

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

February 11, 2021

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held
Wednesday, February 10, 2021 via teleconference, Clinton County, New York.

PRESENT: Calvin Castine, Area 1
Robert Hall, Area 10
Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Wendell Hughes, Area 8
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Richard Potiker, Area 5
Rob Timmons, Area 7
Patty Waldron, Area 6

ABSENT: Simon Conroy, Area 4

VACANT: Area 9

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator
Kim M. Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator
Jacqueline Kelleher, County Attorney
John Kanoza, Director of Public Health
Eric Day, Director of Emergency Services
Elise Stefanik, Congresswoman

The meeting was held remotely via teleconference in accordance with Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order 202.91 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the public has the opportunity to attend the meeting via an audio link.

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

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, conducted roll call. Legislator Conroy was absent.

Legislator Waldron motioned to accept the minutes of the January 27, 2021 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-1-1).

The meeting format did not include public comment. Members of the public were asked to express their concerns/comments by emailing: legislature@clintoncountygov.com.

Chairperson Henry thanked Congresswoman Elise Stefanik for joining the Regular Session meeting.

Congresswoman Stefanik spoke about the \$325 billion December 2020 COVID Relief Package and highlighted that small businesses will be able to apply for a second round of aid if they meet certain criteria. This package also included \$171 billion to colleges and universities and \$5 billion to New York State local schools.

The Congresswoman also thanked CVPH Medical Center and their efforts in prioritizing the vaccine into our community.

Congresswoman Stefanik gave an update to the Legislature regarding the Canadian border re-opening and how she is working with the Biden administration. She is supportive of the executive order and the bi-lateral discussion taking place. Ms. Stefanik spoke about developing metrics to safely re-open the border, rather than the 30 day extensions currently taking place. Ms. Stefanik also mentioned vaccinating Customs and Border Protection Officers.

Ms. Stefanik spoke about the \$1.9 trillion package that is currently being negotiated and that this would potentially provide state and local aid to counties and municipalities. Mr. Zurlo asked the Congresswoman if this would include Transportation Aid, such as for the Plattsburgh International Airport. Congresswoman Stefanik stated \$8 billion is being allocated for that and it will include Airport funding.

Chairperson Henry thanked Congresswoman Stefanik for her supportiveness to our community. The Congresswoman told the Legislature to never hesitate to contact her office if they need anything.

Chairperson Henry moved on to Committee Reports.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Michael Zurlo on behalf of Legislator Conroy

Mr. Zurlo stated the Buildings and Grounds meeting scheduled for Monday, February 8th was cancelled.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 8th at 4:30 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker reported the Children and Family Services Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 2nd was cancelled.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #59 through #62 on the agenda.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 2nd at 5:15 p.m.

Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron stated the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met earlier via ZOOM.

Glen Cutter, the Planning Director, was present to discuss a resolution regarding a contract amendment with the New York State Office of Community Renewal and Housing Trust Fund Corporation.

Dave Randall, the Director of Information Technology, was also present to discuss County Information Security Policies.

Resolutions #63 through #67 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendations.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 9th at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons stated the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, February 3rd via ZOOM.

Kimberly Davis, the County Treasurer, and Rebecca Murphy, the Deputy County Treasurer, were present to discuss various sales tax charts. There was also discussion on 2020 Occupancy Tax, the Correction of Errors Report and In Rem Foreclosure for 2020.

Ms. Davis also discussed the new Tax Collection Statute as well as a potential Property Maintenance Law.

Sean Lukas, the Landfill General Manager, was also present to discuss proposed changes to certain landfill charges.

Resolutions #68 and #69 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Finance Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 3rd at 5:15 p.m. via ZOOM.

Health Committee – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes stated the Health Committee meeting scheduled for Tuesday, February 2nd was cancelled.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #70 through #72 on the agenda.

John Kanoza, the Director of Public Health, and Eric Day, the Director of Emergency Services, were present to provide a brief update.

Mr. Kanoza reported the number of daily COVID-19 positive cases continues to decline. There are currently 243 active cases in isolation. Mr. Kanoza stated CVPH has 11 positive cases and has ended their Disaster Mode and are back to Standard Work Mode.

