

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Ways and Means Committee

DATE: June 4, 2008

TIME: 4:45 P.M.

PLACE: Library/Conference Room B
Ulster County Office Building
244 Fair Street - 6th Floor
Kingston, New York

LEGISLATORS PRESENT: Chairman A. Lomita and Legislators B. Cahill,
F. Dart, D. Gregorius, J. Provenzano, S.
Zimet(arrived 4:55 PM), S. Cummings(arrived
4:50 PM), R. Gerentine(arrived 4:50 PM) and
G. Noonan

LEGISLATORS ABSENT:

OTHERS ATTENDING: County Administrator M. Hein; Deputy County
Administrator A. Smith; Deputy County
Administrator S. Ronga; Deputy County
Administrator M. Dellay; Sr. Management
Analyst F. Fawcett; Legislator Philip Terpening;
Deputy Treasurer Adele Reiter; Deputy
Treasurer Burt Gulnick; Personnel Officer
Brenda Bartholomew

Ways and Means Committee

June 4, 2008

I) **RESOLUTIONS**

Resolution No. 168 Authorizing The County Treasurer To Accept And Reject Bids For Purchase And Refund On Parcels Of County Owned Property At The April 17, 2008 Public Auction

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Dart.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 169 Authorizing The Conveyance Of County Owned Property To Original Owner

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Cahill.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 170 Authorizing The Ulster County Treasurer To Assign It's Rights On A Parcel Of Property Previously Offered At Public Auction

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Provenzano.

Deputy Treasurer Adele Reiter explained that this parcel was a former gas station and it is County policy to NOT take title and ask Judge to convey the property directly to interested party-in this case the Village of Saugerties.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 171 Authorizing The County Treasurer To Accept Bids For Private Sale On Parcels Of County Owned Property

Motion offered by Legislator Provenzano, seconded by Legislator Dart.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 172 Authorizing A Memorandum Of Agreement Between The County Of Ulster And The Ulster County Unit Civil Service Employee's Association Incorporated For The Years 2008, 2009 And 2010

Motion offered by Legislator Gregorius, seconded by Legislator Cahill.

Legislator Provenzano - Had a problem with a 30 year veteran of a

department losing longevity according to the terms of the new proposed CSEA contract.

Legislator Cahill – Supports CSEA 100% and since they feel it was a fair contract we should approve it in its present form and not amend it.

Legislator Gerentine – We should not circumvent the union negotiations.

Legislator Provenzano – It is not fair to punish a small group of 30 year veterans whether they are managers or rank and file. Is longevity included in the figures before us?

Legislator Gregorius – We should approve The Resolution contingent upon that question being answered before next meeting.

Legislator Terpening – (speaking through the chair) It was a record breaking turnout, approved 605 to 219. There was lots of give and take. They may have made concessions that will be negotiated later.

Legislator Dart – We are still negotiating contracts. There are lots of contingencies and it is difficult to reach parity with different bargaining units.

Legislator Cahill – If we amend the contract, it will have to go to a vote again.

Legislator Gregorius – Our thanks to Legislator Terpening for bringing this contract to a successful conclusion. We will have an informational meeting at 4:00 PM next Wednesday 6/8/08 to determine if the cost of \$1,664,197 includes benefits, etc.

Legislator Gerentine – (to Legislator Provenzano) The small group you are talking about were hired well before 1994 and therefore will have no cost of health benefits when they retire. We still have three more contracts to negotiate and making changes now will have ramifications.

Motion adopted unanimously contingent upon all questions being resolved at information meeting on 6/11/08.

Resolution No. 174 Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Temporary Services – Mental Health

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Dart.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 175 Requesting Transfer Of Funds From Contingent Account For The Ulster Regional Gang Enforcement Narcotics Team (URGENT) Confidential Investigations – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Sheriff’s Office

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Cahill.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 176 – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Intensive Case Services Allocation – Social Services

Motion offered by Legislator Gregorius, seconded by Legislator Provenzano.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 177 Authorizing the Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Office Of Mental Health And The Institute For Family Health – Creating One Staff Psychiatrist Position – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Mental Health

Motion offered by Legislator Cummings, seconded by Legislator Cahill.

Legislator Lomita – This is a three year contract and needs a sunset clause added. The vote will be on the Resolution with such a clause.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 178 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Intermunicipal Agreement To Provide Public Transit Service To The New Paltz Area – Hiring Bus Drivers – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Ulster County Area Transit

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Zimet.

Legislator Lomita – This is a new service that links to the Poughkeepsie Train Station.

Legislator Noonan – Why is there no County cost listed?

Legislator Zimet – The town and village of New Paltz as well as SUNY New Paltz asked us to initiate the additional service and they agreed to pick up the County cost as their local share.

Legislator Lomita – The Resolution is contingent upon bus fares being

available and that the operation pass through a bi-monthly review by the Treasurer's Dept.

Attorney Bea Havranek – Whenever a municipality is involved, there must be an Intermunicipal Agreement.

Legislator Provenzano – How do we know that ridership will be as heavy as stated – Where did the figure of \$15,600 come from?

Legislator Lomita – Requested that County Administrator's Office get information on fares from Cynthia Ruiz.

Legislator Gerentine – What if the Treasurer's review finds the run is not worthwhile?

Attorney Bea Havranek – We will write up the parameters in the Intermunicipal Agreement.

