, I'm sorry if these are repeating questions that have happened in past years, but I'll try to go through them as quickly as I can. Some of them are easy.

First, I'm at wondering about the charges that we've had to pay to other counties. If you have an idea of how much that is, in overall in relation to how much we're getting back, and also to any, what efforts have been put into place to try to reduce that to have as many of the Ulster kids actually staying here in Ulster.

Dr. Alan Roberts: It's a good question. And it's been the topic of discussion for the five years I've been here. When you get to Marlborough, and you get to Highland, and you get to the East part of the county, going over the bridge is a lot easier than coming to SUNY Ulster. We've talked about putting a branch campus in Marlborough. We did something that really is more significant than reaching out of branch. We do something called "collegiate," which is interesting is you got a school like Marlborough, or let's say Highland. Highland graduated 100 seniors last year. When we do Collegian classes, we start teaching college classes when they're a junior and senior in high school. Out of the 20 students who graduated, you know, very bright students, 20 of them completed one year at Ulster, and never having to come here. Right there is a significant increase that doesn't cost us anything other than just making agreements with the schools. It's probably the best we can do to reach out to that community.

And we do reach, and a lot of schools have specialized programs. The reason we like to have a strong sports team is because we draw from other counties, some of these sports. The reason we

have a fashion design program that nobody else has, we draw from other counties. The vet tech program was the only one that has that, we draw from other counties. Our police training programs, the only one of the counties. Now, on the flip side of that, they have programs we don't have. So, that's where you get the pullback.

Legislator Walter: So, can you tell me, I guess the question is, how much are we paying out?

Jamie Capuano: We can get you that information, I can pull that up online. So, Burt.

Burt Gulnick: I'm on the line, I can answer that now. Last year, we sent \$3.8 million to other community colleges.

Legislator Walter: Okay, and I guess I just wonder if that consideration like for \$3.8 million, that's if we perhaps provided more free full scholarships for own students that maybe we would end up saving way more than the \$3.8 that we're sending out. So, just, uh, a thought.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: If I could just jump in, you know, one of the, one of the big drivers of the chargeback is FIT, the Fashion Institute of Technology, in New York City and FIT statewide, I mean, we've done this at NYSAC. Together. I believe that the Community College Association has fought very hard with us for the for the state legislature to stop characterizing FIT as a community college, or at least only allow a chargeback for their, excuse me, for their two year programs, because FIT is the only four year Community College.

Legislator Walter: That makes sense, what percentage of those, what percentage goes to FIT, of the \$3.8 million?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I mean, Burt might have that number, but we can definitely get that for you. It's a large portion.

Burt Gulnick: Oh, sorry, I just looked it up. Last year, we spent \$300,000

Legislator Walter: Of the \$3.8 million?

Burt Gulnick: Right, to FIT.

Legislator Walter: Right. So, I guess I just wonder if, again, going down the line, you know, \$3., that's a lot of money to pay out that if we provided grants to kids that were here. It might be an incentive. That was just a thought.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I hope I'm not stepping on Dr. Roberts here by saying this as well. But, you know, they did a, they've done several market research studies about why, we actually send out every time, I believe every time, but we've done it at least once, we send a survey to the students who have gone to other colleges, and of course, you only get a small percentage of them back. But when we do get them back, a lot of it is for programs not because of finances. So, without having a program that suits every student, we're not going to be able to recover a lot of these students. I, I just don't want you to take away from here.

Legislator Walter: No, that's fine. We could use \$3.8 million to start programs, but I'm going to defer to the Chair. But I have other questions after.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Chairman Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Oh, yes. I mean, what, what you were talking about Ken, we do have a survey that they have to take, in other words when they file that they're going to another college, outside. So, we do have that. That was a resolution that we put in quite a while ago. I don't know, maybe five years ago, I'm not sure. So, we do have that information on why they are going, and basically, it's, you know, convenience. It's all based out of convenience. We've attempted to put special programs in line. So, this is an issue that the college and I think the legislative body is taken very serious for as long as I've been here. Because that's been an issue. You know, Dutchess County, of course is just on the inside of a river and if you live in Highland, it's a lot closer to go to Dutchess. At the same time, if you live up in, you know, Saugerties in some cases, or even a little bit north of Saugerties, it's closer to go with the Greene County. So, you know, we have to compete with that and which we try to keep the rates down. Now Dutchess has recently increased their rates, but they also their large college it's a larger Community College. And, you know, it creates a certain attraction in that manner. And so, there's a lot of things that the college has been doing, and then we as a body have been doing, it's an attempt to lessen this as much as possible. So, I just wanted to.

Legislator Walter: Can I just follow up. Burt, is that \$3.8 million, more or less than last year, for example? Or the year before? Is it going up? Or is it going down? Or is it consistently that high?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Is Burt, was Burt there?

Legislator Walter: Yeah, Burt is there.

Burt Gulnick: Yeah. It's relatively consistent, but it also is determined by the amount of, the rate the college's charge for each credit as well.

Legislator Walter: So if that goes up. Okay. I just feel like at that amount of money, it's worth keep trying.

My next question is, when I looked at cuts in salaries, it seemed like, or changes in salaries, it seemed like administrative positions were all going up, including administrative maintenance, security, those were all increasing. And the decreases tend to all be in the academic, including nursing, which you said was a big draw. And so, I guess I'm wondering about one, that, that kind of whether you've putting the emph, why that, why I'm seeing that. And two, if the tuition ends up being, if you end up getting more students than, you know, that 20% increase, or 25%, will you, are you committed to be bring bringing back those faculty jobs that you're not filling? Because if those students come, they are going to need faculty.

Dr. Alan Roberts: The more students we have, the more faculty we have. That's, the only reason we're here is to serve students. We can get adjunct instructors in a heartbeat. So, we're ready if we do get that increase, which we're hoping for.

Legislator Walter: Right, so I did see a lot of biology, English, and language, nursing. They all showed reduction. While the administrative departments all showed some increase, just in salaries.

Jamie Capuano: So Eve, I can jump in with that. We are currently in contract negotiations with our Faculty Union, we haven't settled our current year contract for them. We did enter into a one-year MOA with our Professional Association. And that's where you see the increases in a contractual relationship on that side. While we're hoping to get into negotiations, once we have a better fiscal understanding of the year ahead, then you would see a retro, in next year's budget, for those positions as we negotiate the contract.

Legislator Walter: Great. So, you're maintaining the faculty?

Jamie Capuano: Correct.

Dr. Alan Roberts: Yeah, we haven't lost any faculty.

Jamie Capuano: Correct.

Legislator Walter: Perfect. And the last question, if I can? I'm sorry.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Yeah go ahead Eve.

Legislator Walter: So, I noticed the childcare center, the total salary is about \$40,000. How many people is that supporting? It's just sort of interesting because I could like look at the trustee salary, it's a bit higher than the Childcare Center. How many people are supported on that?

Jamie Capuano: Sure. The Children's Center, we are only covering the director's salary for the Children's Center. The Children's Center is run by our Association, which is a private 501c3, which is funded by our student activity fees. So, the Children's Center staff are actually funded through a separate budget set forth through our Association.

Legislator Walter: So, is that a full-time job?

Jamie Capuano: It is a full-time job and they have benefits. Yes.

Legislator Walter: All right. When was the last time she got a raise?

Jamie Capuano: The director got a raise this year.

