

**Ways & Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: September 12, 2023 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION: Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Gavaris
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Legislative Financial Analyst
PRESENT: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Roberts, & Ronk
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Bowen, Erner, Greene, Heppner, Hewitt, Maloney, Nolan, Petit, Stewart & Uchitelle, Legislative Counsel Pascale & Ragucci, Deputy County Executives Contreras & LaValle – UC Executive’s Office, Deputy Comptroller DeMarco – UC Comptroller’s Office, Director Doyle – UC Planning Department, Sheriff Figueroa & Undersheriff Benjamin– UC Sheriff’s Office, Commissioner Daw - UC Department of Finance, Director Juras – UC Department of Budget, Director Macaluso – UC Information Services, Director Erichsen & Deputy Director Peterson – UC Emergency Services

Chair Gavaris called the meeting to order at 5:08 PM

Resolutions for the September 19, 2023 Session of the Legislature

Motion No. 1: **MOTION TO APPROVE the Meeting Minutes of August 8, 2023 and August 15, 2023 Regular Meetings**

Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Minutes APPROVED**

Everett Erichsen, Director of Emergency Services, provided an update on the County Wide Radio system. Director Erichsen stated that while the terrain of Ulster County is beautiful, it causes issues with the radio system. Additionally, fire departments and law enforcement require different needs. Director Erichsen went into detail regarding the location of current towers and where future towers may be added to create a functional system. Director Erichsen noted that this upgraded system is a huge improvement to the current system and a giant step forward for an operable system between fire, law enforcement and EMS. Director Erichsen went on to inform that the committee that to date there is \$7.5 Million in grant funding received with a county share of \$24.3 Million and a total cost of just under \$32 Million.

Resolution No. 369: Establishing A Policy To Provide Legislators With Restricted Access To The New World Financial Management System

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes a policy to provide Legislators with restricted access to the New World Financial Management System.

Motion No. 2: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 369

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Roberts

Discussion: Legislator Roberts stated if there was not any new information, he would like to call the question.

Legislator Cahill informed the committee that none of our neighboring counties provide legislative access to the financial system.

Legislator Petit stated that perhaps this legislative body was more financially interested and reiterated that entering the budget process the ability to review certain contracts would be worthwhile.

Legislator Cahill noted that only one returning legislator has taken the time to see the financial system.

Legislative Chair Bartels stated appreciation for the concerns and noted that most legislators would not utilize their access and failed to see the harm in providing access to those who want it.

Legislator Criswell stated that there are too many outstanding questions to vote yes and this time and felt that it was a complicated system.

Legislator Nolan stated that this would be appropriate in the time before legislative financial analysts.

Legislator Ronk echoed Legislator Roberts and called the question.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Gavaris & Roberts

Voting Against: Legislators Cahill, Criswell & Ronk

Votes in Favor: 3

Votes Against: 3

Disposition: Resolution DEFEATED

Resolution No. 372: Requesting The New York State Legislature Introduce, And The Governor Sign, An Amendment To Article 31 Of The New York State Tax Law To Permit The County Of Ulster To Adopt A Local Law To Impose, Collect And Retain A Tax On Real Estate Transfers

Resolution Summary: This Resolution requests that the New York State Legislature and Governor pass legislation amending Article 31 of the New York State Tax Law, adding subdivision "H", permitting the County of Ulster to adopt and amend a local law imposing in the County of Ulster a tax on each conveyance

of real property or interest therein when the consideration exceeds five hundred dollars, at the rate of fifty cents for each five hundred dollars or fractional part thereof.

Motion No. 3: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 372
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: Legislative Chair Bartels noted that there has been no changes as of yet and feels there should be a bottom end threshold.

Legislator Erner shared that without a bottom end exclusion, the addition of this tax would have brought \$2 Million into the county on last year's sales. Legislator Erner stated preference to no bottom end exclusion but would be agreeable if that is what it needed to pass this Resolution, noting that the tax rate is very low and only one quarter of what the state is imposing.

