

**Ways &
Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: September 7, 2021 – 5:00
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building,
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: John Gavaris, Chairman
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler
PRESENT: Legislators Lynn Archer, Tracey Bartels, Heidi Haynes,
Mary Beth Maio, John Parete, and Eve Walter; and
Legislative Chairman David B. Donaldson (arrived at 5:11
PM)
ABSENT: Legislator Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Jonathan Heppner, Manna Jo Greene, Laura
Petit, and Abe Uchitelle; Legislative Counsel Christopher
Ragucci, Minority Counsel Nick Pascale; Clerk of the
Legislature, Victoria Fabella; Deputy County Executives
Marc Rider, and John Milgrim; Comptroller March
Gallagher; Deputy Comptroller Alicia DeMarco;
Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick; Director of
Economic Development Tim Weidemann

- **Chairman Gavaris called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM**

Motion No. 1: To approve the minutes of the August 10, 2021 Regular Meeting and the August 17, 2021 Regular Meeting

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer
Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Comptroller March Gallagher spoke from 5:06 PM to 5:07 PM regarding the recently issued Sales Tax report, and the outstanding Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency lawsuit.

Motion No. 2: To discuss Resolution No. 238 – Adopting Revised Ulster County Fund Balance Policy

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts the County of Ulster Fund Balance Policy as amended and attached.

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Archer noted that there is a proposed amendment to the policy before the Committee, acknowledging that Legislator Ronk is not in attendance and suggesting the postponement.

Motion No. 3: To postpone Resolution No. 238 – Adopting Revised Ulster County Fund Balance Policy

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts the County of Ulster Fund Balance Policy as amended and attached.

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

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

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 4: To discuss Resolution No. 239 – Replenishing The Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund Of The County Of Ulster

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Finance to make a transfer totaling \$1,450,562.72 from unassigned fund balance to the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund.

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Archer informed Committee members that American Rescue Plan Act Funds cannot be used to replenish the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund, suggesting the Resolution be postponed due to Legislator Ronk's absence.

Motion No. 5: To postpone Resolution No. 239 – Replenishing The Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund Of The County Of Ulster

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes and directs the Commissioner of Finance to make a transfer totaling \$1,450,562.72 from unassigned fund balance to the Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund.

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 6: To discuss Resolution No. 377 – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget – Removing The Position Of Communications Specialist

Resolution Summary: This Resolution eliminates the Communication Specialist position in the 2021 Ulster County Budget for a savings of \$50,502.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Motion No. 7: To postpone Resolution No. 377 – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget – Removing The Position Of Communications Specialist

Resolution Summary: This Resolution eliminates the Communication Specialist position in the 2021 Ulster County Budget for a savings of \$50,502.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 8: To approve Resolution No. 384 – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Use American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) For COVID-19 Related Expenses – Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2021 Ulster County Budget upon the request of the Director of Emergency Management to offset COVID-19 related expenses for personal protective equipment and point of distribution staffing for vaccinations to be paid for through the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) in the amount of \$407,761.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Walter confirmed with Deputy County Executive Marc Rider that the included items are not eligible for FEMA reimbursement and the Resolution will not jeopardize eligible FEMA reimbursements. Legislator Bartels confirmed that regular personnel expenditures are not reimbursable through FEMA.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 9: To approve Resolution No. 386 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$156,121.20 Entered Into By The County – T-Mobile USA, Inc. – Emergency Management

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with T-Mobile USA, Inc. for license to use space on Golden Hill Town from September 1, 2021 through August 31, 2026 for revenue in the amount of \$156,121.20.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 10: To approve Resolution No. 387 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Accept A Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee Grant - Police Traffic Services - Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an agreement to accept the Governor’s Traffic Safety Committee Grant, for the period beginning October 1, 2021 to September 30, 2022 in the amount of \$11,220.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 11: To approve Resolution No. 388 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$8,162.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – New York Communications Company, Inc. – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with New York Communications Company, Inc. to extend the term of agreement for lease of radio equipment for URGENT from May 31, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$8,162.00, making the contract total \$73,162.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 12: To approve Resolution No. 389 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Aid To Defense Program – Public Defender

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement, and any amendments thereto, with the New York State Division of Criminal Justice Services for the purpose of Ulster County’s participation in the New York Aid to Defense Project No. AD 21-1026-D00, for the period of April 1, 2021 through March 31, 2022 in the amount of \$13,616.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 13: To approve Resolution No. 390 – Authorizing The County Executive To Execute A Contract With The New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation Represented By The Office Of Community Renewal For Federal Funding For The Implementation Of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) CARES Act – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget - Department Of Economic Development

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the County Executive to execute an agreement and any amendments thereto, with the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation in the amount of \$1,000,000.00, resolves that the County shall contract with UCEDA as a sub-recipient of the grant funds to effectuate the awarded program as specified in the grant application, and authorizes Deputy County Executive Evelyn Wright to act as certifying officer. Further, this Resolution amends the 2021 Operating Budget accordingly.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

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

Motion No. 14: To approve Resolution No. 391 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$1,000,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Ulster County Economic Development Alliance – Department Of Economic Development

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Ulster County Economic Development Alliance from October 1, 2021 through July 22, 2022 to administer the CARES grant in the amount of \$1,000,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 15: To discuss Resolution No. 392 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$600,000.00 Entered Into By The County – RUPCO, Inc. – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with RUPCO, Inc. from October 1, 2021 through June 24, 2023 to administer the 2020 CDBG Homeownership program in the amount of \$600,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Archer vocalized concern on contractual language pertaining to the County's sole discretion to exercise an amendment. Deputy County Executive Marc Rider stated that this language is part of a standard contract template. Legislator Archer requested the language be stricken out of the agreement. Deputy County Executive Rider requested the Committee postpone the Resolution until clarification of the effects of this change can be sought.

Motion No. 16: To postpone Resolution No. 392 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$600,000.00 Entered Into By The County – RUPCO, Inc. – Department Of Planning

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with RUPCO, Inc. from October 1, 2021 through June 24, 2023 to administer the 2020 CDBG Homeownership program in the amount of \$600,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Archer

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislative Counsel Christopher Ragucci agreed to speak with the County Attorney to discuss the status of current contract negotiations.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Postponed

Motion No. 17: To approve Resolution No. 393 – Authorizing The Chair To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement With New York State Department Of Information Technology Services To Provide Updated Ortho Imagery For The County – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute the Statewide Digital Orthoimagery Program funding agreement and any amendments thereto with New York State Office of Cyber Security and Critical Infrastructure Coordination.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 18: To approve Resolution No. 394 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$165,550.04 Entered Into By The County – Gioia P. Ambrette, Inc. D/B/A Newcastle Communications – Department Of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Gioia P. Ambrette, Inc. d/b/a Newcastle Communications to extend the term of agreement for hardware and software maintenance services for the County’s VoIP system and managed services for the Office Watch call accounting software from October 21, 2021 through October 21, 2022 for an additional \$165,550.04, making the contract total \$892,842.99.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 19: To approve Resolution No. 396 – Establishing Capital Project No. 605 – Golden Hill Office Building & Restorative Justice Roof Rehabilitation — Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes Capital Project No. 605 – Golden Hill Office Building & Restorative Justice Roof Rehabilitation in the amount of \$564,810.00, and amends the Capital Fund budget accordingly.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 20: To approve Resolution No. 398 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$514,810.00 Entered Into By The County – Hudson Valley Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Hudson Valley Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. from October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to repair and restore the roofs at the Golden Hill Office Building and the Restorative Justice Center in the amount of \$514,810.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: Legislator Bartels acknowledged that a solar analysis has been circulated pertaining to this Resolution. Legislator Greene informed Committee members that she sent the solar analysis to a few experts in the industry, one of which answered that he would be willing to meet with the Legislature to review and communicate his opinion on the feasibility study. Deputy County Executive Marc Rider emphasized that the recommendation is for the roof to be renovated and that this does not prevent solar from being placed on the roof. Legislator Haynes stated discontent with flat roof systems, providing reasons to support this position. Legislator Bartels inquired about the County-wide initiative to assess the implementation of roof-top solar on all County-owned buildings. Deputy County Executive Rider answered that the acting Director of Environment is able to complete a solar feasibility study on each building as Capital Projects are sought. Legislator Bartels expressed concern about an analysis being completed only when work is sought as this typically proposes a timing issue with the Capital Project's approval. Further discussion pursued on the timing of solar feasibility studies, the need to fully understand the impacts of such decisions, and whether postponing the Resolution allows enough time for questions to be adequately answered. Legislator Walter noted that a green roof may be preferable in this situation which would require the renovations to be different.

