

COUNTY OF CLINTON)

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STATE OF NEW YORK)

April 3, 2013

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held on Wednesday, March 27, 2013 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Jonathan Beach, Area 2  
Robert Butler, Area 6  
Mark Dame, Area 8  
Samuel Dyer, Area 3  
Pete Keenan, Area 5  
James Langley, Jr., Chairperson, Area 7  
Sara Rowden, Area 4

EXCUSED: John Gallagher, Area 9  
Robert Heins, Area 10  
Harry McManus, Area 1

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator  
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator  
Brian Snell, Assistant County Attorney  
Jeanene Bell, Senior Stenographer

Chairperson Langley called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, County Administrator Michael Zurlo conducted roll call. Legislators Heins, Gallagher and McManus asked to be excused.

Legislator Butler offered a motion to accept the minutes of the March 13, 2013 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 7-0-3).

Chairperson Langley asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

There being no one to address the Legislature, Chairperson Langley called for standing committee and liaison reports.

### **Committee Reports**

#### **Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Dyer**

Legislator Dyer reported that bids were received and opened on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup> for the Highway Department's HVAC Project which is included in the 2012 Master Plan and for the Surrogate Building's HVAC Project which is included in the 2011 Master Plan. Mr. Zurlo stated the bid on the Surrogate Building's HVAC bid came in well beyond what was anticipated. Bids will be rejected, and the scope of the Project will be reduced.

Legislator Dyer reported new carpet has been installed in the Veteran's Service Agency with 2009 Master Plan funds.

#### **Finance Committee – Legislator Rowden**

Legislator Rowden reported Resolution #230 has been placed on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Finance Committee.

The next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 10<sup>th</sup> at 5:15 p.m.

#### **Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Rowden/Deputy County Administrator Rodney Brown**

Legislator Rowden reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met earlier this evening. An update was given on the Terminal Expansion Project. Resolutions #232 through #237 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

Deputy County Administrator Rodney Brown updated the Legislature on the Plattsburgh International Airport Terminal Expansion Project. He reported there will be two phases of the Project. Phase I is the Site Civil which includes parking lot improvements. Improvements will consist of the expansion of the parking lot, bringing lighting to the areas that currently do not have lighting and changing the concept of the ticket booth whereby everyone would receive a ticket at a ticket booth upon exiting the Airport Parking Lot.

Mr. Brown reported other improvements will consist of conduits so that the new parking lots will not be disturbed in order to bring in utilities for the Terminal Expansion Project.

Mr. Brown reported the Phase I Design will be complete in April, 2013 with bids due in May, 2013. Construction will begin in June, 2013 and will continue through the Fall of 2013. Ticket booths will be complete in the Spring of 2014. Mr. Brown reported new signage will be much easier to read in that signs will be color coded, will have international symbols, and will be bi-lingual, all of which will improve the flow into the Terminal Building.

Mr. Brown reported on the Programming Brief for stakeholder interviews with individuals and companies (Transportation Security Administration (TSA), SheltAir, concessions, Airport staff, airlines and car rental companies) that are present at the Airport. The Brief provided each with an opportunity to have input on what they think is necessary for the expansion of the Terminal Building.

Mr. Brown reported the Design Phase of the Project will take 14 months to complete. The County will go out to bid late Spring or early Summer of 2013 with the Project to begin early Summer. The anticipated completion is the end of 2015.

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

Mr. Zurlo reported the Statewide Consolidated Local Street and Highway Improvement Program (CHIPS) funding has been allocated to increase by \$75 million. Clinton County's portion is \$400,800 which is shared by the Towns and Villages. Mr. Zurlo reported that CHIPS funding has not increased in five years.

### **Liaison Reports**

#### **Chamber of Commerce – Legislator Rowden**

Legislator Rowden introduced Michele Powers from the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce who distributed the War of 1812 Bicentennial Map and material regarding the Adirondack Coast Wine Trail. Ms. Powers reported on the Marketing Impact Study for the Visitors' Bureau.

Ms. Powers reported Canadians, when traveling to Clinton County, are staying in Plattsburgh, New York for up to four days for the main purpose of shopping or flying in/out of the Plattsburgh International Airport. For travelers who received tourist information from the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce, the conversion rate shows 69 percent actually visited Clinton County.

Legislator Rowden encouraged the Legislature to attend the Destination Master Plan Community Forum scheduled for Thursday, April 11<sup>th</sup> at the Stafford Theatre at Clinton Community College. The Program is scheduled for 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m., and the Reception is scheduled from 7 p.m. to 8 p.m.

