

COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

March 11, 2021

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held  
Wednesday, March 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

The meeting was held remotely via teleconference in accordance with Governor Andrew Cuomo's Executive Order 202.96 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic, and the public had 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 Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the February 24, 2021 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Peryea. 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@clintoncountyny.gov](mailto:legislature@clintoncountyny.gov). Mr. Zurlo stated a comment was received and sent to all Legislators.

Chairperson Henry welcomed the Honorable Judge Patrick McGill to the meeting to discuss Clinton County's New York State Police Reform and Reinvention Collaborative Draft Plan. Judge McGill thanked the Clinton County Law Enforcement Review Committee (CCLERC) for their hard work in preparing the plan that the Legislature has received. He noted also included in the plan are public comments on the draft plan. He stated attendance was not high at meetings but those that attended provided good conversation and contributed. He also thanked Sheriff Dave Favro for putting together his part of the report.

Judge McGill stated he was impressed on his visit to the Clinton County Sheriff's Department and encouraged all Legislators, if they haven't done so yet, to tour the facility. He reported on the completeness of protocols and procedures, as well as the accreditation process, which he believes will add to, and improve, the Sheriff's Office as it progresses. Judge McGill stated he believes the Sheriff's Office is doing the best to comply with what Governor Andrew Cuomo is trying to accomplish.

Judge McGill recommended the Legislature review the report (and survey results). Mr. Zurlo stated Governor Andrew Cuomo, in his Executive Order, started this process and Mr. Zurlo referred to page 15, which details the "Next Steps" of the CCLERC. At this point, there is now a two-week period in which the Clinton County Legislature has to review the plan and then the Legislature will have to adopt the plan, in this form, or in an amended format, at the March 24, 2021 Regular Session. If the County fails to do so, the County will be in jeopardy of losing State funds. Ms. Waldron inquired about the precipice for proposal changes and how the plan will be implemented into action. Chairperson Henry stated the mental health aspect marries up with drug abuse, and that training staff and existing mental health clinicians can help. Chairperson Henry stated it is not the Clinton County Legislature's place to run the Sheriff's Office every day. He also noted the accreditation process is a very important thing to do.

Lastly, Judge McGill noted there was no ground swell from the public in regards to the Sheriff's Office. He believes this was a good exercise to learn where the public is in regards to the Sheriff's Office.

Mr. Henry thanked the public for their input, much of which is incorporated into this document. He extended a thank you to Judge McGill, who always showed leadership, fairness and a balanced view of the unique place of Clinton County.

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 Committee met on Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup>.

James Cleveland, the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, discussed the 2021 Master Plan. This will be discussed further at an upcoming Finance Committee, but the recommendation of the Buildings and Grounds Committee is to push forward with completing the Roof Project of the Government Center that was postponed last year due to the Pandemic, in addition to, identified 2021 Master Plan Projects if Federal Stimulus money is received.

Resolution #124 has been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

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

Legislator Potiker reported the Children and Family Services Committee met on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

John Redden, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, discussed the 2020 – 2021 State budget proposal, the state of the Department of Social Services and January, 2021 monthly statistics.

Resolution #125 has been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

### **Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Waldron**

Legislator Waldron stated the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>.

Glen Cutter, the Planning Director, was present to discuss Resolution #127 titled, "Authorizing Contract Extension with Mountain View Planning." Renee McFarlin, the Economic Development Director, and Glen Cutter were present to discuss broadband expansion analysis. A memo on this topic will be sent to all Legislators. Mary Dyer, the Democratic Commissioner, and Hunter Sartwell, the Election Specialist, from the Board of Elections were also on hand to discuss the progress of the contract with municipalities regarding the administration of elections.

Resolutions #126 and #127 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendations.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 13<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

### **Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons stated the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Kimberly Davis, the County Treasurer, and Rebecca Murphy, the Deputy County Treasurer, were present to discuss in rem foreclosure, casino revenue, 2021 sales tax charts, the correction of errors report and 2021 tobacco settlement funds.

The next Finance Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m. via ZOOM.

### **Health Committee – Legislator Hughes**

Legislator Hughes stated the Health Committee met on Tuesday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>.

John Kanoza, the Public Health Director, discussed the March, 2021 Health Department Report. Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services, was present to discuss Resolution #128 titled, “Authorizing Operation Lighter, Quicker, Cheaper (LQC) Grant Application”.

Mr. Kanoza and Eric Day, the Director of Emergency Services, were present to provide updates on COVID-19 and vaccinations.

Mr. Kanoza stated the rate of new COVID-19 cases is steadily declining, with 12 new lab-confirmed cases being reported on Tuesday, March 9<sup>th</sup>. Currently, there are 165 active cases in the County and CVPH has 2 lab-confirmed positive cases at their facility. He noted there was one additional COVID-19-related death. He reported SUNY Plattsburgh statistics, as well as, Clinton Correctional Facilities numbers (25 asymptomatic positive cases and 2 symptomatic positive cases.) He noted as of Tuesday, March 8<sup>th</sup>, the new eligibility guidelines included those age 60 and over.

