

**Ways & Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: July 15, 2014 – 5:30PM
LOCATION: Karen L. Binder Library, Sixth Floor, County Office Building
PRESIDING OFFICER: Richard Gerentine, Chairman
LEGISLATIVE STAFF: Donald J. Quesnell
PRESENT: Legislators Gerentine, Bartels ,Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
ABSENT: none
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislators Archer, Litts, Wishnick, Legislative Counsel Ragucci,Guerin, County Attorneys Jonathan Engel, Sue Plonski, Deputy County Executive Ken Crannell, County Comptroller Elliott Auerbach, Deputy Comptroller Joe Eriole, Commissioner of Finance Burt Gulnick, She riff Van Blarcum, Frank Faluotico, Clerk of the Legislature Victoria A. Fabella

- **Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM**

Motion No. 1: **Resolution No. 234 – July 15, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 234 -** Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 8 of 2014, A Local Law Amending Local Law No. 5 of 1989 (A Local Law Requiring Regulations Regarding The Sale Of Motor Vehicle Fuels) To Establish Certain Consumer Protection Practices In Ulster County, To Be Held On Tuesday, August 19, 2014 At 7:10 PM

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

Discussion: None

Voting In Favor: Legislators Bartels, Belfiglio, Briggs, Maio, Maloney Provenzano and Rodriguez
Voting Against: Legislator Gerentine
No. of Votes in Favor: 7
No. of Votes Against: 1
Disposition: Carried

Motion No. 2: Resolution No. 262 – July 15, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 262 - Authorizing The Purchase Of Various Items Of Highway Equipment For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$837,200.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$837,200.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

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

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. 3: Resolution No. 264 – July 15, 2014

Text of Motion: Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 262 - Authorizing The Reconstruction Of The Bailey Bridge In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$3,050,000.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$3,050,000.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

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

Discussion: Legislator Maio asked where the bridge was.

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

New Business:

- **Budget Schedule** – Legislator Gerentine explained the changes that were made from last week’s schedule. Legislator Rodriguez asked where in Plattekill the meeting would be held. Legislator Gerentine stated town hall.

Old Business:

General Discussion:

- Legislator Gerentine brought up the Contract Agencies and the process of how the changes to these agencies have been made in the past years:
 - Legislator Bartels stated that not a single legislator should be saying they want to change the amount given to a contract agency and that the committee overlooking the agency should present it to Ways & Means.
 - Legislator Rodriguez stated committees have made recommendations to Ways & Means in the past.
 - Legislator Provenzano stated the part of the reason this process was made this way was because of the concern of cutting contract agencies out completely due to the economic hardships of the county.
 - Legislator Gerentine restated to keep the budgeted amount the same for 2015 and amend the amounts during the budget process
 - Legislator Bartels asked if the leaving the amounts flat assumes if the contract agency leaves their budgeted amount flat and that the contract agency asks for the amount they want.
 - Victoria Fabella stated the agencies only contact us when they want more money.
 - Legislator asked a motion to be made that the Clerk of the Legislature contact all contract agencies asking what monies they are requesting and why.
 - Legislator Provenzano stated we should ask what they are using their money on currently.
 - Donald J. Quesnell stated the monthly invoices from contract agencies include what they are billing for every month. The yearly invoices require what they used the money on every year and a refund if they did not use it all.

Motion No. 4: To contact Contract Agencies

Text of Motion: The Ways and Means Committee has asked the Clerk of the Legislature and the Legislative Fiscal Analyst to contact all contract agencies currently that the Legislature gives monies too and ask them what they will be requesting in 2015 and what their money has been spent on in the last year.

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels
Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

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

General Discussion cont.:

- Legislator Gerentine brought up the 7 million dollars in regards to the family courthouse:
 - Legislator Gerentine asked if there was something that could be done to minimize this cost
 - Ken Crannell stated they are looking at options and he wasn't aware what the best option is at the moment.
 - Sheriff Van Blarcum brought up the concept of a night judge.
 - Legislator Provenzano stated she would never be a yes vote to stay in the facility they are now and gave a list of reasons as to why.
 - Legislator Provenzano brought up the leasing cost and how she feels it is too high to be leasing every year.
 - Legislator Gerentine stated that the state authorized 7 new family court judges and asked if other counties are paying for 7 million dollars in their counties.
 - Legislator Provenzano said the cost isn't just for the judge it is for the facility
 - Ken Crannell said that this is a wake up call for all of us and that there is going to be a fairly large capital project
 - Legislator Bartels asked for a breakdown in writing of what the 7 million is going to and stated she has problems with spending 7 million on a property we rent.
 - Legislator Gerentine proposed to set up a subcommittee in Ways & Means to review the issue at hand
 - Legislator Belfiglio asked what is going on with the BRC
 - Ken Crannell stated the plan for the BRC is to consolidate health and human services there.
 - Legislator Maloney brought up 300 flatbush and proposed using that property
 - Legislators Maloney, Briggs, Provenzano and Maio volunteered to serve on the subcommittee with Legislator Maio as the chair. The Sheriff was also to serve.
 - Legislator Gerentine stated the next meeting is August 6th
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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 5:51pm.

Dated the 17th day of July, 2014
Donald J. Quesnell, Fiscal Analyst
Minutes Approved On: August 6, 2014