

Social Services

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final



Committee Chairs: Christopher Johnson

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

Monday, April 5, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with the Budget and Appropriations and Public Works and Transportation Committees
With a quorum present, Chair Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:15AM.

Pursuant to Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order No. 202.1, "Continuing Temporary Suspension and Modification of Laws Relating to the Disaster Emergency," which temporarily suspends portions of the New York State Open Meetings Law.

A section of the order, "Suspension of law allowing the attendance of meetings telephonically or other similar services," provides for the suspension of "Article 7 of the Public Officers Law, to the extent necessary to permit any public body to meet and take such actions authorized by the law without permitting in public in-person access to meetings and authorizing such meetings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided that the public has the ability to view or listen to such proceeding and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed."

Others in Attendance: PWT: Robert Abbamont; BOL: Legislator Gashi, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Walter and Legislator Woodson-Samuels, Alessandra Restiano and Dayana Gómez

Present: Legislator Johnson, Legislator Covill, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Shimsky, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Boykin

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Guests: Commissioner Hugh Greechan and Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Robert Abbamont

Mr. Abbamont began by introducing the requests for both of these items: Capital Budget amendment adds \$173,000 requesting \$1.7M in bonds to replace existing boilers in this facility (17 South Second Avenue in Mount Vernon). The building is about 18,500 square feet and in the beginning of the year the existing boilers failed and the facility is currently functioning with temporary boilers located on the street. The funds request is for construction management. They anticipate 2 months of design and 6 months for construction. They hope to have this work completed before the next heating season.

Legislator Borgia asked if in the project the intention was to replace the boilers in a few years. Mr. Abbamont clarified that there were other repairs that needed to be made but they did not

anticipate changing the boilers until a later time.

Legislator Barr asked if there was damage done to the rest of the building when the boilers failed. Mr. Abbamont responded that the building itself was fine when this happened. He is unsure if the building is occupied and would need to ask Social Services. Legislator Barr asked if the cracks in the boiler were there before they failed and Mr. Abbamont said no but they were last replaced in the early 2000s. Legislator Barr also asked if they are aware of the amount of years that boilers last and Mr. Abbamont replied that typically they last about 25 years and they do normal preventive maintenance to the boilers to help them last longer. They are also starting to codify and diligently track the expected lifespan of their equipment to ensure that they prepare accordingly. He mentioned that there are 3 major departments that have an facilities: Departments of Public Works, Environmental Facilities and Parks and Recreation. Legislator Barr asked if they know when the full inventory will be completed, Mr. Abbamont said no but they will begin working on that now with this work.

Legislator Gashi asked if they have any indication of what caused this particular failure. Mr. Abbamont said that although they do not have an answer for this question they will be looking into it once they start moving the boilers around.

The Committee proceeded to vote on the following items.

1. [ACT-2021-43](#) **CBA-BSS13-Infrast Improvements to Shelter Facilities-Vernon Plaza, Mount Vernon**

AN ACT amending the 2021 County Capital Budget Appropriations for Capital Project - BSS13 - Infrastructure Improvements to Shelter Facilities - Vernon Plaza, Mt. Vernon.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

On motion of Legislator Williams, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Johnson, Legislator Covill, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Shimsky, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Boykin

2. [ACT-2021-44](#) **BOND ACT-BSS13-Infrast Improvements to Shelter Facilities-Vernon Plaza, Mount Vernon**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of ONE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$1,700,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project BSS13 - Infrastructure Improvements to Shelter Facilities - Vernon Plaza Mt. Vernon.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND SOCIAL SERVICES

On motion of Legislator Borgia, seconded by Legislator Williams, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Johnson, Legislator Covill, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Shimsky, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Boykin

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Borgia, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the Committee adjourned at 11:02am.