

BUDGET, FINANCE AND PERSONNEL COMMITTEE
OF THE
DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Thursday, June 4, 2026, 5:30 p.m.

Committee Chair Lawler called the committee to order at 5:0 p.m.

PRESENT: 11 ATKINS, CASWELL, DARROW, JOHNSON, LAWLER, METZGER,
 MUNN, POLASEK, REDL, RHODES, VALDÉS SMITH

ABSENT: 1 BRENDLI

PRESENT/LATE: 0

QUORUM PRESENT

Committee Chair Lawler took a moment to thank all of the brave emergency responders involved in fighting the fire at the old Hudson Valley Psychiatric Hospital on Wednesday.

Presentations and Reports

Presentation on Proposed 2027 Dutchess Community College Budget by Dennis Dintino, Vice-President of Finance & Administration

Legislator Drago asked what is considered a healthy fund balance. Mr. Dintino explained the parameters.

Legislature Chair Valdes Smith asked about faculty and staff outlook in the future. Mr. Dintino spoke about the college's plans for full-time and part-time faculty. Dr. Jordan spoke about full-time faculty retention.

Legislator Kaul asked about adjunct faculty and expressed concerns about eliminating full-time positions in favor of adjunct positions. Dr. Jordan spoke about the community college model and its differences from four-year collegiate models, including how it relates to the balance of full-time and part-time faculty.

Legislator Caswell thanked DCC for the presentation and acknowledged the challenges of the budget process.

Majority Leader Atkins asked for clarification on tuition levels and increasing student enrollment levels. Dr. Jordan spoke about developing new curriculums.

Presentation on Camp Nooteeming by Comptroller Dan Aymar-Blair

Legislator Arnoff thanked Comptroller Aymar-Blair for the presentation.

Legislator Alexander asked who would have overseen and approved the contracts. Comptroller Aymar-Blair explained that the County Executive's Office would have handled them. Legislator Alexander asked who was the County Executive at the time. Comptroller Aymar-Blair said Marc Molinaro was County Executive at the time.

Assistant Minority Leader Metzger asked about an assessment which had been performed on the property and whether Comptroller Aymar-Blair had access to it. Comptroller Aymar-Blair said he did not have access to the assessment but understood the circumstances and procedure for its development. Leader Metzger expressed disappointment at what has taken place with Camp Nooteeming but that he still believes it is a valuable asset for the County.

Legislator Shah thanked Comptroller Aymar-Blair for the thoroughness and diligence of the report and expressed concerns about procedures which took place in the past.

Legislator Arnoff asked for clarification about the turf field. Comptroller Aymar-Blair confirmed that a gate is in place to control vehicle access to the field.

Committee Chair Lawler asked when the County issued an RFEOI on selling Camp Nooteeming. Comptroller Aymar-Blair said he wasn't sure but that the RFEOI was not to sell the property but to gather information which might help the County evaluate the market.

Legislature Chair Valdes Smith said the report made her feel like the Legislature was lied to during the process years ago, based on assurances made to the Legislature about public recreational access and opportunities for youth. Comptroller Aymar-Blair said it appeared efforts had been made to fulfill those assurances but those efforts were not successful.

Privilege of the Floor with respect to printed agenda items

None

Resolutions

2026076 A Resolution Authorizing Construction Management Services for the Dutchess Community College Campus Transformation Project, in and for the County of Dutchess, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$4,731,679, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,365,840 Bonds of Said County to Pay a Portion of the Cost Thereof

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026077 A Resolution Authorizing Design Costs for the Campus Transformation Project for the Dutchess Community College, in and for the County of Dutchess, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$8,707,356, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$4,353,678 Bonds of Said County to Pay a Portion of the Cost Thereof

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026090 Local Law No. ____ of 2026, a Local Law to Amend Local Law No. 6 of 2013, with Respect to the Dutchess County Self-Insured Workers' Compensation Plan

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: HR Commissioner Kashimer spoke about the Resolution.

Legislator Shah thanked Commissioner Kashimer for responding with information she had requested, and asked for further details on contractual benefits. She was assured there would be no delay in contractual benefits.

Legislator Shah asked if CSEA had any input or feedback on the Resolution. Steve from the CSEA spoke and said the CSEA appreciates any effort to educate and reduce incidents, and that his concerns are related to implementation and responsiveness.

Assistant Majority Leader Munn asked about savings in future years. Risk Management said a conservative estimate is a 2 percent reduction in the first year.

Legislator Kaul asked if PERMA is a non-profit organization. Risk Management said it is a non-profit.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026091 Local Law No. ____ Adopting a Real Property Tax Exemption for the Creation of Accessory Dwelling Units Pursuant to §421-f of the Real Property Tax Law and Excluding Short-Term Rentals

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Legislator Redl moved to Amend the Local Law to change the reference of 421-F to 421-P. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion of the Motion: Legislator Redl spoke in favor of the Resolution.

Leader Munn called a point of order and requested Legislator Redl's comments to speak to the Amendment rather than the Resolution.

Legislator Redl spoke about clarifying the Resolution to reference the correct section of law.

Minority Leader Polasek said the clarification is good but carries implications and that the draft law should be re-laid so that the public and legislators can review it and asked the Legislative Counsel for an opinion.

Legislative Counsel Treybich explained the clarification to the language of the law, and offered an opinion that the change would not be substantial or change the application of the law.

Leader Polasek said he felt the change does constitute a significant change in the application of the law in a good way.

Leader Munn agreed with Leader Polasek and suggested the Resolution be postponed to next month.

Legislative Counsel said the Committee could vote on the Amendment then table the Resolution.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously amended the Local Law.

Majority Leader Atkins requested a five-minute recess, which was granted. The Committee stood in recess at 7:11 p.m.

The Committee reconvened at 7:21 p.m.

Legislator Redl moved to table the proposed Local Law. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously tabled the Resolution.

2026092 Declaring the County's Intent to Become a Member of the Public Group Self-Insurer Public Employer Risk Management Association (PERMA) to Secure Workers' Compensation Claims

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Legislator Shah spoke about the relationship between this Resolution and Resolution 90 and the procedures discussed there apply here.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026093 Establishing Standard Workday for Elected and Appointed Officials Effective January 2026

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026094 Setting Public Hearing for Dutchess Community College Budget

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026104 Appointments to the Dutchess Community College Board of Trustees

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: Legislature Chair Valdes Smith thanked outgoing Trustees Castella and Legislator Caswell for their dedication and service to the community on the Board of Trustees.

Legislator Arnoff spoke in favor of the Resolution and of Legislator Alexander's appointment.

Minority Leader Polasek thanked Legislator Caswell for his service on the Board and congratulated Legislator Alexander on his appointment and wished him the best. He further expressed disappointment that Trustee Castella is not being reappointed and said he would not support the Resolution because Trustee Castella was not being reappointed.

Committee Chair Lawler spoke in favor of the Resolution and thanked the outgoing Trustees.

A roll-call vote was called:

AYES: 7 ATKINS, JOHNSON, LAWLER, MUNN, REDL, RHODES, VALDÉS SMITH

NAYS: 4 CASWELL, DARROW, METZGER, POLASEK

ABSENT: 1 BRENDLI

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee advanced the foregoing Resolution by a vote of 7-4, with Legislator Brendli absent.

2026106 Confirming Appointment of David C. Whalen as Acting Commissioner of the Department of Public Works

Moved by Majority Leader Atkins. Seconded by Assistant Majority Leader Munn.

Discussion: None.

The Budget, Finance and Personnel Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

There being no further business, Committee Chair Lawler adjourned the Committee meeting at 7:30 p.m.