SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE

GENERAL MEETING

Third DAY

February 16, 2018

11:00 AM

A SPECIAL MEETING OF THE SUFFOLK COUNTY LEGISLATURE
WAS HELD AT THE WILLIAM H. ROGERS LEGISLATURE BUILDING
IN THE ROSE Y. CARACAPPA LEGISLATIVE AUDITORIUM
725 VETERANS MEMORIAL HIGHWAY
SMITHTOWN, NEW YORK

Minutes Taken By
Diana Flesher - Court Stenographer

* Index Included at End of Transcript
(*THE MEETING WAS CALLED TO ORDER AT 10:59 AM*)

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay, good morning, Mr. Clerk.

MR. RICHBERG:
Good morning, Mr. Presiding Officer.

P.O. GREGORY:
Please do the roll call.

(*Roll Called by Jason Richberg, Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. SPENCER:
(Not Present)

LEG. DONNELLY:
Here.

LEG. BERLAND:
Here.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
(Not Present)

LEG. TROTTA:
Here.

LEG. KENNEDY:
Here.

LEG. FLOTTERON:
(Not Present)

LEG. CILMI:
(Not Present)

LEG. MARTINEZ:
(Not Present)

LEG. LINDSAY:
Here.

LEG. ANKER:
(Not Present)

LEG. HAHN:
Present.

LEG. MURATORE:
(Not Present)

LEG. SUNDERMAN:
Here.

* Index Included at End of Transcript
LEG. FLEMING: (Not Present)

LEG. KRUPSKI: Here.

D.P.O. CALARCO: Present.

P.O. GREGORY: Here.

MR. RICHBERG: Ten.

LEG. ANKER: Here.

LEG. FLEMING: Here.

11:00AM

MR. RICHBERG: Eleven, twelve. (Not Present: Legislators Spencer, McCaffrey, Flotteron, Cilmi, Martinez & Muratore)

P.O. GREGORY: All right. Please all rise for the salute to the flag. But before we go, we're going to announce the IR 1155, a Public Hearing at noon today for IR 1155, Adopting a local law to extend the property tax exemption for Cold War veterans.

(*Salutation*)

Please remain standing for a moment of silence for the unfortunate lives lost the other day in Florida; and for all the men and women across the world and our country that are protecting us.

(*Moment of Silence Observed*)

Thank you. Okay. Now we're at the -- we're at Special Meeting today, February 16th. We're at the Public Portion. I don't have any cards. Is there anyone in the audience that would like to speak? Please come forward. Okay, seeing none, I'm going to make a motion to close the Public Portion; second by Legislator Calarco. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. RICHBERG: Twelve. (Not Present: Legislators Spencer, McCaffrey, Flotteron, Cilmi, Martinez & Muratore)

11:00AM

P.O. GREGORY: Okay. And now we're going to recess to 12 o'clock for our Public Hearing and --

LEG. CILMI: What did I miss?
P.O. GREGORY:
All right, so we stand in recess 'til 12 noon. Thank you.

(*The meeting was recessed at 11:02 AM*)

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(*The meeting was reconvened at 12:00 PM*)

P.O. GREGORY:
All right, Mr. Clerk, it is noon. Please do the roll call.

MR. RICHBERG:
Good afternoon.

(*Roll Called by Jason Richberg, Clerk of the Legislature*)

LEG. SPENCER:
(Not Present)

LEG. DONNELLY:
Here.

LEG. BERLAND:
Here.

LEG. McCAFFREY:
(Not Present)

LEG. TROTTA:
Here.

LEG. KENNEDY:
Here.

LEG. FLOTTERON:
Here.

LEG. CILMI:
Here.

LEG. MARTINEZ:
Here.

LEG. LINDSAY:
Here.

LEG. ANKER:
Here.

LEG. HAHN:
Present.

LEG. MURATORE:
(Not Present)
LEG. SUNDERMAN:
Here.

LEG. FLEMING:
Present.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Here.

D.P.O. CALARCO:
Present.

P.O. GREGORY:
Here.

MR. RICHBERG:
Fifteen.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. So we are at the Public Hearing for IR 1155. I do have one card, it's for Mike Pankowski. Okay, sir, please come forward.

MR. RICHBERG:
Fourteen. (Amended Vote: Fifteen - Absent: Legislators Spencer, McCaffrey & Muratore)

MR. PANKOWSKI:
Thank you. I'm asking you to support this measure that's before us. There's over 60,000 veterans from Suffolk County. That's the most amount of veterans for any county in the State of New York. Everybody always talks about how much we want to help the veterans. In the next few minutes, you'll get a good chance to prove it. Thank you very much.

P.O. GREGORY:
All right, I like that, short and sweet.

(*Applause*)

All right, anyone else who would like to speak or say anything? Okay. I'll make a motion to close the Public Hearing.

LEG. HAHN:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Legislator Hahn. All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. RICHBERG:
Fourteen. (Amended Vote: Fifteen - Absent: Legislators Spencer, McCaffrey & Muratore).

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. So, I'm going to do IR 1155-18 - Adopting a Local Law to extend the property tax exemption for a Cold War Veterans (County Executive). I'll take a motion from Legislator --
LEG. BERLAND:
Motion.

P.O. GREGORY:
-- Berland to approve.

LEG. KRUPSKI:
Second.

P.O. GREGORY:
Second by Mr. Krupski. On the motion?

LEG. BERLAND:
On the motion? Yes, is this the right time? I just want to thank everyone for being here this morning. I appreciate everybody's support as we pass on this very important tax exemption.

Suffolk County is the home to the largest population of veterans in New York State. This Legislature has recognized the service and sacrifice of the brave men and women who have worn the uniform by offering the maximum property tax exemptions allowed under state law to all eligible veterans.

As Chairwoman of the Veterans Committee, I'm asking you all today to ensure that we continue to provide the Cold War Veterans Tax Exemption. This exemption was adopted by this body in 2007 and was initially granted for ten years. The County's participation in this exemption will expire on March 1st. It must be renewed today by Certificate of Necessity in this Special Meeting to meet the deadline imposed by the taxable status day. We must act today to make sure that thousands of veterans do not lose this exemption.

I most especially would like to thank all the veterans in attendance today for showing their support of this resolution and especially thank them for their service to our country. Thank you very much.

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. Anyone else? Nope? Also like to thank the County Executive for -- and his administration for working with us to get this done. This is an important exemption. So we have a motion. We have a second. I'm sorry? All in favor? Opposed? Abstentions?

MR. RICHBERG:
Fourteen. (Amended Vote: Fifteen - Absent: Legislators Spencer, McCaffrey & Muratore)

P.O. GREGORY:
Okay. That is all that we have on the agenda for today and we stand adjourned. Thank you.

("The following Legislators indicated cosponsorship to IR 1155-18: P.O. Gregory, D.P.O. Calarco and Legislators Anker, Fleming, Hahn, Lindsay & Martinez")

("THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED AT 12:04 PM")