

The Legislature of Rockland County



MICHAEL M. GRANT
LEGISLATOR – DISTRICT 2
CHAIR, BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE

Members Present:

Leg. M. Grant, Chair
Leg. A. Wolfe, Vice Chair
Leg. H. Cornell
Leg. I. Schoenberger
Leg. N. Low-Hogan
Leg. J. Murphy
Leg. J. Hood, Jr.
Leg. P. Soskin
Leg. F. Sparaco (left 7:45 pm)

Members Absent:

Leg. T. Earl

Others Present:

Leg. D. Jobson
N. Doliner
T. Grosselfinger
P. Brennan
T. Vanderbeek
S. Sherwood
Leg. A. Paul
R. McKay, Esq.
L. Hill
A. Connors
M.A. Walsh-Tozer

MINUTES
BUDGET & FINANCE COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2013
7:15 PM

ROLL CALL

CHAIR GRANT OPENED THE MEETING AT 7:15 PM WITH THE ADOPTION OF MINUTES AUGUST 20, 2013

MOTION TO ADOPT:
LOW-HOGAN/WOLFE

UNAN

1. BONDS/PUBLIC WORKS MATTER:

1PPW) REF. #7493/ -APPROVING ADDITIONAL PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 FROM 6803 HIGHWAY REHABILITATION CORP. FOR ASPHALT BITUMINOUS, HOT-IN-PLACE, HEAT AND SCARIFYING MATERIAL UNDER RFB-RC-2012-027 IN AN ADDITIONAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$100,000 FOR THE OPTION TERM FROM APRIL 18, 2013 THROUGH APRIL 17, 2014 AND FOR A TOTAL AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$1,450,000 FOR THE FULL PERIOD FROM APRIL 18, 2012 THROUGH APRIL 17, 2014 WITH ALL PURCHASES TO BE MADE BY FORMAL PURCHASE ORDER (DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES – DIVISION OF PURCHASING) (\$1,450,000) (GERRY WALSH, COMMISSIONER DGS-PURCHASING) DL#2013-03255

MOTION TO APPROVE:
CORNELL/SCHOENBERGER

UNAN
TRANSFERRED TO PPW 9/24/13

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

2PPW) REF. #9355 –APPROVING PURCHASES IN EXCESS OF \$100,000 FROM GOOSETOWN ENTERPRISES, INC. D/B/A/ GOOSETOWN COMMUNICATIONS FOR RADIO EQUIPMENT/EMERGENCY VEHICLE ACCESSORIES, MAINTENANCE, REPAIR AND INSTALLATION FOR VARIOUS COUNTY DEPARTMENTS ON AN AS NEEDED BASIS UNDER RFB-RC-2013-042 IN AN AMOUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$224,721.50 FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 15, 2013 THROUGH JULY 14, 2014 WITH FOUR (4) ADDITIONAL ONE (1) YEAR OPTION TERMS WITH ALL PURCHASES TO BE MADE BY FORMAL PURCHASE ORDER (DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL SERVICES – DIVISION OF PURCHASING) (\$224,721.50)
(GERRY WALSH, COMMISSIONER DGS-PURCHASING) DL#2013-03097

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
WOLFE/SOSKIN **TRANSFERRED TO PPW 9/24/13**

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

3PPW) REF. #5906 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$2,947 (NCTD) FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH HAZARD ABATEMENT BOARD FOR TRAINING AND EDUCATION FOR THE PERIOD AUGUST 1, 2013 THROUGH JULY 31, 2014 AND AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE (ROCKLAND COUNTY SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1) (\$2,947)
(DIANNE PHILIPPS, DIRECTOR, SEWER DISTRICT NO. 1) DL#2013-02950

MOTION TO APPROVE: **UNAN**
LOW-HOGAN/CORNELL **TRANSFERRED TO PPW 9/24/13**

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

2. GRANTS/DONATIONS:

2A) REF. #9263 - APPROVING ACCEPTANCE OF GRANT FUNDS IN THE AMOUNT OF \$48,000 (NCTD) CHILD CARE FRAUD PREVENTION AND DETECTION GRANT FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES FOR THE PERIOD APRIL 1, 2013 THROUGH MARCH 31, 2014 AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY INSTRUMENTS AND DOCUMENTS (DEPARTMENT OF SOCIAL SERVICES) (\$48,000)
(SUSAN SHERWOOD, COMMISSIONER, SOCIAL SERVICES) DL#2013-03707

