

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

February 25, 2022

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, February 23, 2022 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: David Bezio, Area 4
Calvin Castine, Area 1
Robert Hall, Deputy Chairperson, Area 10
Wendell Hughes, Area 8
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Richard Potiker, Area 5
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Joshua Kretser, Area 9
Rob Timmons, Area 7

ALSO PRESENT: Michael E. Zurlo, County Administrator
Kim Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator
Jacqueline Kelleher, County Attorney
Debra Tackett, Interim Public Health Director

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

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

Legislator Hughes motioned to accept the minutes of the February 9, 2022 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (7-0-3).

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

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

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio stated the Buildings and Grounds Committee met on Monday, February 14th.

James Cleveland, the Superintendent of Buildings and Grounds, was present to provide an update on the Government Center Roof Replacement Project, provide status of the 2021 Master Plan and to discuss the 2022 Master Plan.

The Committee agreed to forego borrowing for a 2022 Master Plan and agreed to move forward with a roof analysis of the Probation Department, Highway Department and Human Service Center Building roofs. Once the results of the study are done, the Committee will formulate a plan on how to address the situation.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 14th at 4:30 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker reported 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, March 1st at 5:15 p.m.

Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Waldron

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

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #96 and #97 on the agenda.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 9th at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo reported the Finance Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Resolution #98 titled, "Authorizing Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with New England Waste Services of N.Y., Inc. (Casella)" was discussed and approved at the February 2nd meeting.

The Committee was also polled on Resolutions #99 and #100 on the agenda.

The next Finance Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 2nd at 5:15 p.m.

Health Committee – Legislator Hughes

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

Debra Tackett, the Interim Director of Public Health, was present to provide an update on COVID-19 cases and vaccinations. Ms. Tackett stated the COVID-19 case numbers are declining and the positivity rate is down to 7.7 percent. The vaccination rate is still low in children ages 5-15, with only 8 percent being boosted and those ages 16-19 are 23.3 percent boosted.

Ms. Tackett also reported testing has decreased, with the SUNY testing site completing only 27 tests on the 22nd. Mr. Zurlo inquired what the plans are for the testing site. Ms. Tackett stated the plan is for testing to remain at SUNY until June, but is unsure if this will change if the number of tests conducted continues to decline.

Ms. Tackett also mentioned the Health Department would like to give a presentation to the Legislature about getting to know their local Health Department and asked that each Legislator let her know if they would like to participate.

Legislator Castine inquired if the testing numbers are lower now due to home testing kits being widely available. Ms. Tackett stated that it is a possibility and noted the large amount of test kits being distributed again to nursing homes and local schools.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 2nd at 4:15 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Peryea

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

The next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 1st at 4:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo reported the Personnel Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Resolutions #101 through #130 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation from the February 7th meeting.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 7th 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 to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Lease Agreement with Safe Tow Towing and Recovery, LLC” and “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Bids for the Exit Lane Portal Modifications Project” and “Authorizing Contract with Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce.”

Resolutions #131 through #142 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation. Resolution #141 has been withdrawn.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 23rd at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

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

Resolution #143 has been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation from the February 7th meeting.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 7th at 4:00 p.m.

Transportation Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo reported the Transportation Committee met on Monday, February 14th.

Shannon Thayer, the Planning Technician for the Clinton County Public Transit, was present to discuss the budget and cost of the bus system.

Karl Weiss, the Highway Superintendent, was present to discuss two resolutions titled, “Awarding Bid for a One Cab/Chassis with Dump Body and Snowplow” and “Amending Resolution #59 dated January 26, 2022 titled, “Authorizing the Implementation and Funding 100 Percent of the Costs of a Transportation Project of Which Qualified Costs May Be Reimbursed From Bridge NY Funds.”

Mr. Weiss also discussed the Federal Motor Carrier Safety Administration Entry-Level Driver Training Tuition Reimbursement Program.

Resolutions #144 through #146 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 14th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Health – Legislator Potiker

Legislator Potiker reported he has an orientation on Thursday, February 24th.

Clinton Community College – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio reported he attended the Board of Trustees meeting on Tuesday, February 22nd. He noted the College is working with the North Country Chamber of Commerce on a grant for a credited manufacturing program. Some of the other topics that were discussed was a Veterans’ credit program, a

welding training center with national credentials and the plan to host in-person graduation in the spring. Legislator Bezio also noted it is anticipated to announce the new President on Tuesday, March 8th.

Grievance Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo noted there is a meeting on Friday, March 18th at 2:00 p.m.

Intercounty of the Adirondacks – Legislator Waldron

Ms. Waldron stated the next meeting is in Fulton County on Thursday, February 24th. Ms. Waldron also noted that Clinton County will become the Chair of the Committee for the remainder of the year.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher requested an Executive Session to discuss a matter of pending litigation. Ms. Kelleher also noted she will be absent from the March 9th Regular Session and Assistant County Attorney Gary Favro, Esq. will be filling in.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo reminded the Legislature about the necessary sexual harassment training completion.

Legislator Potiker inquired if the Committee meetings on March 14th will be moved due to the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) Conference. Mr. Zurlo noted the meetings will be moved to a later date.

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

Resolutions #96 through #143 were approved.

Resolution #144 titled, “Awarding Bid for a One Cab/Chassis with Dump Body and Snowplow” was motioned by Legislator Bezio and seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (7-0-3).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo explained this equipment purchase was approved in the budget.

Resolutions #145 through #147 were approved.

Resolution #148 titled, “Authorizing the County Treasurer to Decrease Appropriation and Corresponding Revenue for Capital Project titled, “Rehabilitation of Runway 17-35 Pavement Phase II (Construction)” #20-05” was motioned by Legislator Hall and seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (7-0-3).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated this Project was entirely funded through the CARES Act and this resolution is reimbursing some of the funding received.

Resolutions #149 and #150 were approved.

Legislator Bezio inquired if the Personnel resolutions were positions from an eligible list. Kim Kinblom, the Deputy County Administrator, responded a majority are from an eligible list, but a lot of the eligible lists have a limited number of applicants so they are filled with a provisional appointment.

Legislator Peryea mentioned the Legislature taking a tour of the maple syrup company New Leaf located in Lyon Mountain. Mr. Peryea noted how they do everything from collecting the syrup to shipping their products all over the United States. Legislator Waldron stated this might be a good idea for the Intercounty meeting in November and also noted it might be beneficial for the Legislature to tour different areas of the County each quarter. Legislator Bezio also noted his desire to have the Legislature tour Clinton Community College and will set that up for a future date.

Legislator Waldron motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:01 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (7-0-3).

Legislator Potiker motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:16 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (7-0-3).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Waldron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:17 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (7-0-3).

Respectfully submitted,



Erin M. Light
Senior Typist

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