Motion No. 21: To postpone Resolution No. 398 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$514,810.00 Entered Into By The County – Hudson Valley Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Hudson Valley Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. from October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to repair and restore the roofs at the Golden Hill Office Building and the Restorative Justice Center in the amount of \$514,810.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Gavaris spoke in favor of a special meeting for further discussion. Legislator Archer noted the County's green commitment, stating disappointment in decisions that are contrary to this commitment.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, and Walter
Voting Against: Legislators Haynes, Parete, and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

No. of Votes in Favor: 4
No. of Votes Against: 3
Disposition: Defeated

Motion No. 22: To approve Resolution No. 398 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$514,810.00 Entered Into By The County – Hudson Valley Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Hudson Valley Roofing & Sheetmetal, Inc. from October 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 to repair and restore the roofs at the Golden Hill Office Building and the Restorative Justice Center in the amount of \$514,810.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: Legislative Chairman Donaldson spoke in favor of the Resolution. Deputy County Executive Rider assured the Committee that the County can talk to the expert recommended by Legislator Greene upon the completion of the renovation for the purpose of considering the addition of solar panels. Legislator Walter confirmed with Deputy County Executive Rider that no consideration has been given to the feasibility of a green roof on these properties. Legislator Bartels requested that further information be shared prior to Legislative session. Legislator Gavaris confirmed that Ulster County qualifies for NYSERDA services.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Bartels, Haynes, and Parete; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: Legislators Archer, and Walter

No. of Votes in Favor: 5
No. of Votes Against: 2
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 23: To approve Resolution No. 399 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement With The New York City Department Of Environmental Protection To Allow For Continued Winter Maintenance Around The Ashokan Reservoir

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an inter-municipal agreement, and any amendments thereto, with the New York City Department of Environmental Protection, to allow DPW to continue road maintenance on New York City roads around the Ashokan Reservoir, for the period of October 1, 2021 through September 30, 2026.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 24: To approve Resolution No. 400 – Establishing Capital Project No. 606 – Salem Road Stabilization— Department Of Public Works (Highways & Bridges)

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes Capital Project No. 606 – Salem Road Stabilization in the Town of Esopus which has experienced excessive settlement in the amount of \$80,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Maio, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 25: To approve Resolution No. 402 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Geostabilization International, LLC – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment to exercise the third to extend the term of agreement for soil nailing slope stabilization services from June 30, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for rates anticipated to exceed \$50,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 26: To approve Resolution No. 403 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$662,220.00 Entered Into By The County – New York Communications Company, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with New York Communications Company, Inc. from November 1, 2021 through October 31, 2026 in the amount of \$662,220.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 27: To approve Resolution No. 406 – Accepting The Accounting Of Unpaid School Taxes For The 2021-2022 School Year, Directing Payment To The School Districts And Directing Re-Levying Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the amounts of unpaid school taxes for the 2021-2022 school year to be paid by the Commissioner of Finance to those officers charged by law with the custody of school district monies, and together with 7% of the combined amount of principal plus accrued interest, be re-levied via the 2022 General Tax upon the real property upon which the school taxes were originally imposed.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 28: To approve Resolution No. 407 – Authorizing The Ulster County Commissioner Of Finance To Accept Redemption Offers Relative To Payment Of Real Property Taxes In The 2019 In Rem Foreclosure Proceeding

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Commissioner of Finance to accept monies equal to the amount due, plus interest to the date of payment, in the 2019 in rem proceeding, plus an additional late redemption fee of \$100.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Haynes

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 29: To approve Resolution No. 408 – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract With The New York State Department Of Health To Participate In The Lead Poisoning Prevention Program – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute a contract, and any amendments thereto, with the New York State Department of Health to participate in the Lead Poisoning Prevention Program, for the period October 1, 2020 through September 30, 2021, in the amount of \$73,364.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 30: To approve Resolution No. 409 – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget To Reflect Additional Funding From New York State Department Of Health For The Epidemiology And Laboratory Capacity (ELC) COVID-19 Enhanced Detection Grant – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2021 Operating Budget in the amount of \$532,913.00 upon the receipt of notification from the New York State Department of Health of additional Public Health Emergency Preparedness funding to support enhanced detection expansion of COVID-19 surveillance and prevention.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 31: To approve Resolution No. 410 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$79,986.92 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock, Inc. – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Family of Woodstock, Inc. from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 for the purchase and administration of temporary emergency housing vouchers in the amount of \$79,986.92.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 32: To approve Resolution No. 411 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$469,040.00 Entered Into By The County – Accucare N & H Inc. – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Accucare N & H Inc. to extend the term of agreement and increase funding for COVID-19 related on-site nursing services from September 30, 2021 through March 31, 2022 for an additional \$469,040.00, making the contract total \$509,040.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Walter

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 33: To approve Resolution No. 412 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.000 Entered Into By The County – Westchester County Health Care Corporation D/B/A Westchester Medical Center – Department Of Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Westchester County Health Care Corporation d/b/a Westchester Medical Center to extend the term of agreement for forensic pathology, histology, diener services, and postmortem toxicology laboratory testing services from April 30, 2021 through April 30, 2022 for rates anticipated to exceed \$50,000.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 34: To approve Resolution No. 413 – Rescinding Resolution No. 346 Of 2021, And Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$341,541.00 Entered Into By The County – Liberty Resources, Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Liberty Resources, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount due to salary increases of the MST providers and to exercise its first of three one-year options to extend the term of agreement for the operation of the multi-systemic therapy (MST) unit from September 30, 2021 through September 30, 2022 in the amount of \$341,541.00, making the contract total \$551,795.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 35: To approve Resolution No. 414 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$5,339.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Access: Supports for Living, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Access: Supports for Living, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount of NYS OMH State Aid from April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$5,339.00, making the contract total \$727,003.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 36: To approve Resolution No. 415 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$1,958.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Astor Services For Children & Families – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Astor Services for Children & Families to increase the not-to-exceed amount of NYS OMH State Aid from April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$1,958.00, making the contract total \$385,351.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Archer

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 37: To approve Resolution No. 416 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$6,182.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Family of Woodstock, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount of NYS OMH & OASAS State Aid from April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$6,182.00, making the contract total \$1,116,179.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 38: To approve Resolution No. 417 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$756,307.00 Entered Into By The County – Gateway Community Industries, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Gateway Community Industries, Inc. to increase OASAS and OMH funding for COLA and decrease OPWDD funding and corresponding County share from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for a reduction in expenditures of \$756,307.00, making the contract total \$1,968,497.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 39: To approve Resolution No. 418 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$14,781.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Mental Health Association in Ulster County, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Mental Health Association in Ulster County, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount of NYS OMH State Aid from April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$14,781.00, making the contract total \$2,084,605.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Haynes

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 40: To approve Resolution No. 419 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$2,307.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – PEOPLE: Projects To Empower And Organize The Psychiatrically Labeled, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with PEOPLE: Projects to Empower and Organize the Psychiatrically Labeled, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount of NYS OMH State Aid from April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$2,307.00, making the contract total \$323,363.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 41: To approve Resolution No. 420 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$5,270.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount of NYS OMH & OASAS State Aid from April 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$5,270.00, making the contract total \$707,581.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 42: To approve Resolution No. 421 – Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$2,700.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Services, Inc. – Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Family Services, Inc. to increase the not-to-exceed amount of OASAS State Aid from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for an additional \$2,700.00, making the contract total \$345,723.00.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 43: To block Resolutions No. 422 and 423

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 44: To approve the following Resolutions:

Resolution No. 422 – Establishing A Policy To Identify County Positions That Work Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes a policy to identify county positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes, and requires a report to be made that will be filed with the Clerk of the Legislature within 60 days of adoption of this Resolution, and on October 1st of each subsequent year.

Resolution No. 423 – Requesting Mandatory Restorative Justice Training For County Personnel Working Directly With Crime Victims And Persons Accused Of Crimes

Resolution Summary: This Resolution urges the County Executive to require and implement a Restorative Justice Training Program for the employees identified in the report as referenced in Resolution No. 422 of 2021, leveraging current Restorative Justice programming offered through the Restorative Justice and Empowerment Center, and tailoring the program as needed to each Department and/or Office.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislative Chairman Donaldson confirmed with Deputy County Executive John Milgrim that there is no anticipated financial impact of these Resolutions. Legislator Walter affirmed that Family of Woodstock is currently contracted to provide these services.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Approved

Motion No. 45: To discuss Resolution No. 429 – Establishing A Hotline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes a hotline for community members who believe they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system to call to receive support and referral information as to the appropriate place and method to report the discriminatory treatment, and calls upon the Human Rights Commission to administer and promote the hotline, and that it be dedicated solely for this purpose.

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: Legislator Haynes asked about the necessity of the hotline. Legislator Walter provided examples supporting the need, explaining what the hotline is designed to provide. Further, Legislator Walter explained why the Human Rights Commission was chosen to manage the hotline. Legislator Haynes stated concern that there may already be a hotline for such through the State Attorney General. Legislator Walter argued that acting locally would yield greater benefit to constituents. Legislative Chairman Donaldson questioned the total financial impact of the Resolution and the need for such when communications may be the underlying issue. Legislator Walter countered that the group intended to be helped by the hotline is vulnerable and needs more assistance than is currently available, offering to postpone the Resolution to enhance the information concerning the total financial impact. Legislator Heppner spoke in favor of the Resolution, arguing that it supports the spirit of the most recent version of the Human Rights Law to have a more on-the-ground support system for individuals to access, and pointing out the increase in funding for the Human Rights Commission over recent years.

