ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
MEETING NO. 18
OCTOBER 8, 2026

The Legislature was called to order by Chair Meyers.

All members present.

An Invocation was held, led by Mr. Gilmour, who requested a moment of silence.

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mr. Meyers.

Chair Meyers opened the First Public Comment Session, the following speakers addressed the Legislature:

Garrett Sokolowski, Amherst – encouraged the passage of LL INTRO. 6-1 (2026), "Authorizing a One-Hundred Percent Real Property Tax Exemption on the Primary Residence of Seriously Disabled Veterans."

Item 1 – No tabled items.

Item 2 – No items for reconsideration from previous meeting.

Item 3 – MR. GILMOUR moved for the approval of the minutes for Meeting Number 17 from 2026. MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Item 4 – No Public Hearings.

MISCELLANEOUS RESOLUTIONS

Item 5 – Miscellaneous Resolutions were offered, as follows:

MAJORITY CAUCUS	Acknowledging and Recognizing Health Literacy Month
MAJORITY CAUCUS	Acknowledging and Recognizing National Depression and Mental Health Screening Month
MAJORITY CAUCUS	Acknowledging and Recognizing National Physical Therapy Month
MAJORITY CAUCUS	Acknowledging and Recognizing National Fire Prevention Month

DUPRE	Recognizing P.E.A.C.E., Inc. & Acknowledging National Day of Remembrance for Murder Victims
DUPRE	Honoring and Recognizing Nafisa Ahmed
DUPRE & ST. JEAN TARD	Recognizing Police Athletic League (PAL) of Buffalo during National Little League Month
KOOSHOIAN	Honoring Grand Island Police Officer Lee Richard as the Recipient of the Crime stoppers WNY 2026 Law Enforcement Achievement Award
KOOSHOIAN	Honoring Grand Island Police Officer Thomas Dewey as the Recipient of the Crime stoppers WNY 2026 Law Enforcement Achievement Award
KOOSHOIAN	Recognizing Grand Island Little League Baseball & Softball during National Little League Month
KOOSHOIAN	Honoring Breona McCarter
KOOSHOIAN & BARGNESI	Honoring and Recognizing Zonta Club of Kenmore 100th Year Anniversary
KOOSHOIAN & BARGNESI	Recognizing Tonawanda American Little League during National Little League Month
KOOSHOIAN & BARGNESI	Recognizing North Buffalo Baseball and Softball during National Little League Month
VINAL	Recognizing Central Amherst Little League during National Little League Month
VINAL	Recognizing Mel Ott Baseball & Softball League during National Little League Month
VINAL	Recognizing Mathewson McCarthy Baseball during National Little League Month
GREENE	Honoring Kelkenberg Farm on Being Ranked 6th Among Sunflower Festivals in the United States
MEYERS	Congratulating and Honoring Brian Rogowski - Celebrating 25 Years of Service with the Doyle Hose Company #2 Inc.
TODARO	Welcoming Canine Connected Counseling to Lancaster
TODARO	Congratulating Lancaster High School on Earning National Banner Unified Champions School Status

TODARO	Congratulating Depew's Zach Bridenbaker on Setting the Depew Football Rushing Record
GILMOUR	Recognizing Hamburg Junior Baseball and Softball Little League during National Little League Month
GILMOUR	Recognizing Lackawanna Legends Baseball during National Little League Month
LORIGO	Recognizing Horizon Martial Arts of West Seneca, New York on its 25th Anniversary
LORIGO	Recognizing the Gow School on its 100th Anniversary
LORIGO	Honoring Winnifred G. "Winnie" Bove on her 100th Birthday
LORIGO	Recognizing Robert Lowell Goller for Receiving the 2026 Julia Reinstein Career Achievement Award
MILLS	Honoring Desiderio's Italian Restaurant During Italian American Heritage Month
MILLS	Honoring Mario's Bistro & Brews During Italian American Heritage Month
MILLS	Recognizing Annemarie Cervoni, PH.D. For Her Commitment to Student Success

MR. GILMOUR moved for consideration of the above thirty-one items. MS. ST. JEAN TARD seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. GILMOUR moved to amend the above thirty-one items by including Et Al Sponsorship. MS. ST. JEAN TARD seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. GILMOUR moved for approval of the above thirty-one items as amended. MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LOCAL LAWS

Item 6 – CHAIR MEYERS directed that Local Law No. 4 (Print #1) 2026 remain on the table and in the FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

GRANTED.

Item 7 – MR. GILMOUR moved to take Local Law Intro. No. 6 (Print #1) 2026 from the table. MS. LORIGO seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. GILMOUR moved to approve Local Law Intro. No. 6 (Print #1) 2026. MS. LORIGO seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LOCAL LAW TO BE ENACTED BY
THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
IN THE COUNTY OF ERIE
LOCAL LAW INTRO. – NO. 6-1-2026
LOCAL LAW – NO. ____ - 2026

A Local Law authorizing a one-hundred percent real property tax exemption on the primary residence of seriously disabled veterans

SECTION 1. Legislative Intent
New York State has enacted legislation that would allow for disabled veterans who suffered a debilitating injury in performance of their service to our nation to receive a full exemption on the value of their primary residential property for the purposes of real property tax assessment. The Erie County Legislature hereby recognizes that veterans who meet the qualifications set forth in subdivision eleven of Section 458-A of New York State Real Property Tax Law have made a great sacrifice for our country. As such, the Erie County Legislature intends to extend this benefit to such qualifying veterans by opting into this legislation.

SECTION 2. Exemption Authority
Pursuant to subdivision eleven of Section 458-A of the New York State Real Property Tax Law (RPTL), and in addition to any other exemption from taxation on real property which may be allowed to veterans pursuant to the provisions of RPTL, including subdivision three of Section 458-A of RPTL, the primary residence of any seriously disabled veteran shall be fully exempt from taxation and special district charges, assessments, and special ad valorem levies, provided that such veteran has met at least one of the criteria set forth in paragraph (a) of Section 3 of this Local Law, and the criterion set forth in paragraph (b) of Section 3 of this Local Law.

SECTION 3. Qualifications for Exemption
To be eligible for such exemption, a veteran:
(a)

(i) must have been discharged or released from active military, naval, space, or air service, including Army and Air National Guard service performed pursuant to federal orders under Title 10 of the United States Code, under honorable conditions; or

(ii) must have a qualifying condition, as defined in Section 1 of New York State Veterans' Services Law, and must have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; or

(iii) must be a discharged LGBT veteran, as defined in Section 1 of New York State Veterans' Services Law, and must have received a discharge other than bad conduct or dishonorable from such service; and

(b) must be considered by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of military service, as evidenced by a letter, official form, or other document sent to such veteran from such department that specifically states such veteran is considered to be permanently and totally disabled as a result of such service.

(c) In no case shall the taxable assessed value of the property of a qualifying veteran be reduced below zero. Nothing contained herein shall be construed to require or authorize the discontinuance of any exemption granted pursuant to subdivision three of Section 458-A of RPTL.

SECTION 4. Filing Requirements
A copy of this Local Law shall be sent to the New York State Department of Veterans' Services and the New York State Department of State within thirty days of adoption.

SECTION 5. Effective Date
This act shall take effect immediately and shall apply to assessment rolls based on taxable status dates occurring on and after October 1, 2026.

SECTION 6. Severability
If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this Local Law or the application thereof, to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity or circumstance, shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional such order of judgment shall not affect, impair, or invalidate the remainder thereof, but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this Local Law or in its application to the person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, entity, or circumstance directly involved in the controversy in which such judgment or order shall be rendered.

Sponsors: Legislator Mills, Legislator Greene, Legislator Todaro, Legislator Lorigo

Item 8 – MR. GILMOUR moved to take Local Law Intro. No. 7 (Print #1) 2026 from the table. MS. ST. JEAN TARD seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. GILMOUR moved to amend Local Law Intro. No. 7 (Print #1) 2026. MS. ST. JEAN TARD seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. GILMOUR moved to approve Local Law Intro. No. 7 (Print #1) 2026 as amended. MS. ST. JEAN TARD seconded.

