

NASSAU COUNTY LEGISLATURE

NORMA GONSALVES,  
PRESIDING OFFICER

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

DENNIS DUNNE,  
CHAIRMAN

1550 Franklin Avenue  
Mineola, New York

May 5, 2014  
3:10 p.m.

REGAL REPORTING SERVICES  
516-747-7353

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

DENNIS DUNNE  
Chair

DONALD MAC KENZIE  
Vice-Chair

VINCENT MUSCARELLA (Not Present)

ROSE WALKER (Sitting in for Vincent Muscarella)

DENISE FORD

LAURA CURRAN  
Ranking

DAVID DENENBERG

KEVAN ABRAHAMS

WILLIAM J. MULLER III, Clerk

LIST OF SPEAKERS

GREG MAY. . . . . 5  
BOB MCMANUS . . . . . 7  
JOHN PRIEST . . . . . 11  
GREGORY STEPHANOFF. . . . . 14  
JOHN BUTLER . . . . . 17

2 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: I call the Public  
3 Safety Committee to order. I will act as the  
4 clerk and call the roll.

5 Legislator Kevan Abrahams?

6 LEGISLATOR ABRAHAMS: Here.

7 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator David  
8 Denenberg?

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Here.

10 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator Laura  
11 Curran, Ranking Member?

12 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Here.

13 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Sitting in for  
14 Legislator Muscarella is Legislator Rose Walker.

15 LEGISLATOR WALKER: Here.

16 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator Donald  
17 MacKenzie, Vice Chair?

18 LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Here.

19 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: And I am here. We have  
20 a quorum.

21 The first item to come before this  
22 committee is Item 167 --

23 LEGISLATOR FORD: I'm here.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Legislator Denise Ford. Denise, I'm terribly sorry. Legislator Denise Ford is with us. We have a full compliment. I'm sorry, Denise.

Item 167-14 is our first item, which is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriations order in connection with the district attorney's office.

Do we have somebody here from the district attorney's office?

LEGISLATOR FORD: So moved.

LEGISLATOR WALKER: Second.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: It is moved by Denise Ford, seconded by Rose Walker.

We have a number of things for the district attorney's office. Would you mind us taking them all at the same time?

MR. MAY: That would be great.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Are there any objections by the Minority? Okay.

Then we will also call 168-14, which is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriations ordinance in connection with the district attorney's office.

Then Item 172 is a resolution authorizing the county executive to execute an amendment to a grant agreement between the County of Nassau, acting on behalf of the district attorney's office, and 100 Black Men of Long Island.

We have Item 178-14, which is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriations ordinance in connection with the district attorney's office.

Item 179-14, which is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriations ordinance in connection with the district attorney's office.

And we have 180-14, which is an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriations ordinance in connection with the district attorney's office.

Let's see if there is anything else.

184, which is a resolution authorizing the county executive to execute a grant agreement between the County of Nassau, acting on behalf of the district attorney's office, and MADD Long Island.

We had the motion from Denise Ford,

seconded by Rose Marie Walker, that's continued on to all of these.

On the items, let's go one by one.

MR. MAY: We have Mr. Bob McManus from the district attorney's office.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Mr. McManus.

MR. MCMANUS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: We'll go with 167 first.

MR. MCMANUS: Item 167 will allow the district attorney's office to utilize federal forfeiture funds.

The district attorney's office receives federal forfeiture funds as a result of joint investigations conducted in conjunction with federal task forces or in conjunction with a federal law enforcement agency.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. Any questions on this item?

(No verbal response.)

Then we'll go to the next one, which was 168.

MR. MCMANUS: A civil forfeiture is a form of confiscation of assets conducted by the

state. It applies to the proceeds or instrumentalities of criminal activity. The district attorney's office receives a portion of these assets; the size of the portion depends on the extent of our involvement and participation in the investigation. This item will allow us to utilize civil forfeiture funds that have been awarded.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Excellent. Are there any questions from any legislators on this?

