

COUNTY OF CLINTON)

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STATE OF NEW YORK)

January 27, 2014

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held on Wednesday, January 22, 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 7:02 p.m.

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

Chairperson Dyer offered a motion to accept the minutes of the January 2, 2014 Organizational Meeting and the January 8th Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 10-0-0).

Chairperson Dyer asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Jason Clark from the Northern Corridor Transportation Group spoke to the Legislature in regards to the Interstate 98 Corridor Development Project, also known as the former "Rooftop Highway" Project. Interstate 98 would connect Interstate 81 with Interstate 87. It will run parallel to and not affect any homes along Route 11.

Mr. Zurlo reported that there are three new Legislators on the Clinton County Legislature. These Legislators have been informed of this Project, and information has been distributed to each Legislator on the Project.

Legislator Hall asked if Interstate 98 would take tourists away from Clinton County. Mr. Clark replied that tourism probably would not be taken away from the County. He stated that this is an easier route of transportation for individuals traveling from Toronto and Ottawa to Clinton County. Legislator Hall asked where Interstate 98 would tie in to Interstate 87. Mr. Clark replied that prior resolutions that have been approved by the County, the City and Town of Plattsburgh specify that the Interstate connection would tie in or around the City of Plattsburgh. He stated the connection would tie in at a location that is requested by Clinton County. Legislator Hall asked if individuals from Clinton County would be employed in this Project. Mr. Clark replied that his organization and the Legislature need to promote local labor be used.

Legislator Waldron asked if small businesses would be affected. Mr. Clark replied that the Environmental Clearance Process has been expedited. He stated he does not believe there would be a lengthy tie-up while construction takes place. Legislator Waldron asked if Interstate 98 would be in the "back yards" of homeowners. Mr. Clark referred to a map that was given to Legislators reflecting the route of Interstate 98 from Route 11. He stated a study was done with GPS points of possible routes and environmental impacts, and a microanalysis of 26 parameters deemed appropriate for consideration with respect to environmental hazards. There will be more clarification once an Environmental Impact Study is completed.

Legislator Beach asked how this project would be supported through the Native American Reservation and the Adirondack Park. Mr. Clark replied that there have been lengthy conversations with the Mohawk tribe. He stated that this either has been addressed or there has been a resolution.

Legislator McManus asked if the Project was constructed, where the eastern terminus would be, either Rouses Point or Plattsburgh. Mr. Clark responded that this could be determined at a later date.

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

Committee Reports

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported that the next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12th at 5 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron reported that the next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Thursday, February 6th at 5:15 p.m.

County Operations Committee – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported that the next County Operations Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 12th at 6 p.m.

Finance Committee – Legislator Dame

Legislator Dame reported that the next Finance Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5th at 5:15 p.m.

Health Committee – Legislator Beach

Legislator Beach reported that the next Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 10th at 4:45 p.m. The Health Committee will be held in conjunction with the Transportation Committee meeting so that a presentation can be done by the League of Women Voters on transporting hazardous wastes.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported that the next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 5th at 6 p.m.

Personnel Committee – Legislator Gallagher

Legislator Gallagher reported that Resolutions #22 through #27 have been placed on the agenda as a result of a poll of the Committee. The next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 11th at 5:15 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Langley

Legislator Langley reported that the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee met prior to the Regular Session. Resolutions #28 through #31 have been placed on the agenda upon the Committee's recommendation. Updates on enplanements and tenants were discussed, as well as the loss of Las Vegas flights. The Committee will be hearing from the architects in February in regards to the Terminal Expansion Project.

Legislator Langley reported that the next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26th at 5:15 p.m.

Deputy County Administrator Rodney Brown reported that there will be a special meeting of the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee for the purpose of receiving a briefing and status report on the Terminal Expansion Project. All Legislators will be invited.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported that the next Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, February 10th at 6 p.m.

