

STRICKEN AS OF END OF YEAR

Intro. Res. No. 1977-2013
Introduced by Legislator Cilmi

Laid on Table 11/6/2013

**RESOLUTION NO. -2013, ADOPTING LOCAL LAW
NO. -2013, A CHARTER LAW TO IMPROVE BUDGET
AND FISCAL COMMUNICATION IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

WHEREAS, there was duly presented and introduced to this County Legislature at a meeting held on , 2013 a proposed local law entitled, "**A CHARTER LAW TO IMPROVE BUDGET AND FISCAL COMMUNICATION IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT**"; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that said local law be enacted in form as follows:

LOCAL LAW NO. -2013, SUFFOLK COUNTY, NEW YORK

**A CHARTER LAW TO IMPROVE BUDGET AND FISCAL
COMMUNICATION IN COUNTY GOVERNMENT**

BE IT ENACTED BY THE COUNTY LEGISLATURE OF THE COUNTY OF SUFFOLK, as follows:

Section 1. Legislative Intent.

This Legislature hereby finds and determines that the County of Suffolk is grappling with serious financial challenges, including recurring budget deficits.

This Legislature further finds and determines that, while elected officials are periodically informed of changes in the County's fiscal outlook, there is no set schedule for regular updates on the County's financial standing.

This Legislature finds that the County's finance and budget officers should meet on a quarterly basis to discuss current and potential financial challenges, strategies to address such challenges, and changes to the County's fiscal condition to ensure that all stakeholders are on the same page.

This Legislature determines that, as the custodian of all County revenue, the County Treasurer has requested such a quarterly meeting schedule and should chair said meetings.

This Legislature determines that a quarterly report should be generated from each of these meetings to inform the County Legislature of the County's current fiscal state, the challenges it faces and potential solutions to those challenges.

This Legislature also finds that these quarterly reports will foster open and honest discussion among the County's elected officials.

Therefore, the purpose of this law is to amend the Suffolk County Charter to require quarterly meetings of the County's financial and budget officers to update elected officials on the County's fiscal status.

Section 2. Amendment.

Article IV of the SUFFOLK COUNTY CHARTER is hereby amended by the addition of a new Section C4-35 which shall read as follows:

Article IV. County Budget and Capital Program

§ C4-35. Financial Review Committee.

- A. There shall be a County Financial Review Committee, consisting of:
1. The Director of the County Executive's Budget Office, or his or her designee;
 2. The Director of the County Legislature's Office of Budget Review, or his or her designee;
 3. The County Treasurer, or his or her designee, who shall serve as chairperson of the Committee; and
 4. The County Comptroller, or his or her designee.
- B. The Committee shall meet on a quarterly basis to review the County's current fiscal condition, discuss past, present or potential financial challenges the County may be facing and develop plans on how those challenges may be addressed.
- C. The Legislature's Budget Review Office shall, within fifteen days of each meeting, summarize in writing the substance of all pertinent discussion and distribute to each member of the County Legislature.

Section 3. Applicability.

This law shall apply to all actions occurring on or after the effective date of this law.

Section 4. Severability.

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section, or part of this law, or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such order or judgment shall be rendered.

Section 5. SEQRA Determination.

This Legislature, being the State Environmental Quality Review Act (SEQRA) lead agency, hereby finds and determines that this law constitutes a Type II action pursuant to Section 617.5(c)(20), (21), and/or (27) of Title 6 of the NEW YORK CODE OF RULES AND REGULATIONS (6 NYCRR) and within the meaning of Section 8-0109(2) of the NEW YORK ENVIRONMENTAL CONSERVATION LAW as a promulgation of regulations, rules, policies, procedures, and legislative decisions in connection with continuing agency administration, management and information collection. The Suffolk County Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is hereby directed to circulate any appropriate SEQRA notices of determination of non-applicability or non-significance in accordance with this law.

Section 6. Effective Date.

This law will take effect immediately upon its filing in the Office of the Secretary of State.

[] Brackets denote deletion of existing language.
___ Underlining denotes addition of new language.

DATED:

APPROVED BY:

County Executive of Suffolk County

Date: