

COUNTY OF CLINTON)
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STATE OF NEW YORK)

March 14, 2024

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, March 13, 2024 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: Calvin Castine, Area 1
David Bezio, Area 4
Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3
Wendell Hughes, Area 8
Joshua Kretser, Area 9
Francis Peryea, Area 2
Rob Timmons, Area 7
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Robert Hall, Area 10
Kevin Randall, Area 5

ALSO PRESENT: Kim Kinblom, Deputy County Administrator
Jacqueline Kelleher, County Attorney
Ern Light, Senior Typist

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

Kim Kinblom, the Deputy County Administrator, conducted roll call. Legislators Hall and Randall asked to be excused.

Legislator Hughes motioned to accept the minutes of the February 28, 2024 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (8-0-2).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Jennifer Jewett, of 11109 State Route 9, Champlain, New York addressed the Legislature regarding animal cruelty and dog tethering laws; stating things are going well since her discussion at the Regular Session held on Wednesday, February 28, 2024. She reported she attended the Village of Champlain's Board meeting and the Town of Mooers' Board meeting and claims both animal control officers are providing false information to the community. She believes Clinton County should model Essex County's animal cruelty laws.

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 meeting scheduled for Monday, March 11th was cancelled.

The next Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 8th at 4:00 p.m. but will likely be rescheduled due to the Solar Eclipse.

Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Peryea

Legislator Peryea stated the Children and Family Services Committee met on Tuesday, March 5th.

Christine Peters, the Commissioner of the Department of Social Services, was present to discuss resolutions including, "Authorizing Contract with West Side Ballroom" and "Authorizing New York State Rental Supplement Program Allocation Grant Application and Acceptance." Ms. Peters also discussed monthly statistics, a Warming Center update, the Homelessness/Poverty Forum, EVA and tenancy issues/local motel owners.

Resolutions #161 and #162 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Children and Family Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 2nd 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 Information Technology Director, was present to discuss the resolution, "Authorizing Contract with SymQuest Group, Inc."

David Souliere, the Republican Commissioner of the Board of Elections, was present to discuss the resolution, "Authorizing Contract with Enhanced Voting."

Molly Ryan, the Economic Development Director, was also present to discuss the resolution, "Authorizing Empire State Development's FAST-NY Shovel Ready Program Grant Application and Acceptance" and provide a County of Clinton Industrial Development Agency Update.

Shannon Thayer, the Planning Director, was also in attendance to discuss the resolution, "Urging Congress to Continue to Fund the Affordable Connectivity Program through the Federal Communications Commission beyond April 2024" and provide Planning Department updates. Additionally, a public hearing regarding the eight-year review of Agricultural District 7C was held earlier.

Lastly, Anastasia Pratt, the County Historian, was present to provide an annual update.

Resolutions #163 through #166 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Economic Development and County Operations Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 10th at 4:00 p.m.

Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the Finance Committee met on Wednesday, March 6th.

Rebecca Murphy, the Deputy Treasurer, was present to discuss the 2024 Sales Tax Chart, In Rem Foreclosure, the 2024 Town/County Tax Installments, the Correction of Error Report and the resolution, "Authorizing Correction of Taxes for Various Towns, Time Warner Cable."

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, discussed the purchase of a budgeting software platform.

Resolutions #167 and #168 were placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Finance Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd at 5:15 p.m.

Health Committee – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes reported the Health Committee met on Wednesday, March 6th.

Jeff Sisson, the Public Health Director, was present to discuss the resolution, "Authorizing MRC-STRONG (Medical Reserve Corps State, Territory and Tribal Nations, Representative Organizations for Next Generation) Grant Application and Acceptance" and to review the Director's Report for January, 2024 and the Health Department Report for February, 2024.

Richelle Gregory, the Director of Community Services, was also in attendance to discuss several resolutions including, "Authorizing Systems of Care (SoC) Implementation Support Grant Acceptance" and "Approving Appointments to the Community Services Board."

Resolutions #169 through #173 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Health Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, April 3rd at 4:00 p.m.

Human Services Committee – Deputy County Administrator Kim Kinblom

On behalf of Legislator Randall, Ms. Kinblom reported the Human Services Committee met on Tuesday, March 5th.

