

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

March 28, 2024

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, March 27, 2024 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Calvin Castine, Area 1
David Bezio, Area 4
Robert Hall, Deputy Chairperson, Area 10
Wendell Hughes, Area 8
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Kevin Randall, Area 5
Rob Timmons, Area 7
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Joshua Kretser, Area 9

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Zurlo, County Administrator
Kim Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator
Jacqueline Kelleher, County Attorney

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

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, conducted roll call. Legislators Henry and Kretser asked to be excused.

Legislator Timmons motioned to accept the minutes of the March 13, 2024 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Randall. Carried (8-0-2).

Deputy Chairperson Hall asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Linda LaPier, of 190 McBride Road, Chazy, New York, recited a poem written by Jennifer Jewett called, "A Chained Dog's Cry for Help."

Susan Patnode, the owner of Tails of the Adirondacks, in Plattsburgh, New York spoke in support of creating a dog tethering law.

Jennifer Jewett, of 11109 State Route 9, Champlain, New York addressed the Legislature regarding animal cruelty and dog tethering laws, noting that creating a law is the responsible and humane thing to do. Ms. Jewett explained the Towns want to follow suit in what the County is going to do.

Deputy Chairperson Hall stated he has been a legislator for 11 years and has dealt with many varying opinions. He noted not answering questions personally does not mean the Legislature does not hear Ms. Jewett's concerns. This topic will be discussed further at the Public Safety Committee meeting on Monday, April 1st.

Deputy Chairperson Hall reported there is a public hearing regarding Local Law #1 of 2024 titled, "Adopting a Youth Deer Hunting Program." He asked the Clerk of the Board to read the notice of public hearing.

Legislator Hughes motioned to open the public hearing at 5:33 p.m., seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (8-0-2).

Deputy Chairperson Hall asked if anyone present wished to address the Board regarding this matter.

There being no one who wished to speak, Deputy Chairperson Hall entertained a motion to close the public hearing.

Legislator Peryea motioned to close the public hearing at 5:34 p.m., seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (8-0-2).

There being no one else who wished to address the Legislature, Deputy Chairperson Hall moved onto the Committee Reports.

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio stated the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolution #239 on the agenda.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 9th at 4:00 p.m.

Mr. Zurlo apprised the Legislature regarding the electrical malfunction/power outage that occurred on Monday, March 25th at 130 Arizona Avenue, where the Office of Mental Health and Addiction Services is located. Mr. Zurlo explained this is not a NYSEG issue and is being fixed under an emergency contract with Murray Electric, who will be installing a 400 amp service rather than 1200 amp service. The clinicians teleworked for the two days the building was without power.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Peryea

Legislator Peryea stated the Children and Family Services Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

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

Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron stated the Economic Development and County Operations Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 10th at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the Finance Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolution #240 on the agenda.

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

Health Committee – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes reported the Health Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Randall

Legislator Randall reported the Human Services Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 2nd at 4:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

On behalf of Chairperson Henry, Mr. Zurlo stated the Personnel Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 1st at 5:00 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met earlier.

Chris Kreig, the Airport Director, was present via teleconference to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Master Services Agreement with C & S Engineers, Inc. for Periodic Professional Services,” “Authorizing Contract with Record-USA” and “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Bids for Airport Baggage Conveyor System Repairs.”

Resolutions #241 through #254 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

Resolution #272 has also been placed on the agenda under Waive Rule 13.2.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 24th at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine stated the Public Safety Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 1st at 4:00 p.m.

Legislator Castine noted he would like to change the meeting time to 3:30 p.m. to allow for further discussion on the dog tethering law.

Transportation Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

On behalf of Legislator Kretser, Mr. Zurlo stated the Transportation Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #255 through #262 on the agenda.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 9th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Health – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes reported the Board met on Monday, March 18th and discussed the reappointment of Jeff Sisson, the Director of Public Health. The Board also reviewed fines and enforcements.

Soil and Water – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio reported the Committee met on Thursday, March 21st. Some highlights of the meeting were the \$207,000 received towards various projects, the additional funding for the reduction of salt, (offering each town \$3,000 towards salt reduction) and the purchase of a new truck. The Committee also received an A+ on their audit.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher requested an Executive Session to discuss contractual matters and provide a legal update.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo stated there is no news on the State budget prior to the Monday, April 1st deadline and is hoping an update will be imminent.

Deputy Chairpersons Report

Deputy Chairperson Hall did not have a report.

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

Resolution #238 titled, “Adopting Local Law #1 of 2024 titled, “Adopting a Youth Deer Hunting Program” was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo explained the Pilot term for the Program has expired and the local law is already in place.

Resolutions #239 through #243 were approved.

Resolution #244 titled, “Authorizing Change Order No. 1 and Final with Triangle Electrical Systems, Inc. – Building 2753 Renovation Project” was motioned by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated the Building 2753 Renovation Project had four contracts associated with it. This Change Order resulted in an increase but the next three Change Order resolutions are decreases. Mr. Zurlo noted upon the closeout of the Project, the Project cost was \$13,000 less than what was estimated.

Resolutions #245 through #270 were approved.

Legislator Bezio motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-2).

Resolution #271 titled, “Approving Deputy County Auditor for 2024, 2025, 2026 and 2027” was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo explained this resolution is normally done during the Organizational meeting, but the current Deputy County Auditor resigned and Darlene DuBuke, from the Health Department, will be filling the role.

Resolution #272 was approved.

Legislator Castine inquired if Resolution #256 for Herbicide Application is causing a problem for the bee population. He is not sure if that applies to herbicide or pesticide applications. Mr. Zurlo stated he will ask Karl Weiss, the Highway Superintendent, and report back.

Legislator Timmons motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:00 p.m., seconded by Legislator Randall. Carried (8-0-2).

Legislator Bezio motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:23 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-2).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Randall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:26 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-2).

Respectfully submitted,



Erin M. Light
Senior Typist

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