

# The Legislature of Rockland County



## **NANCY LOW-HOGAN**

Legislator, District 17

Chairwoman, Government Operations Committee

### **Members Present**

Leg. N. Low-Hogan, Chair  
Leg. M. Grant, Vice Chair  
Leg. J. Meyers  
Leg. A. Wieder  
Leg. P. Soskin

### **Members Absent**

Leg. P. Moroney  
Leg J. Murphy

### **Others Present**

E. Yeger, Esq.  
T. Grosselfinger

## MINUTES

### ***GOVERNMENT OPERATIONS COMMITTEE***

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 24, 2013

6:45 PM

### ROLL CALL

CHAIR LOW-HOGAN OPENED THE MEETING AT 7:25PM WITH THE ADOPTION OF MINUTES FOR THE MEETING OF FEBRUARY 27, 2013.

### **MOTION TO ADOPT: GRANT/MEYERS**

**UNAN**

1. REF. #9481 – DISCUSSION: OPERATIONAL REVIEW (DEPARTMENTAL FUNCTIONS)  
PERSONNEL, CONSUMER PROTECTION/WEIGHTS AND MEASURES **DISCUSSED**  
(CHAIR NANCY LOW-HOGAN, LEGISLATURE)

### **ACTION: PERSONNEL UNABLE TO ATTEND WILL RESCHEDULE FOR FUTURE MEETING**

#### **Weights and Measures**

Consumer Protection Director Terry Grosselfinger stated that New York State requires that all measuring devices are inspected once per year in order to certify accuracy. Some of the duties are annual scale inspections, gas station inspections, octane samplings, and package checking.

The same inspector does both types of inspections, gas pumps as well as scales. Scales and gas pumps are both digital and computer driven. The inspectors travel in undercover trucks.

Mr. Grosselfinger stated that due to environmental issues that many of the smaller businesses have gone out of business.

Chair Low-Hogan inquired about the procedure for package checking which is used to verify the net quantity of contents.

Terry Grosselfinger stated that National Institute of Standards Technology (NIST) Hand Book 44 allows statistical information on any given day, therefore lots must be checked from many different places.

Additionally, gas shortages or bad gas complaints must be investigated. Gas sampling must be sent to a laboratory in New Jersey. There are usually few violations in the area.

#### Challenges

Mr. Grosselfinger stated that the state does not allow the county to charge the amount needed which in turn ends up costing more to handle cases.

#### **Consumer Protection**

Terry Grosselfinger stated that the primary responsibility of Consumer Protection is licensing, There are 150 electrical contractors, the towing industry, and New York State taxi and limousine.

Mr. Grosselfinger explained that local limousine companies must be licensed to drop off in Westchester County.

The biggest complaints are with retailers and sales items without rain checks in addition to the Expired Food Law and Home Improvement Contractors.

The challenges met by the Consumer Protection Department have been the loss of three employees with the Early Retirement Incentive.

Mr. Grosselfinger stated that the plumbing fees come in at the end of the year.  
The department staff consists of 16 full time 1 part time positions.

Mr. Grosselfinger stated that revenues are on target for the year.

Chair Low-Hogan thanked Terry Grosselfinger for his insightful presentation .

**MOTION TO ADJOURN: 7:45 PM**  
**GRANT/MEYERS**

**UNAN**

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BDA