



Legislation

BOL Meeting Minutes - Final

Committee Chair: Colin Smith

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

Monday, April 18, 2022

1:00 PM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

This meeting will be held pursuant to Chapter 56 of the New York State Laws of 2022, which authorize any public body to meet and take such action authorized by law without permitting in public-in-person access to meetings and authorize 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. To access the meeting, please visit: <https://westchestercountyny.legistar.com>

With a quorum present, Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 1:08 PM.

Others in Attendance: BOL - Legislator Jewel Williams-Johnson, Legislator Erica Pierce, Melanie Montalto, Marcello Figueroa, Anand Singh, Amy Vele

Present: Committee Chair Smith, Legislator Barr, Legislator Borgia, Legislator Cunzio and Committee Vice-Chair Gashi

Absent: Legislator Johnson and Legislator Shimsky

Remote: Legislator Boykin and Legislator Maher

MINUTES APPROVAL

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

[RES-2022-68](#) RES-2022 Westchester County Federal Joint Legislative Package

Forwarding the 2022 Westchester County Federal Joint Legislative Package.

Submitted by: COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Guests: County Executive's Office - Andrew Ferris, Chief of Staff, Steve Bass, Director of Intergovernmental Relations, Copernicus Crane, Assistant Director of Intergovernmental Relations

Chair Smith briefly spoke on the item and asked Mr. Crane to briefly explain the 2022 Joint State Federal Package. Mr. Crane said that the item serves to advise the Westchester Federal Delegation on the needs of the County throughout the course of negotiations in Congress. Mr. Crane briefly went through the list of priority legislative items and funding appropriations, including a repeal on the limits placed on imposed on the State and Local Tax Deductions, support for social service and housing assistance programs, funding for critical infrastructure, environmental protection initiatives, and more before Chair Smith opened the floor for questions.

Chair Smith asked if there was a specific dollar amount tied to assisting communities affected

by the closure of Indian Point to which Mr. Crane said there was not, but noted that specific pieces of legislation were identified that, if passed, would help those communities. Legislator Maher raised three areas of concern. First, regarding the SALT tax deduction, he asked how much would its reinstatement in varying percentages affect the federal government and dollar amount and how it would be paid for. Mr. Crane said that he doesn't have access to the information regarding the funding allocations, and our federal representatives would likely be better suited to answer that. Second, he asked about the Lake Isle Dam project and asked if affordable housing issues in certain municipalities should be considered, after which a discussion ensued. Finally, he noted that the language used regarding memorial field needed to be updated for accuracy, and after a discussion it was agreed that it would be changed to the past tense. Legislator Shimsky asked what was likely to happen with the SALT exemption and Mr. Crane said that last year Senator Schumer introduced legislation to extend it, however did not and does not seem likely to pass. Legislator Barr asked if the SALT deductions were set to expire in 2025 and he confirmed that before a discussion ensued on what that would mean. Mr. Crane said that he would work with Mr. Singh to make the necessary changes and it was agreed that the item would be signed out pending the requested changes.

Due to technical difficulties, Legislator Maher was unable to vote on the item when the roll was called. Chair Smith afforded Legislator Maher the opportunity to speak and vote on the item later in the meeting, however Legislator Maher declined, and was marked as an abstention as a result.

On motion of Committee Vice-Chair Gashi, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 4/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Smith, Legislator Barr, Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Shimsky

Absent: Legislator Johnson

Abstain: Legislator Maher

RES-2022-54 PH - Salary Range Posting Requirement

A Public Hearing on "A LOCAL LAW amending Chapter 700 of the Laws of Westchester County relating to prohibiting employers from posting job listings without minimum and maximum salary information." [Public Hearing set for May 9, 2022 at 7:30 p.m.] LOCAL LAW INTRO: 2022-119.

Submitted by: COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Guests: Department of Law - Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz, Chief Deputy County Attorney, Jason Whitehead, Senior Assistant County Attorney; Human Rights Commission, Tejash Sanchala, Executive Director

Ms. Dolgin-Kmetz spoke about the changes made to the legislation beginning with the definition of employer to mean any employer who posts for positions that are required to be performed, in whole, or in part in Westchester County, whether from an office, in the field, or remotely, before a discussion ensued on. Legislator Cunzio asked if this would also include internal postings for specific jobs, and Ms. Dolgin-Kmetz noted that while the Westchester

County government already does this, it would likely not include internal postings. Mr. Sanchala spoke about how the Human Rights Commission interpreted the law and how they planned on ensuring compliance and enforcing the law. He commented on the use of language of “conducted in” and its relationship to the Discriminatory Harassment Law passed last year, before a discussion ensued on the meaning of conducted in. Legislator Cunzio asked who would be responsible for helping to educate the public about this law, and Mr. Sanchala said that in the past the Human Rights Commission has been responsible and that they’ve successfully done this with local laws that have effective dates of 90 days, roughly half of the time allotted for this legislation. Legislator Barr commented that the County’s Office of Economic Development, local chambers of commerce, and media should all be utilized in informing the public of this. Legislator Maher voiced his concern that the legislation doesn’t leave enough flexibility for smaller businesses regarding the number of covered employees, before a discussion ensued, and it was agreed that it should remain consistent with the Human Rights Law. Legislator Cunzio said that she spoke to smaller businesses who didn’t have any objections. They believed it would actually help with hiring people who may have been averse to applying for some jobs until they actually realized what the pay was, and Legislator Borgia concurred.

On motion of Borgia, seconded by Legislator Barr, the above item was signed by committee to the Board of Legislators committee, due back on 4/25/2022. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Committee Chair Smith, Legislator Barr, Borgia, Legislator Boykin, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Gashi and Legislator Shimsky

Absent: Legislator Johnson

WO Prejudice: Legislator Maher

[2022-119](#)

LL - Salary Range Posting Requirement

A LOCAL LAW amending Chapter 700 of the Laws of Westchester County relating to prohibiting employers from posting job listings without minimum and maximum salary information.

Submitted by: COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATION

Guests: Department of Law - Stacey Dolgin-Kmetz, Chief Deputy County Attorney, Jason Whitehead, Senior Assistant County Attorney; Human Rights Commission, Tejash Sanchala, Executive Director

For discussion on 2022-119 please refer to the previous item.

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Cunzio, seconded by Legislator Shimsky, the Committee adjourned at 2:12 PM.