

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
:SS
STATE OF NEW YORK)

August 21, 2023

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, August 16, 2023 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: David Bezio, Area 4
Calvin Castine, Area 1
Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Robert Hall, Area 10
Wendell Hughes, Area 8
Joshua Kretser, Area 9
Richard Potiker, Area 5
Rob Timmons, Area 7
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Francis Peryea, Area 2

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Zurlo, County Administrator
Kim Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator
Gary Favro, Assistant County Attorney

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

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, conducted roll call. Legislator Peryea asked to be excused.

Legislator Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the July 19, 2023 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (9-0-1).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Geri Favreau, the President of the Board of the Clinton County Historical Association (CCHA) and Museum, invited all the Legislators to a personal, guided tour of the Museum conducted by herself. She stated she will accommodate anyone's schedule because she thinks its important for the Legislators to see what they are supporting every year and the wonderful things that the CCHA provides to the community. She encouraged Legislators to contact her via her cell phone or email to schedule tours. Chairperson Henry suggested perhaps several of the Legislators could visit as a group. Ms. Favreau stated that would be great and thanked the Legislature for their time.

There being no one else to address the Legislature, Chairperson Henry moved on to Committee Reports.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee met on Monday, August 14th.

Superintendent James Cleveland discussed several resolutions including, "Authorizing Contract with Adams Glass," "Authorizing Contract with KAS, Inc.," "Authorizing Contract with Bob's Instant Plumbing, Inc." and "Authorizing Contract Amendment with Chimera Integrations, LLC." He also provided updates on Wendel Energy Service Projects, the Airport Project and the Government Center Brick Repair Project.

Resolutions #557 through #560 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 18th at 4:00 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker stated the Children and Family Services Committee met on Tuesday, August 1st.

Commissioner Christine Peters was present to discuss the resolutions, "Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues" and "Authorizing New York State Rental Supplement Program Grant Application and Acceptance." She also reviewed with the Committee the monthly statistics of June, 2023, the North Country Neighbors - Refugee Resettlement and the City Motel and Maken #2.

Commissioner Peters also provided updates on the Migrant Population and the Trends Statewide, the Warming Center, the Daycare Allocation and the Institution of a Waitlist, and the Evergreen Townhouse Community (ETC) regarding Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Continuum of Care (CoC) Findings.

Resolutions #561 and #562 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 5th at 5:15 p.m.

Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met earlier.

Tammy Lacey, the Real Property Director, discussed a resolution, “Authorizing the Clerk of the Clinton County Legislature to Advertise for a Public Hearing on Local Law #2 of 2023 titled, “Amending Local Law #1 of 2010 titled, “Authorizing a Real Property Tax Exemption to Qualified Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers.” She also discussed Full and Assisted Services Assessment Contract Fees.

Board of Election Commissioners Mary Dyer and David Souliere discussed resolutions, “Amending Resolution #648 dated September 14, 2022 titled, “Authorizing Absentee Ballot Pre-Paid Postage Grant Acceptance” and “Amending Resolution #538 dated August 18, 2021 titled, “Accepting Technology Innovation and Election Resource (TIER) Grant Program and Authorizing Contract with New York State Board of Elections.”

County Administrator Michael Zurlo discussed a resolution, “Authorizing the Legislative Office to Apply for the 2023-2024 Snowmobile Trail Program Grant Funding.”

Resolutions #563 through #568 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th at 3:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, August 2nd.

Sara Dayton and Seth Hennard of Lumsden & McCormick presented on the 2022 Audit.

John Kowal, the President of Clinton Community College, presented the College’s Proposed 2023-2024 Budget to the Committee. Resolution #569 titled, “Authorizing the Clerk of the Clinton County Legislature to Advertise for a Public Hearing on the 2023-2024 Clinton Community College Budget” is on the agenda.

Rebecca Murphy, the Deputy County Treasurer, was present to discuss sales and occupancy tax.

