

COUNTY OF CLINTON)

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STATE OF NEW YORK)

September 11, 2014

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held on Wednesday, September 10, 2014 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Jonathan Beach, Area 2
Mark Dame, Area 8
Samuel Dyer, Chairperson, Area 3
John Gallagher, Area 9
Robert Hall, Area 10
Pete Keenan, Area 5
James Langlely, Jr., Area 7
Harry McManus, Area 1
Colin Read, Area 4
Patty Waldron, Area 6

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator
Rodney Brown, Deputy County Administrator
James Coffey, County Attorney
Jeanene Bell, Senior Stenographer

Chairperson Dyer called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.

Following the pledge of allegiance to the flag, County Administrator Michael Zurlo conducted roll call.

Legislator Hall offered a motion to accept the minutes of the August 27th Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Keenan. (Carried 10-0-0).

Chairperson Dyer asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

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

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported the Buildings and Grounds Committee met earlier today. James Cleveland, the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, updated the Committee on the progress with Architectural and Engineering Design Associates, P.C. which will save the County money. Resolutions #603 and #651 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee. Chairperson Dyer noted the parking signs look very good for the parking assignments for elected officials.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported the Children and Family Services Committee met Thursday, September 4th.

John Redden, the Commissioner of Social Services, discussed July, 2014 monthly statistics, raising the age for criminal prosecution, public assistance caseloads and the Home Energy Assistance Program. Resolutions #604 through #606 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 2nd at 6:15 p.m.

County Operations Committee – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported Barbara Foster, the Director of Information Technology, discussed the development of a long-term Master Plan for telecommunications needs for the County. Anastasia Pratt, the County Historian, updated the Committee on the Historic Sign Trail Project which is progressing nicely. John Zurlo, the County Clerk, updated the Committee on allowing the access of County records from a distance in which the County Clerk's Office is receiving revenue. Resolution #607 will authorize the Weights and Measures Department to receive \$9,000 from New York State, and Resolutions #608 and #648 have been placed on the agenda for Saranac River Trail Greenway Project.

Finance Committee – Legislator Dame

Legislator Dame reported the Finance Committee met Wednesday, September 3rd. The Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce presented its 2015 Marketing Plan.

Legislator Dame reported Kimberly Davis, the County Treasurer, reviewed sales tax receipts to date. Lisa Shovan, the Vice President for Administration and Finance at Clinton Community College, requested the County's support in placing a resolution on the agenda for the Soccer Field Project.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 1st at 5:15 p.m.

Health Committee – Legislator Beach

Legislator Beach reported the Health Committee met Thursday, September 4th.

Legislator Beach reported Peter Trout, the Director of Community Services, discussed changes and goals regarding reversing mental health, generating income and focusing on productivity as well as allowable services and accounts receivables.

Legislator Beach reported Jerie Reid, the Director of Public Health, presented Resolutions #615 through #619 which are included on the agenda. Ms. Reid reviewed the Health Department's Report for the Board of Health meeting of August 18, 2014, the Director's Report of July, 2014 and the July 30, 2014 Agency Meeting Newsletter.

The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, October 2nd at 5:15 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported the Human Services Committee met Wednesday, September 3rd.

Crystal Carter, the Director of Office for the Aging, reported on Resolution #620 which awards the bid for the 2015 Legal Services Program.

Steve Bowman, the Director of the Veterans' Service Agency, reviewed monthly statistics and upcoming changes in policy to VA healthcare.

Wendie Bishop, the Nursing Home Administrator, discussed the Office of Medicaid Inspector General Audit. She also discussed problems with the Nursing Home's sewer line. Resolutions #621 through #623 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 1st at 6 p.m.

Personnel Committee – Legislator Gallagher

Legislator Gallagher reported Resolutions #624 through #626 have been polled and are included on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

Mr. Zurlo reported if the October Personnel Committee agenda necessitates a meeting, Chairperson Gallagher will request that Legislator Langley preside at the meeting which is scheduled for Monday, October 6th at 5:15 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Langley

Legislator Langley reported the next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24th at 5:15 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Public Safety Committee met Monday, September 8th.

Dave Marcoux, the Probation Director, updated the Committee on the Crime Victims' Assistance Program.

Richelle Gregory, the Director of the Child Advocacy Center, presented Resolutions #636 and #637 which have been placed on the agenda. Resolution #635 has been placed on the agenda for the District Attorney's Office.

Sheriff Dave Favro discussed School Resource Officers. Resolution #627 has been placed on the agenda for Traffic Safety, and Resolutions #628 through #634 have been placed on the agenda for the Sheriff's Department.

The next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14th at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Zurlo corrected his statement to Legislator Dame from the August 27th Regular Session. He stated the School Resource Officer that is being shared with Beekmantown Central and Saranac Central Schools are Clinton County Deputies, not State Police Officers. The schools are fully funding the position. If the funding should no longer exist, the positions will not be funded.

Transportation Committee – Legislator McManus

Legislator McManus reported the next meeting of the Transportation Committee is scheduled for Tuesday, October 14th at 5:15 p.m.

Liaison Reports

Cooperative Extension – Legislator McManus

Legislator McManus reported the Legislative Agricultural Tour is scheduled for Friday, September 26th from 9 a.m. – 1 p.m.

Intercounty – Legislator Langley

Legislator Langley reported there will be a joint meeting of the Intercounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks and the Intercounty Association of Western New York (as part of the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) 2014 Fall Seminar) in Buffalo on Wednesday, September 24th.

Grievance – Legislator Gallagher

Legislator Gallagher is waiting to hear from the Personnel Director for a date of an upcoming Grievance Committee meeting. Mr. Zurlo stated he would inform the Committee of the date.

Workforce Investment – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported the Workforce Investment Board meeting scheduled for Friday, September 12th was cancelled. WIB is in the process of hiring an Executive Director. The Board asked, as a courtesy, to meet the Executive Director candidate.

Staff Reports

County Attorney James Coffey requested an Executive Session to discuss a matter of litigation regarding George Moore, Dan’s Hauling, Risetto and Sue Castine vs. Clinton County.

Chairperson Dyer recognized two individuals in the audience who wished to address the Legislature.

Tina Sullivan, a Clinton County Public Transit (CCPT) bus driver, stated she is concerned the CCPT bus service will be eliminated. The public relies on CCPT for transportation. She stated CCPT bus drivers are the lowest paid drivers, and some have been obtaining bus driving positions at schools which have better pay and benefits. Rodney Brown, the Deputy County Administrator, advised Ms. Sullivan that a meeting has been requested between CCPT staff and employees to answer questions and voice concerns.

Joanne Sucker, 5 Oswego Lane, Plattsburgh, stated she has used CCPT for the past 25 years. She requested CCPT be willing to work with her regarding deviations.

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

Resolutions #603 through #617 were approved.

Resolution #618 titled, “Authorizing Contract with Victoria Zinser Duley – Health Department”

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported when this went resolution was discussed at the Thursday, September 4th Health Committee meeting, the contract amount was in excess of \$13,000; it has decreased to \$5,000 because that is the amount the Health Department was awarded from Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA) Grant funds. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolutions #619 and #620 were approved.

Resolution #621 titled, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with Bob’s Instant Plumbing - Nursing Home”

Discussion: Legislator Hall asked if the plumbing service went out to bid. Mr. Zurlo replied yes, and stated Bob’s Instant Plumbing was the sole bidder for the services requested. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolutions #622 and #623 were approved.

Resolution #624 titled, “Approving Creation of Permanent, Full-Time Paralegal – Social Services”

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported this request was fully explained in Commissioner John Redden’s memo to the Personnel Committee. This resolution will authorize the person to be hired as a Paralegal in

anticipation of Van Crockett's upcoming retirement. The position is paid 100 percent from Flexible Funds for Family Services (FFFS) funding. This Federal money is part of a Block Grant that will provide the County the opportunity, as long as it meets eligible criteria, to spend it under local control. Block Grant funding provides flexibility but with less money. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolution #625 titled, "Approving Creation of Permanent, Part-Time Victim Services' Advocate – District Attorney's Office"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported the Probation Department submitted a grant application for Victims' Advocate services. The Clinton County Probation Department was not an awardee after receiving the same grant for 17 years. Services for sexual abuse victims scored much higher than the "regular" victim. The position on staff at the Probation Department was a full-time position paid for mostly by the New York State Victim Services' Grant, a portion by the CAC Grant and the District Attorney's Office. Once notification was received that the Grant would not be awarded, the District Attorney's Office still had a need for an advocate for children's victim services. The Probation Department lost the position in its budget, but the District Attorney's Office will cover the part-time position at the CAC. This Grant funding is awarded in five-year cycles. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolution #626 titled, "Amending Resolution #267 dated April 9, 2014 titled, "Approving Creation of a Permanent, Full-Time Airport Maintenance Coordinator - Plattsburgh International Airport"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported this resolution is the result of the Civil Services Employees' Association (CSEA) indicating this position should be a member of the Collective Bargaining Unit and not a Management Confidential position. Upon guidance from Public Employee Relations Board (PERB), it was decided the position should be placed in the Bargaining Unit. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolution #627 was approved.

Resolution #628 titled, "Awarding Bid for Snow Plowing/Removal/Sanding – Sheriff's Department"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo corrected a statement he made at the Monday, September 8th Public Safety Committee meeting. He stated there was only one bidder on this project. The contract at CCPT received two bids.

Chairperson Dyer asked if the amount of \$1 per hour for the use of a dump truck was accurate. Mr. Zurlo replied yes. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolution #629 was approved.

Resolution #630 titled, "Authorizing inVest Partnership Grant Acceptance – Sheriff's Department"

Discussion: Legislator Read asked the reason for two different prices for bulletproof vests. Mr. Zurlo stated the cost for body armor under the inVest Partnership Grant is \$1,000, and the cost in the Bulletproof Vest Partnership Program Grant is \$1,050. Sheriff Dave Favro replied the formula used determines the cost. Legislator Dame noted one resolution will authorize the purchase of 24 bulletproof vests, and the second resolution will authorize two bulletproof vests. Sheriff Favro replied one is for the purchase of two new vests, and the second is for replacement vests. The life of a bulletproof vest is approximately four years. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolutions #631 through #633 were approved.

Resolution #634 titled, "Authorizing the County Treasurer to Establish Appropriation from the Sheriff's Seizure Justice Reserve Account - Sheriff's Department"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported this resolution is for the bulletproof vests. The Sheriff's Department is accepting the inVest Partnership Grant, establishing payment and utilizing money from the Sheriff's Seizure Justice Reserve Account to pay for the local share. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolutions #635 through #650 were approved.

Legislator Langley motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator Beach. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolution #651 was approved.

Resolution #652 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Office Systems, Inc. – Real Property"

Discussion: Legislator Read noted this is a temporary contract through December 31, 2014. Mr. Brown reported Request for Proposals (RFPs) will be going out later this month with responses due in October. Mr. Zurlo reported under the Tax Freeze Program, the County is obligated under year two to come up with an Efficiency Plan, and Clinton County taxpayers will receive a rebate check from New York State. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolutions #653 and #654 were approved.

Chairperson Dyer asked if there was any further business to come before the Board. Legislator Hall requested the Legislative Agricultural Tour at Cornell Cooperative Extension be added to the September, 2014 calendar.

Legislator Gallagher motioned to enter Executive Session at 7:53 p.m. to discuss Risetto, Dan's Hauling, George Moore and Sue Castine vs. Clinton County, seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 10-0-0).

Legislator Gallagher motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:43 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 10-0-0).

Resolution #655 was approved.

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

There being no further business, Chairperson Dyer entertained a motion from Legislator Gallagher to adjourn Regular Session at 8:46 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 10-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanene Bell
Senior Stenographer