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

Legislator Dame reported Resolution #230 has been placed on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Finance Committee. Mr. Zurlo reported FTE aid increased by \$150 at Clinton Community College. Legislator Dame stated the agreement between Clinton Community College and the Clinton Community College Faculty Association states every \$1 saved by early retirement to the buyout will go to offset layoffs that may take place. Mr. Zurlo stated the number of layoffs will be reduced based on this action.

### **Board of Health – Legislator Beach**

Legislator Beach reported the Board of Health met on Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>. A presentation was given regarding the Healthy Neighborhood Program. This Program is 100 percent State funded. It educates residents in Clinton County on health and safety issues to prevent home disasters. Education is provided on fire escapes, smoke detectors, carbon monoxide detectors and appropriate safety devices necessary for children. Legislator Beach reported there was discussion on meth lab education and cleanup.

### **InterCounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks – Legislator Dame**

Legislator Dame reported the InterCounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks met Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup> at the Saratoga Automobile Museum in Saratoga, New York. There were no resolutions on the agenda.

### **Soil and Water – Legislator Dyer**

Legislator Dyer reported the Soil and Water Committee met Thursday, March 21<sup>st</sup>. Members of the Soil and Water Conservation Board remain the same. Legislator Dyer reported the Ag Plastic Bales were being dropped at the Clinton County Landfill and then brought to Michigan. Legislator Dyer has been told a company wants to buy the baled material and recycle it into food-grade plastics.

### **Discipline Review – Legislator Rowden**

Legislator Rowden reported the Discipline Review Committee is scheduled to meet Friday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. Mr. Zurlo stated a Grievance Committee meeting is in the process of being scheduled. Reports are forthcoming.

### **Staff Reports**

Mr. Zurlo reported he participated in a County Administrators' Budget Briefing earlier in the day. He stated the 2013 budget is not too drastic to County governments. The Comptroller has agreed to a Pension Stabilization Plan. Those counties who cannot pay their pension bill will be allowed to defer the cost, plus interest. Mr. Zurlo stated it is unlikely that Clinton County will participate in this, but it is an option for counties.

Mr. Zurlo reported Medicaid savings has a prorated share in the 2013 budget. The Medicaid local share will decrease two weeks from now until the remainder of the year. There will be a Medicaid ramp-up savings the following year and then a cap with no more increases other than the baseline plus. Mr. Zurlo stated Medicaid savings has accelerated.

Mr. Zurlo reported there will be enhanced auditing functions with Preschool and Medicaid Fraud. There will be slight reforms in Workers' Compensation and how the self-insured fund a Workers' Compensation Board.

Mr. Zurlo reported the Governor and State Senate passed, but the State Assembly did not, across-the-board sales extensions beyond 7 percent. As such, Mr. Zurlo emailed the New York State Tax and Finance to assist him in drafting the County's extension legislation. Mr. Zurlo has also reached out to State Legislators to let them know the request for legislation would be forthcoming.

Mr. Zurlo reported everyone who receives a STAR exemption will, again, have to reapply by April 1, 2014. This is a result of the State detecting fraud with the STAR exemption.

Mr. Zurlo reported some provisions of the NY SAFE Act were delayed. Ten-clip magazines are still able to be sold by retailers, even though only seven bullets are allowed in the magazines.

Legislator Rowden reported she attended the Community Services Board meeting on Tuesday, March 26<sup>th</sup>. The NY SAFE Act has already impacted Mental Health services locally.

Mr. Zurlo requested an Executive Session to discuss the sale and lease of real property.

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

Resolutions #230 through #244 were approved.

Resolution #245 titled, "Authorizing Sale of Real Property in the Town of Plattsburgh - Legislature"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported there is no issue with this resolution; however, there must be eight Legislators in attendance to vote on the sale of property. (Carried 7-0-3).

Resolutions #246 through #249 were approved.

Legislator Dyer motioned to enter Executive Session at 7:35 p.m. to discuss the sale or lease of real property, seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 7-0-3).

Legislator Beach motioned to exit Executive Session at 7:49 p.m., seconded by Legislator Dyer. (Carried 7-0-3).

Chairperson Langley asked if there was any further business to come before the Board.

There being no further business, Chairperson Langley entertained a motion from Legislator Beach to adjourn Regular Session at 7:50 p.m., seconded by Legislator Dyer. Carried (7-0-3).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanene Bell  
Senior Stenographer