Dr. Alan Roberts: This year.

Legislator Walter: Okay, just \$42,000 sounds very low for someone who's running a childcare center, which I know is really important for many students who go to the community college. And I just it's, it's it doesn't seem like it's livable wage. But.

Dr. Alan Roberts: What we did is,

Legislator Walter: Okay.

Dr. Alan Roberts: we brought an independent con, an independent agency to do an analysis of all salaries. And actually, they recommended that she got an increase, and that was the increase on the state average. So, we wanted to make sure we were at the same level.

Legislator Walter: Well, so the whole state is pretty bad at supporting childcare.

I'm also really glad that you renegotiated with Ellucian. That was a really, really high amount. And it seems like you don't have any on site IT full-time people that you just use students. Is that right?

Jamie Capuano: Right. So, we have on site OIT but it's all through the Ellucian contract. So, the Ellucian contract is at roughly \$1.1 million funds or full IT operation. So, we do have on site IT, but they're all through a contractual relationship with Ellucian. The operating budget, in terms of support for staffing, it's only for our student services side, where we have some student aid to assist in there. As we transition through this upcoming year, we're hoping to get more on site SUNY Ulster OIT functioning. And we've been working with other community colleges who seem to have really great models out there on how to get that done.

Legislator Walter: Could that be another shared services with the county?

Jamie Capuano: We discussed that with the County Executive's team. We'll you know, look through that and try to explore all options as we go ahead.

Legislator Walter: All right, my work here is done for now.

Jamie Capuano: Thank you.

Dr. Alan Roberts: Good questions, though. Good questions.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Does anybody else have any questions for either Jamie or Dr. Roberts? Heidi? Oh, okay.

All right, with that, thank you so much for the presentation. I, I just do want to commend both Jamie and Dr. Roberts on the way that they handled the Community College.

And Dr. Roberts in particular, I'm not sure if everybody knows, I know it was discussed at Legislative Programs Committee, and it was well published on Facebook, but I thought that what you did for the students getting their diplomas and going around the county and delivering them

was really special. I know that friends of mine, were one of your stops. And they were just, you know, glowing about how, how wonderful that was. And in a year when, you know, one of their most crowning achievements was really, you know, had to take a backseat to public health, you were able to, to make it really special for all them. And you know, donned up your cap and gown and went on a road trip. So, I just want to personally thank you for that. As you know, as Chairman Donaldson is a graduate of Ulster County Community College, it made me really proud.

Dr. Alan Roberts: Well, thank you for the kind words. It was, it was a the most meaningful things I've done in 35 years of education. It really was really as special for me as much as them. So, thanks. I appreciate the acknowledgement.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All right. Thank you very much. Again, with that, we're going to move to resolutions. We're going to start with Resolution 191. Establishing a policy for funding of non-county organizations. I'm going to ask that somebody make a motion to postpone this until next week.

Legislator Bartels: I'll make that motion, this is Tracey Bartels

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved.

Legislator Walter: I'll second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Seconded. All in favor?

Committee Members: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 196 and 208 What's the committee's pleasure? I know that Legislator Archer had a lot of questions about this. I'm comfortable postponing them until next week, if everybody else is.

Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I spoke with Legislator Archer today and I believe she had a conversation with Deputy Executive Rider, is that correct?

Deputy Executive Rider: Yeah.

Legislator Bartels: And she, she conveyed to me that that she was comfortable. We appreciate all the information, and the acknowledgement, and I think we can move ahead with it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All right. Do you want to take 191 and 190, I'm sorry, 196 and 208 as a block?

Legislator Walter: I'll move that.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Second?

Amber Feaster: Was 196 amended to the correct value?

Deputy Executive Rider: I believe it's correct. Yes.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I sense some has hesitation on the part of our financial analysts. Do you?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I

Legislator Bartels: Can I, can I ask Amber if the numbers that you're seeing don't appear correct?

Amber Feaster: The contract total is listed as \$791,503. And I believe the correct contract total is \$900 or, excuse me, \$696,148.26.

Deputy Executive Rider: I thought that was taken care of last month, but why don't we just postpone them until next week, and I can take a look at it.

Amber Feaster: It can be amended right now to say the correct value.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: What's the pleasure the committee? Yeah, Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: If Deputy Executive Rider's comfortable with waiting a week, I mean, I think we can postpone it the week then, and just get the numbers correct, confirmed through both departments, that they're accurate.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: So, at this point, I'll entertain a motion to postpone Resolutions 196 and 208.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll make that motion.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Second?

Legislator Bartels: I'll second it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All in favor?

Committee Members: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 233. I'm, I don't, I'm not going to be like Legislator Archer. I'm not going to wait until the entire heading is read on each one of these otherwise, we're not going to get through the meeting in time to have our public hearings remotely on time. So, as I read the number if someone wants to make a motion, I'm fine with that. Resolution. 233.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll make a motion.

Legislator Walter: I'll second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved and seconded. All in favor?

Committee Members: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

All right. Resolution 235 is confirming the appointment of Lauren Sheeley as the director of the Public Defender's Office. I'll entertain a motion for discussion.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll entertain that.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Legislator Donaldson.

Legislator Walter: Second.

Legislator Haynes: I'll second, Haynes.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Seconded by Haynes.

I want to remind everybody that, as was said at Law Enforcement Committee, the proper action by this committee, regardless of how you feel about the appointment, is to pass it tonight out of committee to move it to the floor in order to have a positive or negative vote by the Legislature. Otherwise it becomes a default appointment.

With that, Lauren Sheeley is with us tonight. I have offered her a couple of minutes, just sort of as an opening statement. You know, three to five minutes tops. And then after that, we'll take questions. As we take, as she takes questions, I would ask that the committee be respectful and allow her to answer the question completely without being interrupted. If you have follow-ups, wait until the end, and I'll call back on you again. With that, Ms. Sheeley, if you'd like to begin.

Lauren Sheeley: Thank you, Legislator Ronk. And thank you to everyone here tonight for giving me the time and consideration tonight with regard to my appointment as Ulster County Public Defender. You know, I have lots of versions of intros and things I want to tell you all, but I really wanted to take a moment to address the statements that came out yesterday by Legislative Chairperson Donaldson regarding my qualifications, I thought it was very important for me to speak to that briefly tonight.

Unfortunately, as a young female attorney. I am all too familiar with my qualifications being called into question. However, please let me be clear, I am more than qualified for this position. From the New York State Defenders Association, to the Office for Indigent Legal Services, I meet the criteria, and beyond.

Now, more than ever, the ability to provide high quality legal services to people facing the loss of life, liberty, freedom or family is crucial. I have spent the past 10 years of my career and my life fighting for the rights of underserved and indigent people and communities, from physically shielding my clients from the opposition in open court, to advocating for justice for the LGBTQ+ plus community, and to working with children, who, immigrant children who have fled their home countries under the fear or threat of violence. I have devoted my career to serving the neediest client populations. And I would like to continue doing this. I want to bring my leadership, my passion and my vision to the Public Defender's Office, where I know I can be an agent of change during a time when the people are demanding justice, and equality.

Like I said, I have, you know, a lengthier sort of introduction or speech I could go into, but I want to be respectful of your time. I thank you for giving me the opportunity to make a statement. And I'd be happy to answer any of your questions.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Chairman Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Thank you. Just for a point of information. I don't think anybody called in your qualifications because you were a female. It had nothing to do with it, whatsoever. I just want to make that clear.

