

The Legislature of Rockland County



MICHAEL M. GRANT
Legislator - District 2

Chair, Budget & Finance Committee
Vice-Chair, Government Operations Committee
2nd Vice Chair - Planning & Public Works Committee

Members Present:

Leg. M. Grant, Chair (7:30pm)
Leg. A. Wolfe, Vice Chair
Leg. I. Schoenberger
Leg. H. Cornell
Leg. J. Hood, Jr.
Leg. N. Low-Hogan
Leg. P. Soskin
Leg. F. Sparaco

Members Absent:

Leg. T. Earl
Leg. J. Murphy

Others Present:

Leg. B. Kantrowitz
Leg. A. Paul
E. Yeger, Esq.
N. DeSantis
N. Doliner
S. Grogan
P. Brennan
J. Tirino
B.Gruffi
M. Saber

Leg. D. Jobson
Leg. P.Moroney
Leg. C. Carey
A. Kassay
S. DeGroat
S. Powers
P. Piperato
R.Brega
P.Gerdin

MINUTES
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 30, 2014
7:15 PM

ADOPTION OF MINUTES, AUGUST 26, 2014 AND SEPTEMBER 8, 2014

MOTION TO ADOPT:
CORNELL/SOSKIN

UNAN

1. BONDS/PUBLIC WORKS MATTER:

1PPW) REF. #8293 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF CONTINUATION GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$1,971,000 (WITH A \$1,689,000 LOCAL SHARE WHICH DOES NOT INVOLVE THE EXPENDITURE OF COUNTY TAX DOLLARS) FROM THE NEW YORK STATE DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR TAPPAN ZEE EXPRESS BUS SERVICE FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014 APPROPRIATING THE SUM OF \$306,000 FOR CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS , AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE ALL INSTRUMENTS AND DOCUMENTS NECESSARY TO ACCEPT THIS GRANT [DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION] (\$1,971,000)
**(D. SCHUETZ, ACTING COMMISSIONER, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION)
DL#2014-02384 (PULLED IN PPW 6/24/14)**

*TRANSFERRED FROM PPW
ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SCHOENBERGER, WOLFE, PAUL, JOBSON,
MORONEY*

**MOTION TO APPROVE: UNAN
WOLFE/HOOD, JR.**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN

2PPW) REF. #6306 - ACCEPTING THE BID OF THE LOWEST RESPONSIBLE BIDDER AND APPROVING A CONTRACT IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 WITH HUSH MAINTENANCE CORP. FOR THE BUILDING L EMERGENCY GENERATOR REPLACEMENT IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$245,000 AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXECUTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE CAPITAL PROJECT NO. 2078 (DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES - FACILITIES MANAGEMENT) (\$245,000)
**(ROBERT H. GRUFFI, DIRECTOR DGS-FACILITIES MANAGEMENT)
DL#2014-03852**

*TRANSFERRED FROM PPW
ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SCHOENBERGER, WOLFE, PAUL, JOBSON,
MORONEY*

**MOTION TO APPROVE: UNAN
SCHOENBERGER/LOW-HOGAN**

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN

3PPW) REF. #6394 - APPROVING AN INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND THE TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN FOR A TOTAL CONTRACT SUM NOT TO EXCEED \$715,000 (NO COUNTY TAX DOLLARS) FOR REIMBURSEMENT FOR THE MAINTENANCE AND CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS OF PARK AND RIDE LOTS IN THE TOWN OF CLARKSTOWN FOR THE PERIOD FROM JANUARY 1, 2014 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2014 AND AUTHORIZING ITS EXECUTION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION) (\$715,000)
(D. SCHUETZ, ACTING COMMISSIONER, PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION)
DL#2014-03739

TRANSFERRED FROM PPW
ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SCHOENBERGER, WOLFE, PAUL, JOBSON, MORONEY

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
CORNELL/SPARACO

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN

4PPW) REF. #6394 -APPROVING PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 FROM CAVALIERE INDUSTRIES, INC. FOR COLD MILLING OPERATIONS FOR THE DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAYS IN AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT OF \$450,000 AND TO EXERCISE THE SECOND OPTION TERM FROM SEPTEMBER 17, 2014 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,350,000 FOR THE PERIOD FROM SEPTEMBER 17, 2012 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 16, 2015 UNDER RFB-RC-2012-059 WITH ALL PURCHASES TO BE MADE BY FORMAL PURCHASE ORDER (DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES - DIVISION OF PURCHASING) (\$1,350,000)
(PAUL J. BRENNAN, DIRECTOR DGS-PURCHASING)
DL#2014-03461

