

ULSTER COUNTY BOARD OF HEALTH

April 9, 2024

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

1. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Approval of March 12, 2024 Minutes

2. Department of Health Report

a. Transition

- Acting Public Health Director – Tim Rose Introduction
- Interim Medical Consultant – Dr. Gina Carena
 - Roles and Responsibilities
- Proposed Local Law Number 3 of 2024
- Health, Human Services, and Housing Committee Resolution No. 188
- Public Hearing on Resolution No. 156

b. Medical Examiner

- 2024 To-Date Stats

c. Agenda for Future Board Meetings

MEETING CONCLUSION

Ulster County Board of Health
April 9, 2024
5:00 p.m.
Golden Hill Office Building
239 Golden Hill Lane
Kingston, NY 12401

PRESENT: Stephanie Turco, Dr. Marta Sanchez, Dr. Gina Carena, Christy Keegan, Naomi Stevens

EXCUSED: Dr. Ashanda Saint Jean, Kathleen Rogan

ABSENT:

UCDOH: Timothy Rose - Acting Public Health Director

GUEST: Johanna Contreras - Deputy County Executive/Chief of Staff

Call To Order: 5:06 PM

OLD Business:

- Vote to Approve Minutes: A motion was made to approve the December minutes by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Dr. Carena and unanimously approved.

Department of Health Report:

1. Commissioner of Health Vacancy and Transition Plan:

- a. Acting Public Health Director Introduction: Timothy Rose was introduced to the Board as the Acting Public Health Director appointed by the County Executive, on an interim basis until Dr. Smith's permanent replacement can be found. Mr. Rose is a licensed Professional Engineer (P.E.) who previously worked for the Department of Health (DOH) and recently returned as a Senior Public Health Engineer in 2020 and as Director of Environmental Health from 2021 to current. Prior to DOH, he served 10 years as the Executive Director for Ulster County Resource Recovery Agency (UCRRA). Mr. Rose has approximately 16 years of experience in the field of environmental health with both the county and the state.
- b. Interim Medical Consultant:
 - Mr. Rose announced the appointment of Dr. Carena as the Interim Medical Consultant. The roles and responsibilities of a Medical Consultant were distributed to the Board (See Attached.) In accordance with New York State Public Health Law and Sanitary Code, a Public Health Director is a non-medical administrator and must have a Medical Consultant to provide professional medical input in matters that

require a physician's determination and/or signature. Dr. Carena is currently being vetted by the state for this position but has received the unofficial approval to act in this capacity.

- The Board also determined that, Dr. Carena would need to step down from her role as Board Member, as serving in dual roles would be considered a conflict of interest. The Medical Consultant role begins on April 15th.

c. Proposed Local Law Number 3 of 2024:

- This purpose of this Law (See Attached) is to amend the Ulster County Charter in regard to the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director and the Medical Examiner.
- The Commissioner of Health or Public Health (PH) Director would be amended to allow for a non-physician to serve as Public Health Director along with a Medical Consultant. Currently, as written both titles, Commissioner and PH Director, require that an individual in these roles be a licensed Medical Doctor (MD). Removing the MD requirement from the PH Director would align County requirements with NYS requirements, as well as allow for the County to consider other public health credentialing such as Epidemiologist, in instances when an MD cannot be obtained. Mr. Rose stated that there is a sense that most Legislators are amenable to the change. The Commissioner and Public Health Director qualifications were distributed to the Board (See Attached.) Deputy County Executive Contreras stated that the County is contracting with a search firm to seek qualified candidates. The County is also advertising on the County website, Indeed, and LinkedIn.
- This amendment would also remove the requirement for the Medical Examiner to be an Ulster County resident, ultimately broadening the pool of candidates should a Medical Examiner need to be appointed.
- A Public Hearing, Resolution No. 156, on this proposed law will be held April 16th at 7:00pm (See Attached.) Final vote will be conducted at the May Legislative meeting.

d. Health, Human Services, and Housing Committee Resolution No. 188:

- This Resolution would adopt a policy that "a licensed physician with experience in public health shall be a preferred criteria in the legislative confirmation of the appointment of the head of the Ulster County Department of Health".
- Deputy County Executive Contreras explained that there were several concerns with this Resolution.

