

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

February 14, 2025

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, February 12, 2025 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: David Bezio, Area 4
Calvin Castine, Area 1
Robert Hall, Area 10
Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Joshua Kretser, Area 9
Kevin Randall, Area 5
Rob Timmons, Area 7

EXCUSED: Paul Lamoy, Area 8
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Patty Waldron, Area 6

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

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

Michael Zurlo, County Administrator, conducted roll call. Legislators Lamoy, Peryea and Waldron asked to be excused.

Legislator Hall motioned to accept the minutes of the January 22, 2025 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (7-0-3).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Jennifer Jewett, of Champlain, New York, stated she is representing the Peoples Animal Welfare Society (PAWS) of Clinton County. Ms. Jewett explained this is a group of private citizens that feel strongly about animal issues and want to see improvements in both funding and the creation of new laws to protect animals in Clinton County. Ms. Jewett stated the group is getting larger every day. Their primary goal is to endorse candidates that will support animal issues and the group will be actively campaigning against those that fought progress. Ms. Jewett stated it is not too late to turn things around and the group plans on getting the word out to get good people in the seats where we need them.

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

Buildings and Grounds Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

On behalf of Legislator Lamoy, Mr. Zurlo stated the Buildings and Grounds Committee the Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting scheduled for Monday, February 10th was cancelled.

The Committee was polled on Resolutions #35 and #36 on the agenda.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 10th at 4:00 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo

On behalf of Legislator Peryea, Mr. Zurlo reported the Children and Family Services Committee met on Tuesday, February 4th.

Commissioner Christine Peters was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing American Rescue Plan Act Adult Protective Services Grant Application and Acceptance” and “Authorizing Contract with MHAB Fresh.” Ms. Peters also provided updates on the Warming Center, Tenant Rights in Motels and the Homelessness Forum.

Resolutions #37 through #39 have been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 4th at 5:00 p.m.

Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Timmons

On behalf of Legislator Waldron, Legislator Timmons stated the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met earlier.

Tammy Lacey, the Director of Real Property, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues.” Ms. Lacey also discussed the Valuation Status in Clinton County.

David Randall, the Director of Information Technology, was in attendance to discuss the resolutions, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with Twinstate Technologies” and “Authorizing Contract Extension with SymQuest Group, Inc.”

Shannon Thayer, the Planning Director, discussed the resolution, “Authorizing the Approval of Additions of Viable Agricultural Lands to Clinton County Agricultural District 7C.”

Molly Ryan, the Economic Development Director, discussed the resolutions, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with Luck Bros, Inc.” and “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit a Request for Proposals for Signage at the Clinton County Business Innovation Gateway.” The New York State Department of Transportation also presented to the Committee and Ms. Ryan provided updates on the Feasibility Study at Clinton Community College, Beta Technologies, Inc. and the County of Clinton Industrial Development Agency.

Resolutions #40 through #49 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 12th at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons stated the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, February 5th.

Rebecca Murphy, the Deputy County Treasurer, was present to discuss the resolutions, “Authorizing Contract with Govolution, LLC” and “Authorizing the Deputy County Treasurer to Appropriate American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) of 2021 Funds to Various Accounts.” Ms. Murphy also discussed the Correction of Error Report, In Rem Foreclosure, the 2024 and 2025 Sales Tax Charts, 2024 Sales Distribution, the total Sales Tax comparison for years 2020 through 2024 and 4th Quarter Occupancy Tax.

The Committee also discussed the resolutions, “Requesting Introduction of Home Rule Legislation to Allow Clinton County the Option of Extending its Local Sales Tax Percentage” and “Approving Strategic Planning Commission’s Recommendation to Expend Occupancy Tax Revenue.”

Resolutions #50 through #54 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

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

Health Committee – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio stated the Health Committee met on Wednesday, February 5th.

Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services, was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract Extension with Ready4Real ETS” and “Approving Reappointment to the Clinton County Community Services Board.” Ms. Gregory also discussed the Mental Health Court Navigator.”

Jeff Sisson, the Director of Public Health, was also in attendance to discuss several resolutions

including, “Authorizing Contract with Various Veterinary Offices” and “Authorizing Contract with Northeastern Clinton Central School District.” Mr. Sisson also discussed the Director’s Report, the Health Department Report and the fourth quarter Grant report.

Resolutions #55 through #69 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 5th at 4:00 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Randall

Legislator Randall reported the Human Services Committee met on Tuesday, February 4th.

Ike Bogosian, the Nursing Home Administrator, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing an Increase in Room and Board Rates for Skilled Nursing Facility Residents.”

Darleen Collins, the Director of the Office for the Aging, was also in attendance to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues” and “Approving Reappointments to the Office for the Aging Advisory Committee.”

Kevin LeBoeuf, the Veterans’ Services Director, also attended the meeting to discuss the resolution, “Amending Resolution #744 dated September 11, 2024 titled, “Authorizing Various Contracts for Peer-to-Peer Services.” Mr. LeBoeuf also discussed monthly statistics.

Resolutions #70 through #74 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

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

Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry

Legislator Henry stated the Personnel Committee met on Monday, February 3rd.

Resolutions #75 through #102 have been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendation.

The Committee was also polled on Resolution #103 on the agenda.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 3rd at 5:00 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The Committee was polled on Resolution #104 on the agenda.

Legislator Hall stated today, Contour Airlines announced the new flight destination of Washington Dulles International Airport beginning on Thursday, May 1st.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for

Wednesday, February 26th at 4:00 p.m.

