

COUNTY OF CLINTON)  
:SS  
STATE OF NEW YORK)

December 30, 2022

Stenographer's minutes of the Regular Session of the Clinton County Legislature held Wednesday, December 28, 2022 in the Legislative Chambers, 137 Margaret Street, Plattsburgh, New York.

PRESENT: David Bezio, Area 4  
Mark Henry, Chairperson, Area 3  
Robert Hall, Area 10  
Wendell Hughes, Area 8  
Francis Peryea, Area 2  
Richard Potiker, Area 5  
Rob Timmons, Area 7  
Patty Waldron, Area 6

EXCUSED: Calvin Castine, Area 1  
Joshua Kretser, Area 9

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

The meeting included remote access via teleconference in accordance with Local Law #1 of 2022. Legislator Hughes attended via Zoom.

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

Michael Zurlo, the County Administrator, conducted roll call.

Legislator Waldron motioned to accept the minutes of the December 14, 2022 Regular Session, seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (8-0-2).

Chairperson Henry asked if anyone wished to address the Legislature.

Isaac from Troop 8039B of the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) – City of Plattsburgh Division was present with his fellow scouts as part of the requirement for the Citizenship in the Community Merit Badge. He asked the Legislature if they could think of an issue that was discussed in which a difference of opinion has occurred. Chairperson Henry stated there have been many but it is important to compromise and to try to reach common ground because the Legislature wants to get to the same place. Chairperson Henry stated the yearly budget specifically gets more differences of opinions because the Legislators' priorities are reflected in the budget by how it is broken down. Chairperson Henry stated the history of the Legislature has always been vision compromised but listens and understands the other side and tries to get to that point to where maybe not everybody agrees, but a majority does and the constituents feel heard and that their views have been listened to and taken seriously.

Jeanette McKinney, Scoutmaster for the Girl Scouts, stated she was looking at the agenda for the meeting and asked for someone to explain what the Peer-to-Peer Services for the Veteran's Service Agency is. Mr. Zurlo explained the State of New York gives the County Dwyer Grant funding to assist Veterans in inclusion back into society. Peer-to-Peer means Veterans helping Veterans and these programs are run by other Veterans. This service is for therapy K-9's that help Veterans overcome Post Traumatic Stress Disorder (PTSD) and other disorders they may have come home with after their service, and helps them acclimate to society after service as well.

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

#### **Buildings and Grounds Committee – Legislator Bezio**

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

#### **Children and Family Services Committee – Legislator Potiker**

Legislator Potiker reported the Children and Family Services Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

#### **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.

Resolution #985 was polled and has been placed on the agenda.

### **Finance Committee – Legislator Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the Finance Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Resolutions #986 through #988 were polled and have been placed on the agenda.

### **Health Committee – Legislator Hughes**

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

Resolution #989 was polled and has been placed on the agenda.

### **Human Services Committee – Legislator Peryea**

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

Resolution #990 was polled and has been placed on the agenda.

### **Personnel Committee – Legislator Henry**

Legislator Henry reported the Personnel Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Resolution #991 was polled and has been placed on the agenda.

### **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 Various Contracts for the Year 2023,” “Authorizing Payment of 2023 Membership Dues” and “Authorizing the Purchasing Agent to Solicit Bids for the Installation of a New Passenger Boarding Bridge (Gate 2) Construction Project.”

Resolutions #992 through #1000 have been placed on the agenda upon the recommendation of the Committee.

Resolution #1016 has also been placed on the agenda under Waive Rule 13.2.

### **Public Safety Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo**

On behalf of Legislator Castine, Mr. Zurlo reported the Public Safety Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

Resolutions #1001 through #1004 were polled and have been placed on the agenda.

### **Transportation Committee – County Administrator Michael Zurlo**

On behalf of Legislator Kretser, Mr. Zurlo reported the Transportation Committee has not met since the last Regular Session.

## **LIAISON REPORTS**

### **Clinton Community College – Legislator Bezio**

Legislator Bezio stated the Board met on Tuesday, December 20, 2022. President John Kowal informed the Board that he has met with the President of SUNY Plattsburgh and is very optimistic that an agreement will be completed that allows students, specifically nursing students, to utilize the dorms. This agreement could greatly increase enrollment in the nursing program. Also discussed was having these students use the meal plans at the college. Additionally, there will be a nursing lab expansion into the old Information Technology (I.T.) space and they are hoping to start this project by the end of December. Training, funding and planning details for the Welding Grant Program are ongoing. Clinton County Workforce Development and the North Country Chamber of Commerce are both working to provide up to 50 welders with training that will develop into partnerships with local businesses. Clinton Community College also recently received the Workforce Development Institute Education Training Grant in the amount of \$10,000 to purchase personal protective equipment (PPE) for 25 of the welders.