- The Resolution is unclear as to its definition of "preferred".
 - There has been overall difficulty in hiring MDs, especially after COVID as many are seeking more of a work/life balance.
 - There is a concern of interviewing and selecting a candidate, putting their name forward to the Legislature and being turned down due to the "preferred" clause.
- The Resolution was voted on at the April 4th Health, Human Services, and Housing Committee meeting and was voted down.

2. Medical Examiner (ME) Update:

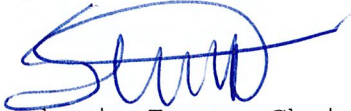
- The Medical Examiner reports for 2023 and 2024 YTD were distributed to the Board (See Attached.) Mr. Rose had met with the ME Investigators to learn about the functions of the division.
- It was noted that the Board looks "heavily" at the ME stats, and they are an important part of the Department's report out.

3. Agenda for Future Board Meetings: Mr. Rose queried the Board as to what they would like reported on at future Board of Health meetings. The Board stated that they would like to continue to hear about any "hot topics", updates such as camps, immunizations, drownings, homeless residences, etc. Mr. Rose suggested graphs and PowerPoint presentations; however, the Board did not see it necessary.

Adjournment: A motion to adjourn was made by Ms. Stevens, seconded by Dr. Sanchez, and unanimously approved.

Next Meeting: Scheduled for Tuesday, May 14, 2024, at 5:00 PM, Golden Hill Office Building, 239 Golden Hill Lane, Kingston, NY 12401.

Respectfully submitted by:



Stephanie Turco, Chair

Proposed Local Law Number 3 Of 2024

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner

BE IT ENACTED, by the Legislature of the County of Ulster, as follows:

SECTION 1. Article V Section C-41 of the Ulster County Charter is REPEALED and a new Section C-41 is added to the Ulster County Charter to read as follows:

§ C-41. Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director.

A. There shall be a Department of Health, headed by a Commissioner of Health or a Public Health Director and Medical Consultant. The Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director shall meet the qualifications for this position specified in the New York State Public Health Law and Sanitary Code. ~~In addition, he or she shall be a licensed physician with experience in public health. He or she~~ **They** shall be appointed by the County Executive in consultation with the Board of Health and ~~with~~ **subject to** confirmation by the County Legislature and serve at ~~his or her~~ **the County Executive's** pleasure, except that if either the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director is appointed for a fixed term of years pursuant to a provision of state law, ~~he or she~~ **they** may only be removed for cause after written notice of charges and an opportunity to be heard.

B. Powers and duties. Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director shall have and exercise all the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon county or part-county health commissioners and upon county or part-county boards of health by the Public Health Law or any other law, except as otherwise provided by this Charter. ~~He or she~~ **They** shall perform such other and related duties required by the County Executive **or County Legislature, and shall be vested with authority, direction and control over the Department of Health, including power to appoint and remove officers and employees within the department.**

SECTION 2. Article V Section C-43 of the Ulster County Charter is REPEALED and a new Section C-43 is added to the Ulster County Charter to read as follows:

Proposed Local Law Number 3 Of 2024

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner

§ C-43. Medical Examiner.

The Health Department shall assure the provision of medical examiner services that promote the public health by or under the supervision of qualified Medical Examiner(s), accountable to the Commissioner of Public Health or Public Health Director. The Medical Examiner shall be appointed by the County Executive, on the advice of the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director, for a term of four years, subject to confirmation by the Legislature. They shall be a physician duly licensed to practice ~~his or her~~**their** profession in the State of New York and shall:

- A. Be trained to investigate causes of death and order autopsies;
- B. Conduct community education as prescribed by the New York State Department of Health.

SECTION 3. Article V Section A5-1 of The Ulster County Administrative Code is REPEALED and a new Section A5-1 is added to The Ulster County Administrative Code to read as follows:

§ A5-1. Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director.

A. There shall be a Department of Health, headed by a Commissioner of Health or a Public Health Director and Medical Consultant. The Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director shall meet the qualifications for this position specified in the New York State Public Health Law and Sanitary Code. ~~In addition, he or she shall be a licensed physician with experience in public health. He or she~~**They** shall be appointed by the County Executive in consultation with the Board of Health and ~~with~~**subject to** confirmation by the County Legislature and serve at ~~his or her~~**the County Executive's** pleasure, except that if either the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director is appointed for a fixed term of years pursuant to a provision of state law, ~~he or she~~**they** may only be removed for cause after written notice of charges and an opportunity to be heard.