Transportation Committee – Legislator McManus

Legislator McManus reported that the Transportation Committee will be held in conjunction with the Health Committee as Legislator Beach noted under his Health committee report.

Liaison Reports

Chamber of Commerce – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported that he will be meeting next week with Garry Douglas, President and CEO of the Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce.

Clinton Community College – Legislator Dame

Legislator Dame reported that he attended the monthly meeting of the Clinton Community College Board of Trustees on Tuesday, January 21st.

Legislator Dame reported that Spring classes will begin on Monday, January 27th. Enrollment is down from projections due to high school classes being smaller.

Legislator Dame reported that there is a crack in the Moore Building due to the recent freezing weather conditions, and the College is closely monitoring the situation.

Cooperative Extension – Legislator McManus

Legislator McManus reported that the Extension in Clinton, Essex and Franklin Counties are having discussions to explore ways to share administrative functions and find efficiencies to allow services to be expanded in the area. This would give an advantage in making grants and proposals more competitive. Programs will continue to be provided locally.

Board of Health – Legislator Beach

Legislator Beach reported that the Board of Health met on Monday, January 13th. The Board has new officers in place. There was a review of sexually transmitted diseases and communicable diseases, as well as updates on Health Planning and Promotion and Environmental Health. Mr. Zurlo reported that there is a vacancy on the Board of Health.

InterCounty – James R. Langley, Jr.

Legislator Langley reported that he attended the InterCounty Legislative Committee of the Adirondacks meeting on Thursday, January 16th at the Adirondack Studios in Argyle, New York. He reported on the tour of the facility that contracts with Disney and Broadway. Work is also done in China and California. The facility employs 105 artists.

Soil and Water – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported that the Soil and Water Committee met Thursday, January 16th at 7 p.m.

Workforce Investment Board – Legislator Read

Legislator Read reported that he met with Wanda Murray, Director and CEO of the Workforce Investment Board, on Tuesday, January 21st.

Staff Reports

County Attorney James Coffey requested an Executive Session to discuss a litigation matter.

Mr. Zurlo reported that a keypunch error was made on the Town of Plattsburgh tax bills in which the County levy is incorrect; however, the tax rate and tax amounts are correct. Mr. Zurlo reported that New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) will be responding to Governor Cuomo's budget proposal. A presentation on the Governor's 2014 State of the State, including his agenda and legislative goals for 2014, will be given by Dede Scozzafava, Deputy Secretary of State, on Thursday, January 23rd at 1 p.m. at the Plattsburgh Town Hall, 151 Banker Road, Plattsburgh.

Mr. Zurlo reported that Legislators who wish to order the Legislature's photo are to make checks payable to Blair and Webber Photography. Orders are due on Thursday, February 6th. Please bring checks to the Wednesday, February 5th Finance Committee meeting. Note that prices plus tax are included on the handout given to Legislators.

Chairperson Dyer thanked Legislator Beach for his hospitality in giving a Post Holiday County Party at his home on Friday, January 10th.

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

Resolutions #22 through #44 were approved.

Resolution #45 titled, "Approving Application for Correction of Errors – Town of Peru"

Discussion: Legislator Dame asked about the resolutions involving Correction of Errors. Mr. Zurlo replied Correction of Errors are done due to timing issues or local assessors assessments not being accurate. Applications for Refunds are done due to a refund on taxes not properly levied. Resolutions need to be done for approval on both. (Carried 10-0-0).

Legislator Gallagher requested that information regarding Robert's Rules of Order and the reasons an Executive Session can be requested be placed on desks of all Legislators.

Legislator Gallagher motioned to enter Executive Session at 8:06 p.m. to discuss a matter of litigation, seconded by Legislator Hall. (Carried 10-0-0).

Legislator Gallagher motioned to exit Executive Session at 8:28 p.m., seconded by Legislator Beach. (Carried 10-0-0).

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 8:29 p.m., seconded by Legislator Langley. Carried (10-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanene Bell
Senior Stenographer