And the obligations that were put in place in Ulster County, or the qualifications that are in place in virtually most places across the, I don't know, well actually, let me ask you a question. Do you know of any county, that in New York State, that has a Public Defender, in other words, the chief defense attorney, that has had no criminal law experience? Do you know?

Lauren Sheeley: No, I haven't done a study of Public Defender Offices throughout the state. Um, I mean, I would say that I go back to and stand behind my position, that I am qualified for the position. I have significant Family Court experience. I have an understanding of criminal law. I am up to date on, you know, recent changes and activities. And I have led a successful free legal services grant-driven office.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: A, John.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Can I ask? I still have

Deputy Executive Milgrim: I'd like to address that question because I did do a little bit of study, just as a point of fact. New York City's Public Defender has no criminal background. Janet Sable, who ran the Civil Rights Division, for the Attorney General's Office for several years, is entirely immigration and civil background. She's now the Lawyer in Chief for the Legal Aid Society of New York, which is the primary indigent defense counsel agency for the city.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Right. But that's also the New York City has several departments within the Public Defender, the Public Defenders. Anyway.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Dave, you got another question?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yes, yes I do. So, do you know how many actual criminal cases were brought into the Public Defender's Office?

Lauren Sheeley: I can try to find those numbers for you.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I can give them to you. New felonies last year were 379. New parole violation matters were 116. These are new. Misdemeanors and violations: 3,242. And Family Court matters were 567.

I got a question on what, what have you done in Family Court? Did you represent somebody that abused or was accused of abuse, abusing someone? Or accused of.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Instead of doing that, Dave, why don't we just say, what's your experience in Family Court?

Lauren Sheeley: Thank you.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Well, I'm asking you, I think, can I ask the question? Or do you want to ask it for me, Ken?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Well, I mean, we can, you can ask each individual one.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: What I'm asking if that's what she's done, or she's done something else, I don't know.

Lauren Sheeley: Over my 10 years at free legal services providers, I have provided direct representation in Family Court to, in various types of matters. And I have supervised a unit as Attorney in Charge, Legal Services of Hudson Valley of four Family Court staff people. So, that, you know, that required heavy supervision and second chairing in all of their cases and matters in Family Court. On the types of cases we handled were a family offense cases, as well as custody cases. We did not handle support matters unless they were a crime victim. And I believe that answers your question.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Right. So, you didn't represent somebody that was going to charge for an abuse or something of that nature, was basically on custodial arguments, I guess maybe? Is that what you handle?

Lauren Sheeley: Well, I mean, I have, I can't exactly remember but I know that I've represented and supervised the representation of people and family offense petitions. And, right.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Just for point of information with what John Milgrim brought up. Basically, the New York City has several departments within the Public Defender's Office, and hundreds and hundreds of attorneys. So, it's, you know, it's a little a little different than hands on.

Also, okay, now, I'd like to make some type of a quick statement and then I'll let somebody else ask some questions about the criminal defense experience. I actually called Lou Klein. I think everybody knows Lou Klein. Lou Kline was the Chairman of the Legislature in 1979 when the Legislature established a policy of five years practicing in three years trial in criminal law. And when I talked to him in reference to that, his concern was that sometimes people get put up, or that are not necessarily qualified for the position, and they wanted to make sure that there were very base qualifications, and five years of experience in criminal law and three years as a practicing the same and trials.

And when I talked to him, he said he was concerned about that because, you know, the old system, you know, it seemed to be, you know, buddy or, you know, brother, or drinking partner, whatever. They could still maybe get the job, but at least they still have to have five years of criminal law experience.

And then in 2006, the legislature then was ready to hire a public defender. And we went through extensive interviews with many attorneys, and actually got questions from the community in some cases and went through this. And various attorneys were interviewed. And in the end, one person got that particular job. That same person later on was hired by Mike Hein, when he came into office, because it changed the process of picking them.

My concern here is we're going backwards. We have an opportunity, and we're not using the opportunity properly. And I know, I think, Lauren Sheeley, you're a wonderful human being, you've done great work during your time, I just feel that you're not qualified for this position at this point.

I also have, some I mean, I can point out some other things that were said the last time that were not necessarily true, but I don't want to go into that, unless pressed, I guess. So if.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I'd prefer not to at this point, Dave. We will we will have the opportunity to make statements like that on the floor. Before, before Marc, unless you have something that is pressing right now, I want to see if there's any other legislators that have a question.

Deputy Executive Rider: Yeah, I just it was directly on what Legislator Donaldson just said. When the charter was created, descriptions and qualifications were reviewed by the Charter Commission. And, and what was put forward in the Charter was determined by that body, as the relevant at the time, that 1979 policy, whatever Chairman Donaldson is referring to was not carried over. So.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: But can I straighten something out here? The Charter was done as a base. We're the ones that make the decision on this in the end. And the like I said, the

decision back then was 1979, way back in 1979 at the forethought, forward thinking idea, I guess, because everybody else actually accepted that afterwards. Except for New York City with the giant public defender's office that has various departments within it. So, it is totally different. They're never going to, that public defender never going to be in a courtroom, probably at all because of the size of that.

So, when these were put into five years, and three, they were put in for, meant to continue. And the Charter merely points out a base on which you should be working from. And as I said, I'd like to know other than New York City with a huge one, I'd like to know where else they would. I don't there is any, that's having. So that's my point with the charter. The charter is just giving you a base. It's not giving you the total, and these came from personnel department, this wasn't picked up by anytime. It came from the personnel department, in fact, on the assistant public defender would require certain qualifications that are not in the resume here.

Deputy Executive Rider: If I could just clarify that it's the appointing authority that creates minimum qualifications. It's not the Legislature. It's the appointing authority, who, in this case is the County Executive. We advertise the position with a certain set of criteria, which was different. And I just want to make that point. And also, just to add, I know, you've harped on New York City, Monroe County, and also OILS, both those requirements are different than what our current requirements are.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Also read what OILS says, and Monroe County says, read through it. Don't read the first paragraph, read through the entire document that was actually sent to me on.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: You've both made your points. You're not going to agree on that.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: And the problem is, Ken, this is a hearing between us and a question that we're having. And I find it a little troublesome that they have to have somebody in the background on each one of these jumping in all the time.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: If Marc hadn't brought up Monroe County, I was going to, or Heidi was going to, I believe, Dave. So, I mean, you know, you can cast aspersions.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: What about Monroe? What about Monroe County?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: They, their requirements, they do not require the criminal law, it says is criminal or family law, Dave.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: But they do have somebody that is.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: But their requirements don't. What you've said is just patently untrue, which is that everybody else requires criminal law background, which isn't true.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: The legislative body does.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Our legislative body does not, you know, we passed a charter, and then the voters passed the charter. And I, I don't believe that that 1979 document survives the Charter, and neither does my minority counsel. And without speaking for him, I don't believe the county attorney does either. So, um, you know, that having been said, I mean, you know, the County Charter and the code have three requirements of the of the public defender, as being appointed by the County Executive. They have to be an attorney admitted to the bar in the State of New York, they have to reside in Ulster County, and it has to be a full-time position.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: We can set whatever criteria we wish.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: And we haven't.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Well, we have.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: I think actually, Legislator Gavaris might be before me.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Oh, sorry, he's on the other screen. Legislator Gavaris?

