

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE
COMMITTEES MEETING

HOWARD KOPEL
PRESIDING OFFICER

FINANCE COMMITTEE

THOMAS MCKEVITT

CHAIRMAN

County Executive and Legislative Building
1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

Monday, January 12, 2026

2:41 a.m.

TAKEN BY: ALEXA LORENZO, OFFICIAL COURT REPORTER

A P P E A R A N C E S

CHAIRMAN THOMAS MCKEVITT

VICE CHAIRMAN MICHAEL GIANGREGORIO

LEGISLATOR JAMES KENNEDY

LEGISLATOR ROSE MARIE WALKER

LEGISLATOR CARRIE SOLAGES RANKING MEM.

LEGISLATOR DEBRA MULE

LEGISLATOR OLENA NICKS

MICHAEL PULITZER Clerk of the Legislature

1
2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Thank you very
3 much. I'd ask for the clerk to please
4 call the roll call for finance.

5 CLERK PULITZER: Thank you. Finance
6 Committee Chairman Thomas McKevitt?

7 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Here.

8 CLERK PULITZER: Vice Chairman
9 Michael Giangregorio?

10 VICE CHAIR GIANREGORIO: Here.

11 CLERK PULITZER: Thank you.
12 Legislator James Kennedy?

13 LEGISLATOR KENNEDY: Here.

14 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Rose
15 Walker?

16 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

17 CLERK PULITZER: Ranking Member,
18 Carrie Solages?

19 RANKING MEMBER SOLAGES: Here.

20 CLERK PULITZER: Thank you.
21 Legislator Debbie Mule?

22 LEGISLATOR MULE: Here.

23 CLERK PULITZER: Legislator Olena
24 Nicks?

25 LEGISLATOR NICKS: Here.

1
2 CLERK PULITZER: We have a quorum,
3 sir.

4 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Thank you, clerk.
5 I'm actually going to first ask for a
6 motion to waive the Rules, as we have an
7 addendum, which I'd like to go and move
8 forward on this afternoon's calendar. So,
9 upon a motion for Legislator
10 Giangregorio. Seconded by Legislator
11 Walker.

12 All in favor of waiving the rules
13 please signify by saying, "Aye".

14 (Whereupon, all members
15 respond in favor with, "Aye.")

16 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

17 (Whereupon, no verbal response.)

18 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Passed
19 unanimously, 7 to 0.

20 I'm first going to bring up of six
21 items which have already been discussed
22 by other committees. We really do not see
23 a need at this point to have further
24 discussion by the Finance Committee in
25 these matters. They are upon the motion

1
2 of Vice Chair Michael Giangregorio and
3 Legislator Solages.

4 They are items one, two, three,
5 four, five, and thirteen.

6 So if there's no further discussion
7 from the legislators, those items all in
8 favor please signify by saying, "Aye".

9 (Whereupon, all members
10 respond in favor with, "Aye.")

11 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

12 (Whereupon, no verbal
13 response.)

14 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Those are passed
15 unanimously 7 to 0.

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2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Now, again, on
3 the motion of Legislator Walker and
4 Seconded by Legislator Nicks, we have
5 items 612 and the addendum. We have 15,
6 16 and 17. So start discussing those
7 items. And actually we're going to start
8 with discussion of Item 17-26, which
9 deals with the voluntary service
10 incentive package. And we'll hear the
11 testimony on behalf of the administration
12 and the necessary parties on this matter.

13 Good afternoon, Mr. Martire.

14 MR. MARTIRE: Good afternoon. How are
15 you?

16 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Good, fine.

17 MR. MARTIRE: This is 17-26. It's a
18 Voluntary Separation Incentive Program.
19 All six unions have now signed MOAs with
20 the County to be eligible, you need a
21 minimum of ten years of consecutive full
22 time county employment immediately
23 preceding the employee's resignation
24 date. The incentive window is from
25 February 1st through March 5th. Employees

1
2 need to submit an irrevocable letter of
3 resignation and a waiver and general
4 release. The incentive payment would be
5 2,000 per year for each year of full
6 time, completed years of County service,
7 as of the date of resignation. This
8 includes only Nassau County service and
9 only full time service. Payment is to be
10 made primarily to employees 401A plans
11 subject to maximum plans, IRS
12 regulations, et cetera. And any payments
13 will be made within 90 days of the
14 incentive of the date of resignation.

15 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Any questions
16 from the legislators at this time?

17 Legislator Mule?

18 LEGISLATOR MULE: Yes. Hello. I'm
19 very pleased that everyone has been given
20 the opportunity to sign this and have
21 their concerns heard. But we here in the
22 legislature do still have questions, or
23 at least on my side, I can only speak, in
24 terms of backfilling positions. And so we
25 would appreciate it if by the time of the

1
2 deadline or soon after the deadline for
3 everyone to submit, that we get a report
4 of everyone, the numbers from each
5 department that have submitted their
6 names so we know which departments and
7 the numbers. So and then we need to know
8 also what is the plan to backfill when
9 needed. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Are there any
11 other questions for Mr. Martire? If
12 there's not, I see we have
13 representatives from, I think, almost
14 every single one of our collective
15 bargaining units are these. Each member
16 to come up to state your name and the
17 union represent and make whatever
18 statement or comments you so choose.

19 MR. BOURGUIGNON: Good afternoon.
20 Bill Bourguignon, representing Nassau
21 County Detectives Association. I'm the
22 president.

23 I just want to congratulate the
24 legislature on your new term. And I speak
25 today on behalf of Tommy Shevlin, PBA

1
2 President, Rick Fischetti from the SOA.
3 So we'd just like to thank the County
4 Executive for this opportunity for our
5 members. They're on the way out the door,
6 some of them. And this is a great
7 opportunity for them on a hard earned
8 retirement. Thank you.

9 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Thank you.

10 MR. LILI: Good afternoon. Pete Lili,
11 President of Nassau County Correctional
12 Officers Benevolent Association. I want
13 to congratulate everyone on getting sworn
14 in last week and look forward to working
15 you this year.

16 On behalf of Nassau COBA, I want to
17 take a moment to thank County Executive
18 Bruce Blakeman for his role in supporting
19 this retirement incentive, which
20 recognizes the years of faithful service
21 by my dedicated members to the County of
22 Nassau. It's an opportunity deeply
23 appreciated, and has made an important
24 difference in many of their lives as they
25 get settled for the next part of their

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2 life in retirement. Thank you.

3 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Thank you.

4 Mr. Kalendar.

5 MR. KALENDAR: Good afternoon. Kris
6 Kalendar with CSEA. I'd like to echo the
7 sentiments and congratulations to all of
8 you as well. And thank you to County
9 Executive Blakeman and his administration
10 for meeting with us today and for having
11 the discussion that needed to be had. And
12 now I think that we're in a much better
13 place than we want to thank everybody for
14 their support through this. Thank you.

15 MR. CONWAY: Larry Conway with the
16 Nassau County Investigators, PBA. I'd
17 just like to thank the County Executive
18 and the Legislature for this buyout
19 incentive. Thank you very much.

20 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Anyone else
21 wishing to speak? Okay. Thank you very
22 much for your time and attention. Most of
23 all, thank you to each of you for your
24 service, and to the members who have
25 given many of them decades and decades of

1
2 experience in Nassau County. Again, we
3 would hate to see some of them go, but
4 they were on the retirement and we're
5 very happy to make that happen. So thank
6 you very much.

7 MR. CONWAY: Thank you.

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2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Okay. We have
3 four other items which are being taken up
4 for the first time this committee. So I'm
5 going to start with item number six,
6 which I believe is appropriation
7 transfer. I believe it's in the
8 corrections department, if I'm correct.

9 CAPTAIN DOYLE: Good afternoon,
10 Captain Brian Doyle, Nassau County
11 Sheriff's Department.

12 The item before you, Item 6-26, is a
13 board transfer for the correctional
14 center. The item transfer is 20,000 from
15 corrections Department grant fund
16 equipment and 20,000 from grant fund
17 general expenses, for a total of \$40,000
18 in transfers to the Correction
19 Department's Grant Fund Contractual
20 Services. This will cover expenses
21 related to contractual services for the
22 canine activities.

23 Any questions?

24 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Any question from
25 the legislators? If not, Sergeant, thank

you very much.

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2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: We have Item
3 12, which again is another transfer
4 appropriations. I believe Inspector Field
5 will be briefing us on this one.

6 INSPECTOR FIELD: Good afternoon
7 again, William. Field inspector with the
8 police department. Item 12-26. This is a
9 request for a board transfer of \$86,742
10 in appropriations from our Urban Area
11 Security Initiative grant. This will
12 assist us in purchasing additional
13 personal protective equipment and
14 maximize the maximize the use of our
15 funds.

16 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Any questions
17 from the legislators? If not, thank you
18 very much.

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2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: We're going to
3 move on to two items on the addendum. I
4 believe there are Items 15 and 16, which
5 I believe dealt with contracts with the
6 Parks Department.

7 Good afternoon, Deputy Commissioner
8 Mesner.

9 MR. MESNER: Thank you for having me.
10 So item number 15-26 is a hotel motel tax
11 grant agreement between the county and
12 the Long Island Children's Museum. LICM
13 is a not for profit organization, which
14 provides for ongoing operating and
15 program support relevant to the
16 continuation and enhancement of tourism
17 industry in the county. The term of this
18 contract is for one year, retroactive to
19 June 1st of 2025, ending May 31st of
20 2026. The requested amount of the funding
21 will be, in total, \$327,000; \$150,000 to
22 be allocated in support for public
23 programing, visiting exhibits, theater
24 programing and, related staffing costs.
25 177,000 will support the LICMs operation

1
2 and management of the Nunley's carousel
3 and related carousel building.

4 I'll take any questions.

5 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Any further
6 questions from the committee? If not,
7 thank you very much, Mr. Mesner.

8 MR. MESNER: Item 16.

9 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Sixteen. Yes.