Mr. Kanoza stated on February 11th the SUNY Plattsburgh Fieldhouse will host another pod clinic. Any remaining vaccines will be distributed to essential workers. Clinton County has vaccinated 17 percent of those eligible with the first dosage.

Mr. Kanoza spoke about the 13 comorbidity criteria that allow for the vaccine to be given as well. A doctor's note or an attestation will be required in order to receive the vaccine. Mr. Kanoza explained they are still waiting on further guidance from New York State.

Mr. Kanoza also reported there will be a press conference on Thursday, February 11th at the Clinton County Health Department.

Mr. Day reported there will be 300 second doses given on Friday, February 12th at a local Senior Housing Facility.

Mr. Day is also working on reimbursement from the New York State Department of Health and the State Office of General Services for the vaccination site at the Plattsburgh International Airport.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 2nd at 4:30 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Peryea

Legislator Peryea stated the Human Services Committee meeting scheduled for Wednesday, February 3rd was cancelled.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #73 through #76 on the agenda.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 3rd at 4:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry

Legislator Henry stated the Personnel Committee met on Monday, February 1st.

Kim Kinblom, the Personnel Director, presented the draft Clinton County Pandemic Preparedness Operations Plan required by New York State Law. The draft plan was sent to each Union for review prior to Legislature approval.

Resolutions #77 through #91 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendations.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 1st at 4:00 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall stated the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #92 and #93 on the agenda.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, February 17th at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine reported the Public Safety Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, February 1st was cancelled.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #94 through #98 on the agenda.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 1st at 5:00 p.m.

Transportation Committee – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes stated the Transportation Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, February 8th was cancelled.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #99 and #100 on the agenda.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 8th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the next Cooperative Extension meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 16th.

Intercounty Board – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the Board met on Thursday, January 28th.

Ms. Waldron stated they were provided an update from the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC). The legalization of marijuana was a topic and it was noted that Counties would have the option to participate or not. If Counties choose not to participate, they will not receive the revenue.

Soil and Water – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the Soil and Water Board will meet on Thursday, February 18th.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

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Ms. Kelleher did not have a report for the general session but requested an Executive Session to discuss matters of pending litigation.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo reported he sent the Board an invitation from Governor Andrew Cuomo’s Office for the New York State Executive Budget Briefing scheduled for Friday, February 12th.

Mr. Zurlo also notified the Legislators of the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) virtual conference and asked the Legislators to please sign up for the free seminars, especially on topics of their committee’s jurisdictions.

Deputy County Administrator Kim Kinblom gave an update on the CARES Act Furlough Program. Ms. Kinblom stated this previously reimbursed the County 50 percent of unemployment costs. The County recently received notification this would now be 100 percent reimbursable, adding approximately \$670,000 in additional savings.

Chairperson’s Report – Legislator Henry

Legislator Henry reported he attended and presented at the State of the County, City and Town Address with the North-Country Chamber of Commerce on February 3rd.

Mr. Henry also spoke about the conference call with Senator Charles Schumer’s Office regarding the recent CARES Act funding.

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

Resolutions #59 through #63 were approved.

Resolution #64 titled, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with New York State Office of Community Renewal and Housing Trust Fund Corporation” was moved by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Hughes. (Carried 8-0-1-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated this resolution awards money between the COVID-19 Rent Relief Program and the First-Time Home Buyers Program, with \$50,000 for Rent Relief and \$350,000 for the Homebuyers Program.

Resolutions #65 through #66 were approved.

Resolution #67 titled, “Authorizing Lease Extension with Elise M. Stefanik” was moved by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Castine. (Carried 8-0-1-1).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo explained Congresswoman Stefanik is only allowed to lease space within her current term.

Resolutions #68 through #73 were approved.

Resolution #74 titled, "Approving Appointments to the Office for the Aging Advisory Committee" was moved by Legislator Peryea and seconded by Legislator Potiker. Messrs. Henry and Hughes recused themselves. (Carried 6-0-1-2-1).

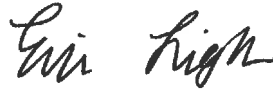
Resolutions #75 through #101 were approved.

Legislator Potiker motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:08 p.m. to discuss a matter of litigation involving Murnane Building Contractors Inc., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Legislator Hall motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:21 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-1-1).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:22 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Erin M. Light
Senior Typist

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