

RESOLUTION NO. 455

AUTHORIZING THE DISBURSEMENT OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING TO AND AN AGREEMENT WITH THE ALBANY INSTITUTE OF HISTORY & ART AND AMENDING THE 2023 ALBANY COUNTY BUDGET

Introduced: 10/10/23

By ARPA Executive Committee, Beston, Clay, Cleary, Commisso, Feeney, A. Joyce, Lekakis, McLaughlin, Miller, Plotsky, Reidy, Reinhardt, Ricard, Rosano, Simpson and Willingham:

WHEREAS, The County of Albany received \$29.6 million in funds from the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) which may be used for various projects and programs within the County to help mitigate the long-term effects of the COVID-19 Pandemic, and

WHEREAS, The Albany County Legislature created the ARPA Executive Committee and its various Subcommittees to determine how these funds should be distributed and to review applications for these monies, and

WHEREAS, The ARPA Executive Committee and its various Subcommittees have worked tirelessly over the last year in order to establish guidelines that will assist them in reviewing and evaluating the numerous applications they will receive, and

WHEREAS, The ARPA Executive Committee, having evaluated numerous proposals, has requested authorization to disburse ARPA funding in the amount of \$80,000 to and enter into an agreement with the Albany Institute of History & Art (AIHA) for a term commencing September 11, 2023 and ending December 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, AIHA was significantly impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic, which led to a reduction in visitation and financial challenges, and

WHEREAS, AIHA seeks funding to support diverse public programming, marketing activities, the production of an illustrated book, and a collaboration with the Leiden Collection to commemorate the 400th anniversary of Fort Orange, and

WHEREAS, AIHA is a significant cultural and tourist attraction, bringing over 27,000 visitors annually to downtown Albany, and

WHEREAS, This funding will directly benefit AIHA by increasing visitor traffic, admissions, and gift shop revenue while also stimulating patronage at

surrounding restaurants, hotels, and cultural destinations in Albany County, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that the County Executive is authorized to disburse ARPA funding in the amount of \$80,000 to and enter into an agreement with Albany Institute of History & Art, Albany, NY 12210 regarding Arts, Culture, and Tourism Promotion activities for a term commencing September 11, 2023 and ending December 31, 2026, and, be it further

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that the 2023 Albany County Budget is hereby amended as follows:

Increase Revenue Account CM.4.2402B.04089Z.ARP23 by \$80,000

Increase Appropriation Account CM.9.2402B.44046Z.ARP23 by \$80,000 by increasing Line Item 44046Z.ARP23 by \$80,000

and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the County Attorney is authorized to approve said agreement as to form and content, and, be it further

RESOLVED, That the Clerk of the County Legislature is directed to forward certified copies of this resolution to the appropriate County Officials.