

**Ways & Means Committee
Special Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: November 24, 2025 – 4:00 PM
LOCATION(S): Legislative Chambers, 6th Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Chair Gavaris
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Natalie Kelder, Legislative Financial Analyst,
Tyron Rogers, Legislative Tech Support Specialist
Amber Feaster, Deputy Clerk of the Legislature - Finance
MEMBERS PRESENT: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
MEMBERS ABSENT: Legislator Hansut
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes

OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Greene, Hewitt & Litts, Deputy County Executives Amenta, Capuano & LaValle, Comptroller Gallagher & Deputy Comptroller Dinstuhl, Budget Director Juras, Deputy Budget Directors Reid & Quesnell, Commissioner of Finance Rioux, Planning Director Doyle, Kai Lord Farmer – Sr. Planner, Legislator Elect Berardi, Patricia Doxey - Press

Chair Gavaris called the meeting to order at 4:03 PM

Resolutions for the December 3, 2025 Session of the Legislature:

Resolution No. 557 – Ratification Of Tax Rolls

Resolution Summary: This Resolution ratifies and confirms the tax rolls of the several Towns of Ulster County, as signed by the Chair and Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature and directs the Collectors of said Towns to enforce the collection of taxes as required by law.

Motion No. 1: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 557**
Motion Made By: Legislator Roberts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted**

Resolution No. 558 – Levy For Unpaid Sewer Rents

Resolution Summary: This Resolution levies, and assesses with appropriate and allowable penalty added, the several amounts of unpaid sewer assessments in the several Sewer Districts in the Towns of the County of Ulster appearing on the returns by the Collectors of said respective districts and duly certified by said Collectors.

Motion No. 2: **Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 558**
Motion Made By: Legislator Roberts
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor:	Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	7
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution Adopted

Resolution No. 559 – Levy For Unpaid Water Rents

Resolution Summary: This Resolution levies, and assesses with appropriate and allowable penalty added, the several amounts of unpaid water assessments in the several Water Districts in the Towns of the County of Ulster appearing on the returns by the Collectors of said respective districts and duly certified by said Collectors. Further, This Resolution requires Water Rents when collected to be paid to the Supervisors of said respective Towns.

Motion No. 3:	Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 559
Motion Made By:	Legislator Roberts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor:	Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	7
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution Adopted

Resolution No. 560 – Approving Completed Tax Rolls And Directing The Execution Of Delivery Of Warrants

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the tax rolls and authorizes the levy of taxes and sets a deadline of December 31, 2025 to deliver the tax bill to various districts.

Motion No. 4:	Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 560
Motion Made By:	Legislator Roberts
Motion Seconded By:	Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor:	Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against:	None
Votes in Favor:	7
Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Resolution Adopted

Resolution No. 561 – Approving The Memorandum Of Agreement Between The County Of Ulster And The Ulster County Civil Service Employees Association Inc., For The Years 2025, 2026, 2027, 2028

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the Memorandum of Agreement covering the period January 1, 2025 through December 31, 2028 between the County of Ulster and the Ulster County Civil Service Employees Association, Inc., and authorizes the County Executive to execute a Collective Bargaining Agreement with the Ulster County Civil Service Employees Association Inc. in accordance with the executed Memorandum of Agreement.

Motion No. 5: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 561

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Resolution Adopted

Resolution No. 562 – Authorizing The Establishment Of A Salary Schedule For Those Employees Not Covered By A Collective Bargaining Agreement

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts a salary grade and step structure for employees not covered by a collective bargaining agreement for 2026 and subsequent fiscal years, and sets timelines associated with each included step and with initial placement of new employees. Further, this Resolution requires that all employees immediately affected by this Resolution be placed in the appropriate step as reflected in the 2026 Ulster County Budget and authorizes and directs the Personnel Director to update the Ulster County Personnel Policy Manual accordingly.

Motion No. 6: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 562

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Nolan & Uchitelle

Voting Against: Legislators Kovacs & Roberts

Votes in Favor: 5

Votes Against: 2

Disposition: Resolution Adopted

Resolution No. 563 – Adopting The Ulster County Budget For Fiscal Year Commencing January 1, 2026 And Making Appropriations For The Conduct Of County Government

Resolution Summary: This Resolution adopts the Ulster County Budget for fiscal year commencing January 1, 2026, as changed, altered, and revised, with revenues and appropriations as assigned to specific General Ledger detail disclosed therein, including the Personnel Listing as disclosed.

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 1– Increase to the Department of Probation

Motion No. 7: Motion to Amend Proposed Budget Amendment No. 1 as Presented

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Proposed Budget Amendment Amended as Presented

Motion No. 8: Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 1 As Amended

Motion Made By: Legislator Criswell
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted As Amended**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 2– Increase to the Department of Tourism for the ThinkDIFFERENTLY Initiative

Disposition: **No Action Taken**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 3– Comprehensive Countywide Intermunicipal Water & Sewer Feasibility Study

Disposition: **Budget Amendment Withdrawn**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 4– Increases to the County Clerk's Office–Professional Services

Motion No. 9: **Motion to Amend Proposed Budget Amendment No. 3 As Presented**

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Amended as Presented**

Motion No. 10: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 3 As Amended**

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted As Amended**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 5– Establishing a New Transportation Planner Position