Legislator Hall thanked Airport Director Chris Kreig for his efforts with Contour Airlines.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine stated the Public Safety Committee met on Monday, February 3rd.

Sheriff Dave Favro was in attendance to discuss the resolutions, “Authorizing Lease Agreement with Lake Industries” and “Authorizing the Deputy County Treasurer to Establish Appropriation from the Sheriff’s Department Federal Justice Seizure Reserve.”

Dave Marcoux, the Probation Director, discussed the resolution, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues.”

Jamie Martineau, the Public Defender, discussed two resolutions, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues” and “Authorizing Contract with Thomson Reuters - West Law.”

Andrew Wylie, the District Attorney, and Jami Rock, the Executive Director of the Child Advocacy Center, discussed several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract with Cody Byrns Ministries, Inc.” and “Authorizing Clinton County Youth Bureau’s Grant Application and Acceptance.” Mr. Wylie also discussed the Unified Court System.

Resolutions #105 through #122 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 3rd at 3:30 p.m.

Transportation Committee – Legislator Kretser

Legislator Kretser reported the Transportation Committee met on Monday, February 10th.

Shannon Thayer, the Planning Director, was in attendance to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Ongoing Contract with Token Transit, Inc.” and “Authorizing Section 5311 Federal Transit Administration Formula Grant for Rural Areas Program Application for Years 2024 and 2025.”

Karl Weiss, the Highway Superintendent, was present to discuss two resolutions, “Awarding Bid for Contract No. 1 – Replacement of Clintonville Road Culvert over Little Ausable River” and “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues.” Mr. Weiss also discussed a request from the Town of Plattsburgh for a new Shared Salt, Material and Equipment Storage Facility at the Former County Airport and the Responses Received Relative to Resolution #900 Concerning the Impacts of Efforts to Electrify Highway Department Vehicles by Adoption of the Advanced Clean Truck Rule.

Resolutions #123 through #127 have been placed on the agenda upon the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 10th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Intercounty of the Adirondacks – Legislator Randall

Legislator Randall stated he attended the Intercounty meeting held on Thursday, January 23rd in Lewis County at the Lewis County Courthouse. Legislator Randall stated discussion was held on electing a new chairperson, as Franklin County declined. Mr. Zurlo stated this year marks the 100th anniversary of the New York State Association of Counties (NYSAC) and noted NYSAC has been advocating for county governments for 100 years.

Soil and Water Conservation – Legislators Bezio and Timmons

Legislator Bezio stated the next meeting is Thursday, February 20th at 5:00 p.m.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher requested an Executive Session to discuss collective negotiations pursuant to Article 14 of the Civil Service Law.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo requested a brief Executive Session to discuss the sale and lease of real property.

Mr. Zurlo also reminded the Legislature of the NYSAC Conference held in two weeks and that the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee and Regular Session meetings are being held the day of return on Wednesday, February 26th.

Chairpersons Report

Chairperson Henry did not have a report.

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

Resolutions #35 through #48 were approved.

Resolution #49 titled, “Authorizing a Host Community Agreement in Lieu of PILOT Payments to Affected Tax Jurisdictions – Micro Bird, Inc. Project” was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Randall. Carried (7-0-3).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated the Legislature has done these in the past and continues to do these because the Clinton County Industrial Development Agency (CCIDA) has shown a desire to work with school districts, and as a taxing jurisdiction, would rather have the benefit be in a HOST Community Agreement rather than a PILOT payment. Mr. Zurlo noted this helps the school districts with their tax cap calculation.

Resolutions #50 and #51 were approved.

Resolution #52 titled, “Requesting Home Rule Authorization to Amend Occupancy Tax Percentage” was motioned by Legislator Timmons and seconded by Legislator Castine. Carried (7-0-3).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated both this resolution and the previous one will be sent to elected State Representatives tomorrow morning via email with hard copies to follow. He noted once the process begins he is hopeful both resolutions will be approved with the State.

Resolutions #53 through #62 were approved.

Resolution #63 titled, "Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Request for Proposals (RFPs) for Preschool Transportation Services" was motioned by Legislator Bezio and seconded by Legislator Castine. Carried (7-0-3).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated the Legislature knows the expense of this contract associated with this State mandated program. Mr. Zurlo noted both NYSAC and the County's Health Department are actively pursuing additional options to reduce the cost of this to include working with school districts to potentially facilitate school districts providing this service. Mr. Zurlo stated the Local Share is in excess of half a million dollars per year. He explained this is for preschool children ages three to five that require special services.

Resolutions #64 through #69 were approved.

Resolution #70 titled, "Authorizing an Increase in Room and Board Rates for Skilled Nursing Facility Residents" was motioned by Legislator Randall and seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (7-0-3).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported while this represents an increase, the private pay population is very low and these rates represent much lower rates compared to other nursing homes in Clinton County.

Resolutions #71 through #101 were approved.

Resolution #102 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Before the Movie" was motioned by Legislator Hall and seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (6-0-3-1).

Discussion: Chairperson Henry abstained.

Resolutions #103 through #129 were approved.

Legislator Hall motioned to enter into Executive Session at 6:09 p.m., seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (7-0-3).

Legislator Randall motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:32 p.m., seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (7-0-3).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:32 p.m., seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (7-0-3).

Respectfully submitted,



Erin M. Light
Senior Typist

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