

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,
ACTING PRESIDING OFFICER

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DENNIS DUNNE,
CHAIRMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue
Mineola, New York

November 5, 2012
3:32 p.m.

REGAL REPORTING SERVICES
516-747-7353

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

DENNIS DUNNE (Not Present)
Chair

JOSEPH BELESI
Vice-Chair

NORMA GONSALVES

DENISE FORD (Not Present)

ROSE MARIE WALKER (Sitting in for Denise Ford)

JOSEPH SCANNELL
Ranking

DAVID DENENBERG

WAYNE WINK

WILLIAM J. MULLER III, Clerk

LIST OF SPEAKERS

GREG MAY. 5
BOB MCMANUS 5
BOB CONROY. 7
GREG STEPHANOFF 8
ERIC ZAUSNER. 15
CARL KAMPE 17

2 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: This is the Public
3 Safety Committee. I'll do the roll call.

4 Wayne Wink?

5 LEGISLATOR WINK: Here.

6 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Dave Denenberg?

7 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Here.

8 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Joseph Scannell?

9 LEGISLATOR SCANNELL: Here.

10 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Rose Walker, standing
11 in for Denise Ford?

12 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

13 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Norma Gonsalves?

14 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Present.

15 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Joe Belesi, Vice
16 Chairman?

17 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Present.

18 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: And myself, I'm here.

19 First, I'd like to entertain a motion to
20 suspend the rules.

21 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

22 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Second.

23 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Moved by Rose Walker,

2 seconded by Joe Belesi.

3 LEGISLATOR WALKER: All in favor
4 indicate by saying aye.

5 (Aye.)

6 Any against?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 Okay. So ruled.

9 The first item on this committee is Item
10 655; it's an ordinance supplemental to the annual
11 appropriation ordinance in connection with the
12 Office of the District Attorney.

13 And we have from the district attorney's
14 office?

15 MR. MAY: Mr. Bob McManus.

16 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: May I have a motion on
17 this item?

18 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

19 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Rose Walker is the
21 motion, Joe Belesi seconded it.

22 MR. MCMANUS: Good afternoon. This item
23 is a supplemental appropriation for \$17,000 in
24 grant funding for the district attorney's office
25 to provide support for academic enrichment

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2 programs for children from Hempstead Village
3 during after-school hours to hopefully deter
4 these children from gang involvement and other
5 unlawful and harmful activities.

6 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Excellent. Thank you.

7 Are there any questions from any
8 legislator?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 Any public comment?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 There being none. All in favor indicate
13 by saying aye.

14 (Aye.)

15 Any against?

16 (No verbal response.)

17 So rules. It will be passed on to
18 Finance.

19 MR. MCMANUS: Thank you.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Thank you.

21 The next item is Item 657, an ordinance
22 supplemental to the annual appropriations
23 ordinance in connection with the police
24 department.

25 We have one other police item, so we'll

2 call them both at the same time.

3 658, also, which is an ordinance
4 supplemental to the annual appropriation
5 ordinance in connection with the police
6 department.

7 We have a motion by Joe Belesi, seconded
8 by?

9 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Second.

10 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Norma Gonsalves.

11 First we'll go over 657. Who do we have?

12 MR. MAY: Sergeant Greg Stephanoff.

13 MR. CONROY: Bob Conroy from OMB. This
14 supplemental appropriation is just required
15 because it's part of a board transfer where funds
16 were transferred -- appropriations were
17 transferred between funds.

18 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. And that's?

19 MR. CONROY: The board transfer's 670-
20 12; it's that number.

21 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Now, that's on 657.
22 Are there any questions from any legislators?

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Yeah.

24 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator David
25 Denenberg.

2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: You can call me
3 Dave, that's fine. Anyway.

4 This is not 670-12, sir. This is 657-12.

5 MR. CONROY: Correct.

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So this is an
7 \$8.9 million supplemental appropriation to cover
8 police overtime, fringe benefit, gasoline,
9 automobile related expenses, radio and
10 telecommunication, ambulance billing, and lab
11 testing, correct?

12 MR. CONROY: Correct, yeah.

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: And this is all
14 before the storm. This is an item that's not
15 storm related, correct?

16 MR. CONROY: That's correct.

17 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. And the --
18 where's the money coming from? Just so you
19 understand, you confirmed where it's going, and
20 most of it's overtime, fringe benefits, and the
21 rest of it is for lab testing, ambulance billing,
22 etcetera. I thought ambulance billing actually
23 might make us money. But most of this is for
24 police overtime. I just want to know where it's
25 coming from.

