

**Ways & Means Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes**

DATE & TIME: April 15, 2014 – 5:30 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 (5:39), Maloney, Provenzano and Rodriguez
ABSENT: Legislator Briggs
QUORUM PRESENT: Yes
OTHER ATTENDEES: Legislative Chairman Parete, Legislators Archer, Greene, Gregorius, Litts, Ronk and Wishnick, Legislative Counsel Weiner and Guerin, Sheriff Paul VanBlarcum, County Attorneys Bea Havranek and Susan Plonski, Under Sheriff Frank Faluotico, Deputy County Executive Kenneth Crannell, Director of Finance Burt Gulnick, Ulster County Planner Dennis Doyle, LWV Observer Tom Kadgen and Reporter William Kimble

- **Chairman Gerentine called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM**

MOTION NO. 1 **Resolution No. 135 - April 15, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 135 -** Authorizing The Purchase Of Vehicles For Various County Departments In And For The County Of Ulster, New York, At An Aggregate Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$305,000.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$305,000.00 Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

Motion Made By: Legislator Maloney

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Belfiglio

Resolution No. 135 Summary: Authorizing a Bond of \$305,000 for funding of Capital Project approved in Resolution No. 134.

Discussion: Legislator Bartels told the committee that Legislator Manna Jo Greene reached out to Kim Millian, Fleet Manager, to get additional information about the cost benefit of purchasing these particular vehicles.

Legislator Greene did not get an answer to her inquiry because Millian is on vacation.

Deputy Executive Crannell explained that the County has a policy outlined on our web site at <http://www.ulstercountyny.gov/environment/sustainability-municipal-government> and the County tries to strike a balance between using sustainable resources and getting the best value for taxpayers.

Legislator Bartels noted that hybrid vehicles are not on State Bid and is hoping if enough municipalities request alternative energy vehicles they will be in the future.

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. 2: **Resolution No. 137 – April 15, 2014**

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 137** – Authorizing The Purchase Of Highway And Bridge Equipment For Construction And Maintenance Purposes, For The Department Of Public Works Of The County Of Ulster, New York, At A Maximum Estimated Cost Of \$1,321,200.00, And Authorizing The Issuance Of \$1,321,200.00 Serial Bonds Of Said County To Pay The Cost Thereof

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

Resolution No. 137 Summary: Authorizing a Bond \$1,321,200 for funding of Capital Project approved in Resolution No. 137.

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. 3 Resolution No. 144 – April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve 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 Rodriguez

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maloney

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 Archer told the committee about visiting the Nevele with other Legislators today. She described learning a great deal about the history and plans. She said Legislator Greene was on the phone with the engineers to discuss many of her environmental concerns.

Legislator Bartels said the two megawatt solar generator will be the largest in Ulster County.

Legislator Archer said she was also pleased with their policy to buy local. She also was happy with their plans to partner with SUNY New Paltz and SUNY Ulster

Legislator Belfiglio said that in addition to the obvious financial benefits there will be ancillary benefits like encouraging expanded broadband and other services.

Legislator Gerentine thanked his fellow Legislators for their support and discussed how important this Casino will be to Ellenville, Wawarsing and the region.

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. 4 Resolution No. 148 – April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 148** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – LM Sessler Excavating And Wrecking, Inc. – Department Of Public

Motion Made By: Legislator Bartels

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Resolution No. 148 Summary: Approving the execution of a contract with LM Sessler Excavating and Wrecking, Inc., for up to \$144,000 for the demolition, removal and disposal of the Hurley Bridge over the Espous Creek in the Town of Hurley

Discussion: Legislator Belfiglio asked if the County would be able to recover anything from the steel scrap of the bridge.

County Attorney Plonski was not sure but would find out if the County recovers anything from the scrap or if the LM Sessler was counting on the funds from the scrap to offset some of their costs.

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. 5 Resolution No. 149 April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 149** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – New Century Construction, LLC – Department Of Public Works

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

Resolution No. 149 Summary: Approving the execution of a contract with New Century Construction, LLC., for up to \$884,200 for the construction and deck replacement on the Sauer Bridge on Glasco Turnpike in Saugerties, NY

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. 6 Resolution No. 150 April 15, 2014

Text of Motion: **Resolved to Approve Resolution No. 150** - Approving The Execution Of A Contract In Excess Of \$50,000.00 Entered Into By The County – Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP – Department Of Public Works

Motion Made By: Legislator Provenzano

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Rodriguez

Resolution No. 150 Summary: Approving the execution of a contract with Creighton Manning Engineering, LLP., for up to \$125,840 for the construction inspection on the Sauer Bridge on Glasco Turnpike in Saugerties, NY

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

New Business

2015 Budget Timeline

Ulster County Attorney Havranek outlined some issues with timeline of the 2015 Budget due to State Legislation S06296/A07947 that extended the authority of Ulster County to impose an additional 1% Sales and Compensating tax. It requires Ulster County to assume all the costs of the Safety Net program in it's approved 2015 Budget. She said that while the County Legislature has passed several resolutions stating their commitment to taking over all Safety Net costs in 2015, S06296/A07947 specifically requires it to be included in the "adopted 2015 County Budget". She warned that if the Legislature followed the usual timeline, there would miss the deadlines required by the New York Department of Taxation for filing.

Attorney Havranek submitted a timeline that would limit the number of days the Legislature usually has to discuss and approve the 2015 Budget. She said that a second alternative would be to ask the state to amend S06296/A07947 to allow Ulster County to request a 10 day notice of waver.

Motion No. 7: To ask Legislator Richard Gerentine, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee to write to State Assemblyman Kevin Cahill to ask if he would be receptive to an amendment to S06296/A07947 to allow Ulster County to request a 10 day notice of waver.

Motion Made By: Legislator Maloney

Motion Seconded By: Legislator Maio

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

Old Business

Kingston Broadway Corridor Design Plan

Legislator Belfiglio asked Ulster County Planner Doyle about Resolution No. 140 that was approved in the Ways and Means Committee last week. This resolution would approve a contract with VHB Engineering, Surveying and Landscape Architecture PC for up to \$69,090 to create a Kingston Broadway Corridor Design Plan. Ways and Means was told last week that this plan was for the area from Col Chandler Drive thru the intersection with Broadway and Albany Ave. Legislator Belfiglio recalled seeing a plan for that area before and wondered what happened with that plan.

Planner Doyle said Legislator Belfiglio was correct, there is an existing plan for the intersection of Col. Chandler, Broadway and Albany Ave. This new Kingston Broadway Corridor Design Plan proposed in this new contract is for Broadway in Kingston from that intersection to just past the Kingston High School. He reminded the committee that only 5% of the funding is County funding.

Resolution No. 144 and Resolution No. 135

Chairman Gerentine recognized Legislator Manna Jo Green who arrived after the discussion on Resolution No. 144 and asked her for her impressions of the Nevele Casino project after visiting the project today.

Legislator Green began by telling the committee that two megawatts of solar power makes her very, very happy. Most of her questions were answered and felt she could now address the concerns of her constituents. She recognized the Home Rule issues and Ellenville and Wawarsing face their need for the economic benefits this will bring. Legislator Greene was

pleased that the Nevele project was trying to modeling practices of sustainability and felt the developers were receptive to doing more.

Chairman Gerentine then invited Legislator Greene to discuss issues with the County Fleet and Resolution No. 135. He noted that and asked if her questions were answered.

Legislator Greene was disappointed that the cost benefit analysis was not included with the resolution request but trusted that the County Sustainability Policy was followed. She felt that the County needs to be more proactive in moving toward alternatives like electric cars.

Legislator Rodrigues observed that hybrid vehicles are not available on State Bid. As Ulster County and other municipalities gravitate their fleets to a main vehicle perhaps the State could add alternative fuel vehicles to the State bid.

Deputy Executive Crannell said there is also a possibility that alternative energy vehicles are available on other bid proposals like some of the nationwide government bids now available for the County access.

Legislator Greene said that for many years the idea of the benefits of alternative energy vehicles was theoretical. She recently purchased an electric vehicle and has been enjoying 50+ miles/gallon and after charging the vehicle she got over 100 miles/gallon on her trip from Rosendale to the Nevele in Ellenville. She now knows, first hand, that there is also a very real economic benefit to these vehicles. Legislator Greene hopes the Environmental and Energy Committee can take up this issue and create a policy for the County and/or a memorializing resolution to the state to expand the choices available on State Bid.

There being no further business before the Committee, a motion was made by Legislator Rodriguez, seconded by Legislator Provenzano and carried to adjourn the meeting at 6:02 pm.

Dated the 16 Day of April, 2014
Fawn A. Tantillo, Senior Legislative Employee
Minutes Approved On: 5/14/14