

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

September 18, 2024

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, September 11, 2024 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
Wendell Hughes, Area 8
Joshua Kretser, Area 9
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Kevin Randall, Area 5
Rob Timmons, Area 7
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 5:20 p.m.

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, conducted roll call.

Chairperson Henry requested those in attendance join the Legislature for a moment of silence for the victims and the families of those that lost their lives on 9/11.

Legislator Kretser motioned to accept the minutes of the August 14, 2024 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Randall. Carried (10-0-0).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Jennifer Jewett, of Champlain, New York stated the Legislature lacks empathy and consideration for other people's perspectives and has no idea of the contributions dogs have given, especially during 9/11. She stated she provided the Legislature with the most updated survey from the towns regarding the proposed Dog Tethering Law. She also reported she attended the September Public Safety Committee meeting and was told that these numbers from the survey don't matter. She apologized and stated these numbers mean absolutely everything. She questioned the statements of some of the Legislators and their actions. She stated the draft Dog Tether Law is on the County Attorney's desk and asked the Legislature to maintain objectivity, to be unbiased and impartial, and to vote based on the numbers and the facts. She continued to say the Legislator's constituents have spoken and want a countywide law, and that the numbers don't lie.

Chairperson Henry reported there is a public hearing regarding Clinton Community College's proposed budget. He asked the Clerk of the Board to read the notice of public hearing.

Legislator Timmons motioned to open the public hearing at 5:26 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (10-0-0).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone present wished to address the Board regarding this matter.

Ken Knelly, the Administrator in Charge at Clinton Community College, thanked the County Legislature for its past support on behalf of the College and the Board of Trustees (John Redden, a Clinton Community College Board Trustee was also present, as well as, Steve Frederick, a Clinton Community College employee). He stated he appreciated the opportunity to meet with the Finance Committee last month. He updated the Legislature on the Fall enrollment, reporting it is up in the 10-12 percent range and holding, which is very important as the College begins to rebuild. He reported the College had meetings with the Middle States Commissioner on Higher Education site visit team, which was also positive. That Commission will meet formally in November, but these are two of the key markers that he discussed last month. Additionally, he noted the State University Construction fund is the next piece of this process and their work with SUNY Plattsburgh and Clinton Community College will continue.

There being no one else who wished to speak, Chairperson Henry entertained a motion to close the public hearing.

Legislator Castine motioned to close the public hearing at 5:28 p.m., seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (10-0-0).

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

Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio stated the Buildings and Grounds Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th at 4:00 p.m.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Peryea

Legislator Peryea stated the Children and Family Services Committee met on Tuesday, September 3rd.

Commissioner of Social Services Christine Peters was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract with the Clinton County Office for the Aging” and “Authorizing Contract with the Joint Council for Economic Opportunity (JCEO).”

Commissioner Peters also provided updates on the Eligibility Verification Assistant (EVA), the homeless forum and chronic care. Additionally, Ms. Peters discussed monthly statistics and the employee lounge/flooding.

Resolutions #712 through #718 were placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, October 1st at 5:15 p.m.

Economic Development and County Operations Committee – Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron stated the Economic Development and County Operations Committee met earlier.

David Randall, the Director of Information Technology, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Contract with AlchemyCore, LLC.”

Molly Ryan, the Economic Development Director, was also present to provide updates on the Clinton Business Innovation Gateway and the County of Clinton Industrial Development Agency.

Mary Dyer and David Souliere, the Board of Elections Commissioners, were also in attendance to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Center for Tech and Civic Life Grant Application and Acceptance” and “Authorizing Elections Cybersecurity Remediation Grant Program Extension.”

Shannon Thayer, the Planning Director, was also present to discuss the resolution, “Approving Amendments to the By-laws of the Clinton County Planning Board.”

Resolutions #719 through #725 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee, as well as, Resolution #782, under Waive Rule 13.2.

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

Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons stated the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, September 4th.

Garry Douglas and Kristy Kennedy of the North Country Chamber of Commerce, were in attendance to present the 2024 Marketing Plan.

The resolution, “Approving State Aid Application for the Plattsburgh-North County Chamber of Commerce” was approved by the Committee.

Resolutions #726 through #729 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

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

Health Committee – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes stated the Health Committee met on Wednesday, September 4th.

