

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

February 21, 2019

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, February 13, 2019 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: 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

VACANCY: Area 2

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator
Jacqueline Kelleher, 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 January 23, 2019 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Henry. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Chairperson McManus asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

William Chase, Town Supervisor of the Town of Dannemora, addressed the Board regarding an upcoming fishing derby which will be held the weekend of February 16th for “Reeling for Recovery.” Proceeds from the derby will be used to help aid the fight with addiction.

Mr. Chase advised the Legislature he is searching for an operator to run the Wastewater Plant in Lyon Mountain. The individual must have a Class 2A license. He asked if Legislators knew of anyone possessing this license, to please let him know.

Mr. Chase stated for the last three years, townships have been receiving their invoices for Board of Elections Chargebacks late. This past year was particularly late with the invoice for the 2018 elections being received in February 7, 2019. He noted the books for 2018 were closed out at the end of January, 2019. He questioned why towns do not receive the invoices prior to the end of the year. Mr. Zurlo replied he would look into the matter.

Jonathan Beach of Altona, New York, thanked the Legislature and expressed his pleasure for having served as County Legislator from Area 2. Chairperson McManus thanked Mr. Beach and stated he has always been a strong supporter of economic development, infrastructure projects at Plattsburgh International Airport and the former County Airport property. These endeavors will benefit taxpayers for years to come. He noted Mr. Beach has done an outstanding job in his committees and liaison assignments and has been very helpful with the EMS community. Chairperson McManus wished Mr. Beach well in his future endeavors.

Legislator Dame stated he will miss Mr. Beach. Legislator Dame stated Mr. Beach has been a solid legislator for the County, and he hopes to remain in contact with Mr. Beach. He also wished him well in his future endeavors.

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Mr. Zurlo reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee was polled on Resolutions #63 and #64 which have been placed on the agenda.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 12th at 5:15 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee - Legislator Henry

Legislator Henry reported the Children and Family Services Committee met Tuesday, February 5th and reviewed Resolutions #65 through #69.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5th 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 #70 through #74 have been placed on the agenda.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 13th at 6:00 p.m.

Finance Committee - Legislator Rosenquest

Mr. Zurlo reported on behalf of Legislator Rosenquest noting the Finance Committee met Wednesday, February 6th and approved Resolutions #75 through #83 which have been placed on the agenda.

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

Health Committee - Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the Health Committee met Tuesday, February 5th and discussed Resolutions #84 through #92 which have been placed on the agenda.

The next Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 5th at 5:15 p.m.

Human Services - Legislator Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported the Human Services Committee was polled on Resolutions #93 through #97 which have been placed on the agenda.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 6th at 5:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee - Legislator Dame

Legislator Dame reported the Personnel Committee met Monday, February 4th and discussed Resolutions #98 through #124 which have been placed on the agenda.

There is a resolution on the agenda to authorize the reallocation of Licensed Practical Nurse positions from Grade 12 to 13. It is hoped this will assist with recruitment and retention. There are also three new positions in the newly-created Public Defender's Office. All positions are covered by New York State funding.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 4th at 5:15 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee - Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee reviewed Resolutions #125 through #127 at its meeting of January 23rd.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 27th at 5:15 p.m.

Public Safety Committee - Legislator Henry

The Public Safety Committee discussed Resolutions #128 through #144 and #156 at its meeting of February 11th.

Andy Wylie, the District Attorney, was also present to discuss bail reform, discovery reform and speedy trial reform.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 11th at 6:15 p.m.

Transportation Committee - Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the Transportation Committee met Monday, February 11th at 5:15 p.m.

Rodney Brown, the Planning Director, was present. Resolutions #145 and #146 are included on the agenda. There was discussion regarding the safety of providing stops for persons flagging the down the bus at the Homestead Apartments along Ampersand Drive. While Homestead Apartments has an area designated for "upon request stops" off Westwood Drive, Ampersand Drive lacks ample shoulders or a side drop area to safely deploy the bus's lift on the roadside. Champlain Valley Family Center, located on Ampersand Drive, has agreed to allow the bus to stop in their parking lot as needed. This will provide a convenience to their customers, as well as those living at the Homestead Apartments.

Discussion was also held regarding the difficulties in providing bus services to County residents who may want to attend a Regular Session Meeting. The matter will be discussed further.

Karl Weiss, the Clinton County Highway Superintendent, was also present. Resolutions #147 through #150 are also included on the agenda.

Discussion was held regarding complaints received from residents on the poor conditions of County roads being maintained by a Town highway department during the winter season due to snow and ice accumulation.

Discussion was also held regarding a complaint received from a resident on the unmaintained condition of the bike path along Commodore Thomas Macdonough Highway during the winter season and curb cut requests by Champlain Valley Educational Services (CVES) for a Capital Project at their main campus on Military Turnpike and their satellite campus at Rugar Street Extension.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, March 11th at 5:15 p.m.

Liaison Reports

Clinton Community College – Legislator Dame

Mr. Zurlo reported the Chancellor's Office and NYSAC are advocating for changes in the funding formula for community colleges. It is hoped New York State will secure additional funding during the budget process.

Community Services Board – Legislator Conroy

Legislator Conroy reported the next meeting of the Community Services Board will be held Tuesday, March 26th at 4:30 p.m.

Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the next meeting will be held Tuesday, February 19th.

Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported there have been two meetings since her last report. A meeting was held Thursday, January 24th in Hamilton County. A tour of the Oak Mountain Ski Center was provided. She reported there has been much progress made regarding broadband. A presentation from a representative from AT & T was provided. There will be three poles installed in Clinton County along Route 11 (one in Dannemora and two in the Town of Saranac). This should help with cellular service.

Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board – Legislator Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported the next Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board meeting will be held Thursday, April 18th.

Soil and Water – Legislators Henry and Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the Soil and Water Conservation Board will meet Thursday, February 21st.

Staff Reports

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Jacqueline Kelleher, the County Attorney, requested an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation with Volo Aviation.

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

Resolutions #63 through #114 were approved. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Resolution #115 titled, “Approving Backfill of a Permanent, Full-Time Deputy Sheriff Position (PCN 2372) – Sheriff’s Department” was approved 7-1-1-1. (Legislator Dame voted no).

Resolutions #116 through #155 were approved. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Legislator Hall motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator Keenan. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Resolution #156 titled, “Authorizing Out-of-State Travel”.

Discussion: Legislator Dame noted the Resolution stated the travel would be February 18, 2019 through April 18, 2019. He motioned to amend the Resolution to approve travel for up to five days only, seconded by Legislator Hall. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Legislator Keenan motioned to enter into Executive Session at 8:02 p.m. to discuss potential litigation with Volo Aviation, seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Legislator Hall motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:12 p.m., seconded by Legislator Dame. Carried (8-0-1-1).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 8:16 p.m., seconded by Legislator Keenan. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Melody Lemieux
Principal Stenographer

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