Motion No. 46: To Postpone Resolution No. 429 – Establishing A Hotline To Provide Support And Referral Information For Individuals Who Believe They Have Been Discriminated Against In The Ulster County Criminal Justice System

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes a hotline for community members who believe they have been discriminated against in our criminal justice system to call to receive support and referral information as to the appropriate place and method to report the discriminatory treatment, and calls upon the Human Rights Commission to administer and promote the hotline, and that it be dedicated solely for this purpose.

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

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gavaris, Archer, Bartels, Haynes, Parete, and Walter; and Legislative Chairman Donaldson

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Postponed

Old Business: None

New Business:

2021 Legislative Budget Calendar for the County Executive Recommended 2022 Budget

Legislator Gavaris introduced the 2021 Legislative Calendar on the 2022 County Executive Recommended Budget, asking Committee members to communicate any conflicts that may exist.

Memorandum: Non-County Contract Agencies Application and Scoring Matrix

Legislator Walter stated concern that the application speaks to “Legislative strategic objectives” and “key priority areas”, questioning what these are and how they are established. Deputy Clerk of the Legislature – Finance Amber Feaster provided a brief explanation of these terms and how they are intended to be developed in the Legislative process. Comptroller Gallagher asked that the Legislature add a question of what NoVo support the applying agency receives in the current year. Legislator Bartels emphasized concern that the Legislature cannot fund grants and she does not want the Non-County Contract Agency funding application to appear as though it is a call for grants. Legislative Chairman Donaldson stressed that goals and key priorities would need to be agreed upon before the application is publicized. Legislator Parete stated issue with understanding what the scope of services that the Legislature is looking for is, asking that the Legislature be aware of potential conflicts of interest. Legislator Gavaris requested a sample of a current Non-County Contract Agency’s completion of the application.

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

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Walter
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Parete
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0

Time: 6:29 PM

Respectfully submitted: Amber Feaster
Minutes Approved: October 12, 2021

**Ways &
Means Committee
Regular Meeting Transcript**

DATE & TIME: September 7, 2021 – 5:00
LOCATION: KL Binder Library, 6th Floor, County Office Building,
244 Fair Street, Kingston, NY
PRESIDING OFFICER: John Gavaris, Chairman
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster, and Jay Mahler
PRESENT: Legislators Lynn Archer, Tracey Bartels, Heidi Haynes, Mary Beth
Maio, John Parete, and Eve Walter; and Legislative Chairman David
B. Donaldson (arrived at 5:11 PM)
ABSENT: Legislator Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Jonathan Heppner, Manna Jo Greene, Laura Petit, and
Abe Uchitelle; Legislative Counsel Christopher Ragucci, Minority
Counsel Nick Pascale; Clerk of the Legislature, Victoria Fabella;
Deputy County Executives Marc Rider, and John Milgrim;
Comptroller March Gallagher; Deputy Comptroller Alicia
DeMarco; Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick; Director of
Economic Development Tim Weidemann

Chairman Gavaris: Can I get, or call the meeting to order? Can I get an approval of minutes of the August 10th and the 17th regular meeting?

Legislator Walter: I'll move it.

Chairman Gavaris: Second?

Legislator Archer: Second.

Chairman Gavaris: All those in favor?

Group: Aye.

Chairman Gavaris: Opposed? So carried.

Comptroller Gallagher, would you like to, anything to?

Comptroller Gallagher: Yes, thank you. I'll just take a moment of your time, I just want to mention that we released our mid-year sales tax report, last week. That report is really based on collections. So the first couple months of the year of collections date back to the 2020 budget, but it showed a 32% increase in collections for the first six months of the year. Average increases during that time period

have been between 3 and 4% annually. So I wanted to bring that to your attention. If you look by industry, internet sales were up \$140 million. That's for the full tax, taxable sales and use year that runs March 2020 to February 2020. 2021, I'm sorry. If you look at that, compared to the year prior, internet sales were up \$140 million. That's, you know, both spending because of the pandemic but also the marketplace provider tax. I thought it was very notable that beverage manufacturing was up 871%. That's because we have distilleries and breweries coming online. And you know, it's a big percentage, it was \$49 million increased in sales for that sector.

I want to just also mention to you that we are awaiting a decision from Supreme Court Judge Lisa Fisher on the UCRRA case, it should come in the next two weeks. Hopefully it goes our way. A negative ruling would jeopardize our audit authority over \$180 million in contracts annually for Ulster County. We received our final bill for legal work in that, legal plus transcription and service of process altogether. The RRA suing us is costing \$10,643.

That's all I've got for today. Happy to answer any questions, but I just wanted to bring you guys up to speed. Thanks.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you. Any questions for Comptroller Gallagher? Okay, thank you. Going to the agenda.

Resolution 238: Adopting revised Ulster County fund balance policy. Can I get a motion? Legislator Archer.

Legislator Archer: Motion to move

Chairman Gavaris: Second?

Legislator Archer: for discussion.

Legislator Bartels: I'll second it.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Bartels. Discussion? Legislator Archer.

Legislator Archer: Yes. Hopefully everybody got a chance. I know it came kind of late today, the final edits to the policy. We had CMA reviewed, we had Dresher & Malecki. I know that Amber also discussed it with the Commissioner of Finance. So I think everybody's comfortable. Where we ended up was addressing unassigned funds in the general fund. And I think it's a little clearer, and everybody understands how we're going to calculate going forward. So I think that's what you have before you.

Chairman Gavaris: Any other discussion?

Comptroller Gallagher: I don't think I was on that distribution. So I'd love a copy. Thanks.

Legislator Archer: Sure. And we'll make sure you get a copy. And I know this was something also that Legislator Ronk was very interested in. I know he's not here tonight. So I'm happy to postpone it for a final vote on a next Tuesday. I'll make that motion.

Legislator Gavaris: Second? Legislator Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor on the postponement?

Group: Aye.

Chairman Gavaris: Opposed? So carried. Okay. Thank you.

239: Replenishing Tax Stabilization Fund. Motion? Legislator Archer. Second? Bartels. Discussion? Legislator Archer.

Legislator Archer: Yes, on the replenishment. We also did get a determination E, ERP funds cannot be used to replenish the tax stabilization account. Both Drescher and Malecki and CMA gave us a determination on that. There's still a lot of gray area and for us to kind of use ARP funds for funding that's sitting in our general fund because it was never used last year. It doesn't make sense to hold this up any longer. But again since a, a Legislator Ronk had an, a, a interest in this one as well and had an opinion and I'm willing to postpone it till next week, but I think this one has to come to closure as well.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay second for that motion? Legislator Haynes. Any discussion? All those in favor of postponing? Opposed? All right. Resolution is postponed.

Resolution 377: Amending 2021 budget for removing position and communication specialist. Can I get a motion?

Legislator Walter: I'll make it.

Chairman Gavaris: Second? Legislator Bartels. Discussion? Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: I was gonna make a motion to postpone this as well.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you. Second? Legislator Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor of the postponement? Opposed? All right, so carried.

384: Amending the 21 budget to use the American rescue plan for COVID related expenses. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Bartels. Any discussion? Legislator Walter, then Bartels.

Chairwoman Walter: So I just wanted to confirm what we were told in, in that Law Enforcement, Public Safety, that everything that's on this are items that are not eligible for FEMA. Because that was a question that had come up in the chairs meeting, is does accepting this money or putting this money through with ARP then prevent us from asking for it from FEMA. And so we were told, share with everybody else that each of these items that are being requested to be reimbursed with ARP would have not have been eligible for FEMA. That John, I don't know, Mark, do you want to confirm that?

Deputy Executive Rider: Correct. So this is the volunteer payments, the payments to the volunteers used at the pods and some equipment. And the volunteers are our, you know, their personnel payroll expenses that aren't reimbursable through FEMA.

Deputy Executive Milgrim: Just to add to that, if I may Eve. I did send you the FEMA reimbursements, or applications, earlier today that you asked for.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: Thanks. So can I just ask, just for clarification, does that mean that personnel expenses are not? Are you saying personnel expenses are not reimbursable through FEMA? At all? Or are you saying these individual personnel expenses?

Deputy Executive Rider: The only personnel expense that's eligible through FEMA is overtime.

Legislator Bartels: Okay.

Deputy Executive Rider: So regular or stipends like this is not eligible.

Legislator Bartels: Thank you.

Chairman Gavaris: Any other discussion? All right. All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

386: Approving the execution of a contract for \$156,121 for T-Mobile. Can I get a motion? Walter. Second? Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

387: Authorizing the Chair the Legislature to accept the governor's traffic safety committee grant. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

388: Approving execution of a contract amendment for \$8,162 for NYCOMCO. Can I get a motion? Walter. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

389: Authorizing Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement with DCJS. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

390: Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature, authorizing the County Executive to execute a contract with the New York State Housing Trust Fund Corporation. Can I get a motion? Second? Legislator Haynes. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

391: Approving the execution of a contract, execution of a contract for \$1 million for Department of Economic Development, as amended before you. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Legislator Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

392: Approving the execution of a contract for \$600,000 for RUPCO. Can I get a motion?

Legislator Archer: I'll move for discussion.

John, you're back on mute.

Legislator Gavaris: Yeah, sorry, I'm not sure how that happened. Legislator Archer, discussion?

