

**WESTCHESTER COUNTY BOARD OF LEGISLATORS
COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS MEETING
JOINT WITH THE COMMITTEE ON COMMUNITY SERVICES
MINUTES SEPTEMBER 21, 2009**

MEMBERS B&A: Chair: Jose Alvarado, Legislators: Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Oros, Spreckman, Harckham, Kaplowitz, Abinanti,

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

IN ATTENDANCE: **League of Women Voters:** Karen Schatzel, Jean Pollak; **Youth Bureau:** Mary Kate Cabaleiro; **DEF:** Louis Vetrese, Marian Pompa, Jim Arnett, Tom Lauro; **Richman:** Todd McClutchen; **CEO:** Andrew Neuman, Sal Carrera, Bill Randolph; **Budget:** Arthur Vietro; **Planning:** Norma Drummond, Eric Talbott, Larry Kelly; **Working Families Party:** David Schwartz; **Public Safety:** Roger Rokicki, Demosthenes Long; **Yonkers Police:** Edward Geiss; **ADC:** Craig Gurian; **CBAC:** Barbara Strauss; **WCC:** Ann Kubenzahl, Caryn Helfes, Joe Hankin; **Pelham Weekly:** Alex Wolff; **DPW:** Ralph Butler; **Staff:** Melanie Montalto, Sally Schechter

Chair Ken Jenkins called the Committee on Budget & Appropriations to order at 10:15 a.m. and Chair Lois Bronz called the Committee on Community Services to order at 10:15 a.m.

On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Burton, the minutes of September 8 were approved by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Kaplowitz, Harckham, Spreckman).

A313. IMA County of Rockland HEAL NY Grant Program: This is a two year state funded grant in the amount of \$175,000. The funds will be used to develop a collaborative health planning effort promoting healthy communities by identifying community health care needs and aligning the health care delivery system with those needs. 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, Harckham, Kaplowitz, Myers, Spreckman). On the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Myers for Community

Services, the motion was carried by a vote of 5-0 (Bronz, Burton, Myers, Pinto, Spreckman).

A314. IMA – Department of Health WCHCC: This IMA is for medical case management and oral health care services for residents of Westchester, Rockland and Putnam who have HIV/AIDS. The amount of this grant is \$292,348 which the County receives from the Federal Government and is part of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS act. On the motion of Legislator Harckham, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget, the motion was carried by a vote of 7-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman) and on the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Myers for Community Services, the motion was carried by a vote of 6-0 (Jenkins, Bronz, Burton, Myers, Pinto, Spreckman).

A316. Act Youth Services Programs: The County and various municipalities will receive \$1,628,116 from the State through the Office of Children and Family Services. The breakdown is \$797,527 for municipal agencies which includes \$50,000 for the Parks Department and \$162,607 for the Youth Bureau and the County will receive \$830,589 to be distributed to not for profit agencies. It will be the County's responsibility to monitor certain municipalities that will be reimbursed directly by the state. Legislator Rogowsky asked how would they be monitored. It will be self monitors and program monitors. The self monitors would submit a report to the Youth Bureau. Legislator Kaplowitz asked for a copy of the certification that the County Executive has to sign. He also questioned if we have to be concerned about not receiving the funding for next year. The Youth Board has sent out letters informing the organizations that there might not be any funding next year. Legislator Kaplowitz also asked to see a copy of that letter. On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 8-0 (Alvarado, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman, Jenkins) and on the motion of Legislator Spreckman, seconded by Legislator Pinto for Community Services, the motion was carried by a vote of 5-0- (Bronz, Burton, Myers, Spreckman, Jenkins). On the motion of Legislator Pinto, seconded by Legislator Burton, Community Services was adjourned at 10:30 a.m.

