

**Ways &  
Means Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** November 9, 2021 – 5:00  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing: 1-646-558-8656,  
Meeting ID: 893 3523 2941  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** John Gavaris, Chairman  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Lynn Archer, Tracey Bartels, Heidi Haynes,  
Mary Beth Maio, John Parete, and Eve Walter  
**ABSENT:** Legislator Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislator Laura Petit; Clerk of the Legislature, Victoria  
Fabella; Minority Counsel Nicholas Pascale; Deputy  
County Executives Marc Rider, and John Milgrim;  
Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick; Comptroller March  
Gallagher; Sheriff Juan Figueroa; Joe Maloney; David  
Mcnamara, Samadhi; Tom Kadgen, League of Women  
Voters; Kathy Nolan

- **Chairman Gavaris called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM**

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**Deputy County Executive Marc Rider** spoke from 5:02 PM to 5:05 PM on the 2022 County Executive Recommended Budget for the County Executive Department, explaining the changes to the Confidential Secretary to the County Executive position.

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**Motion No. 1: To approve the Minutes of the October 12, 2021 and October 19, 2021 Regular Meetings, and the October 27, 2021 Special Joint Meeting with Public Works and Capital Projects**

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 2: To approve Resolution No. 496 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$112,500.39 Entered Into By The County – Samadhi Center, Inc. – Department Of Health, as Amended**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with SAMADHI, Inc. from August 1, 2021 through July 31, 2022 for the Recovery Outreach Program to increase hours of operation to include twenty-four hour, seven day a week peer services for Ulster County Residents struggling with Opioid Use Disorder in the amount of \$112,500.39.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walter

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** Legislator Walter described how the amendments before the Committee affect the contract and are intended to positively impact the community by allowing 24-hour tele-health and mobile-health visits, thus alleviating some of the pressure on the Kingston facility while not taking away from the valuable services offered. Further, Legislator Walter explained that Samadhi Center, Inc. is looking for a new location and intends to relocate, that they have hired a security guard, and that they are working on separating their services from other un-related services offered by the Church they're currently located within. Legislator Haynes expressed concern that time is required to prove if any of these changes are beneficial, emphasizing that Samadhi hasn't been able to litigate these issues at this location. Further discussion pursued on how tele-health and mobile-health visits are expected to alter the Community's needs and the pressure on the Organization's physical location, the need for the services provided, and the funding available to cover contract costs.

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

**Voting Against:** Legislator Haynes, and Parete

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 5

**No. of Votes Against:** 2

**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 3: To discuss Resolution No. 505 – Rescinding Resolution No. 333 Of 2021, And Establishing Special Revenue Projects For Transparent Reporting – Amending The 2021 Capital Fund Budget**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution Rescinds Resolution No. 333 of 2021, reestablishes the proposed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects as "Special Revenue Projects", requires that these projects be established in the Miscellaneous Special Revenue Fund, and requires that all ARPA-related reports and journal entries be submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature.

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

**Discussion:** Legislator Bartels requested a one-week postponement, explaining that Legislative financial staff and the Commissioner of Finance are currently working together to discuss the implications and intricacies of implementing the Resolution.

**Motion No. 4: To postpone Resolution No. 505** – Rescinding Resolution No. 333 Of 2021, And Establishing Special Revenue Projects For Transparent Reporting – Amending The 2021 Capital Fund Budget

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution Rescinds Resolution No. 333 of 2021, reestablishes the proposed American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) projects as “Special Revenue Projects”, requires that these projects be established in the Miscellaneous Special Revenue Fund, and requires that all ARPA-related reports and journal entries be submitted to the Clerk of the Legislature.

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

**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

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**Motion No. 5: To approve Resolution No. 509** - Confirming The Reappointment Of Dawn Spader As Personnel Director

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution confirms the reappointment of Dawn Spader to the position of Personnel Director for the County of Ulster for a term which expires on October 14, 2027.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Haynes  
**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 6: To approve Resolution No. 510** - Amending The 2021 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 2021 operating budget to reflect an increased funding in the amount of \$107,462.00 from the New York State Office of Victim Services (OVS) for continued funding under the Victim and Witness Assistant Grant Program.

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 7: To approve Resolution No. 511** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$76,203.96 Entered Into By The County – West Publishing Corporation, Thomson Reuters – Department Of Social Services

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with West Publishing Corporation from December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2024 for CLEAR online database in the amount of \$76,203.96.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bartels

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 8: To approve Resolution No. 512** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$150,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Abbott House – Department Of Social Services

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Abbott House from September 15, 2021 through June 30, 2022 in the amount of \$150,000.00 for Foster Care Services.

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

**Discussion:** Legislator Bartels confirmed that this is a different provider than was most recently used.

**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

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**Motion No. 9: To approve Resolution No. 513 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$1,111,045.00 Entered Into By The County – Health Research, Inc. – Department Of Health**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Health Research, Inc. from July 1, 2021 through June 30, 2022 for revenue in the amount of \$1,111,045.00 for the Emergency Preparedness Program.

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 10: To approve Resolution No. 515 - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York Energy Research And Development Authority (NYSERDA) For Acceptance Of A Clean Energy Communities Leadership Round Action Grant**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to sign an agreement with New York State Energy Research and Development Authority, and any amendments thereto, for use of the awarded Clean Energy Communities grant funding, and authorizes the Director of Environment to submit an online application with the New York State

Energy Research and Development Authority for the use of the awarded Clean Energy Communities grant funding.