2 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: With respect to
3 the ambulance billing, it does make us money, but
4 the money goes in the revenue side and we have to
5 pay it on the contractual side.

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I understand.
7 But I'm just looking at 8.9 million, and the vast
8 majority of that's to cover overtime and fringe
9 benefits.

10 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: This was going to
11 be a transfer for -- just to cover year-end. We
12 had a few shortfalls. It was accelerated because
13 of the hurricane.

14 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Actually, this
15 was filed before the hurricane the gentleman to
16 your left -- what was your name again? I'm sorry
17 if I have it wrong.

18 MR. CONROY: Bob Conroy.

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Bob Conway?

20 MR. CONROY: Conroy.

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. I'm sorry,
22 Mr. Conroy. Mr. Conroy just said and confirmed
23 that this was before the storm.

24 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: Yes. It was a
25 scheduled transfer to cover year-end shortages.

2 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: But you just said
3 it had to do with the storm. This was filed --

4 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: No. It was
5 accelerated --

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: October 22.

7 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: We just
8 accelerated it to cover this leg calendar.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. It was
10 filed on October 22. Do you disagree?

11 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: No.

12 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: The storm was
13 after October 22, was it not?

14 SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: Yes.

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. So, again,
16 where is the money coming from?

17 MR. CONROY: Ultimately, from the
18 general fund.

19 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: The general fund
20 debt service charge backs, correct?

21 MR. CONROY: That's correct.

22 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: The debt service.
23 That would be from bonding either that didn't
24 happen or was over budgeted?

25 MR. CONROY: Yeah. Over budgeted. The

2 borrowing's less than budgeted and at lower
3 rates.

4 MR. MAY: Excuse me. Legislator
5 Denenberg, I just wanted to point out for the
6 record that the item was filed on October 31, not
7 on October 22.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: The date on the
9 item is October 22. The request -- okay. You're
10 right. It wasn't filed. The date of the request
11 is October 22, 2012.

12 MR. MAY: I don't dispute that. I'm
13 just saying you are stating for the record that
14 it was filed on October 22. It was filed on
15 October 31 --

16 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: No. I think I
17 said the date of the request was October 22. But
18 if the record's wrong, I'll say it again. Am I
19 correct that the date of the request was October
20 22?

21 MR. MAY: The date of the request would
22 be October 22.

23 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: So my concern is,
24 particularly how much of this goes to overtime,
25 salary, and benefits of the 8.9, based on the

2 breakout is well above what Mr. Sullivan said at
3 the last budget review hearing, which was -- I
4 think it was early August, first week of August.
5 This is way above what was anticipated less than
6 three months ago.

7 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Point made. It's
8 coming out of the general fund. The point was
9 made. Any other questions, Mr. Denenberg?
10 Anything else?

11 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I had no other
12 questions. I --

13 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator Gonsalves,
14 do you want to ask something?

15 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: think Mr. Wink
16 might.

17 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: I added what I
18 had to add. Thank you.

19 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. Thank you.

20 Any public comment?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 There being none, all in favor indicate
23 by saying aye.

24 (Aye.)

25 Any against?

2 (No verbal response.)

3 So ruled.

4 Now we have a second --

5 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: No. You have to
6 let us vote. You said all in favor? Yes.

7 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: I said all against.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: We abstain. And
9 the reason why we're abstaining is we'd like Mr.
10 Sullivan at Full Leg to explain why we're so far
11 over what he had said at the budget review
12 hearing in August. If it's late July, I'll stand
13 corrected. The last budget review hearing.

14 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: So noted.

15 Your explanation, was that just 657 or is
16 that 658 also?

17 MR. MAY: 658's a grant that we're
18 getting money for.

19 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Now we're going to vote
20 on the grant.

21 Any questions on the grant?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Is there any --

24 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Dennis, did you
25 call 658?

2 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Yes, we called them
3 both together.

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay. Sorry.

5 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any questions on 658,
6 the grant?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 Any public comment?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 There being none, all in favor indicate
11 by saying aye.

12 (Aye.)

13 Any against?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 Any abstentions?

16 (No verbal response.)

17 I guess it's unanimous. Okay.

18 Now, Item 659-12, an ordinance
19 supplemental to the annual appropriations
20 ordinance in connection with the Office of
21 Emergency Management.

22 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

23 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

24 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Motion by Legislator
25 Norma Gonsalves, seconded by Legislator Rose

2 Walker.

3 Okay. Who do we have to speak on the
4 item?

5 MR. MAY: Mr. Eric Zausner from the
6 Office of Emergency Management.

7 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay.

