Public Safety BOL Meeting Minutes Final



Committee Chair: Terry Clements

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

Monday, September 15, 2025

1:00 PM

Committee Room

Joint with Legislation, Budget and Appropriations and Public Works and Transportation

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 Clements called the meeting to order at 1:44 PM

Others in Attendance:

BOL: Jewel Williams Johnson, Erika Pierce, Nancy Barr, Shanae Williams, Judah Holstein, James Nolan, David Tubiolo, Emiljana Ulaj (remote), Jill Axelrod, James Silverberg, Dayana Gomez

Present: Legislator Clements, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio and Legislator Smith

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

MINUTES APPROVAL

July 8th, 2025 Minutes

July 14th, 2025 Minutes

July 21st, 2025 Minutes

July 29th, 2025 Minutes

July 29th, 2025 4:15PM Minutes

July 30th, 2025 Minutes

On motion of Legislator Smith, seconded by Legislator Cunzio, the minutes were approved. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio and Legislator Smith

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

RES-2025-94 PH-Civil Penalty for Theft of Services-Bee-Line Bus System

A RESOLUTION to set a Public Hearing on "A LOCAL LAW amending the Laws of

Westchester County by adding a new Chapter 643 to provide a civil penalty for the theft of services in relation to Westchester County's Bee-Line Bus System". [Public Hearing set for September 29, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.]. LOCAL LAW INTRO: 2025-299.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, LEGISLATION, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY

Guests:

Law Dept:

Associate County Attorney Jason Whitehead

Dept. of Public Safety:

Capt. James Greer

Dept. of Public Works & Transportation:

Michael Swee, Director of Surface Transportation

Mr. Whitehead said the legislation had been revised to set the penalty at a maximum of \$ 50 per violation, removing escalating fines, and to provide that the annual reporting required from the Department of Public Safety will track the number and location of tickets issued.

Lt. Joe Peters from the Department of Public Safety explained that having an officer issue a ticket to someone on the bus in front of other passengers will act as more of a deterrent than going through the extensive process of a misdemeanor arrest for an individual.

Legislator Nolan said something needs to be done to discourage repeat offenders. Mr. Whitehead said that would be up to the municipalities. Public safety officers retain discretion to issue tickets based on circumstances.

Legislator Pierce highlighted the importance of having uniformed officers issue tickets to ensure effective deterrence and community trust.

Legislator Boykin said the wording of Sec. 643.31(1) was confusing as to who would issue tickets. After discussion, the committee members agreed that the language of the sections should state that "Violators of this Chapter may be issued appearance tickets by police officers of either the Westchester County Department of Public Safety or municipal police departments within the County." With a motion by Legislator Imamura seconded by Legislator Nolan, the legislation was amended to reflect this change.

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

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio and Legislator Smith

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

LL LOCAL LAW-Civil Penalty for Theft of Services-Bee-Line Bus System Intro-2025-299

A LOCAL LAW amending the Laws of Westchester County by adding a new Chapter 643 to provide a civil penalty for the theft of services in relation to Westchester County's Bee-Line

Bus System."

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, LEGISLATION, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND PUBLIC SAFETY

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

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio and Legislator Smith

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the Committee adjourned at 2:25 PM by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Clements, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio and Legislator Smith

Absent: Legislator Woodson-Samuels