

# Attendance Sheets

District	Last Name	Present	Absent	Present/Late
District 10 - City of Poughkeepsie	Atkins		✓	
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Black	✓		
District 13 - Towns of LaGrange, East Fishkill, and Wappinger	Bolner	✓		
District 8 - City and Town of Poughkeepsie	Brendli	✓		
District 21 - Town of East Fishkill	Caswell	✓		
District 15 - Town of Wappinger	Cavaccini	✓		
District 6 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Edwards	✓		
District 22 - Towns of Beekman and Union Vale	Garito	✓		
District 23 - Towns of Pawling, Beekman and East Fishkill	Hauser	✓		
District 25 - Towns of Amenia, Washington, Pleasant Valley	Houston	✓		
District 9 - City of Poughkeepsie	Johnson	✓		
District 11 - Towns of Rhinebeck and Clinton	Kearney	✓		
District 5 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Keith		✓	
District 1 - Town of Poughkeepsie	Llaverias		✓	
District 17 - Town and Village of Fishkill	McHoul	✓		
District 12 - Town of East Fishkill	Metzger	✓		
District 20 - Town of Red Hook/Tivoli	Munn	✓		
District 18 - City of Beacon and Town of Fishkill	Page	✓		
District 14 - Town of Wappinger	Paoloni	✓		
District 3 - Town of LaGrange	Polasek	✓		
District 19 - Towns of North East, Stanford, Pine Plains, Milan	Pulver	✓		
District 2 - Towns of Pleasant Valley and Poughkeepsie	Sagliano	✓		
District 24 - Towns of Dover and Union Vale	Surman	✓		
District 7 - Towns of Hyde Park and Poughkeepsie	Truitt	✓		
District 16 - Town of Fishkill and City of Beacon	Zernike	✓		
<b>Present:</b> _____	<b>Total:</b>	22	3	
<b>Absent:</b> _____				
<b>Vacant:</b> _____				

Date: 11/30/2020

Special Board Meeting  
Dutchess County Legislature  
Public Hearing  
on the  
Tentative 2021 Budget

**PLEASE TAKE NOTICE**, that due to public health and safety concerns related to COVID-19, the Dutchess County Legislature held the **Special Board Meeting – Public Hearing on the Proposed Tentative Budget for Dutchess County for the Year 2021 with Amendments Made by the Budget, Finance, and Personnel Committee and the Capital Improvement Program for the Years 2021 – 2025 on Monday, November 30, 2020, starting at 7:00 p.m. remotely** in accordance with Governor Cuomo’s Executive Orders. The November 30, 2020, Special Board Meeting - Public Hearing was held via video conferencing.

**The public was not permitted to attend this meeting in person.**

**Public Comment for the Special Board Meeting - Public Hearing on the Proposed Tentative Budget for Dutchess County for the Year 2021 with Amendments Made by the Budget, Finance, and Personnel Committee and the Capital Improvement Program for the Years 2021 – 2025:** Parties and citizens could comment live for the public hearing on the agenda and had an opportunity to be heard through a media platform called Zoom. Comments about the public hearing could also be provided via email prior to the meeting to the Clerk of the Legislature at [countylegislature@dutchessny.gov](mailto:countylegislature@dutchessny.gov).

2 comments were received by email and attached hereto.

The Board Meeting was livestreamed at the following link:  
<https://totalwebcasting.com/view/?id=dutchess>.

Monday, November 30, 2020

The Chair of the Legislature called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Roll Call by the Clerk of the Legislature

PRESENT:           22           Black, Bolner, Brendli, Caswell, Cavaccini,  
Edwards, Garito, Hauser, Houston, Johnson,  
Kearney, McHoul, Metzger, Munn, Page,  
Paoloni, Polasek, Pulver, Sagliano, Surman,  
Truitt, Zernike

ABSENT:            3           Atkins, Keith, Llaverias

PRESENT, LATE: 0

Quorum Present.