(TRANSFERRED FROM MULTI-SERVICES 9/24/13)
ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SOSKIN, HOOD, JR., PAUL, JOBSON, MORONEY

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

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, CORNELL, WOLFE, SCHOENBERGER

2B) REF. #9142/ 2973 APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF A GRANT FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH TO THE ROCKLAND COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH (DMH) IN THE AMOUNT OF \$185,000 (NCTD) FOR THE PERIOD FROM JULY 1, 2013 THROUGH JUNE 30, 2015 WHICH IS TO BE EXPENSED BY DMH ON BEHALF OF THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND VETERANS SERVICE AGENCY AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS INCLUDING THE APPLICABLE CONTRACT (DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH) (\$185,000) **(MARY ANN WALSH TOZER, COMMISSIONER, MENTAL HEALTH) DL#2013-02404**

(DEFERRED AT THE MULTI-SERVICES 9/24/13)

DEFERRED

3. BUDGET ITEMS:

3A) REF. #9481 - AMENDING THE 2013 BUDGET BY APPROVING THE ACCEPTANCE OF ADDITIONAL FUNDS FROM THE NEW YORK STATE OFFICE OF MENTAL HEALTH IN THE AMOUNT OF \$128,832 (NCTD) TO BE DISTRIBUTED TO MENTAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION OF ROCKLAND COUNTY, LOEB HOUSE, ST. DOMINIC'S HOME AND ROCKLAND HOSPITAL GUILD FOR TEN (10) NEW SUPPORTED HOUSING BEDS AND AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE TO EXECUTE ALL NECESSARY DOCUMENTS INCLUDING THE APPLICABLE CONTRACT AMENDMENTS (DEPARTMENT OF MENTAL HEALTH) (\$128,832) **(MARY ANN WALSH TOZER, COMMISSIONER MENTAL HEALTH) DL#2013-03144**

(TRANSFERRED FROM MULTI-SERVICES 9/24/13)

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. SOSKIN, HOOD, JR., PAUL, JOBSON, MORONEY

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
SCHOENBERGER/SOSKIN**

UNAN

ADDED SPONSORS: LEGS. GRANT, SCHOENBERGER, CORNELL, WOLFE

3B) REF. #9481 - ABOLISHING CERTAIN POSITIONS AS OUTLINED IN SCHEDULE "A" ATTACHED HERETO, AND TRANSFERRING THE RESULTING SALARY SAVINGS TO THE BUDGET SALARY SAVINGS IN EACH APPROPRIATE ORGANIZATION CODE FOR 2013 **(HON. ALDEN H. WOLFE, LEGISLATURE) LG#3259**
DEFERRED AT 9/12/13 B&F MEETING

Chair Grant read a memo from Deputy County Executive Terry Grosselfinger (on file with clerk). In the memo Mr. Grosselfinger stated that after consulting with County Executive Vanderhoef, they have decided to defer providing information the committee requested.

Leg. Wolfe explained that the Legislature has been trying to obtain information on the vacant positions created by the Voluntary Separation Incentive (VSI) since April. He said it became very clear early on in the year that the salary savings from the VSI were not going to be met and he wanted to deal with these vacancies. Leg. Wolfe said the legislators were frustrated with the delayed responses from the County Executive's office from repeated requests for a complete analysis of the positions.

Leg. Wolfe said that after months of no feedback from the County Executive office, he assumes these positions must not be necessary and therefore he sponsored this legislation. This would abolish certain positions and transfer the resulting savings to the budget salary savings for each organization. Leg. Wolfe also stated that if the administration was not willing to fight to keep some of these positions, he would like to hear from the Department Heads on why they needed to keep certain positions.

Legislative Fiscal Analyst Nicole Doliner prepared a list of 55 positions as part of this resolution although Chair Grant stated this list could not be verified by the County Executive's office. Ms. Doliner said this does not represent all vacant positions. The current sewer district vacancies were not included since they are a separate taxing authority. A number of corrections officers positions are not listed because they are mandated by NY State. Also radio operators positions that were recently created by the Legislature are not on the list. Also a few positions in the Sheriff's and Highway Departments are not on this list.

