

COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
:SS  
STATE OF NEW YORK)

August 30, 2015

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held  
Wednesday, August 26, 2015 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: 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

EXCUSED: Jonathan Beach, Area 2

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator  
James Coffey, Esq., County Attorney  
Jeanene Bell, Senior Stenographer

Chairperson Dyer called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, County Administrator Michael Zurlo conducted roll call. Legislator Beach asked to be excused.

Legislator Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the July 22<sup>nd</sup> Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Gallagher. (Carried 9-0-1).

Chairperson Dyer stated there is a public hearing regarding the adoption of the 2015-2016 Clinton Community College Budget. He asked Mr. Zurlo to read the Notice of Public Hearing.

Legislator Hall motioned to open the public hearing at 7:05 p.m., seconded by Legislator Read. (Carried 9-0-1).

Chairperson Dyer asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature regarding the adoption of the 2015-2016 Clinton Community College Budget.

Dr. Kenneth Delafrange of Champlain, New York stated he has been enrolled in college for 23 years, and college is very expensive and that the Legislature should consider approving a budget that raises tuition.

Legislator Read stated the County is underpaying its contribution to the College. He stated there should be a County, State and student share for the Budget. The County share is 31 percent, and historically the County was at 33 percent. Legislator Read asked his colleagues if they would approve increasing Clinton County's share to 33 percent. He feels the County has been lax in contributing its share. Legislator Dame stated he disagreed with Legislator Read. Mr. Zurlo stated the Legislature should speak on the resolution once it is presented before the Legislature.

There being no one further who wished to address the Legislature regarding the adoption of the 2015-2016 Clinton Community College Budget, Legislator Gallagher motioned to close the public hearing at 7:10 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 9-0-1).

There being no one further 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 next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. Resolution #590 has been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

#### **Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Waldron**

Legislator Waldron reported the next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

### **County Operations Committee – Legislator Read**

Legislator Read reported the next County Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 9<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

### **Finance Committee – Legislator Dame**

Legislator Dame reported the next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> at 5:15 p.m. at which time the Strategic Tourism Planning Committee will present its Marketing Plan.

### **Human Services Committee – Legislator Keenan**

Legislator Keenan reported the next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 2<sup>nd</sup> following the 5:15 p.m. Finance Committee meeting.

### **Personnel Committee – Legislator Gallagher**

Legislator Gallagher reported the next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Langley**

Legislator Langley reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met earlier. Turner Bradford from McFarland-Johnson, Inc. provided an update regarding the Terminal Expansion Project. Kristy Kennedy, the Vice President of Marketing at the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce, provided her perspective, as did Russell Lawliss, the Manager of VOLO Aviation Plattsburgh, LLC. Resolutions #593 through #598 and #610 and #611 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

Legislator Langley reported the next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Public Safety Committee – Legislator Hall**

Legislator Hall reported the next Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

### **Transportation Committee – Legislator McManus**

Legislator McManus reported the next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Clinton Community College – Legislator Dame**

Legislator Dame reported Resolution #588 has been placed on the agenda for the adoption of the 2015-2016 Clinton Community College Budget.

### **Cooperative Extension – Legislator McManus**

Legislator McManus reported each Legislator received information on the Agricultural Tour which is scheduled for Friday, September 18<sup>th</sup>.

### **InterCounty – Legislator Waldron**

Legislator Waldron reported the next Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 24<sup>th</sup>.

### **LC/LG Regional Planning Board – Legislator Langley**

Legislator Langley reported he will be reviewing LC/LG Planning Board bills for the next meeting.

### **Soil and Water – Legislator Read**

Chairperson Read reported a Soil and Water meeting was conducted last week to discuss a personnel matter. He reported the Committee is wonderful to work with.

There were no staff reports.

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

Resolution #588 titled, “Adopting the Clinton Community College Budget”

Discussion: Legislator Read stated the County has been remiss in paying its share to Clinton Community College. He doesn't feel the County should pay more than one-third percent but should be paying the share historically agreed upon which would mean a slight increase in the budget as presented. He reported the current calculation is 31 percent, and the historic obligation is 33 percent.

Mr. Zurlo reported the capital chargeback monies are not included in the budget. These are monies the College applies towards needed projects. Legislator Dame asked if the capital monies spent by Clinton County for the College is calculated in the percentage. Mr. Zurlo replied no, it is not calculated in the percentage and the percentage is based on the operational budget. There remains debt percentage that is not calculated in the College budget. Legislator Dame reported the budget is a fair budget, and the College has done fairly well on controlling its expenses. He reported the problem all colleges have is declining enrollments due to declining population in high schools.