Legislator Petit, as cosponsor, stated that there had been discussion on imposing the tax on the purchaser, rather than the seller, and noted that some municipalities put the additional tax towards open space.

Legislator Ronk informed the committee that New York State has some of the highest closing costs of any state in the nation and would not support this Resolution.

Legislator Roberts stated that by not imposing this tax, money is kept in the hands of the Ulster County Residents.

Legislator Cahill noted that residents are struggling to afford housing, due to high interest rates and high housing values and does not support an additional tax.

Chairman Gavaris agreed that no amendment would change his mind and stated lack of the support for the Resolution because the buyer would just be able to pay less for the house to afford the additional tax, therefore still impacting the seller.

Legislator Erner stated that the intent of this tax is to fund housing for those who have none.

Voting In Favor: None
Voting Against: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Votes in Favor: 0
Votes Against: 6
Disposition: Resolution DEFEATED

Chair Gavaris moved on to Resolution No. 432 and stated that the sponsor has requested no action be taken.

Resolution No. 432: A Policy Requiring Venders To Comply With All Applicable Ulster County Policies

Resolution Summary: This Resolution establishes a Policy that all present and future vendors be notified at the earliest possible point and in all contractual agreements of their need to comply with all Ulster County policies relevant to their interactions with the County and requires that all vendors operating in or on County buildings and properties be required to comply with Ulster County policies.

Disposition: No Action

Resolution No. 474: Authorizing Transfer Of Insurance Funds From Revenue To Expenditure, Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget - Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the transfer of insurance funds from the revenue fund ‘compensation for loss’ to ‘vehicle’ expenditure, in the amount of \$43,358.00.

Motion No. 4: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 474

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 478: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Kingston City School District To Provide A Deputy Sheriff As School Resource Officer – Ulster County Sheriff

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute an agreement with the Kingston School District to provide a Deputy Sheriff to serve as a School Resource Officer from September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2024 for an amount of \$116,352 at Miller Middle School.

Motion No. 5: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 478

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: Legislator Bartels

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 1

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 485: Designating The Ulster County Department Of Tourism As The Official Tourism Promotion Agency Of Ulster County – Department Of Tourism

Resolution Summary: This Resolution designates the Ulster County Department of Tourism as the official tourism promotion agency, making the department eligible to apply and receive New York State funds in the amount of \$70,000 for 2024.

Motion No. 6: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 485
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 487: Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Grant Application With Required Assurances For The NY Connects Program With The New York State Office For The Aging– Office For The Aging

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2023 Ulster County Budget to authorize the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a grant application with the NY Connects Program through the New York State Office for the Aging for \$26,589 for a term of April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024.

Resolution No. 488: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$62,500.00 Entered Into By The County – Halwick Law, LLC – Office For The Aging

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$62,500 with Halwick Law, LLC for legal consultation and outreach services to Ulster County residents aged 60 or older.

Motion No. 7: MOTION TO BLOCK Resolution Nos. 487 & 488
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution BLOCKED

Motion No. 8: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution Nos. 487 & 488
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolutions ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 489: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$77,015.34 Entered Into By The County – Family of Woodstock Inc. – Youth Bureau

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$77,015.34 with the Family of Woodstock, Inc for emergency residential and related respite services for runaway and homeless youth in Ulster County through the Family House Program.

Resolution No. 490: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$36,508.71, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Family of Woodstock Inc. – Youth Bureau

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$36,508.71 with the Family of Woodstock for long term adolescent residential, transitional living, and non-residential case management for runaway and homeless youth in Ulster County.

Motion No. 9: **MOTION TO BLOCK Resolution Nos. 489 & 490**
Motion By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution BLOCKED**

Motion No. 10: **MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution Nos. 489 & 490**
Motion By: Legislator Cahill
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Ronk

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolutions ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 495: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Birnie Bus Service Inc. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment for rates anticipated to exceed \$50,000 with Birnie Bus Service Inc. to increase funding for transportation services for children enrolled in special education programs.

Resolution No. 502: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$200,000.00 Entered Into By The County – J&D Ultracare Corp. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$200,000 with J&D Ultracare Corp for children who receive preschool special education services and require nursing services during transportation.

Resolution No. 504: Rescinding Resolution No. 445 Of 2022, And Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – MAT Bus Corp. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution rescinds Resolution No. 445 of 2022 and approves the execution of a contract amendment with MAT Bus Corp for transportation services for special education services for Preschool and Early Intervention Programs.

Resolution No. 506: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Orange County Transit, LLC – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Orange County Transit, LLC for transportation services for children enrolled in special education programs through the county’s preschool and earlier intervention programs.

Resolution No. 508: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For Rates Anticipated To Exceed \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Rolling V Bus Corp. – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Rolling V Bus Corp. for transportation services for children enrolled in special education programs through the County’s preschool and early intervention program.

Motion No. 11: MOTION TO BLOCK Resolution Nos. 495, 502, 504, 506, & 508

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolutions BLOCKED

Motion No. 12: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution Nos. 495, 502, 504, 506, & 508

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolutions ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 493: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$150,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Astor Services for Children & Families – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Astor Services for Children & Families, in the amount of \$150,000 for foster care services.

Resolution No. 494: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$125,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Berkshire Farm Center and Services for Youth, in the amount of \$125,000 for foster care services.

Resolution No. 498: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$180,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The Childrens’ Home of Kingston, New York – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$180,000 with the Childrens’ Home of Kingston for foster care services.

Resolution No. 499: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$25,000.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – Devereux Foundation – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$25,000 with Devereux Foundation for foster care services.

Resolution No. 505: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$350,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Northeast Parent and Child Society, Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Northeast Parent and Child Society, Inc, in the amount of \$350,000 for foster care services.

Resolution No. 507: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$1,100,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Parsons Child and Family Center – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$1,000,000 with Parsons Child and Family Center for foster care services.

Resolution No. 510: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$1,000,000.00 Entered Into By The County – The William George Agency for Children’s Services, Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$1,000,000 with William George Agency for Children’s Services, Inc. for foster care services.

Motion No. 13: MOTION TO BLOCK Resolution Nos. 493, 494, 498, 499, 505, 507 & 510
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolutions BLOCKED

Motion No. 14: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution Nos. 493, 494, 498, 499, 505, 507 & 510
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolutions ADOPTED

Resolution No. 491: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement For The Preschool Special Education And Related Services Program With The Pine Bush Central School District – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute an inter-municipal agreement with the Pine Bush Central School District for Preschool Special Education and Related Services program from September 1, 2023 through June 30, 2027, in the amount of \$4,000.

Motion No. 15: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 491
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 492: Amending The 2023 Budget To Accept Allocation From Office Of Victim Services For Victims Of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim And Witness Assistance Grant Program – Department Of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2023 Ulster County Budget to accept \$104,798 federal funds from the Office of Victim Services for Victims of Crime Act.

Motion No. 16: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 492

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 496: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$948,150.00 Entered Into By The County – Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$948,150 with Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster to operate a warming center to protect residents without shelter in extreme weather.

Motion No. 17: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 496

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 497: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$494,918.00 Entered Into By The County – Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract in the amount of \$949,918 with Catholic Charities of Orange, Sullivan, and Ulster to administer the New York State Rental Supplement Program.

Motion No. 18: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 497

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 500: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$70,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Family of Woodstock Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$70,000 with Family of Woodstock to provide emergency services to homeless individuals during inclement weather as part of the county’s Code Blue plan.

Motion No. 19: **MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 500**

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 501: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$67,899.00 Entered Into By The County – Family of Woodstock Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$67,899 with the Family of Woodstock for Supervision and Treatment services for Juveniles Program case management services.