Proposed Local Law Number 3 Of 2024

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner

B. Powers and duties. Except as otherwise provided in this Charter, the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director shall have and exercise all the powers and duties conferred or imposed upon county or part-county health commissioners and upon county or part-county boards of health by the Public Health Law or any other law, except as otherwise provided by this Charter. ~~He or she~~**They** shall perform such other and related duties required by the County Executive **or County Legislature, and shall be vested with authority, direction and control over the Department of Health, including power to appoint and remove officers and employees within the department.**

C. Reports. On or before March 1 of each year, the Commissioner of Health or the Public Health Director shall make an annual report to the County Legislature and County Executive for the immediately preceding calendar year covering generally the work of ~~his or her~~**their** department. The Commissioner or Director shall make such other reports at such times as may be required by the County Legislature, County Executive, New York State Department of Health or any other applicable law. Copies of all reports shall be filed with the Clerk of the County Legislature and the County Executive.

SECTION 4. Article V Section A5-2 of The Ulster County Administrative Code is REPEALED and a new Section A5-2 is added to The Ulster County Administrative Code to read as follows:

§ A5-2. Deputy Commissioner of Health or Deputy Public Health Director.

A. The Commissioner of Health or the Public Health Director shall have the power to appoint one or more Deputy Commissioners of Health or Deputy Public Health Directors, within the limits of appropriations therefor. Every appointment shall be in writing and filed in the Office of the County Clerk and the Clerk of the Legislature.

Proposed Local Law Number 3 Of 2024

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner

B. The term of office of any deputy appointed hereunder shall coincide with that of the Commissioner of Health or the Public Health Director, provided that such appointment may be revoked at any time by the Commissioner or the Director by written revocation filed with the County Clerk. All positions of Deputy Commissioner or Deputy Director may be in the exempt class of civil service; or in the alternative, the deputy may also be an additional title which may be designated by the Commissioner or the Director for a department staff member.

C. Deputy Commissioners or Deputy Directors shall perform such duties pertaining to the office of the Department of Health as the Commissioner or the Director may direct and shall act generally for and in such place of the Commissioner or Director and perform such other and further duties as the Commissioner or Director may assign.

D. The designation of an order of succession for the position of Deputy Commissioner or Deputy Director shall be filed with the County Clerk and the Clerk of the County Legislature and may be revoked at any time by the Commissioner or Director filing a new written designation of order of succession.

E. Should the Deputy so designated by the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director not be a licensed physician, and should the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director resign, die or certify in writing and filed with the County Clerk a statement that ~~he or she is~~ **they are** unable to perform and/or exercise the powers and duties of the office, or should ~~he or she~~ **they** be removed from office, then the County Executive, in consultation with the Board of Health and with confirmation by the County Legislature, shall appoint a qualified replacement as soon as practicable.

SECTION 5. Article V Section A5-4 of The Ulster County Administrative Code is REPEALED and a new Section A5-4 is added to The Ulster County Administrative Code to read as follows:

Proposed Local Law Number 3 Of 2024

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner

§ A5-4. Medical Examiner.

The Health Department shall assure the provision of medical examiner services that promote the public health by or under the supervision of qualified Medical Examiner(s), accountable to the Commissioner of Public Health or Public Health Director. The Medical Examiner shall be appointed by the County Executive, on the advice of the Commissioner of Health or Public Health Director, for a term of four years, subject to confirmation by the Legislature. ~~The Medical Examiner shall be a resident of the County of Ulster. He or she~~ They shall be a physician duly licensed to practice ~~his or her~~ their profession in the State of New York and shall:

- A. Be trained to investigate causes of death and order autopsies;
- B. Conduct community education as prescribed by the New York State Department of Health.
- C. Perform all duties which are now required, or which hereafter may be required by law, of the Medical Examiner. In addition thereto, the Medical Examiner shall perform such additional and related duties involving the exercise of professional skills and training as may be prescribed by the County Executive and District Attorney.
- D. Keep such records and reports as are required by the provisions of § 677 of the County Law. Such records shall be open to inspection by the District Attorney of the County at any time and to other persons as provided for in § 677, Paragraph 3(B), of the County Law.

SECTION 6. SEVERABILITY.

