

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS MEETING
JOINT WITH THE COMMITTEE ON GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS
AND COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
MINUTES JUNE 15, 2009**

MEMBERS B&A: Acting Chair: Ken Jenkins, Legislators:
Burton, Harckham, Kaplowitz, Rogowsky,
Oros, Myers, Abinanti

MEMBERS GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS: Chair: Ken Jenkins,
Legislators: Bronz, Burton, Pinto,
Rogowsky, Spreckman, Harckham, Myers

MEMBERS COMMUNITY SERVICES: Chair: Lois Bronz,
Legislators: Abinanti, Burton, Jenkins, Myers,
Pinto

IN ATTENDANCE: **DEF:** Marian Pompa; **CBAC, LWVW:**
Barbara Strauss; **Finance:** Sergio Sensi;
Budget: Anne Reasoner, Arthur Vietro,
John Delaney; **Corrections:** Joseph Spano,
Donald Smith, Clyde Isley; **Health:** Alyse
Portera; **DPW:** Ralph Butler; **CEO'S Office:**
Andrew Neuman, Bill Randolph; **NYPA:**
Shane Turrone, Ken Kristensen, Maribel Cruz
Brown; **CBAC:** Fran MacEachron; **Staff:**
Sally Schecter

With a quorum present, Chair Ken Jenkins called the Committee on Government Operations to order at 9:08 a.m. As Acting Chair of the Committee on Community Services, with a quorum present, Chair Jenkins called the Committee to order at 9:08 a.m. and as Acting Chair of the Committee on Budget & Appropriations with one member short of a quorum, Chair Jenkins called the Committee to order for discussion purposes only at 9:08 a.m.

A274. Certiorari Tax Refunds: Sergio Sensi from Finance said we are doing very well through May. It is less than was expected. The total refunds paid in the General Fund through March of 2009 was

\$1,174,162.53 and Districts was \$331,239.08. Chair Lois Bronz arrived at 9:15 a.m. Chair Jenkins thanked Mr. Sensi.

A276, 2008 Year End Transfers Various Departments General Fund; A277, 2008 Year End Committee Transfers Environmental Facilities Water District #1 and A278, 2008 Year End Transfer Board Act Department of Human Resource. These are various end of the year transfers that were necessary to close the books. The bulk of the transfers were due to utility costs. Legislator Rogowsky was concerned that there were savings in marketing and entertainment at Playland and at the County Center. He felt all the money should have been spent in marketing. Legislator Rogowsky suggested that Government Operations have Parks come in to discuss their strategy in marketing. On the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was passed. Item A278 is an act that needs to be passed by the full board. The vote was 6 – 0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham).

Chair Jenkins asked that Government Operations sign out six sewer referrals which would go to the County Executive's Office. They are: 3 removals from the Mamaroneck Valley Sewer District – 59 Kenilworth Road, Rye; 40 Old Lake Street, West Harrison; and 260 Old Lake Street, West Harrison; 1 removal from Blind Brook Sewer District – 626 Purchase Street, Rye; and 2 parcels added to the Peekskill Sewer District, 921 Union Road, Shrub Oak and 27.5-2-52, Yorktown. On the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Rogowsky, the motion was passed by a vote of 8-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Harckham, Pinto, Bronz, Burrows, Meyers).

A222 Act Modifying Saw Mill Sanitary Sewer District – 61 Old Sleepy Hollow Road: This item is being returned to the Saw Mill Sanitary Sewer District. It was taken out in 2001. It has been voted out of Government Operations. Legislator Kaplowitz pointed that there are 263 parcels (A6) in the same district that has not been acted upon. He said the Board has never declined to act upon a petition and he would hope that Budget & Appropriation would meet on this petition for a fair hearing and discussion. Chair Jenkins said work is being done on this item and he is hopeful there will be some resolution.

A265 IMA Westchester County Health Care Corporation – Bloodborne Pathogens Exposure: This is a five year agreement with a not to exceed amount of \$12,500 for service to employees of the Department of Health. On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Kaplowitz, Harckham, Oros) and on the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burton for Community Services, the motion was carried by a vote of 5-0 (Bronz, Jenkins, Burton, Myers, Pinto).

A272 IMA Westchester County Health Care Corporation Rabies Vaccines: This is a five year agreement with a not to exceed amount of \$5,000 for service to employees of the Department of Health. On the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Myers for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, and Harckham and Oros signed it out without prejudice) and on the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Pinto for Community Services, the motion was carried by a vote of 5-0 (Bronz, Jenkins, Burton, Myers, Pinto).

On the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burton, Community Services was adjourned at 9:40 a.m.

A273 Act Mortgage Tax receipts to Cities, Towns and Villages: The period is from October 1, 2008 to March 31, 2009 and the amount is \$12,634,444.67 – down 45 percent from last year. We have budgeted \$18 million and to date we have collected \$6 million through May. On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Harckham, Myers, Oros).

C150 Bond Act BCR47 Security Systems Integration Project in the amount of \$8,340,000: This is to install the security system that is in the new penitentiary in the 1932 jail and the 1992 jail tower. When this is completed, it will be all integrated together and the system will be able to monitor inmates throughout the jail as well as reduce misconduct by staff. Four hundred cameras as well as a digital recording system will be installed. Legislator Kaplowitz requested a

breakdown of the entire program. Commissioner Spano said with the implementation of the CCTV, intercom systems, door access control and the digital recording system, he expects to be able to reduce staff. Legislator Kaplowitz asked how much of a reduction and he was told four corrections officers plus overtime which would amount to approximately \$730,000 a year. He also said this would complete BCR47. Legislator Rogowsky wanted to know if the unions are aware of this and how they feel about it. The Commissioner said they are never happy about eliminating a post but they do understand. The woman's jail is not part of this security installation. On the motion of Legislator Rogowsky, seconded by Legislator Harckham for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Abinanti (without prejudice), Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Rogowsky) and on the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burton for Government Operations, the motion was carried by a vote of 8-0 (Bronz, Jenkins, Burton, Myers, Harckham, Burrows, Pinto, Rogowsky).

C149 Bond Act BCR5B Infrastructure Improvements in the amount of \$750,000: Legislator Abinanti requested that an overview be given to the Budget Committee of all the projects that we are spending money on at the jail and Commissioner Spano said he would gladly provide it. He also extended an invitation to the Legislators to come up to the jail and see what is being done there. This project is for the design, construction management and construction of fencing repair and replacement, exterior painting and siding and upgrade of the exterior emergency lighting. The Commissioner said they do quarterly evacuation drills, floor by floor, and looking at the containment area, they were inadequate or did not exist. There is an outside perimeter fence but not a containment area. He will upgrade the existing containment areas and create new containment areas where none exist. The overall footprint will remain the same. On the motion of Legislator Harckham providing that Public Safety will meet with the Commissioner for a footprint of the project, seconded by Legislator Myers for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was passed by a vote of 6-1 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham), (Abinanti no). On the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burrows for Government Operations, the motion was passed by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Bronz, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Harckham, Pinto). Legislator Pinto is calling a meeting of the Public

Safety Committee on Thursday at the Jail to obtain all the information that is being requested by the Committee and he has invited all the legislators to attend.

A268. Capital Budget Amendment RB096 Lexington Avenue and C151 Bond Act in the amount of \$2,710,000: Commissioner Butler explained that the Board had approved bonding for the design and construction previously but the state has shifted funding until 2016 and beyond and this road cannot wait until then. This legislation is to remove the outside funding source and shift it to the County. Legislator Kaplowitz started a discussion concerning the County and the miles of roads it maintains. Legislator Rogowsky on a point of personal privilege said this is a policy matter and requested that the discussion focus on the agenda items. Legislator Jenkins said that Government Operations would discuss this. Legislator Harckham stressed that this is very important to Mt. Kisco and would appreciate it being moved along. Legislator Abinanti wanted to further understand why we had to shift the funding. Commissioner Butler explained that the funds allocated to this project as well as other projects had to be reallocated because of the Crane Road Bridge project which the state considers to be very important. On the motion of Legislator Rogowsky, seconded by Legislator Myers for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Abinanti) and on the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Pinto for Government Operations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Bronz, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Harckham, Pinto).

C140 Bond Act B0084 Installation of Emergency Generators at Various Locations in the amount of \$540,000: This is for the design of six facilities. The garages need to be able to operate 24/7 should an emergency arise as most of Commissioner Belfiore and Commissioner Sutton's equipment is stored in the garages. The legislators felt this was very costly. Legislator Pinto suggested that Public Safety could invite Commissioner Sutton in to determine what generators are available around the county and the size. Legislator Abinanti would like a list of the generators that we have and where they are located and how much we have spent so far on the generators. It was also suggested purchasing portable generators. Legislator Jenkins said Government Operations will discuss this

legislation after we receive the information. This item was not acted upon.

C148. Bond Act RB2TT Croton Falls Road over Croton River, North in the amount of \$3,970,000. This is for the design, construction and construction management of the concrete arch bridge. On the pedestrian walkway, the guide rail is cortens steel which was supposed to last 60 years and with the use of rock salt, there is severe deterioration. Legislator Kaplowitz wanted to know if we have any legal recourse. No we have a one year warranty and a one year guarantee. Commissioner Butler said it is cheaper to replace this road than it would be to repair it. On the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Kaplowitz for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Abinanti) and on the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Harckham for Government Operations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Bronz, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Harckham, Pinto).

C152. Bond Act RB2VV Bowman Avenue over Blind Brook in the amount of \$915,000. This is for the design, construction and construction management of two culverts that are 34 feet long and 60 feet wide. On the motion of Legislator Rogowsky, seconded by Legislator Myers for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was approved by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Abinanti) and on the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Rogowsky for Government Operations, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Bronz, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Harckham, Pinto).

On the motion of Legislator Kaplowitz, seconded by Legislator Burton, the minutes of May 18, 2009 were accepted

On the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Bronz, Government Operations was adjourned at 11:40 p.m.

C127. Bond Act B0071 Modifications to Building Management Systems in the amount of \$7,400,000. Commissioner Butler said they have modified the chart from a simple payback period and added 3 percent per year interest rate and included 2 percent

increase for utilities. The average payback for the entire project goes down to 12.4 total payback. There would be an energy savings, a reduction of the carbon footprint of 3800 metric tons of CO2 and the operational savings. This is for monitoring not control. Several years ago the air conditioning went in one of the buildings and by chance they were aware of it. He could have lost the transformer and electrical services that would have affected the medical center and the jail. Legislator Kaplowitz thanked NYPA for the new chart. He questioned on #24, Mt. Kisco District office how they arrived at the average annual savings figure. He did not agree with NYPA's figures and suggested that the chart is wrong and needs to be redone. He also suggested that some of the buildings did not need to be monitored. Legislator Harckham asked about an alarm system. The Commissioner said it would still require a person to put in overtime whereas the Management System could monitor the buildings through a computer. Items 31 through 44B are for the jail and Legislator Abinanti wanted to know why the monitoring system could not be incorporated into the security system that the jail is installing. The Commissioner said it is not compatible and would cost the same amount of money. Legislator Jenkins asked NYPA to clarify the numbers that Legislator Kaplowitz has said are incorrect. This item was not acted upon.

On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Burton, Budget & Appropriations was adjourned at 12:31 p.m.