Wendie Bishop, the Nursing Home Administrator, discussed the resolution, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues.”

Kevin LeBoeuf, the Veterans’ Service Agency Director, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Payment of Membership Dues,” the monthly statistics of February, 2024, the breakdown of 2024 Dwyer Funds and the alternate Veterans Advisory Council members.

Darleen Collins, the Director of the Office for the Aging, was also present to discuss several resolutions including, “Authorizing Contracts with Various Agencies for Rural Transportation Supplemental Services” and “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for 2025 and 2025-2026 Programs and Services.”

Resolutions #174 through #178 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Human Services Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, April 2nd at 4:15 p.m.

Personnel Committee – Chairperson Henry

Chairperson Henry stated the Personnel Committee met on Monday, March 4th.

Resolutions #179 through #210 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation.

The next Personnel Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 1st at 5:00 p.m.

Plattsburgh International Airport Committee – Deputy County Administrator Kim Kinblom

On behalf of Legislator Hall, Ms. Kinblom reported the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Resolutions #211 through #215 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee’s recommendation from the February 28th Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting.

The next Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Wednesday, March 27th at 4:00 p.m.

Public Safety Committee – Legislator Castine

Legislator Castine stated the Public Safety Committee met on Monday, March 4th.

Justin Meyer, the Administrator of Indigent Defense, was present to discuss the resolution, “Authorizing Contract with Thomas Pickering, Esq.”

A discussion was held on the Dog Tethering Law. Jennifer Jewett and Sean McClan, two residents of Clinton County and advocates of this proposal, were also in attendance.

Resolutions #216 through #221 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Public Safety Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 1st at 4:00 p.m.

Transportation Committee – Legislator Kretser

Legislator Kretser stated the Transportation Committee met on Monday, March 11th.

Shannon Thayer, the Planning Director, was present to discuss the resolution, "Authorizing Contract with Champlain Valley Advertising Agency" and the 2023 Annual Report.

Karl Weiss, the Highway Department Superintendent, was present to discuss several resolutions including, "Authorizing the Purchase of a Used Fixed Thumb Grapple" and "Authorizing the Purchase of a Waste Dumpster."

Resolutions #222 through #230 have been placed on the agenda as a result of the Committee's recommendation.

The next Transportation Committee meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, April 8th at 5:15 p.m. but will likely be rescheduled due to the Solar Eclipse.

LIAISON REPORTS

Board of Health – Legislator Hughes

Legislator Hughes reported the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 18th.

Cooperative Extension – Legislator Timmons

Legislator Timmons reported the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Tuesday, March 26th.

Soil and Water – Legislator Bezio

Legislator Bezio reported the next meeting is tentatively scheduled for Thursday, March 21st.

STAFF REPORTS

County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.

Ms. Kelleher requested a brief Executive Session to discuss contractual relations and litigation.

Deputy County Administrator – Kim Kinblom

Ms. Kinblom 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 #160 through #164 were approved.

Resolution #165 titled, "Authorizing Empire State Developments' Fast-NY Shovel Ready Program Grant Application and Acceptance" was motioned by Legislator Waldron and seconded by Legislator Kretser. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Ms. Kinblom reported at the Economic Development and County Operations meeting held earlier, Molly Ryan, the Economic Development Director, stated New York State is charging a one percent fee for grantees. As such, the resolution has been corrected to show the County's responsibility of \$30,000 for the awarded \$3 million Grant.

Resolutions #166 through #230 were approved.

Resolution #231 was withdrawn.

Resolutions #232 through #236 were approved.

Legislator Kretser motioned to Waive Rule 13.2, seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-2).

Resolution #237 was approved.

Legislator Bezio motioned to enter into Executive Session at 5:59 p.m., seconded by Legislator Peryea. Carried (8-0-2).

Legislator Hughes motioned to exit Executive Session at 6:09 p.m., seconded by Legislator Bezio. Carried (8-0-2).

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Waldron motioned to adjourn the meeting at 6:09 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-2).

Respectfully submitted,



Toni M. Moffat

Executive Secretary to the County Administrator

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