

COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

November 15, 2018

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, November 14, 2018 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Jonathan Beach, Area 2  
Simon Conroy, Area 4  
Mark Dame, Area 8  
Robert Hall, Area 10  
Mark Henry, Area 3  
Pete Keenan, Area 5  
Harry McManus, Chairperson, Area 1  
Rob Timmons, Area 7  
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Christopher Rosenquest, Area 9

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator  
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator  
James Coffey, Esq., County Attorney  
Melody Lemieux, Principal Stenographer

Chairperson McManus called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

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

Legislator Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the October 24, 2018 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Keenan. Carried (9-0-1).

Chairperson McManus asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Brian Griebel expressed concern regarding proposed Clinton County Public Transit (CCPT) bus schedule changes, in particular, the limited service to the south part of town and Clinton Community College. He stated he is visually impaired, and he uses the bus system for transportation to doctor's appointments and to work. At times, there are five-hour gaps in service. Legislator Timmons and Rodney Brown, the Deputy County Administrator, informed Mr. Griebel the Planning Department has already begun looking into his concerns and will try to remedy the situation.

## **Committee Reports**

### **Buildings and Grounds Committee - Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting scheduled for earlier this evening was cancelled. The Committee was polled on Resolution #852 which has been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Children and Family Services Committee - Legislator Henry**

Legislator Henry reported the Children and Family Services Committee met Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>. Resolutions #853 through #864 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee. John Redden, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, reviewed statistics for September, 2018.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

### **Economic Development and County Operations Committee - Legislator Conroy**

Legislator Conroy reported the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met earlier this evening.

Resolutions #865 through #874 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 12<sup>th</sup> at 6 p.m.

### **Finance Committee - Legislator Rosenquest**

Mr. Zurlo reported on behalf of Legislator Rosenquest. He reported Recommended Budgets will be released Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup>. The Finance Committee will meet Monday, November 26<sup>th</sup> and Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. to review the 2019 Recommended Budget.

A public hearing on the 2019 Tentative Budget will be held Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 p.m. in the Legislative Chambers.

### **Health Committee - Legislator Waldron**

Legislator Waldron reported the Health Committee met Tuesday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

John Kanoza, the Director of Public Health, discussed the Director's Reports, the Health Department Reports and the Agency Newsletter.

Resolutions #875 through #888 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, December 4<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Human Services - Legislator Keenan**

Legislator Keenan reported the Human Services Committee met Wednesday, November 7<sup>th</sup>. Resolutions #889 through #901 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, December 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Personnel Committee - Legislator Dame**

Legislator Dame reported the Personnel Committee met Monday, November 5<sup>th</sup> and reviewed 30 items. There are 28 resolutions on the agenda that reflect the Committee's recommendations: creation of a permanent, full-time Social Welfare Examiner position, replacement of two permanent, part-time LPN positions to one full-time LPN position, reallocation of Staff Nurse, Senior Staff Nurse and Head Nurse, creation of a permanent, full-time Public Defender for a three-year term appointment, creation of a permanent, full-time Confidential Secretary to the Public Defender and authorizing revisions to the Clinton County Non-Discrimination, Anti-Harassment and Sexual Harassment Prevention Policy.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Plattsburgh International Airport Committee - Legislator Hall**

Legislator Hall reported the next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Public Safety Committee - Legislator Beach**

Legislator Beach reported the Public Safety Committee was polled on Resolutions #930 and #931 which have been placed on the agenda.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

**Transportation Committee - Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, November 19<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

Legislator Timmons reported Al Rascoe, the Highway Superintendent, notified him that Clinton County has been approved to receive funding through the 2018 BRIDGE NY Program for the Tappen Road Bridge and the Davern Road Bridge.

**Liaison Reports**

**Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 20<sup>th</sup>.

**Community Services Board – Legislator Conroy**

Legislator Conroy reported the next meeting will be held Tuesday, November 27<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

**Grievance Committee – Legislator Hall**

Legislator Hall reported the Grievance Committee will meet on Wednesday, November 28<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m. to discuss four grievances.

**Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks – Legislator Waldron**

Legislator Waldron reported the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks will be meeting in Herkimer County on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board – Legislator Waldron**

Legislator Waldron reported she recently attended a Revolving Loan Committee meeting to discuss formulating the new criteria for applications and how loans will be formulated.

**Soil and Water – Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the Soil and Water Conservation Board will meet Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>.

**Staff Reports**

The County Attorney and the County Administrator did not have reports.

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

Resolutions #851 through #920 were approved.

Resolution #921 titled, "Approving Reallocation of Staff Nurse Positions from Union Scale Grade 18 up to Grade 20"

Discussion: Legislator Dame reported he does not approve of Resolutions #921 through #923 as they will authorize reallocation of various titles up the scale to a higher wage. He stated it was the intention of the Committee to help with recruitment and retention at the Nursing Home. He stated he is not convinced that throwing additional money will help. No one leaving is being asked why they are leaving employment at the Nursing Home, exit interviews are not conducted. Legislator Dame stated he does not think this will solve the problem. He feels we should take a look at the hiring process and the working conditions which may need to be changed.

Legislator Hall stated he disagreed with Legislator Dame. He feels it is important to show the nurses that we are very happy with the work they do, and they deserve this upgrade. He feels the people we should have helped are the Nurse's Aides and the LPNs; however, the Committee did not agree to give incentives to these two groups.

Legislator Henry stated he agrees exit interviews should be conducted to see what needs to be done to retain employees. He noted he was in support of the reallocations.

Legislator Timmons stated the supporting information for those positions that have made it to the floor tonight for reallocation was well substantiated. For the positions that did not come to the floor for reallocation, there was no real proof that more money would help retain the employees. He feels that if you look at what the hospital is paying for nursing, compared to what the County is paying, this is a step in the right direction.

Legislator Hall stated he has been gathering information from Nurse's Aides and LPN's, and he will be bringing the issue of reallocation for these two groups up again in the near future.

The Resolution was adopted by a vote of (8-1-1). Legislator Dame voted no.

Resolution #922 titled, "Approving Reallocation of Senior Staff Nurse Positions from Union Scale Grade 21 up to Grade 23"

Carried (8-1-1). Legislator Dame voted no.

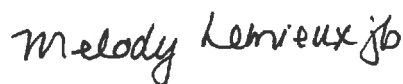
Resolution #923 titled, "Approving Reallocation of Head Nurse Positions from Union Scale Grade 21 up to Grade 23"

Carried (8-1-1). Legislator Dame voted no.

Resolutions #924 through #936 were approved.

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 p.m., seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (9-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Melody Lemieux  
Principal Stenographer

