

**BUDGET COMMITTEE
of the
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE**

Minutes

A regular meeting of the Budget Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislative Building, Veterans Highway, Smithtown, New York, on **Tuesday, April 15, 2003.**

Members Present:

Legislator Martin Haley - Chairman
Legislator David Bishop - Vice-Chairman
Legislator William Lindsay
Legislator Fred Towle

Also In Attendance:

Paul Sabatino II - Counsel to the Legislature
Fred Pollert - Director, Budget Review Office
Jim Spero - Deputy Director of the Budget Review Office
Bill Faulk - County Exec's Office
Christine Chayes
All other interested parties

Minutes Taken By:

Donna Catalano - Court Stenographer

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(*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 12:40 P.M.*)

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Please stand for the Pledge to the led by Legislator Lindsay.

SALUTATION

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Okay. We have one speaker, Phyllis Garbarino.

MS. GARBARINO:

Good afternoon. I'm here to speak again against Resolution Number 1157, which is transferring funds in connection the police garage mechanics issue. I brought this and spoke against it about a month ago. And I found no new evidence to justify this resolution. It does

virtually eliminate the career ladders of the mechanics that would be transferred to the Police Department garage on the Police Department. And there is no justification for it. It's not cost effective. As far as operational, there seems to be no reason for it. And I think the resolution clearly even states that there is no particular reason for it. So I don't believe that this resolution should continue, because of the fact that there's nothing that came out the first time I asked for tabling in case there was more information. But I haven't found any more information. And unless somebody else can provide that for me, I speak against this resolution. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Thank you, Phyllis. Any questions of Phyllis? Thank you.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

All we have a tabled resolutions.

2255-02. To transfer surplus funds to County Tax Stabilization Reserve Fund. {ALDEN}

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Anyone's pleasure?

LEG. BISHOP:

I need an agenda.

LEG. BISHOP:

Motion to table.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Motion by Legislator Bishop, seconded by Legislator Towle. All in favor? Opposed? 2255 is TABLED. (VOTE:4-0-0-0)

1116-03. Amending the 2003 Operating Budget Transferring Funds for Suffolk Y Jewish Community Inc. (POSTAL)

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Any motions?

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LEG. BISHOP:

Motion to approve.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Motion to approve by Legislator Bishop, seconded by Legislator Towle. Legislator Lindsay.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Yeah, on the issue. The copy I have here still shows it's being taken out of living wage.

MR. SABATINO:

There's yet another corrected copy and --

LEG. LINDSAY:

I don't have that.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

327 is the latest copy I have.

MR. SABATINO:

There's another one from yesterday as well.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

I only have 327. Anyone else have any --

MR. SABATINO:

We have -- I'm sorry. That is 327, but it was filed yesterday. I apologize.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

So it's eligible to be voted on today.

MR. SABATINO:

Eligible to be voted on, yes.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

We have a motion and a second. Legislator Lindsay, go ahead.

LEG. LINDSAY:

Can we get a copy of it?

MR. SABATINO:

The offset is now retirement.

LEG. BISHOP:

Is retirement a good offset?

MR. POLLERT:

Yes. The retirements is a good offset this year because the State Comptroller has lowered the bills. So there will be a small surplus this year.

LEG. BISHOP:

Very small, right?

MR. POLLERT:
Extremely small.

MR. SABATINO:
And also, there is another corrected copy from yesterday, which there's an additional \$11,000 which is going to -- which is going to the youth bureau for Cedar Beach. And it's the same offset, but there's no \$11,000. That was just filed yesterday. The deadline is not until next Monday.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
What's the corrected number.

MR. SABATINO:
It would be yesterday, yesterday was the --

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
You said another --

MR. SABATINO:
\$11,000. It's an additional \$11,000 to -- it's a separate line item for the -- for the youth bureau at Cedar Beach.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
Anything else?

LEG. LINDSAY:
It's 670 now.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
671, right?