Legislator Bruno: He's muted.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: He's, uh, he's not showing up on video.

So, Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: Sure. I mean, personally, what's more important to me is not whether it's even written these qualifications but actually the needs of the indigent population in the county.

I, I really, I really appreciate the work that, that you have done, Lauren, in terms of serving these people. A lot of the similar population in other ways. I just feel there was a couple of things that were mentioned in Law Enforcement that I didn't really have a chance to explore and I did since then.

And I just want some clarification because, you know, it was suggested that the majority of the work is, is Family Court. But from what I understand, and correct me if I'm wrong, there's only two full-time Family Court public defenders and two part-time. There are seven criminal public defenders, and seven part time, which suggests, and in my asking around, the preponderance of the work is in Criminal Court. And so, I guess, I wonder, given that the majority of the work is in Criminal Court. Where you feel your words were that you are more than qualified. Can you just sort of address how you're "more than" qualified, given the fact that the majority of the work that comes out of this office is Criminal Court? Criminal cases?

Lauren Sheeley: Yeah, sure. So, I also, the breakdown that I have is for full-time staff. There's about eight criminal and four family, and for part time, there's nine criminal and three family. So, I think it's a higher number all around. But that being said, I believe that the numbers we were

most interested in, in speaking about, you know, trial and court experience, was the fact that Family Court had completed 169 trials. And the criminal, total criminal trials was 20. So, that, that number, those figures were significant to us.

Legislator Walter: Whose "us?" I'm sorry.

Lauren Sheeley: It's me.

Legislator Walter: Okay. Because I get, so, you're saying that, I mean, that the effort and work and attention that goes into a case for a family court is as time consuming and demanding as a criminal trial court case? I mean to me, and I'm criminologist, criminological epidemiologist. So, I've been studying this. It's like comparing apples and oranges. They're not the same thing in terms of counts to trial. Plus, you have you know, you have all the pretrial stuff, all the stuff that happens before, and often plea bargains that happen. So, I guess I'm just... Isn't the fact that there are just so many more criminal public defenders than Family Court public defenders, even if my numbers are wrong, there are so many more. Isn't that likely, because the most of what they do is criminal cases? And most of what they spend their time on, on a day to day basis, is criminal cases?

Lauren Sheeley: Well, in speaking to your point about trials, I mean, I believe preparing for any trial is as important. You know, every trial is critical and extremely important. So, I would never say that the Family Court trials aren't as important as the Criminal.

Legislator Walter: Oh, please don't think I said they're not important.

Lauren Sheeley: Or as difficult, as difficult.

Legislator Walter: I just want to make it clear.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Eve, I asked you to let her finish her answer at the beginning of the meeting. I'd appreciate if you did that. I don't want to have to start muting people, but I will if that, if it gets out of control. I don't want this to be a fight. Let her answer.

Legislator Walter: It's fine. I just don't want her to suggest I think they're not important because I didn't say that word.

Lauren Sheeley: I'm sorry, difficult. I think that they are just as difficult as criminal trials. I mean, you are talking about you potentially losing your children, as a generalized statement. I mean, these are these are, these are serious trials as well. That being said, I am a competent, experienced attorney of 13 years. Not only have I served the community, you know, the indigent community for 10 years, but I have extensive case handling experience and litigation experience, myself. And I am, and I have led an office of staff. I grew my staff from, I tripled it from, you know, from starting it at four people. I don't think the parts of this job, of administering a large grant-driven office can be overlooked. There are extremely competent criminal attorneys in that office, and I would use my knowledge, and my experience, and I would leverage the team. And I

would lead that office with, you know, compassion and inspiration. I mean, I'm sorry, I forget the origin of your question. I apologize.

Legislator Walter: I was asking how you're "more than" qualified given the fact that the preponderance of cases are in criminal cases?

Lauren Sheeley: Right.

Legislator Walter: Preponderance of time is on criminal cases.

Lauren Sheeley: Right. I would say that I'm more than qualified, in that I'm qualified and experienced in leading a large office like this, and leveraging the team of experience and practiced, you know, with hundreds of years of practice with under one roof. I am experienced in, you know, bringing people together and motivating people to do the best job possible. I'm experienced in, in supervising attorneys in order to make sure that the highest quality services are being delivered. I'm experienced in, you know, all of the other things, along with administering and supervising and providing justice to this clientele.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I'd like to, I'd like to jump in for a question, and then I'll call back on you Dave, unless I see anybody else's hands up beforehand. I, through the, I'm the chair, uh, you know, John, haven't experienced this in a while. A question to John Milgrim and Marc Rider. Are you aware of how many cases, criminal cases last year the former public defender was counsel of record on?

Deputy Executive Milgrim: Two.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Two.

Deputy Executive Milgrim: Two.

Deputy Executive Rider: You mean the Public Defender's Office? Correct?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: In the Public Defender's Office. Yes. In the Public Defender's Office, correct.

Deputy Executive Milgrim: Actually, no let me make it clear. I believe it was something like nine, he averaged two a year, like nine for the last 10 years. So, it's about two, a little under two a year. Were cases of record under the public defender.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Okay. And, you know, the other point that I'll make is, you know, I've been in the legislature for the entirety of the Charter. And I don't remember, ever remember somebody casting doubt on the former public defender's qualifications in family law or overseeing attorneys that, that work in Family Court. So, again, you've got an office that has a broad brush of, you know, of cases. And I just want to make that point that, you know, I don't believe that the former, and no one's been able to tell me that otherwise, that the former public defender had experience in Family Court.

John Gavaris, did you have a question earlier? No, okay. Um, anybody else hasn't spoken yet before I go to Dave? Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I just had a quick question of clarification for John Milgrim, who just said that the public defender, the previous public defender, was attorney a record on two cases last year?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: As a public defender.

Legislator Bartels: As a public defender, are you talking about trial cases? Or does that apply to all cases?

Deputy Executive Milgrim: Cases assigned to him.

Legislator Bartels: Cases assigned to him.

Deputy Executive Milgrim: That's according to Peggy Wolf.

Legislator Bartels: According to who?

Deputy Executive Milgrim: Peggy Wolf, at the Public Defender's Office.

Legislator Walter: I don't think that's right.

Legislator Bartels: Yeah, I don't think, that's probably not a measure of the work he did on all cases that he didn't take as a lead assigned. I just wanted to clarify that you're saying there were two cases assigned to him. Last year, 2019?

Deputy Executive Milgrim: An average of two cases a year for the past 10 years.

Legislator Walter: How many cases did he work on overall?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Dave, Dave was next unless Tracey had another?

Legislator Bartels: I did have a question for, a question for Lauren, for clarification, if that's okay. And that was at your previous employment, how many attorneys did you supervise?

Lauren Sheeley: We got up to 12 total staff members. That grew from four, and I think that four of them were administrative staff.

Legislator Bartels: Four were, and were the others all full-time?

Lauren Sheeley: Yes. Yes. All full-time. Everyone.

Legislator Bartels: Everyone, okay. So four.

Lauren Sheeley: Yeah, there was no part time permitted.

Legislator Bartels: And eight, eight attorneys. And what was that the caseload like annually?