Mr. Day reported the vaccination statistics at the Clinton Community College gymnasium and the State-run POD.

Mr. Kanoza stated the plan is to have Home Care of Rochester (HCR) vaccinate approximately 200 home-bound clients.

Resolution #128 has been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 6<sup>th</sup> at 4:30 p.m.

### **Human Services Committee – Legislator Peryea**

Legislator Peryea stated the Human Services Committee met on Wednesday, March 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Wendie Bishop, the Nursing Home Administrator, was present to discuss Resolution #129 titled, “Authorizing Contract with Stericycle, Inc.” Steve Bowman, the Director of the Veterans’ Service Agency, discussed monthly statistics for January and February, 2021, the VA Healthcare and COVID-19 Vaccine and a resolution regarding Clinton County being designated as a Purple Heart Community. Darlene Collins, the Director of Office for the Aging, was present to discuss the vaccination of senior citizens.

Resolutions #129 and #155, under Waive Rule 13.2, have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 7<sup>th</sup> at 4:15 p.m. via Zoom.

**Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry**

Legislator Henry stated the Personnel Committee met on Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup>.

Kim Kinblom, the Personnel Director, stated the resolution approving the Clinton County Pandemic Preparedness Operations Plan has been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendations. This plan requires under New York State Law, for public employers to develop a plan for operations in the event of a declared public health emergency involving a communicable disease. The Plan was shared with all three Collective Bargaining Units for review and must be adopted by April 1, 2021.

Resolutions #130 through #140 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> 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.

A piece of good news to report, Plattsburgh International Airport is slated to receive an additional \$2.1 million from the soon to be passed American Rescue Plan.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 24<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

**Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine**

Legislator Castine reported the Public Safety Committee scheduled for Monday, March 1<sup>st</sup> was cancelled.

Resolution #141 was polled and has been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 5<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m.

**Transportation Committee – Legislator Hughes**

Legislator Hughes stated the Transportation Committee scheduled for Monday, March 8<sup>th</sup> was cancelled.

Resolutions #142 through #148 were polled and have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 12<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

There were no liaison reports.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.**

Ms. Kelleher requested an Executive Session to discuss a matter regarding collective bargaining agreements.

### **County Administrator – Michael Zurlo**

Mr. Zurlo reiterated Legislator Hall's statement regarding the House of Representatives passing the American Rescue Act. He stated this is great news for the State of New York, Clinton County and surrounding municipalities. Mr. Zurlo reported he would be participating in a meeting with Senator Charles Schumer via ZOOM on Thursday, March 11<sup>th</sup> to discuss the process involved with receipt and expending those funds.

Mr. Zurlo stated he and Kim Kinblom, the Deputy County Administrator, would be hosting the County-wide Shared Services meeting on Friday, March 12<sup>th</sup>. He was hopeful to receive initiatives to formulate a 2021 plan in an effort to increase efficiency and result in savings for partnering municipalities. He noted he will have the final numbers from the American Rescue Act and will provide them to municipalities at the Shared Services meeting and if any Legislator is inquiring on the numbers for their municipalities to please contact him.

### **Chairperson's Report – Legislator Henry**

Chairperson Henry reported former Legislator Gladys Perry passed away and asked Legislator Hall, who was a good friend of the Perry family, to provide remarks. Legislator Hall stated on behalf of the Chairperson, Legislature and Government Center staff, he wanted to extend his condolences and prayers to the Perry family. He stated Ms. Perry finished the term of her husband Dick and then continued to represent Area 8. He noted the Perry's were always more than willing to help an individual in need, regardless of political party, and that trait has trickled down to their children as well. Legislator Hall stated that Ms. Perry and her family were good people and she will be missed.

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

Resolutions #123 through #143 were approved.

Resolution #144 titled, "Awarding Bid for Rehabilitation of the Pup Hill Road Bridge over Saranac River, Bin 3335720" was moved by Legislator Hughes and seconded by Legislators Potiker and Waldron. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Discussion: Legislator Castine noted the significant discrepancy in bids received and inquired if the lowest bid was the best choice. Mr. Zurlo stated the bids submitted were reviewed by the County's consulting engineer and secondly, the County has utilized this contractor in the past and was pleased with their work.

Resolutions #145 through #154 were approved.

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

Resolution #155 was approved.

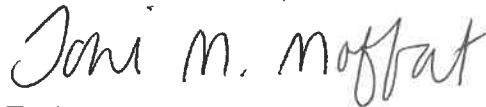
Legislator Peryea motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:23 p.m. to discuss a matter involving collective bargaining agreements, seconded by Legislator Potiker. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Legislator Waldron motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:27 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Resolution #156 titled, "Authorizing the Chairperson to Execute an Agreement between the County of Clinton and Sheriff of Clinton County and the Clinton County Deputy Sheriffs' Police Benevolent Association" was moved by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Castine. Carried (8-0-1-1).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Hughes motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:29 p.m., seconded by Legislator Castine. Carried (8-0-1-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Toni Moffat  
Executive Secretary to the County Administrator

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