Legislator Archer: Yeah, on the RUPCO agreement, I, I it's not clear to me, Article two in the contract and this new verbiage with regards to sole discretion. We struck that in the prior resolution going to UCEDA, I'm just under I just want to understand, and it's not clear to me why this new language is in the contracts. And and what does this mean? Can anybody from the Exec's office?

Chairman Gavaris: Executive Rider.

Deputy Executive Rider: So this is template language, it's not new. Typically, it's, it's highlighted in light blue for the departments, and they can, let me just pull up the backup. But, you know, I, I believe that this is just template in our, all of our contracts and, and mainly planning, but I'll look it up. I see people shaking their heads, but it is in our template section. So.

Legislator Archer: Yeah, but you know, what is this? What is this language mean? I mean, I think there were different languages, different verbiage with regards to how many times a contract could be renewed. But the sole discretion, it's not clear to me what you intend with this language. And I hadn't seen it before. The first time I saw it was for the UCEDA. I may have missed it, clearly. If it's been in stuff before, but I'm used to seeing, you know, up to three extensions, etc. but not sole discretion of whether or not something does get extended. So I'm, I'm not sure what the change in the language. I don't think this had been in other contracts before. I asked at the, at the Economic Development meeting, but I missed the RUPCO piece. I didn't see it on the RUPCO till I reviewed it for Ways and Means.

Legislator Gavaris: Any other discussion? All right, all those in favor?

Legislator Archer: Excuse me, I would, I would propose to strike that until somebody can explain to me what this means and why I'm seeing it for the first time here. I'd rather have the language struck and which is what we did on the, on the UCEDA language, we struck that specific piece, particularly because there's an end date to this agreement, it's, you know, nobody can give me a clear understanding of why this all of a sudden is showing up in, in contracts. So if no one can explain it. I'm, I'd, I'd make a motion to strike that from Article two.

Chairman Gavaris: That's a motion. Can I get a second? Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: I just have a question. What's the clarification of what that means then? I mean, does it mean that if there is an extension for a year, it wouldn't have to come back to the Legislature?

Deputy Executive Rider: Can we just, can I, can I just request that we postpone this for a week before striking language? And I can get you an answer. But I, you know, I don't want to see this language struck and then have that be something that the County needs because this contract is, you know, between the County and RUPCO and it's keeping it within, I believe, the County's discretion, but I don't have this contract in front of me in the backup that was sent. So I can't see it. If I could, so I'm requesting that we postpone for a week.

Legislator Archer: I'm, I'm willing to withdraw the striking of the sole discretion language in Article two on postponed until next week till we can get a sufficient reason and answer as to why this language is even in here.

Legislator Gavaris: Okay, Legislator Walter you'll withdraw, withdraw your second on that? Legislator Walter? You'll withdraw the second?

Legislator Walter: Sorry.

Chairman Gavaris: You'll withdraw the second from that?

Legislator Walter: Yeah.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay. And then you withdraw the motion. Alright. So now Legislator Archer, you want to make a motion to postpone?

Legislator Archer: I'll make a motion to postpone till next week.

Legislator Gavaris: Thank you. Can I get a second for postponement? Legislator Bartels. Any discussion on the postponement? All those in favor?

Deputy Executive Rider: I don't know if you can see Legislative Council has his hand raised.

Legislator Gavaris: I did not see it. Sorry. Go ahead Chris.

Counsel Ragucci: Thank you very much. And I just wanted to respond to Legislator Archer's comment. I'm happy to also reach out to the County Attorney as well and speak with him about that provision to see you know where we're at in, in the negotiations.

Legislator Archer: That'd be great. Thank you.

Counsel Ragucci: Sure.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay, all those in favor of postponement? Okay, Any opposed? So carried. Thank you.

393: Authorizing Chair to execute an intermunicipal agreement with New York State Department of Information Technology Services. Can I get a motion? Motion, Bartels. Second? Legislator Archer. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

394: Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$165,550.04 for Gio, I'm going to pronounce it, Newcastle Communications. Can I get a motion? Walter. Second? Archer. Discussion. All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

396: Establishing Capital Project No. 605 for roof rehabilitation at Golden Hill. Can I get a motion? Somebody raising their hand? Motion? Sorry. Legislator Bartels. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

398: Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$514,810 for Hudson Valley roofing and sheet metal. Can I get a motion? Bartels. Second, Walter. Discussion? Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: Really on both resolutions. I mean, I saw that solar analysis was circulated on, on these two and I was not able to attend Public Works. So I don't know where the discussion led on, on that front. And I will in caucus get caught up on it. But I'm just [inaudible]

Legislator Gavaris: I think Legislator Bartels we're losing you for service. All right, Legislator Greene, I think you have your hand up and want to speak on this. You're on mute. You're on mute, Legislator Greene.

Legislator Greene: Thank you. These came to Public Works really immediately before the meeting. And I didn't have a chance to more than skim them. And when, and I made some notes and spoke to it at Public Works, but I am also not an expert. I'm knowledgeable, but by no means an expert. I sent them to a few solar experts and got what I think was very good information from Tom Kacandes, who's doing a lot of solar installations in in the area. And, and his response, which I have shared, I'm not sure if it has been shared with the committee. But I certainly did share it with Public Works. And I did share it with, um, with others, and I would [inaudible] to create an opportunity for him to meet with Marc Rider and Nick Hvozda, who used a model that was used for a former project for rooftop solar feasibility and came up with, under that model, what seemed like sound recommendation, but Tom's analysis was what seems to me to be more complete. And I have experienced multiple times were projects that I think could have gone forward, where, the solar or other climate solutions that were being recommended were either too soon or the feasibility study indicated that it would cost too much, or whatever. And so I felt that it was important to get input from an expert, who said he would be willing to meet with staff and review it and see if there is a possibility of moving forward with solar.

So given the fact that we got the information at the very last minute, and I, I, that's not a criticism, I know how hard Nick Hvozda and Marc for that matter, work. And the fact that they did a feasibility study at all is to be commended. But I, I think that the additional information would change the, might change the recommendation. And so if it's not going to cause a major, major problem, I would like, I don't know if Ways & Means can send it back to Public Works but perhaps we could invite Tom Kacandes and other solar experts to weigh in, but more importantly, to speak with the appropriate staff who develop the feasibility study. You know, everyone knows, I said that after the IPCC report, I was drawing a line in the sand. And this is that, part of that line in the sand, is not to just accept a feasibility study without getting other opinions and, and input. Thank you.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you Manna. Deputy Executive Rider.

Deputy Executive Rider: I just want to reiterate that Tom's recommendation was to renovate the roofs, not to replace the roof. So he recommended he said, especially on the Restorative Justice Center, go ahead and renovate the roof. But consider still putting solar on top of it. So there's nothing in Tom's recommendations that would stop these current resolutions from moving forward. In fact, he said, go ahead and do this. It doesn't stop you from putting solar on that roof.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you, Legislator Haynes.

Legislator Haynes: First point of clarification for myself, and I apologize. I really didn't read the backup material for this, but I see that it says the it, it, is this for the Restorative Justice Center?

Deputy Executive Rider: Both Restorative Justice and the Golden Hill Office building.

Legislator Haynes: Okay, I'm not familiar with the Golden Hill office area or whatever that is, but the Restorative Justice Center, I believe that that's a flat roof system. Correct? What about the Golden Hill roof?

Deputy Executive Rider: Yes. And that's where the Department, Health Department is up on golden hill, that, that's building, it's a flat roof.

Legislator Haynes: These flat roof systems are antiquated. I hate flat roof systems. I understand there's probably a bigger cost incurred to do a peaked roof system. But these flat roof systems fail constantly, you're wanting to put solar on, you're, you're putting down a rubber membrane and then drilling holes in it to attach antennas, solar, everything. There's, there's not a flat roof system anywhere that's ever going to be foolproof for that type of plan. So, you know, I understand it's a bit of a tangent, but I don't like flat roof systems. I think it's something that we should look towards moving away from. Thanks.

Legislator Gavaris: Thank you. Legislator Bartels, are you able to resume?

Legislator Bartels: I think so. Can you hear me now?

Chairman Gavaris: Yep.

Legislator Bartels: Thank you. So I can only see one person at a time. But um, yeah, I was just going to ask where, say that I appreciated getting the analysis, on the two roofs, I caught some of the end of Legislator Greene's comments because I was curious. What happened in, is obviously came out of buildings and grounds. But I was curious what the discussion debate was in buildings and grounds regarding the solar. But I also was curious where we were at with the, the legislative initiative that called for analysis county-wide of, of all the roofs.

Deputy Executive Rider: So the resolution required to do a study on, on all roofs. Initially after the 2019 resolution, the money was put in into the 2020 budget. It was part of the, the reductions and taken out of the 2020 budget as we weren't doing studies of that kind during, especially the throws of COVID that we were in. Since then, and, and working with Tom Kacandes, Nick Hvozda has created, and so these weren't done through DPW, they were done through the Department of the Environment. Nick has developed a way that before we do any work on any roofs, he can do a feasibility study. And if there's roofs that, that it would make sense for us to look at to put solar on now he can do a feasibility study, even when we're not doing roofs, but to do a kind of a county-wide system, when we may not, we may not be either doing work on them, or, or the, the roofs may not fit. He is working through the buildings to, to try to get to, you know, all the roofs he can. We just didn't put money back into the 2020 or 2021 budget in order to do a county-wide study by an outside consultant.

