

1

2

3

4

5

6 NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

7

8 RICHARD NICOLELLO

9 PRESIDING OFFICER

10

11 FINANCE COMMITTEE

12

13 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

14 CHAIR

15

16

17 Theodore Roosevelt Building

18 1550 Franklin Avenue

19 Mineola, New York

20

21

22 December 3, 2018

23 5:46 P.M.

24

25

1

2 A P P E A R A N C E S:

3

4 LEGISLATOR HOWARD KOPEL

5 Chair

6

7 LEGISLATOR STEVEN RHOADS

8

9 LEGISLATOR TOM MCKEVITT

10

11 LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

12

13 LEGISLATOR ELLEN BIRNBAUM

14 Ranking member

15

16 LEGISLATOR ARNOLD DRUCKER

17

18 LEGISLATOR DEBRA MULE

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: At this time I
3 will call the Finance Committee to order. I
4 will act as clerk and I will call the roll.
5 Legislator Mule is here. Legislator Drucker.
6 Legislator Birnbaum is here. Legislator
7 Walker. Legislator McKevitt. Legislator
8 Rhoads substituting for Mr. Muscarella and I
9 am here. We have a quorum.

10 First I'm going to take a motion to
11 suspend the rules. Made by Legislator
12 Walker. Seconded by Legislature Drucker. All
13 those in favor of suspending the rules say
14 aye. The rules are suspended.

15 Now I'm going to read off a list of
16 consent items which have been agreed to by the
17 majority and minority and some items that have
18 gone through other committees as well. 577,
19 591, 592, 593, 595, 596, 680. I'm sorry 600.
20 601, 613, 616, 617, 618, 619, 621, 624, 627.
21 640. And from the addendum we are going to
22 also add 643, 644, 645, 646, and 648. 647 as
23 well. Motion on those. Mr. McKevitt.
24 Seconded by Mr. Drucker. All those in favor
25 of those items? Any opposed? Those item pass

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 unanimously.

3 Now I'm going to call some bulk
4 items. First of all we're going to start with
5 items to correct erroneous assessments and
6 that would be number 579, 580, 583, 586, 585.
7 And that should do it. Motion on that by
8 Mr. Rhoads. Seconded by Ms. Walker. All
9 those in favor of those items? Any opposed?
10 Good.

11 Now we have a bunch to partially
12 exempt real properties. That would be number
13 581, 582, 586, 587, 588, 609 and 610. And
14 that motion is made by Mr. Drucker. Seconded
15 by Ms. Birnbaum. All those in favor of those
16 items? Any opposed? Okay.

17 Now what we are going to do is have
18 a recess of this committee for a little while
19 because there's a ceremony out front. And
20 members of the committee please try to come
21 back quickly once that ceremony is done.

22 (Committee recessed at 5:56 P.M.)

23 (Committee reconvened at 6:30 P.M.)

24 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Let's just go
25 on. Number 584 is a resolution to authorize a

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 transfer of appropriations. We have a motion
3 by Ms. Walker and seconded by Mr. Roads. Have
4 we got anybody here from the administration
5 please?

6 MR. PERSICH: Andy Persich,
7 Office of Management and Budget. This item is
8 appropriating money to cover election expenses
9 for the primary and general the election
10 inspectors.

11 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
12 questions? Mr. Rhoads.

13 LEGISLATOR RHOADS: Just quick
14 question for you. The number of polling
15 places, the number of inspectors, is all a
16 preknown, predetermined amount. Why do we
17 have an additional appropriation?

18 MR. PERSICH: I think as a result
19 of the NIFA cuts last year when we took money
20 from them I think this created a shortfall in
21 their salaries line, in their budget, so we
22 had to appropriate additional funds there.
23 The '19 budget corrects what the needs are for
24 the next year. But this was an item that I
25 think was short-sighted when we first did it.

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you.

3 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Andy, could
4 you tell us when the check went out for the
5 primary? Was that paid by emergency?

6 MR. PERSICH: It was paid out.
7 That's why it was polled. It was paid out the
8 following day after we did the polling which
9 was on I want to say on or about October 31st
10 or November 1st. Around that date. It went
11 out right before the general election is what
12 the plan was. There was a little bit --

13 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I heard they
14 didn't get them by election day.

15 MR. PERSICH: I know the checks
16 were getting ready to be cut. I was in touch
17 with them because I knew this was a very hot
18 topic. They were in the treasurer's office at
19 that point ready to be released but they
20 needed the polling letter in order to do it.
21 It may have been a mailing issue or
22 something. I don't know but I know they were
23 cut before election day.

24 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: What about
25 for the general election?

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 MR. PERSICH: They can be paid
3 after they voucher them. They should go out
4 immediately because the funding is in place.
5 There shouldn't be a problem with that. But
6 they had to wait to do the election first in
7 order to get paid.

8 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: I'm asked to
9 remind you to please make sure.

10 MR. PERSICH: I will confirm that
11 for you legislator.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any public
13 comment? All those in favor of this item?
14 Aye. Any opposed? The item passes
15 unanimously.

16 I'm going to call 589 and 590, both
17 of which concern grant agreements between the
18 Parks Department and some artists. And the
19 motion is made by Ms. Walker and it's seconded
20 by Mr. Drucker.

21 MR. NUGENT: Brian Nugent, Nassau
22 County Department of Parks and Recreation. We
23 have two hotel-motel grants here. The first
24 one is a \$10,000 grant to Artists in
25 Partnerships, which entails some website

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 improvement, some production of literary
3 performances, social media and things like
4 that.

5 590 is a hotel-motel grant for
6 \$10,000 to PAT, Public Access Television, for
7 assisting with their mobile access to produce
8 production.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: These haven't
10 been done already, have they?

11 MR. HALL: No.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any other
13 questions from legislators? Any public
14 comment? All those in favor? Aye. Any
15 opposed. That is unanimous. Thank you.
16 Let's see. 597 and 598 are both supplemental
17 ordinances in connection with the litigation
18 fund. And that motion is by Ms. Mule and is
19 seconded by Mr. McKevitt.

20 MR. PERSICH: These two items are
21 just appropriating funds that are sitting in
22 the litigation fund that we have settlements
23 on or we recovered money from. The \$5 million
24 one is monies that was settled in a case in
25 2017. That was accrued for that the payment

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 was made in 2018 that we have to appropriate
3 the funds out in order to cover it. And the
4 \$2 million is a recovery from another case
5 that we got money back on a judgement from.
6 That we need to appropriate because the money
7 is just sitting in the fund balance and needs
8 to be moved out.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: What is it
10 going to be used for?

11 MR. PERSICH: The 5.7 will be
12 used for a claim settled in 2017 that was paid
13 out in the 2018. It was the Robello case.
14 That's the lion's share of that. And we are
15 going to see what else we can spend the
16 proceeds on, including the \$2 million.

17 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: I'm confident
18 that you will find something.

19 MR. PERSICH: I'm sure I will.

20 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
21 questions? Any public comment? All those in
22 favor of these two items? Any opposed? Those
23 are unanimous.

24 I'm told that I skipped 594. 594
25 is a transfer of appropriations. There's a

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 motion by Mr. McKevitt and seconded by Mr.
3 Drucker.

4 MS. LAURAIN: Mary Ellen Laurain,
5 Department of Health. Item 594-18 is a board
6 transfer in the amount of \$100,800. It
7 enables us to maximize grant reimbursement for
8 our WIC Program.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
10 questions? Yes Ms. Mule.

11 LEGISLATOR MULE: You said
12 \$100,000. Is it 110,000?

13 MS. LAURAIN: I'm sorry. I
14 didn't have my glasses on. 110,800. Thank
15 you. Thought I could get away with that. The
16 glasses I meant.

17 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Is that it?

18 LEGISLATOR MULE: Yes.

19 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Anybody else?
20 Any public comment? All those in favor? Any
21 opposed? That's unanimous.

22 Next is 599 which is a supplemental
23 in connection with the office of the county
24 clerk. We have a motion by Ms. Birnbaum and a
25 second by Ms. Walker.

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 MR. PERSICH: I'm going to speak
3 on this item because I think the clerk's
4 office had to leave. This is a records
5 management grant for local governments in the
6 amount of \$27,000 for I guess to do some
7 imaging and electronic data imaging of the
8 records.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: It was not in
10 their budget?

11 MR. PERSICH: Just grant money
12 from the state. We're getting money to
13 electronically change records.

14 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Anyone else?
15 Any questions? Any public comment? All those
16 in favor? Any opposed? That's unanimous.
17 Thank you Andy.

18 602 and 603 probably both of them
19 are yours Andy.

20 MR. PERSICH: 602 is me. Well,
21 it's the Board of Elections this is just an
22 additional transfer of appropriations.

23 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: 602. Give me
24 a moment because we didn't have a motion.
25 Moved by Legislator Walker. Seconded by

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 Legislator McKeivitt.

3 MR. PERSICH: This item is an
4 additional board transfer to cover election
5 expenses. This is predominantly probably for
6 balloting and moving of equipment and there
7 wasn't enough money in the budget to cover it
8 in their budget.

9 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
10 questions? Any public comment? All those in
11 favor? Any opposed? It's unanimous.

12 603 is another transfer of
13 appropriations and that is moved by Mr. Rhoads
14 and seconded by Ms. Walker.

15 MS. LAURAIN: Item 603-18 is a
16 board transfer in the amount of \$10,148. It's
17 for one of our grant programs, state grant, it
18 allows us to maximize grant reimbursement
19 moving money between lines.

20 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
21 questions? Public comment? All those in
22 favor? Any opposed?

23 I'm going to skip the settlements
24 because we will get back to those later.
25 Those will require joint meetings with Rules.

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 I thought we had 609 and 610 as done but
3 apparently they weren't and those are
4 exemptions, partial exemptions of real
5 properties. That motion is made by
6 Ms. Birnbaum and seconded by Mr. Rhoads. They
7 were done. Never mind. I take it back.

8 620 is a transfer of
9 appropriations. And there's a motion by
10 Ms. Walker and seconded by Mr. Drucker.

11 MR. PERSICH: This item is two
12 components of the transfer. One is to cover
13 overtime costs in the correctional center.
14 The other component is to transfer some people
15 from different departments in the county into
16 the shared services and to fund a different
17 position in the shared services department.

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
19 questions? Any public comment? All those in
20 favor? Any opposed? It's unanimous. Stay
21 there I think. The next one is yours. 622.
22 Is 623 yours as well? 622 and 623 are both
23 transfers of appropriations. Motions on those
24 made by Ms. Walker. Seconded by Ms. Mule.

25 MS. LAURAIN: Item 622-18 is a

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 \$60,000 general fund transfer. It doesn't
3 have any impact on our budget. We are just
4 moving monies within responsibility centers.

5 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: And 623.

6 MS. LAURAIN: 623-18 is a board
7 transfer in the amount of \$42,931. It's to
8 maximize grant reimbursement in our public
9 health emergency preparedness grant.

10 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
11 questions? Any public comment? All those in
12 favor? Any opposed? Thank you.

13 625 is a transfer of appropriations
14 and the motion is made by Ms. Walker.
15 Seconded by Mr. Drucker.

16 MR. PERSICH: This item is to
17 cover the refunds of residential sewer
18 overtax. The problem we had with the levy at
19 the beginning of the year. We needed to
20 appropriate additional funds out of the
21 judgements and settlements claim in the sewer
22 district and this is covering the shortfall
23 that we needed.

24 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Questions?
25 Any public comment? All those in favor? Any

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 opposed? Thank you Andy.

3 626 is supplemental appropriation
4 in connection with the general fund. And
5 there's a motion by Ms. Mule. Seconded by Mr.
6 Rhoads.

7 MR. PERSICH: This item is just
8 supplementing the additional revenues that we
9 will be receiving for the FIT and nonresidence
10 college tuitions. It's \$250,000 for FIT and
11 2.25 million for nonresident tuitions.

12 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: FIT that's
13 required?

14 MR. PERSICH: Yes. But we get
15 reimbursement from the towns for this.

16 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
17 questions? Any public comment? All those in
18 favor? Any opposed?

19 628 is a supplemental appropriation
20 in connection with the Office of Management
21 and Budget. There's a motion by Mrs. Walker.
22 Seconded by Ms. Birnbaum.

23 MR. PERSICH: This item is a
24 supplemental appropriation for case loads
25 within the New York State ILS. Just a grant

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 appropriation that recurs annually. It's a
3 new program that they have. It's for case
4 load reductions which will help them increase
5 staff.