C135. Bond Act (BO42A) Roof Replacement Program: Commissioner Butler explained this is for a number of buildings at the Valhalla Campus. It had been submitted previously to Budget and G.O. and was sent back to Public Works for more information. It is now being resubmitted as Public Works believes it has complied with the Boards requests. Legislator Kaplowitz suggested that because interest rates are low, we should consider our roof replacements for 2009, 2010 and 2011 now and this would possibly cost less. Legislator Rogowsky

questioned they type of roofs that were being used and suggested having a supplier for the material as well as the roofer. The Commissioner felt should there be a problem with the roof, it would not be clear who would be at fault. Legislator Rogowsky made a motion seconded by Legislator Jenkins. It was suggested that the motion be rescinded so the Commissioner could determine the savings should the three years be sent out for bid. The two legislators agreed and the bond act was not acted upon.

C136 Bond Act (B0083) Salt Storage Shed, Lake Street Road Maintenance Facility, Harrison: It was suggested at a previous Budget meeting to try and coordinate with the Thruway Authority to jointly use the salt shed coming down the ramp from 684. Commissioner Butler received a letter from the Thruway Authority that it was not feasible from an operational, site and capacity. On the motion of Legislator Burton, seconded by Legislator Myers for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 8-0 (Alvarado, Rogowsky, Burton, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman, Jenkins, Kaplowitz). This was previously signed out by Government Operations on September 14 by a vote of 9-0 (Jenkins, Burton, Harckham, Burrows, Pinto, Myers, Bronz, Rogowsky, Spreckman).

A308 Resolution Public Hearing Brooks Shopping Centers Lease Agreement (WCC) and 309 Local Law Brooks Shopping Centers Lease Agreement (WCC): Mr. Carrera explained this is to renew the lease of the Yonkers campus. The building the College is in will be demolished and they will be moving into a turnkey building with \$2 million worth of renovations that the landlord has paid for. The lease is for ten years. By Mr. Carrera renegotiating the lease, he has saved \$2,500,000 for the taxpayers, state and W.C.C. and as Director of Real Estate for the County he feels comfortable recommending this lease for renewal. The new building is retail space. The College is going from 10,500 to 12,361 sq. feet. Originally the college was going to pay a major portion of the renovation as well as approximately \$60 a square foot. Mr. Carrera had to renegotiate the agreement. An RFP was sent out and four competitors responded. The original location was great for the school. Originally a cancellation clause was in the lease after 5 years. The lease now reads 10 years and they will be paying approximately \$40. a square foot whereas retail space is approximately \$60 to \$70 in that area. On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Spreckman for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was signed out for all purposes by a vote of 9-0 (Alvarado, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman, Oros, Jenkins). Government Operations signed this out on September 14, 2009 by a vote of 8-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Harckham, Spreckman, Bronz, Pinto, Myers).

Added Starter: A327 Resolution to offer a reward from Seized Assets Account:

The police commissioner of Yonkers asked for \$10,000 to be offered for information leading to apprehension, arrest and conviction of the person(s) responsible for the murder of Pericles Salas, a livery cab driver in Yonkers. Legislator Kaplowitz asked if the gun shot detection system was in place yet and it is not – probably by the end of the year. On the motion of Legislator Alvarado, seconded by Legislator Spreckman, the motion was carried by a vote of 9-0 (Alvarado, Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman, Oros).

A324 Public Hearing Resolution SLI03 Long Island Sound BNR Water Quality Improvement Project, A325 Capital Budget Amendment SLI03 Long Island Sound BNR Water Quality Improvement Project and C180 Bond Act SLI03 Long Island Sound BNR Water Quality Improvement: The County would like to accept a grant of \$1,470,000 to modify the aeration tanks at the Blind Brook Wastewater Treatment Plant. The bond act of \$450,000 is requested for the design and construction of the aeration tanks which will increase the plant's nitrogen removal capabilities. There was much discussion on trading with other municipalities. On the motion of Legislator Myers, seconded by Legislator Kaplowitz, the item was signed out for "all purposes" by the Budget & Appropriations Committee by a vote of 9-0 (Alvarado, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman, Oros, Jenkins) and it was signed out on September 14, 2009 for "all purposes" by the Committee on Government Operations by a vote of 9-0 (Jenkins, Burton, Harckham, Burrows, Pinto, Myers, Bronz, Rogowsky, Spreckman) and the Committee on Environment and Energy signed this out for a public hearing only on September 14 by a vote of 7-0 (Abinanti, Myers, Harckham, Kaplowitz, Maisano, Nonna, Rogowsky).

