

PUBLIC WORKS COMMITTEE
OF THE
DUTCHESS COUNTY LEGISLATURE

Thursday, June 4, 2026, 6:00 p.m.

Committee Vice Chair Rhodes called the committee to order at 9:08 p.m.

PRESENT: 9 ATKINS, HOUSE, JOHNSON, KAUL, METZGER, MUNN, POLASEK,
RHODES, TRESKA, VALDÉS SMITH,

ABSENT: 3 BRENDLI, JOHNSON, WINSBY

PRESENT/LATE: 0

QUORUM PRESENT

Presentations and Reports

None.

Privilege of the Floor with respect to printed agenda items

Rosemary from the City of Poughkeepsie spoke in favor of Resolution 100.

Resolutions considered out of numerical order will be placed in numerical order for fluidity

2026096 Authorizing the Preliminary Design and Environmental Studies for Various Proposed County Building Improvements, in and for the County of Dutchess, New York, at a Maximum Estimated Cost of \$1,186,750, and Authorizing the Issuance of \$1,186,750 Bonds of Said County to Pay the Cost Thereof (**DISCUSSION ONLY**)

Discussion: None.

2026097 Authorizing the Issuance of \$2,020,000 Serial Bonds of the County of Dutchess, New York, to Pay the Cost of the Purchase and Installation of a Card Swipe Access Control System at County Buildings, in and for Said County (**DISCUSSION ONLY**)

Discussion: Legislature Chair Valdes Smith asked if Acting Commissioner Whalen could speak to specifics of the system. Acting Commissioner Whalen explained that the current County system is reaching the end of its lifespan.

Assistant Majority Leader Munn asked about annual costs. Acting Commissioner Whalen said he could provide further information in the future.

Legislator Lawler expressed concern about the interest totalling more than \$400,000 and asked why it was not simply a budgetary expense. Acting Commissioner Whalen speculated that a budgetary expense would be very cumbersome. He further asked about the improvement over the current system. Acting Commissioner Whalen explained that it is more secure than the existing system.

2026098 Authorizing the Issuance of an Additional \$489,749 Bonds of the County of Dutchess, New York, to Pay a Portion of the Cost of the Culvert Replacement on County Route 49 (Titusville Road), in and for Said County (**DISCUSSION ONLY**)

Discussion: Legislator Lawler asked about the condition of the current culvert and why its replacement is necessary. Acting Commissioner Whalen explained the history of the project and that the project has been in the works for a few years but costs have exceeded initial expectations due to a need to redesign a portion of the project.

2026099 Amending the 2026 Adopted County Budget as It Pertains to Capital Project H0593 Americans with Disabilities Act Improvements Along South Maple and North Maple Avenues (County Route 62) in the Village of Millerton

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

Discussion: None.

The Public Works Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026100 Authorizing the Filing of Section 5339 Grant Applications for Federal Fiscal Year 2025 with Federal Transit Administration and New York State Department of Transportation for Matching Funds for Capital Assistance Under the Urban Mass Transportation Act of 1964

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

Discussion: Legislator Caswell asked why, if there was any plan to move to fare-free buses in the future, the County would spend this amount of money on new fare boxes. Acting Commissioner Whalen explained that the funding is available and the new fare boxes will be able to process card and digital fare payment.

Committee Vice Chair Rhodes asked if the new boxes might shorten delays caused by rider payment issues. Acting Commissioner Whalen said he couldn't speculate on that.

Legislator Kaul asked if the boxes would be able to accept a County-issued pass for a hypothetical free-fare program for some riders. Acting Commissioner Whalen said it would be able to accept passes.

Majority Leader Atkins asked if the leftover funds could be used for any other purposes. Acting Commissioner Whalen said there were certain limitations but the funds could be used for a broad set of purposes.

The Public Works Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

2026107 Authorizing Additional Access Roads on County Road 40A, Saint Andrews Road, Hyde Park

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

Discussion: None.

The Public Works Committee unanimously advanced the foregoing Resolution.

Other Business

None.

There being no further business, Committee Vice Chair Rhodes adjourned the Committee meeting at 9:30 p.m.