

**Ways & Means Committee  
Regular Meeting Minutes**

**DATE & TIME:** December 3, 2015 – 3:00pm  
**LOCATION:** Legislative Chambers, 6<sup>th</sup> Floor, COB  
**PRESIDING OFFICER:** Richard A. Gerentine, Chairman  
**LEGISLATIVE STAFF:** Donald J. Quesnell  
**PRESENT:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**ABSENT:** Legislator Allen, R. Parete  
**QUORUM PRESENT:** Yes  
**OTHER ATTENDEES:** Legislators Bartels, Rodriguez, Ronk, Legislative Counsel Weiner, Guerin, County Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick, Deputy County Executives Bob Sudlow, Ken Crannell, Dan Torres, Ken Juras, Jamie Capuano, Marc Rider, Jay Mahler, Wayne Freer, Pat Doxsey

- **Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 3:10PM**

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**Motion No. 1:                      Amendment 1**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 1 Appropriating Funds for the Wallkill River Alliance

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Gerentine  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** A discussion took place regarding the amendment and what the organization was requesting funds for as well as their goals and long term plan. In addition, it was discussed whether the organization was an accredited 501C3. The budget submitted by the organization was reviewed and a discussion took place regarding certain line items. The sponsor of the amendment agreed to alter the amendment to assign \$1,000 in the contingent account to be supplied to the agency in the form of municipal dues, upon receiving verification they are an accredited 501C3.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 2:                      Amendment 2**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 2 eliminating a Part Time position and creating a Full Time position in the Sheriff's Department

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Gerentine  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 3:                      Amendment 3**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 3 funding an anonymous Cybertip System

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 4:                      Amendment 4**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 4 increasing appropriations of the Family of Woodstock Supervised Visitation program

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 5:                      Amendment 5**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 5 increasing appropriations of the Arts Mid-Hudson Program

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** A discussion ensued regarding the dollar amount increase. It was explained this amount was increased in the budget process already.

**Amendment:** Legislator Belfiglio offered an amendment to lower the increase to \$3,000

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Belfiglio  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Amendment Carried

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 6:                      Amendment 6**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 6 Walker Valley Burn Tower Panels

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** A discussion took place regarding a contract will need to be made for this appropriation this year.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 7:                      Amendment 7**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 7 bringing Legislative salaries to a comparable amount based on surrounding counties.

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

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**Voting Against:** Legislator J. Parete  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6  
**No. of Votes Against:** 1  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 8:** **Amendment 8**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 8 Increasing appropriations of the Awareness Program

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Belfiglio  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Briggs

**Discussion:** A discussion took place regarding a cease and desist notice letter from OASAS. It was recommended by the chairman to keep the current funding and allocate it in contingency to be released once the legal matters reside.

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Belfiglio, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 2  
**No. of Votes Against:** 5  
**Disposition:** Defeated

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**Motion No. 9:** **Amendment 21**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 21 Moving existing requested and recommended Awareness Funds to Contingency and delegating said funds for a future appropriation.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** Legislator Belfiglio  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6  
**No. of Votes Against:** 1  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 10:** **Amendment 9**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 9 increasing the funding for the Eating Disorder Coalition.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Belfiglio

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against:** 0  
**Disposition:** Carried

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**Motion No. 11:                      Amendment 10**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 10 grant funding for Elder Legal Services

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

**Discussion:**                      The chairman suggested that we do these services through the County departments. Legislator Maio asked the procedure for doing this through the County. It was explained it would still be allocating a dollar amount. It was further explained these services would be contracted out through the department. A general discussion took place in regards to what could be listed as a requirement in the contract as well as the dollar amount that would be allocated. Marc Rider mentioned the report released by the state comptroller stating that these contracts are required to go out to RFP.

**Amendment:**                      Move the funding to the Office of the Aging and amending the total amount of the amendment to \$15,000.

**Motion Made By:**                      Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:**                      Legislator Maloney

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      7  
**No. of Votes Against**                      0  
**Disposition:**                      Amendment Carried

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      7  
**No. of Votes Against**                      0  
**Disposition:**                      Carried

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**Motion No. 12:                      Amendment 11**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 11 grant funding for Domestic Violence Legal Services

**Motion Made By:**                      Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:**                      Legislator Maloney

**Amendment:**                      Move the funding to the Crime Victims Division and amending the total amount of the amendment to \$50,000.

**Motion Made By:**                      Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:**                      Legislator Maloney

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      7

**No. of Votes Against Disposition:** 0  
Amendment Carried

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 7  
**No. of Votes Against Disposition:** 0  
Carried

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**Motion No. 13:                      Amendment 12**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 12 appropriating funds to the Soil & Water Conservation District

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

**Discussion:** There was a general discussion regarding the amendment and why it was chosen to bring this appropriation forward. A description of the current state of the river was given. A further discussion took place regarding whether if these services could be provided in house.