Lauren Sheeley: So, unlike the public defender's, or, there was no case load regulation. You know, that was my job to watch. You know, through regular case reviews and meetings with the attorneys. You sort of determine and gauge where their caseloads are at. Some cases would be active trials, and others, like with a social security attorney, some cases sit on their case list for a bit longer. So, it was within my, you know, I was charged with sort of over-protecting the attorneys to make sure that no one had too many to do a good job. Luckily, at the Public Defender's Office, that's one of the greatest initiatives of state funding is to, is to control the caseloads and bring in more funding so that you can have more attorneys to do more work and spread, and spread the work out evenly, so, there's no, there's no problems, and they're delivering highest quality service.

Legislator Bartels: So, you know, how many trials you oversaw, or the team undertook annually?

Lauren Sheeley: Oh, I'm sorry. How many trials I oversaw? I mean, I could get that number for you. But I'd say annually, each of my attorneys handled at least 100 cases.

Legislator Bartels: Which might not be, might not go to trial, but a hundred cases?

Lauren Sheeley: Per attorney, yeah.

Legislator Bartels: Thank you.

Lauren Sheeley: Yeah.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: We're going to have to recess in a moment and come back later because we're approaching the public hearing.

Vicky, if you want to just pipe in how, what time's the first public hearing?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: 6:15.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All right.

Clerk Fabella: It's 6:15. And there are already speakers signed up.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Yeah, I would say one more question from Dave. And then let's recess until after the public hearings.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: All right. Well, I just want to first of all to clear something up. Basically, there is eight times the amount of criminal cases then there is that go into Family Court, it's almost 4,000 that.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Point of Information. Dave, are you including like, like speeding tickets and Justice Court?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Any misdemeanor, anything that gets filed with the Public Defender's Office, somebody that there that gets filed through them. And that's basically almost 4,000.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I'm asking if that includes violations, Dave? You said misdemeanors, does that include violations and Justice Court?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Misdemeanors and violations, felonies, all that.

But anyway, I want to also make sure that you also understand that the public defender normally did not often put his name on the cases. He may have consulted on the cases. That doesn't mean he wasn't involved in the cases. So, the idea that he actually only had two cases is not necessarily true. But I have to ask one question before we go on. Lauren, you said that you were more qualified than what was needed, more or less. But you're going to be overseeing people who are actually having the experience.

You said that you're going to leverage. Don't you see a problem with that within that with the morale, or the group that has had, like I mean, there's people there that have tried murder trials in New York City. The one was there's been people there that have worked in that office for 30 years. And actually the three, and then another one was actually a Town Court Justice and she does in Family Court and also in criminal law. By the way, they they're all women, so just so you know as your point of information before, that you feel that your qualifications were overlooked because of that. I certainly am not overlooking anybody's qualifications for that. So, don't you see that there may be a morale problem that you might have to fix?

Lauren Sheeley: Okay, so the question is, if.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I could read it again.

Lauren Sheeley: Do I think that there will be a morale problem if I'm hired as a public defender?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: You're going to be overseeing people that have more qualifications than you do.

Lauren Sheeley: Right. I mean, I believe there are people there with more qualifications than me in one area and less qualifications than me and another. I believe I come from a diverse, and strong, and knowledgeable, and experienced background. And I can bring things to that office that that no one else has. I have an experience and a background that no one else in this

community has. And I believe that with compassionate leadership, and, you know, listening to my staff, and hearing what they have to say, and their suggestions. I believed that I would foster an environment of nourishment. And that would be my goal.

I've overseen up an office of attorneys with an assortment of qualifications. Some had, you know, many more than me in some areas and some had many less. I mean, there was varying levels of qualifications. And I believe that I truly inspired and led my team. And I know that they would all tell you that. Being part of a collaborative team where I can solicit information or feedback where they feel like they can come and speak to me about a suggestion, or a problem, or anything like that. I pride myself on creating that environment and being, you know, a compassionate and inspirational leader.

Um, and also, you know, being in the community and having this time same approach to the community and listening to people, and the clients, and their families. And using that information, being the clients' voices, in this critical time in our country and our county.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I wonder if you don't mind Ken.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Hold on hold on one sec. Dave. Are there other? Are there going to be other questions afterwards? Because if so, I want to see if Ms. Sheeley is able to stay until after, is able to come back after the public hearing. If not, we won't need her to. So, committee members, just pipe up right now if you're going to have a question after the public hearing.

Hearing none, Dave, final question.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yes. Due to the fact that the Public Defender's Office has very limited resources in many ways and there's going to be people coming to you possibly, are we for instance, dealing with, oh, maybe we need to have a blood splatter expert come in, or do DNA testing, or expert witnesses. And you may end up having three of them wanting to do that. How are you going to weigh which one you're going to do? And which one you're going to say, "No." That's a critical criminal defense type of question. And that, and you don't have the experience with it. So, I'm wondering how you're going to get to that. I mean, how, how would you weigh one person's over another? And now would you make sure that one's argument is better, and one has to be done, and one doesn't?

Lauren Sheeley: Well, I think my understanding from meeting with multiple staff in the Public Defender's Office is the state funding that comes through the Office for Indigent Legal Services actually covers those costs. So, I, I don't believe that we're going to have to be making decisions like that. However, I would consult with the team I would see how it was handled, I would see how, you know, how we can come to those decisions as a group, as a competent, knowledgeable attorney.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Thank you for your time.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Thanks, Dave. Marc, you look, you look like you want to say one thing.

Marc Rider: I'm good.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Okay. With that, I think that we should. I'm going to say we're going to take a recess until after the public hearing. Thank you very much, Ms. Sheeley, for coming.

Lauren Sheeley: Thank you very much for your time.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: And we'll come back and finish resolutions after the public hearing. Everyone is just going to have to click back into the same link, correct Vic? Yes, so after the public hearing is adjourned, everyone go back into the Ways and Means link and we'll finish the resolutions.

Clerk Fabella: We lost Mary Beth. Mary Beth is not coming back.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Dave.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: To clear something up that took place, it's not a question or anything. But I had Andy Kossover contacted and he basically said that John Milgrim's representation of his caseload was insane and totally false. He handled many, many cases as a Public Defender in Ulster County Court, Town Courts, even as a Conflict Defender in Dutchess County Court on behalf of the Public Defender's Office. I wanted to make sure that they understood the other point of that conversation. And that's about it, thank you.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: You got it. So resolution 235 has been moved and seconded. All those in favor of moving into the floor signify by saying aye.

Committee Members: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Moved to the floor unanimously.

Resolution 236, budget modification after adoption, on to the motion?

Legislator Bartels: I'll move it for discussion

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Bartels. Second?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Seconded.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Donaldson. On the resolution?

Is there any discussion?

Tracey. Did you have discussion, or no?

Legislator Bartels: No, I was just scratching my face. Sorry.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Do any legislators have any discussion on this at this time? Deputy County Executive Rider?

Deputy Executive Rider: I just want to make a point on this and I understand where I think this is coming from. But if Burt was here, he would tell you that he uses budget transfers from payroll as a last resort, and it, it doesn't happen very often. What I'll say is in a year, like this year, when we're struggling through a pandemic, tying our hands in any way, to be able to move money from payroll into paying expenses, like even purchasing resources like N95 masks. I, I just feel, like now, is not the time to do this. That's my only point.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Resolution sets a public hearing. Is there any more discussion?

All in favor, say aye.

Committee Members: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Nobody opposed. Resolution passes.

Resolution 238 is a policy regarding Legislative Access To Ulster County's MUNIS (Municipal Uniform Information System) I'll entertain a motion for discussion.