Legislator Bartels: So can I, can I follow on?

Chairman Gavaris: Finish, yeah.

Legislator Bartels: Chair Gavaris, yeah. So I mean, one of the things and I appreciate that, I mean, we, we were in an austerity budget and in and we continue to be in, in exceptional uncharted territory and times. I get that, but I would say and it's to the portion of Legislator Green's comments that I caught, the the concept of waiting till we're ready to work on an individual roof in order to get that often means that at the point that and I realized this was especially tight, but the, the point that we're looking at an analysis, we're also moments, days, weeks from voting on the work that needs to be done. And I think that the idea and certainly we'll talk about it in, in our caucus because it was initiated by Legislator Petit, but I think that the idea of, of doing undertaking a comprehensive analysis in advance, well in advance of work, was so that we could make these decisions and sort of chart the territory way in advance and be weighing on that. So, again, I, I understand the extraordinary times we're in, but, but I think that we have to revisit the directive, certainly, we need to think about it heading into this budget cycle, it's, it's fine. If we could do it in house, that's great. But I, I would strongly advocate for not waiting until we're about to work on an individual roof.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you, Legislator Walter.

Chairwoman Walter: Thanks. Um, so you know, I certainly appreciate that it's the plan ultimately, is to put solar on these roofs, you have to first fix the roofs. But, and speaking to Legislator Haynes point, you know, as a flat roof system, there are other things such as green roofs and, and other approaches that have been taken to improve the sort of sustainability and environmental nature. Not to mention, you can put solar on flat, but it, it helps for that to be a green roof. So I support the idea from Legislator Greene, of wanting to hear from people before I vote on this. So I propose of putting this off till next week, and maybe having somebody come in and let us know whether that's because if, if, the, the approach is to turn it into a green roof, then maybe the work that you're suggesting being done is not the appropriate work to be doing. Again, for solar, I get that you would have to do these repairs before you would be able to add solar, but if the direction is a green roof, then you wouldn't necessarily be doing these repairs. And so I would love to hear from someone who really could speak to this on what would be the best approach for these roofs, in terms of sustainability, before we do anything.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Greene.

Legislator Greene: Yes, um, I have lots of information about how to not penetrate the roof and how to prevent leaks if it is necessary, from a solar educator and installer. Dr. Gay Canough who worked for NASA. I mean, people make a lot of assumptions, and none of us are experts. And that's why for something as important as this, I reached out to people that I trust as experts. And so, you know, I just, given the last-minute process that we've been through when I read it carefully, and sent it for additional information. It seems to me that at this point, given what we've just been through with Ida and wildfires and you know, the rapidity at which the climate crisis is worsening. I really think we should take, it may take more than a week, it may take a month. But let's really come to a place where we understand so we're not making decisions, you know, without full information. So I really think it should go back to

Public Works and we should have a full discussion there. But in any case, I would at least, like it to be postponed. Public Works has not scheduled a Special Meeting.

Legislator Gavaris: Thank you. Chair Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Oh, yes, this is a more of a repair and restoration type of a project. Something that because they have various leaks throughout the buildings. And they are flat roofs, and you do have to constantly repair them. Like Heidi was pointing out, it can be a pain to deal with, because you know, any low parts, you know, you're constantly having to deal with them. And that's what this is. This is a, they're re-flashing the entire perimeter. I mean, as an aside, I used to do flat roofs when I was in college, I did it for about four years. And I'm not an expert at it, but I did a number of them. But these things are something that once it's done this repairs, that does not stop anybody from putting solar in it, at a later date. These are repairs, that probably have to be done, I'm assuming, or they wouldn't be on the, the list.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Parete.

Legislator Parete: Yeah, if I might Mr. Chairman. You know, this is starting to sound like a never-ending saga. I mean, the what if scenario, if it's necessary, it's necessary. But these what if scenarios, and I've got a better idea. If it's not necessary, don't do it. But it's on the agenda, there are some people think it is necessary and I think we should just move forward.

Legislator Gavaris: Thank you. I have a couple of questions to Deputy Exec Rider, when, do you know the age of the roof, when the last [inaudible] either building or both?

Deputy Executive Rider: In the backup or in the let me just see if I can pull them up. There, I don't, it, was this committee sent the, the solar assessment? Because in that, in the very back is the actual roof. Its assessment that was used to determine you know, how to best go whether we needed to totally redo these roofs or renovate and repair. And so let me see if they have the date, I don't know, or the age of the roof in that, I don't have it off the top of my head, for either one.

Chairman Gavaris: All right. Well, alright, if you do come across it, just let us know. And just say to answer is it, or comment under the statement that Legislator Haynes had made about the flat roof, while conceptually I agree with you flat roofs are terrible. Unfortunately, for commercial buildings, they are necessary. They're all the mechanical stuff on them, you have to have it open to, unfortunately, the elements and that's the downside of having commercial buildings with the commercial ventilation systems and heating and cooling. They are unfortunately a necessary evil. But if they're installed, right, I will disagree with you Chairman Donaldson, that if they're installed properly, and they go with a warranty on a system, it doesn't usually require a whole lot of repairs to it, so.

Legislator Bartels, and then Chair Donaldson.

Legislator Bartels: You know, I just wanted through the Chair to ask for clarification, I realized, you know, we're, we're having multiple levels of discussions at once. And I would like to ask Legislator Greene if given if, if postponing for one week, rather than referring back to the committee at this point,

would afford the time to get some of these other questions answered or to get the experts to Ways and Means to discuss that.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Greene is that possible? You're on mute, Legislator Greene. You're still on mute. She's in the other room, so I can hear her talking so I know she's trying to talk. Alright, we'll come back to you.

Legislator Greene: I figured, I figured it out. Um, I you know, I think it's a bigger question that can be answered in one week. But, um, and I, I don't know that I'm in a position to call for a Special Meeting. But if there's some way that Marc and, and Nick Hvozda could meet with Tom Kacandes and perhaps another solar installer, so it's not just Tom. And, and some of us could sit in on a meeting, just to get really clear about this project. Then, if we can do that within a week. But right now, my reading of his two responses, Tom Kacandes' two responses is that it is different than the rooftop solar feasibility assessments that were presented to us, and are dated June 22nd. I don't know what the breakdown was that we got them so last minute, but in the past, I've kind of let things like this go. And right now, I feel like we need to pause and get it right, with everyone having an under, a deeper understanding. And if we can do it in a week, you know, that's great. And if not, I would ask that in a week Ways and Means refer it back to committee or we can do that on the floor, if need be.

Legislator Walter: You're muted.

Chairman Gavaris: That would help, I was wondering why he wasn't speaking. Chair Donaldson and then Legislator Walter.

Chairman Donaldson: Alright. Yes, I mean, you know, I know what you mean John, there is if it's done exactly right. But you know what, the problem is, with a lot of these roofs are is, there's a lot of different valleys, and the way they're made, particularly a very large roof. That's where you often have the troubles. I mean, I had flat roof on my house, and I have not had a lot of trouble with it. Because you know, it was done with a really good rubber. You know, one of those rubber roofs that are almost like a big giant inner tube, they do last pretty well. But what the problem is the water puddles, and I do have to make sure that I get up there take care of certain things with it, just to make sure that it doesn't, eventually grab a leak. And sometimes they're [inaudible]. The I don't know how old the one roof is, but the other one, the one on the Restorative Justice is, I mean, on the, well on the, well the, the, you know, the jail, or whatever you want to call it. I mean, that's not that old, but it's but it was a problem from the very beginning, when it was actually first built. But anyway, again, that these are something that has to be done. And I do not understand how this would stop doing a solar project later on.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: Thanks. So I'm willing to make that motion to postpone it. But I want to reiterate that it may be a green roof, that is the best thing to do here. Which again, you would want to not do these renovations, if we're going to do a green roof, a green roof improves the cooling in the summer, the heating in the winter, it reduces the flooding, it lasts longer than a traditional flat roof, it's environmental. So if someone's coming to talk to us, I want it to be also someone who can explore the idea of these being green roofs. And, but with that, I'm also, I'd be happy to do a motion to postpone. But again, I would say I agree with Chair Donaldson that if the solar is the plan, then you would need to

do these renovations. I'm making the argument that it may not be solar that we want to go, it may be a green roof, in which case these renovations would not be appropriate.

Chairman Gavaris: So you're making an actual motion to postpone to next week's meeting for the purpose of exploring the best, the best type of roofing to do.

Legislator Walter: Right the feasibility of both the solar, as interest by Legislator Greene, but also the feasibility of converting these to green roofs.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay, can I get a second? Legislator Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor of postponing?

Legislator Walter: But I think Legislator Bartels might have had discussion.

Chairman Gavaris: You had discussion too? Legislator Bartels, go ahead. Sorry.

