



Budget & Appropriations

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Catherine Borgia

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

Thursday, November 18, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committee on Public Works & Transportation, Environment & Health and Seniors Youth & Intergenerational Services.

The County Board will meet pursuant to Chapter 417 of New York State Laws of 2021, allowing public bodies to meet and take action without permitting in-person public access to meetings and authorizes such meetings and public hearings to be held remotely by conference call or similar service, provided the public has the ability to view or listen and that such meetings are recorded and later transcribed. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>

With a quorum present, Chair Borgia called the meeting to order at 10:13 AM.

Others in Attendance: BOL: Alessandra Restiano, Anand Singh, Yolanda Valencia BOL Remote: Mary Jane Shimsky, Jose Alvarado, James Silverberg, Melanie Montalto BOL Elect: Jewel Williams Johnson (Remote) BUDGET Remote: Larry Soule, Gideon Grande, Michael Dunn, William Olli, Mark Medwid LABS Remote: Dr. Milovanovic, Dian Anton SENIORS Remote: Mae Carpenter, Jeanne Pici, Sandra Brown, Sherine Kurien DEF Remote: Vinnie Kopicki, Lou Vetrone, Erin O'Shea, Nat Federici, Marian Pompa, Cj Gelardo

Present: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Walter

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Remote: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

10:00 AM - Department of Labs & Research

Guests: Dr. Milovanovic and Diane Anton, Chief Administrator

10:30 AM - Department of Senior Programs & Services

Guests: Commissioner Mae Carpenter, Deputy Commissioner Jeanne Pici, Director of Program Development, Sandra Brown & Sherine Kurien, Accountant III

11:30 AM - Department of Environmental Facilities

Guests: Commissioner Vincent Kopicki, Deputy Commissioner Lou Vetrone, Deputy Commissioner Erin O'Shea, Deputy Commissioner Nat Federici

Department of Labs & Research

Dr. Milovanovic appeared before the Committee with his team from the Department of Labs & Research to present their 2022 Executive Proposed Budget. Legislator Walter asked if their State and Federal aid was affected by COVID? She noted that it looks like there is an uptick in 2022, is there money here that is not reflected? Mr. Grande responded that this is the full amount, including State aid. Legislator Walter asked if that was higher or lower than pre-COVID? Mr. Grande responded slightly higher for 2021, however, projections for 2022 are showing back to normal. Chair Borgia asked how many vacancies are there currently? Dr. Milovanovic responded that the workforce is stable, but they have 16 positions to fill. Legislator Barr asked about testing for marijuana? Dr. Milovanovic responded that in the budget they included lipid chromatography and mass spectrometry, which are tools used to test for marijuana. Legislator Maher asked if they have noticed any uptick in samples for drivers who are tested now that marijuana is legal? Dr. Milovanovic responded that he is not directly involved with that testing and he will ask the toxicology coordinator for those numbers. Legislator Maher asked about lead testing? Dr. Milovanovic responded that most of that program is handled by the Department of Health and that it is paid for by NYS.

Department of Senior Programs & Services

Commissioner Carpenter appeared before the Committee with her team from the Department of Senior Programs & Services to present their 2022 Executive Proposed Budget. Legislator Maher asked if all staff are vaccinated? DC Pici responded that one person is unvaccinated, and they have a medical exemption. She noted that everyone is always masked and is socially distanced when possible. Legislator Maher asked what service do the County police provide to this Department? Commissioner Carpenter responded that they are stationed in their building and that the Department pays their share. Legislator Tubiolo asked what the Department could use the Board of Legislators' support on? Commissioner Carpenter responded if we could get homecare reimbursement rates upped that would be tremendously helpful and if they could dedicate money to attracting aides/nurses that would go a long way. She noted that without enough aides/home care workers, seniors will end up in nursing homes. Legislator Alvarado spoke about the issues he has worked on and discussed housing for homecare workers. Commissioner Carpenter responded that she would love to see housing for homecare workers be considered to help attract/retain workers as an incentive. Legislator Barr asked if this has always been a problem and what have people been doing until now? Commissioner Carpenter

responded that they did start a transportation program for home care workers to the northern part of the county, but it wasn't sustainable. She stated that it is hard to transport people from the Bronx to northern Westchester. She also noted that Westchester has the highest migration of seniors out of the county because of a lack of affordable housing.

Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Kopicki and his team from the Department of Environmental Facilities appeared before the Committee to present their 2022 Executive Proposed Budget. Chair Borgia asked when you allocate personnel positions, are they spread over more than one district, or are the dollar amounts exclusive to one? Mr. Grande responded that the salaries are allocated across the districts for a dollar value and that they can be moved as needed. Legislator Alvarado stated that he has heard about the new engines and asked how the Department is prioritizing what we apply for in the federal infrastructure plan? Commissioner Kopicki responded that as far as the flare goes, they have 1 engine installed, next phase installs 2 more. The engines will never run 100% on digester gas, 80/20 digester/natural gas and once those engines are up and running it will significantly reduce the amount they need to flare off, they also have phase 4 of the odor control project. The Department did a final evaluation and that will be going out soon. They will be adding another component where they are replacing the flare with a high-efficiency burner, so not only will there be less gas being burned off, but it will also burn more efficiently. As for odor control, the next phase should take care of this. They are replacing scrubbers, hatches, and fans, this project should take care of most of the issues he's speaking. They also reevaluated the design to increase screenings in the additional phase, which reduced solids entering tanks (causing clogs) and alleviate some of those issues. They are also installing high-efficiency blowers, which are very efficient and have a small footprint increasing airflow to help with odor control. The new burner design is expected to be done by midyear, the project will be in construction simultaneously, projects won't be on top of each other. He noted that as for the grants, they are still in process of identifying additional projects that may qualify under the infrastructure bill. The engine replacement is roughly 30 million, and that should be eligible for federal funding. Legislator Walter asked how the Yonkers plant performed during Hurricane Ida? Commissioner Kopicki responded that the plant performed very well and they did have to utilize their CSO since they were getting in excess of 220 million gallons per day. Legislator Barr asked about the numbers on food scraps since the transportation part has been implemented? DC Federici responded that he does not have the exact numbers, but every month since they have started the program it has gone up. They have people in the queue to join the program and expect it to grow throughout 2022. With the reduced cost and its popularity, the Department has started to look at other initiatives like curbside pickup. Chair Borgia asked if the Department has any vacancies? DC O'Shea responded that there are 39 vacancies currently, 9 will be filled/have offers out before 2022, and 8 are in the interview stage.

1. [ACT-2021-212](#) ACT-Enter into Grant Agreement with NYSOFA

AN ACT to authorize the County to enter into a grant agreement with the New York Office for the Aging to accept grant funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, HDC5 and Title III-C of the Older Americans Act and to enter into intermunicipal agreements with local municipalities for services to be funded pursuant to the grant.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND SENIORS, YOUTH

& INTERGENERATIONAL SERVICES

Joint with SYIS

Commissioner Carpenter appeared before the Committee to discuss item # 2021-590-ACT_Enter into Grant Agreement with NYSOFA. This is an act to authorize the County to enter into a grant agreement with the New York Office for the Aging to accept grant funds under the Consolidated Appropriations Act, HDC5 and Title III-C of the Older Americans Act and to enter into intermunicipal agreements with local municipalities for services to be funded pursuant to the grant.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin

2. **[ACT-2021-210](#) BOND ACT-RD021-Haulage Vehicle and Solid Waste Equipment VI**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of THREE MILLION, EIGHT HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$3,800,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance Capital Project RD021 - Haulage Vehicle and Solid Waste Equipment Phase VI.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

Joint with PWT

Commissioner Kopicki appeared before the Committee to discuss item #2021-557-BOND ACT-RD021-Haulage Vehicle and Solid Waste Equipment VI. This is a bond act in the amount of \$3,800,000 will finance the material necessary to replace vital Material Recovery Facility and transfer station equipment which has reached the end of its useful life, including, but not limited to, solid waste compactors, solid waste haulage vehicles, recyclables processing equipment, and solid waste containers in order to continue to process residential curbside recyclables and solid waste collected by Refuse District municipalities and deliver solid waste to a final disposal site.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

3. **[ACT-2021-211](#) BOND ACT-DEF Design**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of FIVE MILLION, NINE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$5,900,000) DOLLARS in bonds of Westchester County to finance the following eight (8) Capital Projects for 2022: SNY95 - Pumping Station Rehabilitation Program - North Yonkers SSD, SOS07 - Ossining WRRF Fire and Gas Detection Systems, SPC11 - Port Chester Wastewater Treatment Plant - Roof Replacements, SPK23 - Peekskill WRRF HVAC Replacement, SPK26 - Gregory Brook Relief Sewer, SY044 - YJ Primary Sludge Gravity Thickener Piping Replacement and Process Improvements, SY045 - Yonkers Joint WRRF Solids Handling Upgrades, and SY053 - Yonkers Joint Sewer Districts Sewer Tunnel Rehabilitation.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

Joint with PWT

Commissioner Kopicki appeared before the Committee to discuss item #2021-558-BOND ACT-DEF Design. This is a bond act in the amount of \$5,900,000 to finance the following eight Capital Projects for 2022:

- *SNY95 - Pumping Station Rehabilitation Program - North Yonkers SSD,*
- *SOS07 - Ossining WRRF Fire and Gas Detection Systems,*
- *SPC11 - Port Chester Wastewater Treatment Plant - Roof Replacements,*
- *SPK23 - Peekskill WRRF HVAC Replacement,*
- *SPK26 - Gregory Brook Relief Sewer,*
- *SY044 - YJ Primary Sludge Gravity Thickener Piping Replacement and Process Improvements,*
- *SY045 - Yonkers Joint WRRF Solids Handling Upgrades,*
- *SY053 - Yonkers Joint Sewer Districts Sewer Tunnel Rehabilitation.*

This will finance:

- *The lining and rehabilitation of the influent sewer to the Hastings Pumping Station in the North Yonkers Sanitary Sewer District (SNY95),*
- *The replacement of the fire and gas detection and alarm equipment and upgrades to the security equipment at the Ossining Water Resource Recovery Facility (SOS07),*
- *Replacement of roofs at the Port Chester Water Resource Recovery Facility (SPC11),*
- *The rehabilitation or replacement of HV AC equipment at the buildings at the Peekskill Water Resource Recovery Facility (SPK23),*
- *The installation of a new relief sewer adjacent and connected to the existing Gregory Brook Intercepting Sewer in the City of Peekskill (SPK26),*
- *The replacement of the primary sludge gravity thickener collection equipment at the Yonkers Joint Water Resource Recovery Facility (SY044),*
- *The upgrading of the solids handling equipment at the Yonkers Joint Water Resource Recovery Facility (SY045),*
- *The rehabilitation of several large diameter sewer tunnels in the Yonkers Joint Sewer Districts (SY053).*

This bond act will also finance the costs of preliminary studies to determine feasibility, design parameters, costs and benefits, and other work useful for determining the proposed timing and scope of the above-referenced projects and whether said projects should be undertaken in the form proposed.

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Walter, the above item was signed by

committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

4. [RES-2021-194](#) **PH-Sewer District Mod.-Return-Cortlandt**

A Public Hearing on "AN ACT to modify the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District by the addition of one (1) parcel of property located in the Town of Cortlandt, 73 South Hill Road". [Public Hearing set for December 7, 2021 at 7:30 p.m]. INTRO ACT 2021-568.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Joint with PWT & EH

Commissioner Kopicki discussed the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District and asked it to be modified to return one parcel of property more particularly described by street address and tax map designation as 73 South Hill Road Section 13.17, Block 2, Lot 21 to the District. The proposal to add the Returning Parcel to the District is feasible because; the matter was requested by the Town; the facilities necessary to connect the Returning Parcel to County facilities will be constructed at the total expense of the Town; maintenance of the completed facilities will be the responsibility of the Town and not the District; the Peekskill Water Resource Recovery Facility has a design flow of 10 MOD and the present average daily flow is 6.1 MOD. The average daily flow the Returning Parcel will generate is 400 GPO. The Facility and the County Trunk Sewer have sufficient capacity to accommodate the Returning Parcel; the subject expansion will not result in any significant effect on the tax structure of the District; and the territory proposed to be added to the District is not now in any County sewer district and will be required to pay a surcharge over a ten year period.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

5. [2021-568](#) **ACT-Sewer District Mod-Return-Cortlandt**

AN ACT to modify the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District by the addition of one (1) parcel of property located in the Town of Cortlandt.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Joint with PWT & EH

Please refer to item #4.

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

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

6. **RES-2021-195 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, 25 Cecila Lane." [Public Hearing set for December 7, 2021 at 7:30 p.m.]. ACT INTRO 2021-579.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Joint with PWT & EH

Commissioner Kopicki continued to discuss the Town of Mt. Pleasant has requested that the Saw Mill Valley Sanitary Sewer District be modified to remove one parcel of property more particularly described by street address and tax map designation as 25 Cecilia Lane, Section 100.13, Block 1, Lot 13 from the District, which Parcel is not currently connected to the County sewer system. This removal is requested because the Parcel is not serviced by sanitary sewers and it is not anticipated that sanitary sewers will be constructed for this Parcel in the foreseeable future. The Department of Environmental Facilities indicates that the proposed removal of the Parcel represents a net decrease of 0.0035% to the Equalized Full Value of the District. Therefore, the removal of the Parcel will not cause significant changes in the tax rate of the District. Removal of the Parcel from the District is feasible because; the proposed change was requested by the Town; the subject change requires no engineering modifications to the District facilities and there is no impact on the County facilities because the Parcel was never connected to the sewerage system; the subject change removes from ad valorem taxation a property that has not benefited and foreseeably will not benefit from connection to District facilities based on information received from the Town; the subject change frees reserve capacity at the District treatment plant for future enlargement of the District from surrounding areas without the capital costs of expanding treatment facilities; the subject Parcel, once removed from the District, will be required to petition the County to re-enter the District and the County is not obligated to reserve any capacity for the Parcel once it has been removed; and the subject Parcel was reviewed by the Westchester County Health Department.

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

7. [2021-578](#) **ENV RES-Sewer District Mod-Removal-Mount Pleasant**

AN ENVIRONMENTAL RESOLUTION determining that there will be no significant adverse impact on the environment from the removal of one (1) parcel of property, located at 25 Cecilia Lane, Mt. Pleasant, from the Saw Mill Valley Sanitary Sewer District.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Joint with PWT & EH

Please refer to item #6.

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

8. [2021-579](#) **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 at 25 Cecilia Lane, Town of Mt. Pleasant.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND ENVIRONMENT & HEALTH

Joint with PWT & EH

Please refer to item #6.

On motion of Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item was signed by committee. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Borgia, Legislator Barr, Legislator Cunzio, Legislator Maher, Legislator Parker, Legislator Walter, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

Absent: Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Johnson

Away: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Tubiolo

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

On motion of Legislator Barr, seconded by Legislator Maher, the Board adjourned at [insert time] to meet on 12:54 PM.