

HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A meeting of the Human Services 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 26, 2015.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Monica Martinez, Chairperson
Leg. Kate M. Browning, Vice Chair
Leg. Lou D'Amaro (excused absence)
Leg. Kevin J. McCaffrey
Leg. Robert Trotta

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Jason Richberg, Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Jill Moss, Budget Review Office
Katie Horst, County Executive's Office
John O'Neill, Commissioner/Department of Social Services
Lisa Pinkard, Aide to Leg. Martinez
Justin Littell, Aide to Leg. D'Amaro
Greg Moran, Aide to Leg. Trotta
Michael Pitcher, Aide to Presiding Officer
And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 1:44 PM - NO COURT STENOGRAPHER PRESENT

CHAIRPERSON MARTINEZ:

Good afternoon. Welcome to today's Human Services Committee. I do apologize for the delay. We did have an important press conference to attend to. So, again, we do apologize, but if we could all rise for the Pledge of Allegiance to be led by Legislator Trotta.

SALUTATION

Thank you. Okay, we have not received any correspondence. Do we have any cards, Clerk?

MR. RICHBERG:

No cards, Madam Chairwoman.

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

CHAIRPERSON MARTINEZ:

Thank you. For the record there are no cards. Anyone in the audience who would like to speak? I do see our Commissioner O'Neill here from the Department of Social Services. Would you like to say a few words? Any update?

We do have before us resolution **1418 (Amending the 2015 Capital Budget and Program in connection with the purchase of vehicles for the Department of Social Services (CP 1821) (Co. Exec.)** Would you like to speak on that?

(Court Stenographer, Diana Flesher, enters the auditorium)

COMMISSIONER O'NEILL:

Yes, good afternoon, Human Service Committee. The resolution before you is to replace some aging vehicles that have already been decommissioned. Just real quickly in January 2013 there were 62 vehicles assigned to DSS. Since that time 21 have been decommissioned. We've added back 16; 15 of them have been cars, high efficiency gas mileage cars, as per the County policies. And we have a total of 57; ten are coming up for repairs. So right now they're able to use 47. We're asking for these specific cargo minivans, if you will, because we use them to transport children and for foster care. And the ones we currently have have somewhere in the neighborhood of like 130,000, 120,000, 140,000 miles. And also for the cargo vans we use them for our workers who do all the maintenance at our 8 locations. And it gets unproductive when they're unloading and filling up cars with tools as opposed to when they have just their own cargo van of the lack of cargo vans we currently have today due to the decommissioning.

CHAIRPERSON MARTINEZ:

We haven't made a motion yet. Okay, so -- all right. So, motion to approve?

LEG. BROWNING:

(Indicating)

CHAIRPERSON MARTINEZ:

I will second that. Are there any questions on the motion? Okay, then all in favor? Opposed? Abstention? Motion carries. **(VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. D'AMARO NOT PRESENT)**

Also, for the record, please note the excused absence for Legislator D'Amaro. And there is no further business before us, we are adjourned.

COMMISSIONER O'NEILL:

Thank you very much.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 1:48 PM
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