Labor & Housing BOL Meeting Minutes -Final



Committee Chair: Damon Maher

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

Monday, April 26, 2021

10:00 AM

Committee Room

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting jointly with the Committees on Budget & Appropriations and Public Works & Transportation

With a quorum present, Legislator Covill called the meeting to order at 10:07 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: Kitley Covill, Alessandra Restiano, James Silverberg BOL Remote: MaryJane Shimsky, Colin Smith, Vedat gashi, Nancy Barr, David Tubiolo, Ruth Walter, DPS Remote: William McGuinness, DOC Remote: Karl Vollmer, Bill Fallon DEF Remote: Vincent Kopicki, Marian Pompa, CJ Gelardo PARKS Remote: Kathy O'Connor, Peter Tartaglia DPW Remote: Hugh Greechan, James Antonaccio, Robert Abbamont LAW Remote: Tami Altschiller BUDGET Remote: Gideon Grande

Present: Legislator Borgia and Legislator Boykin

- Absent: Legislator Parker
- **Remote:** Committee Chair Maher, Legislator Cunzio, Committee Vice-Chair Johnson, Legislator Williams and Legislator Woodson-Samuels

MINUTES APPROVAL

Monday, April 19, 2021 1:00 PM Minutes

On motion of Committee Chair Maher, seconded by Legislator Boykin, the minutes were approved. The motion carried unanimously.

I. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

ACT-2021-70 ACT - Ravine Ave. Amendment

AN ACT amending Act No. 2021-245 which authorized the County of Westchester to purchase approximately +/- 1.38 acres of real property located at 60 & 76 Point Street and 81 Ravine Avenue in the City of Yonkers and to subsequently convey said property, as well as authorize the County to grant and accept any property rights necessary in furtherance thereof, for the purpose of creating 146 affordable rental units and remain affordable for a period of not less than 50 years.

Submitted by COMMITTEES ON BUDGET & APPROPRIATIONS, PUBLIC WORKS & TRANSPORTATION AND LABOR & HOUSING

Joint with PWT & BA

Guest: Leonard Gruenfeld, Housing Administrator - Department of Planning

Leo Gruenfeld, Housing Administrator for the Department of Planning and Assistant Commissioner Anthony Zaino came before the joint committees to discuss the amendment to the legislation passed by the Board on April 12, 2021 (Act No. 2021-245 and Act No. 2021-246). Mr. Gruenfeld explained that they were advised by Conifer Realty, that pursuant to NYS Executive Law we cannot set aside 44 units for seniors aged 55 and older as previously anticipated. He discussed further that the NYS Division of Human Rights had previously granted a public policy exemption but the NYS Housing Finance Agency and the NYS Division of Housing and Community Renewal have refused to grant such an exemption. Before the joint committees is amendments omitting the provision stating that 44 units will be set aside for seniors 55 and older. The units are now open to all age groups including seniors. This is the only change and the all other provisions remain in place.

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

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

Away: Legislator Boykin and Committee Vice-Chair Johnson

II. OTHER BUSINESS

III. RECEIVE & FILE

2021-32 LEGISLATOR BORGIA: Memo of Legislation - Co-Op Disclosure Amendment

Forwarding a Memorandum of Legislation to amend a Local Law to require cooperative housing corporation board of directors to provide a reason for denial of a potential buyer of a unit in the denial letter. (Formerly MT #12876)

On motion of Committee Chair Maher, seconded by Legislator Williams, the above item was received, filed, and approved. The motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Committee Chair Maher, seconded by Legislator Borgia, the Committee adjourned at 11:35 AM.