Mr. Zurlo also discussed, “Resolution of the County Legislature of the County of Clinton Increasing Taxes on Sales and Uses of Tangible Personal Property and of Certain Services, and on Occupancy of Hotel Rooms and on Amusement Charges Pursuant to Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York.”

Resolutions #569 through #571 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

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

Health Committee – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes reported the Health Committee met on Wednesday, August 2nd.

Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services, was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Amending Resolution #91 dated February 8, 2023 titled, “Amending Resolution #931 dated December 14, 2022 titled, “Authorizing Contract Extensions with Various Agencies and Individuals” and “Amending Resolution #499 dated July 19, 2023 titled, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with Champlain Valley Family Center.”

Resolutions #572 through #576 were placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 6th at 4:00 p.m.

Human Services Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

On behalf of Legislator Peryea, Mr. Zurlo reported the Human Services Committee met on Tuesday, August 1st.

Wendie Bishop, the Nursing Home Administrator, was present to discuss a resolution, “Authorizing Payment of Renewal Certification and Membership Dues.”

Darleen Collins, the Director of the Office for the Aging, was present to discuss a resolution, “Authorizing Contracts with Various Agencies for Rural Transportation Supplemental Services.”

Kevin LeBeouf, the Director of the Veterans’ Service Agency, was present to discuss Monthly Statistics for June and July, 2023 and he also provided an update on Veterans’ Affairs statistics.

Resolutions #577 through #579 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee, as well as, Resolutions #607 and #629, under Waive Rule 13.2.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 5th at 4:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry

Legislator Henry reported the Personnel Committee met on Tuesday, August 15th.

Resolutions #608 through #628 have been placed on the agenda under Waive Rule 13.2.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 11th at 5:00 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met earlier.

The Committee discussed several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with Controltouch Systems, LLC” and “Authorizing the Rehabilitation of Apron Taxilane and General Aviation

(GA) Apron Phase I (Design) Project Grant Acceptance.” The Committee also discussed airline and tenant updates.

Resolutions #580 through #583 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee, as well as, Resolution #630 under Waive Rule 13.2.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 20th at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine reported the Public Safety Committee met on Tuesday, August 15th.

Major Nicholas Leon was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Bids for Two Police Vehicles” and “Authorizing Out-of-State Travel.”

David Marcoux, the Probation Director, was present to discuss a resolution, “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Bids for Forensic Laboratory Testing Services.”

Chad Deans, the Coroner, discussed the Warren County Feasibility Study for a Multi-County Forensic Facility.

Resolutions #584 through #593 have been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 11th at 4:00 p.m.

Transportation Committee – Legislator Kretser

Legislator Kretser reported the Transportation Committee met on Monday, August 14th.

Shannon Thayer, the Director of Planning, was present to discuss a resolution, “Authorizing Clinton County Public Transit Fare Changes.”

Highway Superintendent Karl Weiss was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract with Kravitz Forestry Services, LLC” and “Awarding Bid to Supply and Deliver Coarse Rock Salt and Treated Salt for the Snow and Ice Season 2023-2024.”

Resolutions #594 through #599 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, September 18th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Health – Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker stated the Board of Health has not met since the last Regular Session meeting. The next Board of Health meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, August 28th at 7 p.m. and is open to the public.

Chamber of Commerce – Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker reported the North Country Chamber of Commerce’s Bass Master Elite Series is this weekend, August 17th - 20th. He stated the Strategic Tourism Planning Committee (STPC) meeting has not met since the last Regular Session. The next STPC meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, August 23rd at 9:00 a.m. at the Chamber of Commerce.

Intercounty of the Adirondacks – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the Committee met on Thursday, July 27th in Fulton County, in the town of Johnstown, for a presentation on how they utilized their American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for the Route #30 Corridor, Phase I, Design and Construction of a new base water collection, the building of the Great Sacandaga Lake Museum and Visitors Center, followed by a Field of Dreams stadium tour with David Karpinski, of Parkers Field Foundation. She noted the Field of Dreams is ready for Little League to commence.