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 11: To approve Resolution No. 516 -** Establishing Capital Project No. 611 – Development Court Lighting Retrofit — Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution establishes Capital Project No. 611 – Development Court Lighting Retrofit in the amount of \$55,000.00 for use of an outside contractor to design the retrofit of approximately 1,300 lighting fixtures at development court to LED lamps utilizing energy efficient rebates when available.

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 12: To approve Resolution No. 518 -** Amending Capital Project No. 548, Department Of Social Services Basement Restoration – Amending The 2021 Capital Fund Budget – Department Of Public Works (Buildings & Grounds)

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 548, Department Of Social Services Basement Restoration in the amount of \$19,560.00 to enter into a contract amendment to design a hydrostatic relief system to help address the water infiltration with the potential to decrease total project costs.

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 13: To approve Resolution No. 520 -** Amending Capital Project No. 540 – For The Samsonville Road Culvert In The Town Of Rochester (PIN 8762.35) – Bridge NY Program – Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute Agreements, Certifications Or Reimbursement Requests For Federal Aid On Behalf Of Ulster County With The New York State Department Of Transportation– Department Of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Project, grants NYSDOT permission to directly apply Bridge NY funds to reimburse costs incurred by NYSDOT on the Project, appropriates the sum of \$743,847.00 from serial bond funding and makes available a deposit to cover the cost of participation in the above phases of the Project, and requires the Legislature convene as soon as possible to appropriate any exceed costs above the amount of Bridge NY funding appropriated if incurred.

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 14: To approve Resolution No. 522 -** Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$58,128.00 Entered Into By The County – SAFECO Alarm Systems, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with SAFECO Alarm Systems, Inc. from July 1, 2021 through August 26, 2024 to expand the scope of work to include maintenance and monitoring fees for the Public Safety Training Center and increase the not-to-exceed amount for an additional \$58,128.00, making the contract total \$278,128.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walter

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

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**Motion No. 15: To approve Resolution No. 523 -** Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$123,708.00 Entered Into By The County – Johnson Controls, Inc. – Department Of Public Works

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Johnson Controls, Inc. from December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2024 for preventative maintenance and repair services, including repairs necessitated by equipment failures, for one 220 ton York centrifugal chiller at the Ulster County Office Building, and two 300 ton York centrifugal chillers at the Law Enforcement Center in the amount of \$123,708.00.

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

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**Motion No. 16: To approve Resolution No. 524 -** Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$111,435.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock, Inc. – Youth Bureau

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Family of Woodstock, Inc. from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for Family House Emergency residential and related respite services to runaway and homeless youth in the amount of \$111,435.00.

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 17: To approve Resolution No. 525 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$69,557.00 Entered Into By The County – Family Of Woodstock, Inc. – Youth Bureau**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Family of Woodstock, Inc from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021 for Transitional Living Program that provides long term adolescent residential, transitional living, and non-residential case management for runaway and homeless youth in the amount of \$69,557.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walter  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maio

**Discussion:** Legislator Walter said it will be helpful to know how many kids Family of Woodstock is currently and has historically served under this program to see how need has been affected by the COVID-19 pandemic. Deputy County Executive Marc Rider assured Committee members this information will be included in the annual report.

**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

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**Motion No. 18: To approve Resolution No. 527 - Amending Capital Project No. 482 – Countywide Radio System - Department Of Emergency Communications / Emergency Management**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution amends Capital Project No. 482 – Countywide Radio System for components of the radio system buildout including: base stations, antennas, cabling and racking, as well as Dispatch Consoles and new 911 phone system in the amount of \$3,150,000.00.

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 19: To approve Resolution No. 529 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract For \$67,942.92 Entered Into By The County – Motorola Solutions, Inc. – Department Of Emergency Management**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract with Motorola Solutions, Inc. from December 1, 2021 through November 30, 2022 for repair and maintenance of fire and EMS radio systems in the amount of \$67,942.92.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walter  
**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 20: To approve Resolution No. 530 - Approving Ulster County’s 2022 STOP DWI Program Plan And Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute All Inter-Municipal Agreements Required Under The Plan – Department Of Probation, STOP-DWI Division**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an inter-municipal agreement, and any amendments thereto, as may be required to carry out the approved STOP-DWI Program in the amount of \$242,000.00.

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

**Discussion:** None

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

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**Motion No. 21: To approve Resolution No. 531 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$276,243.00 Entered Into By The County – Legal Services Of The Hudson Valley – Department Of Probation**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley to extend the term of agreement and increase funding for holistic legal services for crime victims referred by the Department of Probation Crime Victim Assistance Program or through the New York Crime Victim Legal Network from September 30, 2021 through September 30, 2022 for an additional \$276,243.00, making the contract total \$1,071,412.00.

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 22: To approve Resolution No. 532 - Appropriating Funds From Insurance Revenues For Replacement Of Vehicle – Amending The 2021 Ulster County Budget - Ulster County Sheriff**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Legal Services of the Hudson Valley from September 30, 2021 through September 30, 2022 to extend the term of agreement and increase funding for holistic legal services for crime victims referred by the Department of Probation Crime Victims Assistance Program or through the New York Crime Victims Legal Network for an additional \$276,243.00, making the contract total \$1,071,412.00.