Legislator Bartels: I'll move it for discussion.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Bartels, seconded by Donaldson. I just want to make sure, one second, Legislator Bartels, then I will call on you. I just wanted to make sure everybody got the memo and was able to review it, from Commissioner of Finance Gulnick, today on this topic.

Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I spoke with Legislator Archer earlier, and this is her resolution, she respectfully asked that we postpone it for a week, so that she could be here for the discussion.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Okay.

Legislator Bartels: And then also in light of the late memo from the Commissioner of Finance it will give everyone time to digest that. And then she will be present for the conversation.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I make a motion to postpone it for the week.

Legislator Bartels: I just did that.

Legislator Walter: I'll second, I'll second it.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I didn't know you did that.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Alright so, moved & seconded.

Legislator Bartels: Oh maybe I didn't, Dave, sorry. Thank you.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: You asked to do it, that's why I wasn't sure. If you just did it, I second.

Legislator Bartels: I think I didn't. I think I just thought I did.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: It's all good.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: That's okay.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All in favor of the postponement?

Committee Members: Aye. Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Alright, postponed till next week.

Resolution 239 is a public hearing on the law to clarify the change orders and amendments to contracts equal to or exceeding \$50,000.

Legislator Walter: I'll move it.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move, I'll second the motion.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Walter, a second by Donaldson. Discussion?

All in favor?

Committee Members: Aye. Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed? All right. That passes unanimously, as well.

240 is requesting the New York State Legislature introduce and the governor sign a transfer tax for Ulster County. I'll entertain a motion.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Second?

Legislator Walter: Second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any discussion?

Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I was just wondering if the sponsor could, could give, you know, a little background on this.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Oh, yes. We can talk about transfer tax. Which, yeah. Basically, right now there is the towns and the cities all have these types of, in line. And we're basically the bag man, in a sense. So, as a result, a number of counties have actually done this. It's a small amount that was put together. I think we should have some discussions on the numbers and the amounts. I thought that that's may be done. I don't know if you want to get more involved than that. But it is a public hearing, so, we could actually hear about that and then get ready to discuss these things at more than length.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: So, rather than it being a public hearing, right, it's a Home Rule request. So, we would have to, if the requests were granted, we would have to actually vote on adopting it. So, I'll support the Home Rule request and I'm sure we'll have more conversations between now and then.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Right, exactly. You're exactly right. We have to start the process to get Home Rule request. And once we get Home Rule request, we still won't have to do it. I mean, that'd be up to us on how we go about doing it. But I think it's an opportunity that, you know, we have ignored over a long period of time.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I'm just going to weigh in unless somebody else has a comment on it to start with. You know, I'm, I'm going to be opposed to this tonight. I don't think that we should be requesting the authority to levy a transfer tax. You know, again, we already have, you know, every time someone buys a piece of property that has a mortgage attached to it, there's a mortgage tax. Anytime somebody refinances their mortgage, there's a mortgage tax.

I just think that, you know, that is the best point at which to tax, the transfer of real property is at the at the front end of the mortgage tax, I don't think that you should be taxing both ends of the same transaction. You know, everyone pays him, you know, I shouldn't say everyone, everyone who takes out a mortgage, which is the vast majority of people who are buying a home, are, are getting taxed by the government at the front end when they buy the house. And now, when they sell the house, these seniors that may have to sell their house, you know, in order to, you know, be able to move into someplace smaller. Or you know, people who have to sell their house for any host of reasons are now going to get taxed by the government on the way out as well. I just, I

can't support it. I think that it's the, I understand it's an easy money grab. But I don't think that it's something that we should do.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Alright, Legislator Walter. Oh, I'm sorry. I was ready to call on Legislator Walter, that's up to you Ken.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I didn't see her until just now. Legislator Walter.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: No, I'm sorry.

Legislator Walter: Just, just for clarification, is this a, this is a tax on the buyer, correct? Not the seller? Or am I getting this wrong?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: No.

Legislator Walter: The seller pays the tax?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: The seller pays a transfer tax, the buyer pays a mortgage tax.

Legislator Walter: Okay. Thank you. I just wanted clarification.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah. Its, what's the number we have in there again?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Wasn't it two?

Legislator Bartels: One dollar per \$500, I think.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Okay.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, it's a.

Legislator Bartels: The state has two dollars per \$500, currently, I believe.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Okay.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Gavaris.

Deputy Executive Rider: I got a question, but I don't know if anybody knows the answer. Is there a way to do this where if you owned it for a certain period of time, you don't pay this amount? And if you own it beyond that, then you do. Is there a way to structure it that way? Or no, it's all or nothing?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I believe there is. It's a little tricky, but I believe there may be. I'm not, you know, that's something that we would have to actually zero in on and look at. Like Ken pointed out, it is the seller that's paying for that. So, it's coming out of that. It's not.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Gavaris: Well I, I.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Sorry, John.

Legislator Gavaris: Can I just finish my point. I'm sorry I want to finish my point on that, so, if a person is doing flipping houses as a business, then to me that's different than I think, I wouldn't mind necessarily taxing them. I don't want, I'm with Legislator Ronk on the idea that I don't want to tax people who are selling their home. Who have lived in it for 30 years and they're going to retirement home now. I, I but I do think if people are doing this as a business, I wouldn't mind taxing them for it.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Well, there may be a number too you can work on. But rather than that, I mean, because sometimes, you know, you might be selling your house and you're making a million bucks, even though you owned it for quite a while. But the tax is not a is not as significant, as you know, many other aspects of buying and selling the house. I think Evelyn had a question or Evelyn was going to make a statement?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Yeah. I'm letting legislators go first and then after the legislators are done, then I'm going to allow the county executive's office to weigh in.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Gotcha.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: Thank you. Yeah, I, I, I like Legislator Gavaris' suggestion. I don't know if it's something that would have to be in the Home Rule request. I mean, I also think, even if you were to make a significant amount of money on the property, if you've been in the house for, as Legislator Gavaris said, 30-40 years, for a lot of these people, that is their equity. They, you know, they may, or may not, have a 401k or retirement. I certainly know those people personally. I'm sure we all do in our districts. So, I don't know, Dave, if it would be something that we would have to put in the Home Rule request. I don't know if timing is critical in terms of, could we, could we wait, could it even wait, could it even wait the week to try to look into it?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I actually, where is Ragucci? I think he's here, right, Chris?

Christopher Ragucci, Esq.: Right here, Sir.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, because I believe the Home Rule request gives you the blanket and then you, you are allowed to adjust that. However, in other words, you can't add more, but you can adjust downward on it. Or change, in other words, the specifics. And I actually also like John Gavaris' ideas. On this, but Chris, can you clear that up, if you don't mind?

Christopher Ragucci, Esq.: Yeah, the Home Rule request, I believe as drafted is, definitely gives the legislature certain flexibility, as long as it's passed, as written by the state. I think either

of the suggestions that we discussed would allow the home rule authority if it's granted as proposed.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Did Nick, want to weigh in on that, Ken?

Nicholas Pascale, Esq.: Yeah. Can I be heard?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Please.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah.

Nicholas Pascale, Esq.: Yeah. No, my, my suggestion would be that if you want to have the ability to legislate, you should include the terms of what you intend to put into the local law in your request for Home Rule authority, particularly in these area of taxation. If you look at the section of tax law where other localities are authorized to do this, we're just seeking to have Ulster County added on to where other counties have already, or localities have opted into this. Taxing authority is prescribed by the state. So, I would not assume that you're going to have the ability to do whatever you want after the fact. I would build it in up front.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any other legislators want to speak?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Did Chris confirm, concur with that?

