

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

April 14, 2017

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held
Wednesday, April 12, 2017 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Jonathan Beach, Area 2
Simon Conroy, Area 4
Mark Dame, Area 8
Samuel Dyer, Area 3
Robert Hall, Area 10
Pete Keenan, Area 5
Harry McManus, Chairperson, Area 1
Christopher Rosenquest, Area 9
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Rob Timmons, Area 7

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

Health – Legislator Beach

Legislator Beach reported the Health Committee met Tuesday, April 4th. Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services, reviewed Resolutions #245 and #246 which have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee. Jerie Reid, the Director of Public Health, discussed the Director's Report for February, 2017 and the Health Department Report for March, 2017. She reviewed Profiles in Public Health, lead contamination in housing and raising the tobacco sale age. Resolutions #247 through #252 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

The next Health Committee meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 2nd at 5:15 p.m.

Human Services – Legislator Keenan

Legislator Keenan reported the Human Services Committee met Wednesday, April 5th. Steve Bowman, the Director of the Veterans' Service Agency, discussed February and March, 2017 monthly statistics. He provided an update on the Veterans' Cemetery and discussed the Plattsburgh VA Outpatient Clinic. Wendie Bishop, the Nursing Home Administrator, reviewed Resolution #253. Crystal Carter, the Director of Office for the Aging, reviewed Resolutions #254 and #255.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:15 p.m.

Personnel – Legislator Dyer

Legislator Dyer reported the Personnel Committee met Monday, April 3rd. He reported there are 17 resolutions included on the agenda.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 1st at 5:15 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport – Legislator Hall

Legislator Hall reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee was polled on Resolution #272. He reported the open house at the Plattsburgh International Airport is scheduled for Wednesday, April 19, 2017, and Legislators should RSVP to Chris Kreig, the Airport Manager, or Kristy Kennedy, Vice President of Marketing, Plattsburgh-North Country Chamber of Commerce. Legislator Hall reported there are two meetings scheduled at the Airport on that date (9 a.m. and 10 a.m.).

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 26th at 5:15 p.m.

Public Safety – Legislator Conroy

Legislator Conroy reported Public Safety Committee was polled on Resolutions #273 and #274. He reported there has been discussion with Justin Meyer, the Administrator of Legal Defense of Indigent Defendants, in regards to Assigned Counsel.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is scheduled for Monday, April 17th at 6:15 p.m.

Mr. Zurlo reported on behalf of Kimberly Davis, the County Treasurer, that 79 properties remain in the foreclosure process. He reported there are 6 commercial properties, 36 vacant properties and 37 residences. The 45-day deadline is Monday, May 1st.

Mr. Zurlo reported Governor Andrew Cuomo's office continues to ask for a response from those who will be attending the budget meeting in Lake Placid on Friday, April 7th.

Chairperson McManus reported a letter was mailed to Congresswoman Elise Stefanik in regards to the American Health Care Act and how it would negatively impact Clinton County. He reported he received a response from her office thanking Clinton County for submitting information and being the only county in her district to do so. Congresswoman Stefanik is not in favor of eliminating pre-existing health conditions due to the cost and is not in favor of remaining on parents' health insurance until 26 years of age.

Mr. Zurlo reported on behalf of the Commissioners of Board of Elections that they would like to invite the Legislature to a Clear Ballot presentation on Wednesday, April 19th at 1 p.m. in the 1st Floor Meeting Room of the Government Center. There will be representatives from Essex, Franklin, Jefferson, St. Lawrence, Saratoga and Washington Counties.

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

Resolutions #238 through #242 were approved.

Resolution #243 titled, "Requesting Introduction of Home Rule Legislation to Allow Clinton County the Option of Extending Its Local Sales Tax Percentage – Legislature"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported Clinton County, along with every other county in New York State, is in the two-year cycle seeking the sales tax extension. He reported NYSAC has advocated for a blanket approval up to four percent (without asking) which has been unsuccessful. Mr. Zurlo reported Clinton County is requesting the legislation. He has contacted Senator Elizabeth Little and Assemblyman Billy Jones, and both have indicated bills will be introduced in short order. Carried (9-0-1).

Resolution #244 titled, "Adopting Policy on Counsel at First Appearance - Assigned Counsel/Legislature"

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo reported the resolution includes an effective date of April 6, 2017. Mr. Meyer is requesting the effective date be in place so that the on-call attorney who provided services for one week be paid retroactive to April 6, 2017.

Legislator Dyer asked about the grant that would pay for on-call attorneys. Mr. Zurlo replied the grant does exist, and this service will be paid for from the grant pending a budget modification to the grant. Legislator Dyer reported he approves of the resolution as long as the grant pays for the services. Mr. Zurlo reported services may be paid through reimbursement through New York State as a result of the recent State budget adoption. He reported it is not anticipated it be paid out of the 2017 Assigned Counsel Budget. Legislator Dyer asked if it will be known the method of funding before it is approved. Mr. Zurlo replied no, and the resolution authorizes payment of \$100 from April 6, 2017.

Legislator Rosenquest motioned to enter Executive Session at 7:46 p.m., seconded by Legislator Keenan. Carried (9-0-1).

Legislator Dame motioned to exit Executive Session at 7:56 p.m., seconded by Legislator Keenan. Carried (9-0-1).

There being no further business, Legislator Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:57 p.m., seconded by Legislator Dyer. Carried (9-0-1).

Respectfully submitted,



Jeanene Bell
Senior Stenographer