Legislator Bartels: Thank you. Yeah. I'm, yeah, I'm definitely I'm supportive in the wait for a week. But I would also add on to what Legislator Walter just said that it, well One, it would be great if the meeting that Legislator Greene spoke of could happen. But also, I think it would be helpful if those experts could come to our meeting next week in order to answer questions. In large part, I'm supporting the postponement because really, we had been committed to really investigating these alternatives from the start. And again, I understand the extraordinary circumstances we're under, but we just saw the analysis, which was done in-house came late last week, and Legislator Greene is telling us there's additional information that we're not hearing. So I'd like to hear that information as well.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you. Any other discussion? Chair Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: What was the vote in Public Works?

Chairman Gavaris: Does anybody know?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: [inaudible] this here? Do you know what the vote was in Public Works?

Deputy Executive Rider: There was only three members. I believe it was unanimous, but I think it would be telling to go back and listen to the members who were there. And, and their thoughts on this project because they wanted it to move forward.

Chairman Gavaris: Amber?

Amber Feaster: 4-0.

Deputy Executive Rider: 4-0, okay.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay. All right. Any other discussion? All those in favor of postponing? Anybody opposed?

Legislator Parete: I'm opposed.

Chairman Gavaris: You're opposed to postponing. Okay.

Chairman Donaldson: I'm opposed to it also. I think it needs to be done. And I think they've done studies. And I think we still were able to move [inaudible]

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Haynes.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: we wish we may in the future.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay, Legislator Haynes, you're also opposed? Thank you.

Legislator Haynes: Yeah, thanks.

Chairman Gavaris: I will be in favor. And I will just say, sort of echo what Legislator Walter and what Legislator Bartels said is if we can arrange this meeting, and if necessary, we should, we have a lot of things we're postponing to next week, we could start the meeting at 5:00 instead of 5:30 to accommodate that joint meeting would do so?

Legislator Parete: Just a quick question. What if you can't arrange the meeting?

Chairman Gavaris: You just said, Legislator, you just say we can't 'What if' anymore? So.

Legislator Parete: That's right. That's, that's my question. That's exactly correct. That's exactly right. Thank you.

Chairman Gavaris: If it's not possible, then we just have to vote with the information we have.

Legislator Archer.

Legislator Archer: Yeah, it kind of goes back to what has been said multiple times we keep having the same conversation. I believe in the environment group, they've asked repeatedly to let's do an assessment, let's look at where, we keep having these same questions, we have commitments about being green. And when we have an opportunity to look at it, and to make decisions that start moving us in that direction, you know, it, it really doesn't happen. So either we're going to be a green county, and we're going to be moving and being progressive on some of these green initiatives. And we're going to do some pre work, so we have a good understanding of where our opportunities exist. So I hear what everyone's saying. But you know, this is not a new response. It's not a new request, we've asked for this information repeatedly, and it doesn't materialize. And then we come to having to make decisions like this. And we don't have the appropriate information at hand. And I think, to the point that Legislator Greene made, you know, with Ida and the impacts of that, and the fires, I mean, even Biden just came out and said, we are in, we are in a climate crisis. And if we don't start making decisions that help, even just in our small way of contributing to the positive side of this issue, then we're no better than the rest. So that's just my

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you. All right. So the, the postponement fails, because we need five to postpone. So on the resolution itself. Do you want any more discussion?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, I mean, this went through Public Works. They did a study on the roof, they've done all the things that we were, told them to do, and they were doing them. Now, it seems like that wasn't enough. I don't know. I mean, the job has to get done. And it does not preclude us from doing solar later on. So my mindset is, let's get the job done.

Chairman Gavaris: Deputy Executive Rider.

Deputy Executive Rider: The one, the one point I, I do want to point out that we did do the evaluation the Department of the Environment. It was an independent from DPW, determined that they can, we can do the renovations but also that they did not believe solar was appropriate on these roofs. Now, the, the consultant that, that Manna Jo discussed, we can talk to and we can get their take after the renovations. I, I want to point out the reason that Nick Hvozda at the Department of the Environment felt like these were not appropriate is these buildings are both associated with community solar projects, where we get 100% of the electricity from community solar for these buildings. If we were to put a solar array on top of the building, then we would not get 100% electricity covered. And it's easy enough to say, well, just appropriate a different roof, or a different building to, to the community solar projects, but it's not that easy. And there's state regulations that get in the way. So that's one of the reasons that they are not suggesting that we move forward with solar on these roofs.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay, thank you. All right, we're gonna go to Legislator Walter, and then we got to, we got to just keep moving here, because we're just gonna get bogged down with this.

Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: Marc. Yeah, Marc, just wondering if the conversation included green roofs at all. In that assessment, I hear over and over again, about solar. But did, did they assess the feasibility of making these green roofs?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: According to

Deputy Executive Rider: No, because that is, that is not part of

Legislator Gavaris: Chair? Marc, please proceed. Marc, proceed, go ahead.

Deputy Executive Rider: I don't believe that's part of the, the studies that they're doing. As part of this analysis. We can, you know, you and I should have a conversation. I don't think they're taking green roofs to account when they're looking at, at redoing these roofs.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Greene, you have your hand up again.

Legislator Greene: Thank you. This will be my last comment. I know, you do want to move on. I, just with regard to green roofs, I think that you know, I haven't done the analysis, but from what I know of

green roofs versus solar. Right now, IPCC says stop burning fossil fuel. Green roofs have value. But I, I think that solar would have more value with regard to that mandate. And I use the term in the, in the sense that IPCC used it. And with regard to the solar, community solar project, the one thing there was a lot of agreement at Public Works, I offered to draft essentially a memorializing resolution or a letter to our State, elected officials, asking them to change that law. We have to marshal our resources and, and implement solar at a much faster rate than we are and anything that stands in the way, there's no reason why someone should not, you know, have solar installed on their property, whether it's their roof or ground mounted, and not also be able to support a community solar project. That's a, an unfortunate regulation that needs to be changed. And I did offer to draft I guess what be a memorializing resolution. Thank you.

Legislator Gavaris: Alright, Chair Donaldson, and then Legislator Bartels.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Yeah, anyway, on the first, whereas on the second page, the Resolution 396, it pointed out that the solar feasibility study recommend using a cool roof technology, which I believe is very similar to that of a green roof. It is designed to reflect more sunlight absorb less heat than a standard roof, yet, significantly, save on energy reduction and the cooling load inside the buildings. So I think they did consider something of that nature as part of the study.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Bartels.

Legislator Bartels: Thank you. So given that we're at this crossroads, I'm going to support this tonight, but I'm going to ask that attempts be made to have, them the meetings that Legislator Greene's talking about, and that we attempt to get this information which may change my vote on the floor. You know, I, I just feel very strongly that we, we really need to be, to be fully vetting these things. And, and I also hope that that the next time that the questions get get asked and put in, in the committee of original jurisdiction, so that by the time it gets to Ways & Means many of these questions have been vetted.

Chairman Gavaris: Alright, I'll go to Legislator Parete. But just one quick question for Deputy Executive Rider. Do you know if we qualify as a government entity for NYSERDA programs?

Deputy Executive Rider: We do, we, we've received NYSERDA assistance and in other on other projects.

Chairman Gavaris: But in terms of the evaluation of energy efficiency and upgrades like that, were, for them to come out and do those studies for free. Are we eligible? Or is that only for non-governmental agencies?

Deputy Executive Rider: We've done some, like the FlexTech studies and others, but I don't think that we've done I don't think we qualify as a municipality to have come out and do a free evaluation of the, like a roof.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay, thank you. Legislator Parete.

Legislator Parete: Yeah, this will be my last word, Mr. Chairman, but this whole exercise, this whole dialogue sounds to me like in the old days, I used to look for judge shopping. We'll find somebody that's

gonna say what we want to say. They've been through some exercise on this already. Let's move forward. Thank you.

Chairman Gavaris: On that note, all right. Any other discussion? All right. All those in favor? Anybody opposed? Okay, so it's like two opposed, two opposed. Okay. Motion is carried. Thank you, for a long one there.

399: Authorizing the Chair Legislature to execute an intermunicipal agreement with New York City Department of Environmental Protection. Motion? Legislator Walter,

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll move it.

Chairman Gavaris: Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

407: Establishing Capital Project 606, Salem Road. Can I have a motion?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Move it.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

402: Approving the execution of a contract amendment for \$50,000 for Geostabilization International. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

403: Execution of a contract for \$662,220 for NYCOMCO. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Haynes. Discussion? No? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

406: Accepting the accounting of unpaid school taxes for 2021 - 2022. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

407: Authorizing the Ulster County Commissioner of Finance to accept redemption offers for real property taxes. Can I get a motion? Legislator Haynes. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

408: Authorizing the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a contract with New York State Department of Health. Can I have a motion? Walter. To second? Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

409: Amending 2021 budget for funding for New York State Department of health for epidemiology and laboratory capacity. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

40, 410: Approving the execution of a contract for \$79,986.92 for Family of Woodstock. Can I have a motion. Legislator Bartels. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

411: Execution of a contract amendment for \$469,040 for Accucare N&H. Can I have a motion? Bartels. Walter, second. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

412: Approving the execution of a contract amendment with Westchester County Healthcare Corporation. Can I have a motion? Walter. Second, Haynes. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? I'm going to, no I'm okay. I'll be in favor as well.

