

SPECIAL SESSION, TUESDAY, SEPTEMBER 29, 2020

SPECIAL SESSION

September 29, 2020

The Legislature convened in Special Session at 3:30 p.m. today.

The Legislature was called to order by Chairman Brescia with a moment of silence and the Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag followed by a moment of silence and please remember all those affected by the Coronavirus and the families of those who have unfortunately passed away.

On roll call, all members were present with the exception of Legislator O'Donnell who joined the meeting at 3:37 p.m.

The Clerk read the Notice of Special Meeting. On motion the same was received and ordered placed on file.

Public Participation will be postponed to a future Legislative Session but the public is invited to send their written comments via email to Jramppen@orangecountygov.com

MISCELLANEOUS:

Sponsor: Faggione

Co-Sponsors: Bonelli, Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis, Benton, Cheney, Hines, Kulisek, Luján, Minuta, O'Donnell, Ruszkiewicz, Sassi, Sierra, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tautel, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

RESOLUTION NO. 206 OF 2020

RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE, IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE ORANGE COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF PLANNING, TO ACCEPT AND APPROPRIATE FUNDS FROM THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE, PURSUANT TO SECTION 99-h OF THE GENERAL MUNICIPAL LAW AND SECTION 4.09 OF THE ORANGE COUNTY CHARTER.

WHEREAS, the United States Department of Defense has offered funds in the amount of \$465,489.00 for funding to assist the County of Orange, USMA at West Point, and the Town of Highlands and Village of Highland Falls to produce an energy study analysis and implementation action plan which will identify vulnerabilities and threats, analyze infrastructure improvements needed and ensure uninterrupted electric service to the installation and its surrounding communities. The non-cash local match of \$50,787.00 will be provided through personnel expenses already funded through the County operating budget and no additional cash match is required, and;

WHEREAS, this Legislature does wish to accept and appropriate said funds for the Department of Planning as indicated above.

NOW, THEREFORE, it is hereby

RESOLVED, as follows:

1. That the County Executive, in conjunction with the Commissioner of Planning, be and hereby is authorized to accept and appropriate funds from the United States Department of Defense, in the amount of \$465,489.00 for the Grant as indicated above.
2. That the County Executive is hereby authorized to enter into agreements or contracts necessary to secure and implement this grant.
3. That the 2020 Budget for the Department of Planning is hereby amended and supplemented as shown below, and the Commissioner of Finance, together with the Director of Budget, be and hereby is authorized to make such amendment and supplementation forthwith.
4. That the County Executive be and hereby is authorized to execute all necessary documents and assurances necessary to carry out the purposes of this resolution subject to the review thereof by the County Attorney for purposes of form and content.

Revenue:

1010	802004	440891	Other General Govt.	\$465,489.00
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Expense:

1010	802004	571820	Consultant Serv (Non-Medical/Health)	\$465,489.00
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Seconded by Mr. Vero.

Mr. Porr thanked the Legislature for holding the special meeting. There was a timing issue and if they did not meet today, they would not be able to pursue the additional funding.

Mr. Sorensen explained that he and his staff have been working on a grant with West Point since May. West Point is in desperate need for upgrades to their electric grid which serves West Point, Village of Highland Falls and the Town of Highlands. They have an opportunity to secure money through the U.S. Department of Defense which would offer a major upgrade to the electrical grid. They reached out to Orange County to partner with them because part of the process, the Department of Defense requires that when major infrastructure upgrades occur, through the office of Economic Adjustment, they look at opportunities how the localities can benefit from those upgrades. The grant they are receiving will allow them to do a detailed study to see how the infrastructure upgrades to support West Point can also benefit the localities and Orange County, it will also ensure that West Point secures the vital funding through the Department of Defense.

Mr. Sorensen continued to state that the need for the special meeting is the funding they were able to secure is 2020 funding, the Federal fiscal year ends September 30th. The funding needs to be committed by tomorrow.

Mr. Anagnostakis asked Ms. Reed if the request went through committee and if it did not then do they need to have this by consent to be placed on the agenda.

Ms. Reed explained that the purpose of the special meeting is to address this particular matter. By calling the meeting and having it they meet the parliamentary requirements of the rules of order and procedure.

The vote resulted as follows:

Ayes: Bonelli, Paduch, Amo, Anagnostakis, Benton, Cheney, Faggione, Hines, Kulisek, Luján, Minuta, O'Donnell, Ruskiewicz, Sassi, Sierra, Stegenga, Sutherland, Tautel, Tuohy, Vero, Brescia

Ayes 21;

Noes 0;

Absent 0;

ADOPTED.

On motion of Mr. Tuohy, seconded by Mr. Paduch, the Legislature adjourned at 3:40 p.m.

ADJOURNED.

Jean M. Ramppen, Clerk