



# Budget & Appropriations

## BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Jewel Williams Johnson

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

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Tuesday, June 20, 2023

10:00 AM

Committee Room

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### 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 Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:14 AM.*

*Others in Attendance: GUESTS: ; BOL: James Nolan, Chris Johnson, James Silverberg, Jill Axelrod, Beth LoBello, Greg Casciato*

*Legislator Maher joined the meeting but was not noticed*

**Present:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

### MINUTES APPROVAL

#### I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [ACT-2023-121](#) **ACT - Agreement Amendment with Stephen Einstein & Assoc., P.C. re Legal Collection Services**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to amend an agreement with the law firm of Stephen Einstein & Associates, P.C. to provide legal collection services to the County of Westchester in an "of Counsel" capacity to the County Attorney in connection with the recovery of delinquent student accounts at Westchester Community College for the term June 1, 2013 through May 31, 2021, in order to extend the term from June 1, 2021 through May 31, 2023 and to change the name of the firm to Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC, effective as of June 1, 2021.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND LAW & MAJOR CONTRACTS**

Joint with LMC.

Guests:

Senior Assistant County Attorney Daniela Infield-LAW

President Dr. Belinda Miles-WCC

Dolores Swirin-Yao-WCC

Stewart Glass-WCC

Richard Cruz-WCC

*Ms. Infield, Dr. Miles, Ms. Swirin-Yao, Mr. Glass, and Mr. Cruz discussed the item. They advised that Westchester Community College (WCC) decided in conjunction with the County Attorney's Office to pursue collection efforts through an outside law firm with sufficient expertise and staffing to handle the 300 to 400 delinquent student accounts per year. In December 2013, the County entered into an agreement with Stephen Epstein & Associates P.C. (whose name was later changed to Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC) for a five-year term with three additional one-year options. The current extension is requested to provide time for WCC to receive responses to a Request for Proposals ("RFP") seeking qualified law firms to provide "of counsel" legal services to the County Attorney in connection with the recovery of delinquent student accounts at the College. Due to the pandemic and change-over of staff, WCC was unable to prepare an RFP prior to the termination of the agreement on May 31, 2021, but an RFP has recently been issued and responses are due back in June.*

*This legislation would authorize the County to amend the agreement to retain Tromberg, Morris & Poulin, PLLC to provide legal collection services in an "of counsel" capacity to the County Attorney for recovery of delinquent student accounts for WCC for the term commencing June 1, 2021 and terminating on August 31, 2023.*

*The legislators had several questions:*

- 1. What is the law firm's process for collection?*
- 2. Was interest accruing during the pause on collections during COVID?*
- 3. What is the breakdown of the number of students and the delinquent students?*
- 4. How much money is owed, and what is the median amount owed?*
- 5. Is there any leeway with the interest rates on the debt?*
- 6. What type of payment plans does WCC enter into with students prior to collections, and what is the term? Is interest charged on the payment plans?*
- 7. Who are the 300 to 400 students who are falling behind in their payments? What is the average amount of each student's indebtedness?*
- 8. Can the 40 existing cases be pursued if the extension to the agreement through August 31st is not entered into?*

*Mr. Glass said they will provide answers to these questions.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi and Legislator Pierce

**Nay:** Legislator Parker

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

**WO Prejudice:** Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

2. [ACT-2023-119](#) **ACT-Renaming WCC Student Center - David Swope Student Center**

AN ACT to rename the Westchester Community College Student Center, the "David Swope Student Center".

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEE ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS**

B&A Only.

Guests: Westchester Community College

President Dr. Belinda Miles

Dolores Swirin-Yao

Stewart Glass

Richard Cruz

*Ms. Infield, Dr. Miles, Ms. Swirin-Yao, Mr. Glass, and Mr. Cruz discussed the item.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

3. [RES-2023-98](#) **PH-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Mount Pleasant**

A Public Hearing on an "ACT to modify the Saw Mill Valley Sanitary Sewer District by the removal of one (1) parcel of property located in the Town of Mt. Pleasant from the district." [Public Hearing set for July 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.]. INTRO ACT NO: 2023-241.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, AND ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE**

Joint with PWT and EEC.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa

Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown

*Commissioner Vincent Kopicki, Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa and Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown discussed the item. They explained why the property qualified for removal from the sewer district.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

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**4. [RES-2023-100](#) ENV RES-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Mount Pleasant**

AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION determining there will be no significant impact on the environment from the removal of one (1) parcel of property located in the Town of Mt. Pleasant from the Saw Mill Valley Sanitary Sewer District.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, AND ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND CLIMATE**

Joint with PWT and EEC.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa

Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown

*Please refer to item #3.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

**5. [ACT-2023-122](#) ACT-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Mount Pleasant**

AN ACT to modify the Saw Mill Valley Sanitary Sewer District by the removal of one (1) parcel of property located in the Town of Mt. Pleasant from the district.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION, AND ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY AND CLIMATE**

Joint with PWT and EEC.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa

Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown

*Please refer to item #3.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

**6. [RES-2023-99](#) PH-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Harrison**

A Public Hearing on "AN ACT to modify the Mamaroneck Valley Sanitary Sewer District by the removal of four (4) parcels of property located in the Town of Harrison from the district."