Chair Grant said there has been no news as to the decision of the Governor on the deficit bonding. He stated that if the Administration would send an early budget, this would send a message to Albany that the Legislature and County Executive were working together and maybe help move the bond. Mr. Grosselfinger answered they were trying to get the budget to the Legislators early. He stated he would like to have the budget available to them in two weeks or earlier.

Some of the Legislators did not agree with this resolution and wanted to hear from the Department Heads before eliminating any positions, not knowing what impact the abolishments would have on their departments. Commissioner Sherwood spoke of six positions she could not do without.

Some of the Legislators also noted that budget was due in October and thought that would be a good time for the Department Heads to come and talk to the Legislators about these positions.

Leg. Grant stated that this body cannot effectively do their job if the Administration does not cooperate. The Legislature cannot just keep going along being dictated to by the Administration.

Leg. Wolfe said he did not want to wait until the budget is delivered to see this analysis. He noted that when heads of departments are not permitted to speak their minds, it is a sad, sad statement of our government. He suggested amending the resolution and removing the 6 positions that Commissioner Sherwood wanted to keep.

Mr. Grosselfinger stated all he could commit to was that he would speak to the County Executive and make recommendations and communicate this back to the Legislators.

A MOTION WAS MADE BY LEG. WOLFE AND SECONDED BY LEG. LOW-HOGAN TO AMEND THE SCHEDULE BY REMOVING THE FOLLOWING 6 POSITIONS IN DSS (POS. #8185, 8632, 6968, 8895, 2239, AND 6816)

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

**FAILS
4 AYES/4 NAYS**

**AYES: LEGS. GRANT, WOLFE, LOW-HOGAN, HOOD, JR.
NAYS: LEGS. CORNELL, SCHOENBERGER, SOSKIN, MURPHY**

4. AUTHORIZATIONS:

NONE

5. CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS:

5A) REF. #5327 – AUTHORIZING THE EXECUTION OF AN INTER-MUNICIPAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE COUNTY OF ROCKLAND AND NYS OFFICE OF PARKS, RECREATION AND HISTORIC PRESERVATION BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE FOR USE OF A 2013 BOSTON WHALER BOAT WITH TRAILER FOR MARINE LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES FOR THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 1, 2013 THROUGH THE CESSATION OF THE USE OF THE BOAT FOR LAW ENFORCEMENT PURPOSES AT NO COST TO THE COUNTY (SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT)
(LOUIS FALCO, SHERIFF) DL#2013-03645

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

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

ACTION: LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL TO CORRECT TYPOGRAPHICAL ERRORS IN APPROPRIATE CLAUSES

6. ALLOCATION/RECLASSIFICATION OF POSITIONS: **NONE**

7. BIDS: **NONE**

8. TRANSFER OF FUNDS/OTHERS: **NONE**

9. TAX ITEMS: **NONE**

10. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

10A) REF. #9495 – SETTING A DATE FOR A PUBLIC HEARING
2014 ROCKLAND COUNTY BUDGET
(HON. MICHAEL M. GRANT, LEGISLATURE) LG# 3260PH

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

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

11. LOCAL LAWS/HOME RULES: **NONE**

12. PRESENTATIONS/DISCUSSIONS: **NONE**

13. MISCELLANEOUS: **NONE**

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, 2012 AND 2011
(HON. MICHAEL M. GRANT, LEGISLATURE) LG#3256

DEFERRED AT THE 8/20/13 MEETING

**MOTION TO APPROVE:
LOW-HOGAN/WOLFE**

UNAN

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

15. CORRESPONDENCE – REVIEW AND DISCUSSION:

NONE

ACTION: LEG. GRANT REQUESTED A DISCUSSION ITEM BE CREATED TO BE ADDRESSED AT A FUTURE MEETING FOR THE COMMISSIONER OF FINANCE TO DISCUSS NEW TAX REQUIREMENTS

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 8:00 PM
HOOD, JR./WOLFE**

UNAN

“The Rockland County Legislature is committed to full compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act. To that end, the Legislature is committed to creating an accessible environment for all. To request accommodations that you may require, please call Damaris Alvarez at 845-638-5248 (845-708-7899 for TTY/TDD). Please request these accommodations three (3) days in advance so that we can seek to meet your needs.”