## **Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag.**

### **Public Hearings**

#### **Public Hearing on the Proposed Tentative Budget for Dutchess County for the Year 2021 with Amendments Made by the Budget, Finance, and Personnel Committee and the Capital Improvement Program for the Years 2021 through 2025**

Clerk reads notice of public hearing.

The Chair declared the public hearing open.

Barbara Walsh, Hopewell Junction, [votblueorelse@gmail.com](mailto:votblueorelse@gmail.com), spoke in opposition to the jail project and in favor of education, healthcare, mental health services, recreation, affordable housing, technological equity, and emergency shelter and food.

Meredith-Lyn Avey, [lynolivieri@gmail.com](mailto:lynolivieri@gmail.com), spoke in opposition to the jail project.

Laura Forman, [lforman37@gmail.com](mailto:lforman37@gmail.com), spoke in opposition to the jail project.

Susan Bellrose, [susan@bellrose.us](mailto:susan@bellrose.us), spoke in opposition to the jail project.

Dr. Mona Kleinberg, Beacon, [mona\\_kleinberg@uml.edu](mailto:mona_kleinberg@uml.edu), spoke in opposition to the jail project and in support of community-based services.

Laurel Dick, [dicklaur@grinnell.edu](mailto:dicklaur@grinnell.edu), spoke in opposition to the jail project and in support of education, healthcare, housing, and mental health services.

Debi Duke, Rhinebeck, [debiduke22@gmail.com](mailto:debiduke22@gmail.com), emailed comments in opposition to the jail project and in support of living wage, youth programs, transportation, and emergency response teams, comments attached.

Julie Winterbottom, Beacon, emailed comments in opposition to the jail project and in support of affordable housing, mental health services, schools, and internet access for all, comments attached.

No one else wishing to speak, the Chair declared the public hearing closed and adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

## Wager, Leigh

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**From:** Debi Duke <debiduke22@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Monday, November 30, 2020 3:43 PM  
**To:** CountyLegislature  
**Subject:** Jail project

*ATTENTION: This email came from an external source. Do not open attachments or click on links from unknown senders or unexpected emails.*

Dear legislators:

I can't join you for this evening's discussion of the jail expansion, but I want you to know that as a voter my priorities include keeping all county staff employed at a living wage, youth programs, transportation, and emergency response teams. If I had to choose between downsizing or delaying the jail project and any one of these (and other services), I would choose to downsize the jail. The pandemic and the related economic downturn demand that we rethink our priorities. In addition, New York's bail and discovery reform laws have reduced pretrial incarceration and the jail population to around 130 yet the jail expansion has cell space for 300 people. Please think creatively!

Sincerely,

Debi Duke, Rhinebeck  
845-876-4461  
845-242-4121  
[debiduke22@gmail.com](mailto:debiduke22@gmail.com)

November 30, 2020

My name is Julie Winterbottom and I live in Beacon. I urge the County Legislature to reconsider the planned \$200 million new jail. This costly project is fiscally irresponsible, now more than ever given the economic devastation of the pandemic. The debt on the bond for this project is projected to add \$5.41 million to next year's budget, and much higher amounts in the following years. This makes zero fiscal sense given that the County is facing a crisis covering its existing operations.

Equally important is the fact that we simply do not need a new jail. Pre-trial incarceration is declining, thanks to NY State bail and discovery reform laws and the jail population is about 130 people. This is progress: People charged with misdemeanors are being released to the community and getting addiction and mental health treatment where needed. There is no reason to think the jail population will increase, given these new laws. So why are we building a new jail with more than twice that capacity? So the cells will sit empty? Or so we can return to an era of excessive incarceration and continue to make excessive incarceration the foundation of NY State's economy? Please do the right thing: Stop this boondoggle and spend the money instead on the truly urgent needs: affordable housing; robust mental health services; quality schools; Internet access for all.

Please stop or at the very least, scale back this unnecessary new jail and use the money where it's needed.

Thank you,

Julie Winterbottom  
80 Dutchess Terrace  
Beacon, NY 12508