STAFF REPORTS

Assistant County Attorney – Gary Favro, Esq.

Mr. Favro did not have a report.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo updated the Legislature regarding the budget process; that budgets are slowly returning to the Legislative Office and the auditing process is commencing.

He reported the County is continuing to work with the State of New York and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to do their very best to ensure the storms events of July 2nd and 7th are treated fairly and that our local towns and the County can receive Federal reimbursement for those events as well.

He also reminded the Legislature that the first resolution on the agenda is for the first and only Regular Session of September, on Wednesday, September 20th, to accommodate for the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) Conference.

Chairpersons Report

The Chairperson 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 #556 through #562 were approved.

Resolution #563 titled, “Authorizing the Clerk of the Clinton County Legislature to Advertise for a Public Hearing on Local Law #2 of 2023 titled, “Amending Local Law #1 of 2010 titled, “Authorizing a Real Property Tax Exemption to Qualified Volunteer Firefighters and Volunteer Ambulance Workers” was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Hall. Carried (9-0-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated per New York State Law, the Legislators have a draft of that proposed local law on their desks for review. Legislator Bezio inquired when the law will take effect. Mr. Zurlo replied 2025.

Resolutions #564 through #570 were approved.

Resolution #571 titled, "Resolution of the County Legislature of the County of Clinton Increasing Taxes on Sales and Uses of Tangible Personal Property and of Certain Services, and on Occupancy of Hotel Rooms and on Amusement Charges Pursuant to Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York" was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (9-0-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated this resolution is written by the New York State Department of Taxation and Finance. In simple terms, it extends the County's ability to impose the additional one percent sales tax from three percent to four percent for an additional two years.

Resolutions #572 through #594 were approved.

Resolution #595 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Kravitz Forestry Services, LLC" was motioned by Legislator Kretser and seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (9-0-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated as discussed in the Transportation Committee meeting, the County expects this to be included in the FEMA reimbursement.

Resolution #596 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Town & County Bridge and Rail, Inc." was motioned by Legislator Kretser and seconded by Legislators Potiker and Castine. Carried(9-0-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated the Highway Superintendent did find a county contract to piggy back on to expedite the process so it's already been bid by another county (he believes Essex County) and Clinton County has been allowed to piggy back off that contract.

Resolution #597 was approved.

Resolution #598 titled, "Awarding Bid to Supply and Deliver Coarse Rock Salt and Treated Salt for the Snow and Ice Season 2023-2024" was motioned by Legislator Krester and seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (9-0-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated this bid price was lower than the previous year and this is the price that will be afforded to the County's townships

Resolutions #599 through #606 were approved.

Legislator Hall motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (9-0-1).

Resolutions #607 through #611 were approved.

Resolution #612 titled, "Approving Backfill of a Permanent, Full-Time Correction Officer Position (PCN 3500)" was motioned by Legislator Castine and seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (9-0-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated all of these correction officer positions are legitimate backfill positions, positions that were fully funded and approved, these are not the positions that are approved but not funded during budget season.

Resolutions #613 through #622 were approved.

Resolution #623 titled, "Approving Creation of a Permanent, Full-Time Fiscal Officer Position (PCN TBD)" was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Castine. Carried (9-0-1-1).

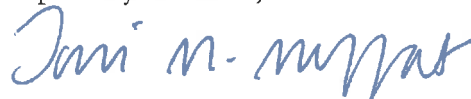
Discussion: Legislator Kretser abstained.

Resolutions #624 through #630 were approved.

Legislator Hall inquired on the timeline for FEMA reimbursement. Mr. Zurlo stated when all paperwork has been filed properly, it will take approximately one year and will occur periodically over a period of time. Mr. Zurlo stated the current total of reimbursement stands at approximately \$6 million, including townships.

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Waldron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:03 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (9-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Toni M. Moffat

Executive Secretary to the County Administrator

:TM