

ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATURE

COMMITTEE REPORT

NAME OF COMMITTEE: Ways and Means Committee

DATE: October 1, 2008

TIME: 4:45 PM

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(4:55 PM), S. Cummings, R.
Gerentine(arrived 5:00 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; Asst. County Attorney Bea
Havranek; Legislator Phil Terpening

I) RESOLUTIONS

Resolution No. 305 Setting Date For Public Hearing On 2009 Tentative Ulster County Budget And The Tentative Ulster County Capital Program For The Years 2009 – 2014 On Wednesday, November 5, 2008 At 6:00 PM, Ulster County Office Building, Kingston, New York

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Cummings.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 306 Unpaid School Taxes For The School Year 2008 - 2009

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Provenzano.

Motion adopted unanimously. (5 members present and voting)

Resolution No. 307 Authorizing The County Treasurer To Accept Redemption Offers Relative To Payment Of Real Property Taxes In The 2006 In Rem Foreclosure Proceeding

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Cummings.

Motion adopted unanimously. (6 members present and voting)

Resolution No. 313 Creating A Part Time Account Clerk Position – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Ulster County Area Transit (UCAT)

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

County Attorney Havranek – There was a contractor hired to count cash fares for UCAT but failed to be bonded so we had to drop them. A part-time County employee will cost less and would be automatically bonded. There are no benefits cost.

Legislator Cummings – Plus employee costs are 90% reimbursable for UCAT.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 314 Amending The 2008 Ulster County – Additional Funding New York State Office Of Alcoholism And Substance Abuse Services (Employment Specialist) – Mental Health

Motion offered by Legislator Provenzano, seconded by Legislator Cummings.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 315 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute Amendments To Agreements With The Various New York State Government Agencies For Reductions Of State Revenues For Up To 6% For Counties During The State Fiscal Year 2008/2009

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Legislator Lomita – This is part of the 6% portion of the State Clawback. It is an update to the 2% resolution. Any increases above this financial impact will have to come back to the Legislature for approval.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 316 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Enter Into An Agreement With New York State To Accept Reduced Grant Award For A Local Government Improvement Fund Grant (Active Records Category) – County Clerk

Motion offered by Legislator Cummings, seconded by Legislator Dart.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 317 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement And Any Amendments To The Agreement With The New York State Education Department To Accept A Local Government Records Management Improvement Fund (LGRMIF) Grant – Amending The 2008 Ulster County Budget – Information Services

Motion offered by Legislator Gregorius, seconded by Legislator Provenzano.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 319 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Sign An Application With New York State Division Of Probation And Correctional Alternatives For Funding An Alternative To Incarceration Program For Jail/Prison Diversion And/Or Re-Entry In New York – Probation

Motion offered by Legislator Dart, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 320 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Contract And Any Amendments To The Contract With The New York State Department Of Health To Renew The Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program – Public Health

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Gregorius.

Motion adopted unanimously.

Resolution No. 321 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Renewal Lease Agreement With Plaza Realty Of Ulster County, Inc. – Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Legislator Lomita – Attorney Bea Havranek changed the escape clause to the standard wording for County Leases. Knows that there are many questions about space use, but there is a meeting tomorrow and does not want to get into protracted discussions about this one property until the meeting.

Legislator Zimet – There are lots of needs to be met but there seems to be little movement.

Legislator Cahill – The Space Committee is working on a Comprehensive Plan to get the most out of our buildings and reduce leased space. We have to make room for the County Executive and other new Charter offices. It will not be long before we have concrete recommendations.

Legislator Provenzano – We are aware of work done but rank and file are not. The C&S Study tells us what we need.

Legislator Lomita – The C&S Study has priorities and he will ask Legislator Loughran to make Plan available.

Legislator Cahill - The meetings are all public and we have been working for awhile. This time we are ready to take action.

Legislator Lomita – There is a walkthrough at the Data Center tomorrow at 4:00 for anyone interested.

Legislator Dart – We had a walkthrough 10 years ago-we seem to be in the same spot.

Legislator Noonan – The \$10,498 annual increase seems very large.

What is it comprised of?

Legislator Gregorius – There is no harm to signing this lease-it has a 60 day Escape Clause and it would take longer for us to move out. We have to secure what we have now and not lose track in order to have things go on schedule.

Legislator Cummings – It still seems like a big increase. Can't we renegotiate? Can't we extend?

Legislature Gerentine – Agrees with Sue-Can we hold off until next week so we can reconsider.

Legislature Cahill – The 60 day Escape is an extension in fact-we are not held captive here.

Legislator Lomita – We will hold off a vote until next week at the pleasure of the committee.

Legislator Dart – Why are we considering it so late to begin with?

Attorney Havranek – When the lease expires, you hold over from month to month. The Landlord will not throw you out. When the lease is finally signed, it will be at the higher level.

Legislator Gregorius – What is our exposure? What is the danger of our losing the lease?

Legislator Gerentine – We should talk to Jim McTague if he is the person who is negotiating.

Resolution No. 322 Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Inter-Municipal Agreement With The County Of Putnam For Boarding In Prisoners In The Ulster County Law Enforcement Center – Sheriff's Office

Motion offered by Legislator Cahill, seconded by Legislator Provenzano.

Legislator Noonan – Why is the rate \$95 per day for Putnam inmates and a different amount for another County? We should get the same (higher) rate for all Counties that we accept prisoners from because the service is the same. We should negotiate better.

Legislator Dart – We negotiate separately with each County and sign separate agreements. This is the figure we settled on for Putnam.

Motion adopted unanimously.

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

Meeting adjourned at 5:13 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Alan Lomita, Chairman
Ways and Means Committee