Motion was adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 179 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The Department Of State For 2008 Shared Municipal Services Incentive Contract For Grant Funds To Support An "Ulster County-wide Shared Services Feasibility Study & Implementation Plan" – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – County Administration

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Cummings.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 180 Authorizing The Creation Of A Community Advisory Committee To Oversee The Development Of The "Ulster County-wide Shared Services Feasibility Study And Implementation Plan" – County Administration

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Cummings.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 181 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Amended Renewal Of The Retainer Agreement With Mason-Johnson, LLC, As An Independent Consultant To Assist The County Of Ulster In The Final Phase Of Completion Of The Ulster County Law Enforcement Center – On An As Call Basis

Motion offered by Legislator Provenzano, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 182 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Submit An Application And Assurances For Hudson River Estuary Program Funding To The NYS Department Of Environmental Conservation (DEC) For Open Space Planning

Motion offered by Legislature Provenzano, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Legislator Lomita – There is a 25% local match which should be \$7,500 of \$30,000. The Resolution has to be corrected to read \$7,500 not \$10,000.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 183 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract Amendment For The Year 2008 With New York State Division Of Probation And Correctional Alternatives For Ulster County Alternatives To Incarceration Programs – Probation

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Dart.

Legislator Lomita – It is important to discuss the 2% State cut to programs - we will lose reimbursements in many departments.

County Administrator Mike Hein – The 2% cut for the 2009 Budget had a “clawback” into 2008. This is the first time this has happened. We are working with NYSAC now to determine the net effect. Some programs are hit while others are exempt. We will advise the Legislature of what we feel the total financial impact will be.

Legislator Cummings – We should view the whole impact and not vote on every \$1,800 shortfall.

It was the will of the Committee that they withhold a vote until it is determined if the \$1,800 shortfall in this department will be covered internally.

Resolution No. 184 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Renewal Agreement With The City Of Kingston And The County Of Ulster To Provide A Dedicated Work Crew For Alternatives (Community Service) – Probation

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 185 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The New York State Division Of Criminal Justice Services For The Aid To Defense Program – Public Defender

Motion offered by Legislature Dart, seconded by Legislature Cahill.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 186 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Amendment To Agreement With The New York State Office Of Homeland Security – Sheriff's Office

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 187 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Amendment To Agreement With The New York State Office Of Homeland Security – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Sheriff's Office

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Cahill.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 188 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature And The Ulster County Sheriff To Sign An Agreement With The BOCES School District For A School Resource Officer (SRO) For The Period Commencing On July 1, 2008 Through June 30, 2008 – Sheriff's Office

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Zimet.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 189 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With The Town Of Esopus For Security Purposes – Sheriff's Office

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Lomita.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 190 authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement With The New York State Office Of Children And

Family Services To Accept A Grant For The Child And Family Safety Program – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Social Services

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Zimet.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 191 Authorizing Ulster County Departments To Sign A Policy To Decline Acceptance Of Tobacco Industry Funding Or Donations

(This was NOT originally slated as a Resolution that required Ways and Means Committee review as it stated no financial impact).

Legislator Zimet – Proposed that this Resolution should be reviewed by Ways and Means, and Chairman Lomita concurred. It will be reviewed next session (6/11/08).

Legislator Zimet was concerned about refusing revenues – regardless of the source. What is the history of our past revenue sources?

Resolution No. 192 Amending Rules Of Order Of The Ulster County Legislature To Require A Super-Majority (2/3) Of The Total Vote Of The Legislature To Carry Any Question, Proposition, Resolution, Motion, Or Any Other Matter Involving The Granting Of Authority To Increase County Taxes Of Any Kind

County Attorney Bea Havranek – This Resolution has been determined to be Out of Order and cannot be brought forward. This dilutes the power of an elected local official and as such, this action cannot be accomplished by Resolution. By Law only the approved Charter Revisions or Local Law can make these changes. General Municipal Law will not allow it, as it needs a mandating referendum. If we are serious about the intent of the Resolution, it must be advanced as a revision to the Charter next year.

Resolution No. 194 Calling On United States Congress To Implement Energy Incentive Legislation For The Control And Stabilization Of Energy Prices And For The Promotion Of Energy Conservation

Motion offered by Legislator Provenzano, seconded by Legislator Cahill. Legislator Lomita – Gave thanks to Sheldon Quimby for working with Dan Ahouse and Representative Hinchey to assemble a real plan for the future.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 197 Calling For Federal & State Governments To Enact A “Gas

Tax Holiday” From Memorial Day To Labor Day Each Year And Invest In
Developing Alternative Energy Sources To Reduce Future Dependence On Oil

Motion offered by Legislator Cummings in support of Legislator Roberti's Resolution.

There was no second to the motion so the Resolution failed.

Legislator Lomita – Felt that this Resolution was poorly planned as it had an “unknown” financial impact although there is obviously a loss of aid and therefore revenue. There is substantial financial impact.

Legislator Cummings – In defense of Legislator Roberti, the intent of the Resolution was good in that it was an attempt to provide relief for taxpayers.

Resolution No. 198 By The Legislature Of The County Of Ulster Electing A Cents
Per Gallon Rate Of Sales ...In Lieu Of The Percentage Rate...

Legislator Lomita – Considered the Resolution to be out of order, it must be addressed in session as such no vote will be taken.

Resolution No. 199 Upgrading Automotive Mechanic Helper To Auto Mechanic II
– Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Ulster County Purchasing (Central
Auto)

Legislator Lomita – Informed the Committee that the Resolution must go back to Personnel Committee first and will be reconsidered by Ways and Means next meeting (6/11/08).

Motion to adjourn offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Meeting adjourned 5:40 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Alan Lomita, Chairman
Ways and Means Committee

