

Budget & Appropriations

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chair: Jewel Williams Johnson

800 Michaelian Office Bldg.
148 Martine Avenue, 8th Floor
White Plains, NY 10601
www.westchesterlegislators.com

Wednesday, April 3, 2024

2:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Please note: Meetings of the Board of Legislators and its committees are held at the Michaelian Office Building, 148 Martine Avenue, White Plains, New York, 10601, and remotely via the WebEx video conferencing system. Legislators may participate in person or via Webex. Members of the public may attend meetings in person at any of its locations, or view it online on the Westchester County Legislature's website: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com/> This website also provides links to materials for all matters to be discussed at a given meeting. *With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 2:11 PM.*

Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Christina Rampata, Justin Adin, Tami Altschiller ; BOL: Margaret Cunzio, David Imamura, Ben Boykin, James Nolan, Emiljana Ulaj, Catherine Parker, Charlotte Vinson, Marcello Figueroa, Greg Casciato, Lisa Hochman, Warren Watson, Jill Axelrod, James Silverberg

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [RES-2024-45](#) PH-Emergency Contracts

A Public Hearing on "A LOCAL LAW amending certain provisions of Section 167.171 of the Laws of Westchester County regarding emergency contracts." [Public Hearing set for April 29, 2024 at 7:30 p.m.]. Local Law Intro 2024-7.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND LEGISLATION

Joint with Legislation.

Guests: Law Department

Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney Tami Altschiller

Ms. Altschiller discussed the changes she made to the legislation pursuant to the legislators' requests at the last meeting. She said that the law will now provide that "No emergency contract shall have a term in excess of one year, provided, however, that if additional time is necessary, as determined by the County Executive, or duly authorized designee, an emergency contract may be extended for up to two additional one-year terms, provided that an extension may be up to one year and no longer, and each one-year extension shall be subject to the approval of the Board of Acquisition and Contract."

She noted that she added a new §2 of the law, providing that "A new Section 233.03 is hereby added to the Laws of Westchester County to read as follows: Sec. 233.03. - Yearly Report to

the County Board ... For each emergency contract, such report shall identify the name of the relevant county department(s), contractor(s), date of execution, purpose, term, project status updates, and, if applicable, why the emergency contract was extended and when such extension was executed."

Chair Williams Johnson said the BOL's Director of Finance suggested that the report should also indicate the source of the funding for these contracts. Ms. Altschiller said she will add that requirement to the committee report and the legislation. With a motion by Legislator Woodson-Samuels seconded by Legislator Barr, the committee voted to amend the legislation to include that language. The vote passed unanimously.

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Holstein and Legislator Pierce

2. [LL-2024-119](#) **LOCAL LAW-Emergency Contracts**

A LOCAL LAW amending certain provisions of Section 167.171 of the Laws of Westchester County regarding emergency contracts.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND LEGISLATION

Joint with Legislation.

Guests: Law Department

Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney Tami Altschiller

Please refer to item #1.

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Holstein and Legislator Pierce

3. [RES-2024-55](#) **PH-Calculating Income Eligibility to Qualify for a Senior Citizen Tax Exemption**

A Public Hearing on "A LOCAL LAW amending Chapter 470 of the Laws of Westchester County Relating to Calculating Income Eligibility to Qualify for a Senior Citizens Tax Exemption." [Public Hearing set for April 29, 2024, at 7:30 p.m.]. LOCAL LAW INTRO: 2024-159.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON LEGISLATION AND BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

Joint with Legislation.

Guests: Law Department

Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney Justin Adin

Deputy Budget Director Christina Rampata-Budget Department

Mr. Adin said this legislation will provide additional property tax relief for lower-income individuals by excluding non-taxable social security from the income calculation. The amount of the exemption is calculated based upon the annual income of the applicant. Applicants who make more than the threshold limit contained in those Chapters are not entitled to an exemption.

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Budget & Appropriations. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Holstein and Legislator Pierce

4. [LL-2024-159](#) **LOCAL LAW-Calculating Income Eligibility to Qualify for a Senior Citizen Tax Exemption**

A LOCAL LAW amending Chapter 470 of the Laws of Westchester County relating to calculating income eligibility to qualify for a Senior Citizen Tax Exemption.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON LEGISLATION AND BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS

Joint with Legislation.

Guests: Law Department

Assistant Chief Deputy County Attorney Justin Adin

Deputy Budget Director Christina Rampata-Budget Department

Please refer to item #4.

On motion of Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the above item was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Holstein and Legislator Pierce

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the Committee adjourned at 2:32 PM, by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Legislator Holstein and Legislator Pierce