413: Rescinding Resolution 346 of 2021. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

414: Approving the execution of contract amendment for \$5,339.00 for Access Supports for Living. Can I get a motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Legislator Wal, Bartels. Can I get a second? Legislator Archer. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

415: Approving the execution of a contract amendment with Astor Services, Children & Family. Can I get a motion? Walter. Second, Legislator Archer. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

4, 416: Execution of a contract amendment with Family of Woodstock. Can I get a motion? Walter. Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

417: Execution of a contract amendment with Gateway Community Industries. Can I have a motion? Motion, Walter. Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

418: Approving the execution of contract amendment with Mental Health Association of Ulster County. Motion? Walter. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

419: Approving the execution of contract amendment with PEOPLE. Can I have a motion? Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? Were you, discussion Bartels? Or you were just, you were seconding. Okay. Thank you. All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

420: Approving the execution of a contract amendment for Rehabilitation Support Services. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

421: Approving the execution of a contract amendment with Family Services, Inc. Can I have a motion? Walter. Second, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried

422: Establishing a policy to identify County positions that work directly with crime victims and persons accused of crimes.

Legislator Walter: Can I have a motion to just block 422 and 423? They go together.

Chairman Gavaris: 422 and 423. Second on that? Discussion? All those in favor on the block? Okay. On the block? You want to discuss or? Any discussion on the block? No? All right, all those in favor?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Can we have the, do we know what the, what is the, financial impact?

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: I don't believe there is any because Family of Woodstock offers these trainings every month anyway. And several of these people actually go, but they would just be attending the monthly, you know, one of the monthly trainings that are offered. No additional because we already paid Family of Woodstock.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Can Marc chime in on this?

Chairman Gavaris: I think Deputy Exec Milgrim.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Or Milgrim.

Deputy Executive Milgrim: We do have a significant contract. We do have enough openings to be able to handle the you know, whatever might be the addition. Additional individuals with Family. So it's not anticipated that this would be an additional cost to the county.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Okay.

Chairman Gavaris: All those in favor? Opposed? So carried. Thank you.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I wouldn't have been opposed. I just wanted to know what it was.

Chairman Gavaris: Okay, thank you.

429: Establishing a hotline to provide support and referral information for individuals who believe they've been discriminated against. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Do we have a

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator, hold on, Legislator Haynes.

Legislator Haynes: Yes, I understand. I had questions regarding this at the law enforcement meeting. Did we get any further information that supports the necessity for this, Eve?

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter, go ahead.

Chairwoman Walter: Yeah, I, I'm sorry, I didn't know that you were asking me to provide supported documentation but I, I guess I could say that if we point to the George Floyd incident nationally, and the fact that the Governor had us all, each, each municipality, look at ways of, of doing police reform. And at all of those meetings, whether they're town hall meetings or individual people identified that they experienced discrimination. Not just from law enforcement, but from different parts of the criminal justice system. I can also say that, as I told, mentioned, in the Law Enforcement Public Safety meeting, I have heard from each separate department, complaints that be issued about the other departments so the

DA would hear complaints about Sheriff or law enforcement, the law enforcement would hear about complaints about the Public Defender's office. So people, you know, this is anecdotal, I don't think they counted. But they are getting complaints about other offices. So we recognize one, that there are people who are experienced discrimination across our county, from all sorts of areas of criminal justice, and two, that most people don't know exactly where to go when they have these complaints or, or concerns. And so this provides them the guidance.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Haynes.

Legislator Haynes: I just, you know, we had spoken about this in the meeting and it, I understand that, that the Human Rights Commission was filtering out some of these calls, and they were potentially feeling overwhelmed with how to direct these people who to contact. Is that kind of where this was born out of?

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator, go ahead Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: So it, it was born out of the feeling that in our county, there is not a way that individuals would know where to go if they have experienced discrimination in any area of the criminal justice system. And that location that would be reasonable is the Human Rights Commission, they do receive some of these calls. But I would venture a guess that most of these people don't either, don't call anyone or call the wrong department, then necessarily the Human Rights Commission. It was just felt that this was would be the most logical direction to send people who are

Legislator Haynes: So in essence, there's an issue with communication. There's an issue with communication?

Legislator Walter: Yes, I would say that most people don't know where to go, if they were having an issue with some, if they, if they felt the judge treated them unfairly, or a district attorney, or public defender or a police officer. I could say, I don't know exactly what I would do. If a judge treated me unfairly, I would have no idea where to go and who to call.

Legislator Haynes: Yeah, and, and oftentimes, like I said, being that I handle a lot of these calls through my day job, I, I think that there might be something set up on a state level for this type of a call through the attorney general's office. We might want to look into that, I don't want to do a duplication of efforts here. So that's what I was thinking we could look into.

Legislator Walter: Yes, I would prefer that we act locally and respond locally to our own constituents and make sure that they're treated with the respect that they need. You know, these are our people. These are our departments.

Legislator Haynes: We all serve the same constituency at the end of the day, but I understand what you mean.

Legislator Walter: Yeah. And I think, and I think the other added part, which, which is offered, there's the second position of the person, the we agreed in Law Enforcement Public Safety to take the position of the person who would field these phone calls out until the budget, but it's not just directing them on

who to call, but assisting and holding their hands and making these phone calls sometimes, because it can be very intimidating thing for people to do.

Chairman Gavaris: Chair Donaldson.

Chairman Donaldson: Well, I think they could call the Human Rights Commission now. I mean, the idea that we can promote the idea that, you know, Human Rights Commission can field these but we also need to have somebody man that phone, if that's the case. I'm not an, in other words, it says that, you know, a number of people feel that this may be needed, but I'm not sure what the total financial impact is. And I'm not sure about the need for this particular thing, without, it looks like we have certain things that are already in mind and we just need to clear up the communications on that.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: I would say that just like Oracle has a dedicated line, this is providing people with a dedicated line for this reason. This is holding people's hands who feel this, who are experiencing discrimination in our county. If, if these are, these are, it's a vulnerable group. It's a group of people who are feeling at risk among people who are at power. And so holding their hands as best as possible, creating this hotline, even it's directed to Humans to the Human Rights Commission. Not everyone knows there is a Human Rights Commission. While some people will call that number this is, this is providing the information directly to our constituents to say, here's an 800 number. And you can call and somebody will help you if you're feeling like you've been discriminated against. I agree, it does need to have a person and that is associated with this resolution. But the Law Enforcement Public Safety just made a universal decision that any of these resolutions that are a new hire, we would just hold for the budget cycle. And so Tyrone is aware and will be [inaudible] if he doesn't have it in his budget, then we'll, I'll propose an amendment. So it is separate, but it is in the intention that the hotline exists. And there is a person added to the Human Rights Commission who can manage that hotline. But the idea of having, and, and I do, I am willing to postpone it to make sure we have more financial impact numbers, because I feel like there should be billboards that tell people how much you know what the hotline number is, I want to make sure people are aware of this, there's no point in having it if people don't realize, but to not recognize that in our county as well as our state and as well as our country. Hundreds of people are experiencing discrimination from different aspects of the criminal justice system on a weekly monthly basis is naive. And I would prefer that it doesn't get to a state of crisis, and that we actually help people right in the earlier stages of their need.

Chairman Gavaris: Chair Donaldson.

Chairman Donaldson: I don't think anybody said that there wasn't, people aren't being discriminated against. There always have and always will be, we understand that. We just tried to figure out if this is the best way of dealing with the issue. And what the cost will be in doing it, and not only that if you're going to set something up, we want to make sure it's set up in a manner that somebody will know that they can call this and there's going to be somebody to man the call. Otherwise, you end up having even a worst-case scenario when you turn around and you had somebody calling and then there's nobody there or they can't do anything about it. So I know they do have the ability to call the Human Rights Commission now. If you want to have an individual line, I don't have a problem with that. But I want to make sure that it's set up properly, and that we understand what the cost is. And who is actually going to

do and it who's going to act on it afterwards. You know, once that call that made, that call is made, you're going to act on it. And you're going to have to act on it quickly. Otherwise, it's not it's not worth having.

Chairman Gavaris: Leader Heppner.

Legislator Heppner: Thank you. Um, you know, to Legislator Walter's point, you know, and it sits to the spirit of the most recent version of the human rights law that was developed by the task force, led by myself and Leader Ronk, have a more on the ground access point for individuals rather than having to go through the burdensome process, at times, to reach out to a state agency. You know, whether it's the DOJ or the Attorney General's office, but I do believe in, and Amber might be able to look into this and help us, is that we allocated significantly more as part of that kind of adding more teeth to the Human Rights Commission to their budget line. And to see you know, where that is sitting, and then work within the confines of the, the law that we actually just updated with recommendations from Tyrone and working myself and Leader Ronk in the Executive's Office, to even update it further. This might be an avenue to where especially going into budget season, we can really work this in and make this a plausible mechanism for local residents to have which I do agree with Legislator Walter, you know that that ability to have local access to support is important.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter.

