



Budget & Appropriations

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Vedat Gashi

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

Wednesday, September 7, 2022

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Public Works & Transportation, Health, and Seniors & Youth

This meeting was held pursuant to Chapter 1 of the New York State Laws of 2022 and Executive Order 11, as extended, which authorize any public body to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public-in-person access to meetings and authorize 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. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>.

With a quorum present, Chair Gashi called the meeting to order at 10:17 a.m.

Others in attendance: BOL: Legislator Jose Alvarado; Committee Coordinators: Jill Axelrod, Beth LoBello, Anand Singh, and Shatika Parker; and Marcello Figueroa; Guests (Remote) DSS: John Befus; DPW: Hugh Greechan, Rob Abbamont, Gayle Katzman, and Tom Rooney; Office of the Medical Examiner: Dr. Aleksandar Milovanovic; DoIT: Lennox Harris, Adam Epstein, Thomas Raffaelli, and Danish Syed; Law Dept.: Shawna MacLeod; Budget: Larry Soule and Mark Medwid

Present: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Remote: Legislator Borgia, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky and Legislator Tubiolo

MINUTES APPROVAL

Monday, July 18, 2022 at 10:00 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Monday, July 25, 2022 at 10:00 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the minutes were

approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Thursday, July 28, 2022 at 11:00 AM Minutes

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Williams Johnson, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2022-114](#) **BOND ACT-BSS14-1955-Infrast. Improves. to Shelter Facilities**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation
Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Department of Social Services

Deputy Commissioner John Befus

Commissioner Greechan and Rob Abbamont discussed the item. Several legislators expressed concern about not being able to access the cost breakdowns that were put in the Share File. They requested that the documents be provided another way. Legislator Maher said he would have to vote for the item without prejudice since they had not seen the written cost breakdowns. Commissioner Greechan noted that the Share File is often used because the files are too big to share another way. Mr. Rooney shared several photographs of the playground and other areas in need of repair.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Borgia

WO Prejudice: Legislator Maher

2. [ACT-2022-115](#) **BOND ACT-BSS14-1956-Infrast. Improves. to Shelter Facilities**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation
Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Department of Social Services
Deputy Commissioner John Befus
See discussion of Item #1 above.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Legislator Borgia

WO Prejudice: Legislator Maher

3. [ACT-2022-107](#) **CBA-B0117-Infrast. Rehab., 450 Saw Mill River Rd., Ardsley**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation
Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Department of Correction
Deputy Commissioner Gerald
Warden Vollmer
Bill Fallon

Mr. Abbamont discussed the item.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

4. [ACT-2022-108](#) **BOND ACT(Amended)-BCR5E, BCR57, BCR60, B0114, B0117, T0068**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation
Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Department of Correction
Deputy Commissioner Gerald
Warden Vollmer
Bill Fallon

Mr. Abbamont discussed the item.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

5. [RES-2022-154](#) **ENV RES-P0024-1886, P0028-1887-Bronx River Pkwy.**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation
Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Mr. Abbamont said the legislation consists of five projects, and gave an overview of each project. Commissioner Greechan answered questions regarding the projects.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

6. [ACT-2022-103](#) **CBA-P0029-Bronx River Pkwy over Bronx River, Eastchester**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation
Commissioner Hugh Greechan

See discussion of Item #5 above.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

7. [ACT-2022-104](#) **BOND ACT(Amended)-P0024-1886, P0028-1887, P0029-1908-Bronx River Pkwy**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation

Commissioner Hugh Greechan

See discussion of Item #5 above.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

8. [ACT-2022-105](#) **BOND ACT-P0024-1937-Bronx River Rehab Prgm**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation

Commissioner Hugh Greechan

See discussion of Item #5 above.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

9. [ACT-2022-106](#) **BOND ACT-P0024-1927-Bronx River Pkwy Rehab Prgm**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation

Commissioner Hugh Greechan

See discussion of Item #5 above.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

10. [ACT-2022-102](#) **BOND ACT-B0108-85 Court St. Bldg Improvements-White Plains**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation

Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Mr. Abbamont discussed the item.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

11. [ACT-2022-109](#) **BOND ACT-BLR13-Labs & Research Infrast. Improvements '22-'26**

Joint with PW&T and HEALTH.

Guests:

Department of Public Works & Transportation

Commissioner Hugh Greechan

Office of the Medical Examiner: Dr. Aleksandar Milovanovic, Deputy Commissioner
Dr. Aleksandar Milovanovic discussed the need for the upgrades and how the expansion will increase the health and safety of the lab employees. There was a slideshow presented for a visual representation and description of what was needed. Presentations available upon request.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

12. [ACT-2022-110](#) **BOND ACT(Amended)-BIT32-1961-Radio System Replacement**

Joint with PW&T.

Guests: DoIT: Lennox Harris, Deputy CIO; Adam Epstein, Program Coordinator, Radio Systems; Thomas Raffaelli and Danish Syed, Radio System Consultants; Law Dept.: Rachel Noe, Associate County Attorney

Deputy CIO Harris discussed the item. Mr. Epstein shared a cost breakdown. Mr. Harris said the additional funding is necessary to acquire frequencies needed to complete and continue the system expansion. Legislator Barr asked whether we didn't know we were going to need the additional money in the first place, or if costs went up. Mr. Epstein said that the system and all the equipment is actually already in place; we have learned through the process that we need the frequencies to be able to activate it. It also wasn't included in the original budget because it's extremely difficult to find additional frequencies, and if they are available, they have to negotiate to buy it.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

13. [RES-2022-157](#) **PH - The Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Home Owner's Tax Exemption**

Joint with S&Y.

Guest: Budget Department

Budget Director Larry Soule and Mark Medwid

Ms. Macleod explained that this is an amendment to an existing law which provides for real property tax exemptions for seniors and persons with disabilities. New York State has increased the income threshold necessary to qualify for the exemption. This amendment will permit the exemption on a sliding scale up to a maximum income of \$58,399.99. She noted that pursuant to State Law, the County can exclude unreimbursed medical and prescription drug expenses incurred by applicants from their calculated income.

Legislator Alvarado asked how we will pay for this. Mr. Soule replied that it has no fiscal impact on the County budget because we submit our tax warrants to the municipalities who collect our taxes on our behalf, and they pay one hundred percent.

On motion of Legislator Pierce, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the above item was approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice: Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky

14. [LL-2022-1](#) **LEGISLATORS GASHI AND TUBIOLO - LL - The Senior Citizens and Persons with Disabilities Home Owner's Tax Exemption**

Joint with S&Y.

Guest: Budget Department

Budget Director Larry Soule and Mark Medwid

See discussion of Item #13 above.

On motion of Legislator Pierce, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the above item was approved as amended. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

WO Prejudice: Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Williams Johnson, seconded by Legislator Pierce, the Committee adjourned at 1:22 p.m. by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Gashi, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Maher, Legislator Nolan, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith and Legislator Williams Johnson

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Away: Committee Vice-Chair Shimsky and Legislator Tubiolo

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