Jeff Sisson, the Director of Public Health, was present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract with Teletask, Inc.” and “Authorizing the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation Municipal Food Scraps Recycling Grant Acceptance.” Mr. Sisson also discussed the Director’s Report, Health Department Report and the Annual Report.

Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services, was also present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contract with Dodge Marketing and Communications” and “Authorizing Expansion and Sustainability of the Comprehensive Community Mental Health Services for Children with Serious Emotional Disturbance Grant Application.”

Resolutions #730 through #743 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 2nd at 4:00 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Legislator Randall

Legislator Randall reported the Human Services Committee met on Tuesday, September 3rd.

Kevin LeBoeuf, the Director of the Veterans’ Service Agency, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Various Contracts for Peer-to-Peer Services” and monthly statistics.

Darleen Collins, the Director of the Office for the Aging, was also present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Contract Amendment with the Senior Citizens Council of Clinton County, Inc.”

Resolutions #744 through #746 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

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

Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry

Legislator Henry stated the Personnel Committee met on Thursday, September 5th.

Resolutions #747 through #768 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, October 7th 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 next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, September 25th at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine stated the Public Safety Committee met on Thursday, September 5th.

Jamie Martineau, the Public Defender, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues.”

Jami Rock, the Administrative Assistant at the Child Advocacy Center, was also present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Out-of-State Travel” and “Authorizing Various Contracts.”

Chad Deans, the County Coroner, was also present to discuss the resolution, “Amending Resolution #130 dated February 14, 2024 titled, “Authorizing a Written Mutual Aid Agreement for Coroner Services,” and an update on the proposed Clinton County Coroner Decedent Cooler and Holding Facility, as well as, an update on the proposed regional Forensic Facility in Warren County.

Resolutions #769 through #778 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

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

Transportation Committee – Legislator Kretser

Legislator Kretser stated the Transportation Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, September 16th at 5:15 p.m.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Health – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes reported the Committee met on Monday, August 26th and reviewed the By-laws. He stated the Board sent a plaque to Lynn Howard, a former Board of Trustee member, who has recently

resigned. The plaque was for her time served on the Board, and she really appreciated it.

Clinton Community College - Legislator Waldron

Legislator Waldron thanked Ken Knelly for attending the meeting and stated things are going well.

Community Service Board - Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine reported among the items covered at the Wednesday, August 21st meeting, Chazy Central School, Peru Central School and Saranac Central School were present to discuss their utilization of Opioid Settlement funding and all the proposals were approved. The Community Service Board Director updated the Board on the Disaster Mental Health Response Team. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, October 16th.

Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reminded the Legislature of the Agricultural Tour on Friday, September 13th at 8:30 a.m., which is right down from Soil and Water.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher did not have a report.

County Administrator – Michael Zurlo

Mr. Zurlo did not have a report.

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 #711 through #718 were approved.

Resolution #719 titled, “Authorizing Contract with Alchemycore, LLC” was motioned by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (10-0-0).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported that after the Director of Information presented this resolution to the Economic Development and County Operations Committee, the Board of Elections Commissioners advised that they believe they have an upcoming grant to offset the entire expense. He noted the cost indicated before you is the absolute worst case scenario.

Resolutions #720 through #722 were approved.

Resolution #723 titled, “Authorizing Absentee Ballot Pre-Paid Postage Grant Program Extension” was motioned by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (10-0-0).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo indicated that the majority of the Board of Elections resolutions were grant offsets to the chargeback budget. He reported the Board of Elections Commissioners will be sending a budget estimate to the townships in the city for election costs but they are doing their best to try to find revenue offsets to the chargeback budgets, so the actual number is far less than the estimate.

Resolutions #724 through #735 were approved.

Resolution #736 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Chazy Central Rural School District" was motioned by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (10-0-0).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated that this Opioid Settlement funding is being distributed directly to the Community Services Board to dispense; it does not come to the County.

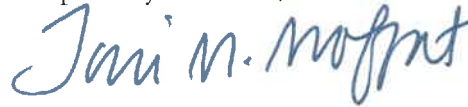
Resolutions #737 through #781 were approved.

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

Resolution #782 was approved.

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Peryea motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:04 p.m., seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (10-0-0).

Respectfully submitted,



Toni M. Moffat

Executive Secretary to the County Administrator

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