[Public Hearing set for July 10, 2023 at 7:30 p.m.]. INTRO ACT:2023-251.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS &**

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**TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE**

Joint with PWT and EEC.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa

Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown

*Commissioner Kopicki, Mr. Pompa and Mr. Brown discussed the item. They explained why the property qualified for removal from the sewer district.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

7. [RES-2023-101](#) **ENV RES-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Harrison**

AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION determining that there will be no significant adverse impact on the environment from the removal of four (4) parcels of property from the Mamaroneck Valley Sanitary Sewer District.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE**

Joint with PWT and EEC.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa

Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown

*Please refer to item #6.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

8. [ACT-2023-123](#) **ACT-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Harrison**

AN ACT to modify the Mamaroneck Valley Sanitary Sewer District by the removal of four (4) parcels of property located in the Town of Harrison from the district.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT, ENERGY & CLIMATE**

Joint with PWT and EEC.  
Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities  
Commissioner Vincent Kopicki  
Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa  
Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown  
*Please refer to item #6.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

9. [ACT-2023-116](#) **BOND ACT-SM033-Mamaroneck WRRF Primary Settling Tank Rehab.**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of TWO MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$2,500,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project SM033 - Mamaroneck WRRF Primary Settling Tank Rehabilitation.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT and EEC.  
Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities  
Commissioner Vincent Kopicki  
Director of Maintenance Marian Pompa  
Program Coordinator (Capital Program) Joe Brown  
*Commissioner Kopicki, Mr. Pompa and Mr. Brown appeared before the Committee to discuss the item.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

10. [RES-2023-97](#) **ENV RES-BPL40-2168-Stormwater Management-Variou Co. Fac. II**

AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION determining that there will be no significant adverse effect on the environment from Capital Project BPL40 - Stormwater Management - Various County Facilities II.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION**

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Planning Department

Commissioner Blanca Lopez

Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge

Principal Planner for Urban Design Suzette Lopane

*Acting Commissioner Lopez said this project is for removal of the Maiden Lane Dam in the County-owned Oscawana Park in the Town of Cortlandt. The dam is in disrepair and the project will reduce flooding in the area. Ms. Lopane shared a slideshow presentation on the project.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

11. [ACT-2023-117](#) **CBA-BPL40-2168-Stormwater Management-Various Co. Fac. II**

AN ACT amending the 2023 County Capital Budget Appropriations for Capital Project BPL40 - Stormwater Management - Various County Facilities II.

***SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION***

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Planning Department

Commissioner Blanca Lopez

Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge

Principal Planner for Urban Design Suzette Lopane

*Please refer to item #10.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

12. [ACT-2023-118](#) **BOND ACT(Amended)-BPL40-2168-Stormwater Management-Various Co. Fac. II**

A BOND ACT (Amended) authorizing the issuance of TWO MILLION, NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$2,900,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance BPL40 - Stormwater Management - Various County Facilities II.

***SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION***

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Planning Department

Commissioner Blanca Lopez

Assistant Commissioner David Kvinge

Principal Planner for Urban Design Suzette Lopane

*Please refer to item #10.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

13. [ACT-2023-115](#) **IMA (Amend)-Hillside Woods Forestry Project-Hastings-on-Hudson**

AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester to amend an intermunicipal agreement with the Village of Hastings-on-Hudson in connection with an Urban Forestry Management Project, by extending the project completion date from May 31, 2023 to May 31, 2024.

***SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND PARKS & RECREATION***

Joint with PWT and PR.

Guests: PRC

First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia

Robert Lopane

*Mr. Tartaglia explained to the committee that in 1993 the County and the Village entered into an agreement to simultaneously purchase an undivided interest in Hillside Woods, an approximately 52-acre woodland in the Village, for purpose of establishing the Park. The terms of the 1993 agreement, the Village agreed to assume full responsibility for the administration and management of the Park. Due to overpopulation of deer, invasive plants, and poor light conditions on the forest floor, the Park is now in a severely deteriorated condition. They have a restoration project with three parts: tree invasive removal, tree and shrub replanting, and installation of deer protection fencing. They need to extend it another year because the village did not get many bids for fencing, so they have repackaged that separate from the rest of the project, and need more time. The fencing will protect future planting from the deer.*

*Mr. Lopane shared photographs showing the condition of the forest.*

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

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels

14. [ACT-2023-124](#) **IMA(Amend)-Addition of County Police Officer-Cortlandt**



AN ACT authorizing the County of Westchester, to further amend its inter-municipal agreement with the Town of Cortlandt, whereby the County, acting by and through its Department of Public Safety Services, provides police services to the Town for a term commencing February 1, 2020 and expiring January 31, 2025, in order to add the services of an additional County Police Officer to serve as a full time community policing and traffic safety officer for the Town.

**SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC SAFETY**

Joint with PS.

Guest: Department of Public Safety

Sergeant James Dress

*This item will be taken up at a future meeting.*

This ACT - IMAs was continued

## **II. OTHER BUSINESS**

## **III. RECEIVE & FILE**

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Moved by Legislator Tubiolo, seconded by Legislator Pierce, the Committee adjourned at 11:49 AM. by the following vote:

**Aye:** Committee Chair Williams Johnson, Legislator Barr, Legislator Gashi, Legislator Parker, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo and Imamura

**Absent:** Legislator Maher, Legislator Smith and Committee Vice-Chair Woodson-Samuels