CHAIR MEYERS directed that a roll-call vote be taken.

AYES: MR. GREENE, MS. LORIGO, MR. MILLS, MR. TODARO, MR. BARGNESI, MR. DUPRE, MR. GILMOUR, MR. KOOSHOIAN, CHAIR MEYERS, MS. ST. JEAN TARD and MS. VINAL. NOES: None. (AYES: 11; NOES: 0)

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

LOCAL LAW TO BE ENACTED BY
THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE
IN THE COUNTY OF ERIE
LOCAL LAW INTRO. 7-1-2026
LOCAL LAW NO. ____-2026

THE ERIE COUNTY SMALL BUSINESS ENTERPRISE UTILIZATION ACT

A Local Law to encourage Small Business Utilization within the County of Erie.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE ERIE COUNTY LEGISLATURE AS FOLLOWS:

Section 1. Legislative Findings and Intent.

There are approximately 21,000 small businesses in the County of Erie ("County") with forty-nine employees or less that are not often represented on County procurements of goods and commodities, as well as professional services. The County is committed to supporting small businesses within our community. Engagement of small and locally-owned businesses in government procurement directly and indirectly benefits our community by increasing the potential number of bidders and removing barriers such as the size of the project. When we support our small business community, we ultimately increase competitiveness on smaller projects and help businesses develop capacity to one day be able to bid on mid to large-size projects.

Most small businesses are local businesses, meaning they conduct most of their business activity in one geographic market, and are typically owned by those with ties to that region. Spending with a local business retains and recirculates money and economic activity within the community, as opposed to extracting money to a location outside the local marketplace. These recirculated dollars compound their impact: paying local workers' wages, paying local vendors, paying local taxes and fees, investing money into their business within the community. Academic and policy group analyses estimate the local multiplier from anywhere between 1.4 – 2.5, meaning for every dollar spent with a local business, that dollar generates $1.40 - $2.50 in broader economic activity. Conversely, spending with a larger, non-locally based business generates a multiplier of 1.14.

Socioeconomic Stability is another factor that relates to the foundations on which the local multiplier and velocity of money rest, and what would happen in the absence of those processes. If a small business closes, that leads to a host of negative social and economic consequences: physical blight,

unemployment, loss of tax revenue, loss of ancillary and compounding spending, discussed earlier, etc. Contracts with larger firms, which often take money out of the local community and economy, do not provide as much social and economic structure to a given region. Additionally, lack of business to a larger firm is more easily absorbed across their multiple projects and business units, and is less detrimental to employees or the firm's overall health. An inability to access contracts for small firms is more detrimental. A loss of even small or medium-sized business opportunities is much more likely to result in layoffs or business closure.

The ability to support small businesses through County contracts must also be balanced against the County's bidding requirements found under New York State law. Specifically, New York State General Municipal Law ("GML") §103 requires municipalities to publicly advertise, open bids and award certain contracts to the lowest responsible bidder or on the basis of best value. GML §103 states that all contracts for public work involving an expenditure of greater than $35,000 must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, and that all purchase contracts involving an expenditure greater than $20,000 must be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder or on the basis of bast value when authorized by local law. Municipalities are further required to implement procurement policies and procedures in order to ensure fair competition and guard against fraud or favoritism for all contracts, including those not bound by the bidding requirements in GML §103. NYS GML §104-b.

The County's Purchasing Policies and Procedures ("Purchasing Policy") are implemented pursuant to NYS GML §104-b. The Purchasing Policy establishes a process whereby discretionary purchases, those below the statutorily established thresholds and at the discretion of the County, may be made without a formal competitive bidding process. The use of discretionary purchasing streamlines the procurement process and allows for opportunities to award contract dollars to minority owned businesses, women owned businesses and service-disabled veteran own businesses. Similarly, discretionary purchasing can also improve opportunities for Erie County small businesses.

This local law intends to support small local businesses, strengthen the local economy and further develop the County's tax base. Opportunities for small locally-owned businesses to be awarded County contract dollars will have a stronger impact on the well-being of Erie County, with direct and ancillary benefits to both the business community and residents.

Section 2. Definitions

For the purposes of this local law, the term "Erie County Small Business Enterprise" ("ECSBE") shall mean a business which (1) performs a commercially-useful function; (2) has a principal place of business physically located within the boundaries of Erie County (not a PO Box); (3) is not in any way affiliated with a franchise; (4) employes from zero up to and including forty-nine employees, including sole proprietorships and (5) has a gross annual revenue of not more than $5,000,000.

Section 3. Applicability

A. The following types of solicitations prepared or administered by the County, that are not otherwise subject to New York State General Municipal Law §103 or any other local or state bidding requirements, shall be applicable to this local law:

1. Purchases for commodities, equipment, supplies, materials and services, other than those services deemed to be professional services by the County, equal to or less than $20,000; and

2. Purchases that are defined as public works projects equal to or less than $35,000.

B. Contracts for professional, technical or other consultant services having a value of $10,000 or more and are procured by the use of Requests for Proposals (RFP).

Section 4. Erie County Small Business Enterprise Utilization Commitment

A. Bid solicitations for purchases of commodities, equipment, supplies, materials and services not deemed to be professional services, between $5,000 and $20,000, shall be posted by the Director of Purchasing or his or her agent on the Erie County Purchasing website for no less than 3 business days. If an ECSBE is within 5% of the lowest responsible bidder, the ECSBE can be awarded the contract.

B. Bid solicitations for public works projects between $5,000 and $35,000, shall be posted by the Director of Purchasing or his or her agent on the Erie County Purchasing website for no less than 3 business days. If an ECSBE is within 5% of the lowest responsible bidder, the ECSBE can be awarded the contract.

C. Contracts for professional, technical or other consultant services having a value of $10,000 or more are procured by the use of Requests for Proposals (RFP). In those instances, when scoring proposals, an additional five percent (5%) shall be applied to the tallied score of each certified ECSBE to obtain their final score. If the final score of any ECSBE matches the final score of a non-ECSBE, preference shall be given to the certified ECSBE. If two or more ECSBEs have the same final score, the County shall determine the contract award based on the County's best interest. The scoring committee for the underlying project shall be required to document their findings.

D. ECSBEs shall be required to submit proof with their bid or RFP response that they meet the definition of a ECSBE described in Section 2 herein. In the event that a bid or response does not include a proper certification at the time of submission, the bid or proposal shall not be scored as an ECSBE.

E. Erie County Small Business Enterprise Exemptions

In addition to those contracts of the types and amounts covered under New York State General Municipal Law §103, the ECSBE consideration shall not apply under the following circumstances:

- Specific state or federally funded projects where prohibited by law or regulations;
- Sole Source contracts; or
- Emergency contract as defined by NYS GML and Erie County Purchasing Policies and Procedures.

Section 5. Rules and Regulations

The Director of the Division of Equal Employment Opportunity ("EEO") in conjunction with the Purchasing Director and County Attorney's Office, shall promulgate such rules and regulations that are lawful, necessary and appropriate to implement, enforce or otherwise carry out the purposes of this local Law and shall file a copy of the Rules and Regulations with the Clerk of the County Legislature within sixty (60) calendar days of the effective date of the law.

Section 6. Purchasing Policies & Procedures

The County's Purchasing Policies & Procedures are hereby amended to restate and incorporate Section 4 of this Local Law. Nothing in this Local Law shall be interpreted to prevent the Erie County Legislature from exercising its authority under the General Municipal Law to make amendments to the Purchasing Policies & Procedures not inconsistent with this Local Law.

Section 7. Severability

If any clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law or the application thereof to any person, individual, corporation, firm, partnership, or business shall be adjudged by any court of competent jurisdiction to be invalid or unconstitutional, such order or judgment shall not affect, impair or invalidate the remainder thereof but shall be confined in its operation to the clause, sentence, paragraph, subdivision, section or part of this law, or in its specific application.

Section 8. Effective Date

This local law shall take effect twenty days after it is filed as provided in section twenty-seven of the New York State Municipal Home Rule Law.

Sponsors:
Taisha St. Jean Tard

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Item 9 – MS. ST. JEAN TARD presented the following report and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MR. GILMOUR seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 142

October 1, 2026	ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT LEGISLATOR VINAL.

1. RESOLVED, the following item is hereby received and filed:

a. COMM. 17M-3 (2026)
WNY LAW CENTER
"Support for the EC Small Business Enterprise Utilization Act"
(Chair's Ruling)

2. COMM. 17E-4 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"Replacement of Dennis Road Bridge – ROW Acquisition, Town of Evans"
WHEREAS, a design project for rehabilitation of the Dennis Road (CR 183) Bridge over Little Sister Creek, BIN 3327510, in the Town of Evans, (the "Project") was authorized by your honorable body via Communication 3E-6 (2024); and

WHEREAS, to facilitate the rehabilitation of this bridge, it is necessary for the County to acquire by fee and/or easement portions of real property in the vicinity of the bridge;

PROPERTY TAX MAP SBL NUMBERS		TOWNSHIP
SBL	220.00-1-3	Evans
SBL	220.00-2-14.11	Evans
SBL	220.00-2-36.21	Evans
SBL	220.00-2-37	Evans
SBL	220.00-2-9.11	Evans

such properties to be acquired by the County are herein referred to as the "Subject Properties"; and

WHEREAS, to acquire the easement parcels for the Project, it is necessary for the County to establish an amount which it believes to represent just compensation for the real property interest to be acquired and to thereafter make a written offer to purchase the real property interest for the respective just compensation amount; and

WHEREAS, the acquisition of the portions of the Subject Properties is de minimis in nature so the public interest will not be prejudiced by the construction of the new bridges; and

WHEREAS, should one or more owners of the Subject Properties refuse to convey such portions of their real property to the County for an amount not exceeding fair market value, it will be necessary for the County to acquire the Subject Properties by commencing eminent domain proceedings.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the acquisition of the necessary Right-of-Way (ROW) required to construct the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that sufficient funding is available for the acquisitions available from Fund 420, Fund Center 123, project B.25051, 2025 Capital Right of Way in a sum not to exceed $30,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Executive is authorized to enter into all necessary contracts and agreements for the acquisition of the required ROW to construct the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, Commissioner of Public Works, or his authorized representatives, including Greenman Pedersen, Inc., are hereby authorized to establish the amounts representing just compensation for the real property to be acquired; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Commissioner of Public Works, or his authorized representatives, including Greenman Pedersen, Inc., are hereby authorized to negotiate and offer just compensation amounts to the owners of the Subject Properties for the purpose of acquiring interests in portions of their respective parcels of real property by fee and/or easement, which acquisitions are necessary for the Project; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Commissioner of Public Works, or his authorized representatives, including Greenman Pedersen, Inc., are authorized to act on behalf of the County of Erie in connection with the acquisition of the required ROW from the owners of the Subject Property; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County Attorney shall prepare, and the County Executive shall execute all appropriate documents relating to acquiring fee and/or easement interests in the Subject Properties; and be it further

RESOLVED, should one or more owners of the Subject Properties refuse to convey such portions of their real property to the County for an amount not to exceed the just compensation determined by the Commissioner of Public Works, or his authorized representatives, the County is authorized to commence eminent domain procedures; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature forward three (3) certified copies of this resolution to the Department of Public Works, and one copy each to the County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office and Division of Budget and Management.
(4-0)

TAISHA ST. JEAN TARD
CHAIR

Item 10 – MR. BARGNESI presented the following report and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MR. GILMOUR seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 143

October 1, 2026	ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 14

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed:

a. INTRO. 17-2 (2025)
MINORITY CAUCUS
"Support of Congressman Nick Langworthy's Energy Choice Act & In Opposition to Government-Mandated Natural Gas Bans"
(Chair's Ruling)

b. COMM. 17E-2 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"ECSD Nos. 1 & 2 - Engineering Term Contract Agreement (Work Order: JMD-1)"
(Chair's Ruling)

2. COMM. 17E-3 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"Acceptance of Grant Funding for Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park"

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry ("Department of Parks") maintains over 10,000 acres of park and forest land; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County parks offer a multitude of recreation opportunities such as hiking, biking, and winter sports on trails throughout the park system; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks has prioritized accessibility in many aspects of park management and recreation; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Parks has received a $100,000 Legislative Initiative grant in the New York State Budget to support the Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; and

WHEREAS, there are specific requirements and regulations governing the expenditures of these funds; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Environment has performed a State Environmental Quality Review, and has issued a Negative Declaration.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive or Deputy County Executive is authorized and directed to accept these grant funds in an amount not to exceed $100,000 for the project described in the grant application; and be it further

RESOLVED, that administration of all funds under this grant will be in accordance with all terms and conditions contained in the GUIDELINES for Projects over $50,000 or those Involving Construction provided by the NYS Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation (Published October 2021, Updated June 2026); and be it further

RESOLVED, that the governing body of the municipality delegates signing authority to execute the Master Contract and any amendments thereto, any required deed of easement, and any other certifications to the individual(s) who hold(s) the following elected or appointed municipal office(s) or employment position title(s): County Executive, Deputy County Executive; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County of Erie is authorized and directed to agree to the terms and conditions of the State of New York Contract for Grants Contract Number C21N903 with New York State Office of Parks, Recreation and Historic Preservation Recreational for such development of Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Park; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to establish grant funding in the Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry as a grant in Fund 281, Fund Center 16410 as follows:

Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry
Seneca Bluffs Natural Habitat Support Grant
164SBNHPS2627
9/01/26-12/31/27

REVENUES	BUDGET
409000 State Aid Revenue	$100,000
TOTAL	$100,000

APPROPRIATIONS	BUDGET
516020 Professional Services Contracts & Fees	$100,000
TOTAL	$100,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of the Division of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to implement any budget adjustments as required to comply with local funding requirements; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to amend contracts as necessary to implement any no-cost extension that may be permitted by the grantor; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Division of Budget and Management to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office, Department of Law, Department of Parks, Recreation & Forestry and Division of Budget and Management.
(5-0)

JOHN A. BARGNESI, JR.
CHAIR

Item 11 – MR. DUPRE presented the following report and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MR. TODARO seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 144

October 1, 2026	HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 13

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT LEGISLATOR VINAL.

1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed:

a. INTRO. 12-2 (2025)
MINORITY CAUCUS
"Requesting an Audit of EC Personal Protective Equipment & Durable Medical Equipment Stockpile"
(Chair's Ruling)

b. INTRO. 19-6 (2025)
DUPRE
"Calling on Kaleida Health to Keep Open the Family Planning Center"
(Chair's Ruling)

c. COMM. 15E-1 (2026)
MILLS
"EC Department of Social Services Hotel Usage"
(Chair's Ruling)

d. COMM. 17M-6 (2026)
ECMCC
"2025 Annual Report"
(Chair's Ruling)

2. COMM. 17E-6 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"1500 Broadway Lease for Endeavor Health Services"
WHEREAS, Endeavor Health Services provides wellness and recovery through an array of mental health, substance use, education, and support services to Erie County residents of all ages and currently offers at 1500 Broadway in Buffalo; and

WHEREAS, a partnership between Erie County and Endeavor Health Services to bring mental health, substance use, education, and support services to 1500 Broadway will provide access to residents for these services to address their needs and challenges.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to enter into a lease agreement with Endeavor Health Services for a 5-year period with the option of two (2) 5-year renewals; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution will be forwarded to the Erie County Executive's Office, Division of Budget and Management, Department of Public Works, Department of Law and Department of Health.
(4-0)

3. COMM. 17E-7 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"Authorization to Accept NYSACHO Immunization Action Plan Grant & Enter into Contract"

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Health (ECDOH) regularly seeks opportunities to collaborate with other local health departments on projects that affect the public health of communities in the area. This project focuses on closing childhood vaccination gaps in Western New York through a multi-county study to develop targeted childhood vaccination education strategies; and

WHEREAS, ECDOH has been awarded a grant in the amount of $20,000 from New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO); and

WHEREAS, RFP# 2026-044VF was issued to seek proposals to conduct the study which received 1 response; and

WHEREAS, based on ranking and scoring the following was selected: M. Kim Saxton, Independent Contractor ($20,000); and

WHEREAS, the purpose of this resolution is to authorize the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to accept New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) grant award to fund a multi-county study to develop targeted childhood vaccination education strategies and enter into contract with one vendor to conduct the study.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Department of Health is authorized to receive grant award from the New York State Association of County Health Officials (NYSACHO) in the amount of $20,000, and to amend the Division of Health's 2026 General Fund Budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 12700) to be budgeted as follows:

Department of Health
Fund 110, Funds Center 12700

REVENUES CHANGE

479100 Other Contributions	$20,000
TOTAL	$20,000

APPROPRIATIONS	CHANGE
516020 Professional Services	$20,000
TOTAL	$20,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to enter into contract with M. Kim Saxton, Independent Contractor, in the amount of $20,000; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Division of Budget and Management to implement any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to the County Executive's Office, Department of Health, Department of Law and Division of Budget and Management.
(4-0)

LAWRENCE J. DUPRE
CHAIR

Item 12 – MR. GILMOUR presented the following report and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MR. TODARO seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 145

October 1, 2026	PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 12

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT.

1. RESOLVED, the following item is hereby received and filed:

a. COMM. 17E-11 (2026)
SHERIFF
"Letter Regarding Travel Reimbursements"
(Chair's Ruling)

2. COMM. 16E-11 (2026)
SHERIFF
"Incarcerated Individual Tablet Contract"

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Erie County Sheriff's Office to provide quality public safety services to our community by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction, with an emphasis on integrity, fairness and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office wishes to procure tablets for use by incarcerated individuals at the Erie County Holding Center and Erie County Correctional Facility; and

WHEREAS, RFP #2025-048VF was issued seeking a vendor to provide tablet services for incarcerated individuals in Erie County Sheriff's Office custody; and

WHEREAS, evaluators considered four proposals; and

WHEREAS, after evaluation of the responses, the RFP committee awarded the highest score to Inmate Calling Solutions, LLC (d.b.a. ICSolutions); and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office recommends awarding RFP #2025-048VF to ICSolutions; and

WHEREAS, this agreement will not require the expenditure of any county tax dollars.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature awards RFP #2025-048VF to Inmate Calling Solutions, LLC, 2200 Danbury Street, San Antonio, TX 78217; and be it further

RESOLVED, the County Executive and Sheriff are authorized to enter into an agreement with Inmate Calling Solutions, LLC, 2200 Danbury Street, San Antonio, TX 78217 to provide tablet services for incarcerated individuals at the Erie County Holding Center and Erie County Correctional Facility; and be it further

RESOLVED, revenues associated with this agreement shall be allocated in the Erie County Sheriff's Office, Jail Management Division operating budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 11610); and be it further

RESOLVED, the Director of Budget and Management is authorized to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate the allocation; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Erie County Executive, the Purchasing Department, the County Attorney, the Erie County Comptroller, the Division of Budget and Management and the Erie County Sheriff's Office.
(5-0)

3. COMM. 17E-8 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"PBA 2027-2031 Collective Bargaining Agreement"

WHEREAS, Erie County is a municipal corporation and is bound by the New York State Taylor Law to negotiate terms and conditions of employment with duly certified employee organizations; and

WHEREAS, PBA represents the Road Patrol Officers employed by Erie County and Erie County Sheriff's office; and

WHEREAS, the existing collective bargaining agreement between Employer and the Unit will expire on December 31, 2026; and

WHEREAS, Erie County and PBA negotiated a collective bargaining agreement, covering the period between January 1, 2027, and December 31, 2031; and

WHEREAS, Unit membership recently ratified the agreement.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby approves the agreement between the Erie County and PBA for the period between January 1, 2027, and December 31, 2031; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given that all terms and conditions of the successor agreement shall be implemented in full; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of Budget and Management is hereby authorized to make any and all required budgetary adjustments to properly fund the increased costs associated with the Unit agreement and the Commissioner of Personnel is authorized to make any necessary personnel adjustments to implement the terms of the agreement for County employees; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the Erie County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office, Division of Budget and Management, Department of Labor Relations, Department of Personnel, and the Erie County Fiscal Stability Authority.
(5-0)

4. COMM. 17E-9 (2026)
SHERIFF
"Authorization to Enter into an Agreement for 207-c Hearing Officer"
WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Erie County Sheriff's Office to provide quality public safety services to our community by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction with an emphasis on integrity, fairness and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, § 207-c of the New York State General Municipal Law provides for full pay and benefits for employees of the Erie County Sheriff's Office if they are injured or have taken ill in the performance of their duties; and

WHEREAS, if an employee is denied such benefits, they have the right to request a hearing; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office requires the services of a qualified hearing officer to conduct 207-c Hearings; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office recommends that the County enter into an agreement with Ms. Kathleen O'Hara to serve as hearing officer to conduct 207-c Hearings; and

WHEREAS, Ms. O'Hara is a qualified attorney who previously served as hearing officer for the County from 2016-2023; and

WHEREAS, failure to engage with a hearing officer would block the County from conducting 207-c Hearings, putting the county in jeopardy of non-compliance with § 207-c of the New York State General Municipal Law.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the County Executive and Sheriff are authorized to enter into an agreement with Ms. Kathleen O'Hara, Esq., 348 Parker Avenue, Buffalo, New York 14216 to serve as hearing officer for Section 207-c Hearings; and be it further

RESOLVED, Ms. O'Hara shall be compensated at a rate not to exceed $800 per hearing; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Comptroller is authorized to release the designated funds and make any payments pursuant to this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified copies of the approved resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive, County Attorney, Division of Budget and Management, Purchasing Division, Comptroller, and Erie County Sheriff's Office.
(5-0)

5. COMM. 17E-10 (2026)
SHERIFF
"WNY Heroes Donation"
WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Erie County Sheriff's Office to provide quality public safety services to our community by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction with an emphasis on integrity, fairness and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, law enforcement work is known to be stressful and can often be the primary drivers of anxiety and depression amongst officers; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office administers a wellness program for its staff, the primary goal of which is to support employees' physical, mental, and emotional well-being; and

WHEREAS, WNY Heroes, Inc. has generously offered to donate two therapy dogs trained through the Pawsitive for Heroes Program to the Erie County Sheriff's Office Wellness Program; and

WHEREAS, these dogs will be available to offer emotional support and post-critical incident stress relief for members of the Erie County Sheriff's Office Police Services Division and Jail Management Division; and

WHEREAS, authorization from the Erie County Legislature is required for the Erie County Sheriff's Office to accept this donation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Sheriff's Office is hereby authorized to accept a donation of two (2) therapy dogs from WNY Heroes, Inc. 1001 E. Delevan Street, Suite 9, Buffalo, NY 14215; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Sheriff is authorized to incorporate the dogs into the Erie County Sheriff's Office Wellness Program; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified copies of the approved resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive, County Attorney, Division of Budget and Management, Comptroller, and Erie County Sheriff's Office.
(5-0)

6. COMM. 17E-12 (2026)
SHERIFF
"Behavioral Threat Assessment Team Psychiatry Services"
WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Erie County Sheriff's Office to provide quality public safety services to our community by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction with an emphasis on integrity, fairness and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, in 2022, the Erie County Sheriff's Office created the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team (BTAT); and

WHEREAS, this team is comprised of Investigative Services Unit detectives who are trained to identify individuals who have demonstrated abnormal, threatening or obsessive behaviors that can lead to violence; and

WHEREAS, as part of their work, BTAT detectives maintain liaisons with mental health professionals and other community stakeholders with a collective goal of preventing targeted acts of violence; and

WHEREAS, BTAT and Erie County at large would benefit from a partnership with University Psychiatric Practice, Inc. (UPP), under which UPP psychiatrists and psychologists would provide evaluations of individuals identified by the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team in order to mitigate future risk of violence; and