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 23: To approve Resolution No. 533 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment For \$31,680.00, Causing The Aggregate Contract Plus Amendment Amount To Be In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Anderson Medical, PC D/B/A Emergency One Urgent Care & Diagnostic Center – Ulster County Sheriff**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution approves the execution of a contract amendment with Anderson Medical, PC d/b/a Emergency One Urgent Care & Diagnostic Center from October 21, 2021 through December 31, 2022 to increase funding for testing employees for COVID-19 for an additional \$31,680.00, making the contract total \$63,360.00.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walter

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Haynes

**Discussion:** None

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

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Approved

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**Motion No. 24: To approve Resolution No. 534 - Authorizing The Ulster County Commissioner Of Finance To Refund The Purchase Price On A Parcel Of Property Previously Sold At Public Auction**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Commissioner of Finance to refund payment as set forth therein upon receipt of said conveyance back to the County, and authorizes the Chair of the Legislature and the Commissioner of Finance to take such measures as required by law to refund the purchase price and deed recording fee for this parcel.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Bartels

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 25: To approve Resolution No. 535 - Authorizing The Conveyance Of County-Owned Property To The Original Owner – Department Of Finance**

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

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

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 26: To approve Resolution No. 536 - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement For The Sharing Of Information Relating To Short-Term Rental Properties With The Town Of New Paltz – Department Of Finance**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to execute an intermunicipal agreement for the sharing of inventory information pertaining to all properties within the Town that have been identified as advertising short term rentals, and any related amendments, with the Town of New Paltz.

**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:** Approved

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**Motion No. 27: To approve Resolution No. 537 - Authorizing The Chair Of The Ulster County Legislature To Convey Parcels Of County-Owned Property Acquired Pursuant To Article 11 Of The Real Property Tax Law For Unpaid Taxes To The Town Of New Paltz For Public Use And Benefit – Department Of Finance**

**Resolution Summary:** This Resolution finds and determines that the property described herein and which is intended to be conveyed herein is appropriate for conveyance to the Town of New Paltz for municipal purposes, authorizes the Commissioner of Finance to accept payment in the amounts set forth therein, and authorizes the Chair of the Legislature to make, execute, and deliver to said party a Quitclaim Deed conveying the interest of the County in said Parcel.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Walter

**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Bartels

**Discussion:** Legislator Walter explained that this Resolution covers two land-locked parcels on wetland that the Town is taking over with the intention of creating open-space.

**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

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**New Business:**

**Comptroller Gallagher** updated Committee members on current litigation between the Office of the Comptroller and the UCRRA, and informing Committee members that the Office does not feel the Sales Tax prediction for the 2022 County Executive Recommended Budget is excessive considering growth factors and this year's predicted ending value. Further, Comptroller Gallagher informed Committee members that they are waiting to get materials back for an audit on investment compliance and a draft of an 18-B audit has been provided to the County Executive office for review. Legislator Bartels asked if there is a way to provide the Legislature with what information the Office is still missing from the UCRRA, and confirmed that information received by the Legislature has been shared. Comptroller Gallagher agreed to provide the Legislature with a note describing the information requested and outstanding.

Deputy County Executive John Milgrim notified Committee members that a contract negotiation has been reached with the Ulster County Sheriff Employees Association and a late Resolution will be presented with a correlating budget amendment.

Deputy County Executive Marc Rider informed Committee members that another late Resolution has been submitted for a contractual agreement for steel for the Radio Tower site in Saugerties.

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**Old Business:** None

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

## **Adjournment**

<b>Motion Made By:</b>	Legislator Bartels
<b>Motion Seconded By:</b>	Legislator Walter
<b>No. of Votes in Favor:</b>	9
<b>No. of Votes Against:</b>	0

<b>Time:</b>	5:43 PM
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<b>Respectfully submitted:</b>	Amber Feaster
<b>Minutes Approved:</b>	December 7, 2021

**Ways &  
Means Committee  
Regular Meeting Transcript**

**DATE & TIME:** November 9, 2021 – 5:00  
**LOCATION:** Powered by Zoom Meeting by Dialing: 1-646-558-8656, Meeting ID: 893 3523 2941  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** John Gavaris, Chairman  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Natalie Kelder, Amber Feaster  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Lynn Archer, Tracey Bartels, Heidi Haynes, Mary Beth Maio, John Parete, and Eve Walter  
**ABSENT:** Legislator Kenneth J. Ronk, Jr.  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislator Laura Petit; Clerk of the Legislature, Victoria Fabella; Minority Counsel Nicholas Pascale; Deputy County Executives Marc Rider, and John Milgrim; Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick; Comptroller March Gallagher; Sheriff Juan Figueroa; Joe Maloney; David Mcnamara, Samadhi; Tom Kadgen, League of Women Voters; Kathy Nolan

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**Chairman Gavaris:** Thank you. For those who are not on mute, if you could just mute yourself unless you're going to speak. Call the Ways & Means Meeting to order for November 9th.

We have the Exec Budget.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** Sorry, let me just pull up the document. Chairman Gavaris, Legislators, thank you for having us on to present the Executive Budget. Um, there really is not a lot of changes in this year's County Executive Budget. Last year in 2021, we had only budgeted a Confidential Secretary for nine months, we hired the individual in March. And so you'll see, you know, the difference between a 9-month position and a 12-month position in that Confidential Secretary salary. Other than that, no other personnel changes except for the 3% management increase, which was given across the board to all management positions. And there was no other changes to any other sections. Happy to answer questions.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Anybody have any questions?

