

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Economic Development Committee 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 May 25, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. William J. Lindsay III, Chairperson
Leg. Steven H. Stern, Vice Chair
Leg. Kara Hahn
Leg. Robert Calarco, DPO
Leg. Robert Trotta

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George M. Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel/Legislature
Amy Ellis, Chief Deputy Clerk/Legislature
Laura Halloran, Budget Review Office
Jennifer Hann, Aide to Leg. Lindsay
Deborah Harris, Aide to Leg. Stern
Zachary Baum, Aide to Leg. Hahn
Diana Cherryholmes, Economic Development
Regina Zara, Economic Development
Katie Horst, County Executive's Office
Tony Ceglie, Manager/Gabreski Airport
Vincent Butta, appointee/SC Motion Picture/Television
Rick Brand, Newsday
And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 2:01 PM

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Good afternoon. Welcome to the Economic Development Committee hearing. If we could all please rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator McCaffrey.

SALUTATION

Again, good afternoon. Welcome to the Economic Development Committee meeting. Madam Clerk, do we have any public comment cards?

MS. ELLIS:

No, we do not.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Anyone in the public that wishes to speak? This is the Public Portion and you have three minutes. If you wish to speak, please come forward. Not seeing anyone, we'll close the Public Portion and move right on into the agenda with the Tabled Resolutions.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

We'll start with **Resolution 1390, Appointing Vincent Butta to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission. (Co. Exec.)** Is Mr. Butta here today?

MR. BUTTA:

Right here.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Please come forward, sir. You can have a seat right here at the table in the middle. Good afternoon, Mr. Butta, thanks for coming in.

MR. BUTTA:

Yeah, my pleasure. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Thank you for your willingness to serve on this Committee. And maybe what we'll do is after we go through these appointments, we can bring up someone from the Television Film Commission and they can explain -- I'm very familiar with it, but some of the other Legislators, what the Commission does but -- if you could just give us a brief overview and why you think you're -- of your resume and why you think you're a good fit to be on this Commission.

MR. BUTTA:

Sure. I've been involved in the entertainment business since 2000, both as a financier, producer, an actor and as a businessman. So I've worked with most of the major studios. I've produced some big movies like Miracle about the 1980 Olympic Hockey Team, Pride and Glory, Warrior; but also a lot of independent films. My first movie was with Ed Burns. I was actually cast in that movie which is kind of fun to learn the business from that side of the camera. But I got involved in making independent films and studio films and then television shows from a couple of different levels, so I understand the business really from any angle you're approaching it. And I'd like to bring both my network and my expertise to the Commission to help expand the production of movies, TV shows, and so on at the Suffolk County. I think my contacts can help that process significantly.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Great. We appreciate your willingness to serve. I'll turn it over to my colleagues here on the Committee, see if any of them have any questions for you. No? Not seeing any, I'll make a motion to approve your appointment; second by Legislator Hahn. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

Congratulations. The next step here, Mr. Butta, is this will go before the full Legislature for a vote next Tuesday. You don't need to be there for the vote, but we hope that it passes, we expect that it should and we welcome you to the Commission and look forward to your contribution.

MR. BUTTA:

That's great. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Thank you.

MR. BUTTA:

Pleased to meet everyone.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Next we have **1391, Appointing Alan Inkles to the Suffolk County Motion Picture/Television Film Commission. (Co. Exec.)** Yeah, I was told that he wouldn't be here so we're -- I'm going to make a motion to table this right now; second by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? That motion is tabled. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

If we could get the people from the Film Commission maybe just come up for just two brief minutes and if you could just explain -- I know we've had multiple conversations about the work that you do and how much revenue it actually brings into the County; but just for the education of my fellow committee members, if you could just give us a brief overview.

MS. CHERRYHOLMES:

The Suffolk County Film Commission has, I think, 13 appointed members appointed by the County Executive. They are individuals that have close relationships with the film industry. Our goal is to seek their advice in how we can improve essentially selling the assets of Suffolk County for film locations. When a film shoots in Suffolk County, it brings tremendous economic benefit to the immediate community. And that's what we want to happen.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Absolutely. And, you know, do you have -- I'm kind of putting you on the spot here, but do you have any rough figures as to what it's contributed to our economy last --

MS. CHERRYHOLMES:

Not right now. We say maybe 45 million, but it's hard to define. This year we're in the process of seeking all the informations from the other -- from the towns and the municipalities, everyone that issues a film permit for us to actually collect solid data.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay. Well, thank you. Maybe at a future date we'll invite you back to do a formal presentation. I'm sorry, I didn't mean to put on the spot today --

MS. CHERRYHOLMES:

That's fine.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

-- but the question came up behind the horseshoe here, so. But thank you very much. We appreciate it.

MS. CHERRYHOLMES:

You're welcome. Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay. **Tabled Resolution 1398, Authorizing Suffolk County to enter into a Memorandum of Understanding with the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and Suffolk County Landbank Corporation. (Co. Exec.)** I'll make a motion to approve. I'm sorry. We're tabling this.

MS. HORST:

This isn't ready to go yet.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay.

MS. HORST:

You can table this.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay, my apologies. I'm speeding along. So I'll make a motion -- I'll change that motion -- strike that motion, Madam Clerk. I'm making a motion to table; second by Legislator Stern. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstention? So we tabled that. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

Introductory Resolution 1448, Authorizing the 2016 Cultural Tourism. Funding. (Co. Exec.) I'll make a motion to approve.

