



Public Works & Transportation

BOL Meeting Minutes - Published Draft

Committee Chair: Erika Pierce

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

Wednesday, September 13, 2023

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Joint with Budget & Appropriations and Parks & Recreation committees.

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, Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels called the meeting to order at 10:18 a.m.*

Others in Attendance: BOL: Legislators: Jewel Williams Johnson, Symra Brandon, David Imamura, and James Nolan; Committee Coordinators: Jill Axelrod, James Silverberg, and Beth LoBello; DES (Remote): Richard Wishnie, Susan Spear, and Chief William Caputo; DPW (Remote): Peter Tartaglia and Rob Lopane

Present: Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Smith

Remote: Committee Chair Pierce

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2023-170](#) CBA-DES Backup Generator

Joint with Budget & Appropriations committee.

Guests: Dept. of Emergency Services: Commissioner Richard Wishnie, Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear, and Chief Neil Caputo, Director of Fire Services

Commissioner Wishnie and Chief Caputo discussed the item. He said the proposed Capital Budget Amendment will amend the County's current-year capital budget to increase the County share for BES20 by \$1,000,000 to provide additional funding to account for inflation and cost escalation since the project was first budgeted in 2019. The related Bond Act, in the amount of \$1,000,000, would provide additional funding for the purchase of the emergency generator that will provide backup power for the Department of Emergency Services facility.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Smith

2. [ACT-2023-171](#) **BOND ACT-BES20-DES Backup Generator**

Joint with Budget & Appropriations committee.

Guests: Dept. of Emergency Services: Commissioner Richard Wishnie, Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear, and Chief Neil Caputo, Director of Fire Services

See discussion of Item #1 above.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Smith

3. [ACT-2023-172](#) **BOND ACT-BES24-2237-Replacement of Smoke House Building**

Joint with Budget & Appropriations committee.

Guests: Dept. of Emergency Services: Commissioner Richard Wishnie, Deputy Commissioner Susan Spear, and Chief Neil Caputo, Director of Fire Services

Chief Caputo said that this Bond Act, in the amount of \$810,000, will finance the design, special studies, and administrative reviews associated with the demolition of the existing smoke house and construction of a new smoke house fire training prop. The existing smoke house is over 45 years old and has had several large repairs during its life as a result of normal wear and tear to the structure. The repairs are failing due to the building's age and the repeated exposure to the temperature extremes of live fire, its rapid extinguishment and high pressure impacts resulting from the use of fire hoses during each training evolution. This has resulted in building deterioration and fatigue. Surrounding paved surfaces are exhibiting similar damage from the same wear and tear conditions noted to the building itself.

He noted that his realistic fire training prop is one of the most used at the DES training facility. It is used on a nearly daily basis by fire departments from municipalities throughout the County as a valuable hands-on fire suppression training tool for their firefighters.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Smith

4. [ACT-2023-168](#) **BOND ACT-RGP07-Park-Wide Tree Planting & Site Work**

Joint with Budget & Appropriations and Parks & Recreation committees

Guests: Dept. of Parks & Receptions: First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia and Rob Lopane, Program Coordinator (Capital Planning)

First Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia and Mr. Lopane discussed the item. Mr. Tartaglia advised that this Bond Act will finance the study, design, purchase and planting of trees and other plant materials and associated site work throughout the County's park system. The study will include a tree canopy assessment for the entire County and the County park system, reforestation and landscape restoration projects, and the establishment of a native plant nursery at two locations with the County Park System.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Smith

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Parker, the Committee adjourned at 11:13 a.m. by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Pierce, Legislator Barr, Legislator Parker, Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Excused: Legislator Tubiolo

Absent: Legislator Smith