Legislator Archer.



**Legislator Archer:** Thanks. Marc help me with this, I thought we weren't filling that when we made some of the other changes. So I guess I was a little surprised that we filled that position. Was it, was it in last year's budget? No, I didn't think it was, was it?

**Deputy Executive Rider:** Yeah, it was in the '21 budget. It was just budgeted for nine months. We, we delayed it till March and then I actually I don't think we hired it until May. But there was never a discussion around not hiring that position, for other ones.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Anybody else? All right.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** Overall, the budget is up \$20,000 in expenditures. But again, that, that has to do with the 9 month to 12 month and the 3%.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Thank you. All right. Can I get a motion to approve all the minutes for October 12th, October 19<sup>th</sup>, and the 27th Special Meeting. Legislator Haynes. Second? Walter. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

Resolution 496: Approving the execution of a contract with Samadhi Center. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Bartels. Discussion? Legislator Walter.

**Legislator Walter:** Thank you. So um, this approved unanimously through Public Health with a promise of amendments, of amendment to this resolution that are in your packet, the amendments not to the language of the resolution, but the backup, which is the contract.

To summarize it, there are two issues.

There's this situation of what's going on in this particular location. And then the services that Samadhi provides. And what I heard from any legislator who I heard from, was that they were very supportive of the services Samadhi provided, they just had concerns about what was happening in this specific location. Samadhi has already started some changes into that location including, a part-time person watching over it but also they're working actively to move their location. But that takes a little bit of time. And in the meantime, the need for their services is only expanding.

Very quickly, also say that during COVID, for those of you who were not part of those conversations, their numbers went from 50 to 200, pretty quickly. They only operate during regular hours at this point. So they have a, a helpline that gets calls all days, nights, weekend, but they can't, they can't provide the services. So what we, but the proposal is, is to separate what they do from where they are. And so the language in Schedule A that you'll see now specifies that it's 24 hour programming, but not the location. The location will stay in its hours, it will not expand its hours at all. They will do their expanded programming in two ways. One is through telehealth, telephone calls, peer outreach that way and for

individuals who are homeless or not, do not have that accessibility. They have a mobile van that goes out into the community and reaches out to those people that way. So again, not only will this not be an expansion of the time, at the location at all, but my prediction is be, their capacity to respond to people in telehealth and mobile health and off hours will actually reduce the pressure during the day at their location, and it will make it easier for them to implement their changes and make their shift to move. So again, I'm proposing this resolution with the amendment as seen in the backup and Schedule A. And if there's any questions, I'm happy to answer.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Question? Legislator Archer.

**Legislator Archer:** Maybe you can help with this Legislator Walter? How are we addressing the concerns in the community, I know that they're adding some extra security, I know that there's some lockdowns where it used to be an open-door policy. But again, we had, we had a really large response from the community about this. And the appeal was pretty, pretty impactful. And I don't want to ignore that. So I want to know how we're going to address the concerns of the people in the community.

**Legislator Walter:** Absolutely. Um, so I mean, there's a couple of different answers. One of the things that I think, there's the what are we specifically saying to the community versus how are we processing what the community said, in terms of their concerns, the reality is, you know, there were three things that collided at the same time. COVID increased the demand on Samadhi, the refrigerator got moved right outside, and the church allowed homeless populations to sleep in this back area. And so the, a lot happened to that neighborhood. And, and a piece of it was associated specifically to Samadhi and a piece of it, two pieces of it, we're not even associated with Samadhi directly. So, you know, Samadhi doesn't have the capacity to decide to move the refrigerator or to tell the church what to do. For their sake, they, you know, they have that security guard, and they're actively working on a move. I think that, you know, that that move could be made public, that they are working on moving their location, that they are working on, trying to deliver their services more through telehealth and mobile health, to alleviate the pressure on that location. And then at the same time, I think it's another conversation about, you know, I mean, whether it's good or bad to put other services, like a homeless shelter or refrigerator, you know, putting them all together, then creates this feel of, of an intense pressure in one neighborhood. And, and on one hand, that might be where all the people are that need the care. But on the other hand, you know, we have to respect that someone who lives across the street from it, it's going to feel very uncomfortable. So I think on Samadhi's part, they're gonna, they're working to move to a different spot. And you know, this will be challenging for them, they'll have to transport people, because people who normally walk there might not have an easier time, but they're willing to take that on. I think that the message I would say to anyone is, they've heard that, they are concerned, they don't want anyone to feel unsafe. And they are taking some very, you know, very direct actions that way. And that any expansion to their programming is in telehealth and mobile health so that the people who need the care are getting it and not having to come to that block to get it. I mean, that's the biggest thing is they won't have to come to that block, necessarily to get those services. Which, you know, if you look at the

numbers, we are not, we're going, you know, we're not like easing off on our addictions. So it's really important.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Legislator Haynes and then Deputy Executive Rider.

