

ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

OF THE

SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

MINUTES

A special joint meeting of the Environment, Planning & Agriculture Committee and the Parks & Recreation 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 October 23, 2013 to discuss the Operating Budget.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Leg. Kara Hahn, Chair of the Environment, Planning & Agriculture Committee/member of the Parks & Recreation Committee

Leg. DuWayne Gregory, Vice Chair of the Environment, Planning & Agriculture Committee

Leg. Lynne C. Nowick, Chair of the Parks & Recreation Committee

Leg. Al Krupski, member of the Environment, Planning & Agriculture Committee

Presiding Officer Wayne R. Horsley, member of the Parks & Recreation Committee

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

Robert Lipp, Director/Budget Review Office

Greg Dawson, Director/Parks Department

Sarah Lansdale, Director/Economic Development & Planning Department

And all other interested parties

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Diana Flesher, Court Stenographer

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THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 3:03 PM

PARKS & RECREATION COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIR NOWICK:

Is there anybody that wants to address Parks and Recreation? Having seeing nobody, I guess we're adjourned. Hold on a second. Commissioner Dawson, come on in, just in case. Commissioner, do you want to address the Committee or -- no?

COMMISSIONER DAWSON:

No, not particularly.

CO-CHAIR NOWICK:

Okay.

ENVIRONMENT, PLANNING & AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

All right, we can have a little talk between BRO and ourselves while we wait for Sarah Lansdale. I'd like welcome everyone to Environment, Planning and Agriculture Operating Budget Hearing. If we could all rise for the Pledge led by Legislator Anker.

SALUTATION

Sorry, if there was any confusion when the Parks Committee closed. We're doing these kind of separately, so.

So, while we wait for Director Lansdale to return, if -- Director Lipp, if there's anything you'd like to share with us to highlight while we wait for her, that would be --

P.O. HORSLEY:

There she is.

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

Sorry about that, Sarah. (Laughter) Yeah, I just stepped out of the room and it was like -- I thought the other one was still going on. So, if you want to come up and we can --

DIRECTOR LANSDALE:

Sure.

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

We don't have any cards. Is there -- we'll hear from you first; and then we'll ask if there's anyone who wants to address the Committee.

DIRECTOR LANSDALE:

Sure. Good afternoon. I'm here to just answer any of your questions.

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

Okay. Do any of the Legislators have any questions? Doctor Lipp, do you have anything you'd like us to pay real close attention to?

MR. LIPP:

There's nothing that major. So, like Sarah would say, I'm here to answer your questions.

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CO-CHAIR HAHN:

So, Sarah, I know that we have taken a hit in staffing over the years. And we've put a lot on your plate, on the plate of Laretta and some others in the Department. You know, is there -- I just want to make sure that we're on top of everything we need to be.

DIRECTOR LANSDALE:

Well, thank you for acknowledge the Department's work, Economic Development and Planning's work. We are very pleased with the Recommended Budget.

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

Yeah, everybody's been saying that. Legislator Krupski. I meant everybody from that side of the street.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Okay, thanks. I did -- I did have a discussion with Gil Anderson this morning, Public Works, about the lack of money for water quality improvement projects. And that if we move some of the salaries out of 477, that we could, in fact, free up some money to do some water quality projects.

The discussion ended with the scenario that it was unlikely this coming year, but I think that's something that we should all be working towards to try to get -- move those salaries -- or most of those salaries out of there in the future. Otherwise, the -- it seems to be -- with no funding, obviously you're never going to improve water quality, so. I don't know if you have any suggestions on how to accomplish that because -- well, I'll let you answer that.

DIRECTOR LANSDALE:

At this time I don't have any suggestions for how to accomplish that.

LEG. KRUPSKI:

Thank you.

DIRECTOR LANSDALE:

But I'll think about that.

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

All right. Anyone else? No? Do we have any -- we don't have any cards in front of us. Is there anyone in the audience who would like to address the Committee? That being said, thank you very much.

DIRECTOR LANSDALE:

Thank you.

CO-CHAIR HAHN:

We're adjourned.

THE MEETING CONCLUDED AT 3:11 PM

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