

**Ways & Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: April 9, 2014 – 5:00 PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, Sixth Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Richard Gerentine, Chairman
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Fawn A. Tantillo Donald J. Quesnell
PRESENT: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio (5:10), Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez (5:05),
ABSENT: None
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Archer, Greene, Lopez, Ronk and Wishnick, Legislative Counsel Weiner and Guerin, Legislative Clerk Fabella, Sheriff VanBlarcum, Comptroller Auerbach, Deputy County Executive Crannell, County Attorneys Havranek, Bloomer and Plonski, Director of Finance Gulnick, Planner White, LWV observer Tom Kadgen and reporter Richard Kimble

- **Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 5:01 PM**

MOTION NO. 1 **Approving the Minutes of March 12, 2014 and March 18, 2014**

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve the Minutes of March 12, 2014 and March 18, 2014

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

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: March 12 2014 Minutes - Legislators Gerentine, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney and Provenzano
March 18, 2014 Minutes - Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney and Provenzano

Voting Against: None
Abstaining: March 12, 2014 Minutes- Legislator Bartels

No. of Votes in Favor: March 12, 2014 Minutes – 5; March 18, 2014 Minutes - 6
No. of Votes Against 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2: Resolution No. 114 – April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 114 – Supporting The Passage Of New York State Senate Bill 3812B And Assembly Bill A7713A, An Act To Amend The State Tax Law To Permanently Authorize Certain Counties, Cities And School Districts To Impose Up To A Four Percent Rate Of Sales And Compensating Use Taxes

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Resolution No. 114 Summary: Resolution 114 will show the Legislature’s support for the authority to permanently impose up to a four percent rate of sales and Compensating Use Tax thereby relieving the need to renew a one percent extension every two years.

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney and Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 3 Resolution No. 116 – April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 116 - Establishing The Legal Work Week For The Clerk Of The Legislative Board Regular Pay Positions

Motion Made By: Legislator Maloney

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Resolution No. 95 Summary: Resolution 116 would establish a 37.5 hour work week for the clerk of the Legislative Board Staff Regular Pay Positions

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney and Provenzano

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 6

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 4 Resolution No. 118 – April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 118 - Confirming The Appointment Of Dorraine Whitney As Insurance Officer**

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Resolution No. 118 Summary: Resolution No. 118 will confirm the County Executive's appointment of Dorraine Whitney as Insurance Officer

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney and Provenzano
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 6
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 5: Resolutions No. 119 – April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 119 – Creating One Full Time Position And Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget – County Attorney's Office

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

Resolution No. 119 Summary: Resolution No. 119 will create the position of Disaster Assistance Coordinator within the County Attorney's Office and amends the 2014 Ulster County Budget to fund the position.

Amendment Made By: Legislator Gerentine
Amendment Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

Discussion: Chairman Gerentine offered the following amendment after the fourth "Whereas":

“WHEREAS, Ulster County residents may have questions regarding flood-prone or flood-damaged property and may still be required to interact with local, state and federal agencies in regard to disaster relief and/or assistance, therefore it is important to have a liaison between Ulster County residents and the disaster relief agencies; and”

Discussion on the Amendment: None

Voting In Favor of the Amendment: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against the Amendment: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition of the Amendment: Carried

Discussion on Resolution No. 119, as amended: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 6: Resolution No. 120 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 120 - Confirming The Appointment Of Marc Rider As Director of Purchasing

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Resolution No. 120 Summary: Resolution No. 120 will confirm the County Executive’s appointment of Mark Rider, Esq. as the Director of Purchasing

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 7

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 7: **Resolution No. 121 – April 15, 2014**

Text of Motion: Resolution No. 121 - Confirming The Appointment Of Lisa Berger As
Director Of The Department Of Employment And Training

Motion Made By: Legislator Brigg
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Resolution 121 Summary: Resolution No. 121 will confirm the County Executive’s
appointment of Lisa Berger as the Director of the Department of
Employment and Training.