Legislator Walter: Yeah, so and I would, I would prefer to have the person hired now but I also at the same time, recognize this is not the right timing for it. I do think that in the meantime, if this is established, Tyrone will do his best to handle it until this, the next budgetary time where at which point somebody could be hired. Or he could put in the request, if it really has an exceeded amount. I will make a motion to postpone it till the next meeting and work with Amber and Natalie, to basically put a specific financial impact in terms of the cost of having a hotline, a number dedicated. And basically, it's publicity, that's associated with making sure people know about it. Yeah.

Chairman Gavaris: Can I get a second? Chair Donaldson, you'll second?

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: I'll second it, but I mean, we also have to make sure that there is the right responses being made, because that's part of the thing is actually referring some people over to a state organization, I mean, it's important to have a local person because sometimes you could solve the problem without going to the state, sometimes you're going to require the state. So I think not only that, but they have to act and be prepared to know what they're going to be doing with that call.

Legislator Walter: Yes, understood. And this is why I mean, this came out of a year and a half of conversations for the Criminal Justice Reform Task Force, including the Human Rights Commissioner and others. So there is that full recognition that there is specific protocol for each of the different Criminal Justice Departments. And it's just a matter of having a list of the right place to call for each one.

Chairman Gavaris: All right, any other discussion? All right, all those in favor of postponing? Any opposed? All right. Resolution has been postponed.

Is there any other business to discuss? Just to remind everybody to look at the

Legislator Walter: Wait, John are we discussing. I'm sorry, the memorandum?

Chairman Gavaris: Yeah, I was reading down first to the calendar is what I started to say is, please make sure you review the dates for the budget dates that we have coming up, and that there's no conflicts. And if you do, please reach out to one of the staff or myself to try to, you know, work through that. We do want to, you know, try to go through this very thoroughly as possible and work with our consultants. And then yeah, discussion on the memo. So Legislator Walter, you want to talk about it all or?

Legislator Walter: Yeah. I mean, I guess it would help if, is anyone here that's on Legislative Programs? My, my one concern, I'm totally supportive of having strong solid matrix. I, the, the part, the required, basic, like gateway into this whole thing is about it, assisting the Legislative strategic [inaudible] and implementing key legislative priorities. I'm not sure if I know what our mission is, or our strategic objectives are for our key legislative priorities. So I guess I feel a little like as the gateway questions, that's kind of challenging, and I you know, I'm curious if they have backup where they'll describe what our mission is, our strategic objectives and our key priorities are but I, I just feel like that's a, I'm not clear how I would respond to that. So I just don't know. Is, Abe, are you on that committee? I just yeah, that's that that was my only

Chairman Gavaris: Amber you want to, let Amber.

Amber Feaster: Um, so I had worked intimately with Legislator Delaune and Legislator Criswell for the development of this. And the thought process behind those were those sections in particular, were that the Legislature annually upon hearing, the County Executives budget speech and receiving that proposed budget request, would then have some kind of idea or be able to come up with some idea of where the gaps are in the community. What needs funding in the current year? Where does the Legislature want to focus its efforts in the subsequent year. So at that point, it really becomes a Legislative decision what those priority areas are, and how that funding, how you guys envision that funding being broken up or distributed.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter

Legislator Walter: Yeah, and I appreciate that. And I appreciate even the whole like complexity of the whole document. I guess I'm saying if I'm filling out this cover letter, as an agency, I really wouldn't know, what's the mission is, the strategic objectives or the priorities are unless there's going to be listed somewhere every year for me to refer to that's all I'm saying is it's a, it's a big ask, or I don't even know where I would look for it right this moment so that I, I support the whole concept. And everything else is just that cover sheet that I'm, I'm finding intimidating.

Chairman Gavaris: Alright, Amber, do you have more to say or you're good?

Amber Feaster: Um, well, so the only thing that I can add to that is that in, in my mind, I think the vision is to have this advertised in some capacity. So in that incidence um, we would have the priority

areas listed on the website, where you click into the application. So I understand that's not something that's tangible today, so it is kind of like, you know, conceptual at this juncture.

Chairman Gavaris: Alright, Comptroller Gallagher, and then, Legislator Bartels and then Chair Donaldson. Go ahead.

Comptroller Gallagher: I wanted to just mention that, as I looked at it, I thought it would be a really good idea for you guys to include a request for what NOVO Foundation support these agencies have, not just in the current year's budget, but going forward. And I wanted to mention that Dutchess County does put out sort of a priorities list for some of the similar type grants. That is, you know, that they help guide the applications. Thanks.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Bartels and then Donaldson.

Legislator Bartels: Oh, thank you so I really do appreciate the work and, and this does bring us closer to something really tangible, which we've, which we've lacked in Legislative Programs for a long time. But I, I think Legislator Walter sort of touched on something that I really struggle with. And I'm just going to say it here, and I look forward to the future conversations. And actually, Comptroller Gallagher just use language that, that kind of touches on my discomfort as well. And that's, you know, when we talk about Legislative priorities, and let the Legislature's strategic objectives, I, I really struggle with how that intersects with the county's priorities and the county's strategic objectives. And especially when this is coming at the same time as a budget. And when we start to think of these things as grants, which we're, we're not really allowed to give grants, you know, it's just it's, we call them something different, we're contracting for services. But when you advertise and do basically a call, you know, an outreach, it starts to, it starts very much to me, to feel like a call for, for proposals for, for grants, like the county's got money to give out and this is, you know, please please apply. And this is our mission. And for my first year, I've I've always, I've always struggled with it. So I really hope that we can start to get to a place where many of the priorities that the legislature has identified through these programs get picked up through the budget process, in the appropriate places within the executive budget, which is that we all know, then obviously approved by us. So but I, but I, I appreciate that there's something tangible to talk about, because this, that's not been the case before.

Legislator Gavaris: Thank you, Chair Donaldson.

Legislative Chairman Donaldson: Well, actually, there well there are there are certain things that were tangible, particularly dealing with the arts and certain ones, but, but actually Legislator Walters, Walter actually pointed out something that I also had the same concern with, because, you know, we created a new matrix, but we do not have, you know, you know, what our roles and priorities are, when we're requesting the, somebody to tell us how they help us meet our goals, or, you know, when we don't have them? So that's a little problematic. But I do and, and yeah, they are grants, you know, you can call it whatever you wish to call it. But in the end, they're sort of a grant and, and there are things that are that are coming up. There's a lot of things like for instance, that we need to prioritize, and we need to actually make sure that that is in as part of our goals. You know, perhaps one of the things is, you know, promote, you know, incubator businesses, things of that nature that a lot of nonprofits help out, you know doing. And so, we need to actually establish those and say, hey, can you, how can you help us out, I'm getting [inaudible] you know, whether it be seasons that a new 501 relatively new 501C or

Community Action, one that's been there for a very long time. But all these things may help us out and may help us reach those goals of encouraging, shall we say, minority and women businesses through an incubator. Oh, so that should be one of the grants whatever or whatever you wish to call that. When that and others, but we need to make those clear. And I think the conversation has to be had with a group with the, with the executive and sitting down and hammering that out. So we can take this money that when the American rescue funds and use it in a way that's going to benefit us the best.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Parete, did you have your hand up?

Legislator Parete: Yeah, I did. If I might, just for a minute. You know, I, I really wasn't involved when they drew this up, and I I'm, I'm glad we're moving in the right direction. My big issue is that we have to understand what the scope of services is that we may or may not be looking for. And I think that, you know, Legislator Bartels might not to ever put words in her mouth, but we don't want to consider member items. So you call them whatever you want. But we have to be very careful to to be aware of audit codes, a national CPA rules and regulations for audits and potential conflicts of interest. You know, I do think we have to, we have to I don't want to use the word prioritize, but make sure we understand is all sorts of, of non for profits out there, which is called for in this legislation. I mean, there's charities that are non for profits, and is sometimes almost national businesses that are non for profits. So where is this going to go? It, it has served thus far as a good way of sustaining some groups. But I don't think would ever, ever have passed muster in terms of what we're looking for and and the procedures and policies that the money was awarded correctly. So I'm looking forward to the discussion. Thank you.

Chairman Gavaris: Thank you. Did anybody else have their hands up that I didn't get to already? I don't think so. Alright, I'll just say I do agree with Legislator Bartels, you know, if we're looking to fill in gaps for services that are not covered in the budget, then that's really on us. As the Legislature, as the policy setting body, we should have made that a priority if you want, as a you know, policy that we want to see accomplished, and then it would be added to the budget, through the Executives Office, being able to make that happen. So I think that's our first, first way of handling things and I think that's most of the best way. But I wonder if we may be, Amber if we could do just a sample. So we can see how to sort of like an example of an agency that's well known that we've been dealing for a while, how they would fill that out, and maybe it'll help to, you know, people to see a real life example of how that would be done. By I did say this to the people involved that it was a tremendous amount of work put into it, I think it's good and it's a good direction to go in instead of the way we were having it before. Just sort of very loose and it did give the you know, appearance that we were just handing out money to people, willy nilly, and there was no real structure to it. So any other discussion? All right, can I get a motion to adjourn?

Legislator Parete: Yep.

Chairman Gavaris: Legislator Walter. Second, Parete. Any, all those in favor?

Legislator Parete: You got it.

Chairman Gavaris: Alright. Thank you all.

Deputy Executive Rider: Good night everyone.