**Legislator Haynes:** Yes, thank you. So I struggle to grasp the concept that, they're providing services in a neighborhood that clearly needs services, but yet have failed to mitigate some of the issues in that current location when the need is really high. And I, I appreciate the fact that he's, you know, that, that Samadhi is willing to make these, these type of changes, but the issue is, it takes time to see if these changes actually prove beneficial. And you know, we're here tonight to vote on a significant amount of funding. And I don't have the luxury of time being that I'm on my way out as a legislator. I, I believe that the people in that area, clearly there's a need and the fact that he wasn't able to, Samadhi wasn't able to, to mitigate these issues in their current location is concerning for me. And I don't know that moving this to another location. You know, people are seeking services and, and part of that is that, you know, Mr. McNamara or the people at Samadhi need to, you know, manage this issue, moving it to a different location. I don't know that that's going to help the situation. And again, the only thing that's gonna prove that is time.

**Legislator Walter:** May I just respond to that before you move to Marc?

**Chairman Gavaris:** Yeah. Go ahead.

**Legislator Walter:** Yeah, yeah. I mean, it's, it's true in that spot. Exactly what you're saying Legislator Haynes. I'm, I think it, it was a challenge we, with COVID, their numbers, quadrupled. And, and it's it takes it definitely, ideally, in retrospect, that their response occurred weeks, months ago, but sometimes when you're, you're just trying to keep your head above water, it's hard to see the whole sea, so to speak. Um, I think that what I really think people should take into deep consideration is the fact that while it might seem, it might seem contrary, actually expanding their, 24 services will take pressure off of that space, it will allow them to provide care to people who won't have to come there. So that they can, so that we have the time to see whether the things they put into place are working, it also gives them the time to make their move. If it turns out that they can't fix or don't fix the situation they're in now, then we have future opportunities to respond. I mean, they are associated with Oracle and, and they're associated with Heal. And so if we find that they're not fixing this problem, then we have an opportunity later to withdraw money and support from them. And so I think, though, at this point, while it might seem like expanding their services, is the, is more pressured, actually is relieving some of the pressure because they can provide that care in, after hours, on weekends, and it puts less on them. And again, I just want to say one more time COVID made our numbers and their numbers, our numbers of, of overdoses, but their numbers of people in need quadruple, and, and it'd be, and a lot of programs stop providing services, and they were the only ones. And we're fortunate that they were there. I agree, I wish things got fixed sooner so we could see them, their impact now, but you know, we are where we are.

**Chairman Gavaris:** All right, Legislator Haynes you go ahead and respond and then I'll let Deputy Executive Rider.

Go ahead Legislator Haynes.

**Legislator Haynes:** Yeah, I have the muting issue. Sorry. Again, I'm just, I'm a little bit confused. So bear with me here. You're saying though, that the people that were visiting the location, were not necessarily there for help through Samadhi, but rather the church or the, the refrigerator? That to me, I think they were there for help in general, how did they get through to? I'm a little bit confused. Could somebody please clarify to me, you had a refrigerator that the, community refrigerator was there, but yet the issues that were, were happening? Are they not still responsible for maintaining the integrity of the location of the program? If somebody could speak to that, I'd appreciate it.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** Yeah.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Deputy Executive Rider.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** Do you mind if I just speak

**Chairman Gavaris:** Go right ahead.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** on that, John?

**Chairman Gavaris:** Yeah.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** I mean, yes, they are responsible for what is in their, their facility. Now, these other activities, the blue fridge, which people come to get food, and often congregate. And, and the church allowing people to sleep in the backyard of the church. Samadhi is, is a tenant of the church and and this church has been in this neighborhood doing these activities for a long time and not always have, have they caused the neighborhood, the grief that they're causing them now, but it isn't all on, on Samadhi not all the people that were doing the horrible acts that I'm not going to repeat here because I think we've all heard them through public comment of the city and, and Ulster County. Nobody is, is saying that those things are okay and that if Samadhi is to blame for them that they shouldn't be held accountable to fix that. We believe that they are fixing it. I will say that had Samadhi not been operating there during the pandemic, we would have lost more lives. I think we can say that, through data. I think there would be people who would not be alive today, if not for Samadhi and I know nobody is questioning Samadhi's efforts, it's just around the neighborhood. They're taking the actions that have been requested. And and they're moving forward. The reason we don't have a lot of luxury of time, is that this is a grant that, that is through NACCHO. So it is a little bit more stringent with the, with

NACCHO and the CDC, as far as it's not just our Healing Communities Grant where we have our own task force. So it would take time to, to switch up the work plan, and it ends basically, this summer. So if we delay too much to find out if, what Samadhi has done has actually fixed the issue, we're just gonna lose the ability to spend all the funds. And I think you can look at the numbers. And it, it proves out that these services are needed. And as Legislator Walters said, them being able to do these services over the phone or in a mobile way, 24/7, I think will continue to help save people and will cause them to not necessarily come to the building, other times or even at night. So I do think expanding their services really will actually help the neighborhood as long as they're not expanding the hours of the outreach center. And, and I do think moving it to a location that's not square in the middle of a residential area is going to help. We will work and, and get people transportation, etc. So that they they, you know, it's not ideal to move them towards a, a different end of town than where they're really needed. But getting them out of a residential area is important. And I think they agree that they're looking for another location.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Any other comments?

**Legislator Parete:** Yeah I,

**Chairman Gavaris:** Go ahead, Legislator Parete.

**Legislator Parete:** You know, I find it rather revealing that whatever the problems we've been talking about, weren't addressed by Samadhi months and months ago. I mean, everything I just heard now from, from the Deputy Executive is that we hope they fix it, but we don't know. I mean, they have a, they have a history. Yes. Maybe of helping some and maybe contributing to a continued delinquency, but, I mean, why wasn't these things addressed six months ago?