Christopher Ragucci, Esq.: I mean, I'm, I'm of course happy to work with minority counsel on this. I, I happen to hold slightly different view. I think we have some flexibility here. The way it's drafted presently, but, again, I don't think there's a, I don't think there's any problem with coming up with some additional language if that would be the wishes of the body.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Okay.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Evelyn.

Deputy Executive Wright: Thanks, Legislator Ronk. From the County Executive's Office, you know, it's frequently expressed in legislative meetings, and, and particularly in this committee, some dismay at the county executive, introducing things or taking actions without consulting with the legislature first. So, we were a little shocked to see, to find out about a new tax being introduced on Ulster County residents, by reading the resolutions that came out on a Thursday evening, right before a holiday weekend.

You know, ordinarily, we would think when introducing a new tax, we'd like to do some analysis in terms of how much money it might collect. Who's going to be paying it. Who the burden falls on. Some of the design features that, that Legislator Gavaris was talking about in terms of thresholds or, or criteria that might change how regressive or progressive the tax is. As well as how much revenue might be collected from it.

And, and from the comments here, it's sounding like other members of the committee are, are also just starting to dig into this for the first time. From our view, this is just a breathtakingly casual way to, to introduce a new tax. And we'd, we'd really love to take a step back and see some analysis and some real design work done before going ahead with something like this.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah. This is, this is the legislative function, by the way, in case you didn't know that. The thing is, is in this case, I didn't really expect it to go any further than, right, I mean, we're having a conversation. I expected to get the introduction in and move forward. But so, I'm actually surprised, that you know, people even think about moving it that quick.

I mean, I wanted to get the process moving and in order to do that, you have to put a resolution in. So, that's what is going on here. And so, I would suggest that we postpone it any way. But I mean, I was hoping that we had, you know, a deeper conversation on this. But we got caught up in other things.

So, but I would like to have it move kind of quickly if we could, because there's, you know, I think there's significant amount of money that could be brought in and without, you know, hurting somebody too much. You know, with the seller. But I, I agree with Gavaris and I think that's part of the conversation that should be, we should be having.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Is that a motion to postpone for a month, Legislator Donaldson?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, I have no, but I actually, yeah. Postpone it. I think, I think we need to talk about this, this item

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Unless Tracey would like it postponed until the next meeting.

Legislator Bartels: I think we have to...

Deputy Chairman Ronk: And then we postpone it again.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I would like to have it postponed. But I mean, I think this is something that we should have a meeting on, just this. You know and sit down and actually hammer this thing out. Because I think it's an important aspect that, and with the budget crisis that we're going to be facing. I'm sorry if I tried to offer something to bring in some money.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: Thanks, I just, wherever the postponement is, just for clarification of what will happen between now and then. So, the one thing I hear is whether the language of this particular resolution need to specify, needs to get to the specifics, or whether it can be written more broadly, and those specifics can be hammered out later. Is that, that sounds like one of the things we need clarification because the counsels don't fully agree.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yes.

Legislator Walter: Can we just be clear if there's anything else that we're hoping to achieve, so that we don't, so, we can, you know, have everything in front of us by the next, whenever it is?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: You don't mind, Ken?

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Please Dave.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, I, I think we need to clear all of them up. That's why I would like to have a meeting with just, you know, the committee to discuss just this particular item. When I put it in, I didn't have any idea that it would, you know, probably because of the, the Zoom type meetings. It's really, you know, changed the nature of things a little bit. But I think this is something that should be dealt with individually. Because I think it's going to take a little time to hammer out exactly what's the way we want this to go forward. Because probably, even though Chris said we could probably change those, I mean, there's flexibility in those. You know, I think it might not be a bad idea to, you know, even if we don't have, to still add when we are looking for as the best way to move forward on that. You know, like John Gavaris' idea. And then I'm sure there's other people that have ideas.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Agreed. Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I also suggest when, when we're wondering what we should be looking at, can we get the numbers of what, without any restrictions on it, of what, what revenue it would have brought in?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yup.

Legislator Bartels: However, we want to do that in the last quarter. And maybe.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I think I'm going to give it a slip. I'm going to see if March would take that assignment or not. March, will ya?

Comptroller Gallagher: Absolutely. And I'd be happy to send our report on both mortgage recording tax, real estate transfer tax that we just released a few weeks ago. And I'll pass it along to Vicky to send out to everybody. It has revenue estimates in there.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Thank you, March. And then we'll, you know, we'll have her in part of the conversation, obviously.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any other discussion?

Motion to postpone until the next meeting.

Legislator Bartels: So moved.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Bartels, seconded by Gavaris.

All in favor?

Group: Aye

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

All right. 241 confirming the appointment of Wanda Williams to the Off Track Betting Corporation Board of Directors.

Move by?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Move by Donaldson. Second?

Walter.

Any discussion?

All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 244 approving the 2020-2021 Ulster County budget, Ulster County Community College budget.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson.

Legislator Walter: I'll second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Second by Haynes.

On the resolution, any discussion? All in favor?

Group: Aye. Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 245 amending the 2020 Ulster County budget to accept increased funding for minimum wage and workforce COLA's from the New York State Office of Addiction Services.

Moved?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: By Donaldson. Second?

Legislator Haynes: Second, Haynes.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Haynes. Any discussion? All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 248 authorizing the chair to execute a contract with DCJS for Raise the Age, Probation.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Move by Donaldson, second by Haynes.

Legislator Haynes: Haynes.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any discussion? All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 249 amending the 2020 County budget to adjust the annual salary of the public defender in order to be consistent with a full-time position.

Move for discussion?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Donaldson. Second?

Legislator Bartels: Second it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Bartels.

Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: I'd like to ask that we just postpone this a week. You know, I over the last couple meetings I brought this up in, in Law Enforcement. I just haven't gotten the language. I have no issue. It's not with the resolves, or the number, but I would like to make a couple

changes in the whereases and I'll have that suggestion in writing for next week if the committee would allow me the.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move to postpone until next week.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Motion to postpone by Bartels, second by Donaldson.

On the postponement?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed.

All right, we'll deal with that next week.

Resolution 251 authorizing the chair to execute a lease with CCPR Kingston, LLC Bank for space to be used by the board of elections.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson second by Haynes. Any discussion?

All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 252 establishing Capital Project No. 572, the Wittenberg Road Culvert in the Town of Woodstock.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson. Second? Haynes.

Any discussion? All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any opposed? Okay.

Resolution 254 authorizing the chair to execute an intermunicipal agreement with the Town of Ulster for security services at the COVID-19 testing site.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move it.

Legislator Bartels: Moved.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson, second by Gavaris.

Legislator Gavaris.

Legislator Gavaris: Thank you. If one of the Deputy Exec's can answer, why did we contract with Ulster PD to do security? When, don't we have sheriff's and we have staff at the jail that we've already been asking the question if they're underutilized. Why did we have to contract out?

Deputy Executive Rider: Yeah, I mean, this was, we've also paid overtime to the Sheriff's Department, as well. This was a coordinated effort between the State Police, Town of Ulster Police, and the Sheriff's Department. It required 24/7 security. And the only reason that we, that we're actually paying the Town of Ulster is to allow us to get reimbursed by FEMA to help them offset some of their costs.

