

**GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS, PERSONNEL,
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & HOUSING**

OF THE

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

MINUTES

A meeting of the Government Operations, Personnel, Information Technology & Housing 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 April 6, 2016.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Robert Calarco, Chairperson
Leg. William J. Lindsay, III, Vice Chair
Leg. Kara Hahn
Leg. Leslie Kennedy
Leg. Kevin J. McCaffrey (excused absence)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George M. Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel/Legislature
Amy Ellis, Chief Deputy Clerk/Legislature
Benny Pernice, Budget Review Office
Robert Braun, Deputy Bureau Chief/County Attorney's Office
Katie Horst, County Executive's Office
Lisa Santeramo, County Executive's Office
John Marafino, County Executive's Office
Jen McNamara, Director/Labor Relations
Daniel C. Levler, President/AME
Robert Fonti, PO's Office
William Shilling, Aide to Leg. Calarco
Zachary Baum, Aide to Leg. Hahn
Ali Nazir, Aide to Leg. Kennedy
Greg Atherton, Aide to Leg. McCaffrey
Rick Brand, Newsday
Lou Tutone, Suffolk County PBA
And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

MINUTES TRANSCRIBED BY:

Denise Weaver, Legislative Aide

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:10 AM

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Good morning and welcome to the Suffolk County Government Operations, Personnel, Housing and Information Technology Committee. We are going to get started. We apologize for the little delay there. If we could all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Kennedy.

SALUTATION

Okay. Thank you everyone. We're going to go into our agenda. I have no correspondence for the Committee at this time. Public portion, I have no cards. Is there anybody in the audience who would like to address the Committee at this time? Anyone? Going once, going twice. Okay, we are going to close the public portion and I have no presentations this morning as well, so we're going to go right into our resolutions. I do note that we have a representative here from AME, the union, as well as Labor Relations. And when we get to the appropriate resolution, we'll have you guys come up and give us a quick rundown on it.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

Tabled Resolutions, **IR 1161, Amending the Suffolk County Classification and Salary Plan in connection with a new position title in the Department of Social Services (Chief Division Administrator of Social Services). (Co. Exec.)** I've been advised that the administration is looking to table this still. So I'll make a motion to table; second by Legislator Lindsay. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **1161 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT)**

IR 1170, Authorizing a voluntary lag payroll for elected officials in 2016. (Stern) I will make a motion to table at the request of the sponsor given something to come up later. Legislator Hahn seconds that. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **1170 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT)**

1181, Instituting a lag payroll in Fiscal Year 2016 for employees within the Suffolk County Board of Elections in Bargaining Units 21 and 24. (Co. Exec.) Again, I will make a motion to table; second by Legislator Lindsay. Again, this is going to be addressed a little bit later in the agenda. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **1181 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT)**

1182, Instituting a lag payroll in Fiscal Year 2016 for employees of Bargaining Units 21 and 30 Management and Confidential Employees, respectively and exclusive of Suffolk County Community College and Employees of the Board of Elections. (Co. Exec.) Again, this is similar to the last two. I will make a motion to table; seconded by Legislator Hahn. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **1182 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT)**

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

Into Introductory Resolutions, and it's at this time I'd like to ask Mr. Levler, the President of AME to come forward as well as Miss McNamara, our Labor Relations Director. You two can have a seat at the table if that works for you.

[1288, Authorizing the County Executive to execute an agreement with the Suffolk County Association of Municipal Employees Bargaining Units No. 2 and No. 6 amending the terms and conditions of employment for the period January 1, 2013 through December 31, 2016.

(Co. Exec.)]

MS. McNAMARA:

Good morning.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Good morning.

MR. LEVLER:

Good morning.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Good morning, Dan. Thanks for both of you being here this morning. There's been a lot of talk and articles in the paper about this issue so perhaps maybe the two of you can give us a rundown of exactly what this resolution would do in this -- this deal that -- that it would have approved.

MR. LEVLER:

Yeah, essentially the AME contract had in it the ability to lag the pay of the AME employees for a total of ten days. We approached the County and asked for an alternative. The initial offer was to borrow -- well, not even borrow money, they wanted to make -- stop payments to the AME Benefit Fund. That offer was rejected by our board of directors. We continued to negotiate. Things got a little public, maybe a little heated at times, but we did settle on a deal that gave full repayment back to that benefit fund, which our board of directors found palatable and our membership then voted on and agreed to.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

So your members had a vote last week, I believe, that was commented?

MR. LEVLER:

Yes.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Okay.

MR. LEVLER:

And I would say roughly the numbers were about two-thirds in favor, one-third against.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Okay. Jen, maybe you could give us a brief rundown of exactly what this agreement does.

MS. McNAMARA:

Sure. What it does is in exchange for not instituting the lag payroll for the AME bargaining units, it ceases contributions to the AME Benefit Fund, which currently, as I understand, it has about a \$24 million reserve. And so what it would do is it would reduce a stop payment for the period of one year. The payments would start again in March of 2017. And when the payments pick up, we would also then pay a portion towards the repayment every month so that it would fully be paid back, I think, it's by 2028. And that's --

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

That's pretty much it. Right?

MS. McNAMARA:

-- pretty simple, yeah.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Okay, very good. Does anybody have any questions? Legislator Kennedy.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Good morning.

MS. McNAMARA:

Good morning.

LEG. KENNEDY:

I understand about the 2028 finalization. You will not be paying this year's; you will be paying 2017's. That's correct?

MS. McNAMARA:

Repayment starts March 1st, 2017.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay. I don't have the bill in front of me, but last night when I got it over, there were two scrivener's errors in it. There is -- I think it was in the first Whereas, there's an "and" that needs to be removed and we have to change it to "bargaining unit." Was that done or will that be done?

MS. McNAMARA:

My understanding is that it's going to be done after -- right after this.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Right after that; is that correct, George?

MR. NOLAN:

We've already corrected the "bargaining" mistake and -- delete the other "and" after the meeting. The County Executive's Office asked us to do that if we could do it as a scrivener's error and we can.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Okay, thank you.

MS. McNAMARA:

Thank you.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Okay. Any other questions? Seeing none, we don't have a motion yet, do we, Madam Clerk?

MS. ELLIS:

No, we don't.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

I'll make a motion to approve; second by Legislator Kennedy. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **IR 1288 is approved.**

(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT) Congratulations. Thank you guys for being here; appreciate it.

MS. McNAMARA:

Thank you very much.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

And I neglected to mention at the beginning of the meeting that Legislator McCaffrey does have an excused absence for today so please make note of that.

Okay, moving on. **IR 1289, Clarifying County police -- policy -- excuse me -- waiving civil service examination fees for Fire District and Ambulance Company Volunteers. (Browning)** I will make a motion to approve; second by Legislator Kennedy. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **IR 1289 is approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT)**

Home Rule number 01, Requesting the State of New York to enact legislation establishing a Bi-County Commission in the Counties of Nassau and Suffolk to study the feasibility of establishing the State of Long Island (Senate Bill S.2362A and Assembly Bill A.3116A). (Pres. Off.) Do I have a motion? Motion by Legislator Lindsay. Do I have a second? I do not have a second. Anybody want to make any other motions? Going once, going twice. Okay, the resolution fails for lack of a second.

LEG. KENNEDY:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON CALARCO:

Motion by table by Legislator Kennedy; second by Legislator Hahn. All those in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? **Home Rule number one is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. McCAFFREY NOT PRESENT)**

I have no other items on the agenda. If nobody has anything else for the Committee this morning, we are adjourned. Thank you everyone.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 10:18 AM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY**