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NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

RICHARD NICOLELLO,
Presiding Officer

FINANCE COMMITTEE

HOWARD KOPEL, Chairman

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, June 3, 2019
3:34 P.M

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

HOWARD KOPEL,
Chairman

VINCENT MUSCARELLA,
Vice Chairman

TOM MCKEVITT

ROSEMARIE WALKER

ELLEN BIRNBAUM,
Ranking

ARNOLD DRUCKER

JOSHUA LAFAZAN

MICHAEL PULITZER,
Clerk of the Legislature

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LIST OF SPEAKERS

KATIE HORST.....7

KEVIN KREEN.....11

DEPUTY INSPECTOR GREG STEPHANOFF.....13

DOUGLAS LANDSMAN.....14

MARYELLEN LAURAIN.....15

THOMAS DELANEY.....16

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Calling the
3 Finance Committee to order. I will call the
4 roll. Legislator Muscarella is here;
5 Mr. McKevitt is here; Ms. Walker is here;
6 Ms. Birnbaum is here; Mr. Drucker is here;
7 Mr. Lafazan is coming out any second. He is
8 here too. I'm here so we do have a quorum.

9 One item and then we are going to
10 go back to Rules and finish Finance later.

11 We are going to do 192 which is
12 an ordinance to adopt the Nassau County
13 budget for fiscal year ending -- commencing
14 September 1, 2019 and ending August 31,
15 2020. It's to appropriate revenues to be
16 raised by taxation for such purposes.

17 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

18 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

19 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
20 made by Mr. Muscarella and seconded by
21 Ms. Walker. Where are the college
22 representatives? I don't think we have any
23 questions. We will defer that to the Full
24 Leg.

25 All those in favor of this item?

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 (Aye.)

3 Any opposed?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 It's unanimous.

6 Yes, sir, go ahead, Mr. Drucker.

7 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We are going to
9 have a Full Leg anyway.

10 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Well, they
11 are here and I want to acknowledge their
12 presence and Joe Muscarella, thank you so
13 much for being here. I want to thank you
14 for the great job that you do on behalf of
15 the college as a former trustee there. I
16 know how hard you work and you've done a
17 tremendous job navigating this college
18 through some rocky times and having achieved
19 the level of being the jewel of the SUNY
20 system for community colleges in New York.

21 I want to acknowledge what you
22 guys have done over the years and thank you
23 for it.

24 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We are going
25 back to Rules. We are going putting Finance

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 in recess for the time being.

3 (Whereupon, the Finance Committee
4 recessed at 3:40 p.m. and reconvened at 5:53
5 p.m.)

6 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Back to Finance.
7 Legislator Drucker still here. Legislator
8 Lafazan. Legislator Mule sitting in for
9 Legislator Lafazan is here.

10 We opened this earlier. We did
11 not need to do that. I am bringing it out
12 of recess but you can sub in. So is Josh
13 around? We are going to go ahead without
14 him.

15 I'm going to open with 189
16 because other items before that require
17 executive session. 189 is a resolution
18 authorizing the County Executive to
19 authorize a grant agreement, Parks and
20 Recreation and the Fire Fighters Museum.

21 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: So moved.

22 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
24 made by Legislator Birnbaum and seconded by
25 Legislator McKeivitt.

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 MS. HORST: Good afternoon.

3 Katie Horst from the administration.

4 Commissioner Krieb apologizes. Her son is
5 leaving for overseas for six months so she
6 asked that I present this on her behalf.

7 This is the \$100,000 to the
8 Nassau County firefighters. It's their
9 annual Hotel Motel grant. It's for
10 education programs on safety.

11 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Thank you. Any
12 questions?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 Is there any public comment?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 All those in favor signify by
17 saying aye.

18 (Aye.)

19 Those opposed?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 That item is unanimous.

22 Now I'm going to call a bunch
23 together. Number 97, is a resolution
24 authorizing settlement with Jose Miguel
25 Rodriguez, number 126 is a settlement with

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 Patricia R. MacIssac as administratrix of
3 John R. MacIssac; number 181 is a settlement
4 with Rally Westbury, LLC; number 182 is a
5 settlement with Knolls of Glen Head Owners
6 Corp.; number 183 is a resolution settling
7 Zelder Enterprises; number 184 is a
8 settlement with Westfield America Limited
9 Partnership; number 185 is a settlement with
10 Brentwood Development Corp./Freeport UE,
11 L.L.C.; number 186 is a settlement with
12 Morton Village Realty Company; 187 is a
13 settlement with Vornato Realty, Lt.; 188 is
14 a settlement with Hempstead Realty Two,
15 L.L.C.

