

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

July 23, 2020

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, July 22, 2020 at 5:15 p.m. via teleconference, Clinton County, New York.

PRESENT: Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Calvin Castine, Area 1
Simon Conroy, Area 4
Robert Hall, Area 10
Patrick McGill, Area 8
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Richard Potiker, Area 5
Christopher Rosenquest, Area 9 (joined the meeting at 5:17 p.m.)
Rob Timmons, Area 7
Patty Waldron, Area 6

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator
Kim M. Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator
Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq., County Attorney
John Kanoza, Director of Public Health

The meeting was held remotely via teleconference in accordance with Governor Cuomo's Executive Order 202.1 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the public has the opportunity to attend the meeting via an audio link.

Chairperson Henry called the meeting to order at 5:15 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, County Administrator Michael Zurlo conducted roll call.

Congresswoman Elise Stefanik joined the meeting via ZOOM and provided the Legislature with an update on the COVID-19 funding package. She felt very strongly that the package would include state and local funding to county, towns, villages and cities and school districts. School districts will receive \$105 billion for direct aid for education. There have been slight delays in COVID-19 testing turnaround. The federal government should have increased funding for testing capacity. There is promising and exciting news about developing a vaccine for COVID-19. There are continued discussions regarding reopening the border.

Mr. Zurlo stated the sooner counties can receive guidance from the federal government regarding aid, it will make it easier for counties to formulate their 2021 spending plans. He stated any assistance will be very much appreciated.

Chairperson Henry thanked Congresswoman Stefanik for the updates.

Chairperson Henry reported Assemblyman Billy Jones will be joining the Regular Session on August 12th via ZOOM. The Assemblyman has recently been appointed as Co-Chair of the Cross Border Committee, so he may have some insights on that issue.

Legislator Potiker motioned to accept the minutes of the July 8, 2020 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (10-0-0).

The meeting format did not include public comment. Members of the public were asked to express their concerns/comments by emailing: legislature@clintoncountygov.com.

Chairperson Henry moved on to Committee reports.

Buildings and Grounds Committee - Legislator Peryea

Legislator Peryea stated the Buildings and Grounds Committee was polled on Resolution #427 which is included on the agenda.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 10th at 4:30 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee - Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker stated the next Children and Family Services Committee is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th at 5:15 p.m.

Economic Development and County Operations Committee - Legislator Rosenquest

Legislator Rosenquest stated the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met on Tuesday, July 14th to discuss the Imperial Dam. The presentation was made by DEC, Trout Unlimited, the manager of the dam and partner in hydropower. The memorializing resolution has not been put forth yet. There have been some committee members who expressed interest in touring the dam. Legislator Rosenquest will report back with tentative dates.

The Committee was polled on Resolution #428 which is included on the agenda.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 11th at 5:00 p.m.

Finance Committee - Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons stated the Finance Committee was polled on Resolution #429.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Zurlo stated they are hoping to have the Finance Committee meeting in person in the Legislative Chambers. The auditors may be here to present audit findings. The number of people will have to be monitored.

Health Committee - Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron stated the next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, August 4th at 4:30 p.m.

John Kanoza, the Director of Public Health, provided an update regarding the COVID-19 Pandemic. The County's total number of cases has remained at 125 for last three days. He stated the County should anticipate ups and downs in case numbers. To date, 118 of the 125 individuals have fully recovered. There are currently four active cases. There have been 16,400 people tested in Clinton County. Environmental Health Department staff has been working on PAUSE complaints. Mr. Kanoza will be meeting with school administrators to help them with their safety and reopening plans. Press conferences with the schools will be held in the very near future.

Human Services Committee - Legislator Conroy

Legislator Conroy stated the next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th at 5:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee - Legislator Henry

Chairperson Henry stated the Personnel Committee was polled on Resolution #443 which is under Waive Rule 13.2

The next committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee - Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall stated the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met Monday, July 20th. Resolutions #430 through #432 have been placed on the agenda.

Chris Kreig, the Airport Director, provided a COVID-19 airport operations update, as well as airline and tenant updates.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 26th at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee - Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine reported Resolution #433 has been polled and placed on the agenda.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 3rd at 6:00 p.m.

Transportation Committee - Legislator McGill

Legislator McGill stated the Transportation Committee met on Monday, July 13th.

James Bosley, the Planning Technician, discussed a request to bring a foldable shopping cart on the CCPT bus. Mr. Zurlo added the Planning Department will communicate the discussion with the gentleman who raised the question. They will research the ability to use capital grant money to construct or purchase some sort of cart which could house the shopping cart. He was pleased with this decision. Legislator McGill noted Resolutions #434 through #436 and #438 have been placed on the agenda for the Highway Department. Resolution #437 has been withdrawn. Resolution #444 has been placed on the agenda under Waive Rule 13.2.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 10th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Clinton Community College - Legislator Rosenquest

Mr. Zurlo stated he has been in contact with President Ray DiPasquale. Clinton Community College will be presenting its 2020-2021 budget request at the Finance Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, September 2nd.

Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported this month's meeting was cancelled. However, finance meetings have begun. Legislator Timmons has advised there could be up to an approximate 20 percent cut in County funding.

Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the first physical meeting of the group will be held Thursday, July 9th in Greenwich, New York. She will have more to report at the next meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation that was recently filed against the County regarding construction at the Plattsburgh International Airport.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo stated he will be distributing budget packets to County Department Heads in August.

A patient and a staff person at the Clinton County Nursing Home had recently tested positive for COVID-19. All subsequent tests have been negative.

Chairperson's Report – Mark Henry

Chairperson Henry stated he did not have a report.

There being no further business, Chairperson Henry moved on to resolutions. The following resolutions were approved unless otherwise noted.

Resolutions #427 through #436 were approved. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolution #437 was withdrawn as it was a duplicate.

Resolutions #438 through #442 were approved.

Legislator Rosenquest motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator McGill. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolutions #443 through #445 were approved. Carried (10-0-0).

Legislator Hall commended Ryan Davies, the Director of the Environmental Health Department, and his staff on their diligent efforts to help area restaurant owners to stay open and keep area restaurants operating. They have done a tremendous job.

Legislator Rosenquest stated he would extend invitations to all legislators to tour the Imperial Dam.

Legislator Castine asked if the Legislature would be holding Regular Sessions in the Legislative Chambers at the Government Center in the near future. Mr. Zurlo stated they are hoping to have a Finance Committee meeting on August 5th in the Legislative Chambers. There will have to be strict monitoring on the occupancy of the room and proximity of people. Potentially if all goes well, in-person meetings can resume shortly.

Legislator Rosenquest motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:05 p.m. to discuss litigation, seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (10-0-0).

Legislator Potiker motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:07 p.m., seconded by Legislator Castine. Carried (10-0-0).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Rosenquest motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. Carried (10-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melody Lemieux". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Melody Lemieux
Principal Stenographer

:ML