

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

Monday, April 28, 2025

10:00 AM

Committee Room

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.

Legislator Colin Smith will be participating remotely from 1132 Main St., Suite 1, Peekskill, NY 10566

With a quorum present, Chair Williams Johnson called the meeting to order at 10:08 AM.

Others in Attendance: GUESTS: Vincent Kopicki, Steve Elie-Pierre, Michael Swee, Craig Lader, Peter Tartaglia, John Paul Iannace; BOL: Catherine Parker, Jill Axelrod, James Silverberg, Lisa Hochman, Ethan Samuel, Santiago Caceras

Present: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

Remote: Legislator Smith

MINUTES APPROVAL

Monday, April 14, 2025 at 10:00 AM Minutes

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

1. [RES-2025-52](#) PH-Amendment to Lease Agreement-Westchester Children's Museum

A Public Hearing on "A LOCAL LAW authorizing the County of Westchester to amend a lease agreement with the Westchester Children's Museum for the operation of a children's museum

on approximately 21,390 square feet of County property in order to extend the term an additional twenty (20) years and to amend and clarify certain other provisions of the lease agreement." [Public Hearing set for May 19, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.]. LOCAL LAW INTRO: 2025-147.

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

Joint with PE and PWT.

Guests: Parks, Recreation and Conservation
First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia

Senior Assistant County Attorney John Paul Iannace

This item was discussed in conjunction with the following item #2025-147 and includes a public hearing along with a local law for a lease agreement amendment with the Westchester Children's Museum at Playland Park. The original lease was for 10 years and signed in 2015, whereas the new lease will be extended by an additional 20 years, expiring on December 13, 2045. This extension is in compliance with New York State's alienation law that allowed the County to lease the property for up to 30 years. Within the new terms, an agreed monthly payment of \$1,500 must be paid to the County to cover propane, electricity and other utility services, as there is no sub-metering on the premises. This amount will be revisited every 5 years to ensure that it aligns with current costs and adjust as necessary. The museum is also to invest a minimum of \$10 Million in capital improvements while the County is to fund exterior repairs up to \$1 Million. The Children's Museum has followed the lease terms accordingly, including maintaining consistency in programming, which aligns with the Parks Department's mission.

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

2. [LL Intro 2025-147](#) **LOCAL LAW-Amendment of Lease Agreement-Westchester Children's Museum**

A LOCAL LAW authorizing the County of Westchester to amend a lease agreement with the Westchester Children's Museum for the operation of a children's museum on approximately 21,390 square feet of County property in order to extend the term an additional twenty (20) years and to amend and clarify certain other provisions of the lease agreement.

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

Joint with PE and PWT.

Guests: Parks, Recreation and Conservation
First Deputy Commissioner Peter Tartaglia

Senior Assistant County Attorney John Paul Iannace

Please refer to item #1.

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

3. [RES-2025-53](#) **PH-Sewer District Mod-Add-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." [Public Hearing set for May 19, 2025 at 7:30 p.m.]. Act 2025-149.

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

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Steve Elie-Pierre

This item was discussed in conjunction with the following item #2025-149 and includes a public hearing along with an act to add the parcel on 44 Regina Avenue in the Town of Cortlandt to the Peekskill Sanitary Sewer District. This addition represents a 0.04 increase and will not cause significant change to the tax rate of the district. The Department of Environmental Facilities views this proposal as feasible as it will be constructed and maintained by the Town. Since the parcel is not currently on the County's sewer district, they will incur a surcharge of \$14,910 over the course of 10 years to cover their contribution to the system.

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

4. [ACT-2025-84](#) **ACT-Sewer District Mod-Add-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 AND PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION

Joint with PWT.

Guests: Department of Environmental Facilities

Commissioner Vincent Kopicki

Director of Maintenance Steve Elie-Pierre

Please refer to item #3.

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

5. [ACT-2025-78](#) **CBA-T0046-Farebox Equipment**

A Capital Budget Amendment to amend the County's current-year Capital Budget to increase the County share for Capital Project T0046 - Farebox Equipment by TWELVE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$12,750,000) DOLLARS TO SIXTEEN MILLION, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$16,250,000) DOLLARS.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CYBERSECURITY

Joint with PWT and ITC.

Guest: Department of Public Works & Transportation

Director of Surface Transportation Michael Swee

This item was discussed in conjunction with the following items #2025-154 and #2025-155, and includes a capital budget amendment, an amended bond act and a new bond act, in regards to the purchase and installation of farebox equipment. The previously approved bond act for project T0046 will now be amended for an additional \$12.75 Million, bringing the total for this project to \$16.25 Million. The new farebox equipment is a contactless reader fare collection system that accepts cash on County buses. In 2007, the Bee-Line Bus system adopted the Metropolitan Transportation Authority's (MTA) MetroCard farebox system aligning the County's fares and allowing the participation for different programs and promotions offered by them. In 2017 the MTA procured a new fare payment system called One Metro New York (OMNY) which will provide more versatility in how riders can pay for bus access. New York City will be stopping MetroCard sales and replenishments by the end of 2025 as they finalize their transition into the new system. In order to ensure optimal access for Westchester County bus riders, the farebox system requested in these items will allow cash to be accepted in addition to the OMNY system that will be in effect in mid-2026. The Legislators expressed the importance and benefit of proper marketing to County residents so they can be prepared in anticipation.

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

6. [ACT-2025-79](#) **BOND ACT(Amended)-T0046-Farebox Equipment**

A BOND ACT (Amended) amending Bond Act No. 220-2021 to remove a THREE MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$3,500,000) DOLLAR authorization allocable to T0046 (Farebox Equipment) and decrease the estimated maximum amount of bonds authorized to TEN MILLION, FOUR HUNDRED TWENTY-SIX THOUSAND (\$10,426,000) DOLLARS.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CYBERSECURITY

Joint with PWT and ITC.

Guest: Department of Public Works & Transportation

Director of Surface Transportation Michael Swee

Please refer to item #5.

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

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

7. [ACT-2025-80](#) **BOND ACT-T0046-Farebox Equipment**

A BOND ACT authorizing the issuance of bonds in the amount of SIXTEEN MILLION, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$16,250,000) DOLLARS to finance the cost of acquisition of a contactless reader fare collection system, as well as a separate box that will accept cash fares, including the installation of the necessary hardware and software on the buses and in the bus garages and associated work. This SIXTEEN MILLION, TWO HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$16,250,000) DOLLAR proposed Bond Act represents a TWELVE MILLION, SEVEN HUNDRED FIFTY THOUSAND (\$12,750,000) DOLLAR increase to the amount previously authorized for T0046 - Farebox Equipment and includes the THREE MILLION, FIVE HUNDRED THOUSAND (\$3,500,000) previously authorized for T0046 - Farebox Equipment by Bond Act 220-2021.

SUBMITTED BY: COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY & CYBERSECURITY

Joint with PWT and ITC.

Guest: Department of Public Works & Transportation

Director of Surface Transportation Michael Swee

Please refer to item #5.

On motion of Legislator Pierce, seconded by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, the above item

was signed by committee and referred to Board of Legislators. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Legislator Woodson-Samuels, seconded by Legislator Tubiolo, the Committee adjourned at 11:20 AM. by the following vote:

Aye: Legislator Williams Johnson, Legislator Holstein, Legislator Pierce, Legislator Smith, Legislator Tubiolo, Legislator Williams, Legislator Woodson-Samuels and Legislator Gashi

Absent: Legislator Barr