**Voting In Favor:** None  
**Voting Against:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 0  
**No. of Votes Against Disposition:** 7  
Defeated

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**Motion No. 14:                      Amendment 22**

**Text of Motion:** Resolved to approve Amendment 22 delegating funds into contingency for the Soil & Water Conservation District

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Gregorius  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Maloney

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**Voting Against:** None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6  
**No. of Votes Against Disposition:** 0  
Carried

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**Motion No. 15:                      Amendment 19**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 19 additional state aid funding for MH, and additional supported housing beds for OMH

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

**Discussion:**                              None

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**Voting Against:**                      None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      6  
**No. of Votes Against**                      0  
**Disposition:**                              Carried

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**Motion No. 16:                      Amendment 13**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 13 Funding the “Solutions to End Homelessness” program

**Motion Made By:**                      Legislator Briggs  
**Motion Seconded By:**                      Legislator Gregorius

**Discussion:**                              A general discussion took place regarding the program and the services provided by the organization.

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislator J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      Legislators Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      1  
**No. of Votes Against**                      4  
**Abstentions:**                              1 (Legislator Gerentine)  
**Disposition:**                              Defeated

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**Motion No. 17:                      Amendment 14**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 14 dissolving the department of the environment to eliminate duplication of services.

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

**Discussion:**                              Legislator Parete gave a description of the intent of the amendment and his justifications for submitting this proposal.

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislator J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      1  
**No. of Votes Against**                      5  
**Disposition:**                              Defeated

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**Motion No. 18:                      Amendment 15**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 15 funding UCAN budget recommendation, NARCAN kits for released inmates at risk

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

**Discussion:**                              Legislator Belfiglio explained about migrating lotus notes system to new system.

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      6  
**No. of Votes Against**                      0  
**Disposition:**                              Carried

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**Motion No. 19:                      Amendment 16**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 15 funding UCAN budget recommendation, public service announcements aimed at substance use disorder

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

**Discussion:**                              None

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      None  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      6  
**No. of Votes Against**                      0  
**Disposition:**                              Carried

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**Motion No. 20:                      Amendment 17**

**Text of Motion:**                      Resolved to approve Amendment 17 using outside legal firms to provide the responsibilities of the Attorney's Office.

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

**Discussion:**                              The sponsor of the amendment opted to change the amendment so the end result would transfer outside legal counsel funding to contingency so the Legislature must approve the funds and they can recognize the cost of outside legal costs as they occur. A general discussion ensued on the topic

**Voting In Favor:**                      Legislators J. Parete  
**Voting Against:**                      Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney  
**No. of Votes in Favor:**                      1  
**No. of Votes Against**                      5  
**Disposition:**                              Defeated

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**Motion No. 21:                   Amendment 18**

**Text of Motion:**                   Resolved to approve Amendment 18 comptroller's budget appeal

**Motion Made By:**                   Legislator Briggs

**Motion Seconded By:**           Legislator Maio

**Discussion:**                       None

**Voting In Favor:**                   Legislators Briggs, J. Parete

**Voting Against:**                   Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Maio, Maloney

**No. of Votes in Favor:**           2

**No. of Votes Against**           4

**Disposition:**                    Defeated

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**Motion No. 22:                   Amendment 20**

**Text of Motion:**                   Resolved to approve Amendment 20 department head salary adjustment

**Motion Made By:**                   Legislator Maio

**Motion Seconded By:**           Legislator Briggs

**Discussion:**                       None

**Voting In Favor:**                   Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete

**Voting Against:**                   None

**No. of Votes in Favor:**           6

**No. of Votes Against**           0

**Disposition:**                    Carried

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**Motion No. 23:                   Amendment 23**

**Text of Motion:**                   Resolved to approve Amendment 23 adjusting funds to allow for membership fees in the Comptroller's Office.

**Motion Made By:**                   Legislator Maio

**Motion Seconded By:**           Legislator Briggs

**Discussion:**                       None

**Voting In Favor:**                   Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete

**Voting Against:**                   None

**No. of Votes in Favor:**           6

**No. of Votes Against**           0

**Disposition:**                    Carried

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**Motion No. 24:** A motion was made by Legislator Gerentine to have the Commissioner of Finance, and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst construct an amendment to move funds into contingency to make the approved amendments budget neutral and to keep the tax rate the same.

**Motion Made By:** Legislator Gerentine  
**Motion Seconded By:** Legislator Gregorius

**Discussion:** None

**Voting In Favor:** Legislators Gerentine, Gregorius, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, J. Parete

**Voting Against:** None

**No. of Votes in Favor:** 6

**No. of Votes Against:** 0

**Disposition:** Carried

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#### **New Business**

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#### **Old Business**

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There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made by Legislator Maloney, seconded by Legislator Maio and carried to adjourn the meeting at 4:55pm.

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**Dated the 21<sup>st</sup> day of December, 2015**

**Donald J. Quesnell, Fiscal Analyst**

**Minutes Approved On: January 26, 2016**