Motion No. 20: **MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 501**

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 503: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$455,315.00 Entered Into By The County – Liberty Resources, Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$455,315 with Liberty Resources for operation of Multi-Systemic Therapy unit.

Motion No. 21: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 503

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 509: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$150,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Rondout Legal Services, Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$150,000 with Rondout Legal Services, Inc. for legal process and subpoena services.

Motion No. 22: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 509

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 511: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$90,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract in the amount of \$90,000 with Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. for preventative services and community-based alternatives to detention for Raise The Age eligible youth.

Motion No. 23: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 511

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 512: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$90,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. – Department of Social Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract in the amount of \$90,000 for Youth Advocate Programs, Inc. for preventative services and community-based alternatives to detention for youth who are at risk of becoming or adjudicated as Persons in Need of Supervision or Juvenile Delinquents.

Motion No. 24: **MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 512**
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 513: Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget To Accept Additional Funding From The New York State Office Of Mental Health - Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2023 Ulster County Budget to accept additional funding from the New York State Office of Mental Health in the amount of \$99,149.

Motion No. 25: **MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 513**
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 514: Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget To Accept Extension Of Allocation Of Federal Community Mental Health Services (CMHS) Block Grant Funding For Expansion Of System Of Care Implementation - Department Of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution amends the 2023 Ulster County Budget to accept Extension of Allocation of Federal Community Mental Health Services Block Grant Funding for Expansion of System Care Implementation in the amount of \$19,676.

Motion No. 26: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 514

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 515: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$23,049.00, 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 in the amount of \$23,049 with Access: Supports for Living Inc. for crisis intervention services to children and adults in the community who have behavioral health concerns, and who are in crisis situations or in need of mobile crisis services.

Resolution No. 516: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$24,177.00, 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 in the amount of \$24,177 with Family of Woodstock Inc. for pass through funding from the New York State Office of Mental Health and Office of Addiction Services and Support.

Resolution No. 517: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$99,582.00 Entered Into By The County – Gateway Community Industries, Inc. – Department of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$99,582 with Gateway Community Industries, Inc. to increase New York State Office of Mental Health pass through funding for supported housing community services, treatment apartment, vocational rehabilitation, and comprehensive recovery services.

Resolution No. 518: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$7,400.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00, Entered Into By The County – The Hudson Valley National Center for Veteran Reintegration Inc. – Department of Mental Health

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with the Hudson Valley National Center for Veteran Reintegration Inc. to reduce the term of agreement by 3 months and increase funding by \$7,400 for peer-to-peer support services for veterans with counseling needs.

Resolution No. 519: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$72,632.00 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 in the amount of \$72,632 with the Mental Health Association in Ulster County, Inc. to increase pass through funding received from the New York State Office of Mental Health.

Resolution No. 520: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$17,347.00, 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 in the amount of \$17,347 with PEOPLE: Projects to Empower and Organize the Psychiatrically Labeled, Inc for supported housing.

Resolution No. 521: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$416,127.00 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 in the amount of \$416,127 with PEOPLE: Projects to Empower and Organize the Psychiatrically Labeled, Inc. for pass through funding designated for the provision of advocacy and support services, as well as supported housing.

Resolution No. 522: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$19,890.00, 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 in the amount of \$19,890 with Rehabilitation Support Services, Inc for pass through funding for supported housing for psychiatrically labeled individuals.

Motion No. 27: MOTION TO BLOCK Resolution Nos. 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, 522
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolutions BLOCKED

Motion No. 28: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution Nos. 515, 516, 517, 518, 519, 520, 521, & 522
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolutions ADOPTED

Resolution No. 523: Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Gimmel LLC – Department of Information Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract in the amount of \$50,000 with Gimmel LLC for migration services from current InfoLinx System to the standard Gimmel system.

Motion No. 29: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 523
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 524: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$167,238.08 Entered Into By The County – Gioia P. Ambrette, Inc. d/b/a Newcastle Communications – Information Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$167,238.08 for Newcastle Communications for hardware and software maintenance services for the county's VoIP software and managed services for the OfficeWatch accounting software.