10 MR. MESNER: Item 16 is presenting
11 another hotel motel tax grant agreement
12 between the county and the Long Island
13 Film and TV Foundation. The term of the
14 contract is a one year retroactive to
15 July 1, 2025, ending in June 30, 2026,
16 for a total of \$25,000.

17 The purpose of this grant is to help
18 fund items associated with promoting the
19 film festival. The Long Island
20 International Film Expo. They not only
21 show films from around the world, but
22 also host educational and information
23 panels to filmmakers and public at large.

24 Funds will be used to reimburse the
25 Long Island Film and TV Foundation for

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2 money spent during the film festival for
3 public relations, advertising, printing
4 posters, journals and banners,
5 commercials, social media, television,
6 radio posts.

7 This year, the Long Island
8 International was held in July. It's the
9 20th year and was held at the Historic
10 Bellmore Movies.

11 Any follow up questions?

12 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Any further
13 questions for the Deputy commissioner?

14 Legislator Nicks?

15 LEGISLATOR NICKS: Just two
16 questions. It's the target audience when
17 advertising, I guess filmmakers per se,
18 or?

19 MR. MESNER: I would have to speak
20 with the organization that sells them.
21 Not. I don't have that answer for you.

22 LEGISLATOR NICKS: And is there any
23 direct or measurable impact to tourism or
24 how that helps us out in Nassau with
25 tourism?

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2 MR. MESNER: I don't have that direct
3 answer for you either. I apologize, I can
4 get you some further information if you
5 like.

6 LEGISLATOR NICKS: And yeah, that'd
7 be helpful. Thank you.

8 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Any further
9 questions?

10 (Whereupon, no response.)

11 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: If not, thank
12 you very much. Thank you. We'll let you
13 off, for now. All right. At this point,
14 we're just going to take a vote on items
15 six, 12, 15 and 16. I'm not doing 17
16 right now because I need another motion
17 on that. But all those voting in favor of
18 six, 12, 15 and 16, please signify by
19 saying aye.

20 (Whereupon, all members
21 respond in favor.)

22 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

23 (Whereupon, no response.)

24 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Those are passed
25 unanimously 7 to 0.

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2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Item 17, which
3 is the Voluntary Separation Incentive
4 Program. I neglected to mention that
5 since we began this committee today, was
6 actually amended to include the CSEA.

7 So I'm actually going to accept an
8 amendment by now from Legislator
9 Giangregorio. Seconded by Legislator
10 Solages to amend item number 17. So on
11 the amendment, all in favor of item 17,
12 please signify by saying, "Aye".

13 (Whereupon, all members
14 respond in favor with, "Aye.")

15 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Now, on the item
16 itself, as amended from a motion from
17 Legislator Kennedy and Seconded by
18 Legislator Mule.

19 We're going to vote on 17, as
20 amended. All in favor, please signify by
21 saying, "Aye".

22 (Whereupon, all members
23 respond in favor with, "Aye.")

CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: The item as
amended is passed unanimously, 7 to 0.

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2 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: We'll now go on
3 to the last items of the Calendar, which
4 are the litigation matters. They are
5 seven, eight, nine, ten and 11. That'll
6 be done on a motion of Legislator Walker.
7 Seconded by Legislator Nicks. We'll then
8 adopt those items.

9 Traditionally, we discuss these
10 items in executive session as they deal
11 with items, which are currently in
12 litigation.

13 So again, on the motion of
14 Legislator Kennedy. Seconded by
15 Legislator Solages.

16 All in favor of going to executive
17 session on these items please signify by
18 saying, "Aye".

19 (Whereupon, all members
20 respond in favor with, "Aye.")

21 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

22 (Whereupon, no verbal
23 response.)

24 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Therefore, all
25 wish to join us in the back caucus room

1
2 for executive session. We will commence
3 shortly. Thank you.

4 (Whereupon, an executive
5 session.)

6 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: We will now
7 reconvene the Finance Committee. We've
8 held our executive session on item seven,
9 eight, nine, ten, 11.

10 All those in favor of those
11 settlements, please signify by saying,
12 "Aye".

13 (Whereupon, all members
14 respond in favor with, "Aye.")

15 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

16 (Whereupon, no verbal
17 response.)

18 CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Those are passed
19 unanimously.

20 On a motion from Legislator Walker.
21 Seconded by Legislator Nicks there is a
22 motion to adjourn.

23 All in favor to adjourn, please
24 signify by saying, "Aye".

25 (Whereupon, all members

respond in favor with, "Aye.)

CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: All opposed?

(Whereupon, no verbal
response.)

CHAIRMAN MCKEVITT: Passed
unanimously, 7 to 0.

We will now return to Rules for the
conclusion of our committees. Thank you.

(Whereupon, above matter is
adjourned, 2:41 p.m.)

C E R T I F I C A T E

STATE OF NEW YORK)

: SS.:

COUNTY OF NASSAU)

I, ALEXA LORENZO, a Notary Public
for and within the State of New York, do
hereby certify:

That the above is a correct
transcription of my stenographic notes.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto
set my hand this 12th day of January, 2026.

Alexa Lorenzo

Alexa Lorenzo

FINANCE COMMITTEE 01.12.2026		
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