(No verbal response.)

There being none, we'll go to Item 172-14.

MR. MCMANUS: Item 172 is a grant agreement to allow the district attorney's office to rent space from 100 Black Men that houses the Counsel on Thought and Action, which is a program instituted by the district attorney's office to provide services to recently incarcerated individuals.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any questions from any legislator on this?

(No verbal response.)

There being none; how about 178-14?



MR. MCMANUS: Item 178 is to appropriate civil forfeiture funds.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. 179-14.

MR. MCMANUS: Item 179 will allow us to utilize federal forfeiture funds.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Excellent. 180.

MR. MCMANUS: 180 is the same as 179; it will allow us to use federal forfeiture funds awarded by the Justice Department.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any questions on any of those from any of the legislators?

(No verbal response.)

There being none, we'll go over to 184.

MR. MCMANUS: Item 184 is an agreement that will permit the district attorney's office to utilize federal forfeiture funds to provide funding to Mothers Against Drunk Driving of Long Island for an awareness campaign to combat drunk driving in Nassau County.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any questions from any of the legislators?

(No verbal response.)

Is there any public comment on any of these items?

(No verbal response.)

There being none; all in favor of all of these items -- let me say them again so you know what you're voting on -- Item 167-14, 168-14, 172-14, Item 178-14, 179-14, 180-14, and 184-14; all in favor indicate by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any against?

(No verbal response.)

They all pass unanimously.

MR. MCMANUS: Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Thank you, Mr. McManus.

The next item to come before us is Item 170-14, an ordinance supplemental to the annual appropriations ordinance in connection with the Fire Commission.

Do we have somebody from the Fire Commission here?

LEGISLATOR WALKER: So moved.

LEGISLATOR MACKENZIE: Second.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Motion by Rose Walker, seconded by Don MacKenzie.

Who do we have with us?

MR. MAY: We have John Priest from the

2 Fire Commission.

3 Mr. Chairman, could we also call Clerk  
4 Item 181-14?

5 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: No problem with that  
6 from the Minority? Okay.

7 181-14 is an ordinance supplemental to  
8 the annual appropriation ordinance in connection  
9 with the Fire Commission.

10 And I assume Rose Walker and Don  
11 MacKenzie are the motion and second.

12 MR. PRIEST: Good afternoon, Mr.  
13 Chairman, members. Item Number 170 is in regard  
14 to a grant from the Department of Homeland  
15 Security Emergency Services for hazardous  
16 materials equipment used to be divided amongst  
17 the hazardous materials teams of the county, both  
18 on the fire service and police side, in the  
19 amount of \$47,000 to improve readiness.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any questions from any  
21 legislator on that?

22 (No verbal response.)

23 Next item is 181.

24 MR. PRIEST: 181 is a grant, again, from  
25 Homeland Security, this time in regard to

1 technical rescue. It's a grant in the amount of  
2 just over \$147,000 to be again administered by  
3 the fire marshal but split for equipment amongst  
4 the technical rescue teams of the fire service.  
5

6 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Excellent. Any  
7 question from any legislator? Legislator Dave  
8 Denenberg.

9 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: These funds, Mr.  
10 Priest, they -- two questions: could they be  
11 spent in any other way, do we make the decision  
12 how they're spent, and how do we get these  
13 grants?

14 MR. PRIEST: Okay. To the first  
15 question, we met with the various team leaders  
16 from the fire departments and on the hazmat side  
17 also, our own team and the police department team  
18 at the time of application to identify equipment  
19 we would like to go for. That is identified in  
20 the purpose of the grant when it's applied, and  
21 pretty much you have to stick to that. You could  
22 make minor changes, like the brand name of one  
23 particular equipment to another. So that's all  
24 identified out. Once the grant is accepted by  
25 the county, we basically follow the wishes of the

2 groups, when it was applied, for what equipment  
3 will be bought.