**Legislator Parete:** Legislator Walter.

**Legislator Walter:** I think it's a good question. I think if we could go back six months, and we knew what we knew, they probably would have started it. I don't think we can, we can't go back. And so while it is a very good question, we have to think what's the best thing going forward? And, again, they have implemented changes on that site, they're working on a new location. That's how we're going forward. The question on the table right now is, should we or shouldn't we expand their programming to 24 hours, not their site. And so that's what I'm hoping, we can separate that out and really focus on that and recognize that by not supporting this resolution, we're denying people services, who need these services. And if and that's where the decision is, without, it won't change. A yes to this resolution won't make it necessary. It won't make it worse at the location. It might not change anything, or it might make it better, but it's not going to make their current situation at their location worse, and they're working on making their current situation at their location better. A yes on this is to provide programming to more people. But it is separate from that location. So please, I urge people to think about this, just like we have the situation of having trouble supporting when Westchester Health Alliance gets funding to do

programming, we might not want to give it to Westchester Health Alliance, because we're very mad at what they did with the mental health beds. But if we say no, we're also denying programming to people who need it. And so, and in, and in this case, I actually truly believe that this will also help their location. But it, even if it doesn't change that, that's on them, and they have to prove it to us. I really we have to leave it to them to prove it to us. But a yes doesn't change it one way or another. I don't think.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Deputy Executive Rider.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** If I could just add, I forgot one other point and it goes off and Leg, Legislator Walter said last time is that we have future opportunities with future funding. We actually have opportunities for this funding. There's nothing that says, you know, if, if you all approved this, this month, and, and we see in December, January, February, things aren't getting better. We can turn, you, there's termination clauses, and they are in every contract and why it wouldn't be what I would want to do. You know, I think it's something we can look at if, if things don't change.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Thank you. And I'll just say that, you know, Legislator Walter, that was a good analogy of using Health Alliance, because that's, that's right. I mean, this is an expense that, you know, a service that we need to offer, it's good for our residents. And this is the, the we'll call this the carrot. And if this doesn't work, and things don't get better, to stick, I mean there's many more funding opportunities in the future that they just won't be qualified for, if this doesn't go well, and I think I think they're getting that message. And so only with that in mind is how I'm comfortable with this. But I agree with, Legislator Haynes and Parete, I'm, I'm, you know, I hear you. So, Legislator Haynes.

**Legislator Haynes:** Thank you, I have great reservation about moving forward with appropriating these funds. Considering all the allegations that were brought forward with the issues that were occurring at that current location. I don't know that a 24-hour mobile tele, whatever is going to help people who sometimes need to come in and actually see somebody. I believe in the programs that he's been providing. I think, I agree with Legislator Walter when she says we're, we're desperately in need of these services. How do you claw back money after you've already appropriated it? Because if I do vote yes, on this tonight, I will hold their feet to the fire on this, even though I'm not going to be here as a legislator, but I can re-invent myself in a different way.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Well, Legislator Haynes, I think Deputy Executive Rider said it, we do, we always have an out clause in our contracts we can, we can rescind the contract at any point, if we feel it's not going well. And then like I had just said, future opportunities. This is not the first agreement for services that we've done with Samadhi's group. There's, there's plenty of opportunity, in the future that they just won't be qualified for. So if they want to hang it all on \$112,000, you know, grant, the rest of the future with Ulster County, that's a pretty foolish thing to do. If they're not going to hear us, which I think they do hear us now and have to solve the problem. You're right. Should they have taken care of this months

ago without anybody saying anything? Absolutely. But we're, we're here now. And this is where we're at, unfortunately.

Legislator Walter.

**Legislator Walter:** Yeah, just one also point of clarity. Samadhi is not a treatment center. It's a recovery center. So a lot of, the bulk of what it does doesn't actually need that location for them to provide peer to peer support, for them to provide sort of care navigation, help people get to treatment, help people know that there's somebody there for them, that actually can be telephone and mobile, but there's they're not. So I've just because there was some confusion as to whether they were treatment center, and they are Recovery Center. So they're helping people in their process of recovery. And so it absolutely feeds very well into mobile and telehealth. I mean, I'm using telehealth is telephone, peer to peer support, care navigation, kind of thing. And, and it's, it's really well suited for that kind of, and in fact, they can reach more people in the county that way, then they can in their location, because, you know, are the people addicted don't just live in Midtown Kingston. They live all over this county and this will actually allow them to really provide services to more people.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Legislator Parete and then Bartels.

**Legislator Parete:** You know, the, the discussions and the comments we're hearing now will be exactly the same comments you're going to hear in four or five or two or three months. Should there be continued difficulty with the program. Very difficult to terminate something. When, as the Deputy Executive said, a lot of lives have been saved. I hope that's true. I don't know how you absolutely justify that sometimes. Some of their programs, I think border on maybe a little reckless. I mean, I can't imagine the County of Ulster funding someplace to pour alcohol, Jack Daniels down the throat of an alcoholic to keep them from driving his car or stumbling on the road. I mean, they had a problem. I haven't really heard how it's been addressed. They're going to move a little bit, they're going to do some things different. I guess there are a lot of good programs, but sadly, sadly, we have an epidemic on our hands. And all I hear about is rehabilitation. Nothing about prevention.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Legislator Bartels.