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano
and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 8: Resolution No. 122 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 122 - Confirming The Appointment Of Sheree Cross As
Personnel Director

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Resolution 122 Summary: Resolution No. 122 will confirm the County Executive’s
appointment of Sheree Cross as Personnel Director

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano
and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 9: Resolution No. 123 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 123 - Adopting Proposed Local Law No. 1 of 2014, A Local Law Applying The Salary Revisions of Resolution No. 69 Of 2014 To All County Officers Serving For Fixed Terms

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

Resolution No. 123 Summary: Resolution No. 123 will authorize the same salary increase given to all other Management employees by Resolution No. 69 of 2014 to all county officers serving for fixed terms.

Discussion: Legislator Bartels said she would support Resolution No. 123 at this time but said she was not satisfied with the answers the committee received from the Election’s Commissioners in relation to the history of their recent salary increases. She plans to address her concerns at budget time.

Legislator Rodriguez agreed.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 10: Resolution No. 124 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 124 - Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2014 (A Local Law To Provide For The Collection Of Village Real Property Taxes) To Be Held On Tuesday, May 20, 2014 At 7:00 PM (Later withdrawn and replaced with Motion below)

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs (later withdrawn)
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels (for discussion)

Resolution No. 124 Summary: Resolution will set a public hearing for proposed Local Law No. 2 of 2014

Discussion: Legislator Rodriguez told the committee about his consultations with the Village of New Paltz and said he wants to make sure this is the best thing for them. He explained that the Village of New Paltz is very aggressive about collecting unpaid taxes. He is meeting with the Mayor later this week. At this time he didn't know if he could support this Proposed Local Law.

Legislator Provenzano told the committee about the work done on this topic during a previous term when she served as Chairman of the Administrative Services Committee. The research at the time found that every village except Ellenville had handled their own collection of unpaid taxes and had done a good job. At that time, the person in Ellenville who would be responsible for this refused to do it. She was not sure that was still the case today.

Legislator Briggs told the committee that situation had not changed and Ellenville still refused to do it.

Legislator Provenzano said they had had reached out to Saugerties and New Paltz and they were doing a great job and this Proposed Local Law was unnecessary.

Legislator Bartels felt a Public Hearing would be premature at this time. She had several questions and said the Legislature needed more information before they ask the public what they think of it. She was not prepared to support it at this time.

Legislator Gerentine shared concerns that he was not sure the Villages want this. He pointed out the efforts of the Ulster County Department of Finance to support the Villages as they collect unpaid taxes and auctions. He also wanted more information of the cost to the County if they did take over this function for the Villages and told the committee initial estimates were over \$1 Million. He agreed that more information on the impacts of such a takeover was needed.

Legislator Briggs withdrew his motion.

Text of the Motion: **Postpone any action on Resolution 124 until the June, 2014**

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Discussion:

Director of Finance Gulnick provided information about how his office supports the Villages. He said if the County moves forward with this Proposed Local Law, he would need additional staff to collect the taxes and do the foreclosure process. It would also involve more time and staff for the County Attorney's office.

Director Gunick also told the committee that currently his office never sees the Village taxes. If this Proposal were passed, the County would need to find a way to get the Villages on the County system and other legal questions on how this could be accomplished.

County Attorney Havranek described the legal process, deadlines, litigation, research, filings, and other technicalities and details that are associated with each foreclosure. She said her office works with each property owner and/or their attorney, often at the last minute, to find ways to work with each property owner so they do not lose their homes or property. This takes an enormous amount of work in order to meet the statute requirements by law. She estimated she would need at least one additional attorney and one additional paralegal to handle the extra work.

Legislator Bartels asked if there were any examples of other Counties that do this for the Villages. No one knew for sure. Then she asked Director Gulnick if he could put some of the information in writing including the costs associated with additional staffing and the other issues he raised. Director Gulnick said he would.

Legislator Rodriguez restated his motion to postpone Resolution until the June Ways and Means meeting. Seconded by Legislator Briggs.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	8
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Postponed

Motion No. 11: Resolution No. 127 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 127 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract Amendment In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Health Alliance Medical Alert – Office For The Aging

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Provenzano

Resolution No. 127 Summary: Extends a contract with Health Alliance Medical Alert for one year and increases funding to \$71,118 for the installation, maintenance and monitoring of personal response units installed in the homes of Ulster County Senior Citizens over the age of 60.

