COUNTY OF CLINTON)

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STATE OF NEW YORK)

July 13, 2015

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, July 8, 2015 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT:

Jonathan Beach, Area 2

Mark Dame, Area 8

Samuel Dyer, Chairperson, Area 3

John Gallagher, Area 9 Robert Hall, Area 10 Pete Keenan, Area 5 James Langley, Jr., Area 7 Harry McManus, Area 1 Colin Read, Area 4 Patty Waldron, Area 6

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator

Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator

James Coffey, Esq., County Attorney Katherine Brown, Senior Stenographer Chairperson Dyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, County Administrator Michel Zurlo conducted roll call. All Legislators were present.

Legislator Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the June 24th Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 10-0-0).

Chairperson Dyer reported on the agenda this evening is a public hearing regarding a proposed local law titled, "Repealing Local Law #1 of 2000 titled, "Disqualifying any Person During the Period of His/Her Candidacy for Elective Public Office from the Appointment or Continued Employment as an Employee of the County Board of Elections." Mr. Zurlo read the Notice of Public Hearing. Chairperson Dyer entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to open the public hearing at 7:04 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. There being no one to address the Legislature regarding the proposed local law, Chairperson Dyer entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to close the public hearing at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Legislator Beach. Carried (10-0-0).

There being no one who wished to address the Legislature, Chairperson Dyer called for standing committee and liaison reports.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee - Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee met this evening. Resolution #465 on the agenda will award the bid for the Highway Garage Block Wall Replacement Project.

Children and Family Services Committee - Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the Children and Family Services Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd was cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 6th at 6:15 p.m.

County Operations Committee - Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported the County Operations Committee met this evening. Resolutions #467 and #468, and Resolutions #497 and #498 under Waive Rule 13.2, are included on the agenda. Legislator Read reported estimates on the savings of the recently-enacted Managed Print Services. He stated over the next three years, the County can expect to save over \$50,000 per year. He also stated the level of photocopying quality has increased for some departments due to the new photocopiers. Legislator Read stated with centralized control, there is often more discipline in making photocopies which may generate additional savings. The next meeting of the County Operations Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, August 12th at 6 p.m.

Finance Committee - Legislator Dame

Legislator Dame reported the Finance Committee met Wednesday, July 1st at 5:15 p.m. Resolutions #469 through #471 are included on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee. The next meeting of the Finance Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th at 5:15 p.m. The County's auditors, Lumsden and McCormick, are scheduled to review their audit, and Clinton Community College will be presenting its 2015-2016 budget request.

Health Committee - Legislator Beach

Legislator Beach reported the Health Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, July 2nd was cancelled. Resolutions #472 through #475 are included on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, August 6th at 5:15 p.m.

Human Services Committee - Legislator Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported the Human Services Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, July 1st was cancelled. Resolutions #476 and #477 are included on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Committee. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, August 5th following the 5:15 p.m. Finance Committee meeting.

Personnel Committee – Legislator Gallagher

Legislator Gallagher reported the Personnel Committee met Monday, June 29th at 5:15 p.m. The Committee reviewed 16 items, of which, 17 resolutions are included on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee. Six resolutions are for reclassifications, two resolutions are for new positions, one resolution is for a change in title and seven resolutions are for backfills. The next meeting of the Personnel Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8th at 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Zurlo announced the July 3rd birth of a daughter to Personnel Director Kimberly Kinblom. Mother and daughter are doing well.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Langley

Legislator Langley reported the next meeting of the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22nd at 5:15 p.m.

Mr. Zurlo reported Chairperson Dyer received word from Senator Little of an appropriation of \$500,000 in State funding for the Federal Inspection Station (FIS). He noted \$4.5 million from the Consolidated Funding Application (CFA) has been augmented by this amount.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Public Safety Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, July 13th has been cancelled. The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, August 10th at 6:15 p.m.

Transportation Committee - Legislator McManus

Legislator McManus reported the next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for Monday, July 13th at 5:15 p.m. He stated Bilingual Signing and Clinton County Public Transit's transition from First Transit, Inc. to McDonald Transit Association, Inc. will be discussed.

Liaison Reports

Clinton Community College – Legislator Dame

Legislator Dame reported he and Mr. Zurlo met with Clinton Community College representatives to review Clinton Community College's proposed 2015-2016 budget.

Community Services - Legislator Beach

Legislator Beach reported the next meeting of the Clinton County Community Services Board is scheduled for Monday, July 20th.

Cooperative Extension - Legislator McManus

Legislator McManus reported he has been asked to set a tentative date for the Legislature's annual Agricultural Tour. He stated the two options are Friday, September 11th and Friday, September 18th (with September 11th as the preferred date for the Cooperative Extension). Mr. Zurlo indicated his staff would contact Legislators to discuss their availability. Legislator McManus will report back to Cooperative Extension on Friday, July 10th with a tentative date.

Intercounty - Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported she attended a meeting of the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks on Thursday, June 25th in Essex County. The meeting was held at the Olympic Training Center. She reported the Olympic Training Center is looking for young Olympians from 8 to 13 years of age. They will supply equipment, housing, etc.

Workforce Investment Board - Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported a meeting of the Workforce Investment Board is scheduled for later this week.

Staff Reports

County Attorney James Coffey requested an Executive Session to provide an update on the Paul Rissetto labor situation.

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

Resolution #465 titled, "Adopting Local Law #2 of 2015 titled, "Repealing Local Law #1 of 2000 titled, Disqualifying any Person During the Period of His/Her Candidacy for Elective Public Office from the Appointment or Continued Employment as an Employee of the County Board of Elections – Legislature"

Legislator Hall motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Keenan.

Discussion:

Legislator Langley stated he would have preferred that this not have come up this year. He indicated this issue first came up his freshman year serving on the Legislature and several times since. Legislator Langley stated no one would be happier than him to have this matter put to rest. He believes this issue is as a result of a Commissioner returning to office. Legislator Langley stated his only concern has been about the County's cost factor. He also noted a concern that the insurance carrier was willing to put up and carry the local law through. He further stated if the County is found to be at fault, he would be the biggest advocate.

Legislator Beach stated he had reached out to a few of his colleagues. He stated his biggest

concern is that the Legislature did not explore this matter completely. He further stated that the Legislature, at no cost, could have had the insurance company and legal aspect explored to the complete settlement of this matter. Legislator Beach stated regardless of the poor foundation, the general feeling makes a lot of sense. He feels he would be doing a disservice by supporting this resolution, and the Legislature has done a disservice by not going all the way.

Legislator Read stated he agrees that on the surface this makes sense; however, after reviewing the legal briefs, it appears the County is on the wrong side of the law. The Plaintiff had a good case. The legal foundation of the law is weak. Legislator Read stated he will support this resolution.

Legislator McManus stated he believes the local law is not a bad law, but the origin of the law is political. He stated he will support this resolution.

A roll call vote was taken. The resolution passed by a vote of 8 Yes; 2 No (Messrs. Beach, Langley); 0 Absent.

Resolutions #466 through #469 were approved.

Resolution #470 titled, "Authorizing Contract with U.S. Bank Equipment Finance, Inc. – Purchasing"

Legislator Read motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Dame.

Discussion:

Mr. Zurlo stated the Finance Committee had past discussions regarding this issue. He indicated that although the lease indicates a higher cost, when maintenance is added to this, it is an actual savings of \$1,500. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolutions #471 through #476 were approved.

Resolution #477 titled, "Authorizing Contract with VNA Homecare Options, LLC – Nursing Home"

Legislator Keenan motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Waldron.

Discussion:

Mr. Zurlo stated this is the first foray into the Medicaid Managed Care arena. The County is hoping that other companies will want to do business. VNA Homecare Options, LLC is the first company to express an interest in providing Medicaid Managed Care to the Nursing Home. Only new patients are eligible for this service. It does not affect Medicaid patients as they are grandfathered in. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolutions #478 through #480 were approved.

Resolution #481 titled, "Approving Reclassification of a Permanent, Full-Time Public Health Nurse Position to a Permanent, Full-Time Registered Professional Nurse Position (PCN 3358) – Health Department"

Legislator Gallagher motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Langley.

Discussion:

Legislator Gallagher stated Jerie Reid, the Director of Public Health, was asked to provide the Personnel Committee with a spreadsheet reflecting the various moves within the Department. Ms. Reid provided this information at the June 29th Personnel Committee meeting. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolutions #482 through #490 were approved.

Resolution #491 titled, "Approving Reclassification of Two Permanent, Part-Time Cleaner Positions to Two Permanent, Part-Time Custodial Worker Positions (PCN 3966, 4054) – Plattsburgh International Airport"

Legislator Gallagher motioned to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislator Keenan.

Discussion:

Mr. Zurlo stated two things are being accomplished by this resolution. The two Cleaner positions will be reclassified as Custodial Worker positions and thereby expanding their ability to perform other tasks besides cleaning. Both positions will be part-time at 39 hours per week. Mr. Zurlo also stated the following resolution, Resolution #492, will reclassify two, part-time 39 hour per week Cleaner positions into two, part-time 20 hour per week Custodial Worker positions and will allow the Airport Manager to recruit someone looking specifically for 20 hours per week.

Legislator Gallagher stated he has taken a strong stand on 39 hour positions. Some negotiations have been done to alleviate some of his concerns. He stated this reclassification makes sense for this position in order to allow for other duties besides cleaning. This should also enable the position to be easily filled.

Legislator Dame stated the job descriptions for Cleaner versus Custodial Worker are fairly restrictive. He asked what it would take to recreate a new title for a position, with Civil Service approval, having a more inclusive amount of duties that are not so restrictive. Mr. Zurlo replied you always have the ability to create a Civil Service title. There is a process which involves Civil Service and approval from Albany. Legislator Dame stated he believes in this case, this could have been accomplished without an increase in salary. Mr. Zurlo stated Civil Service may have disapproved such a request as there is already a similar position on the books. Legislator Gallagher stated this title exists for school districts and municipalities who employ Cleaners. Mr. Zurlo stated where you place the title on the salary scale is the County's decision. The hourly pay of a Custodial Worker is a \$.60 per hour increase from the Cleaner position. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolutions #492 through #494 were approved.

Resolution #495 titled, "Supporting Effort to Place the Soper Road Bridge on the National Register of Historic Places – Legislature"

Legislator Waldron offered a motion to approve the resolution, seconded by Legislators McManus and Dame.

Discussion:

Legislator Langley asked Legislator Waldron for the significance of this request. Legislator Waldron replied the Town of Saranac has been working on this issue for a period of time. She stated by

registering this bridge historically, it will not obligate the County to restore the bridge. In order to receive funding to restore the bridge to its original state, the bridge needs to be registered historically. Legislator Langley asked if by doing this, will the County be tied into having to take care of it. Legislator Waldron replied she spoke with Al Rascoe, the County Highway Superintendent, and he indicated if the County opted to restore the bridge, it would have to be back to its original form, and could opt to tear the bridge down. Mr. Zurlo stated this bridge was closed seven years ago as it was decided not to spend money on its repair. This Resolution does not obligate the County to restore the bridge, but is a necessary step towards restoring the bridge. Carried (10-0-0).

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

Resolutions #496 through #498 were approved.

Chairperson Dyer asked if there was any other business to come before the Legislature this evening prior to Executive Session.

Legislator Langley referenced the photo ops and shots of the building in the Village of Dannemora that were taken which is located across the street from Clinton Correctional Facility which the County has had past issues with. Mr. Zurlo stated Kimberly Davis, the County Treasurer, provided the Finance Committee with a draft proposal to remedy this situation. He asked Ms. Davis, who was in attendance at Regular Session, to provide a copy of the draft to Legislator Langley. Mr. Zurlo noted Legislator Waldron has been working with the Village of Dannemora regarding this issue. Legislator Waldron stated she has spoken with the Village's Code Enforcement Officer who will be approaching the new jail administration.

Legislator Hall motioned to enter into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m., seconded by Legislator Read. (Carried 10-0-0).

Legislator Hall motioned to exit Executive Session at 7:49 p.m., seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 10-0-0).

There being no further business, Chairperson Dyer entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to adjourn Regular Session at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 10-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

Karherine a Brown

Katherine A. Brown Senior Stenographer