

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

October 26, 2012

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, October 24, 2012 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
John Gallagher, Area 9
Robert Heins, Area 10
Pete Keenan, Area 5
James Langley, Jr., Chairperson, Area 7
Harry McManus, Area 1
Sara Rowden, Deputy Chairperson, Area 4

ALSO PRESENT: Michael Zurlo, County Administrator
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator
William Favreau, County Attorney
Melody Lemieux, Principal Stenographer

Chairperson Langley 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. All Legislators were present.

Legislator Butler offered a motion to accept the minutes of the October 10, 2012 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 10-0-0).

Legislator Butler presented a copy of Resolution #807 dated October 10, 2012 to Alfred Rougeau, commending him for 50 years of service to the Ausable Forks Volunteer Fire Department.

Chairperson Langley asked if anyone present wished to address the Legislature.

Dean Schneller, Ron Konowitz and Richard Munn of the Adirondack Powder Skier Association, Inc. addressed the Legislature. The Adirondack Powder Skier Association, Inc. is a local group seeking to provide regulatory definitions for "glade skiing," "skin tracks" and backcountry alpine skiing. Currently, the State Land Use Master Plan and Forest Preserve Regulations do not provide for the management or enhancement of the backcountry ski opportunities. This would provide a tourism opportunity for the public and would have minimal adverse environmental impacts. Mr. Schneller provided the Legislature with a draft resolution and requested support of their endeavor. A resolution will be placed on the agenda for the November 14, 2012 Regular Session.

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

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Samuel Dyer

Legislator Dyer reported the Dumpster Enclosure Project at the Government Center Complex is complete. Additionally, the Highway Department's Fire Alarm System Project and the Nursing Home's Storm Drain Piping Project are also complete.

County Operations Committee – Mark Dame

Legislator Dame reported the County Operations Committee will meet Tuesday, November 13th at 6:15 p.m.

Finance Committee – Sara Rowden

Legislator Rowden reported the next Finance Committee meeting will be held Wednesday, November 14th at 5:15 prior to the Regular Session. Legislator Rowden requested that the November 19th and 20th Finance Committee meetings be moved to November 26th and 27th at 5:15 p.m. Legislators agreed to change the meeting dates.

Chairperson Langley reported the County Treasurer informed him that the County was \$1 million ahead of projections in sales tax last month. The increase in sales tax was attributed to new cars sales and retail sales.

Health Committee – Jonathan Beach

Legislator Beach reported the Health Committee meeting scheduled for Thursday, November 1st at 5:15 has been rescheduled to Thursday, November 8th at 6:15 p.m. following the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting at 5:15 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Pete Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported the next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, November 13th at 5:15 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Robert Heins

Legislator Heins reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met prior to Regular Session. McFarland Johnson presented the financial plan to fund the Airport Expansion Project.

Liaison Reports

Clinton Community College – Mark Dame

Legislator Dame congratulated Clinton Community College's May, 2012 Nursing Program graduates on the 100 percent passage rate on their State Boards.

Cooperative Extension – Harry McManus

Legislator McManus reported all Legislators have been provided with a copy of the Cornell Cooperative Extension's Program Report. Alexa King, Legislator McManus' former student, has initiated a 4-H Choose Health Action Teens Program which trains teens to teach and co-teach the Choose Health: Food, Fun and Fitness curriculum to promote participants in adopting healthier habits.

Board of Health – Jonathan Beach

Legislator Beach reported the Board of Health met Monday, October 15th. The Board was provided with information on occurrence rates of infectious diseases and sexually-transmitted infections in the County. There was a fairly significant rise compared to last year; however, the rate is comparable to the national rate. A report was given regarding rabies. Approximately 50 percent of all pets have been vaccinated. The Board also discussed stricter rules and restaurant fines for violations. The Board also received positive feedback on HCR Home Care.

Inter-County Legislative Committee – Mark Dame

Legislator Dame reported Clinton County hosted the October Inter-County meeting at the Plattsburgh International Airport on Thursday, October 18th. Legislator Dame thanked the Chairperson, Legislative Office staff and Airport Manager Chris Kreig.

Soil and Water – Samuel Dyer, Sara Rowden

Legislator Rowden reported Soil and Water will meet Thursday, October 25th.

Staff Reports

County Attorney William Favreau requested a brief Executive Session to discuss potential litigation and the sale or lease of real property.

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

Resolution #809 titled, “Approving Appointments to the Clinton County Community Services Board”

The motion was offered by Messrs. Langley, McManus, Dame, Dyer and Ms. Rowden and seconded by Messrs. Heins, Gallagher, Butler, Keenan and Beach.

Discussion: Legislator Rowden stated it was interesting to hear the various issues and problems agencies are having. Legislator Rowden reported Clinton County’s suicide rate is higher than the State average. There are 236 individuals that are homeless in Clinton County. Legislator Rowden reported there is a severe shortage of psychiatrists in our area. Carried (10-0-0).

Resolutions #810 through #826 were approved.

Legislator Beach motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator Butler.

Resolution #827 was approved.

Chairperson Langley asked if there was anything further to come before the Legislature.

Legislator Gallagher motioned to enter into Executive Session at 7:49 p.m. to discuss potential litigation and the sale or lease of real property, seconded by Legislator Dyer. Carried (10-0-0).

Legislator Gallagher motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:13 p.m., seconded by Legislator Heins. Carried (10-0-0).

There being no further business, Chairperson Langley entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to adjourn the meeting at 8:17 p.m., seconded by Legislator Dyer. Carried (10-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Melody Lemieux". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the typed name and title.

Melody Lemieux
Principal Stenographer

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