MR. SABATINO:
That would be 671. The offset is still the same, retirement also.

LEG. BISHOP:
Mr. Pollert, does that exhaust that offset?

MR. POLLERT:
Yes, it does.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
I want to see that change before it happens and we're going to pass over that before we vote. No, as a matter of fact, we can vote. I don't have to see the change. All in favor? Opposed? I'm going to abstain. Resolution passes 3-1.
APPROVED (VOTE:3-1-0-0) (Opposed; CHAIRMAN HALEY)

1146-03. Implementing Operating agreement between the County of

Suffolk and the Suffolk County Campaign Finance Board. (POSTAL)

Chris, would you come up. Ostensibly, this -- the only thing that's changed in this resolution is they've taken it from a Grade 30 down to Grade 17. Go ahead, Chris.

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MS. CHAYES:

As I said mentioned at the last meeting, there are several problems with the resolution. We did get a new description of job duties for the position since that last meeting. It was reviewed, and we are still recommending the Grade 17 that we initially recommended. The first resolve clause in the existing resolution also needs to address the position number and what department this position falls under.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

In other words --

MS. CHAYES:

It needs to be specified.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

This person needs to be attached to somebody. Somebody has to be responsible for this person.

MS. CHAYES:

It's really not clear at all in the resolution where this -- where this position reports to.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

They don't act on their own, they're answerable to some department or branch; is that correct?

MS. CHAYES:

We initially thought -- it was our impression going back when this first came out that this position would somehow fall under Budget Review or report to Budget Review.

MR. POLLERT:

(Shaking head no).

MS. CHAYES:

So that would have to be cleared up. And also in the section that adds the position to the classification salary plan, that would have to also note the jurisdictional class, the job spec number. And again, we are recommending the Grade 17, not 30.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Okay. So you need -- you need more specificity for lack of a better expression for this particular placement.

MS. CHAYES:

Yes, we do.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Thank you, Chris. While you are sitting there -- just sit there for a second, we're going to talk about the next one. 1146, motion to table by anyone?

LEG. LINDSAY:

Motion.

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CHAIRPERSON HALEY:

Seconded by myself. All in favor? Opposed? 1146 is
TABLED (VOTE: 4-0-0-0)

1157-03. Amending the 2003 Operating Budget and transferring funds in connection with transfer of Police Garage Functions. (POSTAL)

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Any motions?

LEG. LINDSAY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

I thought -- my inclination is to do away with this, there's no sense having it on the agenda. Would you consider tabling subject to call?

LEG. BISHOP:

I would but, generally -- generally you give the sponsor the opportunity to make the case for before you do that.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

I don't understand. I never heard that one.

LEG. BISHOP:

I'm willing to table it at this time. I would vote against the table subject to call because I haven't heard the argument for it, I only heard the argument against it, which I agree with at this point.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:

Yeah, but typically the committee system -- imagine if we operated all our committees that way.

LEG. BISHOP:
We do. I mean, I do.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
You actually don't --

LEG. BISHOP:
We don't table things subject to call in the Environment Committee until the sponsor has had an opportunity to come, generally.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
Oh, okay. That's -- that's our policy for your committee. All right.

LEG. BISHOP:
I would hate to have my bills tabled subject to call without an opportunity to --

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
I just assume kill this here. So what's the motion?

LEG. LINDSAY:
Motion to table.

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CHAIRMAN HALEY:
Do we have a second? No second is available.

LEG. BISHOP:
I second to table.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
Oh, you're second on the table. Okay. Motion and a second to table. All those in favor? Opposed?

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
Opposed.

LEG. TOWLE:
Opposed.

CHAIRMAN HALEY:
Motion to approve. No motion to approve? Any motions at all? 1157
FAILED FOR LACK OF A MOTION.

That's it. We're finished. Thank you.

(*THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:50 P.M.*)

{ } DENOTES BEING SPELLED PHONETICALLY