**Legislator Bartels:** Thank you. First of all, I want to thank Legislator Walter for the proposed amendment in the contract. I think it's, it's a, it's a really proactive and inventive way at, at addressing the concerns and I also want to say I was unable to attend the Public Health meeting. But I, I did ask the Clerk for a link to the video and I, I watched the meeting. And I also want to say that I appreciate Mr. McNamara's explanation, acknowledgement of the concerns and his explanation of, of what has already been undertaken to address it. Because we're, we're speaking about it here. As if, as if nothing's been done, or, or a modest amount been done. And yet, Mr. McNamara expense explained extensive changes that were undertaken. And I just want to say that I appreciate those as well.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Legislator Walter.

**Legislator Walter:** Yes, just for the record, Samadhi does not provide drugs to people. So the analogy of the alcohol is not an appropriate analogy. And the count of, of lives saved can be in their capacity to identify when people are overdosing and getting them to the hospital. So it, it is there and it's documented and anyone who's interested in understanding more about our opioid problem, and the programs that are serving it and what they're doing because we're doing a lot in this county, I encourage you to attend to a, a Heal meeting. And then you'll really understand all of the different programs that are providing services and, and really working very, very hard to battle this epidemic.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Any other discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Two, opposed. Okay, motion carried. Thank you.

Resolution 505: Rescinding Resolution 333 of '21, Establishing Special Revenue Projects for Transparent Reporting. Legislator Bartels, motion.

**Legislator Bartels:** Move for discussion.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Second, Legislator Walter. Discussion, Legislator Bartels.

**Legislator Bartels:** Thank you. Um, I want to thank the committee for their patience on this and ask, ask for a month, I mean a month, postponement for one week. Our, our financial analyst Amber Feaster has been working with the Executive's Office and we are, we are making progress and working toward compromise resolution that I think everyone, I, I hope everyone will eventually feel comfortable with. So we'll be back with more information in a week.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Can I have a second for that? Legislator Archer. All those in favor?

**Group:** Aye.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Opposed? So carried.

509: Confirming the reappointment of Dawn Spader as Personnel Director. Can I have a motion? Legislator Haynes. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

Resolution 510: Amending '21 budget to accept allocations from VOCA. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.



Resolution 511: Approving the execution of a contract for \$76,203.96 for West Publishing Corp. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walt, Bartels. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

512: Approving the execution of a contract for \$150,000 for Abbott House. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Archer. Discussion? Legislator Bartels.

**Legislator Bartels:** Um, this is a question for Deputy Executive Rider. Did we confirm, is, is this a new? Is this a new provider?

**Deputy Executive Rider:** This is a provider that we haven't used for a while. I don't know that it's brand new, but we did have somebody in October that fit the need for this.

**Legislator Bartels:** Thank you very much.

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

Approving the execution, 513: Approving the execution of a contract for HRI. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

515: Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature to enter into an agreement with NYSERDA. Can I have a motion? Legislator Archer. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

516: Establishing Capital Project 611 Development Court Lighting Retrofit. Can I have a motion? Legislator Bartels. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

518: Amending Capital Project Number 548, Department of Social Services Basement Restoration. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

520: Amending Capital Project 540 for the Samsonville Road Culvert. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? Legislator Archer, do you have discussion or? No? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

522: Approving contract amendment for SAFECO Alarm Systems. Can I have motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Haynes. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

523: Approving the execution of a contract for Johnson Controls. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed. So carried.

524: Approving a contract, execution of a contract for Family of Woodstock. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Wal, Bartels. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

525: Approving the execution of a contract for Family Woodstock. Legislator Walter. Second? Can I get a second? Second, Maio. Any discussion? All those in, Legislator Walter.

**Legislator Walter:** Yeah, um, and it is sort of just occurs to me, Marc, it would be helpful to know how many kids they're serving, not because I questioned that they're doing what they're doing. I'm just wondering whether during COVID did this become a worse, worse problem? You know, just, just to understand more about the impact of the pandemic. So if it's possible to, you know, how, how many kids and how that's changed over the past couple of years? It would be really, it this might be one of those places that we didn't realize how much worse it got. Or maybe it didn't, but yeah, I would love to see those numbers.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** I'll make sure that when they do their annual report this year that specifically the numbers for these two contracts are included. They do a pretty comprehensive year over year annual report that goes to the legislature and I'll just make sure that if they haven't included these numbers in the past that they're there.

**Legislator Walter:** Thank you.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Legislator Haynes. Legislator Haynes.

Yeah, no, okay. All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

527: Amending Capital Project 482 the Countywide Radio System. Can I have a motion? Legislator Haynes. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

529: Approving the execution of a contract for Motorola. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

530: Approving Ulster County's 2022 Stop DWI program plan. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second? Legislator Archer. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

531: Approving the execution of a contract amendment for Legal Services Of the Hudson Valley. Can I have motion? Legislator Bartels. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

Resolution 532: Appropriating funds, appropriating funds from insurance revenues for replacement vehicles. Can I have a motion? Legislator Haynes. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

533: Approving the execution of a contract amendment for Emergency One. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

534: Authorizing Ulster County Commissioner of Finance to refund purchase price of parcels previously sold at auction. Can I have a motion? Legislator Bartels. Second, Haynes. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

535: Authorizing Conveyance of County-owned Property to the original owner. Can I have a motion? Legislator Bartels. Second, Walter. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

536: Authorizing the Chair of the Ulster County Legislature to execute an intermunicipal agreement with sharing of short-term rentals with new, the Town of New Paltz. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

537: Authorizing the Chair of the Legislature to convey parcels to county-owned properties acquired under Article 11 for Town of New Paltz for public use. Can I have a motion? Legislator Walter. Second, Bartels. Discussion? Legislator Walter.