4 LEGISLATOR DENENBERG: Thank you.

5 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Any other legislators?

6 (No verbal response.)

7 Is there any public comment on 170 or  
8 181?

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 It passes through to Finance.

16 The next two items we'll call together,  
17 if there is no objection from Legislator Curran -  
18 -

19 LEGISLATOR CURRAN: No objection.

20 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: They're both from the  
21 police.

22 Item 174-14, which is an ordinance  
23 amending Ordinance Number 535-1989 in relation to  
24 fees for services relating to police vehicles,  
25 impounded vehicles, and other towing. That's

174.

175 is an ordinance to provide for police towing zones within Nassau County.

Motion by Legislator MacKenzie, seconded by Legislator Ford.

Who do we have to speak on that?

MR. MAY: We have Detective Gregory Stephanoff. I'm sorry. Sergeant Gregory Stephanoff. I don't know if I promoted you or demoted you there.

SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: Good afternoon. Sergeant Greg Stephanoff from the Police Department.

Item 174, this item proposes to increase fees for towing services relating to police vehicles at the police department impounds. This item will allow the tow companies to charge a competitive rate for their towing services and storage fees that they charge when they store vehicles.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: It sounds fair.

Any questions on this item? Yes. Legislator Curran.

LEGISLATOR CURRAN: What is the impact

on the budget for this?

SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: This doesn't affect our budget. This is what the tow companies are allowed to charge by contract when they perform an impound for us.

LEGISLATOR CURRAN: So it doesn't increase the money coming in to the county?

SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: No.

LEGISLATOR CURRAN: Ah. Okay. Thank you.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. Any other questions?

(No verbal response.)

The next item, 175.

SERGEANT STEPHANOFF: 175, this is for the police zones. This is for impounds also. The county currently is broken up into 20 zones and we call a different company for each zone around the county.

What this item will do is it will break up the Long Island Expressway to its own zone, the 135 for another zone, and also the entire county we're breaking up for extremely large vehicles, to have a company that specializes in

2 large vehicle tows. We're doing this to make it  
3 more efficient for highway to impound vehicles on  
4 the LIE and the 135.

5 CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. Are there any  
6 questions from any of the legislators?

7 (No verbal response.)

8 Any public comment on either of these  
9 items?

10 (No verbal response.)

11 There being none; all in favor indicate  
12 by saying aye.

13 (Aye.)

14 Any against?

15 (No verbal response.)

16 They both move on to Finance.

17 The last item on our agenda is Item  
18 Number 183, it's an ordinance supplemental to the  
19 annual appropriations ordinance in connection  
20 with the Traffic Safety Board.

21 And who do we have from the Traffic  
22 Safety Board?

23 MR. MAY: Pinch hitting for the Traffic  
24 Safety Board is going to be John Butler from the  
25 Department of Public Works.



CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Did you say John Budnick?

MR. MAY: John Butler.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: John's in the audience; I'm saying he's got a twin.

MR. BUTLER: Good afternoon. John Butler from the Department of Public Works.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. The motion was made by Legislator Ford, seconded by Legislator Walker.

I'm sorry. Go ahead now, John.

MR. BUTLER: Good afternoon. John Butler, Public Works.

Item 183 is an item to appropriate grant funding for Nassau County Stop DWI grant program.

CHAIRMAN DUNNE: Okay. Are there any questions from any of the legislators?

(No verbal response.)

Any public comment?

(No verbal response.)

There being none; all in favor indicate by saying aye.

(Aye.)

Any against?

2 (No verbal response.)

3 It passes on to Finance.

4 I have a motion to adjourn by Don

5 MacKenzie, seconded by Denise Ford.

6 All in favor indicate by saying aye.

7 (Aye.)

8 Any against?

9 (No verbal response.)

10 It's so moved. It's over.

11 (Whereupon, the Public Safety Committee

12 adjourned at 3:23 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 30th day of May, 2014.

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FRANK GRAY