

BUDGET AND FINANCE COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Budget and Finance of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, 725 Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on December 10, 2013.

Members Present:

Legislator DuWayne Gregory - Chairman
Legislator Jay Schneiderman - Vice-Chair
Legislator Wayne Horsley
Legislator Tom Muratore

Excused:

Legislator Al Krupski

Also In Attendance:

Renee Ortiz - Chief Deputy Clerk
George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature
Paul Perillie - Aide to Legislator Gregory
Christina DeLisi - Aide to Legislator Schneiderman
Kevin LaValle - Aide to Legislator Muratore
Ali Nazir - Aide to Legislator Kennedy
Tom Vaughn - County Executive's Office
Laura Halloran - Budget Review Office
Rick Brand - Newsday
All Other Interested Parties

Minutes Taken and Transcribed By:

Gabrielle Skolom - Court Stenographer

*(*The meeting was called to order at 9:43 a.m. *)*

CHAIRMAN GREGORY:

Good morning, everyone. We're going to get started with today's Budget and Finance Committee. Looks like everyone made it here. Most people made it here safely. We have an excused with the exception of -- we have an excused absence with Legislator Krupski. We're going to get started the Pledge of Allegiance with the esteemed legislator from Brookhaven, Legislator Muratore.

*(*Salutation*)*

LEG. GREGORY:

Okay. Madam Clerk, do we have any cards?

MS. ORTIZ:

No, sir.

LEG. GREGORY:

No cards because there's no one in the audience. We're going to get started with the agenda.

Tabled resolutions:

IR 1564, Amending the 2013 Operating Budget and appropriating funds in connection with bonding for a Consent Judgment in partial settlement with the United States Environmental Protection Agency concerning County underground storage tanks and universal waste (County Executive). I'm going to make a motion to approve. Second by Legislator Schneiderman. Any questions? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **Approved (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not present: Krupski)**

IR 1570, Adopting Local Law No. -2013, A Charter Law to improve the County's Budget approval and amendment process to increase transparency and accountability ("Taxpayer Awareness Act"). I'm going to make a motion to table. Second by Legislator Horsley. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

LEG. MURATORE:

Opposed. No to table.

LEG. GREGORY:

One opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski)**

IR 1591, Adopting Local Law No. -2013, A Charter Law to institute a Departmental Omnibus Budget Amendment Process (Cilmi). Going to make a motion to table as well. Second by Legislator Horsley.

LEG. MURATORE:

Opposed.

LEG. GREGORY:

All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? One in opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski)**

IR 1597, Creating a commission to identify real cost saving measures in Suffolk County Government and affirming the current structure of the Suffolk County Charter as it relates to the Departments of Audit and Control and Finance and Taxation. Motion to table by

Legislator Schneiderman. I will second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

LEG. MURATORE:
Opposed.

CHAIRMAN GREGORY:
One opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski).**

IR 1605, Adopting Local Law No. -2013, A Charter Law to establish a two-year Budget Planning Process (Cilmi). Motion to table by Legislator Schneiderman. I will second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

LEG. MURATORE:
Opposed.

CHAIRMAN GREGORY:
One opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski).**

IR 1716, Adopting Local Law No. -2013, A Charter Law to improve the accuracy of Fiscal Impact Statements. Motion to table by Legislator Schneiderman. I will second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

LEG. MURATORE:
Opposed.

CHAIRMAN GREGORY:
One opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski).**

IR 1792, Adopting Local Law No. -2013, A Charter Law amending Article II of the Suffolk County Charter to clarify the requirements of a revenue impact statement (County Executive). Motion to table by Legislator Schneiderman. I will second All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Tabled (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Krupski)**

IR 1977, Adopting Local Law No. -2013, A Charter Law to improve budget and fiscal communication in County Government. Motion to table by Legislator Schneiderman. I will second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

LEG. MURATORE:
Opposed.

CHAIRMAN GREGORY:
One opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski).**

Introductory Resolutions:

IR 2069, Directing an audit of the Traffic and Parking Violations Agency (Cilmi). Motion to table by Legislator Schneiderman. I will second. Just on the record, if I may, Mr. Vaughn, I think the reason that we're looking to table this is it's my understanding that the administration is already conducting this process of reviewing those tickets that have been -- had administrative fee.

MR. VAUGHN:
Yes, sir. So right now the administration has administratively stopped charging the fee for the tickets that are in question. That local law is going to be codified. We expect that local law to be

codified at the December 17 meeting. In terms of looking backwards, the administration has been working with Audit, and, as a matter of fact, today, I believe, will formally send a letter from Chief Deputy Dennis Cohen down to Comptroller Joe Sawicki requesting them to do an official audit to help us determine the exact pool of tickets that have been impacted by what would have been the policy if the local law was in place going back to when we first opened up TPVA.

LEG. GREGORY:

Okay. Anybody else have any questions? Okay. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

LEG. MURATORE:

No to table.

CHAIRMAN GREGORY:

One opposition. **Tabled (VOTE: 3-1-0-1, Opposed: Muratore, Not Present: Krupski).**

IR 2075, To readjust, compromise, and grant refunds and charge-backs on real property correction of errors by: County Legislature (Control No. 939-2013) (County Executive).

Make a motion to approve, second by Legislator Schneiderman, place on the consent calendar. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approve/Consent (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Krupski)**

IR 2082, To readjust, compromise, and grant refunds and chargebacks on correction or errors/County Treasurer by: County Legislature No. 396 (County Executive). Same motion, same second. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Approve/Consent (VOTE: 4-0-0-1, Not Present: Krupski).**

Okay. That's all we have on our agenda. Thank you. We stand adjourned.

*(*The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 a.m. *)*