6 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: The next one
7 is probably yours as well. Any questions?
8 Any public comment? All those in favor? Any
9 opposed? Thank you. It's unanimous.

10 639 is a transfer of
11 appropriations. Motion is made by Ms. Mule.
12 Seconded by Mr. McKevitt.

13 MR. STEPHANOFF: Good afternoon.
14 Lieutenant Greg Stephanoff from the police.
15 Item 639 of '18 is a board transfer within the
16 operating budget. It's taking \$350,000 from
17 the contractual expense in headquarters and
18 \$500,000 from the contractual expense in
19 district and moving them both to their
20 appropriate general expense lines in
21 headquarters and district. The general
22 expense lines cover fuel, ambulance supplies,
23 auto parts, ammunition and uniforms. We were
24 running low on those lines. We want to make
25 sure we have money for expected expenses

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 throughout the year.

3 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any

4 questions? Public comment? All those in
5 favor? Any opposed? That's unanimous.

6 Moving on to the addendum. We've
7 already had a suspension of the rules. I'm
8 going to call a bunch together now. Those
9 would be 629, 630, 631, 632, 633, 634, 635,
10 636, 637, no, yes and I think that does it.
11 And there is a motion by Mr. McKevitt and
12 seconded by Mr. Drucker. 638 is different.

13 MR. MILES: Robert Miles, Deputy
14 County Attorney. These are the items that you
15 brought up are the sidewalk repairs
16 resolutions. Happens annually at the end of
17 the year.

18 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any
19 questions? Any public comment? All those in
20 favor? Any opposed? Thank you. 638.

21 MR. MILES: This is --

22 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: We need a
23 motion. That is made by Ms. Mule and seconded
24 by Mr. McKevitt.

25 MR. MILES: Fix the time and date

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 resolution for the consolidated tax warrants.

3 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any

4 questions? Any comment? All those in favor?

5 Any opposed?

6 649 is a transfer of appropriations

7 and there is a motion by Ms. Walker. You've

8 been very busy Ms. Walker. Seconded by Mr.

9 Drucker.

10 MR. BRODERICK: Item 649. Good

11 afternoon. Paul Broderick, deputy

12 commissioner, Department of Social Services.

13 The item before you is a board transfer

14 request to transfer \$1,350,000 from recipients

15 a grant to vendor payments. Do you have any

16 questions?

17 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Any

18 questions? Any public comment? All those in

19 favor? Any opposed? Thank you.

20 The last one on this before the

21 settlements is number 650, which is a transfer

22 of appropriations. And that motion is made by

23 Ms. Birnbaum and is seconded by Ms. Walker.

24 MS. LAURAIN: Item 650-18 is a

25 board transfer in the amount of \$688. It's

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 for our rabies program and it's to maximize
3 our grant reimbursement.

4 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: Do we have any
5 questions? Any public comment? All those in
6 favor of that item? Any opposed? Thank you.

7 Now I'm going to call three items
8 and then I'm going to call for executive
9 session. Number 612, 614 and 615. And those
10 motions are made by Legislator Rhoads and
11 seconded by Legislator Birnbaum.

12 Now, I'm going to suggest that we
13 go into executive session. Mr. McKeivitt moves
14 for executive session. Ms. Birnbaum seconds
15 the motion. We are in executive session and I
16 invite the members of Rules. All in favor of
17 going into executive session? Any opposed?
18 The member of Rules should please join us.
19 Thank you.

20 (Committee recessed at 6:50 P.M.)

21 (Committee reconvened at 7:28 P.M.)

22 LEGISLATOR KOPEL: We are out of
23 executive session and we are going to vote on
24 those three items. All those in favor of
25 those three items please so indicate. Any

1 Finance 12-3-18

2 opposed? Thank you. Those items are passed
3 unanimously.

4 We have a motion to adjourn by
5 Ms. Walker and seconded by Ms. Mule. All
6 those in favor of adjourning? Any opposed?
7 Thank you. We are adjourned.

8 (Committee adjourned at 7:29 P.M.)

9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

CERTIFICATION

I, FRANK GRAY, a Notary
Public in and for the State of New
York, do hereby certify:

THAT the foregoing is a true and
accurate transcript of my stenographic
notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have
hereunto set my hand this eighth day of
December 2018

FRANK GRAY