You're on mute.

**Legislator Walter:** Just to answer, you had this question during the Chair's meeting

**Chairman Gavaris:** Yeah.

**Legislator Walter:** [inaudible] and so um, this is two parcels, landlocked parcels on wetlands that actually kept going through where somebody would buy the, they'd go in front of the Planning Board, be told you can't build anything on it. So the town is taking them and it's going to be open space. But it's, it's, it's landlocked wetlands that are just going to be used for open space. And there was a third parcel, but someone actually decided to take it, own it and make it open space as well.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Okay, any further discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? So carried.

Comptroller Gallagher.

**Comptroller Gallagher:** Thank you very much for giving me a minute, Chairman, Chairman Gavaris. I wanted to give you guys an update on the RRA litigation. Right now, essentially, it's on hold. They've indicated that they plan to appeal the judge's decision, which ruled that we did have audit authority, and that they intend to seek a stay of the judge's order during that time period. They have six months to file an appeal and likely another three months on top of that, if they ask for an extension, in an effort to save

money on litigation, we are going to consent to the stay during that six-month period with the expectation that they will not get an additional extension. And we are seeking guidance from other state agencies with audit and investigatory authority.

I wanted to also share with you that, you know, we've reviewed, reviewed the budget consultant's report and I wanted to mention to you that our office consensus is that we are going to make the sales tax number projected for next year this year, that we do not find that the sales tax projection number that is in the Executives Budget to be excessive at all. And that in fact, it's a straight 4% increase year over year, if we had had that last year, and then projected it again this year, for next year. The average 10-year increase is around 3%. So, you can keep that in mind that would take us to 139. But we do anticipate that we're going to make those numbers this year. And we wanted to let you know our thoughts on that. We think that that number is pretty good.

And um, I wanted to mention to you two other things, several other things on the audit side. We are waiting materials back right now for an audit on investment policy compliance. We are sitting on \$149 million in checking and the number that the budget consultants had in their report is, is not correct. That is old data. The, we have a cost of COVID report that we've put together, it'll go to the administration sometime next week. And we sent to the administration today, a draft 18-B audit that we've been working on over the past year, that was a review of over 2,000 18-B invoices. So that's just a summary of where we're at. Thanks.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Thank you. Any new business? Legislator Bartels.

**Legislator Bartels:** No. May I, may I ask the Comptroller question?

**Chairman Gavaris:** Absolutely.

**Legislator Bartels:** Thank you. Um, is much as you can answer the question, I realized that there's pending litigation, is there a way that you could provide at least the legislature what information you're still waiting on from the RRA? And, and by that, I mean, has any of the information that the legislature received been shared with the Comptroller's Office? Or? Again, I don't know, I don't know if you, I don't know if there's still other things you're looking for. But I think it would be helpful at least, I would like to know why

**Comptroller Gallagher:** I have some materials, I assume it's all of what was shared. But I actually have no way to confirm that. But more importantly, that does not provide individual scale log data. Everything was aggregated together over a one-year time period. And I have some documentation that indicates that rather than just being the proportion of sales that the individual in question, who works for the authority that was taking the majority of the compost had received 100% of the sales during certain periods? I can only confirm that with individuals scale log information, and I do not have that.

[inaudible] that I received from you guys from the Chairman of the Legislature was aggregated data over a one-year period.

**Legislator Bartels:** Is that the only information that's outstanding in your request to the RRA?

**Comptroller Gallagher:** No, there's no there are requests for policy information and some other things in there as well. I can prepare like a little note to back to you guys.

**Legislator Bartels:** That would, that would be great. Thank you. Thank you.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Deputy Executive Milgrim.

**Legislator Bartels:** I appreciate your work.

**Deputy Executive Milgrim:** Just wanted to bring to the committee's attention. I believe it'll probably be in front of you next week. There's a late resolution coming. The Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association, the union representing the corrections officers at the jail, the civil staff and some administrative staff on the jail side did ratify a contract agreement for five years, on Monday. It was an 80 - 7 vote, which was fairly overwhelming. It's fairly similar to our, the, the weight schedule is fairly similar to the CSEA contract that was recently put through the legislature. I just wanted to kind of put this on your radar for the coming days. I believe it's with the Clerk right now to, to process and the Chair has been made aware.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Thank you. Deputy Executive Rider.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** I just have one other late resolution that's going to be coming your way and the late should have gone over today, if it didn't. But the tower site that we're building out for the radio tower, thank you Vicky, for the, up in the Town of Saugerties, came back, the bid came back late last week after the deadline and with the lead time on steel, we'd really like to get this project going. So we are submitting a late for the, the contract for that. And it should be at the Clerk's office by tomorrow.

**Chairman Gavaris:** Anybody else have anything new? Any old? Can I have a motion to adjourn?  
Legislator Bartels. Second, Walter. All right, all those in favor? Opposed? So carried. Thank you, all.

**Deputy Executive Rider:** Have a good night, everyone.