### **Lake Champlain/Lake George Regional Planning Board – Legislators Hughes and Kretser**

Legislator Hughes reported the next meeting will take place on Tuesday, January 10, 2023.

### **Soil and Water – Legislators Peryea and Timmons**

Legislator Timmons reported the Committee met on Thursday, December 15, 2022. The meeting revolved around looking at salaries and policies and trying to retain employees.

## **STAFF REPORTS**

### **County Attorney – Jacqueline Kelleher, Esq.**

Ms. Kelleher requested an executive session to discuss contractual relationships.

### **County Administrator – Michael Zurlo**

Mr. Zurlo reminded the Legislature of the dinner taking place after the Organizational meeting on Wednesday, January 4, 2023.

Secondly, Mr. Zurlo stated on everyone's desk is a draft of the 2023 Rules of Order. Mr. Zurlo asked the Legislature to please review them and if there are any suggested changes to please discuss them with other colleagues and propose any changes because they will be passed at the Organizational meeting.

### **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 #985 through #994 were approved.

Resolution #995 titled, "Authorizing New York State Department of Transportation (NYSDOT) Aviation Capital Project Grant Applications for the T-Hangar Building (Design and Construction) Project and the Rehabilitation of Aviation-Related Facility (Design and Construction) Project" was motioned by Legislator Hall and seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated this application is a fluid issue. There are a few grants that are being applied for and, if awarded, the local share may be offset by private enterprise. No local share contributions are with this resolution.

Resolutions #996 through #998 were approved.

Resolution #999 titled, "Authorizing Contract with Hoyle Tanner & Associates, Inc. for Independent Fee Estimate Services for the Rehabilitation of Taxiway A and General Aviation (GA) Apron Phase II (Construction) Project" was motioned by Legislator Hall and seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo explained regarding the last four resolutions from the Airport, the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) requires the Airport to seek Independent Fee Estimates to ensure the proposed prices of the Airport's consulting engineer for particular projects are within ten percent of other consulting agencies. As the FAA is paying 90 percent, they require these independent fee estimates for projects they fund.

Resolutions #1000 through #1015 were approved.

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

Resolution #1016 titled, "Authorizing Lease Agreement with Tailwind PBG, LLC" was motioned by Legislator Hall and seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (8-0-2).

Discussion: Mr. Zurlo stated this issue has been discussed over the last several months at the Plattsburgh International Airport Committee meetings and this resolution incorporates much of what the Committee has previously discussed and it is moving in the right direction.

Legislator Peryea motioned to enter Executive Session at 5:42 p.m., seconded by Legislator Potiker. Carried (8-0-2).

Legislator Waldron motioned to exit Executive Session at 5:49 p.m., seconded by Legislator Hughes. Carried (8-0-2).

Mr. Zurlo stated the County's Telework Policy is nearing its end and Kim Kinblom, the Deputy County Administrator, has a few ideas for the Legislature to consider. Ms. Kinblom stated the Telework Policy was created in 2020 due to the COVID-19 Pandemic and stated, with proof, if an employee or their child has COVID-19, it allows for employees to work from home. Ms. Kinblom stated this policy expires at the end of 2022 and the Legislature needs to make a decision if they want to extend the policy or not. Ms. Kinblom stated the County still pays employees right now if they do have COVID-19 under the collective bargaining agreement, this Policy was in place for COVID-19 quarantine purposes. Ms. Kinblom stated if extending the policy, there is also the option to open it up to other reasons as well. Chairperson Henry asked if the current policy is up to the discretion of the Department Head. Ms. Kinblom stated the Policy currently allows the Department Heads to make the decision to allow someone to work from home or not and if they feel the person is not being productive, they can be asked to come back into the office. Mr. Zurlo stated currently, it is supposed to be just for people that are sick or their child is sick with COVID-19. Legislator Hall asked if a lot of employees are working from home right now. Ms. Kinblom stated she believes a lot of

the Departments are utilizing this policy for COVID-19. Legislator Peryea asked how this policy works with sick time. Ms. Kinblom stated if an employee is sick with the flu, employees would use their own accrued sick time. However, if they are feeling better but still contagious, the policy would need to be opened up to allow employees to work from home under these circumstances. Legislator Hall motioned to extend the Telework Policy for an additional six months, seconded by Legislator Timmons. Carried (7-1-2). Legislator Peryea voted in the negative.

There being no further business to come before the Legislature, Legislator Hall motioned to adjourn the meeting at 5:57 p.m., seconded by Legislator Waldron. Carried (8-0-2).

Respectfully submitted,



Jennifer E. Hapgood  
Senior Typist

:JH