In the event that any portion of this local law is found to be invalid, such finding will not have any effect on either the remaining portions or applications of this local law or any provisions of the Ulster County Charter, which shall remain in full force and effect.

Proposed Local Law Number 3 Of 2024

County Of Ulster

A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner

SECTION 7. EFFECTIVE DATE.

This Local Law shall become effective upon its filing with the Secretary of State.

New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (/)

[Home \(/\)](#) [Title 10](#) [Title 18](#) [Laws & Regulations](#)

[Home \(/\)](#) / [VOLUME A \(Title 10\) \(/content/volume-title-10\)](#)

/ [Part 11 - Qualifications of Public Health Personnel \(/volume-title-10/content/part-11-qualifications-public-health-personnel\)](#)

/ [COMMISSIONER OF HEALTH \(/content/commissioner-health\)](#) / [Title: Section 11.11 - Qualifications](#)

Title: Section 11.11 - Qualifications

Effective Date

08/20/2008

11.11 Qualifications.

(a) A commissioner of health of a county, or a city having a population of 50,000 or more and having an established department of health, shall be a physician who is currently registered to practice medicine in New York State and possesses two years of experience in administrative practice that demonstrates that the candidate possesses the knowledge and skills to administer public health programs including workforce and budget management, effective communications, effective establishment and implementation of policy or business goals, and compliance with legal requirements and:

(1) certification by the American Board of Preventive Medicine; or

(2) a master's degree in public health from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university that demonstrates the core competencies of a masters in public health (Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavior Sciences) or a masters degree in a related field from a regionally accredited New York State-registered college or university.

(b) All appointments to the position of commissioner of health must be approved by the State Commissioner of Health.

(c) Candidates who do not meet the education or experience requirements of this section may be conditionally approved by the State Commissioner of Health for an appointment of two years, with an opportunity for two additional one year conditional renewals. Final approval of these candidates shall be contingent on satisfactory progress in meeting a public health education or experience plan developed in conjunction with and approved by the State Commissioner of Health.

New York Codes, Rules and Regulations (/)

[Home \(/\)](#) [Title 10](#) [Title 18](#) [Laws & Regulations](#)

[Home \(/\)](#) / [VOLUME A \(Title 10\) \(/content/volume-title-10\)](#)

/ [Part 11 - Qualifications of Public Health Personnel \(/volume-title-10/content/part-11-qualifications-public-health-personnel\)](#)

/ [PUBLIC HEALTH DIRECTOR \(/content/public-health-director\)](#) / Title: Section 11.182 - Qualifications

Title: Section 11.182 - Qualifications

Effective Date

08/20/2008

11.182 Qualifications.

(a) A public health director shall possess:

(1) a master's degree in public health from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university that demonstrates the core competencies of a public health education (Biostatistics, Environmental Health Sciences, Epidemiology, Health Policy and Management, and Social and Behavior Sciences) or a masters degree in a related field from a regionally accredited or New York State-registered college or university. Related fields include public health nursing, health administration, community health education or environmental health; and

(2) two years of administrative experience in a health related organization or government agency that demonstrates that the candidate possesses the knowledge and skills necessary to administer public health programs including workforce and budget management, effective communication, effective establishment and implementation of policy or business goals, and compliance with legal requirements.

(b) All appointments to the position of public health director and the appointment and arrangements for the medical consultant are subject to the approval of the State Commissioner of Health.

(c) Candidates who do not meet the education or experience requirements of this section may be conditionally approved for an appointment of two years by the State Commissioner of Health with an opportunity for two additional one year conditional renewals. Final approval of these candidates shall be contingent on satisfactory progress in meeting a public health education or experience plan developed in conjunction with and approved by the State Commissioner of Health.