We will get 100% reimbursement on this. And so, that's why this contract is coming now. But normally, it's 75%. But because of so many donations, we got donations of over \$100,000 from Save On for the tents and other things. And we can use that towards our 25% cost, instead of the town applying to FEMA separately because this is about their only cost associated with COVID. This allows us to contract with them and use their services. And the short answer is that we did use the Sheriff's Office, and the State Police. And it was it was a large effort to get security there.

Legislator Gavaris: So, the, the, the Sheriff's that work at the jail, they were utilized as well?

Deputy Executive Rider: We use deputies. I don't know that it's in their union contract to become security officers. I don't, we left the security up to the Sheriff. As far as coordination on this.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I, I believe that the position of corrections officer in the Sheriff's Department is a, is a whole different, you know, classification. I don't, I don't even know if they can carry firearms outside of the jail as part of their duties.

Legislator Gavaris: They can.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: They can, all of them? Okay.

Legislator Gavaris: They can.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yup.

Legislator Gavaris: Okay.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I got a question.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Just as a point of information, well it's a point of information actually. The Correction Officers, if you'll note, there's been repeated States of Emergency that had been declared by the County Executive. And in that it points out that employees may be used in places that they may not normally be used in. That's part of the State of Emergency. So, I don't think you're, they would be, the correction officers would be prohibited from doing that, even by union contract, because of the State of Emergency.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Perhaps we should invite the Sheriff to come and discuss that with us next week?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I mean, that's a point, you know what the State of Emergency was, right? You read through those?

Legislator Haynes: This is operations. I really think it's a question to point towards Law Enforcement.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Would the committee like the Sheriff to come next week and discuss it?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Legislator Cahill has his hand up.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Cahill, sorry. You're on the second screen.

Legislator Cahill: That's okay. Thank you. I, I know I'm not on this committee, but I just wanted to weigh in here. I think one of the things that we should consider is the Town of Ulster has already expended this money with the impression that they were going to get it back. So, I think at this point, you know, maybe going forward, we get in a situation like this, we, we look at all those things. But at this point, the Town of Ulster has already spent that money with the agreement from the county that the county is going to reimburse them. Did I understand that correctly, Deputy Rider?

Deputy Executive Rider: Yes.

Legislator Cahill: Yeah. So, I mean, at this point, how do we approach that? Right. You know, I think that you know, representing the Town of Ulster and a property owner in Town of Ulster, I certainly would like to see them get that money reimbursed that they were promised when they provided the security.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Legislator Gavaris.

Legislator Gavaris: Yeah, just to address Legislator Cahill. I didn't, if I implied that I was looking to not have that happen, then I apologize. I was more questioning for future events. So, we don't have this thing happen if we don't have to. We have to, it's fine. But if we don't have to have it happen, I'd like to address it now. So, we understand for the future a better way of doing things, if we can. That's all.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, we have no, we don't have much choice in the matter and we made the agreement, we have to follow through with it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any further discussion? All in favor of the resolution?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 255 authorizing conveyance of properties to the original owners.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Legislator Bartels: I'll move.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson, second by Haynes. On the resolution, any discussion?

Legislator Haynes: No.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 256 approving the execution of a contract in excess of \$50,000, Prime Care Medical of New York. Moved?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Second?

Legislator Haynes: Second, Haynes.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any discussion

Legislator Haynes: No.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed.

Resolution 257 is approving a contract in excess of \$50,000 Alison Krause LMSW.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved Donaldson, second Haynes. On the resolution?

Legislator Walter: I have a question.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Oh, sorry. Eve?

Legislator Walter: So, at the chairs meeting, there was, it was not clear whether \$70,000 was half of, like for half-time or full-time. And it looks like it's now saying, so is it \$140,000? Is this a full-time position and it's being paid at \$140,000 a year?

Deputy Executive Rider: So, the first, the prior term was from July of 19 till June of 30. And that was for \$70,000

Deputy Chairman Ronk: 20, you mean?

Deputy Executive Rider: Of 20, sorry. The amendment is for the term of June 30, 20, just to January 15, 21, because of an uptick abuses. So, it's a not to exceed, and it was being used more than it had in the past. So, the not to exceed amount is the same but it's, it's for a shorter term.

Legislator Walter: So sorry, just to clarify, so but if you combine for the whole year, the not to exceed is \$140,000? Is that, how many months is \$140,000?

Deputy Executive Rider: Going back to July 30th of 2019 to January 15th of 2021. So, a year and a half, you know, roughly.

The \$70,000 for the first agreement was for a year, and this \$70,000 is for six months and 15 days. It carries through till January 15, 2021.

Legislator Walter: Okay, wait, I'm sorry, I'm, my math is slow. It's long, long evening. So, the first \$70,000 was for a year and this \$70,000, you said, is for six months?

Deputy Executive Rider: And 15 days. Yep.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: It's a not to exceed \$70,000.

Legislator Walter: I understand but so, \$70,000 for six months. Isn't that the equivalent to \$140K for a year, while last year it was \$70k for a year. Is that correct? Or, am I misunderstanding?

Deputy Executive Rider: Sure. I mean, it's a consult. It's a contract. It's not a, you know, you're saying a full-time position. It's for the usage. It's a not to exceed amount with rates. So, the usage was higher than anticipated. So, here, we're carrying it out for just the next six months, 15 days.

The rates, the rates have not changed. It's, it's the not to exceed amount, and the term that changed.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Any further questions? Any further comments?

On the resolution, all in favor?

Opposed?

Resolution 258 approving a contract in excess of \$50,000 with NYSARC, Inc. DBA The Arc Of Delaware County.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Move by Donaldson. Second? Haynes.

On the resolution, any discussion? All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 259 approving the excess, a contract in excess, a contract causing the aggregate contract plus the amendment amount to be an excess of \$50,000 County –Town & County Bridge and Rail, Inc.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson. Second by Haynes. Any discussion?

All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 260 approving an execution, execution of contract in excess of \$50,000 by Dutchess Overhead Doors Incorporated.

Moved by Donaldson, second by Haynes.

On the resolution, any discussion?

Seeing none, all in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 261 approving the execution of a contract in excess of \$50,000 Accucare Nursing & Homecare.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Legislator Haynes: Second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson, second by Haynes. Any discussion questions? All in favor?

Group: Aye

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

Resolution 262 approving the execution of a contract in excess of \$50,000 Metroland Business Machines, Inc., Purchasing.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by Donaldson, seconded by Haynes. On the resolution, any discussion?

All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed?

All right, any new business? Any old business?

All right, thank you all for coming back. This time I'll entertain, Legislator Donaldson?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, I'd like to figure out a time for the committee to discuss the transfer tax and, you know, look at your calendars and come up with some time because I really think that should be something that's going to take a little bit of time rather than doing it in a regular meeting.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: I agree. And in the meantime, I think that our Legislative Counsel Ragucci and Minority Counsel Pascale are going to need to get together on the legalities because I think that they're a little farther apart than was evident here tonight on that, so.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I don't think that far apart, but it's alright. Motion to adjourn.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Moved by, motion to adjourn by Donaldson.

Legislator Bartels: Second.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Seconded by Haynes. All in favor?

Group: Aye.

Deputy Chairman Ronk: Opposed? Have a great evening.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Good night.