TRANSFERRED FROM PPW
ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SCHOENBERGER, WOLFE, PAUL, JOBSON, MORONEY

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
SOSKIN/SCHOENBERGER

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN

5PPW) REF. #5906 - ADJUSTMENT TO THE 2014 BUDGET TO RECORD REFINANCED BONDS HELD BY THE NEW YORK STATE ENVIRONMENTAL FACILITIES CORPORATION ORIGINALLY ISSUED IN 2004 ON CAPITAL PROJECT 6150 WESTERN RAMAPO SEWER EXTENSION (STEPHEN DEGROAT, COMMISSIONER FINANCE)
DL#2014-03533

TRANSFERRED FROM PPW
ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SCHOENBERGER, WOLFE, PAUL, JOBSON, MORONEY

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
WOLFE/HOOD, JR.

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN

2. GRANTS/DONATIONS:

2A) REF. #8024 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$59,400 (NCTD) FROM THE STATE OF NEW YORK GOVERNOR'S TRAFFIC SAFETY COMMITTEE TO BE USED FOR STOP-DWI CRACKDOWN ENFORCEMENT FOR THE PERIOD OCTOBER 1, 2014 THROUGH SEPTEMBER 30, 2015 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY GRANT DOCUMENTS BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (STOP-DWI DEPARTMENT) (\$59,400)
(LESLIE CHERNIN - COORDINATOR, STOP-DWI)
DL#2014-03878

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
LOW-HOGAN/CORNELL

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., LOW-HOGAN, SOSKIN, JOBSON

3. BUDGET ITEMS: **NONE**

4. AUTHORIZATIONS: **NONE**

5. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

5A) REF. #5327 - APPROVING INTERMUNICIPAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND THE VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY IN CONNECTION WITH A 2014 BYRNE JUSTICE ASSISTANCE GRANT (JAG) PROGRAM AWARD THAT WILL GO DIRECTLY TO THE VILLAGE OF SPRING VALLEY IN THE AMOUNT OF \$14,677 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THE AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (OFFICE OF THE SHERIFF) (\$14,677)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF)
DL#2014-03738

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
SOSKIN/LOW-HOGAN

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN, JOBSON

5B) REF. #6704 - APPROVING LEASE AGREEMENT BETWEEN NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL COVERAGE CORPORATION AND THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 (NCTD) FOR A PERIOD OF 60 MONTHS (FIVE YEARS) FROM AUGUST 1, 2014 TO JULY 31, 2019 AND AUTHORIZING EXECUTION OF THIS AGREEMENT BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ATTORNEY) (\$50,000)
(THOMAS ZUGIBE, DISTRICT ATTORNEY)
DL#2014-03966

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
WOLFE/HOOD, JR.

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN, JOBSON

6. ALLOCATION/RECLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS:

6A) REF. #8850 - RECLASSIFYING ONE POSITION IN THE ROCKLAND COUNTY CLERK'S OFFICE
(JOAN M. SILVESTRI, COMMISSIONER, PERSONNEL)
DL#2014-03789

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
HOOD, JR./SCHOENBERGER

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN, JOBSON

6B) REF. #4124 - ESTABLISHING ONE POSITION IN THE DEPARTMENT OF
PLANNING JOINT TASK FORCE ON WATER RESOURCES
MANAGEMENT
(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, HON. HARRIET D. CORNELL,
LEGISLATURE)
LG#3364

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Nicole Doliner explained that this is a full-time position for Coordinator, Water Resources Management Task Force at a salary of \$65,000/year. For the last two months of 2014, the money will come out of contingency. The expectation for 2015 is to secure grants to cover this position. This position will be included in the 2015 budget.

Leg. Cornell said that the County Executive is completely on-board with the Task Force and she looks forward to working with him and his Administration.

ACTION:
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL TO CHANGE REFERRAL TO REMOVE "JOINT" FROM TITLE AND WHEREAS CLAUSES

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNAN
CORNELL/WOLFE

ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, SCHOENBERGER, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN, JOBSON

7. BIDS: NONE

8. TRANSFER OF FUNDS/OTHERS: NONE

9. TAX ITEMS: NONE

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

10A) REF. #9500 - SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING
2015 ROCKLAND COUNTY BUDGET
(HON. MICHAEL M. GRANT, LEGISLATURE)
LG#3363

MOTION TO APPROVE: UNAN
SCHOENBERGER/WOLFE

ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN, JOBSON

11. LOCAL LAWS/HOME RULES: NONE

12. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS:

12A) REF. #7070 - DISCUSSION ITEM: IMPLICATIONS OF THE DEFICIT REDUCTION ACT OF 2012 (LOCAL LAW 10 OF 2012) ON THE PROPOSED 2015 BUDGET
(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, LEGISLATURE)

Leg. Grant said this is an issue we are all aware of and something that the Comptroller and the ratings agencies will be looking at. Local Law No. 10 requires a sum of no less than \$10 million on an annual basis be allocated for the reduction of the deficit. We did not need to enact this in 2013 because the \$96 million met the obligation for 2014.