Motion No. 30: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 524
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 525: Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$332,940.95 Entered Into By The County – Tyler Technologies, Inc. – Information Services

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment in the amount of \$332,940.95 for Tyler Technologies, Inc. for software maintenance and support services that include updates and upgrades required for the operation of the New World Public Safety Enterprise Software, the CivilServe software, and all non-CivilServe software.

Motion No. 31: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 525

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 541: Authorizing The Commissioner of Finance To Accept A Bid For A Parcel Of County-Owned Real Property For Private Sale And Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Convey Such Parcel - Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Commissioner of Finance to accept a bid from the City of New York Department of Environmental Protection, in the amount of \$1,400, for a parcel of county owned real estate located in Wawarsing, New York.

Motion No. 32: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 541

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 542: Accepting The Accounting Of Unpaid School Taxes For The 2023-2024 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 unpaid school taxes from the 2023-2024 school year to be paid by the Ulster County Commissioner of Finance to those officers charged by law with the custody of school district monies and to be re-levied via the 2024 General Tax on real property.

Motion No. 33: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 542
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: Legislator Ronk noted that this must be done under state law, however asked if the county just has to front the bill, while there is no tax sale, noting that it is a significant amount of money.

Budget Director Juras stated that until a sale can be done, the county will have to bear the cost.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED

Resolution No. 543: Authorizing The Ulster County Commissioner Of Finance To Accept Redemption Offers Relative To Payment Of Real Property Taxes In The 2021 In Rem Foreclosure Proceeding – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Ulster County Commissioner of Finance to accept redemption offers relative to payment of Real Property Taxes in the 2021 In Rem Foreclosure Proceeding.

Motion No. 34: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 543
Motion By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: Legislator Ronk questioned if we are still foreclosing on properties, even when we cannot have a tax sale and if people would be kicked out of their homes for them to sit vacant.

Budget Director Juras stated that real property tax law will continue to be reinforced, which includes foreclosing on properties.

Legislator Cahill asked if there was a plan other than evict people out of their homes for not paying their taxes and questioned if there was a compassionate alternative around the legal obligations.

Legislator Heppner agreed with Legislator Cahill that it felt counter production and morally wrong to evict individuals when the property will just sit vacant until a future tax sale.

Legislator Uchitelle requested a memo be prepared from either the Department of Finance or the County Attorney's Office to fully explain the issue and plan.

Legislator Ronk agreed with Legislator Uchitelle but suggested a presentation, so legislators have the opportunity to ask questions.

Deputy County Executive LaValle agreed to the request and noted that this uncertainty is across all municipalities and the timeframe to go from foreclosure to auction is a tight timeframe, which is intentional, to limit the length of time where the county is the owner of the properties.

Legislator Maloney suggested going forward with the tax sale and putting all proceeds into an account to await guidance on what to do with the funds. Commissioner Daw agreed to look into this and stated other counties have suggested doing the same.

Legislator Chair Bartels noted that the extinguishing of the liens will become wildly complicated.

Discussion ensued on what to do while the process is in limbo.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 544: Authorizing The Conveyance Of County-Owned Property To The Original Owner – Department Of Finance

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the conveyance of two county-owned properties to the original owners in the amount of \$19,572.47.

Motion No. 35: **MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 544**
Motion By: Legislator Cahill
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Criswell

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution ADOPTED**

Resolution No. 550: Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Payment In Lieu Of Taxes Agreement With Professional Commercial Group, LLC For Solar Energy Systems Pursuant To Real Property Tax Law Section 487

Resolution Summary: This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a Payment In Lieu of Taxes (PILOT) agreement with Professional Commercial Group, LLC for solar energy systems.

Motion No. 36: MOTION TO APPROVE Resolution No. 550, AS PRESENTED

Motion By: Legislator Ronk

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Cahill

Discussion: Legislator Maloney noted that the Comptroller just issued a report on solar PILOTs.

Commissioner Daw stated that the Finance Department intended on setting rates going forward for all, that are equitable and fair but informed the committee that NYSERDA is still working on a calculator.

Deputy Comptroller Gallagher stated that this PILOT was not part of the audit but was reviewed and that it is in line with the NYSERDA calculation.

Legislator Criswell stated that this is a payment for properties that don't necessarily need to pay and money that the county wouldn't otherwise be getting, and PILOT has a negative connotation to it.

Legislator Ronk noted that a Town could potentially negotiate a better deal for themselves than a calculator.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Cahill, Criswell, Gavaris, Roberts, & Ronk

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution ADOPTED AS PRESENTED

Forthcoming Resolutions / Local Laws:

Resolution No. 486 of 2022 - Adopting The Ulster County Information Services/ Information Technology Security Policy – Department Of Information Services
(Postponed one month at Special Ways & Means Committee on 8/29/2023)

Resolution No. 127 – Establishing A Policy To Prioritize Meals For Ulster County Residents Living In Emergency Housing
(No Action in Health, Human Services, & Housing Committee on 9/6/2023)

Resolution No. 423 – Establishing A Policy To Reform Social Services – Temporary Assistance – Housing
(No Action in Health, Human Services, & Housing Committee on 9/6/2023)

Resolution No. 479 – Authorizing The Ulster County Executive To Execute A Contract With The New York State Empire State Development Corporation For State Funding For The Implementation Of Restore New York Communities Initiative Grants, Amending The 2023 Ulster County Budget – Department Of Economic Development

(No Action in Economic Development, Planning, Education, Employment, Arts & Agriculture Committee on 9/5/2023)

Resolution No. 486 – Approving An Additional Appropriation For The 2023-2024 Ulster County Community College Budget To Offset Tuition Increase – SUNY Ulster
(Postponed in Economic Development, Planning, Education, Employment, Arts & Agriculture Committee on 9/5/2023)

Resolution No. 552 – Establishing A Policy To Replace Conventional Toilets With Composting Toilets At County Facilities
(Postponed in Energy, Environment, & Sustainability Committee on 9/7/2023)

Deputy Comptroller DeMarco provided a sales tax update, stating that sales tax is up 3% for the year and when comparing to last year it is important to note that the gas tax holiday was in place.

Deputy Comptroller DeMarco added that the solar audit was released, a real property tax audit will be released soon, and the department is working on an audit on the county's self-insurance fund. The Q2 2023 report will be available shortly but has been awaiting the final financial transactions to be posted for the period. Finally, the Comptroller's Office released a public pay dashboard of the county's employees.

Chairman Gavaris asked if there was any old or new business.

Legislator Maloney questioned the status of the Space Study and Deputy County Executive LaValle explained that the space study is in a pre-draft form which consists of only preliminary sections of the report filled in and other sections are completely blank. Dissatisfaction was expressed by the lack of timely deliverables from the company.

Legislator Maloney questioned the potential Department of Social Services write off. Legislative Chair Bartels expressed frustration with the previous external auditors and noted that the current auditors flagged the potential issue and explained that a definitive number is not yet available. Legislator Maloney suggested requesting the work papers of the previous auditors and Legislative Chair Bartels confirmed that step has already been taken. Legislative Chair Bartels explained that the county is also waiting on the audit of the Ulster County Soil & Water component unit to be completed. Legislator Maloney questioned the reconciliation process and who the last person to successfully complete the tie out was. Commissioner Daw expressed reservations that an official reconciliation was ever consistently completed. Legislator Maloney confirmed with Director Juras that in a former county career he completed this reconciliation. Director Juras noted that this function is typically a Department of Social Services responsibility and it had only fallen to then Deputy Budget Director Juras because of his previous experience.

Legislative Chair Bartels detailed some issues regarding the former independent auditors.

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Ronk
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

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

TIME: 6:50 PM

Respectfully submitted: Natalie Kelder
Minutes Approved: October 10, 2023