Legislator Gallagher reported New York State is not contributing its fair share. He stated Clinton Community College has done a great job with its budget, and he supports it.

Chairperson Dyer reported the College has done an outstanding job, and he totally supports the budget.

Legislator McManus reported the College is doing a very good job in trying to increase course offerings as a mechanism to encourage more students to attend. (Carried 9-0-1).

Resolution #589 titled, "Authorizing the Clerk of the Clinton County Legislature to Advertise for a Public Hearing on Local Law No. 3 of 2015 titled, "Amending Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2012 titled, "Amending Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2011 titled, "Amending Local Law No. 2 of the Year 2008 titled, "Clinton County Room Occupancy Tax Law"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported the County has to reauthorize occupancy tax every three years. The percentage remains at three percent unless it is changed by State legislation. Once that percentage is in place, it is the responsibility of the County to authorize it locally.

Legislator Dame asked if the language included in Local Law No. 3 of 2015 was changed. Mr. Zurlo replied all language that was discussed has been incorporated, and the Local Law reflects the will of the Legislature. The Local Law in its final form has been placed on Legislators' desks in accordance with the Law.

Resolution #590 was approved.

Resolution #591 titled, "Authorizing the Clerk of the Clinton County Legislature to Advertise for a Public Hearing Regarding Grant Application to be Submitted to the New York State Housing Trust Fund Office of Community Renewal"

Discussion: Deputy County Administrator Rodney Brown reported the County is approximately one-half way through the current funding of its \$400,000 grant. A grant is received once every two years. He reported this program funds a down payment on a home. A ten-year lien is placed on the home which is purchased. The home cannot be sold within the ten-year period or grant funds need to be returned to the County. After the ten-year period, the home can be sold and the lien is discharged. Mr. Brown reported funding is also applied towards substandard homes. There has been only one default on a home due to the homeowner's job loss causing them to leave the area. Others have decided to leave the area and have re-paid the County, so they didn't default on the lien. The funds were reinvested into the program and provided to someone else. (Carried 9-0-1).

Resolution #592 titled, "Authorizing Contract Amendment with Constellation Energy Services of New York, Inc."

Discussion: Mr. Brown reported the County has a fixed rate contract with Constellation Energy Services of New York, Inc. and is adding 130 Arizona Avenue, Plattsburgh to the County's account. (Carried 9-0-1).

Resolutions #593 through #598 were approved.

Resolution #599 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Cara Soper, M.D."

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported the resolution authorizes an additional physician to be added to the rotation to provide autopsy services. The contact is not an additional expense to the County. (Carried 9-0-1).

Resolutions #600 titled, "Authorizing Contract Amendment with Primelink, Inc."

Discussion: Legislator Read abstained from the vote. (Carried 8-0-1-1).

Resolutions #601 and #602 were approved.

Resolution #603 titled, "Authorizing the County Treasurer to Establish Capital Project titled, "Stafford/Cottage Sewer Line Project" – Clinton Community College"

Discussion: Legislator Dame asked if the resolution authorized part of the County's contribution to the capital chargeback. Mr. Zurlo replied this is money from the capital chargeback paid 50 percent sponsor's share. The resolution established the capital project and sets up the account. Mr. Zurlo reported money does not come from the County's tax levy. (Carried 9-0-1).

Resolutions #604 through #609 were approved.

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

Resolutions #610 through #612 was approved.

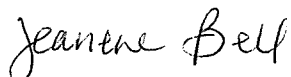
Resolution #613 titled, "Resolution of the County Legislature of the County of Clinton Increasing Taxes on Sales and Uses of Tangible Personal Property and of Certain Services, and on Occupancy of Hotel Rooms and on Amusement Charges Pursuant to Article 29 of the Tax Law of the State of New York"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported the resolution authorizes the local extension of the one percent increase in sales tax which occurs every two years. He reported the extension was signed into law last week, and the County now has to take action locally and advise the State of such action. This is worth approximately \$13 million in County revenue. (Carried 9-0-1).

Chairperson Dyer asked if anyone had anything further to come before the Legislature.

There being no further business, Chairperson Dyer entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to adjourn Regular Session at 7:36 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 9-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanene Bell  
Senior Stenographer