WHEREAS, legislative approval of this partnership and agreement is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature authorizes the County Executive and Sheriff to enter into an agreement with University Psychiatric Practice, Inc., 462 Grider Street, Buffalo, New York 14215 for the purpose of providing in-person consultation and evaluation of individuals identified by the Behavioral Threat Assessment Team; and be it further

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature waives the procedures, as impractical, provided for in Section 26.08 of the Erie County Administrative Code for the purposes of engaging with University Psychiatric Practice, Inc. to provide consultations and evaluations of individuals identified through investigations; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified copies shall be forwarded to the County Executive, County Attorney, Division of Budget and Management, Comptroller, Purchasing Director and Erie County Sheriff's Office.
(5-0)

JOHN J. GILMOUR
CHAIR

Item 13 – MR. KOOSHOIAN presented the following report and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MR. GILMOUR seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 146

October 1, 2026	FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 10

ALL MEMBERS PRESENT EXCEPT LEGISLATOR VINAL

1. RESOLVED, the following items are hereby received and filed.

a. INTRO. 19-3 (2025)
DUPRE
"Request for Formal Update on Post-Construction Small-Business Enterprises Utilization, Right-Sizing, & Concessions Readiness at the New Highmark Stadium"
(Chair's Ruling)

b. INTRO. 19-8 (2025)
VINAL
"Adjusting from the Income Limits for an Erie County Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption"
(Chair's Ruling)

c. COMM. 23E-1 (2025)
COMPTROLLER
"Audit of the EC Bureau of Fleet Services"
(Chair's Ruling)

d. COMM. 3E-9 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"Letter Regarding Diverting from the Income Limits for an EC Senior Citizen Property Tax Exemption"
(Chair's Ruling)

e. COMM. 4E-1 (2026)
MINORITY CAUCUS
"Letter Regarding COMM. 2E-7 (2026)"
(Chair's Ruling)

f. COMM. 10E-6 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"Analysis of Enterprise Lease Program for the Period of 1/1/2018-12/31/2024"
(Chair's Ruling)

g. COMM. 11E-4 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"EC Cultural Funding Grant Monitoring Program - El Batey Inc."
(Chair's Ruling)

h. COMM. 15E-2 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"Comments on Proposed Rule - Regulation for Federal Finance Assistance"
(Chair's Ruling)

i. COMM. 15D-1 (2026)
DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT
"May 2026 Budget Monitoring Report"
(Chair's Ruling)

j. COMM. 15M-4 (2026)
NYS OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
"List of Certified 2026 Class Equalization Rates"
(Chair's Ruling)

k. COMM. 16E-1 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"Notification of Forthcoming 2026 Bond Sale"
(Chair's Ruling)

l. COMM. 16E-2 (2026)

COMPTROLLER
"Sales & Compensating Use Tax Report - Second Quarter 2026"
(Chair's Ruling)

m. COMM. 16E-3 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"Department of Law Risk Retention Fund Spending - May & June 2026"
(Chair's Ruling)

n. COMM. 16E-4 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"EC Cultural Funding Grant Monitoring Program - Locust Street Neighborhood Art Classes, Inc."
(Chair's Ruling)

o. COMM. 16E-5 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"EC Cultural Funding Grant Monitoring Program - Buffalo Philharmonic Orchestra Society, Inc."
(Chair's Ruling)

p. COMM. 16E-6 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"EC Cultural Funding Grant Monitoring Program - Just Buffalo Literary Center"
(Chair's Ruling)

q. COMM. 16E-7 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"2026 Bond Sale"
(Chair's Ruling)

r. COMM. 16E-8 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"2026 Bond Sale Section 1802 - Notification to Legislature"
(Chair's Ruling)

s. COMM. 16E-9 (2026)
COMPTROLLER
"Department of Law Risk Retention Fund Spending - July 2026"
(Chair's Ruling)

t. COMM. 16D-1 (2026)
DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT
"Capital Projects Update - July 2026"
(Chair's Ruling)

u. COMM. 16D-6 (2026)

DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT
"June 2026 Budget Monitoring Report"
(Chair's Ruling)

v. COMM. 16M-1 (2026)
ASSEMBLYMEMBER MOLITOR
"Acknowledgment of Receiving Intro. 12-1 (2026)"
(Chair's Ruling)

w. COMM. 16M-6 (2026)
NYS OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
"Certificate of County Equalization Rates for 2026 Assessment Rolls"
(Chair's Ruling)

x. COMM. 16M-8 (2026)
CITY OF BUFFALO - DEPARTMENT OF ASSESSMENT & TAXATION
"Transit Mall, Final Roll - 2027"
(Chair's Ruling)

y. COMM. 16M-9 (2026)
NYS OFFICE OF REAL PROPERTY TAX SERVICES
"List of Certified 2026 Equalization Rates"
(Chair's Ruling)

z. COMM. 17D-1 (2026)
DIRECTOR OF BUDGET & MANAGEMENT
"July 2026 Budget Monitoring Report"
(Chair's Ruling)

2. COMM. 17E-14 (2026)
COUNTY EXECUTIVE
"Authorization to Increase Department of Law Budget for Additional Risk Retention Needs"

WHEREAS, the Department of Law contracts with the Legal Aide Bureau of Buffalo and the Erie County Bar Association for the provision of indigent legal services on the County's behalf; and

WHEREAS, the budgeted appropriations for these services are paid to the agencies in equal quarterly installments over the course of the year; and

WHEREAS, each organization is required to return to the County any unspent funding that was advanced to them as part of an annual reconciliation process; and

WHEREAS, recently completed 2025 audited financial statements identified Legal Aid Bureau of Buffalo will return $6,567 and the Erie County Bar Association will return $823,991 in unused County funds; and

WHEREAS, the SFY 2023-24 Budget authorized ILS Aid to Localities reimbursement for 50% of the Article 18-B Assigned Counsel rate increase costs to counties, which had been extended twice providing reimbursement totaling $4.7 million in 2024 and $6.2 million in 2025; and

WHEREAS, the initial reimbursement to Erie County for 2026 was expected to be available only through April 1, 2026; however, the SFY 2026-27 Budget continued reimbursement eligibility for another year through April 1, 2027; and

WHEREAS, Erie County now expects reimbursements in 2026 of at least $4.5 million; and

WHEREAS, the County has legal bills that exceed the funds remaining in the risk retention fund.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature does hereby authorize the modification of the Department of Law's Division of Law 2026 Adopted Budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 16010) to recognize $3,000,000 in revenues and transfer an equal amount to the Division of Risk Retention 2026 Adopted Budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 16020) as follows:

Department of Law
Division of Law
Fund 110, Funds Center 16010

REVENUES	CHANGE
408530 SA Criminal Justice Programs	$ 166,634
409000 State Aid Revenue	$2,002,808
423000 Refunds of Prior Years Expenditures	$ 830,558
TOTAL	$3,000,000

Department of Law
Division of Risk Retention
Fund 110, Funds Center 16020

APPROPRIATIONS	CHANGE
555000 General Liability	$3,000,000
TOTAL	$3,000,000

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given for the Director of Budget and Management to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Legislature shall forward certified copies of this Resolution to the County Executive's Office, Department of Law and Division of Budget and Management.