Discussion: Legislator Rodriguez asked how many clients are served.

Deputy Executive Crannell said there were several hundred but he would get the information for Legislator Rodriguez.

Legislator Bartels asked if this was for personal alert buttons.

Deputy Executive Crannell told the committee the contract is for personal alert buttons, installing the systems, monitoring the systems and maintaining the systems.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 12: Resolution No. 130 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 130 - Authorizing A Public Hearing On Tentative Budget Of The Ulster County Community College For The Year 2014 - 2015 To Be Held On Wednesday, June 11, 2014 At 6:30 PM

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Resolution No. 130 Summary: Resolution No. 130 will set a date and time for the annual budget hearing at Ulster County Community College.

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 13: Resolution No. 131 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 131 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Cornell Cooperative Extension – Department Of Social Services

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Resolution No. 131 Summary: Approves a contract with Cornell Cooperative Extension of Ulster County to provide the Eat Smart New York “SNAP-Ed” nutrition education program.

Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 14: Resolution No. 133 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 133 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute A Lease With Lily Lake, LLC For Space To Be Used As A Coordinated Children’s Services Mental Health Clinic – Department Of Public Works (Buildings And Grounds)

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Resolution No. 133 Summary: Authorizes the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature to sign a lease with Lily Lake, LLC, for 1,100 square feet of office space located at 280 State Rt. 299, Suite #3, Highland, New York, to be used as a Coordinated Children’s Services Mental Health clinic.

Discussion: None
Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 15: Resolution No. 134 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 134 - Establishing Capital Project No. 404 – Purchase Of Central Auto Vehicles – Department of Public Works (Central Auto)

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

Resolution No. 134 Summary: Established a Capital Project No. 404 for the purchase of 16 Vehicles for a total price not to exceed \$305,000.

Discussion: Legislator Provenzano remarked that County Policy is for all purchases of vehicles to go thru the Fleet Manager.

Director of Finance Gulnick confirmed this.

Legislator Provenzano pointed out that since the resolution only mentions Public Works it implies this is a request from the Commissioner of Public Works and not from the Fleet Manager. She suggested that any future resolutions for vehicle purchases make it clear that the Fleet Manager reviewed it.

Legislator Bartels asked if any consideration is given to buying fuel efficient/energy alternative/green initiative vehicles or if price is the only consideration in deciding which vehicles to purchase. She pointed out the list of vehicles includes several Ford Fusions which are not known for good gas mileage. She plans to bring this issue to the Public Works committee for discussion.

Legislator Gerentine pointed out that one of the goals Chairman John Parete outlined for his administration was to find ways to embrace green initiatives wherever possible.

Legislator Rodrigues asked if the Ford Fusion was going to be the standard car of the Fleet moving forward. He said there had been an effort on the part of Fleet Management to find unique ways to save money including standardizing the vehicles to make it more cost effective to get parts and wondered if this purchase meant the Fusion would be the County's standard vehicle.

Director of Finance Gulnick said the Fusion's were being purchased from the State bid and he believed this Ford Fusion would be the vehicle of choice at this time.

Voting In Favor:	Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against:	None
No. of Votes in Favor:	8
No. of Votes Against:	0
Disposition:	Carried

Motion No. 16: Resolution No. 136 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 136 - Establishing Capital Project No. 408 - Purchase Of Highway Equipment — Department of Public Works (Highways And Bridges)

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

Resolution No. 136 Summary: Established Capital Project No. 408 for the purchase of Highway Equipment including 4 snow plows, 4 6-man dump trucks and several other pieces of equipment.

Discussion: Legislator Bartels asked for another copy of the list of the vehicles.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 17: Resolution No. 138 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 138 - Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget - Appropriating Unexpended Grant Funds From The New York State Office Of Homeland Security And Emergency Services For the State Homeland Security Program (SHSP) Anti-Terrorism Funds – Ulster County Sheriff's Office

Motion Made By: Legislator Rodriguez
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Briggs

Resolution No. 138 Summary: Amending the 2014 Budget of the Ulster County Sheriff's Office to use unexpended grant funds from the NYS Office of Homeland Security.

Discussion: Sheriff VanBlarcum explained that the funds will be used to purchase communication equipment and efforts were being coordinated with the Office of Emergency Management.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 18: Resolution No. 139 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 139 – Authorizing The Commissioner Of Finance To Accept A Bid For A Parcel Of County-Owned Real Property For Private Sale And Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Convey Such Parcel – Department Of Finance

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Resolution No. 139 Summary: Authorizes the private sale of 14.4 acres in the Town of Marlborough for the amount of unpaid taxes.

Discussion: Legislator Provenzano noted that both the previous owner and the new owner have the same last name and asked if there was a relationship.

Director of Finance Gulnick confirmed the two individuals are related.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 19: Resolution No. 140 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 140 - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – VHB Engineering Surveying And Landscape Architecture, P.C. – Planning Department

Motion Made By: Legislator Maloney

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Resolution No. 140 Summary: Approves a contract with VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscaping Architecture, PC for the development of a plan for the Broadway, Kingston Corridor that will include land use planning, streetscapes and traffic engineering for a cost not to exceed \$69,090 of which 95% is Federal funding and 5% is Ulster County funding.

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio confirmed that the area under consideration for this plan is where Col. Chandler Drive intersects with Broadway and Albany Avenue in the City of Kingston. He recalled previous plans under discussion.

Ulster County Planner White was not familiar with any previous plans and this was under consideration before he started. He said he would get more information for the next meeting.

Legislator Bartels pointed out that only 5% will be County funding and was included in the 2014 Ulster County Budget.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 20: Resolution No. 142 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 142 - Amending The 2014 Ulster County Budget - Appropriating Unexpended Grant Funds From The New York State Department Of State – Department Of Tourism

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

Resolution No. 142 Summary: Authorizes Ulster County Tourism Office to use a balance of \$26,463 in unexpended funds from the New York State Department of State for additional expenses at the Visitors Center, including but not limited to: new window shades/blinds, outdoor signage and lighting.

Discussion: Legislator Gerentine confirmed this expenditure had been approved by the Economic Development, Tourism, Housing, Planning and Transit on April 1, 2014.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 21: Resolution No. 143 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 143 - Authorizing The Chairman Of The Ulster County Legislature To Execute An Agreement To Receive Grant Funding From The New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation For Green Infrastructure Elements Utilized In The STRIVE Project – SUNY Ulster Satellite Campus – Department Of Planning

Motion Made By: Legislator Maloney

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Bartels

Resolution No. 143 Summary: Authorizes the Chairman of the Ulster County Legislature to execute a Grant Agreement, and any amendments thereto, with the New York State Environmental Facilities Corporation to bring about the STRIVE Project and fulfill the County of Ulster’s obligations under the Green Innovation Grant Program (GIGP) Grant Agreement

Discussion: Legislator Bartels applauded the project but asked for consistency in the way Financial Impact is listed at the end of the Resolution. She questioned why the Financial Impact of the resolution did not separate the County share of this program as it was outlined in the body of the resolution.

Planner White said that since the contracts were not final and this resolution is only authorizing the execution of the Grant Agreement, the committee leaves the financial impact as it is until the final numbers are known for sure. He pointed out that the resolution is perfunctory and just allows us to put the grant in.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez

Voting Against: None

No. of Votes in Favor: 8

No. of Votes Against: 0

Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 23: Resolution No. 145 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 145 - Authorizing The Acquisition Of Land For Flood Remediation, Open Space, Wetlands, Or Recreational Purposes, In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$6,558,566.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$6,558,566.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

Motion Made By: Legislator Briggs

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

Resolution No. 145 Summary: Bonding for Resolution 98 of March, 2014 for the acquisition of flood remediation lands.

Discussion: Director of Finance Gulnick pointed out that the County would have to lay out the funds before being reimbursed

Legislator Maloney confirmed that \$6.5 Million is for to buy out properties flooded during recent storms and asked who would determine what lands are purchased.

Director of Finance Gulnick explained that this is a continuation of the flood buyout that has been ongoing for the past two years but it is a new round of Federal Funding.