Disposition: **Budget Amendment Withdrawn**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 6– Occupancy Tax Apportionment for Housing Initiatives

Motion No. 11: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 6**

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Roberts

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan & Uchitelle

Voting Against: Legislator Roberts
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 1
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 7– Immigrant Food Insecurity Program

Motion No. 12: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 7**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Nolan & Uchitelle
Voting Against: Legislators Kovacs & Roberts
Votes in Favor: 5
Votes Against: 2
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 8– Traffic Calming Safety Measures

Motion No. 13: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 8**
Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislator Uchitelle
Voting Against: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts
Votes in Favor: 1
Votes Against: 6
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Defeated**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 9– Establishing a Deputy Commissioner of DPW – Parks Position

Motion No. 14: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 9**
Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Roberts

Voting in Favor: None
Voting Against: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Votes in Favor: 0
Votes Against: 7
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Defeated**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 10– Continuation of Industrial Hemp Research and Education Funding

Disposition: **No Action Taken**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 11– Greening the Food Services Industry Program

Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Withdrawn**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 12– Regional Tiffin Program

Disposition: Proposed Budget Amendment Withdrawn

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 13– Intermodal Transfer Center Planning Studies

Disposition: No Action Taken

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 14– Residential Solar Feasibility and Interest Outreach

Disposition: No Action Taken

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 15– Additional Bus Driver Positions

Motion No. 15: Motion to Discuss Proposed Budget Amendment No. 15

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Gavaris

Disposition: No Action Taken

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 16– Victory Garden Preservation Program

Disposition: No Action Taken

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 17– Increased Funding for the EMS Stabilization and Enhancement Plan

Motion No. 16: Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 17

Motion Made By: Legislator Kovacs

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Roberts

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: Legislator Nolan

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 1

Disposition: Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 18– Sunset of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Positions

Motion No. 17: Motion to Amend Proposed Budget Amendment No. 18 as Presented

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: Legislator Nolan

Votes in Favor: 6

Votes Against: 1

Disposition: Proposed Budget Amendment Amended as Presented

Motion No. 18: Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 18 As Amended

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Kovacs

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: Legislator Nolan
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 1
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted As Amended**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 19– Reduction to Large Increases and Historically Overbudgeted Accounts

Motion No. 19: **Motion to Amend Proposed Budget Amendment No. 19 as Presented**
Motion Made By: Legislator Collins
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Uchitelle

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Amended as Presented**

Motion No. 20: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 19 As Amended**
Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan & Uchitelle
Voting Against: Legislator Roberts
Votes in Favor: 6
Votes Against: 1
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted As Amended**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 20– TECHNICAL: Necessary Adjustments for Bond Sale

Motion No. 21: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 20**
Motion Made By: Legislator Collins
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 21– TECHNICAL: Adjustments to the Personnel Listing

Motion No. 22: **Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 21**
Motion Made By: Legislator Collins
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted**

Proposed Operating Budget Amendment No 22– TECHNICAL: General Ledger and Personnel Listing Variances

Motion No. 23: Motion to Adopt Proposed Budget Amendment No. 22

Motion Made By: Legislator Collins

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Proposed Budget Amendment Adopted**

Motion No. 24: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 563 As Amended

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Kovacs

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Resolution Adopted As Amended**

Resolution No. 564 – Adopting Ulster County Capital Program For 2026 - 2031

Resolution Summary: This Resolution approves the 2026-2031 Capital Program as changed, altered, and revised.

Proposed Capital Program Amendment No 1– Fairgrounds Bleachers

Motion No. 25: Motion to Adopt Proposed Capital Improvement Program Amendment No. 1

Motion Made By: Legislator Roberts

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Kovacs

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle

Voting Against: None

Votes in Favor: 7

Votes Against: 0

Disposition: **Proposed Capital Improvement Program Amendment Adopted**

Proposed Capital Program Amendment No 2– Reduction to Department Relocation Management

Disposition: **Proposed Capital Improvement Program Amendment Withdrawn**

Proposed Capital Program Amendment No 3– Elimination of Paradies Lane Solar Installation

Disposition: **Proposed Capital Improvement Program Amendment Withdrawn**

Proposed Capital Program Amendment No 4– Electrification Multimodal Centers Title Change

Motion No. 26: Motion to Adopt Capital Improvement Program Amendment No. 4

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Capital Improvement Program Amendment Adopted**

Proposed Capital Program Amendment No 5– TECHNICAL: Establishment of Capital Projects 740 & 741

Motion No. 27: Motion to Adopt Capital Improvement Program Amendment No. 5

Motion Made By: Legislator Nolan
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Collins

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Proposed Capital Improvement Program Amendment Adopted**

Motion No. 28: Motion to Adopt Resolution No. 564 As Amended

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan

Voting in Favor: Legislators Collins, Criswell, Gavaris, Kovacs, Nolan, Roberts & Uchitelle
Voting Against: None
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0
Disposition: **Resolution Adopted As Amended**

Adjournment

Motion Made By: Legislator Uchitelle
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Nolan
Votes in Favor: 7
Votes Against: 0

Time: 5:26 PM

Respectfully Submitted: Natalie Kelder, Legislative Financial Analyst
Approved: December 11, 2025

Complete content of the meeting can be accessed via the Ulster County Legislature's YouTube channel at <https://www.youtube.com/@UlsterCountyLegislature/streams>