



ULSTER COUNTY LEGISLATIVE NEWS

ULSTER COUNTY NEWS INFORMATION
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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

August 19, 2014

A Six Year Agreement Ends The Five Year Hold Out

(KINGSTON, NY) With a unanimous vote, the Ulster County Legislature accepted an arbitration settlement with the Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association. The agreement provides 2% increases for full time employees and increases immediately the part time pay for Correction Officers from \$14.35 per hour to \$16 per hour. This agreement is in effect for only those employees currently on the payroll. In addition, those individuals hired after today will pay 20% of their family or individual health insurance premium and the Association agreed to withdraw a grievance of the 1-9 shift.

On February 18th, Mr. George Gunning, President of the Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association, spoke to the Legislature at their monthly session seeking their assistance in reaching a conclusion on the negotiations. "I would like some help from you people, our elected officials. We have not had a contract in five years. Mr. Hein refuses to give me an answer, we have gone to Civil Service, we did the impasse, we did the three mediations, we made a final offer, and I just need some help."

Legislators were thankful the arbitration had finally come to a successful resolve. "As I highlighted in my 2013 address to the Legislature, union agreements have been brought to us with little to no knowledge of how we got there," noted Minority Leader Kenneth Ronk. "I stand by my request that the Administrative Code be updated to require - not fewer than once per year or at the request of the Chair, Majority Leader, or Minority Leader – the County Executive provide a status update to all contract negotiations and I will be offering such an amendment for next month's meeting."

"Let's hope the next County contract negotiation does not take five years," stated Legislative Chairman John Parete. "It is time to work together to end these negotiation delays."

##

[Attached: Resolution No. 302]

Approving The Memorandum Of Agreement Between The County Of Ulster, The Ulster County Sheriff And The Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association – Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget

Referred to: The Law Enforcement and Public Safety Committee (Chairman Briggs and Legislators Gregorius, Loughran, Maio, and Ronk), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gerentine and Legislators Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez)

Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, Richard A. Gerentine, and Deputy Chairman Tracey A. Bartels offer the following:

WHEREAS, the County Labor Attorney William Wallens and members of the Executive Staff have negotiated a Memorandum of Agreement covering the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2015 with the Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association and recommends the agreement to the Ulster County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, the contract results in increases in base salary and no increase in longevity payments; now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, that the Ulster County Legislature hereby approves the Memorandum of Agreement covering the period January 1, 2010 through December 31, 2015, between the County of Ulster and the Ulster County Sheriff's Employees Association; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the 2014 Ulster County is hereby amended as follows:

TRANSFER

| <u>FROM</u> | | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------------|------------------------|----------------------|
| AA.3110.1830-1420.1465 | Arbitration Settlement | \$215,000.00 |
| <u>TO</u> | | |
| AA.3150.1855-1300.1300 | Regular Pay | \$215,000.00 |

Resolution No. 302 August 19, 2014

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| | <u>INCREASE</u> | <u>AMOUNT</u> |
|------------------------|-------------------------|----------------------|
| AA.3150.1855-1300.1300 | Regular Pay | \$454,274.00 |
| | <u>DECREASE</u> | |
| AA.0917.3205 | Unassigned Fund Balance | \$454,274.00 |

and, be it further

RESOLVED, the Commissioner of Finance is hereby authorized to make any and all budget adjustments necessary to transfer and appropriate the necessary funds into the appropriate budget lines;

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Law Enforcement and Public Safety on August 4, 2014

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on August 6, 2014

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$669,274.00 – ADDITIONAL 2014 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS

\$781,400.00 – ANTICIPATED 2015 APPROPRIATION DOLLARS