

COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

December 14, 2015

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held  
Wednesday, December 9, 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 Zurlo, County Administrator  
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator  
James Coffey, Esq., County Attorney  
Jeanene Bell, Senior Stenographer  
Christopher Rosenquest, Area 9 Legislator-Elect

Chairperson Dyer called the meeting to order at 7 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 November 23<sup>rd</sup> Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 9-0-1).

Chairperson Dyer asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature. There being no one who wished to do so, 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 earlier at 5:15 p.m. Resolution #891 has been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

Legislator Read reported the Committee received an update on the 130 Arizona Avenue Project. The Committee discussed the recent opening of the Human Services Center first floor. He expressed thanks to James Cleveland, the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, and John Redden, the Commissioner of Social Services on facilitating a very successful renovation project.

Chairperson Dyer reported he has heard positive remarks in regards to the Human Services Center First Floor Renovation Project. He also encouraged Legislators who have not visited the newly-acquired 130 Arizona Avenue property to do so. He reported it is a very nice building.

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

Legislator Waldron reported the Children and Family Services Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> was cancelled. Resolution #892 is included on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Committee.

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

Legislator Read reported the County Operations Committee met earlier at 6 p.m. Resolutions #893 and #894 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

Legislator Read reported there was discussion on the various opportunities and challenges facing Clinton County over the next few years as a result of the very successful upstate revitalization announcement scheduled for Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:30 a.m. He reported Rodney Brown, the Deputy County Administrator, provided website information for those Legislators who wish to listen to the announcement. Clinton County may be one of the three regions receiving \$5 hundred million of economic development money. Legislator Read reported even though Clinton County may not receive the large grant, it will be eligible for smaller grant amounts of \$80 to \$100 million. Some very compelling projects were proposed in the URI that is believed to be funded.

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

Legislator Dame reported the Finance Committee met Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> at 7 p.m. and held the public hearing on the proposed 2016 Clinton County budget. He reported no negative comments were made in regards to the budget. Resolution #888 on the agenda will adopt the 2016 Clinton County budget.

### **Health Committee – Mr. Zurlo provided report**

Mr. Zurlo reported the Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. in which Legislator Langley will chair in Chairperson Beach's absence.

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

Legislator Keenan reported the Human Services Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, December 2<sup>nd</sup> was cancelled.

Resolutions #896 through #900 have been included on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Committee.

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

Legislator Gallagher reported Resolutions # 901 through #903 have been included on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Committee.

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

Legislator Langley reported the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

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

Mr. Hall reported the next meeting is scheduled for Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:15 p.m.

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

Legislator McManus reported the Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, December 14<sup>th</sup> has been cancelled.

## **Liaison Reports**

### **Chamber of Commerce – Legislator Read**

Legislator Read reported the Chamber of Commerce met with Lieutenant Governor Kathy Hochul at the Economic Development meeting held at the Strand Theatre for the Arts. He reported she is a very capable individual who is very enthusiastic with the successes in Clinton County.

Legislator Read reported the Strategic Tourism Planning Committee (STPC) is scheduled to meet Friday, December 11<sup>th</sup>.

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

Legislator Dame reported the Search Committee to solicit a new President for Clinton Community College has been delayed for six months by the Clinton Community College Board of Trustees due to budgetary issues. Fred Smith, the Interim President, has agreed to remain at the College until the search is conducted.

### **Soil and Water – Chairperson Dyer**

Chairperson Dyer reported the Soil and Water Committee met in November. He reported the Carter Farms received a grant for manure storage at the Fesette Farm in Point au Roche.

### **Workforce Development Board – Legislator Read**

Legislator Read reported the Workforce Development Board held its retreat on Friday, December 4<sup>th</sup> to begin the strategic planning process requirement under the new legislation.

### **Staff Reports**

#### **County Attorney – James Coffey, Esq.**

County Attorney James Coffey requested an Executive Session to discuss litigation involving the Narrows Road Bridge, litigation involving Turtle Island Trust and the Poupore Worker's Compensation case.

Mr. Zurlo reported Clinton County is required submit a Tax Cap Certification to the State Comptroller's Office and advise the Comptroller whether Clinton County anticipates overriding the tax cap. This needed to be done prior to the adoption of the 2016 County budget. Mr. Zurlo reported the Tax Cap Certification was filed today, Wednesday, December 9<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Zurlo reported all Legislators have been invited to Getting to Know Your Local Health Department event scheduled for Wednesday, December 16<sup>th</sup> between 4:30-5:30 p.m. at 133 Margaret Street in the Second Floor Meeting Room. Jerie Reid, the Director of Public Health, encourages Legislators to attend and asked Legislators to respond to the Health Department by Thursday, December 10<sup>th</sup>.

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

#### **Resolutions #888 titled, "Adopting the 2016 Clinton County Budget – Legislature"**

Discussion: Legislator Dame thanked the administration, in particular Mr. Zurlo, for preparing the 2016 County budget. He thanked County department heads who put forth their budgets at a decrease in operational expenses. He knows the taxpayers of Clinton County are happy with the budget.

Legislator Gallagher thanked the employees who have conducted negotiations with the County and kept their requests reasonable which helps keep the budget in line. He reported the County is well below the amount of money that could be raised if needed. He reported the County needs to be cautious in not eliminating any needed service to Clinton County. Legislator Gallagher feels the 2016 budget is a great budget in which he supports.

Chairperson Dyer reported Mr. Zurlo and department heads have done an excellent job with the proposed budget. This shows the Clinton County Legislature (to include previous Legislators) has always been proactive. (Carried 9-0-1).

Resolution #909 titled, "Authorizing the County Treasurer to Establish Appropriation and Corresponding Revenue for the Delivery System Reform Incentive Payment (DSRIP) Program – Mental Health and Addiction Services"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported the resolution was withdrawn. He reported the resolution will be included on the agenda of the Monday, December 21<sup>st</sup> Regular Session because the Health Committee needs to meet prior to this resolution being approved. (Carried 9-0-1).

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

Resolution #916 titled, "Authorizing Settlement Agreement with J. E. Sheehan Contracting Corporation – Legislature"

Discussion: Legislator Langley voted no on the resolution. (Carried 8-1-1).

Chairperson Dyer asked if there was any further business to come before the Legislature.

Chairperson Dyer entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to enter into Executive Session at 7:22 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. Carried (9-0-1).

Legislator Gallagher motioned to exit Executive Session at 9:17 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. Carried (9-0-1).

There being no further business, Legislator Gallagher motioned to adjourn at 9:18 p.m., seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (9-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanene Bell  
Senior Stenographer