8 MR. ZAUSMER: Good afternoon,
9 legislators. This is a -- Eric Zausner, Office
10 of Emergency Management. This is a grant that
11 Commissioner Kraft was able to secure for our
12 hazard mitigation program. FEMA requires that we
13 have a hazard mitigation program in place, a plan
14 in place, and this is a \$205,000 grant so that we
15 may hire vendor to write the plan. It requires a
16 25% match, which will be made up with our own
17 internal staffing.

18 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Is there any question
19 from any of the legislators?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 Any public comment?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 There being none, all those in favor
24 indicate by saying aye.

25 (Aye.)

2 Any against?

3 (No verbal response.)

4 Any abstentions?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 There being none, it's unanimous.

7 Before you go, Eric, Legislator Rose

8 Walker would like to make a quick comment.

9 LEGISLATOR WALKER: I just want to share
10 with you, Eric. Thank you so much for all the
11 work you've been doing at OEM. I could tell you
12 that Eric didn't have a beard before the storm,
13 and he hasn't had much time to be home.

14 MR. ZAUSNER: Still without power,
15 Legislator.

16 LEGISLATOR WALKER: I understand that,
17 as I am and many of the other legislators also.
18 But please just share that with everybody there.
19 I know they're putting in countless hours. It
20 just gives me an opportunity to thank you and let
21 you pass that on to them.

22 MR. ZAUSNER: I will do that. Thank you
23 very much.

24 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Thank you, Legislator
25 Walker.

2 Next item is Item 660-12, it's an
3 ordinance supplemental to the annual
4 appropriation ordinance in connection with the
5 Department of Civil Service.

6 Do I have a motion on it?

7 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator Walker,
10 seconded by Norma Gonsalves, Acting Presiding
11 Officer Gonsalves.

12 Who do we have here?

13 MR. MAY: Civil Service Commissioner
14 Carl Camp.

15 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Carl. Mr. Kampe, I'm
16 sorry.

17 MR. KAMPE: Mr. Dunne, how are you, sir?

18 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Good. And this is
19 with reference to?

20 MR. KAMPE: This is actually money being
21 put back into my budget in order for me to pay
22 for the process of the Nassau County police exam,
23 which we are holding in December of this year.
24 It is balanced by revenue. We have already taken
25 in approximately \$1.8 million in fees for the

2 examination. But we need this money now in order
3 to pay for different types of things that are
4 necessary in order to hold the exam, such as the
5 renting of tables, chairs. We're going to use
6 the Coliseum and we're going to use the
7 exhibition hall in the Coliseum, for which we're
8 paying no rent, by the way. But there are costs
9 there. Because of the unions involved, we can't
10 have our own security, etcetera, etcetera. So
11 this money is requested to be transferred into my
12 codes so that we can pay the agencies that we're
13 going to need in order to do this police exam.

14 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Excellent. So it's
15 going for the exam and it's coming from monies
16 that you already brought in through your
17 department.

18 MR. KAMPE: The monies that we already
19 have brought in will be balanced as revenues.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Terrific. Are there
21 any questions from any legislators?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Any public comment?

24 (No verbal response.)

25 There being none, all those in favor

2 indicate by saying aye.

3 (Aye.)

4 Any against?

5 (No verbal response.)

6 Any abstentions?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 There being none, it's unanimous. It
9 gets passed onto Finance.

10 We're going to call Item Number 661-12
11 and 662-12 together. They are both with the
12 medical examiner. Wait a minute. No, no, no,
13 no, no. My mistake. My mistake.

14 661 we're going to do now, and that's an
15 ordinance supplemental to the annual
16 appropriations ordinance in connection with the
17 fire commissioner.

18 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

19 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: Second.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Rose Walker made the
21 motion, seconded by Norma Gonsalves.

22 Who do we have here?

23 MR. MAY: Mr. Chairman, normally we
24 would have Carey Welt from the Fire Commission
25 here to speak on these items. However, as you

2 can imagine, they are stretched rather thin right
3 now. I'll be happy to try to answer any
4 questions that I can on this item. If I cannot
5 answer those questions, I will get the answers to
6 you prior to the Full Legislature.

7 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: I have no objection, as
8 long as there are no questions over your head.
9 Does anybody have any questions on --

10 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: I had one.

11 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Yes. Legislator
12 Denenberg.

13 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Thank you,
14 Chairman.

15 Is it that we have more people in the
16 fire commission? Why would we be over on the
17 salary line in the fire commission? Did we hire
18 more commissioners?

19 MR. MAY: I would have to find out the
20 exact answer to that question, sir.

21 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Oh. I guess
22 that's my question.

23 MR. MAY: And I can certainly get that
24 to you before the Full Legislature.

25 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Thank you.

2 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. Any other
3 questions?

4 (No verbal response.)

5 Any public comment?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 There being none, all in favor indicate
8 by saying aye.

9 (Aye.)

10 Any against?

11 (No verbal response.)

12 Any abstentions?

13 (No verbal response.)

14 Unanimous.

15 The next two items are the ones that are
16 grouped together, and they are both with the
17 medical examiner.

18 Item 662-12, an ordinance supplemental to
19 the annual appropriations ordinance in connection
20 with the Office of the Medical Examiner.

21 663-12, which is an ordinance
22 supplemental to the annual appropriations
23 ordinance in connection with the Office of the
24 Medical Examiner.

25 Who do we have to speak on this?

2 MR. MAY: We had Mr. Timothy Hahn here.
3 He had to leave due to a personal emergency as
4 his home.

5 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: We did start late, so
6 we can't blame him. In this kind of environment
7 today, with the storm, and everywhere.
8 Hopefully, if there are any questions, you might
9 be able to respond to them, if nobody has any
10 objection.

11 Okay. Motion by?

12 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

13 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Second.

14 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Motion by Legislator
15 Rose Walker, seconded by Legislator Joe Belesi.

16 Okay. Are there any questions from the
17 legislators?

18 (No verbal response.)

19 Any public comment?

20 (No verbal response.)

21 There being none, all in favor indicate
22 by saying aye.

23 (Aye.)

24 Any against?

25 (No verbal response.)

2 So ordered. It passes onto Finance.

3 The next and last item of this committee
4 is Item 665-12, a local law to amend the County
5 Charter in relation to the county fire
6 commission.

7 LEGISLATOR GONSALVES: So moved.

8 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Second.

9 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Norma Gonsalves made
10 the motion, seconded by Joe Belesi.

11 Who do we have to speak on this?

12 MR. MAY: Again, I can actually field
13 questions on this item. I was involved in
14 drafting this legislation.

15 The main gist of the legislation is to
16 allow the vice chairmen of the fire battalions to
17 vote in place of the chairmen of the fire
18 battalions in case the chairmen are absent for
19 whatever reason, so that we can ensure that all
20 fire battalions are represented at any vote of
21 the fire commission. Just at the end, I noticed
22 that the provision of the Charter, I think it's
23 Article 17, was labeled fire prevention. I felt
24 it would be more appropriate that it be labeled
25 fire commission, since that's primarily what it

2 deals with.

3 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Makes sense to me.

4 Are there any questions from any of the
5 legislators?

6 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Just a quick one.

7 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Yes. Mr. Denenberg.

8 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Within the fire
9 commission and the battalion chairmen, is this --
10 was this sent around and are the battalions in
11 favor?

12 MR. MAY: As requested by -- I want to
13 make sure that I have the gentleman's name
14 correct. I met with Mr. Richard Gardner, who is
15 the commissioner of the fire -- I believe he is
16 the chief commissioner of the Fire Commission,
17 and he has requested this legislation,
18 specifically.

19 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Okay.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: And we also have time,
21 David, to check with the different battalions, if
22 you'd like, to see if they are pro or against.

23 We have a question from Legislator Rose
24 Walker.

25 LEGISLATOR WALKER: I do believe that

2 the battalions were very much in favor of this,
3 correct?

4 MR. MAY: That would be my
5 understanding. I don't think the chief
6 commissioner would be coming in and asking for
7 this legislation if it was opposed by a majority
8 of his commissioners.

9 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Okay. Thank you.

10 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any other questions
11 from the legislators?

12 (No verbal response.)

13 Any public comment?

14 (No verbal response.)

15 There being none, all in favor indicate
16 by saying aye.

17 (Aye.)

18 Any against?

19 (No verbal response.)

20 Any abstentions?

21 (No verbal response.)

22 There being none, it's unanimous.

23 That's the last item on the agenda.

24 Can I have a motion to adjourn?

25 LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

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2 LEGISLATOR BELESI: Second.

3 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: So moved by Rose

4 Walker, seconded by Joe Belesi.

5 All in favor indicate by saying aye.

6 (Aye.)

7 The next committee is Planning.

8 (Whereupon, the Public Safety Committee
9 adjourned at 3:50 p.m.)

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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 state:

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 19th day of November, 2012.

FRANK GRAY