



Parks & Recreation

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: David Tubiolo

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

Monday, January 25, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting joint with the Committees on Public Works & Transportation, Environment & Health, Law & Major Contracts and Seniors, Youth & Intergenerational Services

With a quorum present, Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 10:05 AM.

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: BOL: Catherine Borgia, Kitley Covill, Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg, Jill Axelrod BOL REMOTE: Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Johnson, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels, Jose Alvarado, Melanie Montalto, Elizabeth LoBello DOC REMOTE: Karl Vollmer, Bill Fallon DEF REMOTE: Vinnie Kopicki, Marian Pompa LAW REMOTE: Sean Carey, Jane Hogan-Felix LAW: John Nonna YOUTH BUREAU REMOTE: Dr. Harris-Madden, Bernie Dean PRC REMOTE: Kathy O'Connor, Peter Tartaglia DPW/T REMOTE: Hugh Greechan

Present: Legislator Boykin

Remote: Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Legislator Walter

MINUTES APPROVAL

1. October 19, 2020

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Parker, the above item was approved. The motion carried unanimously.

2. October 26, 2020

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the above item was approved. The motion carried unanimously.

3. November 9, 2020

On motion of Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Walter, the above item was approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2021-BOND ACT\(Amended\)-RMF02-Reconstruction of Memorial Field, Mount Vernon](#)

A BOND ACT (Amended) authorizing the issuance of additional bonds of Westchester County in the amount of TWO MILLION, SIX HUNDRED SIXTY-SIX THOUSAND (\$2,666,000) DOLLARS to finance Capital Project RMF02 - Reconstruction of Memorial Field, Mt. Vernon for 2021 (formerly MT # 13037)

Joint with B&A & PWT

Guests: Commissioner Kathy O'Connor & Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia- Department of Parks & Recreation; Commissioner Greechan & Robert Abbamont- Department of Public Works/Transportation

Commissioner O'Connor and Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia from the Department of Parks & Recreation joined Commissioner Greechan from the Department of Public Works & Transportation to discuss item # 2021 -8- Bond Act (Amended) RMF02- Reconstruction of Memorial Field, Mount Vernon. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$14,352,000 which included \$11,686,000 of previously authorized bonds. The amended Bond Act will finance all or a portion of the costs of the construction of the recreation improvements to Memorial Field recreation facility in the City of Mount Vernon. Work will include the installation of tennis courts, the installation of a skate park, the installation of an eight lane running track and bleacher seating with capacity of 3,900 spectators and the installation of a synthetic turf field. The proposed 2021 Capital Budget will amend the financing of RMF02 project to remove the cash transfer from the general fund and to finance that portion of the project with the debt proceeds, this result in additional debt associated with financing charge, resulting in no change to the County share of \$19,750,000. Commissioner Greechan explained that they have not spent the bonds yet, and we are amending the bond act to save money. Deputy Budget Director Grande began by explaining the change in the financing. There was a \$10 million bond referendum that no longer exists, we can now can bond for the entire project without cash contribution from the general fund. The \$2.7 million in cash has been removed from the project and the Department would like to authorize \$2.7 million of debt to the County to fund this project. There is no overall change to the total cost to the County. Chair Borgia asked if there was change to the scope of work. Both Departments confirmed that the scope of work has not changed. Legislator Covill went on record that she always felt we needed a monitor on this project, and that the money allocated for Mount Vernon is received by Mount Vernon but she is in favor of the project and happy that it still on track. Legislator Woodson Samuels spoke briefly that this is a project

that he and his predecessor are strongly in favor of and it will be an asset not only for District but for the entire County.

On motion of Legislator Shimsky, seconded by Legislator Maher, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 1/25/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Legislator Walter

2. **[ACT-2021-BOND ACT\(Amended\)-RMAC3-V.E. Macy Park Site Work](#)**
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A BOND ACT (Amended) authorizing the issuance of additional bonds in the amount of TWO MILLION, TWO HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$2,200,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project RMAC3 - V.E. Macy Park Site Work (formerly MT # 13083)

Commissioner O'Connor and Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia from the Department of Parks & Recreation joined Commissioner Greechan from the Department of Public Works & Transportation to discuss item # 2021 -11Bond Act (Amended) RMAC3- V.E. Macy Park Site Work. This is a Bond Act in the amount of \$2,510,000 which includes \$310,000 of previously authorized bonds. The amended Bond Act will finance the cost of recreational area improvements to the County's V.E. Macy Park in Ardsley. Work will include construction and construction management for the rehabilitation of the playground and group picnic areas, soccer and baseball field. The work is necessary due to the increasing popularity of the park since the addition of soccer and baseball fields. Design is currently at approximately 90% and is expected to be completed during the 1st quarter by in-house staff. Construction is estimated to take 6 months. Commissioner O'Connor describe the site work improvements which will include, new score boards, equipment, curbing, bleachers, benches, dugouts, fencing, improvements to the soccer and baseball field, accessory play structures, picnic facilities, irrigation system upgrades, storm water controls and landscaping. Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia explained that this project will help elevate the flooding that has been occurring at the park. Commissioner O'Connor also added that the Village of Ardsley is in the process of doing an extensive survey and study, Village Comprehensive Plan, to redevelop and repurpose the Village. They have included V.E. Macy Park and the South County Trailway. Legislator Maher asked about the age of the playground area, Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia explained that the playground is over 10 years old and the last work that was done was primarily drainage work which was surrounding the field, that is located in a flood zone. The work was to get the field to drain quicker. Currently the work includes drainage gardens and landscaping to certain areas since flooding continues to be an issue. Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia also discussed access to the Park and the South County Trail, and the addition of a sidewalk to help pedestrian access the park from the development across the street. Legislator Walter discussed that she has a Riverkeeper report that indicates that there is some sort of contamination of bacteria in the water.

Commissioner O'Connor has not seen the report, she asked if a copy can be sent to her, and she will look into the findings. Legislator Walter asked about the irrigation, is it a full redo? And are you drawing from the river that the Riverkeeper's report indicated has bacteria contamination? Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia said its improvements not a full redo and he is not sure if they are drawing from the river, he will have to confirm and get back to the committee. Commissioner Greechan stated that there is no pump station so they are not drawing from the river. He believes it is municipal water but will confirm. Legislator Shimsky discussed some items regarding the park and flooding issues and new picnic furniture. She went on record stating, do the proposed changes to the drainage program take into account a change in drainage patterns. Deputy Commissioner Tartaglia and Commissioner Greechan agreed that they can have a separate meeting to discuss the drainage issues and the plan to change the pattern. She asked if there is a plan to manage the invasive vines. They have a detailed plan and will forward to the Legislators. Legislator Walter asked if the plan would be like the project at Scout Field. The Commissioner explained that was a Capital Project, the work here would be volunteer.

On motion of Legislator Shimsky, seconded by Legislator Parker, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 1/25/2021. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Maher,
Legislator Parker, Legislator Shimsky and Legislator Walter

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Maher, seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the Committee adjourned at 2:21 PM.