Voting In Favor: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: None
No. of Votes in Favor: 8
No. of Votes Against: 0
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 22: Resolution No. 144 – April 15, 2014

Text of the Motion: Resolution No. 144 - Supporting The License Approval And Operation Of A Casino At The Former Nevele Grande Hotel And Country Club In The Town Of Wawarsing

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

Resolution No. 144 Summary: Supports the License Approval and operation of a Casino at the former Nevele Grande Hotel and County Club in the Town of Wawarsing.

Discussion: Legislator Gerentine and several committee members stated their overwhelming support of the project.

Legislator Gerentine introduced Michael Treanor of the Nevele Investors, LLC and invited him to detail the efforts of getting the final approval for the Casino Project. Mr. Treanor made a short presentation outlining the progress of the project.

Legislator Wishnick asked if the project could help bring high speed internet access to the area.

Mr. Treanor said there was broadband access at the hotel today and predicted that companies like Time Warner cable would see increase demand and have a financial incentive to respond and supply the service.

Legislator Bartels wanted to have an opportunity to read and understand the reports they were just given before she voted. She asked the committee to hold this resolution until next week so she could be comfortable lending her support. Mr. Treanor offered to send additional information if she or any committee members wanted them.

Legislator Belfiglio asked if Mr. Treanor felt the process has been fair and open or if he had had any surprises.

Mr. Treanor felt that to date they were well prepared and had not been surprised. He expressed some disappointment about an apparent change of heart in Orange County to look for a potential site for a Casino in Orange County. Mr. Treanor felt confident, however, that no other site or developer would be able to catch up with the efforts, knowledge and support his staff has garnered over the past few years, their comfort with the local governments and the tremendous head start they have worked so hard to develop.

Legislator Greene mentioned that many people in her community questioned the idea of a Casino in Ulster County and was not sure she was ready to support the project.

Legislator Gerentine outlined the overwhelming support the Legislator has shown in the past and how important it is to the local area in Wawarsing and Ellenville. Legislator Gerentine recognized that there are some issues of concern with a casino but was confident they could be addressed. He emphasized how important it is to support the local governments that do want this.

Legislator Gerentine added that the project has seen the support of not only the Legislature, but the County Executive and the local governments.

Legislator Provenzano pointed out that some communities, like Saugerties, made it clear that they did not want a casino in their town, Ellenville and Wawarsing made it clear they do want and desperately need the project. It is a matter of supporting home rule and suggested other Legislators consider what is best for the communities where the project is located. She pointed out hundreds of people enjoy this diversion and have a good time. She sees no reason that hundreds of people should suffer for a handful of people with no self-control.

Legislator Gerentine said the reality is that gambling is coming to this area no matter what people think, that has been decided. He pointed out that the only way Ulster County sees the financial benefits is if a Casino is sited in Ulster County.

Legislator Bartels asked if the project would be a union project. Mr. Treanor said contracts have already been signed with several unions. She said that the wishes of the local community weighed very heavily with her and reviewing the documents and reports was one more thing she needed to do.

Legislator Bartels and Greene asked about various green initiatives associated with the project. Mr. Treanor discussed several environmentally friendly parts of the plans including grass and trees on the roofs to protect the view scenic shed from Route 52 above the hotel, solar power and

other accommodations they have made to the local planning boards. He also mentioned the donation of the Rail Trail thru the property that will make it possible to hike all the way to the County border.

There was a brief discussion about postponing the vote of the committee to next week's meeting to allow Legislator Bartels to review the reports.

Disposition: Vote Postponed until April 15, 2014

New Business

New York State Budget

Legislator Gerentine expressed his disappointment that the New York State Budget recently passed but did not contain any mandate relief efforts by the State.

Deputy Executive Crannell said the State Budget was very budget neutral, but confirmed that there was no obvious mandate relief. He discussed the tax cap and other small gains and losses.

Old Business

Audit Process

Director of Finance Gulnick mentioned that there are some looming deadlines that require the Audit be completed as soon as possible. He gave a letter that outlines these issues and his concerns to the Clerk of the Legislature to distribute to Legislators.

There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made by Legislator Briggs seconded by Legislator Maloney and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:12 pm.

Dated the 14th Day of April, 2014

Fawn A. Tantillo, Senior Legislative Employee

Minutes Approved On: 5/14/14