16 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
19 made by Legislator Walker and seconded by
20 Legislator Drucker.

21 And now I'm going to ask for a
22 motion to go into executive session on
23 these.

24 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: So moved.

25 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
3 made by Legislator McKevitt, seconded by
4 Legislator Muscarella. All those in favor
5 of going into executive session signify by
6 saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 Those opposed?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 We are in executive session.

11 (Whereupon, the Finance Committee
12 recessed into executive session at 6:00 p.m.
13 and reconvened at 6:45 p.m.)

14 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: We have just come
15 back from executive session. All those who
16 are still here, in favor of the items in
17 which we went into executive session -- we
18 had items in executive session, all those in
19 favor of those items?

20 (Aye.)

21 Any opposed?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Unanimous. We have we six
24 nothing.

25 193 is a resolution authorizing

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19
2 the Nassau County to conduct a study of air
3 plane noise caused by arrival doing
4 departures from John F. Kennedy
5 International Airport and LaGuardia Airport.

6 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

7 LEGISLATOR DRUCKER: Second.

8 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
9 made by Ms. Walker, and seconded by
10 Mr. Drucker.

11 So we don't need anyone to speak
12 on this. This is a legislative initiative
13 and we are going to require the county to
14 investigate methods and possibility for
15 mitigating the noise from these airports.

16 I know that personally I'd love
17 to find something because I'm on a first
18 name basis with the pilots that fly over,
19 they're so low over my house, and they come
20 in the summer practically every 30 seconds.

21 So all those in favor of this
22 item?

23 (Aye.)

24 Those opposed?

25 (No verbal response.)

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 That item is unanimous once
3 again. Thank you.

4 196 is a resolution authorizing
5 Nassau to file an application for federal
6 assistance with the US Department of Housing
7 and Urban Development.

8 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: So moved.

9 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
11 made by Legislator Birnbaum, seconded by
12 Legislator McKevitt.

13 MR. KREEN: Good evening. Kevin
14 Kreen, Office of Community Development.
15 This is annual action plan that the Office
16 of Community Development submits to the US
17 Department of Housing and Urban Development.
18 It includes funding for three federal
19 programs, all funding received by a formula
20 allocation, it's a community development
21 block grant program, approximately \$14
22 million this year.

23 The home investment partnerships
24 program, approximately \$2.3 million and the
25 Solutions Grants Program, approximately \$1.2

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19
2 million. Those allocation amounts are
3 roughly the same as last year with the
4 exception of home, which has an eight and a
5 half percent reduction in funding. All
6 programs are 100 percent federally funded
7 and no impact to the county budget.

8 As far as the process, there was
9 an issue last year. We did hold two public
10 hearings, first on February 13th to solicit
11 community input on community needs and
12 explain the uses for the funding; on May 8th
13 was the date of our second hearing to
14 discuss funding whether to receive further
15 input and comment. The 30 day public
16 comment period ran from May 2nd to June 1st.

17 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Do we have any
18 questions from the legislators?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Is there any public comment?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 All those in favor signify by
23 saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 Those opposed?

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 (No verbal response.)

3 Thank you. I'm calling 200 of
4 '19 which is supplemental to the annual
5 appropriation in connection with the Nassau
6 County Police Department; number 202 is the
7 same; and 203 is supplemental to the
8 Probation Department.

9 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

10 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: Second.

11 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
12 made by Legislator Walker and seconded by
13 Legislator Muscarella.

14 DEPUTY INSPECTOR STEPHANOFF:
15 Deputy Inspector Greg Stephanoff, Nassau
16 County Police Department. Item 200 of '19
17 is a supplemental appropriation of \$3
18 million into our US Department of Treasury
19 federal forfeiture grant.

20 This will move the money into the
21 budget for the asset forfeiture to enable us
22 to spend it. It's going to go into the
23 equipment line. It will be used in the
24 future to buy equipment for the department.
25 Do you want me to go to 202?