LEG. McCAFFREY:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Second by Legislator McCaffrey. Any discussion? Okay. I'll call the vote. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

Introductory Resolution 1455, Amending the Suffolk County Code, Chapter 948-32 to revise the fee schedule for Francis S. Gabreski Airport. (Co. Exec.) I'll make a motion to approve this as well; second by Legislator Stern. Any discussion? Legislator Trotta.

LEG. TROTTA:

What is this? What are we revising?

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Tony, if you could come forward, maybe you can speak to it.

MR. CEGLIO:

Good afternoon. Tony Ceglie, the Airport Manager at Gabreski Airport. From time to time we review the -- the department reviews the fees at Gabreski Airport compared to other airports in the County. East Hampton particularly, because they're on kind of the same level as we are. The only

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change we're making to the fee schedule this year is an increase in the helicopter fees by \$25.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay, thanks, Tony. I don't think \$25 is going to make or break the helicopter guys. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

Introductory Resolution 1481, Authorizing the sale of tax lien certificates on the former Liberty Industrial Finishing Site (SCTM Nos. 0500-136.00-03.00-009.000, 0500-136.00-03.00-010.002, 0500-136.00-03.00-011.006) to the Suffolk County Landbank Corporation. (Co. Exec.) Thank you, George. I'll get the Clerk to read it back. I'll make a motion to approve this.

LEG. STERN:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Second by Legislator Stern. Any discussion? All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

Introductory Resolution 1482, Authorizing the sale of tax lien certificates on the former Jericho Marine Site (SCTM Nos. 0100-226.00-03.00-059.000, 0100-226.00-03.00-123.000, 0100-226.00-03.00-124.000 and 0100-226.00-03.00-182.000) to the Suffolk County Landbank Corporation. (Co. Exec.) Same motion, same second. Any discussion on this site also? Not seeing any, I'll call the vote. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

(1483) Authorizing the sale of tax lien certificates on the former Stein and Giannott Site (SCTM No. 0100-074.00-02.00-025.002) to the Suffolk County Landbank Corporation. (Co. Exec.) Again, same motion, same second. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)**

1484, Authorizing the sale of tax lien certificates on the former Steck Philbin Landfill Site (SCTM Nos. 0800-042.00-01.00-001.000 and 0800-042.00-01.00-002.002) to the Suffolk County Landbank Corporation. (Co. Exec.) Again, we'll do same motion, same second.

LEG. TROTТА:

I am recusing myself from this one.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay. For the record please note Legislator Trotta's recusal. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-0-1)**

1487, Amending the 2016 Adopted Capital Budget and authorizing the execution of a grant agreement with the Federal Aviation Administration and the New York State Department of Transportation in connection with the Pavement Management Rehabilitation Project at Gabreski Airport. (CP 5739). (Co. Exec) Tony, if you can come forward and maybe just give us a brief overview on that.

MR. CEGLIO:

Okay. Good afternoon, again, Tony Ceglie, Gabreski Airport Manager. Runway 1533 at Gabreski Airport is one of our main runways at the airport. It's 150 feet wide by 5,000 feet long. The FAA gave us -- or the County -- a grant last year for the first half of the runway. This is the grant to finish the second half of the runway. The capital budget, which was submitted last year, was based

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on an estimate. We received bids last Thursday, actual bids; the low bidder was higher than the original estimate so this resolution seeks to change the capital budget to reflect the low bid that will be approved hopefully in the near future.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Yeah, could you give us the difference, what is it --

MR. CEGLIO:

Oh, sure.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

-- in terms of dollars.

MR. CEGLIO:

The adopted capital budget was 250,271. That's the County share. The change is an additional 30,336; County share will go up to 280,607. So it's an additional 30,000.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay. Any questions? I'll make a motion to approve. Hold on. Legislator Stern.

MR. CEGLIO:

I don't know if it helps, but the project is 95% funded: 90% by the FAA, 5% by the State. The County kicks in only 5%.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Yeah, Tony, we have differing numbers. Our figures are coming up to 5,853. Maybe Budget Review could help us out there and see if there's -- where the difference is coming from.

LEG. STERN:

Tony, you said that the number was about a \$30,000 difference?

MR. CEGLIO:

It's 30,000 from the adopted capital budget. The capital budget should be in the resolution. County share --

LEG. STERN:

Is that the overall and not the County's share?

MR. CEGLIO:

I'm just talking about the County share.

LEG. STERN:

You're saying that the County share is 30,000.

MR. CEGLIO:

Right. Thirty thousand more, right, than the original adopted.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Yeah, originally we were given different figures. We're showing -- maybe that's where the money -- the numbers got transposed.

MR. CEGLIO:

Yeah, originally -- the original IR that was submitted showed, I think, about \$6,000 difference.

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CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Right.

MR. CEGLIO:

The bids came in last Thursday higher than we initially thought so that 6,000 actually gets -- is about 30,000 now, yes.

LEG. STERN:

That's the difference?

MR. CEGLIO:

Yes.

LEG. STERN:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Okay, so we have a motion and a second? We have a motion, no second?

MS. ELLIS:

We don't. Sorry. We have a motion.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

And a second or no second?

MS. ELLIS:

No, no second.

CHAIRPERSON LINDSAY:

Second by Legislator Trotta. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? Okay, motion carries.

(VOTE: 5-0-0-0)

We don't have any procedural motions. I don't see any other business before the Committee so we are adjourned.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 2:15 PM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**