

LABOR, WORKFORCE AND AFFORDABLE HOUSING COMMITTEE
OF THE
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MINUTES

A regular meeting of the Labor, Workforce and Affordable 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 December 7, 2009.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Lynne C. Nowick, Chairperson
Leg. Kate M. Browning, Vice Chair
Leg. Thomas F. Barraga
Leg. Jack Eddington
Leg. DuWayne Gregory (Not present)

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George Nolan, Counsel to the Legislature
Sarah Simpson, Assistant Counsel
Barbara LoMoriello, Deputy Clerk
Joe Muncey, Budget Review Office
Jill Moss, Budget Review Office
Laura Halloran, Budget Review Office
Ed Hennessy, Deputy County Aide
Yves R. Michel, Commissioner of Economic Development and Workforce Housing
Jill Rosen-Nikoloff, Director of Affordable Housing
Greg Moran, Aide to Leg. Nowick
Paul Perillie, Aide to Majority Leader
Linda Bay, Aide to Minority Leader
Jack Caffey, Aide to Presiding Officer
All other interested parties

VERBATIM MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:24 AM

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Welcome to the Labor, Workforce and Affordable Housing Committee. This will be the last committee of the year, right? Okay. We'll start with the Pledge to the Flag led by Legislator Eddington.

SALUTATION

Okay. Welcome everybody. I do not see any cards from the public. Is there anybody that would like to address the Committee? Now would be the time. Okay, that went well.

Is there anybody that would like to address the Committee in reference to the Gabresky Airport? Okay. That might have to be something that would be saved for a meeting next year. We don't know if we'll be on that committee or not.

TABLED RESOLUTIONS

Having said, that we will go to tabled resolutions. **Resolution 1568, adopting Local Law No. -2009, A Local Law to strengthen the County's land transfer program for affordable housing. (Cooper)**

LEG. BROWNING:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Motion to table by Legislator Browning.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? **1568 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

1843, providing for marriage equality in the Administration of Benefits to Suffolk County Employees. (Cooper) Motion? Is there a motion?

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Motion to table.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

I'll make a motion to table.

LEG. EDDINGTON:

I'll second it.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? **1843 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

1867, adopting Local Law No. -2009, A Local Law to expedite construction of affordable housing (Schneiderman) I have not heard from the sponsor on this. Then I'll make a motion to

table.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Second by Legislator Barraga. All in favor? Opposed? **1867 is tabled. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

INTRODUCTORY RESOLUTIONS

Introductory Resolutions, 2092, appropriating funds for infrastructure improvements for Workforce Housing/Incentive Fund (CP 6411) (Co. Exec.) I'll make a motion, second by Legislator Browning. All in favor? Opposed? 2092 --

LEG. BROWNING:

Yes, let me get some details on that one.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Sure. We have a motion and a second. And could we have some details on that from Counsel? Jill, can you come up for a second? Commissioner, if you want to come up, too, that's fine.

COMMISSIONER MICHEL:

Thank you.

MS. ROSEN-NIKOLOFF:

Good morning.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Hi, Jill. You want to just give us some background on this, please?

MS. ROSEN-NIKOLOFF:

Yeah, this is Capital Program 6411. It's the infrastructure program. We currently have \$10 million appropriated by the legislature. Of that I've gotten Legislative and County Executive approval for approximately \$4 million to be allocated for the development of workforce housing and utilization of those infrastructure funds. So we're very proud of that. It's very successful. The infrastructure program has been approved for quite sometime and we've been diligent in trying to utilize those funds.

However, we have an additional \$6 million in applications and very viable developments that we want to allocate the balance of the \$10 million for, which leaves us with what's been appropriated having been used, so; and we've got projects in North Amityville, which is Legislator Gregory's district and Bay Shore and in East Hampton where we've got applications on for about \$3 million. And then we're in negotiations for everywhere from Greenport to Babylon on other developments. So if we intend to go forward with the infrastructure programs, I hope we do, we absolutely need an additional appropriation. And I point out that it's just an appropriation. And any developments that we fund we'd have to come back to you for approval.

LEG. BROWNING:

Okay.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Okay. So this is the full appropriation of the remainder of the money, sort to speak, but you don't really use the money until you come back to us for different projects?

MS. ROSEN-NIKOLOFF:

That's correct.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Okay, thank you. Does anybody have any other questions? We're good? Okay. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? **2092 is approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

2097, Authorizing the retirement and use of Workforce Housing Development Rights banked in the Suffolk County Save Open Space Bond Act Workforce Housing Transfer of Development Right Program Registry. (Co. Exec.) I'll make a motion and --

LEG. BROWNING:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Second by Legislator Browning. And, Jill, you might as well explain that as well.

MS. ROSEN-NIKOLOFF:

Under the the Save Open Space Bond Act, the County has bought up land to preserve it as open space. And what they do is they strip off the development rights and bank them in the registry to be used solely for affordable housing.

We've been doing this for a number of years. And the Department of Economic Development and Workforce Housing at the County Executive's direction has diligently advocated and done some outreach for the use of these developments. And here we are, we got applications in Southampton Town. And they have requested the use of one for the development of a one bedroom apartment in a mixed use development in Noyack.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Okay. Thank you. We have a motion and a second. Did we take a vote yet?

MS. LOMORIELLO:

No.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

All in favor? Opposed? **2097 is approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

2098, to approve the lease of eight (8) vehicles in the Suffolk County Department of Labor, in compliance with Local Law No. 20-2003. (Co. Exec.) Motion by Legislator Barraga, second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? **2098 is approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

2147, establishing binding arbitration policy for Suffolk County Deputy Sheriffs Police Benevolent Association (DSPBA) Contract (Co. Exec.)

LEG. EDDINGTON:

Motion.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Motion by Legislator Eddington, second by Legislator Barraga. George, this is just a pro forma on the contract? This has to be passed?

MR. NOLAN:

It's similar to what we did at our last meeting regarding PBA.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Right.

MR. NOLAN:

It allows the arbitrator to award a three-year award as opposed to a two-year award.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

All right. We have a motion and a second. All in favor? Opposed? **2147 is approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

2152, Approving the appointment of a relative of a County Legislator in the Suffolk County Clerk's Office. (Losquadro)

LEG. BROWNING:

Motion.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRPERSON NOWICK:

Motion by Legislator Browning, second by Legislator Barraga. All in favor? Opposed? **2152 is approved. (VOTE: 4-0-0-1. LEG. GREGORY NOT PRESENT)**

Does anybody else want to address the Committee? If not, I will make a motion to adjourn, second by Legislator Eddington. All in favor? Opposed? We are adjourned.

**THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 10:32 AM
{ } DENOTES SPELLED PHONETICALLY.**