Volume

VOLUME A (Title 10)

SECTION 351

County or part-county health commissioner, public health director or county health director; appointment; compensation

Public Health (PBH) CHAPTER 45, ARTICLE 3, TITLE 3

§ 351. County or part-county health commissioner, public health director or county health director; appointment; compensation. 1. The board of health of each county and part-county health district or other body having the powers and duties of a board of health of a county or part-county health district or the county executive in those counties where the county charter provides that said commissioner is to be appointed by the county executive shall appoint a county health commissioner, county health director or, when authorized under the state sanitary code, public health director; except, however,

(a) that the boards of health of not more than three county or part-county health districts or other bodies having the powers and duties of a board of health of a county or part-county health district may appoint the same person to serve as county health commissioner, county health director or, when authorized by the state sanitary code, public health director for said health districts, if the total population of health districts is not in excess of one hundred fifty thousand according to the latest federal decennial census, provided the approval of the commissioner is obtained; or

(b) the board of health or other body having the powers and duties of a board of health of a county or part-county health district of any county health district with a population of less than thirty-five thousand according to the latest federal decennial census may appoint the same person employed by a contiguous county or part-county health district to serve as county health commissioner, county health director or, when authorized by the state sanitary code, public health director without regard to the total population of both health districts, provided the approval of the commissioner is obtained.

The commissioner shall periodically review his or her determination to ensure such employment of the same county health director, director of public health or county health commissioner continues to serve the interest of public health and may terminate his or her approval at his or her discretion.

2. If the commissioner has approved the appointment of the same person to serve as the county commissioner of health or public health director of more than one county or part-county health district pursuant to subdivision one of this section, then during the continuation of such approval the commissioner may also authorize the same members to be appointed to the board of health of each respective health district, notwithstanding their residency in the other county.

3. Any boards of health or other bodies having the powers and duties of a board of health of a county or part-county health district having the same members shall annually submit such information and reports regarding the effect of such employment on administration of the respective health districts and the provision of public health services as the commissioner may require. The commissioner shall use such information in determining whether such common membership continues to serve the interest of public health.

4. The county health commissioner or public health director shall possess such qualifications for office as are prescribed in the sanitary code.

5. The county health commissioner or public health director shall serve for a term of six years and shall not be removed during the term for which he or she shall have been appointed, except upon written charges after a hearing and upon notice.

6. The county health commissioner or public health director shall receive such compensation as may be fixed by the board of supervisors or, if the commissioner's approval has been obtained for the employment of the same person as the county health commissioner or public health director pursuant to subdivision one of this section, by the boards of supervisors.

MEDICAL CONSULTANT

DISTINGUISHING FEATURES OF THE CLASS: This position exists in the County Health Department and involves the responsibility to provide medical expertise to a Public Health Director who is the department administrator and **serves as the Medical Director for all Article 28 programs**. The State Sanitary Code requires that a non-medical administrator have professional medical input in those matters requiring a licensed physician's determination. The Director relies on the Medical Consultant for advice and guidance in connection with a variety of medical matters such as: preventive medicine, immunizations, disease outbreaks and other related details. The work is performed under the general direction of the Public Health Director with leeway allowed for the exercise of independent professional judgment in carrying out details of the work. Supervision over the work of others is not a responsibility of an employee in this class. Does related work as required.

TYPICAL WORK ACTIVITIES: The typical work activities listed below, while providing representative examples of the variety of work assignments in the title, do not describe any individual position. Incumbents in this title may perform some or all of the following, as well as other related activities not described.

Advises the Public Health Director and nursing, nutrition, sanitarian and other staff in a variety of health areas such as: disease problems, policies regarding conducting clinics, medical aspects of public or community health nursing, home health care, etc.;

Aids the Public Health Director in planning, organizing and overseeing a local public health program;

Interprets health problems and issues to public officials, heads of other governmental agencies and elected and appointed officers of various levels of government in the County;

Keeps the Public Health Director informed on health and medical needs and changes which may involve the department, and advises on policies, procedures and strategies accordingly;

Aides in overseeing a program for control of communicable diseases by advising investigative staff in detection, treatment and analysis of statistical and other factual data;

Supervises the conduct of clinics for the treatment of venereal diseases and for prevention and discovery of diphtheria, rubella, mumps, tuberculosis and other communicable diseases;

Participates in professional conferences and training programs to keep abreast of new developments in the field of public health;

Arranges for in-service training of staff in a variety of public health matters;

Prepares a variety of public relations material such as: news releases, articles, radio and television announcements relative to public health matters;

Medical Consultant

Page 2

Speaks before groups and organizations regarding the functions and activities of the County Health Department;

Provides oversight of clinical services including signing of patient specific and standing orders;

Credentialing of Medical Staff;

Acts as Chair of the Quality Assurance Committee for all Article 28 programs;

Prepares a variety of records and reports related to the work.