(4-0)

MICHAEL H. KOOSHOIAN
CHAIR

LEGISLATOR RESOLUTIONS

Item 14 – MR. GILMOUR presented the following resolution and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 147 RE: Amendment of Project Designation, 2024 Capital Agency Capital Fund Grants, Town of Hamburg (INTRO. 18-1)

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY LEGISLATOR GILMOUR

WHEREAS, Resolution No. 187 (2023), adopted at Meeting No. 23 on December 7, 2023, approved the 2024 Erie County Budget as amended, which at legislative amendment No. 116 authorized capital project grants to municipalities and non-profit organizations from Capital Project A.22095, Capital Agency Capital Fund, Fund 410, Funds Center 162; and

WHEREAS, that amendment allocated $200,000 to the Town of Hamburg for the Town of Hamburg Shooting Range, administered under WBS element A.22095.3.9, and $250,000 to the Town of Hamburg for the Lake Avenue Pedestrian Safety Bridge, administered under WBS element A.22095.3.10; and

WHEREAS, the Town of Hamburg has requested that the full $450,000 allocated under WBS elements A.22095.3.9 and A.22095.3.10 be applied to Police Facilities and Police Equipment; and

WHEREAS, sufficient funding remains available in Capital Project A.22095, Capital Agency Capital Fund, Fund 410, Funds Center 162 to support a total grant of $450,000 to the Town of Hamburg without additional appropriation.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that legislative amendment No. 116 of Resolution No. 187 (2023) is hereby amended to change the project designation of the $200,000 grant to the Town of Hamburg under WBS element A.22095.3.9 from "Town of Hamburg Shooting Range" to "Police Facilities and Police Equipment," and the project designation of the $250,000 grant to the Town of Hamburg under WBS element A.22095.3.10 from "Lake Avenue Pedestrian Safety Bridge" to "Police Facilities and Police Equipment"; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the total capital grant to the Town of Hamburg for Police Facilities and Police Equipment is $450,000, consisting of $200,000 under WBS element A.22095.3.9 and $250,000 under WBS element A.22095.3.10, from Capital Project A.22095, Capital Agency Capital Fund, Fund 410, Funds Center 162; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Director of the Division of Budget and Management is authorized to make any adjustments necessary to effectuate the intent of this resolution, or any other changes identified by the Office of the County Comptroller; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be sent to the Erie County Executive, the Erie County Comptroller, the Director of the Division of Budget and Management, the Department of Environment and Planning, the Department of Law, the Town of Hamburg, and any other party deemed necessary and proper.

Item 15 – MR. GILMOUR presented the following resolution and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MS. LORIGO seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 148 RE: Requesting State Reimbursement for Incarceration of Parole Violators (INTRO. 18-2)

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE MINORITY CAUCUS

WHEREAS, in 2025 an estimated 10,000 to 15,000 New York Department of Corrections and Community Supervision (DOCCS) workers went on strike citing severe staffing shortages, unsafe working conditions, heavy overtime demands and compensation disputes; and

WHEREAS, due to the crisis the strike caused, counties, local sheriffs and employees were tasked with incarcerating individuals on behalf of DOCCS to keep this community safe; and

WHEREAS, because of the long-term incarceration of individuals deemed “state-ready” and parole violators who typically would have been transferred into state custody that were not, during the summer of 2025 Erie County’s jail population grew to nearly 900 individuals. By comparison, currently the Erie County Holding Center and Erie County Correctional Facility in Alden house consistently between 750 and 800 individuals; and

WHEREAS, additional units had to open, which required more staffing and mandated overtime shifts for deputies and corrections officers to provide necessary coverage; and

WHEREAS, Section 601-c of the New York State Correction Law provides reimbursement of $100 per day to Sheriffs if a state-ready individual remains in County custody for more than 10 business days after they become state-ready; and

WHEREAS, in a letter dated August 24, 2026, which was submitted to the Erie County Legislature as Comm. 16E-10, Erie County Sheriff John Garcia noted that for much of 2025 they were unable to transfer state-ready incarcerated individuals into DOCCS. He also noted that the payment of $2,222,000 for individuals in our custody between April 2025 and March 2026 was completely insufficient to cover the entirety of the cost endured by Erie County taxpayers. He estimates that cost at around $617,700 for parole violators held in custody from the start of the strike in February 2025 until May 11, 2026; and

WHEREAS, the DOCCS crisis was a public safety emergency that required governments on all levels to work together to come up with a temporary solution. This crisis impacted county governments across the state; and

WHEREAS, to date, DOCCS is refusing to reimburse Erie County and the Sheriff's Office for the full cost incurred citing policies that do not consider the scale of what this crisis was and how it impacted county governments; and

WHEREAS, Erie County, which wishes to be a partner with the State of New York and stepped up to help in a time of need, should not be held financially liable for a situation of the state's own making.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT

RESOLVED, the Erie County Legislature goes on record that the State of New York should pay back Erie County taxpayers and the Erie County Sheriff's Office to the full extent of the cost incurred and cited by the Sheriff's Office; and be it further

RESOLVED, if the state continues to refuse to reimburse the Erie County Sheriff's Office and other county sheriff offices for the cost incurred, the Erie County Legislature supports efforts by the New York State Sheriffs' Association and impacted counties to join together to sue the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be sent to Governor Kathy Hochul, Erie County Sheriff John Garcia, New York State Department of Corrections and Community Supervision Commissioner Daniel Martuscello III, Monroe County Sheriff Todd Baxter, Onondaga County Sheriff Tobias Shelley, the New York State Sheriffs' Association, Erie County Executive Mark Poloncarz, Monroe County Executive Adam Bello, and Onondaga County Executive Ryan McMahon II.

COMMUNICATIONS DISCHARGED FROM COMMITTEE

Item 16 – MR. GILMOUR moved to discharge the PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE of further consideration of COMM. 11E-20 (2026). MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED. 10-1. Ms. St. Jean Tard in the negative.

MR. GILMOUR moved to amend the item. MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED. 10-1. Ms. St. Jean Tard in the negative.

MR. GILMOUR moved approve the item as amended. MS. VINAL seconded.

CHAIR MEYERS directed that a roll-call vote be taken.

AYES: MR. GREENE, MS. LORIGO, MR. MILLS, MR. TODARO, MR. BARGNESI, MR. DUPRE, MR. GILMOUR, MR. KOOSHOIAN, CHAIR MEYERS, and MS. VINAL. NOES: MS. ST. JEAN TARD. (AYES: 10; NOES: 1)

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 149 RE: Amending Capital Project A.24059 Budget (COMM. 11E-20)

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE SHERIFF

WHEREAS, it is the mission of the Erie County Sheriff's Office to provide quality public safety services to our community by promoting a safe environment through police and citizen interaction, with an emphasis on integrity, fairness, and professionalism; and

WHEREAS, Capital Project A. 24059 concerns the Erie County Sheriff's Office's acquisition and subsequent upfit of two state of the art Airbus H-125 helicopters; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Sheriff's Office has previously acquired two green helicopters from Davenport Aviation for $7,767,834.86; and

WHEREAS, on January 23, 2026, President Donald Trump signed the Commerce, Justice, Science; Energy and Water Development; and Interior and Environment Appropriations Act of 2026 into law; and

WHEREAS, this appropriations bill included $4.2 million in federal funding to be allocated to Capital Project A. 24059; and

WHEREAS, legislative approval is necessary to enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice to accept this funding and allocate this money in Capital Project A. 24059.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Erie County Executive and Sheriff enter into an agreement with the U.S. Department of Justice to accept $4,200,000 in Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant (Byrne JAG) funding to be included in the existing Sheriff's Office (Fund 410, Funds Center 11510) Capital Project A.24059 – Sheriff's Office Helicopter Purchase; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to adjust Sheriff's Office (Fund 410, Funds Center 11510) Capital Project A.24059 – Sheriff's Office Helicopter Purchase as follows:

Project A.24059
Sheriff's Office Helicopter Purchase
Fund 410, Funds Center 11510

REVENUES	BUDGET	CHANGE	REVISED BUDGET
409040 State Aid – Capital Grant	$1,000,000	$ 0	$1,000,000
414000 Federal Aid	0	$4,200,000	$4,200,000
475000 General Obligation Bond Proceeds	$5,500,000	0	$5,500,000
479100 Other Contributions	0	0	0
486000 Interfund Revenue Subsidy	$1,464,904	$ 0	$ 1,464,904
TOTAL	$7,964,904	$4,200,000	$12,164,904
APPROPRIATIONS			
Capital Project Expense	$7,964,904	$4,200,000	$12,164,904
TOTAL	$7,964,904	$4,200,000	$12,164,904

and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Division of Budget and Management to make any technical adjustments necessary to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, certified Copies of the approved resolution shall be forwarded to the County Executive, County Attorney, Budget Director, Purchasing Director, Comptroller, and Erie County Sheriff's Office.

Item 17 – MR. GILMOUR moved to discharge the FINANCE & MANAGEMENT of further consideration of COMM. 17E-13 (2026). MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MR. GILMOUR moved to approve the item. MS. VINAL seconded.

CHAIR MEYERS directed that a roll-call vote be taken.

AYES: MS. LORIGO, MR. MILLS, MR. TODARO, MR. DUPRE, CHAIR MEYERS, MS. ST. JEAN TARD and MS. VINAL. NOES: MR. GREENE, MR. BARGNESI, MR. GILMOUR, and MR. KOOSHOIAN. (AYES: 7; NOES: 4)

CARRIED.

RESOLUTION NO. 150 RE: Municipal Advisor & Continuing Disclosure Services

(COMM. 17E-13)

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE COMPTROLLER

WHEREAS, Erie County has utilized the services of an independent municipal advisor since 2005 to assist with bond and note sales and to perform continuing disclosure services; and

WHEREAS, a municipal advisor has benefited the Comptroller's Office and the Division of Budget and Management and helped the County to develop more advantageous terms for bond sales; and

WHEREAS, the current contract for municipal advisor expired after the completion of the 2026 bond sale; and

WHEREAS, the Comptroller's Office conducted a request for proposals for municipal advisor and received responses from Capital Markets Advisors, Munistat, Hilltop Securities, Fiscal Advisors and Marketing, and Masterson Advisors; and

WHEREAS, following a review, the Comptroller's Office recommends the awarding of a contract to Masterson Advisors to serve as municipal advisor for a three-year term with options for two, one-year renewals.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the County Executive/Deputy County Executive is authorized to enter into a contract with Masterson Advisors to serve as municipal advisor for a three-year term with options for two, one-year extensions; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Comptroller is authorized to appropriate $70,000 annually in funds for this contract for bond/refunding sale costs from the proceeds of bond/note sales and $3,500 annually for continuing disclosure services, in annual budgeted funds in the Comptroller's Office budget, Account 516020, Professional Services, Contracts and Fees; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution be forwarded to the County Executive, Division of Budget and Management, the County Comptroller and County Attorney.

SUSPENSION OF THE RULES

There were none.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM ELECTED OFFICIALS

FROM THE COMPTROLLER

Item 18 – (COMM. 18E-1) Delinquent Home Depot Account Payments and Account Suspension

Item 19 – (COMM. 18E-2) Analysis of EC Financial Admin. and Oversight of the KeyBank Center Security Service Agreement

Item 20 – (COMM. 18E-3) Sales & Compensating Use Tax Report - June, July and August 2026

The above three items were received and referred to the FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Item 21 – (COMM. 18E-4) 2026 Budget Transfer - Division of Buildings and Grounds

Received and referred to the FINANCE & MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM LEGISLATOR TODARO

Item 22 – (COMM. 18E-5) Como Lake Park Shelter Renovation - Request for Information

Received and referred to the ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Item 23 – (COMM. 18E-6) ECSD No. 3 - Southtowns Advanced Wastewater Treatment Facility (Bid Opening: Contract No. 75)

Item 24 – (COMM. 18E-7) ECSD No. 2 - Big Sister Creek WRRF: Effluent System Upgrades Engineering Services (Request for Proposals)

Item 25 – (COMM. 18E-8) ECSD No. 4 - Depew Plumbing Station Improvements Project: Construction Admin. & Inspection Services (Request for Proposals)

Item 26 – (COMM. 18E-9) ECSDs - Controls Systems Technical Services (Request for Proposals)

Item 27 – (COMM. 18E-10) ECSD No. 1 - Seneca Creek Rd Sewer Replacement Project: Construction Close Out (Contract No. 48)

Item 28 – (COMM. 18E-11) ECSD No. 3 - Elma Force Main Air Release Valve Replacement Project: Construction Close Out (Contract No. 84)

Item 29 – (COMM. 18E-12) Retaining a Consultant to Perform a Facility Assessment & Master Plan for the EC Training and Operations Center

The above seven items were received and referred to the ENERGY & ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM THE SHERIFF

Item 30 – (COMM. 18E-13) Acceptance of FY23 Tactical Team Grant

Item 31 – (COMM. 18E-14) Acceptance of FY23 Explosive Detection Canine Grant

Item 32 – (COMM. 18E-15) Acceptance of FY27 Police Traffic Services Grant

Item 33 – (COMM. 18E-16) Acceptance of FY27 Child Passenger Safety Grant

Item 34 – (COMM. 18E-17) Akron Central School District SRO

The above five items were received and referred to the PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Item 35 – (COMM. 18E-18) Transfer of Funds between the DHSES Budget Lines

Item 36 – (COMM. 18E-19) Authorization to Accept Grant Funds to Use to Contract with Multi-Jurisdictional All Hazard Mitigation Plan Consultant

The above two items were received and referred to the PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE.

FROM THE COMPTROLLER

Item 37 – (COMM. 18E-20) Language Access Advisory Board Appointment

Received and referred to the HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

FROM THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

Item 38 – (COMM. 18E-21) DSS Youth Bureau - Authorization to Enter into Contract with Compass House & United Church Home (Plymouth Crossroads)

Item 39 – (COMM. 18E-22) Authorization to Contract with Selected Art in Public Places Artists

The above two items were received and referred to the HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

Item 40 – MR. GILMOUR presented the following resolution and moved for immediate consideration and approval. MS. VINAL seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

RESOLUTION NO. 151 RE: DSS Lease: 514-528 South Park Avenue, and Non-Exclusive License for 513, 515 and 523 South Park Avenue (COMM. 18E-23)

A RESOLUTION TO BE SUBMITTED BY THE COUNTY EXECUTIVE

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services serves as both a chartered Department of the County of Erie and an agent of the State in the form of a local public welfare district; and

WHEREAS, a local public welfare district is explicitly described in NY Social Services Law as the agent of the New York State to more effectively protect and assure the life, health, safety, and comfort of adults and children who must be cared for away from their homes, including shelters for adults and shelters for families; and

WHEREAS, a local public welfare district is explicitly charged by New York State to ensure the provision of shelter and supporting services during inclement weather with the Code Blue program, under the Temporary Housing Assistance program, as well as for those impacted by domestic violence; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie is seeking to provide shelter and supporting services under its Statutory obligations imposed under NY Social Service Law, and its Implementing Regulations; and

WHEREAS, the County of Erie is obligated to provide those shelter and supporting services, under the authority of the New York State Commissioner of Social Services as delegated to the Erie County Commissioner of Social Services as an agent of that Department, to any person who resides or is found in its territory and who is in need of public assistance and care which he is unable to provide for himself; and

WHEREAS, the City of Buffalo 311 open dataset reported 873 quality of life complaints since May 2024 attributable to street homelessness and panhandling; and

WHEREAS, the Buffalo City Mission independently collected data on up to 330 street homeless individual in the 2025-2026 Code Blue Season; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services has experienced a four-fold expansion of its daily placement count from 2022 to 2026, rising from 150 households to over 600 households in placement each night; and

WHEREAS, since 2023 Erie County has been unable to identify and procure a permanent location dedicated to serving the emergency housing needs of the displaced populations since 2023; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services engaged with the City of Buffalo to determine if the facility at 10 Quincy Street was suitable to house a sheler but were unable to proceed with the location due to legal and financial barriers including concerns about parkland alienation, special use permit, and $5.76 million in estimated remediation and construction costs; and

WHEREAS, in August 2023 OLV Human Services was forced to abandon efforts to make application for an emergency homeless shelter for single men on St. John's Parkside after community resistance made approval impossible; and

WHEREAS, in January 2025 the Common Council denied the application of Family Promise to build an emergency shelter for families on East Ferry Street; and

WHEREAS, on Juneteenth 2025 the City of Buffalo Department of Permit & Inspection Services issued notice for Sylvia's House to stop operations on Baily Avenue and after legal action brought low-barrier shelter provision to a halt; and

WHEREAS, in 2026 the County of Erie engaged in a real estate search to identify the least restrictive available properties able to provide emergency shelter and ancillary support services to the unsheltered population of the County; and

WHEREAS, the only less restrictive properties currently zoned by the City of Buffalo for sheltering purposes are limited to narrow downtown corridor comprised of 63% of the entertainment district by property value, only 2.15% of the City by acres, and are the geographic source for the bulk of quality of life complaints; and

WHEREAS, no suitable available sites have been identified in the small fraction of the City where shelters are available as-of-right; and

WHEREAS, the imminent onset of winter, and the years of frustration in finding a suitable permanent facility is threatening the County ability to find a sustainable solution to meeting the needs of the homeless populations; and

WHEREAS, through the assistance of commercial real estate broker CBRE the County identified 514, 516, 518, 522, 528, and 534 South Park Avenue (The Premises which are seven (7) contiguous parcels totaling approximately .75 acres of land improved with two (2) vacant structures totaling 30,162 square feet) , owned by J-P Group, LLC (a related entity to Ellicott Development) which can serve as a permanent, affordable emergency shelter housing ancillary support operations in its current condition; and

WHEREAS, the Erie County Department of Social Services is requesting authorization to lease with options to buy the Premises from J-P Group, LLC for the purpose of providing sheltering and supporting services to homeless households wherein the fundamental terms of the lease would be for an initial five year term commencing on November 1, 2026, with two five year renewal options, and three purchase options at the end of years 3 five and ten calculated as follows:

Base Rent	Years	Rental Rate/sq. ft.	Annual Rent	Monthly Rent
	Years 1-5	$15.08	$455,000	$37,916.67
	Years 6-10 (1st Option)	$16.59	$500,500	$41,708.33
	Years 11-15(2nd Option)	$18.25	$550,550	$45,879.17

Landlord Improvements – Not to exceed $100,000

Common Area Maintenance (CAM) - snow removal, lawn care, parking area, and janitorial provided by County; Local Taxes, Utilities, and Municipal Charges paid by County; Insurance – paid by County

Purchase Options – Subject to further Legislative Approval

End of Year 3	$5,687,500
End of Year 5	$6,256,250
End of Year 10	$6,881,875

; and

WHEREAS, neither General Municipal Law 103 or Section 26.08 apply to leases of real property interests due to the unique nature of real property and entry into this lease with options to purchase are mechanisms authorized by County Law 215; and

WHEREAS, the lease agreement will provide an option to exit the agreement should the facility become unusable for the sheltering and supporting services purpose prior to purchase; and

WHEREAS, the Department of Social Services intends this facility to leverage the limited resources of the County to act as a central location for stabilization of street homeless individuals to become eligible for shelter placement, permanent housing, or other residential treatment as necessary to ensure their care.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the County Executive or Deputy County Executive to execute the lease with purchase options for 514-528 Southpark Avenue with J-P Group, LLC with the following fundamental terms:

Base Rent	Years	Rental Rate/sq. ft.	Annual Rent	Monthly Rent
	Years 1-5	$15.08	$455,000	$37,916.67
	Years 6-10 (1st Option)	$16.59	$500,500	$41,708.33
	Years 11-15(2nd Option)	$18.25	$550,550	$45,879.17

Purchase Options – Subject to further Legislative Approval

End of Year 3	$5,687,500
End of Year 5	$6,256,250
End of Year 10	$6,881,875

Landlord Improvements – Not to exceed $100,000

Common Area Maintenance (CAM) - snow removal, lawn care, parking area, and janitorial provided by County ; Local Taxes, Utilities, and Municipal Charges paid by County; Insurance – paid by County; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the County is further authorized to obtain a terminable non-exclusive license for $1 per year from 1238 Group, LLC (another related entity to Ellicott Development Group, LLC) over the vacant parcels to maintain the vacant parcels at 513, 515 and 523 South Park immediately across from the Premises to maintain the land, and have the right to seek to prevent the occurrence of any nuisance activities from affecting the usage of the Premises; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature hereby authorizes the Department of Social Services' 2026 General Fund Budget (Fund 110, Funds Center 1205060) to be amended as follows:

Department of Social Services
Fund 110, Funds Center 1205060

ACCOUNT	APPROPRIATION	CHANGE
516335	Workforce Development Action Fund	($500,000)
516039	Shelter Improvements	$500,000
	TOTAL	$ 0

and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Erie County Legislature determines that providing shelter is an essential county purpose and a recognized legally duty placed upon the Erie County Department of Social Services as a public welfare district and agent of the State of New York; and be it further

RESOLVED, that the site of this lease is best suited for the Erie County Department of Social Services to provide shelter and supporting services under its many obligations under New York State Law; and be it further

RESOLVED, that authorization is hereby given to the Division of Budget and Management to make any technical adjustments to effectuate this resolution; and be it further

RESOLVED, that certified copies of this resolution shall be forwarded to the Erie County Executive's Office, Comptroller's Office, Department of Social Services, Department of Law and Division of Budget and Management.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE DEPARTMENTS

FROM THE COUNTY ATTORNEY

Item 41 – (COMM. 18D-1) Transmittal of New Claims Against Erie County

Received and referred to the GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

COMMUNICATIONS FROM THE PEOPLE AND OTHER AGENCIES

FROM THE TOWN OF ALDEN

Item 42 – (COMM. 18M-1) Letter Regarding Opposition to Legislator Vinal's Effort of Re-Instituting an Erie County Planning Board

Received and referred to the GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

FROM THE TOWN OF MARILLA

Item 43 – (COMM. 18M-2) Letter Regarding Opposition to Legislator Vinal's Effort of Re-Instituting an Erie County Planning Board

Received and referred to the GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

FROM THE VILLAGE OF NORTH COLLINS

Item 44 – (COMM. 18M-3) Letter Regarding Opposition to Legislator Vinal's Effort of Re-Instituting an Erie County Planning Board

Received and referred to the GOVERNMENT AFFAIRS COMMITTEE.

FROM D. MCGEE

Item 45 – (COMM. 18M-4) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM R. LOWERY

Item 46 – (COMM. 18M-5) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM R. WINSTEAD

Item 47 – (COMM. 18M-6) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM L. JETER

Item 48 – (COMM. 18M-7) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM L. COLLINS

Item 49 – (COMM. 18M-8) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM C. MCEACHON

Item 50 – (COMM. 18M-9) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM B. HARGRAVE

Item 51 – (COMM. 18M-10) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM J. DENGOS

Item 52 – (COMM. 18M-11) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM D. RIVERA

Item 53 – (COMM. 18M-12) Letter of Support for the Passage of LL INTRO. 7-1 (2026)

Received and referred to the ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE.

FROM THE FAMILY JUSTICE CENTER

Item 54 – (COMM. 18M-13) Request for Equitable Funding & 2026 Surplus Allocation to Preserve Essential Domestic Violence Services

Received and referred to the HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES COMMITTEE.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Chair Meyers opened the Second Public Comment Session, the following speaker addressed the Legislature:

Dan Kozub, Hamburg – expressed thanks to the Members of the Legislature for passing LL INTRO. 6-1 (2026).

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Item 55 – Chair Meyers announced that the Legislature will conduct committee meetings on Thursday, October 15, 2026, and the schedule will be distributed. Chair Meyers further announced that the next session of the Legislature will be held on Thursday, October 22, 2026.

MEMORIAL RESOLUTIONS

Item 56 – Legislator Lorigo requested that when the Legislature adjourns, it do so in memory of Michael J. Vincent.

Item 57 – Legislator St. Jean Tard requested that when the Legislature adjourns, it do so in memory of Ameilyah Michelle Jefferson.

ADJOURNMENT

Item 58 – At this time, there being no further business to transact, CHAIR MEYERS announced that the Chair would entertain a Motion to Adjourn.

MR. GILMOUR moved that the Legislature adjourn until Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 11:30 AM. MS. ST. JEAN TARD seconded.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

CHAIR MEYERS declared the Legislature adjourned until Thursday, October 22, 2026 at 11:30 AM.

OLIVIA M. OWENS
CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE