

WAYS AND MEANS
COMMITTEE
of the
SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
Minutes

A regular meeting of the Ways and Means Committee of the Suffolk County Legislature was held in the Rose Y. Caracappa Legislative Auditorium of the William H. Rogers Legislature Building, Veterans Memorial Highway, Smithtown, New York, on Friday, September 7, 2007.

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Legislator Lou D'Amaro - Chairman
Legislator Elie Mystal - Vice-Chairman
Legislator Tom Barraga
Legislator Edward Romaine

ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:

George Nolan - Counsel to the Legislature
Gail Vizzini - Director, Budget Review Office
Renee Ortiz - Chief Deputy Clerk of the Legislature
Ben Zwirn - County Executive's Office
Jacqueline Caputi - County Attorney
Debra Alloncius - AME
All other interested parties

NOT PRESENT:

Legislator Kate Browning

MINUTES TAKEN BY:

Donna Catalano- Court Stenographer

(*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 9:45 A.M.*)

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Good morning, ladies and gentlemen. Welcome to the committee. Please join us in the Pledge of Allegiance led by Legislator Barraga.

SALUTATION

Okay. There will be no Executive Session, none has been requested for this morning. I'd like to start off with the public portion of the hearing -- or of the committee meeting, rather, and start by calling the one card that we have this morning is Debra Alloncius. Ms. Alloncius, good morning. You'll have three minutes.

MS. ALLONCIUS:

Good morning Chairman D'Amaro and the members of the Ways and Means Committee. Just a minute on 2413. AME absolutely stands against this because it singles out AME pack as not being able to support any of our local politicians and we do not support it. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Okay. Thank you. The committee hasn't received any correspondence or there are no presentations to be made today as well, so we'll go immediately to tabled resolutions. Calling the first is 2413 of 2006.

Tabled Resolutions

2413-2006. Adopting Local Law No. 2006, A Charter Law creating a program for public financing of County campaigns and the banning of certain donations to curb potential conflicts of interest. (Co. Exec.) I'll offer a motion to table.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Barraga. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. The resolution is tabled. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1350-2007. Establishing a Taxpayer Friendly Health Care Benefits Policy for Suffolk County Water Authority. (Lindsay)

It's my understanding that the Water Authority on its own initiative has made changes to its policies and rendering this bill moot. So on that basis I will offer a motion to table subject to call.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1407-2007. Amending Resolution No. 2-2007, Rules of the Suffolk County Legislature. (Montano)

I'll offer a motion to table.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1558-2007. Sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Local Law 13-1976 Emanuel Arturi and Marie Clarke Arturi, tenants by entirety (SCTM No. 1000-126.00-11.00-014.000). (Co. Exec.)

Good morning, Mr. Zwirn. Just briefly on the record, are you prepared to table, amend, withdraw?

MR. ZWIRN:

We were going to leave this on as a placeholder and we were going to amend it because there are five properties. Real Estate is working on a resolution in Legislator Romaine's district, the Town of Southold. We have identified five properties which are similar in nature to this one. This bill should not move forward. The individuals here are going to receive their money back. They have changed their minds.

So we are going to couple this property with four other properties in that district and give them to the Town of Southampton. The Town of Southold is going to pass companion resolutions in the town board so that we can turn these properties over so the people in the communities will have access to the waterfront, which they would have anyway, but this will eliminate the fact that somewhere down the road they have to get legal counsel to try to fight for it.

So we are going to withdraw this because I don't think we are going to be able to amend this in time with the timetable, so we are in the process of withdrawing this bill. So this bill you can table subject to call. This bill will no longer appear on this calendar.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

All right. Thank you. I'll offer a motion to table subject to call. Seconded by Legislator Barraga. All in favor? Any Opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1640-2007. Authorizing certain technical correction to Adopted Resolution No. 357-2007. (Co. Exec.)

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

This had been tabled previously on request of Counsel. I understand the correction has been made. The technical correction to the technical correction resolution has now been made. So I will offer a motion to approve.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal and place on the Consent Calendar. Thank you. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1649-2007. Authorizing certain technical correction to Adopted Resolution No. 482-2007. (Co. Exec)

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Same explanation as the prior resolution. Once again I'll offer a motion to approve and place on the Consent Calendar.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? The motion carries.

(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)

1738-2007. Adopting Local Law No. 2007, A Charter Law to strengthen and streamline the process for adopting local legislation. (Lindsay)

I'll offer a motion to approve. Is there a second? This is a bill that would change the timing if a resolution that's passed by this Legislature is vetoed by the County Executive. It would negate the calling of a Special Meeting in order to consider the veto.

LEG. MYSTAL:

I'll second that.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator --

MR. ZWIRN:

The Sabatino rule.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

The Sabatino rule, correct. Seconded by our Vice Chair Elie Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed?

Abstentions? Motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1762-2007. Sale of County-owned real estate pursuant to Local Law 13-1976 Albert G. Mangels and Eleanor L. Mangels, his wife (SCTM No. 0500-372.00-04.00-016.000). (Co. Exec.)

This is a parcel that we had considered previously. Mr. Zwirn.

MR. ZWIRN:

We would ask for this to be tabled. We're reaching out to the town to have them take another look at this piece of property.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Very good, because that was part of the discussion we had last time. Very good. I'll offer a motion to table. Seconded by Legislator Barraga. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries.

(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)

1799-2007. Adopting Local Law No. 2007, A Local Law to establish a notification requirement for consultant contracts. (Montano)

I'll offer a motion to table pending the public hearing.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by our Vice Chair Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

M.R. 25. Memorializing resolution in support of New York State Legislation to provide statewide voting system using paper ballots and precinct-based optical scanners. (Viloria-Fisher)

LEG. MYSTAL:

Motion to table.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Motion by our Vice Chair Elie Mystal to table. I'll second. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

That completes the tabled resolutions portion of the agenda. Turning now to the new or Introductory Resolutions.

Introductory Resolutions

1833-2007. Adopting Local Law No. 2007, A Local Law to establish a prompt contracting policy for not-for-profit organizations. (Montano)

I'll offer a motion to table pending a public hearing.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? Motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1860-2007. Authorizing the sale, pursuant to Local Law 16-1976, of real property acquired under Section 46 of the Suffolk County Tax Act Julie Tsai (SCTM No. 1000-059.00-01.00-021.003). (Co. Exec.)

This is a 16, which is a matter of right. I'll offer a motion to approve and place on the Consent Calendar.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning)**

1861-2007. Authorizing the sale, pursuant to Local Law 16-1976, of real property acquired under Section 46 of the Suffolk County Tax Act Julie Tsai (SCTM No. 1000-015.00-09.00-001.001). (Co. Exec.)

I'll offer a motion to approve and place on the Consent Calendar.

LEG. MYSTAL:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Mystal. All in favor? Any opposed? Abstentions? And the motion carries. **(Vote: 4-0-0-1 Not Present: Legislator Browning).**

That completes the agenda. There is no executive session. I'll offer a motion to adjourn.

LEG. BARRAGA:

Second.

CHAIRMAN D'AMARO:

Seconded by Legislator Barraga. We are adjourned. Thank you.

(*THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 9:45 A.M.*).

{ } DENOTES BEING SPELLED PHONETICALLY