FULL PERFORMANCE KNOWLEDGES, SKILLS, ABILITIES AND PERSONAL

CHARACTERISTICS: Comprehensive knowledge of the sciences underlying, and of the principles and practices of, medicine as applied to public health practices; thorough knowledge of the principles and practices of epidemiology, sanitation and of the diagnosis and treatment of communicable diseases; ability to deal with the public on projects related to public health; ability to prepare and analyze technical and statistical reports; interest in maintaining a high standard of professional ethics; physical condition commensurate with the demands of the position.

MINIMUM QUALIFICATIONS: Possession of a valid license and current registration to practice medicine in New York State and two (2) years of experience as a practicing physician.

ULSTER COUNTY
4235 MED CONSULT

Adopted: August 9, 1994
Revised: February 10, 2009

Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 3 Of 2024, A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner, To Be Held On Tuesday, April 16, 2024 At 7:05 PM

Referred to: The Laws, Rules and Government Services Committee (Chairman Kovacs and Legislators Gavaris, Hansut, Harmon, Kitchen, Levine, and Uchitelle), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Collins, Hansut, Kovacs, Nolan, and Roberts)

Chair Peter J. Criswell offers the following:

WHEREAS, this resolution has been submitted at the request of the County Executive; and

WHEREAS, a public hearing is required to be held regarding Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2024, (A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner); a public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:05 PM in the Legislative Chambers, Ulster County Office Building, 6th Floor, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, said Proposed Local Law No. 3 of 2024 is hereby submitted to the Ulster County Legislature, and adoption of such shall be contingent upon the conduction of a public hearing thereon; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the Ulster County Legislature shall cause a legal notice of said public hearing to be published according to law; and, be it further

RESOLVED, that said public hearing will be held on Tuesday, April 16, 2024 at 7:05 PM in the Legislative Chambers, Ulster County Office Building, 6th Floor, 244 Fair Street, Kingston, New York, and/or via videoconference to the extent allowable pursuant to existing New York State legislation, or order and the Rules of the Ulster County Legislature,

and move its adoption.

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Resolution No. 156 March 19, 2024

Setting A Public Hearing On Proposed Local Law No. 3 Of 2024, A Local Law Amending Article V Of The Ulster County Charter (Local Law No. 2 Of 2006) And Amending Section Article V Of The Administrative Code For The County Of Ulster (Local Law No. 10 Of 2008) To Modify Various Provisions In Relation To The Commissioner Of Health Or Public Health Director And The Medical Examiner, To Be Held On Tuesday, April 16, 2024 At 7:05 PM

Passed Committee: Laws, Rules and Government Services on _____.

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on _____.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

\$300.00 – APPROXIMATE ADVERTISING COSTS

Adopting A Policy That Being A Licensed Physician With Experience In Public Health Shall Be A Preferred Criteria In The Legislative Confirmation Of The Appointment Of The Head Of The Ulster County Department Of Health

Referred to: The Health, Human Services and Housing Committee (Chairman Uchitelle and Legislators Collins, Corcoran, Harmon, Kitchen, Lopez, and McCollough), and The Ways and Means Committee (Chairman Gavaris and Legislators Collins, Hansut, Kovacs, Nolan, and Roberts)

Legislator Jason J. Kovacs offers the following:

WHEREAS, the Ulster County Legislature, pursuant to Ulster County Charter §C-11, is the legislative, appropriating and policy-determining body of the County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Ulster County Charter §C-41 there shall be a Department of Health, headed by a Commissioner of Health or a Public Health Director appointed by the County Executive in consultation with the Board of Health subject to confirmation by the County Legislature; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Proposed Local Law Number 3 of 2024, the head of the Department of Health need not be a licensed physician with experience in public health; and

WHEREAS, having a licensed physician with experience in public health in charge of the County Department of Health provides additional safeguards and benefits to the public health of County residents since such licensed professionals are held to a higher standard of education, training and medical ethics; and

WHEREAS, the first two Commissioners of Health appointed since the enactment of the Ulster County Charter have been licensed physicians; and

WHEREAS, the vast majority of Counties in New York State with a population similar to or greater than Ulster County have licensed physicians appointed as their Commissioner of Health; now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that it is the policy of the Ulster County Legislature that being a licensed physician with experience in public health shall be a preferred criteria in the Legislature's confirmation of any candidate appointed by the Ulster County Executive to head the Ulster County Department of Health,

and moves its adoption.

