

RESOLUTION NO. 670

AUTHORIZING THE DISBURSEMENT OF AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN FUNDING TO THE ALBANY COUNTY DEPARTMENT OF AUDIT AND CONTROL REGARDING FEASIBILITY STUDY AND IMPLEMENTATION OF AUTOMATED CLEARING HOUSE SERVICES AND AMENDING THE 2023 ALBANY COUNTY BUDGET

Introduced: 12/18/23

By ARPA Executive Committee:

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 Subcommittees have worked tirelessly over the last year to establish guidelines that will assist them in reviewing and evaluating the numerous applications they will receive, and

WHEREAS, The ARPA Executive Committee, after receiving a recommendation from its Subcommittee and voting to recommend the project to the Legislature, has now requested authorization to disburse ARPA funding in the amount of \$100,000 to the Albany County Department of Audit and Control for a term commencing December 4, 2023 and ending December 31, 2026, and

WHEREAS, The ARPA Executive Committee has indicated that such funding would allow for an initial feasibility study and, if warranted, implementation of an Automated Clearing House (ACH) payment system for Albany County as an alternative to traditional paper checks, and

WHEREAS, An ACH system allows for alternative payment methods than a traditional paper check, and if feasible, implementation may; reduce costs for check stock and ink, improve relationships with vendors as more efficient and timely payments are issued to them, reduce the risk of fraud and associated costs to detect and prevent fraud, and improve efficiency of reconciliation processes, now, therefore, be it

RESOLVED, By the Albany County Legislature that the County Executive is authorized to disburse ARPA funding in the amount of \$100,000 to the Albany County

Department of Audit and Control regarding a feasibility study and, if warranted, implementation of an Automated Clearing House system for Albany County regarding payments in an alternate form to traditional paper checks, for a term commencing December 4, 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.4.1514C.04089Z.ARP23 by \$100,000

Increase Appropriation Account CM.9.1415C.44046Z.ARP23 by \$100,000 by increasing Line Item 44046Z.ARP23 by \$100,000

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.