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Please.

3 DEPUTY INSPECTOR STEPHANOFF:

4 Item 202 is an annual appropriation of
5 \$50,000. It's money from New York State
6 Office of Homeland Security. This money
7 will be used by our Marine Bureau for extra
8 patrols during Independence Day and Labor
9 Day to add extra patrols during heightened
10 alert times. This money -- we have gotten
11 this money in the past. This is a repeat
12 grant.

13 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: And 203?

14 DEPUTY INSPECTOR STEPHANOFF:

15 That's not mine.

16 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Okay, thank you.

17 MR. LANDSMAN: Doug Landsman,
18 Probation. This item is a renewal request
19 for a mandatory DCJS grant for one year at
20 \$307,672. There is no match.

21 The idea of the grant is to
22 divert offenders to costly local
23 incarceration and provide pretrial release
24 and reporting to the courts.

25 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Do we have any

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 questions?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Is there any public comment?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 All those in favor signify by
7 saying aye.

8 (Aye.)

9 Any opposed?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 Those items pass unanimously.

12 Now I'm going to call number 201,
13 206, 207, 208 and 209. I'm going to call
14 all of those together. All of those are
15 transfers of appropriations.

16 LEGISLATOR MCKEVITT: So moved.

17 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Second.

18 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
19 made by Mr. McKevitt and seconded by
20 Ms. Birnbaum. You are here for which one?

21 MS. LAURAIN: I have 201, 207,
22 208 and 209. Should I present all four of
23 them in a row?

24 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Yes.

25 MS. LAURAIN: Good afternoon.

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19

2 MaryEllen Laurain, Department of Health.

3 Item 201-19 is a board transfer
4 in the amount of \$22,828. This is for the
5 STD program. It is 100 percent funded
6 through New York State Department of Health
7 and it's to maximize grant reimbursement.

8 Item 207-19 is a board transfer
9 in the amount of \$1,012. This is for the
10 STD campaign. It is 100 percent funded
11 through New York State Department of Health
12 and it's to maximize grant reimbursement.

13 Item 208-19 is another board
14 transfer for our HIV partner services. This
15 is 100 percent funded. No impact on the
16 budget. It's in the amount of \$3,145. This
17 is to maximize grant reimbursement.

18 Item 209-19 is a transfer of
19 funds for our Immunization Action Plan.
20 Again, 100 percent funded through New York
21 State Department of Health in the amount of
22 \$6,186.

23 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Thank you. We
24 are missing 206.

25 MR. DELANEY: Thomas Delaney,

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19
2 Office of Emergency Management. 206-19 is a
3 board transfer, budget change, \$20,000, so
4 we can spend down the grant, 100 percent.

5 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Do we have any
6 questions?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 Is there any public comment?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 All those in favor signify by
11 saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 Any opposed?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 Those items are unanimous.

16 Numbers 204 and 205 are
17 resolutions allowing the County
18 Assessor/treasurer to partially exempt
19 certain properties in various school
20 districts all in the Town of Hempstead.

21 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.

22 LEGISLATOR BIRNBAUM: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: That motion is
24 made by Mr. Muscarella, legislator Birnbaum
25 will second that. Thank you.

1 Finance Committee/6-3-19
2 Do we have any discussion?
3 (No verbal response.)
4 Is there any public comment?
5 (No verbal response.)
6 All those in favor signify by
7 saying aye.
8 (Aye.)
9 Any opposed?
10 (No verbal response.)
11 Passes unanimously.
12 LEGISLATOR MUSCARELLA: So moved.
13 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.
14 CHAIRMAN KOPEL: Motion to
15 adjourn by Mr. Muscarella and seconded by
16 Ms. Walker. All those in favor of
17 adjourning?
18 (Aye.)
19 Those opposed?
20 (No verbal response.)
21 Planning is next.
22 (Whereupon, the Finance Committee
23 adjourned at 6:54 p.m.)
24
25

C E R T I F I C A T E

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

THAT I attended at the time and place
above mentioned and took stenographic record
of the proceedings in the above-entitled
matter;

THAT the foregoing transcript is a true
and accurate transcript of the same and the
whole thereof, according to the best of my
ability and belief.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set
my hand this _____ day of _____,
2019.

FRANK GRAY