Resolution No. 188 April 16, 2024

Adopting A Policy That Being A Licensed Physician With Experience In Public Health Shall Be A Preferred Criteria In The Legislative Confirmation Of The Appointment Of The Head Of The Ulster County Department Of Health

ADOPTED BY THE FOLLOWING VOTE:

AYES:

NOES:

Passed Committee: Health, Human Services and Housing on _____.

Passed Committee: Ways and Means on _____.

FINANCIAL IMPACT:

NONE

Ulster County Department of Health

Medical Examiner's Office - Autopsy Cases

Date of Death between 1/1/2023 and 12/31/2023

Total Number of Cases: 215

<i>Cases by Gender</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
F	4	5	6	3	5	8	3	3	2	4	2	8	53
M	12	12	17	13	15	8	16	13	11	15	18	12	162
Grand Total	16	17	23	16	20	16	19	16	13	19	20	20	215

<i>Cases by Manner</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Accidental	7	7	12	6	7	9	10	4	8	7	6	8	91
Homicide	1	2	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	2	7
Natural	6	6	6	6	9	7	5	11	4	8	8	8	84
Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Stillborn	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Suicide	2	2	5	4	2	0	3	1	1	3	5	2	30
Undetermined	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	16	17	23	16	20	16	19	16	13	19	20	20	215

<i>Cases by Category</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Alcohol	0	1	0	1	1	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	5
Blunt Force Trauma - non-MVA	0	2	1	0	3	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	9
Carbon Monoxide	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cardiovascular	4	4	1	3	5	5	2	5	1	4	2	6	42
Cardiovascular and Diabetes	0	0	2	1	1	1	1	2	1	0	3	0	12
Cardiovascular and Obesity	1	0	1	0	2	1	0	0	1	2	2	1	11
Diabetes	1	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	3
Drowning	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	1	0	3
Fall	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	4
Gunshot Wound	2	2	1	2	1	0	4	1	0	2	2	0	17
Hanging	0	1	3	1	0	0	0	0	1	1	0	2	9
Infant	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	2
Motor Vehicle Accident	1	0	1	0	0	3	1	1	0	2	0	1	10
Non-Opioid Substance	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	3
Non-Opioid Substance w/ Alcohol	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	2	0	0	0	4
Non-Opioid Substance w/ Other Substances	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Obesity	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1
Opioid w/Other Substances including Xylazine	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	2	2	6
Opioid-Related, without Xylazine	4	2	6	4	6	4	6	3	5	3	1	2	46
Other	1	3	5	1	0	1	2	2	0	1	3	1	20
Pending	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	1
Pulmonary	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1

Ulster County Department of Health

Medical Examiner's Office - Autopsy Cases

Date of Death between 1/1/2023 and 12/31/2023

Total Number of Cases: 215

Smoke Inhalation	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Stab Wound	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1	1
Undetermined	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	2
Grand Total	16	17	23	16	20	16	19	16	13	19	20	20	215	

Ulster County Department of Health

Medical Examiner's Office - Autopsy Cases

Date of Death between 1/1/2024 and 4/5/2024

Total Number of Cases: 53

<i>Cases by Gender</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
F	3	1	6	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Fetal	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
M	15	12	13	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	40
Grand Total	19	13	19	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53

<i>Cases by Manner</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Accidental	8	4	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	14
Homicide	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Natural	8	5	6	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	19
Pending	0	0	11	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	11
Suicide	2	4	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	7
Undetermined	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	19	13	19	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53

<i>Cases by Category</i>	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec	Grand Total
Alcohol	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Asthma	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Blunt Force Trauma - non-MVA	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Carbon Monoxide	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Cardiovascular	5	2	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	9
Cardiovascular and Diabetes	0	1	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Cardiovascular and Obesity	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Complications of Natural Disease	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Fall - Intentional	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Gunshot Wound	1	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Hanging	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hypothermia	3	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4
Motor Vehicle Accident	4	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6
Non-Opioid Substance	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Opioid-Related, without Xylazine	0	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Other	2	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	3
Pending	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Pending - Suspected Opioid	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Pneumonia	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2
Sharp Force Trauma	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Grand Total	19	13	19	2	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	53