A326 Resolution to Set a Public Hearing on Behalf of Refuse Disposal District No. 1: This resolution is to set the tipping fee which is \$25 for another year and then it will go up according to the CPI. The hearing will be at the County Center. On the motion of Legislator Oros, seconded by Legislator Burton for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 9-0 (Jenkins, Alvarado, Spreckman, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Oros) and this was signed out of Environment and Energy on September 14 by a vote of 8-0 (Abinanti, Myers, Harckham, Oros, Maisano, Kaplowitz, Rogowsky, Nonna).

A281. Resolution Public Hearing Sewer District Modification 183 Union Avenue and 19 Century Ridge Road, A282 Environmental Resolution Sewer District Modification 183 Union Avenue and 19 Century Ridge Road, A283 Act Sewer District Modification 183 Union Avenue and 19 Century Ridge Road: These items have gone through the process required for removal from a sewer district and they have now been returned for a vote. On the motion of Legislator Rogowsky, seconded by Legislator Jenkins for Budget & Appropriations, the

legislation was signed out for “all purposes” by a vote of 9-0 (Jenkins, Alvarado, Rogowsky, Spreckman, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Oros) and this was signed out by Government Operations on September 14 by a vote of 8-0 (Jenkins, Burton, Harckham, Bronz, Pinto, Myers, Rogowsky, Spreckman).

A292 Amended Act Reallocating HOPWA Funds: In 2007 New Rochelle was granted \$79,000 to be used for the housing needs of residents affected with HIV/AIDS. New Rochelle was unable to secure a provider to administer the program and as a result they have returned the money to the County. Mt. Vernon has requested \$48,000 to provide rental assistance to at least five residents. They were granted this and the balance of \$31,000 is being retained by the County to fund the County’s rental assistance program. This is all federal money. On the motion of Legislator Spreckman, seconded by Legislator Harckham for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 9-0 (Alvarado, Rogowsky, Burton, Kaplowitz, Myers, Harckham, Spreckman, Oros, Jenkins) and the Committee on Government Operations signed this out on September 14, 2009 by a vote of 8-0 (Jenkins, Burton, Harckham, Spreckman, Bronz, Pinto, Myers, Rogowsky).

A287 Resolution Finds Statement Grant Park Apartments BPL01, A288 HIF Act Grant Park Apartments BPL01, C159 Bond Act BPL01 Grant Park Apartments Affordable Housing Development: This project is the former Mulford Gardens, a public housing complex, which has been demolished and is being rebuilt. The bond is to finance the HIF capital project in the amount not to exceed \$3,850,000 and the city of Yonkers has agreed to a 50 year affordability. There will be 100 rental units. Legislator Kaplowitz questioned the 50 year affordability as Yonkers wanted thirty years on another project. Ms. Drummond said Yonkers has agreed and some of these units are considered public housing and so will be forever affordable. There was much discussion as to whether the money should be spent on this project or should it be spent on the affordable housing lawsuit housing. Ms. Drummond said this was time sensitive and the builder needed to close by the end of the month. On the motion of Legislator Jenkins, seconded by Legislator Spreckman for Budget & Appropriations, the motion was carried by a vote of 10-0 (Alvarado, Jenkins, Rogowsky, Harckham, Spreckman, Burton and the following signed this out “without prejudice” – Myers, Oros, Abinanti, Kaplowitz) and Government Operations signed this out on September 14, 2009 by a vote of 8-0 (Jenkins, Rogowsky, Burton, Harckham, Spreckman, Bronz, Myers, Pinto).

On the motion of Legislator Spreckman, seconded by Legislator Myers, Budget & Appropriations was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.