Leg. Wolfe stated last year there were a number of different versions discussed to amend Local Law #10. If the Administration believes relief of this Law is needed, we need to know. The County Executive has said he is committed to reduction and we are open to amending the law and relying on the Administration's input. If we are going to make a change in the Law, there needs to be a public hearing and this takes time. Leg. Wolfe said he was appreciative that the Administration has included Legislative Fiscal Analyst Nicole Doliner in meetings and that Legislators have been invited to talk with staff.

Leg. Grant said this discussion was not meant to be confrontational; just want to be transparent.

Leg. Schoenberger agreed stating the Legislature does not want to be disengaged.

13. MISCELLANEOUS:

13A) REF. #7650 - REQUESTING THAT THE NEW YORK STATE LEGISLATURE ENACT AND THE GOVERNOR APPROVE LEGISLATION MODIFYING THE NEW YORK STATE CIVIL SERVICE LAW
(HON. HARRIET D. CORNELL, LEGISLATURE)
LG#3361

Leg. Cornell stated this referral would make changes in the State Law to make it possible to "ban the box".

Leg. Schoenberger said this referral came out of the Sept. 8th B&F meeting as a committee resolution and all the members who choose to should be added as sponsors.

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
CORNELL/HOOD, JR.**

UNAN

**ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN,
JOBSON**

14. RECEIVE & FILE:

14A) REF. #5050 - RECEIVE AND FILE REPORTS AND MANAGEMENT LETTER OF KPMG
LLP - ROCKLAND COUNTY INFIRMARY/SUMMIT PARK HOSPITAL -
FISCAL YEARS ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2013 AND 2012
(HON. MICHAEL M. GRANT, LEGISLATURE)
LG#3362

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
GRANT/SCHOENBERGER**

UNAN

**ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN,
JOBSON**

14B) REF. #9481 - RECEIVE AND FILE REPORT AND MANAGEMENT LETTER OF
O'CONNOR DAVIES LLP - COUNTY OF ROCKLAND COMPREHENSIVE
ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT - FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31,
2013
(HON. MICHAEL M. GRANT, LEGISLATURE)
LG#3365

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
HOOD, JR./LOW-HOGAN**

UNAN

**ADDED CO-SPONSORS: LEGS. WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, HOOD, JR., SOSKIN,
JOBSON**

Mr. Alan Kassay, O'Connor Davies, said the report is broken down into 3 sections: Introduction, Financial and Statistical Sections. The Auditors report on Page 1 states that it is the auditor's responsibility to express opinions on these financial sections based on their audit and in accordance with auditing standards generally accepted in the US. They did not audit the financial statements of the Home and Infirmary Fund. Mr. Kassay gave a general overview.

Page 37: The financial reporting entity consists of RCC/RC Soil & Water Conservation/RC Solid Waste Management Authority/RC IDA/RC Health Facilities Corp./Rockland County Tobacco Asset Securitization Corp.

Page 41: Fund Categories: Governmental, Proprietary and Fiduciary Funds.

Page 50: Property Tax Limitation, does not have limitation

Page 51: Tax Levy Limitation Law, beginning with the 2012 year 2% cap

Page 57: Capital borrowing \$160,000,000 outstanding RAN's and TAN's

Page 58: Short term Capital borrowing \$24,260,000

Page 59: Pension plans and tier levels

Page 60: Contribution to retirement drastically increased over the last few years

Page 62-63: Long-term Liabilities

Page 64: All bonds payable, \$494,315,482

Page 74: Number of employees eligible for OPEB

Page 87: General Fund - Revenues & Expenditures

Page 116: Sewer District Fund

Mr. Kassay explained this was a draft in a sense that it was not dated or signed. The reports from KPMG was one of the latest reports ever received. Fortunately, they were able to file before the deadline.

Leg. Grant said he was disappointed in KPMG's not attending this meeting and for the lateness in finalizing their report which seems to get worse every year.

15. CORRESPONDENCE/REVIEW AND DISCUSSION:

NONE

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 9:00 PM
HOOD, JR./WOLFE**

UNAN